

# Civil Partnership Act 2004

## **2004 CHAPTER 33**

## PART 4

CIVIL PARTNERSHIP: NORTHERN IRELAND

## CHAPTER 2

#### DISSOLUTION, NULLITY AND OTHER PROCEEDINGS

#### Separation orders

# 179 Separation orders

- (1) An application for a separation order may be made to the court by either civil partner on the ground that any such fact as is mentioned in section 168(5)(a), (b), (c) or (d) exists.
- (2) On an application for a separation order the court must inquire, so far as it reasonably can, into—
  - (a) the facts alleged by the applicant, and
  - (b) any facts alleged by the respondent,

but whether the civil partnership has broken down irretrievably is irrelevant.

- (3) If the court is satisfied on the evidence of any such fact as is mentioned in section 168(5)(a), (b), (c) or (d) it must, subject to section 186, make a separation order.
- (4) Section 169 (supplemental provisions as to facts raising presumption of breakdown) applies for the purposes of an application for a separation order alleging any such fact as it applies in relation to an application for a dissolution order alleging that fact.

Status: This is the original version (as it was originally enacted).

### 180 Effect of separation order

If either civil partner dies intestate as respects all or any of his or her real or personal property while—

- (a) a separation order is in force, and
- (b) the separation order is continuing,

the property as respects which he or she died intestate devolves as if the other civil partner had then been dead.