

Star Wars Jedi Knights to perform marriages

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Possible new marriage laws in Scotland could allow Jedi Knights to marry people. This means people could choose either a priest or a Star Wars warrior to perform their wedding

ceremony. Scotland's government wants to give couples more choices when they tie the knot. It currently has two kinds of weddings – religious marriages and civil partnerships. Politicians want to add a third choice for people who believe in things other than religions. A government spokeswoman said groups like the Jedi Knights and other "belief bodies" would have to pass a test before they can carry out marriages. There are around 177,000 British people who say they are Jedi Knights, making them the biggest "alternative religion" in Britain.

The Free Church of Scotland has raised concerns about the possible new laws. Church spokesman Iver Martin, told the BBC: "The third category is quite astonishing because it [doesn't define] what 'belief' means." He added that 'belief' could be anything and could let all kinds of groups perform marriages. The Jedi Knights say they already have their own system for weddings. This includes the Jedi marriage vows where the Jedi Knight asks the happy couple: "In forces of darkness and forces of light, wherever you may go and whatever you may face, do you promise to share your life in marriage?" Other groups that could perform weddings include the Flat Earth Society, which believes the Earth is a flat disk.

Sources: BBC / The Scotsman / Huffington Post

Writing

All weddings should be religious. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

marriage / Jedi Knights / Star Wars / tie the knot / politicians / weddings / religions / concerns / astonishing / belief / happy couple / forces of darkness / promise / Earth

True / False

- Scotland has passed a law allowing Jedi Knights to perform weddings. T / F
- Scotland's government wants more people to tie the knot. T / F
- The Jedi Knights must pass a test before they can marry people. T / F
- There are over one hundred thousand Jedi Knights in Britain. T / F
- A Church of Scotland official isn't worried about the new laws. T / F
- The official is worried about what "belief" might mean. T / F
- The Jedi Knights said they would have to prepare a wedding system. T / F
- A group that thinks the Earth is flat could also perform weddings. T / F

Synonym Match

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1. choose | a. worries |
| 2. tie the knot | b. nonreligious |
| 3. civil | c. amazing |
| 4. bodies | d. different |
| 5. alternative | e. vow |
| 6. raised | f. select |
| 7. concerns | g. groups |
| 8. astonishing | h. opinion |
| 9. belief | i. get married |
| 10. promise | j. brought up |

Discussion – Student A

- What do you think of Jedi Knights marrying couples?
- How important is a wedding ceremony?
- What kind of wedding ceremony would you like?
- Why is the Scottish government thinking about new marriage laws?
- Do you think all marriages should be religious?
- What kind of test might the Jedi Knights have to pass?
- What do you think Jedi Knights believe in?
- Do you think people take marriage less seriously these days?

Phrase Match

- | | |
|--|---------------------------|
| 1. people could choose either a priest | a. partnerships |
| 2. wedding | b. darkness |
| 3. tie | c. religion in Britain |
| 4. civil | d. astonishing |
| 5. the biggest alternative | e. couple |
| 6. raised | f. or a Star Wars warrior |
| 7. quite | g. to share your life... |
| 8. the happy | h. the knot |
| 9. forces of | i. ceremony |
| 10. do you promise | j. concerns |

Discussion – Student B

- What is the Free Church of Scotland worried about?
- What does 'belief' mean? What is your belief?
- What promises should a couple make when they get married?
- What do you think about marriage vows that refer to forces of light and darkness?
- What do you think of the Flat Earth Society?
- What do you think of people who get married underwater or in hot air balloons?
- Who would you like to perform your wedding ceremony?
- What questions would you like to ask a Jedi Knight?

Spelling

- slpiboes new marriage laws
- a Star Wars laworr
- wedding mreecyno
- eiusolgir marriages
- A ovemngtner spokeswoman
- the biggest nlatteriave religion in Britain
- raised nrnocsce about the possible new laws
- The third gytrcea
- quite sanihnlotgs
- they already have their own stesym
- it doesn't deinef what 'belief' means
- This dinlsuec the Jedi marriage vows

Answers – Synonym Match

1. f	2. i	3. b	4. g	5. d
6. j	7. a	8. c	9. h	10. e

Role Play

Jedi Knight - You think Jedi weddings are very important. Tell the others three reasons why. Jedi marriages ask people to always follow the light and not the dark. Jedi marriage is very serious and people who get married must stay married forever. You think other marriages don't work.

Priest - You think the only kind of weddings should be religious ones. Tell the others three reasons why. All other weddings are not real and not serious. Marriage must be watched over by God. You think Jedi weddings are a joke. Tell Scotland's leader that (s)he must stop them.

Scotland's leader - You think that there must be other kinds of weddings because it is the 21st century. Tell the others three reasons why. You think it is up to people to choose how they want to get married. No religion or group should tell the others they are bad.

Single person - You don't agree with any kind of marriage. Tell the others three reasons why. You think few people take marriage seriously. Millions say "I do" and then get divorced. Tell everyone it's much easier simply to live with someone instead of marry them.

Speaking – Married by...

Who would be best to perform a wedding? Rank these and share your rankings with your partner. Put the best at the top. Change partners often.

- | | |
|--------------------|------------------------------|
| • a Jedi Knight | • Oprah Winfrey |
| • the US President | • Nelson Mandela |
| • Shakira | • the U.N. Secretary-General |
| • Minnie Mouse | • the Pope |

Answers – True False

a	F	b	F	c	T	d	T	e	F	f	T	g	F	h	T
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.