

## New Zealand.



### ANALYSIS.

Title.  
1. Short Title.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
|  | 2. Avoidance of marriages where either party is under sixteen. |
|  | 3. Women may be Officiating Ministers.                         |

1933, No. 5.

AN ACT to amend the Marriage Act, 1908.

Title.

[28th October, 1933.]

BE IT ENACTED by the General Assembly of New Zealand in Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

1. This Act may be cited as the Marriage Amendment Act, 1933, and shall be read together with and deemed part of the Marriage Act, 1908 (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act).

Short Title.

2. (1) A marriage between persons either of whom is under the age of sixteen years shall be void :

See Reprint of Statutes, Vol. III, p. 826

Provided that in any proceedings against a person charged under section two hundred and sixteen of the Crimes Act, 1908, or charged with indecent assault, it shall be a sufficient defence to prove that at the time when the offence is alleged to have been committed he had reasonable cause to believe that the girl in respect of whom it is alleged to have been committed was his wife.

Avoidance of marriages where either party is under sixteen.

Cf. 19 & 20 Geo. V, c. 36, s. 1 (Imperial)

See Reprint of Statutes, Vol. II, p. 243

(2) Nothing in this section shall affect any marriage solemnized or contracted before the passing of this Act, and any such marriage shall be or become valid in any case where, if this Act had not been passed, it would be or become valid.

3. A woman shall not be disqualified by reason of her sex from being an Officiating Minister within the meaning of the principal Act, or from having her name entered upon the List of Officiating Ministers compiled for the purposes of that Act.

Women may  
be Officiating  
Ministers.