

propriety in considering it to have been conferred at the time of the birth, and therefore to have been derived from the law of the country in which the parents were domiciled. The consequences of this status are generally so exclusively confined to the person himself and his family, that the law of the domicile of origin may be adopted, without that prejudice to the interests of other persons which would result from its adoption in deciding on the status of majority. (1)

The husband has the absolute direction of the person of his wife, and from thence our laws have established that the wife can do nothing without the authorization of the husband, and that the husband has the enjoyment and administration of the property of the wife, upon the condition of his supporting the family expenses, (2) whether community exists between them or not. So that all the agreements and dispositions made by a married woman, to take effect during her life, are null, if they are not authorized by the husband given in express terms, or if they are not authorized by the Judge with a full knowledge of the facts upon the refusal of the husband; (3) and it is a question whether subsequent authorization of the husband can ratify them so as to have effect, from the day of the ratification, (4) or whether the deed is void from the beginning and therefore unsusceptible of ratification. (5) If a husband who is a minor authorize his wife who is of age, and be relieved from his authorization, the annulling of the authorization will occasion the nullity of the obligation entered into by the wife. (6)

The need of the authorization by the husband, is such, that contracts passed without it cannot be pleaded even by way of exception against the husband, (7) or against the wife after the death of her husband, or against her heirs, if the wife do not vivify it after the death of her husband, either by making a new obligation or tacitly by executing it.

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(1) Burge Col. Law, p. 97. (2) 1 Domat 1. 1 c. 9. § 5. (3) 2 De La Jannes, p. 15, C.P. Art. 234. (4) 2 De La Jannes, p. 14. [5] Dict; de Droit, verbo Ratification. (6) Arrêt of 22nd June, 1674. (7) C. P. Art. 223.