



## 2001 CHAPTER 12

### **Presumption of parentage**

2.—(1) A man shall be presumed to be the father of a child—

- (a) if he was married to [<sup>F1</sup>, or was the civil partner of,] the mother of the child at any time in the period beginning with the conception and ending with the birth of the child;
- (b) where paragraph (a) does not apply, if he has been registered as the father of the child under—
  - (i) Article 14 or 18(1)(b)(ii) of the Births and Deaths Registration (Northern Ireland) Order 1976 (NI 14);
  - (ii) section 10 or 10A of the Births and Deaths Registration Act 1953 (c. 20); or
  - (iii) in any register kept under section 13 (register of births and still-births) or section 44 (Register of Corrections Etc.) of the Registration of Births, Deaths and Marriages (Scotland) Act 1965 (c. 49).

(2) Any presumption under this section may be rebutted by proof on a balance of probabilities.

**F1** Words in s. 2(1)(a) inserted (13.1.2020) by [The Marriage \(Same-sex Couples\) and Civil Partnership \(Opposite-sex Couples\) \(Northern Ireland\) Regulations 2019 \(S.I. 2019/1514\)](#), regs. 1(2), 21 (with regs. 6-9)

**Changes to legislation:**

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Family Law Act (Northern Ireland) 2001, Section 2.