

This is a sample petition. All characters appearing in this work are fictitious. Any resemblance to real persons, living or dead is purely coincidental.

# PETITION FOR DECLARATION OF NULLITY

BETTY KIRK 05/13/2013

### 1. Basic Details About How Isaac and I Met

Isaac and I met during our senior year at UW-Madison in an introductory Italian course. We struck up a friendship first semester, and he asked me out on a date in October of 2006.

# 2. Basic Details Surrounding the Courtship, Our Decision to Marry, and the Wedding Day

Isaac and I continued dating throughout our senior year and our relationship quickly became serious. Isaac was a good student and came from a good, but quiet family. I met them at his graduation in spring, and I liked them. Isaac was a good guy, maybe a little quiet, too, but was serious about his studies. He graduated with an engineering degree and began full-time engineering work at an energy conservation firm in Madison in the summer. I graduated as well with a degree in English and was hired by the university to serve as a secretary for the English department.

Prior to meeting Isaac, however, I'd been in a casual relationship with a friend from high school, Pete that I had bumped into at a party freshman year. We'd seen each other regularly over the years, even as we were dating other people. I maintained this relationship even as I began dating Isaac. While Isaac knew that Pete was an old friend of mine, he didn't know that we'd been hooking up, and I didn't tell him.

After graduation, Isaac and I dated for another year and then moved in together. After eight months of living together, we decided to look for rings and started planning the wedding for the following fall.

I liked that Isaac was a solid guy and had a good job. My family liked him, and his family seemed to like me. We'd been together for so long we decided that we'd go ahead and take the next step of getting married.

As the wedding approached, however, Isaac and I started fighting more about money and details of the wedding. I was still seeing Pete and Isaac still didn't know about our relationship, though a good friend of his had seen us kiss at a bar one night a few weeks before the wedding.

The wedding went ahead as planned. I had seen Pete two nights before because Isaac and I had been fighting a lot, but we made up and married on October 3<sup>rd</sup> at Our Lady of Good Counsel in Madison, WI.

Right after the ceremony, Isaac and I left for our honeymoon in Jamaica. I thought after the wedding our relationship would be better without the stress of wedding planning, but we kept fighting. On the second day of our honeymoon, we had a big fight that night because Isaac thought that I had been drinking too much. He went to bed and I texted Pete, telling him that I missed him and that our honeymoon wasn't going well. Isaac and I spent the next few days avoiding each other. I went out to the bars at night and he went to bed. We made up, though, and had a few last good days before we returned home.

## 3. Basic Details About Why Our Marriage Failed

It's hard to admit, but our marriage failed because of me. I kept seeing Pete on the side for the next three years of our marriage. Isaac was a good, stable guy, but Pete was so exciting to be around and made me feel so attractive. I just couldn't break it off with Pete because it felt too good to be around him. Isaac became increasingly involved in his work, and I started to see less and less of him and more of Pete. We decided to get divorced in November of 2012. Isaac moved out that month.

# 4. The Ground of Nullity

Partial Simulation Against the Good of Fidelity: I was seeing Pete on the side throughout our courtship, engagement, and three years of marriage.

# 5. List of Facts and Proofs

Witnesses

- Pete Palpatine, lover: Can testify to the details of our relationship
- Teresa Bolger, college friend: Can testify to my relationship with Pete during college
- Maria Potts-Stark, college friend: Can testify to my relationship with Pete during my engagement and marriage to Isaac
- Andy Tumnus, Isaac's friend: Can testify to seeing Pete and me at a bar together during my engagement to Isaac

Emails between Pete and me about our relationship

### 6. Additional Information

I don't know if this is important, but my parents actually got divorced when I was in middle school because my Dad was cheating on my Mom. He eventually went on to marry the woman with whom he was having an affair.

Thank you to the Tribunal at the Diocese of Madison for their permission to use this sample petition.