

POINTS OF DISCUSSION WITH A FUTURE SPOUSE

Directions please answer the questions in each of the following categories.

MONEY MATTERS

1. Do you plan on having a joint checking account, or will one person control the money? If so, who?
2. Do you plan on combining all of your income or having a certain portion separate? If so, how much?
3. Do you want to have a financial budget to follow? Why or Why Not?
4. Do you consider yourself an impulse buyer, or a careful shopper? How will this effect your marriage?
5. At what money limit do you need to consult your spouse before spending?
6. Do you want both spouses to work before you have children?
With preschool children?
With school age children?
After the children leave home?
7. What purchases would you feel comfortable with making on credit? Circle all that apply.
House Car TV Stereo Furniture Clothes
Food Entertainment Other _____
8. Would you be willing to move away from your family if your spouse wanted a job elsewhere? If yes, how far?
9. What career training or education do you expect for yourself? You're Spouse?
10. At what age do you plan on saving for retirement?

Name _____ Class Period _____

11. What percentage of your income do you plan on saving a month?

12. What credit cards do you plan on having? (Circle all that Apply)

Visa/MasterCard Department Store Gas Card Furniture Store

CHILDREN

1. How many children do you want?

2. How far apart do you want your children spaced? Why?

3. What are the top three primary principles that you want to teach your children? (self-esteem, honesty, intelligence, responsibility, values, spirituality, etc...)

4. Do you think it is important to spend individual time with each child? Why or Why not? If yes how would you as a parent spend this time?

5. How do you feel about spanking or other physical punishment?

6. If you have told a child no several times and he does not listen, what will you do?

7. How would you handle it if your spouse disciplines a child in a way you disapprove of?

8. What skills and talents do you want your sons to have by age 18? Your daughters?

Name _____ Class Period _____

9. What child rearing responsibilities do you feel are the responsibility of the Mother?
(school, discipline, manners, religion, feeding, etc.)

10. What child rearing responsibilities do you think are the responsibility of the Father?

11. Every couple has limited resources, what purchases would be a priority for your children?
Why? (swing set, VCR, Game System, sandbox, preschool, nice clothes, music lessons,
Club sports teams, dance lessons...)

RECREATION

1. Do you like your day : (Circle One)

Scheduled Semi-Scheduled Unplanned

2. Do you like recreational activities: (Circle One)

Planned Semi-Planned Spur of the Moment

3. How much money a month do you like to spend on recreation?

4. What recreational equipment would you like to own? (Examples: boat, skis, camper)

5. List the top three things you like to do in your spare time.

6. Divide up the percentage of your time you would like to spend with each of the following:

As a couple _____ %

With your Friends _____ %

With your Family _____ %

With In-Laws _____ %

Name _____ Class Period _____

RELIGION

1. Is it important to marry someone of the same religion? If yes, under what circumstances would you marry someone of another religion?
2. How often do you plan to attend church?
3. Rank the importance of religion in your life.
Not important 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Important
4. List all the church practices you want your spouse to participate in. (Prayer, church attendance, church contributions, donation of time, etc.)

AFFECTION

1. How important is holding hands in public? Why?
2. How do you feel about kissing in public? Why?
3. What affection ought to be displayed in front of the children?
4. How often do you plan on telling your spouse "I love you"?
5. What is the primary way you feel loved? (activities with one another, kind deeds, kind words, affection, etc.)

PARENTS & IN-LAWS

1. How often do you plan on talking to your parents in person? By Phone?
2. How often do you plan on talking to your in-laws in person? By phone?
3. How close do you plan to live to your parents? In-laws?

Name _____ Class Period _____

4. When is it okay if your spouse looks to his/her parents for advice? When is it NOT okay?
5. What would you do if you felt your spouse confided in his/her parents TOO much?
6. Under what circumstances would you take money from your parents?
7. If you took money from your parents would you pay them back? If yes in what time frame and with or without interest?
8. If both spouses work, would you feel comfortable asking your parents or in-laws to baby-sit while you work? Why or Why not?
9. How often, other than for work, would you feel comfortable asking a grandparent to baby-sit?
10. How often do you plan to spend . . .

Christmas at your Parents?	At your In-laws?
Thanksgiving at your Parents?	At your In-laws?
Summer Vacation at your Parents?	At your In-laws?
Other important Holidays at your parents?	At your In-laws?
11. How do you plan to arrange these special occasions with all of the families involved?