



Matrimonial Causes Act 1973

1973 CHAPTER 18

PART IV

MISCELLANEOUS AND SUPPLEMENTAL

47 Matrimonial relief and declarations of validity in respect of polygamous marriages

- (1) A court in England and Wales shall not be precluded from granting matrimonial relief or making a declaration concerning the validity of a marriage by reason only that the marriage in question was entered into under a law which permits polygamy.
- (2) In this section " matrimonial relief " means—
 - (a) any decree under Part I of this Act;
 - (b) a financial provision order under section 27 above;
 - (c) an order under section 35 above altering a maintenance agreement;
 - (d) an order under any provision of this Act which confers a power exercisable in connection with, or in connection with proceedings for, any such decree or order as is mentioned in paragraphs (a) to (c) above ;
 - (e) an order under the Matrimonial Proceedings (Magistrates' Courts) Act 1960.
- (3) In this section " a declaration concerning the validity of a marriage " means—
 - (a) a declaration that a marriage is valid or invalid; and
 - (b) any other declaration involving a determination as to the validity of a marriage ;being a declaration in a decree granted under section 45 above or a declaration made in the exercise by the High Court of its jurisdiction to grant declaratory relief in any proceedings notwithstanding that a declaration is the only substantive relief sought in those proceedings.
- (4) This section has effect whether or not either party to the marriage in question has for the time being any spouse additional to the other party; and provision may be made by rules of court—

Status: This is the original version (as it was originally enacted).

- (a) for requiring notice of proceedings brought by virtue of this section to be served on any such other spouse; and
 - (b) for conferring on any such other spouse the right to be heard in any such proceedings,
- in such cases as may be prescribed by the rules.