

## 5 PRACTICAL SECRETS TO SAVE A MARRIAGE

**I**F YOUR marriage has entered troubled waters, don't despair. You can avoid hitting the rocks if you're willing to take some unconventional advice, says marriage guru Mort Fertel.

"Much of the advice people get about their marriage problems is wrong," says Fertel, author of *Marriage Fitness* (MarriageMax, Inc.).

"A lot of the advice people get is logical, but it's not psychological."

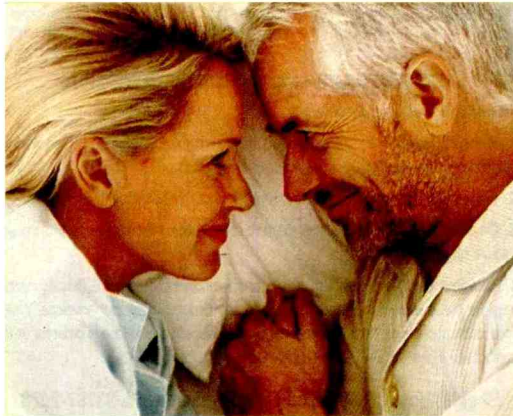
For example, one secret to saving a marriage is taking on the job by yourself, he says. You don't need to work with your spouse. Your choices alone can motivate your partner to change.

Problems can go from bad to worse if you violate your spouse's privacy by airing your dirty laundry to friends and family. Give your loved one the same courtesy you'd expect.

Marriage counseling is usually a waste of time because the success rate is dismal, says Fertel. Your actions will speak louder

than any words. Make positive changes in your behavior and your relationship will improve.

A separation or a "break" will only make



things worse, says Fertel. If you want to create closeness, don't impose distance.

Don't ever ask: "Did I marry the right person?" Fertel advises: "The key to marital success isn't finding the right person, it's loving the person you found."

