

questions are asked. For example, why does a couple want to marry? Some very good reasons as to why this question must be asked are given. Any assumption that love will automatically solve all marital problems is realistically exploded. Marriage is compared with life. A couple get out of it what they put into it. With work and commitment, marriage can become an adventure. If couples take this book seriously they will need help, and they can get this from doing their homework in pre-marriage education.

This book suffers from a disquiet common to all who work in the field of pre-marriage education. The idealism associated with engagement causes this disquiet. The book makes good reading; is sound common sense, but a fear is that too few will read it, too few will take it seriously and too few will commit themselves to changes in attitudes and behaviour after reading it.

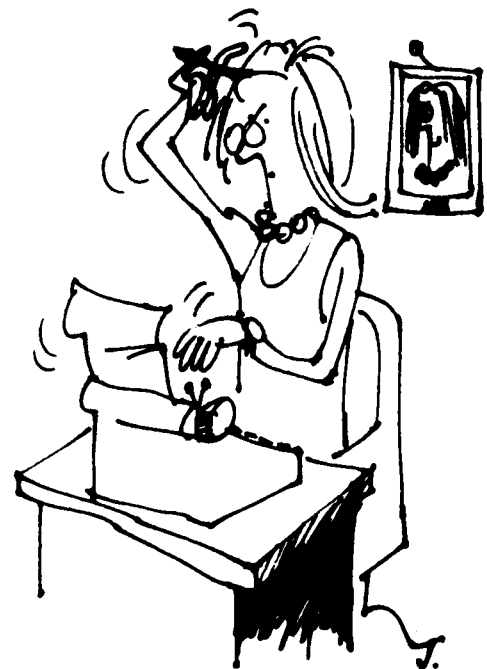
In reading the book a number of times I detected too many 'shoulds' and 'musts' which sounded too much like a sermon!

However, this is a minor criticism in view of the value of the content and the warm-hearted manner in which this is conveyed. I commend it to both celebrants and couples preparing for marriage. It will also make a useful handbook after marriage.

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