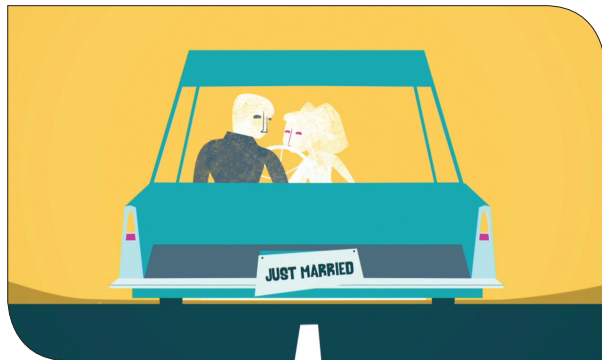


You may like to use some of these sentence starters:

- I suggest to all the couples I marry that they consider participating in some relationship education prior to marriage. Most say they were surprised at how much they got out of it and all say that they would definitely encourage others to do it. Would this be something you might be interested in?
- Sometimes couples might think Pre-Marriage and Relationship Education is counselling. Well the good news is... it's not! However, it is about building skills that can assist you to have a strong, healthy and happy marriage. Would you be interested in taking some brochures and looking at them?
- We participate in many learning opportunities in our lives: school, getting our drivers licence, training for our jobs, ante natal classes, just to name a few. But we don't often think about some learning opportunities for marriage when we are making an extremely important life decision. These programs can help you have a continually growing, healthy marriage over many many years. Why not give it some thought?



What do couples say about the Marriage and Relationship Education?

"I was not looking forward to attending this program but it was fantastic. The educators really knew their stuff and we got so much out of it. I would recommend it to everyone."

"I learnt a lot about myself and we had lots of fun with other couples. The best part was when we spent time talking together about our future and how we want our marriage to be, especially for when we have children. Thanks heaps!"

**CHECK OUT OUR MARRIAGE AND RELATIONSHIP
EDUCATION VIDEO DESIGNED FOR CELEBRANTS ON
OUR WEBSITE**



**For more resources and information at our website.
www.mareaa.asn.au**



Funded by the Australian Government

"It's all in the pitch"

***A Celebrants
Guide to
Marriage and
Relationship
Education***



www.mareaa.asn.au

What is Marriage and Relationship Education?

Marriage and Relationship Education is about helping couples to build on their relationship skills to assist them have a healthy, growing, and happy marriage.

Marriage and Relationship Education IS NOT counselling. As important as counselling is, Marriage and Relationship Education is a learning opportunity, much like you would do with any other important life event, whether its going for a drivers licence, up skilling or training for a new career, or participating in ante natal classes.

What does a Marriage and Relationship Education Program look like?

Couples can choose a Marriage and Relationship Education Program that best suits their needs. There are programs that involve completing an inventory and spending several sessions with a trained facilitator. Others involve participating

in a group program facilitated by professional relationship educators. The group format is engaging and fun with lots of time for couples to individually discuss their relationship.

What topics are covered in a program?

Family of origin, personality, goals and expectations, roles, communication, regulating conflict, commitment, finance, parenting and intimacy.

What role do Celebrants play in Marriage and Relationship Education?

The majority of celebrants spend a considerable amount of time with couples preparing for their wedding, so you have a wonderful opportunity to encourage your couple to think seriously about relationship education.

Celebrants have a unique chance to help couples start on their new journey together and to have a strong and happy life long marriage. Marriage and Relationship Education can be part of this journey.

How do you raise the idea of Marriage and Relationship Education with your couples?

It's all in the pitch! If the topic is raised in a low key manner it generally yields the most positive responses.

Celebrants that reinforce the positive benefits and are prepared for any questions, and hand out the brochures, often find that their couples are thankful for the extra care and concern. It's not taken as intrusive or negative, rather it reinforces your commitment to building strong, happy life long marriages!

