

LEGITIMACY

AN ACT TO CHANGE THE LAW RELATING TO THE LEGITIMIZATION OF CERTAIN ILLEGITIMATE CHILDREN.

Act Nos,

3 of 1970

[21st January , 1970]

Short title. **1** This Act may be cited as the Legitimacy Act.

This Act not to apply **2**.
to certain marriages.

(1) This Act shall not apply to-

(a) a marriage between persons professing Islam;
or

(b) a marriage, under the Kandyan Marriage and
Divorce Act, between persons subject to Kandyan
law.

(2) For the purposes of this Act, the expression " a valid
marriage to which this Act applies " does not include a
marriage referred to in subsection (1).

Legitimization of **3**. A valid marriage to which this Act applies shall be deemed at all times,
illegitimate whether before or on or after the date of the commencement of this Act,
children. to have rendered, and to render, legitimate any child procreated by the
parties prior to such marriage, whether or not such child was so
procreated in adultery:

Provided, however, that where at any time before the date of the commencement of this Act
any rights of any description whatsoever did not vest in the child of any marriage, but did in
fact vest in any other person, by reason only of the fact that such child, having been
procreated in adultery, was the illegitimate child of the parties, the subsequent legitimization
of such child, by virtue of the operation of the preceding provisions of this section, shall not
be deemed or construed-

(a) to have prejudiced or affected, or to prejudice or affect, in any manner, or
to any extent, whatsoever the rights so vested, or such other person's claim or
title to such rights; and

(b) to have conferred, or to confer, on such child any claim or title to such
rights.