



National Women's Council of Ireland
Comhairle Náisiúnta na mBan in Éirinn

Vote YES

Create greater certainty and clarity for families going through divorce

Referendum May 24th

Nobody marries thinking they will divorce. But it is a reality of life that sometimes relationships change. A couple may decide that the best way forward for them and their children is to have a divorce.

Currently, restrictions on divorce in the Constitution mean that a couple or family must wait at least four years in order to divorce. There are also particular difficulties for people who need to get their foreign divorce recognised in Ireland.

The National Women's Council of Ireland (NWC) is calling for a Yes vote on May 24th.

Voting Yes means we can

- **Remove harmful restrictions on divorce from the Constitution that cause uncertainty and conflict for families and children.**
- **Make a difficult process more compassionate and give a couple the time they need to make the decision that is best for them and their children.**
- **Recognise that the Constitution is not the right place to deal with complex personal relationships.**

What exactly will I be voting on?

In the referendum on May 24th you will be asked to remove the minimum living apart period for spouses seeking a divorce from our Constitution. If we vote Yes, this time period will be decided in legislation. The current proposal is for a time limit of two years.

In addition, you will be asked to ease restrictions on the recognition of foreign divorces. If we vote Yes, a person who got divorced abroad will have their current living situation better recognised in Ireland.

How will the proposed changes affect women and men?

Voting Yes means that women and men who have decided to get a divorce will have greater clarity and certainty about their living situation. A shorter process means that women escaping domestic abuse will be able to protect themselves and their children better from long term abuse from their former partner.

How will the proposed changes affect children?

We know that children do best with predictability and decreased conflict between the parents. Voting Yes means children will have greater clarity and certainty in relation to their situation.

How will the proposed changes affect the divorce rate in Ireland?

Ireland has one of the lowest divorce rates in the world and is likely to continue to do so. Divorce will remain a process that couples will only engage in after much consideration.

nwci.ie
#DivorceRef



Vote Yes Friday
24 May 2019