



Matrimonial Causes Act 1973

1973 CHAPTER 18

PART I

DIVORCE, NULLITY AND OTHER MATRIMONIAL SUITS

Nullity

11 Grounds on which a marriage is void

A marriage celebrated after 31st July 1971 shall be void on the following grounds only, that is to say—

- (a) that it is not a valid marriage under the provisions of the Marriages Acts 1949 to 1970 (that is to say where—
 - (i) the parties are within the prohibited degrees of relationship;
 - (ii) either party is under the age of sixteen; or
 - (iii) the parties have intermarried in disregard of certain requirements as to the formation of marriage);
- (b) that at the time of the marriage either party was already lawfully married;
- (c) that the parties are not respectively male and female ;
- (d) in the case of a polygamous marriage entered into outside England and Wales, that either party was at the time of the marriage domiciled in England and Wales.

For the purposes of paragraph (d) of this subsection a marriage may be polygamous although at its inception neither party has any spouse additional to the other.