



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

MARINE CORPS AIR STATION
BOX 99100
YUMA, ARIZONA 85369-9100

IN REPLY REFER TO:
StaO 1730.6B
CHAP
24 JUN 2003

STATION ORDER 1730.6B

From: Commanding Officer
To: Distribution List

Subj: MARRIAGE PREPARATION WORKSHOP

1. Purpose. To provide an educational program to prepare military personnel, their spouses and/or prospective spouses, for marriage.
2. Cancellation. StaO 1730.6A.
3. Background. A significant concern of the Marine Corps is that many personnel enter matrimony with less than adequate marriage skills seriously impacting command readiness. However, personnel who enter marriage with interpersonal communication skills, problem solving techniques, and commitment have a more balanced and well rounded marriage with positive effects on command readiness, job performance, discipline, and retention. Accordingly, commands/units are encouraged to exercise responsibility in securing preparation for their personnel planning to marry as well as for those personnel married less than two years.
4. General. In order to address this concern, all active-duty personnel contemplating marriage or recently married are to be referred to a chaplain who will provide information concerning the availability of voluntary seminars held in preparation for marriage. The Station Chaplain will convene a nondenominational, two-day seminar at regular and frequent intervals for this purpose. Participants are expected to attend the entire two-day workshop. Personnel desiring religious, denominational pre-marriage training may be directed to an off-base source or handled personally by a chaplain. The station-sponsored seminar will include information on the following: interpersonal communication, expectations, hidden issues, friendship, problem solving, commitment, core beliefs, and fun. A variety of resources will be used. Times and dates of the workshops will be announced by Station Bulletins. Civilian attire is authorized. Spouses and prospective spouses of military personnel must attend with the service member to make the program a success. Family members, who are approaching marriage, and their prospective spouses, are also invited to attend by prior arrangement through the service sponsor.
5. Action
 - a. Station Command Chaplain. Implement and coordinate the Marriage Preparation Workshop.

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b. Commanding Officer. Refer all appropriate personnel to a chaplain for pre-marriage/early marriage consultation. Attendance at the station seminar is voluntary; however, commanders are strongly urged to point out the importance of proper marriage preparation and to make use of available resources accordingly. To encourage accountability, workshop participants should be issued no-cost TAD orders.

c. All tenant commands, organizations, and units located at MCAS Yuma are invited to send personnel to the seminar with no-cost TAD orders.

6. Concurrence. The Commanding Officers of MAG-13, MAWTS-1, MACS-1, MWSS-371, CSSD-16, and VMFT-401 concur in and make this order applicable to their respective commands.


J. J. COONEY

DISTRIBUTION: B