



Domestic Proceedings and Magistrates' Courts Act 1978

1978 CHAPTER 22

PART I

MATRIMONIAL PROCEEDINGS IN MAGISTRATES' COURTS

*Powers of court to make orders for financial provision
for parties to a marriage and children of the family*

1 Grounds of application for financial provision

Either party to a marriage may apply to a magistrates' court for an order under section 2 of this Act on the ground that the other party to the marriage (in this Part of this Act referred to as " the respondent ")—

- (a) has failed to provide reasonable maintenance for the applicant; or
- (b) has failed to provide, or to make a proper contribution towards, reasonable maintenance for any child of the family; or
- (c) has behaved in such a way that the applicant cannot reasonably be expected to live with the respondent; or
- (d) has deserted the applicant.