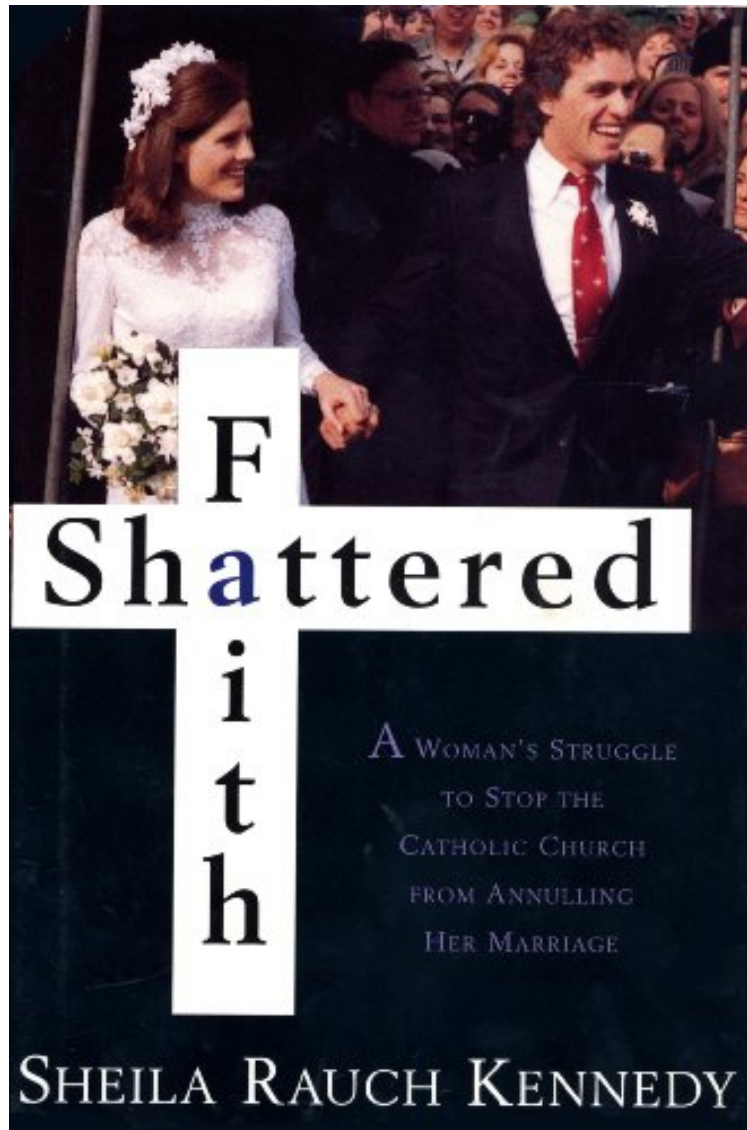


Shattered Faith: A Woman's Struggle to Stop the Catholic Church from Annuling Her Marriage

Von Sheila Rauch Kennedy
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Von Sheila Rauch Kennedy : **Shattered Faith: A Woman's Struggle to Stop the Catholic Church from Annuling Her Marriage** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Shattered Faith: A Woman's Struggle to Stop the Catholic Church from Annuling Her Marriage:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. "Pity party" vehicle for misinformationVon Elizabeth G MelilloSheila Kennedy, on the strength of a popular family name,

will undoubtedly be seen as a noble feminist voice, her assertions assumed to be accurate. Her statements about annulment procedures are highly inaccurate, and her case studies far from any valid representative sample! If Sheila wishes to oppose a church position, she should do so addressing what is true. Annulment proceedings, if compared to civil or common law, are definitely in the "contract law" category - not, as Sheila asserts, a criminal trial, where Catholics seek "forgiveness for the sin of divorce." Her being able to present this as some form of misogyny is absurd - nor does she note that it is more often the woman who requests an annulment hearing. "Case studies" are hardly typical. All are of successful women who want to be divorced and consider it a means to new freedom, and have no concern about remarrying in the Church. One wonders if some of the women were mature enough for marriage at all. One case is of a woman who broke out of a marriage where family outings were interfering with her participation in dog shows. Not one had been in a "horror story" marriage, nor were any, as is often the case, opposing annulment because they were heartbroken about a breakup. The popularity of this book probably is a combination of the draw of the name Kennedy, the current trends towards male bashing, and the fact that anything anti-Catholic will sell, accurate or not.

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Getting a Catholic "Divorce" Von Bucherwurm

When I was a young Catholic divorced members of the faith were rare breeds. If they kept the faith they new they would have to live out their remaining days as a single person. Now the Church seems to work overtime to allow folks to annul marriages that endured for 30 years or more and that produced many children. Ms. Kennedy provides some interesting anecdotes of various women who protested the annulment process, and who generally were not successful. The weakness of the book is that it is anecdotal. Four or five stories do not provide valid overall data. In my opinion the author makes these stories overly long, and adds other extraneous material in a seeming attempt to flesh out the book to a respectable 200+ pages. As a divorced Catholic I feel that I could get an annulment (I knew my wife only 8 weeks when we married, and I deeply resented and didn't believe the priest's pre-marriage counseling that the primary reason for marriage was to have children), but feel that my 12 year marriage that produced 3 children was a true marriage. Anecdotal or not the process described by Ms. Kennedy left me with very negative feelings. And as someone with a background in Psychology, I find the description of the church's process for assessing mental status 20 or 30 years ago (barring some documented serious psychopathology) to be laughable.

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Catholic Annulments = Total Hypocrisy Von Ein Kunde

Wow - a fascinating look at the bogus practice of annulments by the American Catholic Church. Instead of recognizing that some marriages end unhappily in divorce despite efforts to the contrary, the Catholic Church gives you a neat little loophole to use instead! Here, we don't recognize divorce, but pay this fee and we'll say your marriage never existed! The validity of the entire annulment process is highly questionable. The effect on the children (and many times the former spouse) is devastating. The whole thing makes a mockery of the sacrament of marriage... the Catholic Church is blessing marriages, performing the ceremonies and the pre-nuptial counseling, and then in effect saying the marriage was never valid? What, then, does that say about the Catholic Church, except that it is completely hypocritical and its judgement is extremely poor in judging couples to be ready for such an undertaking? How can people who HAD valid marriages (like many of the examples in the book) live with themselves after they have successfully won an annulment? You would lie to God and everyone around you to say that your marriage never existed, when in fact it did? You are so brainwashed by the Church that you would blindly follow their teachings on this? Why, when it is so clearly wrong?

Kurzbeschreibung

In 1993, Sheila Rauch Kennedy received a letter from the Boston Catholic Archdiocese announcing that her former husband, Congressman Joseph Kennedy, was seeking an annulment of their marriage. If the Church granted the annulment, the marriage, which had lasted twelve years, would be rendered nonexistent -- not simply ended, as was stated in the divorce decree, but invalid from the start. And their two sons would be regarded as children of an unsanctified union. Joseph Kennedy needed the annulment to remarry within the Church, and he encouraged his ex-wife to ignore the details. Stunned by the hypocrisy of the process and the betrayal of trust it involved, Sheila Rauch Kennedy was determined to defend the legitimacy of her former marriage. *Shattered Faith* is the fascinating chronicle of that struggle, and of what Kennedy uncovered about the uses and frequency of annulments in the United States. Interweaving her own experiences with those of other women whose trust in the Church was shattered by annulment, she tells a story that will surprise, anger, and move readers of every faith. *Pressestimmen* "A courageous book about a courageous act . . . A brave undertaking with implications for anyone raising children or seeking to live a meaningful life." --Julia Thorne, *The Boston Globe*