

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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# **1001 Questions to Ask Before You Get Married**

**By Monica Mendez Leahy**

The institution of marriage has been in the national spotlight like never before. Politicians are defining what it means and attempting to shape its parameters. Millions are glued to their television sets to see if total strangers can get together and make it down the aisle. The state of “happily ever after” seems to be on everyone’s mind. Marriage is still meant to honor love, commitment, and life-long partnership, but it requires dedication and hard truths. Those contemplating marriage need to face tough questions about what it means to be married, their partnerships, their values, and their future. Is marriage the right direction for you and your partner? Are you ready?

**1001 Questions to Ask Before You Get Married (June 2004; Paperback, \$14.95)** is the book to read long before you plan your honeymoon. Love can be bliss, but marriage takes work. Communication, compromise, and joint decision-making are key ingredients to a successful marriage. Unfortunately, couples often overlook these things when planning a wedding. This book provides pointed questions, hypotheticals, and self-exploratory quizzes that will help individuals define themselves and their goals, find out more about their partners and *their* goals, in order to reasonably manage matrimonial expectations.

Author and relationship expert Monica Mendez Leahy has helped hundreds of couples explore their common goals and perspectives as well as their unique differences as they prepare for their life journey together. Marriage involves a constant state of maneuvering, change, and honoring differences. From exes and past relationships to pets, raising children, money issues, living together before marriage, and physical intimacy – each person brings his or her own unique set of personality traits and requirements.

1,001 Questions to Ask Before You Get Married brings to the table important issues that will arise in every marriage—including the ones that may blindside you. A variety of fun, interactive formats, including multiple choice, fill-in-the-blank, and hypotheticals, explore fundamental questions about nature, thought processes, lifestyle, and marital expectations, including:

- Is there such a thing as innocent flirting?
- Do you both want children?
- How important is religion in your life?
- Do you think couples should share the same political views?

## **About the Author:**

**Monica Mendez Leahy** has been helping couples prepare for marriage for twenty years, and has married over 100 couples as Deputy Commissioner of Civil Marriages for the County of Los Angeles. She hosts a series of couples' workshops in the Los Angeles area and has been featured in the Ladies Home Journal and the Wall Street Journal and on Lifetime Television. Couples can also seek her advice at the [www.1001questionstoask.com](http://www.1001questionstoask.com) web site.

## **The experts praise 1,001 Questions to Ask Before You Get Married:**

“. . . An important and essential book for all couples contemplating marriage."

--Dr. Barry G. Ginsberg, Executive Director, Center of Relationship Enhancement

"After reading 1,001 Questions to Ask Before You Get Married, I am convinced that people should read it before taking their marriage vows because there would be far less divorces."

-- Dr. Ava Caledell, Ph.D., Ed.D., author of 12 Steps to Everlasting Love

## **From the Introduction:**

### **Answer Each Question Honestly.**

This book is not a test to see how many questions you and your partner can answer alike. There are no right or wrong answers either. The purposes of these questions are simply to disclose how you would act under a given situation and to give insight to your views of the past and future. Don't temper your answers to please your partner. Don't give a response that sounds very diplomatic, but doesn't reflect the truth. Giving dishonest answers in order to keep the peace does no one any favors.

### **Only Answer for Yourself**

This book is about discovery. It's set up to find out who you and your partner are and what you expect out of marriage. Resist the temptation to answer for your partner. If a question asks for your opinion, don't answer with a response that describes your partner. For example, if the question asks, "Do you want children?", don't respond with "Jerry doesn't want children." Concentrate on discovering who you really are, and what you really want. It's only when you know this about yourself that you can decide if your partner can help you accomplish what you want for your future.

## **Media Opportunities**

Monica Mendez Leahy is available for speaking engagements and short notice interviews. Please contact Ann Pryor, Publicity Department at McGraw-Hill Trade Publications (212) 904-4078, or [ann\\_pryor@mcgraw-hill.com](mailto:ann_pryor@mcgraw-hill.com)