



The meaning of Valid but illicit.

Valid but illicit and valid but illegal are descriptions applied in Roman Catholicism to an unauthorized celebration of a sacrament that nevertheless has effect.

Validity is presumed whenever an act is placed "by a qualified person and includes those things which essentially constitute the act itself as well as the formalities and requirements imposed by law for the validity of the act". Canon law also lays down rules for lawful placing of the act.

Holy orders - All bishops are able to ordain a deacon, priest, or bishop. In the sacrament of holy orders, a valid but illicit consecration / ordination, as the name suggests, is an ordination in which a bishop uses his valid ability to ordain someone a bishop without having first received the required authorization. The same would apply to a bishop's ordaining of a man who has not undergone and completed necessary seminary schooling, as required by canon law. The bishop is then acting in a manner deemed illicit or illegal.

A Catholic bishop who consecrates someone to the episcopate without a mandate from the Pope is automatically excommunicated according to canon law even if his ordination may be considered valid, a true bishop.

The person who receives consecration from him is also automatically excommunicated.

The excommunication can be lifted by only the Holy See. IF the Holy See has the authority to place such.

In the case of many Catholic & Orthodox Churches established this is not the case no such consent is required as they are not of the Papal household.

Catholic Archbishop Luis Fernando Castillo Mendez in 1948 in turn later consecrated at the Cathedral in Brazil, Bishop James Atkinson-Wake under a Patriarchal Mandate.

In the 20th century, Archbishop Marcel Lefebvre is said to have earned automatic

excommunication for his valid but illicit ordinations of four bishops without a papal mandate. However, his defenders argue that he acted under grave fear, an excuse allowed by canon law to avoid automatic excommunication. After Lefebvre's death, the Holy See, on 21 January 2009, lifted the excommunication of the four bishops.

VALID BUT ILLICIT - The illicitness and the validity of Sacraments are canonical terms used to describe the effectiveness of the sacrament.

VALID - is presumed whenever an act is placed "by a qualified person and includes those things which essentially constitute the act itself as well as the formalities and requirements imposed by law for the validity of the act such as an ordination in which a bishop uses his valid ability to ordain someone a bishop without having first received the required authorization.

ILLICIT - means, roughly, illegal. In the case of a Sacrament, it means performed in a way that is not permitted by the rules or laws of that specific Church. (But the sacrament did happen). The term Illicit can also be used to refer to actions not done in accordance with the established norms.

Invalid - means the Sacrament did not happen at all. There is some defect in matter, form or intention. Question of validity occurs only for a Sacrament but this is not the case with Archbishop James Atkinson-Wake.

It seems like another way to say this would be that "licit" and "illicit" refers to the performance of the action, where as "valid" and "invalid" refer to the result.

As stated by La Stampa newspaper and the Catholic Herald. Archbishop James Atkinson-Wake consecration as a catholic Bishop by the former patriarch of Brazil. Archbishop Luis Fernando castillo Mendez who in turn was consecrated by Roman Catholic Bishop carlos Duarte Costa assisted by Bishop Salamao Ferraz and Bishop Antidio Jose Vargas.

In the eyes of the Roman Catholic Church vatican II. Bishop Atkinson-Wake's ordination as a bishop is valid but illicit; he was ordained by bishops with the Apostolic Succession and has passed this on to other bishops he has ordained, but all of this is without the sanction / authority of the Roman Catholic Church.

It is also worth noting that It was the Brazilian Catholic Church's superior, the elderly Patriarch Luis Fernando Castillo Mendez, who consecrated Bishop James Atkinson-Wake had been in contact with the Holy See at the end of the 1980's but had not yet accepted John Paul II's outstretched hand over the differences before either passed away.