

The third question of Fatwa no. 5211

Q 3: What is the ruling on a person who pronounces the words of divorce unintentionally or to himself? Will it be effective and counted as divorce? It should be noted that he pronounces them unintentionally and he has children. He is like a compelled and afflicted person. He doubts some matters whether he did them or not? He troubles himself in order to remember what he uttered but with no avail.

A: Divorce is not effective by intention only without pronouncing or writing it. The Prophet (peace be upon him) said, **Allah has forgiven my followers the evil thoughts that occur to their minds, as long as such thoughts are not put into action or uttered.** (Agreed upon by Al-Bukhari and Muslim).
Accordingly, divorce must be done either by pronouncing or writing it.

May Allah grant us success. May peace and blessings be upon our Prophet Muhammad, his family, and Companions.

The Permanent Committee for Scholarly Research and Ifta'

Member

`Abdullah ibn Qa`ud

Member

`Abdullah ibn Ghudayyan

Chairman

`Abdul-`Aziz ibn `Abdullah ibn Baz