



AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL REPORT

Church annulment petitions require a history of the background of the spouses, their courtship, wedding day and married life. This information should be as detailed as you can make it and should be typewritten on paper other than this sheet. Please title your report with your name followed by your former spouse's name.

I. ABOUT YOURSELF AND YOUR FAMILY BACKGROUND

A. Family

1. General disposition and character of each parent
2. Who was dominant parent?
3. What was your relationship with parents?
4. What was your relationship with brothers and sisters?
5. What was your home life like?
6. Any other information about your family you feel is important

B. Yourself

1. Story of your childhood and adolescence
2. Ability to make and keep friends
3. Dating history
4. Sexual experience and attitudes
5. Medical history

C. Your Former Spouse

Use same outline as in A and B above, telling as much as you know of his or her background.

II. ABOUT YOUR COURTSHIP AND ENGAGEMENT

- A. How you met, source of initial attraction, frequency and nature of dates
- B. Ability to communicate, what made you compatible
- C. Living arrangements prior to marriage
- D. Your attitudes about day-to-day responsibilities
- E. Sexual relationship prior to marriage
- F. Disagreements, breaks in the relationship, how relationship resumed
- G. How the subject of marriage arose and how each of you felt about it
- H. Opposition to the marriage
- I. As the day of marriage approached, did either of you have any doubts, reservations, regrets
- J. Attitudes, feelings, behavior of each of you on your wedding day; anything unusual about your wedding day or honeymoon.

III. MARRIED LIFE - When describing problems in the marriage, it is important to state when they first surfaced.

- A. Describe a typical day at home
- B. Extent to which you were able to communicate
- C. How you shared responsibilities; decisions you made together
- D. What personal and joint goals you were able to realize
- E. Nature of your sexual relationship in the entire marriage
- F. Attitude about parenthood, birth control; were children born (if not, why)
- G. Role that family and friends played in your marriage
- H. How you and your spouse showed regard and respect for one another
- I. Manner of dealing with alcohol, drugs, gambling
- J. Separations; reasons and the circumstances of reconciliation
- K. Causes of final separation

PLEASE BE SURE TO ADD YOUR SIGNATURE AND THE DATE AT THE CONCLUSION OF YOUR REPORT.

AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL REPORT CHECKLIST

Please review this carefully and check off any experiences or characteristics that you feel may have applied to you or your former spouse in the past. Identifying these things, which may have existed before or during your marriage, will help you with your autobiographical report. Please submit this completed checklist with your petition.

Yourself	Family Backgrounds	Your Former Spouse
	Divorces in the family	
	Sexual Abuse	
	Drinking problems in the home	
	Physical abuse	
	Psychological/emotional problems	
	Violence	
	Trouble with the law	
	Drug abuse	
	Extremely close family ties	
	Severe economic difficulties	
	Untimely deaths or illnesses	
Personal Characteristics		
	Drinking or drug problem	
	Emotional/physical abuse	
	Other addictions (food, gambling, etc.)	
	Mood swings	
	Very dependent	
	Very demanding/domineering	
	Irresponsible with money	
	Prone to depression	
	Impulsive	
	Self-centered	
	Possessive/jealous	
	Tendency to lie	
Problems existing before the wedding		
	Family opposition to the wedding	
	Poor communication	
	Long absences/separations	
	Irritability/argumentativeness	
	Indications of unfaithfulness	
	Drug or alcohol abuse	
	Physical abuse	
	Pregnancy	
	Financial difficulties	
	Unemployment/poor job performance	
	Lack of attention/affection	
	Sexual problems	

Please check the appropriate line if you feel any of the following were present at the time of your marriage.

Yourself	At the time of the wedding, one or both of you	Your Former Spouse
	Was not mature enough to understand what a commitment entailed	
	Was trying to get away from something unpleasant in our lives	
	Believed we were committed to marriage because of dating so long	
	Had serious doubts about whether this was a good decision	
	Did not consider if our relationship was strong enough for marriage	
	Had little or no previous dating experience	
	Had personal involvement with physical or sexual abuse	
	Had personal involvement with alcohol or drug use	
	Had received counseling for a serious psychological disorder	
	Was unable to establish stability in a job, education, or lifestyle	
	Had a history of violence or other antisocial behavior	
	Expressed or experienced difficulties with sexual orientation	
	Felt that career was more important than marriage	
	Felt that the most important thing was personal happiness	
	Intended to remain married only if spouse was faithful	
	Wanted to back out of the ceremony but could not do so	
	Had no example of stable marriage while growing up	
	Felt obliged to marry as a means to continue living together	
	Never intended to have children	
	Would not have sexual relations unless birth control was used	
	Intended to delay, limit or exclude children until financially secure	
	Never intended to take any responsibility for any children	
	Believed sexual infidelity was acceptable	
	Was sexually unfaithful before or shortly after the wedding	
	Grew up believing divorce was acceptable	
	Felt divorce was acceptable in certain circumstances	
	Intended to be married only as long as we felt fulfilled	
	Believed that, because of pre-marital pregnancy, there was no other alternative to marry	
	Married because of parental objections to living together	
	Was afraid NOT to marry for some reason	
	Did not understand that marriage is a spiritual union and not just a civil union	
	Deceived the other about the real reason for marrying	
	Concealed something the other had a right to know before marrying	

Print full name