

Dear Friend,

I regret that I will not be able to attend your wedding.

The legal, economic, and social institution of marriage is premised on the subjugation of women, the codification of (patrilineal) inheritance, the disciplining of the reproductive couple form, and the privatization of care. The perpetuation of this institution enacts tangible violence against those of us who do not benefit from historical networks of gender-, sex-, class-, and race-based privilege. In the past, it has been my policy to be silent as my friends, family, and acquaintances participate in the interdiction of my subjecthood, but such silence has become untenable. Therefore, I have decided to register my objection to my own erasure with this card.

I hope you will endeavor to forgive my absence just as I endeavor to forgive your (hetero/homo)normativity.