



# Senior Courts Act 1981

## 1981 CHAPTER 54

### PART II

#### JURISDICTION

#### THE HIGH COURT

#### *Other particular fields of jurisdiction*

#### 26 Matrimonial jurisdiction of High Court.

The High Court shall, in accordance with section 19(2), have all such jurisdiction in relation to matrimonial causes and matters as was immediately before the commencement of the <sup>M1</sup>Matrimonial Causes Act 1857 vested in or exercisable by any ecclesiastical court or person in England or Wales in respect of—

- (a) divorce a mensa et thoro (renamed judicial separation by that Act);
- (b) nullity of marriage . . . <sup>F1</sup>; and
- (c) any matrimonial cause or matter except marriage licences.

#### Textual Amendments

**F1** Words repealed by [Family Law Act 1986 \(c. 55, SIF 49:3\)](#), s. 68(1)(2), Sch. 1 para. 25, [Sch. 2](#)

#### Marginal Citations

**M1** [1857 c. 85](#).

**Changes to legislation:**

Senior Courts Act 1981, Section 26 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 15 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations.

[View outstanding changes](#)

**Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Act associated Parts and Chapters:**

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Act (including any effects on those provisions):

- s. 31(3)(a) word inserted by 2015 c. 2 s. 85(1)(a)
- s. 31(3)(a) word inserted by 2015 c. 2 s. 85(1)(a)
- s. 31(3)(b) and word inserted by 2015 c. 2 s. 85(1)(b)
- s. 31(3)(b) and word inserted by 2015 c. 2 s. 85(1)(b)
- s. 31(3A)(3B) inserted by 2015 c. 2 s. 85(2)
- s. 31(3A)(3B) inserted by 2015 c. 2 s. 85(2)