

NIMMA - Past and Present

The Northern Ireland Mixed Marriage Association, (NIMMA), was founded in 1974 as a result of a conference held at Corrymeela. It has spent the past 39 years providing country-wide support and information to couples either in or contemplating mixed marriage. In a society where sectarianism is institutionalised, NIMMA continues to lobby for the acceptance of mixed marriage, increased integrated education and wider availability of shared social housing.

Much has changed since those early days and NIMMA has played a major role in influencing landmark changes in clerical attitudes and regulations toward mixed marriage to such an extent that it has never been easier to make a mixed marriage. NIMMA strives for changes to baptismal restrictions imposed by all the major denominations, for eucharistic sharing for interchurch couples, true reconciliation and a shared future for all.

Future development to include;

- (i) The production and publication of a follow up to its book 'Mixed Emotions' which featured real stories of mixed marriage. This book will give the children of mixed marriages the chance to tell their stories
- (ii) The production and distribution of a teachers' resource pack to accompany 'Mixed Emotions' and its inclusion on the Northern Ireland secondary level curriculum
- (iii) The instigation of research into mixed marriage and its potential impact on Northern Ireland's health, education and political future