



# Matrimonial Proceedings And Property Act 1970

## 1970 CHAPTER 45

### PART II

#### MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

##### *Provisions relating to property of married persons*

#### **37 Contributions by spouse in money or money's worth to the improvement of property.**

It is hereby declared that where a husband or wife contributes in money or money's worth to the improvement of real or personal property in which or in the proceeds of sale of which either or both of them has or have a beneficial interest, the husband or wife so contributing shall, if the contribution is of a substantial nature and subject to any agreement between them to the contrary express or implied, be treated as having then acquired by virtue of his or her contribution a share or an enlarged share, as the case may be, in that beneficial interest of such an extent as may have been then agreed or, in default of such agreement, as may seem in all the circumstances just to any court before which the question of the existence or extent of the beneficial interest of the husband or wife arises (whether in proceedings between them or in any other proceedings).

#### **Modifications etc. (not altering text)**

C1 S. 37 applied by [Law Reform \(Miscellaneous Provisions\) Act 1970 \(c. 33\), s. 2\(1\)](#)

*Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Matrimonial Proceedings And Property Act 1970, Cross Heading: Provisions relating to property of married persons. (See end of Document for details)*

**Textual Amendments**

**F1** S. 38 repealed by [Matrimonial Homes Act 1983 \(c. 19, SIF 49:5\)](#), ss. 12, 13(3), **Sch. 3**

**39 Extension of s. 17 of Married Women’s Property Act 1882.**

An application may be made to the High Court or [<sup>F2</sup>the family court] under section 17 of the <sup>M1</sup>Married Women’s Property Act 1882 (powers of the court in disputes between husband and wife about property) (including that section as extended by section 7 of the <sup>M2</sup>Matrimonial Causes (Property and Maintenance) Act 1958) by either of the parties to a marriage notwithstanding that their marriage has been dissolved or annulled so long as the application is made within the period of three years beginning with the date on which the marriage was dissolved or annulled; and references in the said section 17 and the said section 7 to a husband or a wife shall be construed accordingly.

**Textual Amendments**

**F2** Words in s. 39 substituted (22.4.2014) by [Crime and Courts Act 2013 \(c. 22\)](#), s. 61(3), **Sch. 11 para. 28(3)**; [S.I. 2014/954, art. 2\(e\)](#) (with [art. 3](#)) (with transitional provisions and savings in [S.I. 2014/956](#), arts. 3-11)

**Marginal Citations**

**M1** 1882 c. 75.  
**M2** 1958 c. 35.

**40** ..... **F3**

**Textual Amendments**

**F3** Ss. 40-42, 43(2), Schs. 1-3 repealed by [Matrimonial Causes Act 1973 \(c. 18\)](#), s. 54(1), **Sch. 3**

**41** ..... **F4**

**Textual Amendments**

**F4** Ss. 40-42, 43(2), Schs. 1-3 repealed by [Matrimonial Causes Act 1973 \(c. 18\)](#), s. 54(1), **Sch. 3**

**Changes to legislation:**

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Matrimonial Proceedings And Property Act 1970, Cross Heading: Provisions relating to property of married persons.