

## Is there hyphenation after marriage?

# Compound names are nothing new, women say

By Mary Jo Pitzl

If one is to believe the modern poets, marriage is the start of a new adventure—a new life for the couple involved.

Traditionally for American women, that new life has included a new name as "Mary Smith" dropped out of existence in deference to "Mrs. John Doe."

But pride in one's maiden name and a sense of losing identity—be it personal or professional—has led to the hyphenated name, that compound moniker that often takes more than one breath to spit out, won't fit on many conventional forms and raises eyebrows among traditionalists.

But several Lincoln women contacted said they see nothing revolutionary about their "new" names and said any hassles they may have encountered because of it are worth the trouble.

Retaining one's maiden name in other countries is not as unusual a practice as it is in America, according to Violet Kalyan-Masih, associate professor of human development and the family.

### Women recognized

If she had been married in her native India, for example, there wouldn't have been any problem keeping her maiden name, Kalyan-Masih said.

"Educated women there are professionally recognized and they have no problem," she said. "Educated women have to struggle for recognition in America."

Dalia Katilius-Boydston, who was born in Lithuania, agreed, saying northern European women do not sacrifice their professional identities when they marry.

A blend of feminist, family and ethnic reasons

motivated the assistant professor of psychology to retain her maiden name (Katilius) when she married in 1975. Her hyphenated surname carries her family name—she is an only child—reflects her Lithuanian heritage and shows her married status as well.

Katilius-Boydston didn't make the shift to hyphenation alone. Her husband Marvin, an English instructor, had his name legally changed before their marriage and now carries his wife's maiden name as well.

### No banner-waving

"It's just something we wanted to do," she said, explaining that no banner-waving was intended by compounding their names.

However, questions do arise and their students are among the most inquisitive, she said.

"It's more common for students or other friends to use one or the other halves of the name when addressing us," she said.

But Mrs. Katilius-Boydston said she insists on using her full name.

"How would you like to be named Johnson and have people call you 'John'?" she asked.

### Re-adopted maiden name

Being called a name other than her given one bothered Mary Ann Cassatt-Dunn to the point that she finally re-adopted her maiden name.

A rehabilitation coordinator who works locally on a consulting basis, Cassatt-Dunn said she had already established a strong professional identity when she married.

After living 13 years as "Mrs. Dunn" and not working for a couple of years, "I had lost a lot of my own identity," she said.

A move to Lincoln several years ago provided a convenient opportunity to change her name, a change she made so subtly that her husband didn't even know for awhile.

"It came as quite a shock to him the first time he saw it (her hyphenated name) in print," Cassatt-Dunn said. She said reactions to her name change have ranged from delight on the part of her parents to bewilderment among professional colleagues.

### Getting divorce?

Since both she and her husband Dennis are counselors, they often share the same friends and activities. Once, while attending a national convention, Mrs. Cassatt-Dunn said friends asked if she was getting a divorce.

The changed name, plus the fact she no longer wears a wedding band—it had to be cut off—made it hard to convince others she and her husband were not splitting, she said.

Cindy Steinhoff-Drake, assistant librarian at the Nebraska State Historical Society, had a different reason than the others for keeping her maiden name.

"I thought it would be better for myself to keep my maiden name because I didn't have a middle name," she said. "I've always regretted it. Since my father only has two daughters, I've decided to keep my maiden name."

Steinhoff-Drake said her husband was not too happy at first with her name change, but eventually accepted it.

### No technical problems

Kathy Brzezinski-Stein, a counselor with the Counseling Center, said adding her husband's name to hers at marriage posed no technical problems. There is no legal process involved, she said. She simply had to notify the Social Security administration of her new name and apply for a new driver's license.

Brzezinski-Stein said her husband had no objection to her decision and reaction from her relatives was pleasantly surprising.

She said she often introduces herself simply as "Mrs. Stein" because "Brzezinski is a bit unmanageable for some people."

## Fey: more students report vandalism

Students increasingly are reporting vandalism when they see it, according to Bob Fey, UNL Police investigator.

"People are getting tired of having to pay for senseless damages," Fey said.

He said 300 cases of vandalism were reported in 1979 and total damage was estimated at \$22,000. Nearly half of that amount resulted in direct loss to students, faculty and staff. The other half was a loss to UNL itself, Fey said.

"We end up paying for it all anyway," Fey said, adding that there were 24 reported cases of vandalism in the first three weeks of February.

Fey said much vandalism could be prevented because most occurs when several people are present or are gathered in a group.

"If even one person would tell the potential offender not to do it, or try to suggest an alternative way to vent his anger and frustrations, the crime might be stopped,"

Fey said.

Fey said that if a person sees a vandalism in progress and feels that he would be unable to prevent it, he should call the UNL police department and give a description.

Fey also said that if anyone knows who might be responsible for a particular crime, he or she is welcome to come to the police station and discuss it.

He explained that many cases, whether they are theft, burglary, arson or vandalism, are solved through information obtained from members of the community.

Fey commented that "no law enforcement agency is so effective that it can successfully reduce crime without the active assistance of the community."

According to Capt. Bob Edmunds, students have a higher tendency to report incidents of vandalism than do other members of the community.


"Students don't have all kinds of money," Edmunds said. "They realize that their tuition and tax dollars all go into the cost of replacing or fixing the damaged items."

**HOUSE of FLOWERS**  
Give them a bouquet of flowers . . .  
It's such a loving gesture.  
call 476-2775  
226 South 11th  
EAST OF THE BRANDEIS PARKING LOT




**SELF-SERVICE COPIER**  
1/2 Block From Love Library  
All Copies **4¢** Seven Days A Week  
Mon.-Thurs. 8:00-9:00  
Fri. 8:00-6:00  
Sat. 9:00-5:00  
Sun. 2:00-5:00  
330 No. 13th  
PHONE 475-COPY  
**kinko's**

**UNIVERSITY PLASMA CENTER**  
1442 "O" STREET  
**\$10.00 PAID PER DONATION**  
(AND YOU CAN DONATE TWICE WEEKLY)  
A \$2.00 BONUS WILL BE PAID TO NEW DONORS ON THEIR FIRST DONATION. with this coupon.  
CALL FOR APPOINTMENT!  
• 475-8645 •  
Open: Mon.-Fri. at 8:30  
**"It Pays To Help"**



UPC  
Culture Center  
and the  
Freddie Bell Show  
present  
**CELEBRATION DANCE**  
Friday, Feb. 29  
8 p.m. - 1 a.m.  
VILLAGER MOTEL  
52nd & "O"  
ADMISSION: \$2.00  
DOOR PRIZES—  
DRESS TO PARTY!  
**UPC**  
Culture Center



**50% OFF COATS**  
All remaining winter coats.....  
Reduced 50% of their original price during our Leap Year Sale Only!  
Shop for coats in Ladies, Junior and Half-Sizes.  
Fashion Coats, all stores  
**Miller & Paine**  
FOR 100 YEARS  
Once upon a Leap Year  
CENTURY CELEBRATION

