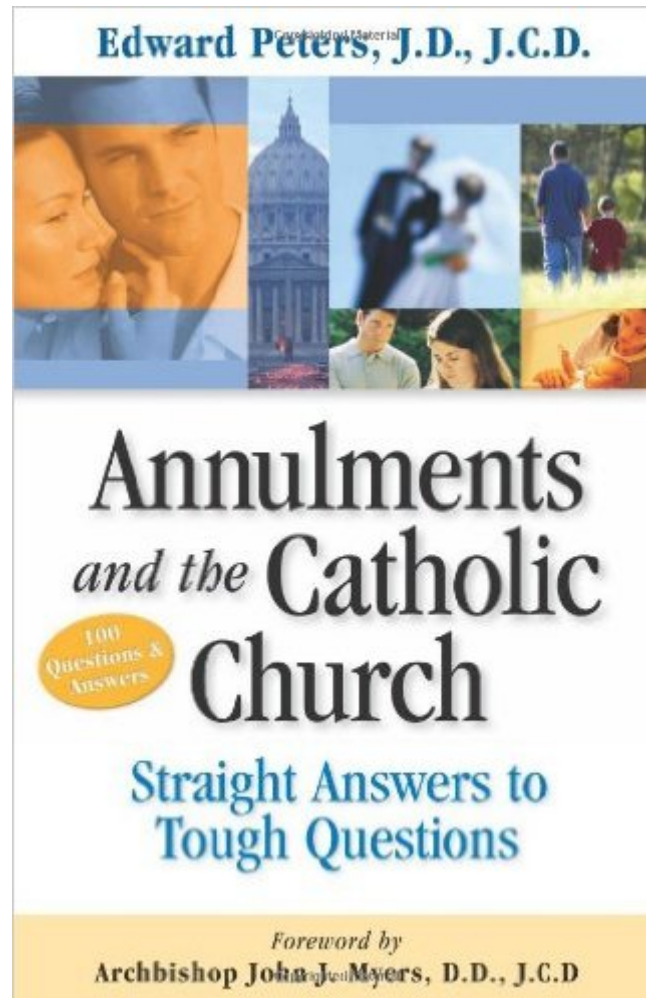


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# Annulments And The Catholic Church



## Synopsis

Few topics in the Catholic Church are more misunderstood than annulments. To some, both Catholics and non-Catholics alike, it is synonymous with "Catholic divorce." Written in everyday language, *Annulments and the Catholic Church* is an invaluable resource for lay people who want to understand this challenging issue and pastoral leaders who need to offer guidance on questions of theology and canon law. This book addresses the most common questions people have about annulments, including: How is an annulment different from a divorce? Are there too many annulments granted today? Does the length of a marriage affect an annulment case? How do people begin the annulment process? Does a wedding between a Catholic and a non-Catholic require an annulment? Is alcoholism or physical abuse grounds for an annulment?

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This book explained the entire annulment process in terms a layperson could understand. The book is divided into question/answer segments, all relevant and easy-to-understand. The best resource I've found on an often confusing topic. A must-read if you are considering annulment or need to answer those who question the process.

After the wife of my youth left me I purchased this book to better understand the process I would be going through. I was so impressed with it that I bought additional copies for my witnesses and even the wife of my youth so that they would understand it as well. Ed Peters has managed to distill into simple questions and answers all the important information on this oft-misunderstood process. In

addition to explaining the basic process this book also dispels most common misunderstandings regarding annulments. Annulments are NOT "Catholic divorce" as many mistakenly claim. This book will help you understand and correct such errors and explain why there is a fundamental and essential difference between divorce and the investigation into the validity of a marriage that the Catholic Church performs. Divorce is a grave matter and the acceptance of it by the ecclesial communities of our separated brethren in clear contradiction to our Lord's express commands is a great scandal. This book will better equip you to explain the truth. This book will also help to assuage concerns over alleged "abuses" of the process, especially here in the USA. After reading this book I no longer wonder if there might be something wrong in the process because of the high number of marriages found to be invalid here in America; instead I now wonder what is wrong with our culture that produces so many invalid marriages. Again, I cannot recommend this book highly enough. Buy it.

Marriage Annulment in the Catholic Church affects a great number of Catholics on a very personal and painful way. It is not just the parties themselves who are affected, but their families, their friends, their fellow parishioners. This author, as both a canon lawyer and a civil lawyer, is uniquely qualified to deal with an explanation of the process. He outlines and explains. He hypothesizes and analyzes. The hypotheticals are the best part of this book. There does not seem to be a situation Dr. Peters does not touch on. This is an important book to have if you are considering entering into this annulment process either as a Petitioner, Respondent or Witness. The Glossary is very useful in going through the book, so have your finger tucked into it while you are going through the questions. Read all of the questions and answers before you enter into the process. Taken as a whole, they give you a feel for the legal system involved. Read the Introduction first. It sets a good stage for the rest of the book. I differ with Dr. Peters in one point that is an important one. He asserts that there is no blame attributed in an annulment process. In a perfect Catholic world that would be the case. But there are grounds for the annulment and they came from somewhere. It is true that the Church would prefer not to have this be a contentious process like a divorce. But in the end, it can be. Here however, it is an equal opportunity fault finder and both parties can be held to some accountability. As an Appendix, Dr. Peters has an essay on Annulments in America. It is clear that it is his opinion based on his vast experience. It is well-written and completely separate from his Q and A segment. It is interesting and should be taken for what it is. Considering Dr. Peters qualifications and experience, it is a valuable addition to this book.

I spent an approximate total of ten hours of researching annulments on the internet and after reading this book, gained minimal additional information. I would recommend this book strongly to someone having done no research on their own. It's a nice Q& A format, solid basic information, and a nice and very basic introduction to possible applicable related Canon Laws that might apply to a specific circumstance.

If you want a quick one stop source for most answers you need then this might be the book for you. It is an easy read and well organized but no new information than what I found elsewhere on the internet. And, as the title suggests, this book offers little 'advice' on how to speed the process, what key pieces of information the Church may be looking for to expedite the review or advice to those who may have a legitimate case but be light on the required supporting information. I've found more answers researching internet blogs and speaking directly with my church.

I did learn some new things about the process and annulments in general. Although all my questions weren't answered in this book, I did find some new info that will be helpful. This book is more about answering some of the most common questions, NOT much about actual grounds or how to really know what grounds you may have for an annulment or on answering the questions from the tribunal. I read the whole book in about 3 hours, it's easy to read.

The book covered all the important aspects of annulments. I just wish that more coverage was given to the reasons, or "grounds," that are accepted for granting an annulment. The book did have a section about this....I just thought it would be a little more extensive on this part.

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