

Mormon Wedding in Temple: Non-Mormons or those who are Mormons, but are considered unworthy because they do not pay tithing, cannot attend. Parents of Mormon converts cannot see their son or daughter married in the Mormon temple.

Recovery from Mormonism (RfM) discussion forum.

Mormon weddings

Posted by: Exmo Mom ()
Date: November 01, 2015 01:14AM

So, when TBM [True Believing Mormon] family members (immediate meaning siblings or parents) have a Mormon wedding, they already know the exmo can't attend. Sometimes they issue a wedding announcement/invitation, and add a note saying "WE'd love you to come to the reception" (consolation prize).

I've read here that many expect their Exmo family to still come and wait outside the temple to pose in pictures – but they are not allowed inside God's holy house, or so they claim it is.

I've wondered about a civil way to respond. In my family's case, there is a wedding coming up, and they are issuing an email to all family (including the exmos) saying they want to arrange for a reunion the same week, with a copy of the reception invitation. The assumption is that the exmo family members would still want to participate, despite not being "worthy" to attend the wedding itself.

Now don't get me wrong, last thing I want to do is set foot inside a Mormon temple. But it feels very odd to even consider going to the reception.

So just wondering – have others here ever considered making a statement that somehow gets through to them that it's impolite to invite family to the reception but not the wedding (even though of course it isn't their decision, the Mormon hierarchy has deemed this to be the case). Yes I know, some here probably still go to the Receptions and still send a gift etc. That's not what I'm referring to, as those are always options by civilized folks.

I'm trying to think of a simple, straight to the point statement that would allow them to see the ludicrousness of their "family friendly... families are forever" church but without being sarcastic or nasty. It's truthfully insulting of Mormons. Can you imagine if the tables were turned, and other faiths said: "You are not allowed to come to our wedding, but we'd sure love to see ya at the Reception!" If the shoe were on the other foot, can you picture them sending gifts to newly married family members to whose wedding they were not allowed to attend?

Re: Mormon weddings

Posted by: angela ()
Date: November 01, 2015 01:18AM

My thoughts on this have always been, it's the bride and groom's special day. It's not a day to make a statement about Mormonism.

Go if you want to be supportive of the couple. It's about THEM, it's not about you.

If you don't want or can't be supportive for them, don't go.
Don't see it as a teaching or preaching or making a statement opportunity about Mormons or the temple.

It's the celebration of two people making a commitment of love to each other

[Re: Mormon weddings](#)

Posted by: Exmo Mom ()
Date: November 01, 2015 01:35AM

Angela – for sure, a wedding is about the couple – but if the couple in question and the rest of the TBM family doesn't accept you (the guest) for who you are, it's a very uncomfortable and negative place to be, as the vibe is you (the exmo) are "less than" etc.

I suppose some TBMs may feel obligated to send their reception invitations to exmo family, possibly even hoping the exmos don't come, as they may also feel uncomfortable.

It would be so nice if it were possible to just spend time with the TBM couple in a one on one, different location. But even that after they go through the temple is not likely to happen, as they will be starkly reminded that it is not righteous to associate with apostates.

I think the best statement is not going and sending a card or gift, saying "congrats, wishing you the best"

As for the reunion, it would make sense if the TBMs and exmos get along. If they do not, different story.

[Re: Mormon weddings](#)

Posted by: verilyverily ()
Date: November 01, 2015 01:27AM

"even though of course it isn't their decision" – Are you for real? Of course it is their decision! They joined an evil CULT. That was their decision. They knew their family can't come to the wedding and they remained in the slimy CULT.

My SIL is so devastated because her ONLY child (daughter) married a CULter and nobody in my hubby's family could attend including the bride's parents. The bride made the decision to join this freak show and keep her parents out. Don't even think it is NOT their decision. They joined an evil cult and stayed in it like complete MORONS, IQless wonders.

angela said "Go if you want to be supportive of the couple. It's about THEM, it's not about you." – I don't want to support a couple who is stupid enough to join a SATANIC CULT so I'll be happy to make my statement by skipping it. I want to avoid EVIL at all costs. Thanks anyway.

"church but without being sarcastic or nasty." – I don't even know what this means, but the CULT needs SARCASTIC AND NASTY to get the message. People have been walking on eggshells. Be sarcastic and nasty. maybe that will get through to them.

Nothing else has.

[Re: Mormon weddings](#)

Posted by: Exmom Mom ()
Date: November 01, 2015 01:37AM

I have to say I think it's a bit funny how so many Mormons consider it a status symbol to get married in Salt Lake temple (or Hawaii), instead of all the other local ones.

Aren't they proud of having temples in their local states and neighborhoods???

[Re: Mormon weddings](#)

Posted by: southern idaho inactive ()
Date: November 01, 2015 01:56AM

You'd think that they would be proud of their local temple. Where I live, I often see Mormon wedding announcements for the Salt Lake temple. I sometimes wonder what's bad or wrong getting married in the Twin Falls temple!??? It'll be cheaper on gas than a 3 hour drive to SLC and back.....I live about 45 minutes from Twin.

[Re: Mormon weddings](#)

Posted by: adoylelb ()
Date: November 01, 2015 02:52AM

I think the reason the Salt Lake temple is a favorite wedding venue among Mormons is that Temple Square is the Mormon Vatican. It's the cultural and spiritual center for Mormons, as it's the temple that's seen most often because it's shown on media more often than the Utah state capitol building.

[Re: Mormon weddings](#)

Posted by: scmd ()
Date: November 01, 2015 03:00AM

Exmom Mom Wrote:

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i asked one of my sisters why she was getting married in Logan, which was a temple she had always liked, rather than Provo, which was much closer to her home. Her response was that the temple close to your home is for temple work by proxy, but that her marriage was something she hoped was a one-time thing, and she intended to choose a temple that wasn't too terribly inconvenient that was a favorite of both

her and her husband. Perhaps that's the mindset of others who choose the SLC or Hawaii as sort of destination temples.

[Re: Mormon weddings](#)

Posted by: greenAngel ()

Date: November 01, 2015 01:05PM

my sibling married his wife in the Provo Temple. They specifically chose that temple cause "we don't want to be part of the assembly line in Salt Lake." The Provo temple workers loved it, they came from all over the temple to see the happy couple and fawned all over them "we haven't done a wedding in forever, a wedding!!"

It's not the prettiest temple but it was a great choice for a wedding i think.

[Re: Mormon weddings](#)

Posted by: caffield ()

Date: November 01, 2015 04:14PM

The Logan temple is really beautiful, architecturally. I read that one of the Presidents remarked that he was disappointed when, back in the 60s or so, they renovated the interior. He said some of the finest Pioneer carpentry was put inside it.

Not to endorse LDS "sealings," of course.

[Re: Mormon weddings](#)

Posted by: the1v ()

Date: November 01, 2015 01:39AM

For siblings suck it up and attend the wedding. Anybody else... Ehh... Play it by ear.

Just think how bad the party is going to be. No alcohol, likely some type of crappy Mormon casserole, no dirty dancing, everyone dressed like its the 50's except that one girl that everyone is scandalized by, and traditionslly held in the local ward building. Bring a flask...

[Re: Mormon weddings](#)

Posted by: Exmo Mom ()

Date: November 01, 2015 01:47AM

I was not asking whether to attend or not, as that's a very personal decision. In some cases it's not financially feasible as these days families live quite far apart. For me, it's a question of a combination of factors. I'm just making a few points.

Recent convo:

Exmo: "I'm flying to my y's reception."

Non member friend (NMF): "Not going to the wedding?"

Exmo: "No, it's mormon wedding. Not allowed in. Only allowed to the reception."

NMF: "I thought you were Mormon, or at least raised Mormon."

Exmo: "I was – but because I left the church, I'm no longer welcome to the weddings."

NMF: "Whaaaaaaat?? That's harsh."

[Re: Mormon weddings](#)

Posted by: Ex-Sis ()

Date: November 01, 2015 02:55AM

Ironic that many of them are offended when you choose not to fly in to sit in a temple parking lot in order to be in a phony family photo.

It didn't occur to a friend of mine that maid of honor (me) would be sitting in the parking lot for hours outside the West Jordan temple, as would her father, until right before the ceremony. I was maid of honor, or bride's maid at 6 weddings I never witnessed.

The general public needs to see this on YouTube in a category called Mormon weddings—all about family. Hour after hour... Interviewing the parents of the bride, "You are paying for the wedding/gowns/receptions, gifts, dinners hotels... for a wedding you are not allowed to attend?" It would be like watching Scientology documentaries...

[Re: Mormon weddings](#)

Posted by: caedmon ()

Date: November 01, 2015 06:27AM

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Why do Mormons even bother with maid of honor, best man, etc.? They're so proud

(arrogant) of their "peculiar" status, why have any of the trappings of the traditional non-Mormon wedding?

My never Mormon daughter just married the love of her life in a lovely outdoor ceremony followed by a great party. One of her good friends commented to me that it was so much more fun than her own wedding (typical Mormon reception). I feel sorry for Mormon couples forced to have such a boring, impersonal wedding day by the Mormon culture and expectations.

Edited 1 time(s). Last edit at 11/01/2015 06:28AM by caedmon.

[Re: Mormon weddings](#)

Posted by: zimmerman ()

Date: November 01, 2015 08:55AM

I take my lead from the fine Christians leading TSCC. Family relationships are merely a vehicle for collecting money and mean nothing other than \$\$\$\$\$. Since I am nothing but a walking ATM, if I am not invited to the wedding, I am not showing up for any of it and not contributing a dime. If those inside of the mental prison ever wake up and apologize for the insult of excluding those that do not succumb to the extortion, then we can talk.

Mormonism is nothing more than a extortion racket and I refuse to play.

[Re: Mormon weddings](#)

Posted by: summer ()

Date: November 01, 2015 09:11AM

When I first came to this board as a nevermo, I was aghast that Mormons would not invite people to their temple weddings, but instead to the photo op and reception. In the real world, that wouldn't fly. It would be considered unbelievably rude. The wedding is the main show! It would be like telling a few guests that they could come just for dessert after your other guests have enjoyed a deluxe dinner party.

I now realize that family relationships between TBMs and exmos are a complicated thing. I advocate thinking it through and doing whatever works for the particular exmo(s.) Some people will want to support their children, family, or friends by waiting outside the temple. Some will just go to the reception. And some will just send a gift or card with their best wishes. There is no one "best" solution to this horrible problem.

[Re: Mormon weddings](#)

Posted by: blueorchid ()

Date: November 01, 2015 10:29AM

Once on tour of one of those palaces in England we were treated to a story of how one of the kings would invite people to watch him eat on holidays. This was supposed to be a treat. I can't even imagine.

I only went once. It feels like you have a huge scarlet letter on your shirt/blouse. I was caught off guard. Didn't realize they were going to ask me to be in the photos.

I never did it again. I chose not to respond period to wedding invitations. My silence can cut like a knife and I never felt the need to say more. I never feel a need to respond to an insult. In person they get a glare. Otherwise, just nothing.

If you want to make a point, say nothing and then when asked, just say, "I thought you were kidding with the third wheel invite."

I always think of these lyrics from Dolly's song, Star of the Show. "I'm no back up singer, and I won't be your band." It's a song about a romantic relationship, but I find it applies across the board to all.

[Personally, after what I've been through](#)

Posted by: cl2 ()

Date: November 01, 2015 10:47AM

recently, I wish the marriage had happened. My daughter was supposed to get married in the temple 10/10. She bailed and not for good reasons. She left a lot of devastated people and ran off to vacation in Florida and left the rest of us holding the bag.

Right now she is home, but leaving again tomorrow and I'm just being polite as I think she is in crisis. He is a good guy and she knows it. She knows she should have married him and I know she does. So I could care less anymore about not being able to attend the wedding.

I had come to terms with it. I would have liked to make a statement, too, but MOST of my family would have been outside (I planned on being at the cemetery a mile away at my parents' grave.)

I'm more angry at this point about the fact that the church takes its time giving permission for someone to be remarried in the temple. Her fiance had been married before and his ex had already remarried, but his permission didn't come through until the day before the wedding (which is typical) and my daughter flipped out because she was afraid she couldn't have a temple marriage. The aftermath has been living hell.

So I don't care anymore if they don't let we heathens at the wedding. The process of getting there is what I'm angry about.

[Re: Mormon weddings](#)

Posted by: NeverMoJohn ()

Date: November 01, 2015 12:08PM

As a nevermo, I would never go to a wedding that I was not allowed to attend. If I am not good enough for the wedding, I am not going to the reception.

This doesn't really come up in the normal world. But in the Mormon world, this is a recurring theme. Rather than waiting for the day that you get the insulting invite, one could anticipate the problem and make it clear to relatives how insulting it is, and that you would not subject yourself to such treatment.

Then, when the issue comes up, you could ignore it, or respond, "Thank you for the

invite, but I don't attend wedding receptions when I am not allowed to attend the wedding itself."

In the case of children, you can also make it clear that you are not paying for a wedding that you are not allowed to attend. This way everyone knows what to expect.

Also, all these people could have a regular wedding for all their friends and then do the creepy temple thing a year later. Who knows, in the meantime, they might decide to get out on their own.

I think that there is a lot less drama when people know what to expect.

[Re: Mormon weddings](#)

Posted by: rhgc ()

Date: November 01, 2015 02:17PM

One should attend and make sure one should talk about coffee at the reception. You can easily bring a one-cup instant coffee pack and make your own with hot water from the kitchen at the reception and make sure people know it.

[Re: Mormon weddings](#)

Posted by: Heartless ()

Date: November 01, 2015 02:51PM

Thers IS a choice.

My brother and his wife chose to have a normal wedding and be sealed a year later.

His wife was the only daughter and wanted her whole family there.

What if they die before a year? People screamed. His answer "Temple work is work done for the dead by the half dead"

[Re: Mormon weddings](#)

Posted by: ificouldhietokolob ()

Date: November 01, 2015 02:53PM

After I left, one thing I decided to do was to treat family like family -- and not copy mormon "shunning" over religious differences.

I don't put up with them trying to force religion onto me or into every conversation, but I also don't "shun" them for doing so -- I just let them know that they either talk about that stuff later when I'm not around, or they can hear my actual opinions and facts about the issue. Generally, they go onto other than church subjects.

I went to the reception for my niece's temple wedding, because she's family and I adore her despite her being TBM. I didn't go hang out at the temple, and told her I wouldn't and that she knows why, but at the reception I acted like any uncle at any reception would. She was genuinely glad I was there. So was I.

Mormons make an issue of religious differences and let it affect family. I don't -- I'm not mormon. Family is family. I treat them as such.

Re: [Mormon weddings](#)

Posted by: NeverMoJohn ()
Date: November 01, 2015 04:07PM

Perhaps we have different definitions of shunning, but I don't see how not attending the wedding reception of a wedding that you have been excluded from attending equals shunning.

I see this as telling people that they aren't good enough for the wedding, but we'll be happy to have you bring wedding gifts to the reception. I doubt that I would be alone in this assessment.

As for shunning, not attending the wedding does not equal shunning. Cutting people out of your life equals shunning.

Recovery from Mormonism

www.exmormon.org

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