

ELIZABETH II



1980 CHAPTER 1

An Act to enable Edward Berry and Doris Eileen Ward
to be married to each other. [17th July 1980]

WHEREAS—

(1) On 25th September 1943, Mr. Berry (then aged 26 years and a bachelor) married the late Mrs. Berry (then a widow aged 37 years):

(2) During her first and only other marriage, the late Mrs. Berry bore four children by her first husband (Garnett Harold Blazey) and Mrs. Ward is one of those children and was, at the date of Mr. Berry's marriage to the late Mrs. Berry, then a married woman aged 22 years:

(3) On 31st August 1943, Mrs. Ward (then a spinster) married William Ward (then a bachelor) and there were two issue of the marriage and they are still living and aged 27 years and 32 years respectively:

(4) Mr. Berry and the late Mrs. Berry lived together on terms of great affection until the late Mrs. Berry died on 31st October 1977:

(5) Both Mr. Berry and Mrs. Ward are domiciled and resident in England:

1949 c. 76.

(6) Mr. Berry is now aged 62 years and Mrs. Ward is now aged 58 years and, after the late Mrs. Berry died, they formed the wish to be married to each other but a marriage between them would be void as falling within section 1(1) of the Marriage Act 1949, in that they stand in the relationship of stepfather and stepdaughter:

(7) Mr. Berry and Mrs. Ward regard the legal impediment to their marriage as imposing hardship on them, and as serving no useful purpose of public policy, in the particular circumstances of their case:

(8) They accordingly desire that the impediment should be removed in their case:

(9) The object of this Act cannot be attained without the authority of Parliament:

Therefore Mr. Berry and Mrs. Ward most humbly pray that it may be enacted, and be it enacted, by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

Power to marry.

1. Notwithstanding anything contained in any enactment or any rule of law to the contrary, there shall be no impediment to a marriage between Mr. Berry and Mrs. Ward by reason of their relationship of stepfather and stepdaughter, and no marriage hereafter contracted between them shall be void by reason of that relationship.

Interpretation.

2. In this Act (including the Preamble hereto)—

“ Mr. Berry ” means Edward Berry who was born the son of the late Thomas and the late Jane Berry on 25th June 1917;

“ The late Mrs. Berry ” means the late Mary Berry (previously Blazey and born Bentley) who died on 31st October 1977;

“ Mrs. Ward ” means Doris Eileen Ward who is the daughter of the late Garnett Harold Blazey and the late Mrs. Berry.

Short title.

3. This Act may be cited as the Edward Berry and Doris Eileen Ward (Marriage Enabling) Act 1980.

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Tyne and Wear Act 1980

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