

## SCHEDULES

### SCHEDULE 9

#### AMENDMENTS

##### *The Adoption (Northern Ireland) Order 1987 (NI 22)*

**141.** For Article 14 (adoption by married couple) substitute the following Article—

**“Adoption by married couple**

**14.**—(1) An adoption order shall not be made on the application of more than one person except in the circumstances specified in paragraphs (2) and (3).

(2) An adoption order may be made on the application of a married couple where both the husband and the wife have attained the age of 21 years.

(3) An adoption order may be made on the application of a married couple where—

(a) the husband or the wife—

(i) is the father or mother of the child; and

(ii) has attained the age of 18 years;

and

(b) his or her spouse has attained the age of 21 years.

(4) An adoption order shall not be made on the application of a married couple unless at least one of them is domiciled in a part of the United Kingdom, or in any of the Channel Islands or in the Isle of Man.”.