

# Alternative marriage service



VICTORIAN  
MARRIAGE REGISTRY <sup>TM</sup>



## Introduction

### **Celebrant:**

Good morning / afternoon / evening, my name is [Celebrant's name] and I am an authorised marriage celebrant for the Victorian Marriage Registry. I am privileged to be here today to officiate at the marriage of [Groom's full legal name] and [Bride's full legal name]. I also want to wish you much happiness in your future lives together.

## Declaration

### **Celebrant:**

Do you [Groom's name] and do you [Bride's name] declare before me and your witnesses that you are free by law to be married to each other today?

### **Groom and Bride respond:**

Yes, we do.

## Monitum from the Marriage Act

### **Celebrant:**

Before you are joined in marriage in my presence and in the presence of these witnesses, I am to remind you of the solemn and binding nature of the relationship into which you are now about to enter.

Marriage, according to the law in Australia, is the union of a man and a woman to the exclusion of all others, voluntarily entered into for life.

## Vows

*First the Groom, and then the Bride, repeat the vows after the Celebrant:*

### **Groom** (repeating after Celebrant):

I call upon the people here present  
to witness that I [Groom's name],  
take you [Bride's name]  
to be my lawful wedded wife.

### **Bride** (repeating after Celebrant):

I call upon the people here present  
to witness that I [Bride's name],  
take you [Groom's name]  
to be my lawful wedded husband.

### Ring Ceremony (optional)

*First the Groom, and then the Bride, repeat after the Celebrant:*

[Bride/Groom's name], wear this ring with all my love.

### Conclusion of Ceremony

**Celebrant:**

You have both made the declarations by law. In front of your family/friends as witnesses, I have great pleasure in pronouncing you husband and wife.

### Signing of Marriage Certificates

*Bride and Groom sign first, then Witnesses and then celebrant.*

### Presentation of Marriage Certificate

**Celebrant:**

Ladies and gentlemen, family and friends, on behalf of the Victorian Marriage Registry and the Bride and Groom, thank you all for coming here today to celebrate with [Groom's name] and [Bride's name] on their Wedding Day and for making their day so special.

Congratulations again to [Groom's name] and [Bride's name].

*Or*

Ladies and gentlemen, the bride and groom.