

The background of the slide features a repeating pattern of stylized, light-colored leaves and branches on a muted blue background. The leaves are elongated and pointed, with some internal vein details. The branches are thin and curved, creating a natural, organic feel.

parenting

## YOUR VIEWS ON PARENTING

1. *People should wait to have children.*
2. *Parenting comes naturally to new parents.*
3. *Parents are a child's most important role model.*
4. *Having a baby makes a relationship stronger.*
5. *Everyone has the right to be a parent.*
6. *There is an age where you become too old to have children.*



# Roles and Relationships

- The parental role is the most significant role in the lives of children. A parent not only provides the essential of life such as food, clothing, shelter and safety but also has a nurturing role that meets the child's need for love, belonging, and attachment, as well as self-esteem and self actualization.

“There’s nothing called a perfect parent so just be a real one”

# What qualities does a parent need at different stages in a child's development?



**During pregnancy**

**During infancy**

**Child as toddler**

**Child at primary school age**

**Child as teenager**

**Child reaches adulthood**



## Long term commitments

# KEY WORDS

Marriage	A legal union between a man and a woman or between a same-sex couple (in England, Wales and Scotland and, from January 2020, in Northern Ireland).
Civil partnership	A relationship which can be registered by two people of the same sex (to be extended to opposite-sex couples in 2020).
Cohabitation	Living together as a couple without being married/civil partners.
Forced marriage	A marriage where one or both people do not consent to the marriage and pressure or abuse is used.
Arranged marriage	A marriage planned and agreed by the families or guardians of the couple concerned, to which both individuals consent.
Illegal/void marriage	A marriage that is invalid from its inception and cannot be made valid.
Ceremony	A formal religious or public occasion, especially one celebrating a particular event, achievement, or anniversary.

**1. I'm under 18; can I get married?**

A person can get married or form a civil partnership in England or Wales if they are 18 or over.

**2. I recently split up with my fiancée; can I keep the ring?**

Yes, but if at the time they were given it the person proposing specifically said that it should be returned if the engagement were broken, then it has to be returned.

**3. I want to get married, but I'm not religious. What are my options?**

A person can marry in a religious or civil ceremony. In both cases, the marriage must be conducted by a person, or in the presence of a person, authorised to register marriages in the district and the marriage must be entered in the marriage register and signed by both parties, two witnesses, the person who conducted the ceremony and, if that person is not authorised to register marriages, the person who is registering the marriage.

4. I've been living with my partner for years; do we have the same rights as married couples?

Although the terms common-law wife or husband are frequently used to describe a couple who live together, these relationships do not have legal recognition, nor the same rights as married couples.

5. Do I have to have a wedding ceremony to get married?

While a marriage requires an exchange of spoken words, for a civil partnership all that is needed is for the relevant documents to be signed. If a person chooses to have a ceremony when entering into a civil partnership, the ceremony cannot be religious. The Register Office must be given 28 days' notice before the marriage or civil partnership can be registered. If someone has strong grounds for objecting to the union, they can object during the 28 days (but making a false statement is a criminal offence).




## 6. I want to get married in a ceremony outdoors; is that allowed?

Civil wedding and partnership ceremonies are allowed to be performed outdoors in England and Wales. Although previously the legal wedding or civil partnership ceremony had to take place in an approved room or permanent structure, the law changed in 2021, allowing couples to have the whole ceremony outside.

## 7. Can someone force me to get married?

Forced marriage is where one or both people do not (or in cases of people with learning disabilities or reduced capacity, cannot) consent to the marriage as they are pressurised, or abuse is used, to force them to do so. Everybody has the right to choose their partner, but both must be 16 or over, not already married/in a civil partnership and not closely related (i.e. a parent, child, brother, sister, niece, nephew, aunt, uncle, grandparent, grandchild).



# Same sex marriages.

- When could same sex couple legally marry?

## **Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Act 2013**

In 2013, Parliament passed the Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Act which introduced civil marriage for same-sex couples in England and Wales. The legislation allowed religious organisations to opt in to marry same-sex couples should they wish to do so and protected religious organisations and their representatives from successful legal challenge if they did not wish to marry same-sex couples. The legislation also enabled civil partners to convert their civil partnership into marriage and transsexual people to change their legal gender without necessarily having to end their existing marriage.

In Scotland, the Scottish Parliament has legislated to allow same-sex marriages. The Northern Ireland Assembly has not legislated to allow the marriage of same-sex couples in Northern Ireland.



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Cohabiting? Marriage? or  
civil unions?

What's the difference?

# Do all arrangements have these statuses?

1. A specific procedure must be followed to end the relationship.

3. Each partner has a legal duty to support the other financially.

5. Couples can create a legally binding contract called a cohabitation agreement which could state how bills will be paid and what belongs to each person

7. If one person in the relationship runs up debts on a joint bank account, the debts become the responsibility of both people, regardless of whether the relationship ends.

9. The couple may be allowed to pay less tax, saving them money every year.

2. Legally recognised in all countries

4. Can take place between same sex couples.

6. Both partners can access a joint bank account, regardless of whether only one person pays into it.

8. If one person in the relationship dies, the other does not have to pay tax on the money or property they receive from them.

10. If one person in the relationship dies, the other may be able to get extra pension payments from their partners pension or NI contributions.

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# Cohabitation doesn't have these.

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Each partner has a legal duty to support the other financially.

The couple may be allowed to pay less tax, saving them money every year.

Legally recognised in all countries

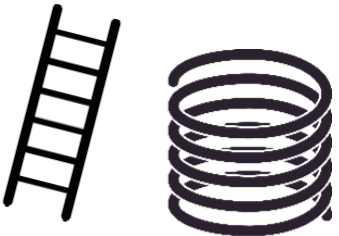
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# Scenario cards

In groups, read the scenario cards and decide whether each shows a legal marriage or an illegal/void marriage.



## SCENARIO 1

Sam and Alex are getting married. Sam was in a civil partnership for several years but the relationship ended 5 years ago. As Sam is now getting married, not forming another civil partnership, he never legally dissolved his civil partnership.

No.

**Q: Is their marriage legally recognised in the UK?**

The marriage is only legal if the civil partnership is dissolved first.

## SCENARIO 2

Dev and Kiara are excited about getting married. Both of them are very close to their families and were confident in their parents' match-making skills when they were first introduced to each other. They know their wedding day will be a happy event.

**Q: Is their marriage legally recognised in the UK?**

Yes.

This is an example of an arranged marriage.



### SCENARIO 3

Adeel and Roxanna had a Nikah ceremony (a traditional Islamic wedding ceremony). Shortly afterwards, they had a civil marriage ceremony too.

Yes.

Q: Is their marriage legally recognised in the UK?

As long as they have married in a civil ceremony, their marriage is legally recognised in the UK. If they only had a Nikah ceremony, this would not be the case.

### SCENARIO 4

Jas and her brother went away with their family, for what they thought was a holiday. When they arrived, Jas was told she was getting married. She was not about this but was worried about what her family would do if she tried to say no.

Q: Is their marriage legally recognised in the UK?

No.

This is an example of a forced marriage and is illegal in the UK.

### SCENARIO 5

Ella and Tilly were married last week. They had a small civil ceremony at a local hotel, followed by a big party with all of their families and friends.

Yes.

Q: Is their marriage legally recognised in the UK?

### SCENARIO 5

Tom is 17. Li is 18. They really want to get married and although Tom's parents think he's too young they have agreed.

Same sex marriage is legal in England,

Q: Is their marriage legally recognised in the UK?

No.

Li is free to marry whoever she chooses,  
but Tom cannot marry until he is 18.

A close-up photograph of a rusty metal pipe. A red padlock with a heart symbol is attached to the pipe. The background is blurred, showing more of the pipe and some debris.

# Forced or arranged?

On the sheet decide which statements are about **FORCED** marriage and which are about **ARRANGED** marriages



# Forced or arranged?

Consent is given by both individuals

Parents of the person getting married respect their wishes

May take place at very short notice

Involves pressure – physical, emotional or psychological

The individuals must be over the age of 18

Is a cultural tradition, allowed by law

Is an abuse of human rights

Potential partner can be declined

One or both individuals do not consent

Is illegal

Consent is given by both individuals

Parents of the person getting married  
respect their wishes

arranged

May take place at very short notice

Involves pressure – physical, emotional  
or psychological

The individuals must be over the age of  
18

Is a cultural tradition, allowed by law

Is an abuse of human rights

Potential partner can be declined

forced

One or both individuals do not consent

Is illegal



# Forced or arranged?



Jas and her brother went away with their family, for what they thought was a family holiday. When they arrived, Jas was told she was getting married. She was not happy about this but was worried about what her family would do if she tried to say no.

**Q: Is their marriage legally recognised in the UK?**

1. Re-read the forced marriage scenario with Jas and give advice about what Jas and her brother could do.
2. What might you do if Jas or her brother felt unable to follow this advice?



# SIGNPOSTING

If you want to talk to someone about today's lesson:



- Tutor or Head of Year
- Marie Stopes
  - 10 Brewer Street, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1RU
  - 0845 300 8090 (24 hours)
  - Website [http://www.mariestopes.org.uk/Our\\_centres/Maidstone\\_Main\\_Centre\\_\(Kent\).aspx](http://www.mariestopes.org.uk/Our_centres/Maidstone_Main_Centre_(Kent).aspx)
- Brook
  - 0808 802 1234
  - Website [www.askbrook.org.uk](http://www.askbrook.org.uk)
- Medway Contraception and Sexual Health Clinics
  - 0300 790 0245
  - Website [www.cloverstreet.nhs.uk](http://www.cloverstreet.nhs.uk)