

Church Unity Masses
start tomorrow morning.
Hand in your names!

University of Notre Dame
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Gin Weddings.

Gin is now helping Hollywood make a farce out of the non-Catholic marriage. Only yesterday a young girl asked divorce on the grounds that she and her husband were too intoxicated at the nuptials to know what they were doing.

Here is an editorial from the Chicago Tribune on "Gin Weddings":

"As gin weddings get into print, through divorce or annulment proceedings, they give evidence of a social fault. Most American states recognize the undesirability of continuing an unfortunate marriage. Restrictive law does not make tolerable what experience proves to be intolerable, and for the great part America has chosen not to stand on assumptions of inviolability. Government has decreed as to marriage that it must be so far a state affair that it shall require a license. The ceremony may be state or church, a contract or a sacrament or both. When the church controlled it was not difficult to prevent a hasty marriage, although not one that would prove to be a mistake. The bans would delay a marriage of impulse. The civil tendency has been not to put arbitrary checks on the ceremony. The age qualification being satisfied, the man and woman are not to be challenged, there being no evidence that each is not legally free to enter the contract. The abuse of this freedom is worked by persons whose condition and actions at the time prove their unfitness, and by officials who ignore the patent evidence of it. The excuse for the irresponsible persons is that they are too drunk to consider what they are doing, if that is an excuse. The officials have no excuse. They want the fees and gratuities, a degrading reason for participation in scandal.

"Such a wedding is no wedding, but it is hard to disqualify it in the precise terms of a statute, although it can be done by prescribing a period between the issuance of a license and the use of it. A less restriction would be to require that the application for license shall not be granted except during stated office hours, making the clerk subject to penalties for a violation. Short of some such regulations the courts are confronted with the social need of taking judicial notice of the fact that a gin wedding is not a wedding, the participants being disqualified from entering into the contract."

That's a timely editorial, but it misses the point. How can young people--even sober young people--consider marriage sacred when their elders practice divorce and birth control against the sacred nature and purpose of matrimony? Christ unmistakably meant marriage to be indissoluble when He said: "Have you not read that He who made man from the beginning made them male and female? For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife, and they shall be two in one flesh. Therefore, now they are not two, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let no man put asunder."

Artificial birth control, by frustrating the immediate end of the marriage act, is an unnatural crime against the sanctity of marriage.

After magistrates and ministers approve of divorce and birth control--contrary to the clear teachings of Christ and of Nature--what is there left to tell the young about the sanctity of matrimony? And who is really to stop Gin Weddings?

PRAYERS: Deceased, Bro. Leo's sister; relative of Bob Leonard (Dillon); grandmother of Bob Mullen (Brownson). Ill, uncle of Roy Barron (Lyons); Joe Sullivan, ill in the hospital; Bill Rankin (Morrissey), recovering from an appendectomy; grandmother of George Wolf (Alumni); grandmother of Frank Maxwell (Corby); cousin of Phil (Dillon) and Bill Bayer (Alumni). Five special intentions.