

**‘Til Death Do Us Part Or ‘Til You Piss Me Off: Whichever Comes First**  
by Mike Rice, LISAC, CTRTC

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***Book summary***

This book is about how to gain and maintain happy and healthy relationships with the important people in one’s life.

***Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)***

**What Makes This Book Unique?**

Unquestionably, there are literally hundreds of books written on relationships and marriages all filled with shoulds and musts directives to maintain a long term marriage or relationship. ‘Til Death Do Us Part Or ‘Til You Piss Me Off: Whichever Comes First” specifically identifies what each person in a marriage or relationship does that ultimately destroys the partnership. Regardless of what others may think are the causes of their relationship problems, it will always be the same thing: Each of them are trying to get the other person to do something they don’t want to do. This book does not deal with the pasts of individuals or how they were raised. It shows the reader exactly what they have been doing to destroy their relationships and how to change their behavior to enhance their relationships.

**Why did you write this book?**

I wrote this book because the divorce rates in our country are continually rising indicating that our current world psychology is not working. It is based upon the development of Dr. William Glasser’s Choice Theory, which was published in 1998. Divorce appears to be almost as easy to complete as a couple who breaks up in high school after a period of “going steady.” The marriage vows people recite to day seem to be little more than lip service. They promise to live and love each other under all conditions and all situations but overriding these promises appears to be two things that seem to supercede their promise: Control and Power. “Do what I want you to do or I’ll leave you.” It’s difficult to live in a monogamous relationship for one’s entire life. Few animals do so and those who do have a relatively short life span. We humans live for quite a long time and to

maintain a happy relationship during that time is not always easy. I wrote this book to help make the long term marriage easier.

### **How does this book benefit the reader**

The reader will learn what specifically they need to be happy, what motivates all of their behavior and that of their partner; show the couple what they have been doing to harm their marriage or relationship. They will see which aspects of their marriage or relationship is strong and which are weak and the areas that need work; and how to resolve all of their future conflict without harming their marriage/relationship by utilizing three simple choices.

### ***Author Biography***

Mike is a licensed therapist working in Mesa, AZ. He conducts several group therapy sessions a week as well as individual and couples' counseling. Mike always took marriage seriously and waited until the age of 32 before he took that major step. The first few years were great, but the honeymoon was over after his wife became disenchanted with his career.

Mike had been an entertainer. His fiancé, who later became his wife, told him that if he went on the road, she would call off the engagement. Mike did what he had to do for his livelihood at the time and she returned the engagement ring.

For the holidays, Mike asked his agent to book the act in St. Louis so that the band could be near their families at Christmas time. While there, his ex fiancé told him that she had made a mistake and that she had no right to tell him what he could do for a living and that her decision to leave was a bad move on her part. She wanted to rekindle the relationship and get married. They got back together and were married two months later.

To reduce the time away from home, Mike moved to Arizona to take the position of an agent in the State of Arizona only. Five months later, he made the decision to open his own entertainment agency. It was at this time that he was subjected to External Control, although at the time, he had no idea what External Control was. His wife began to criticize his choice of work just as she had done before when she said she was wrong in doing so. She began to complain and nag him about what his line of work was. She would often ask, "Why aren't you a lawyer" or "why aren't you a doctor" or "why aren't you a golf pro?" Her message was loud and clear: "What you do for a living is something that I disapprove of." The honeymoon was over. Eventually, her constant complaining took its toll. Her use of the Seven Deadly Habits got to the point that he no longer felt any respect for her because she was not respecting him. He then began to use the Seven Deadly Habits in defense. Their mutual use of External Control led to crossing the line of where love barely exists, if at all.

One week after moving out and into a studio apartment, a knock on the door resulted in the appearance of his wife holding divorce papers. It was obvious that she was not willing to work anything out. Since he no longer was feeling any love towards her, he took the papers and signed them for even then he knew that he could not force anyone to put him back in their "Quality World" unless they were willing to do so.

It was seven years later after his seven year marriage that led to his introduction to Dr. William Glasser and Choice Theory. Mike had gone back to school to become a

therapist and learning Dr. Glasser's work opened up a world of knowledge and information that gave him the answer to why all relationships and marriages break up . . . External Control and Power needs. His own painful experience has helped salvage several marriages and conflict with couples by the use of Choice Theory and Reality Therapy. Mike is starting a program to teach Choice Theory for couples who are planning to get married. 'If you know how to make better choices and learn not to do the things that destroy a marriage, then perhaps we can see a lowering of the number of divorces that occur each and every day.'

### ***Book Information Detail***

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### ***Press Release:***

'Til Death Do Us Part or 'Til You Piss Me Off: Whichever Comes First.  
Mesa, AZ. November, 2009, Michael Rice of Mesa, AZ. has written a relationship or couples' book on how to maintain happy and healthy relationships and cites the reasons why many of them end in breakups or divorce. Mr. Rice reports, "I have never had anyone make an appointment to see me because they were so happy that they couldn't

stand it. All of my clients are unhappy and I have found that there is only one major cause of most people's unhappiness . . . someone important in their life is behaving in a way that they disapprove of . . . and it may even be themselves" He contends that happiness is the end result of having meaningful relationships with the important people in your life.

Mr. Rice is a certified Reality Therapy and Choice Theory therapist whose work is solidly based upon Dr. William Glasser's world renowned "Choice Theory." Mr. Rice has been in private practice for several years and also writes and lectures throughout the Western Region of the U.S. on alcohol and drug abuse/dependence as well as finding and maintaining happiness in one's life.

### **Media requests contact**

Requests for interviews and/or review copies of this book as well as quantity discounts may be addressed to:

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email: [lbusby@madeirapublishing.com](mailto:lbusby@madeirapublishing.com) *Endorsement:*

No book could possibly be a more concise or comprehensive guide to maintaining happy, healthy relationships. Without lengthy, boring psychological dissertations, the book offers seven caring habits and presents the seven detrimental ones as well. Both lists are indispensable and fully applicable to all relationships throughout life!

Kudos!

Drurygene Boelter, Mesa, AZ

"This book is a must for anyone that has experienced the loss of a relationship and the lasting effects of that, or for anyone that has the desire to begin a new solid, loving, and lasting one.

If you put into practice the few simple rules and practices that Michael teaches in this book, it is sure to change the whole foundation of your relationship. It will give you confidence not only in your ability to constructively cope with the challenges and trials that arise in most relationships, but also the realization that all that you really have to do to be successful in your relationship, is to choose to be.

I was so amazed by the way my views on relationships changed while reading this book, that I could not wait to share it with the young lady that is in my life now. She was just as excited to learn about Michael's teachings as I was and she is also working on making these rules a habit for our relationship. If you ever have the opportunity to read these books or hear Michael speak, do so. It is a priceless investment."

George Ruiz, Scottsdale, AZ. 2/15/10

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