

3 Things You Should Do Before Marriage

On **Valentine's Day** our thoughts turn to moonlight and roses, love and marriage. Although marriage may be a union of soul mates, it is also an economic partnership under the law. Here are some suggested things to do before you say "I do":

1. Do a **prenuptial agreement** to clarify expectations of the marriage, specify the consequences to each of you upon divorce or death and override the laws of your jurisdiction that otherwise would apply. Increasingly, young couples are entering into prenups to protect businesses, professional practices, careers, inheritances and credit. Older, more established couples traditionally use prenuptial agreements to protect their nest eggs for themselves and their children from prior marriages.
2. Do an **estate plan**, which includes a Will, Healthcare Proxy, Living Will and Power of Attorney, to ensure that both of you and your heirs are protected in the event of death or incapacity. Executing an estate plan is also a convenient way to obtain from your partner disclosure of his or her net worth, income, assets and liabilities (i.e., significant debts, personal bankruptcy or credit history).
3. Do discuss **financial goals** and **develop a plan** to meet short- and long-term goals so you each have a clear understanding of the lifestyle you want to live.

Have a great Valentine's Day!

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February 16, 2011

Lori Anne Douglass, Marguerite E. Royer

Moses & Singer Women's Initiative Webinar

"Divorce and Collaborative Law: An Alternative to Litigation"

For more information: Please click [here](#) to register.

February 23 - 26, 2011

Lori Anne Douglass

6th Annual Black Enterprise Women of Power Summit

"Relationships Part II: Love & Money"

Orlando, Florida

For more information: www.blackenterprise.com/wps/overview/

March 15, 2011

Arlene G. Dubin

New York Association of Collaborative Professionals

"Prenups/Postnups in the Collaborative Process: A Marriage Made in Heaven"

New York, NY

For more information: Patricia Marcus (347) 462-9868



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April 08, 2011

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Columbia Graduate School of Journalism
"Journalism and Beyond: Matrimonial Law"
New York, NY
For more information: Irena Stern (212) 854-9938

April 23, 2011

Arlene G. Dubin

Sutton Place Synagogue
"Recent Trends in Divorce Law: Prenuptial Agreements, Collaborative Law and No-Fault Divorce"
New York, NY
For more information: Harriet Janover (212) 593-3300

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