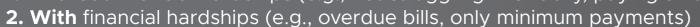
Stress Proofing your Marriage

The American married couples surveyed were placed in two categories:

1. Without financial hardships (e.g., not struggling financially, paying all bills without sacrificing budget).







beyond

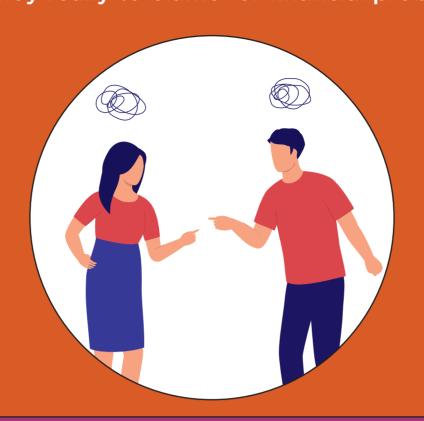
The Blame Game

Is money really to blame for financial problems?

WITHOUT HARDSHIPS



do not blame each other or themselves for money problems



WITH HARDSHIPS

"work to resist" blaming each other

admit they end up doing it anyway

27%

Work the Plan

Does martial happiness increase when the two partners agree on a shared budget?



WITHOUT HARDSHIPS

usually agree

rarely agree

28%



WITH HARDSHIPS

agree on a budget and stick to it

spend "what they can afford" at any time



Seal of Approval

How are marriages affected by final agreement over financial decisions?



WITHOUT HARDSHIPS

stay happy when they agree on purchases

"can handle it" when they don't agree 43%



63%

WITH HARDSHIPS

are happy when they mutually agree

aren't affected" by disagreement 27%

Share the Wealth

Does pooling financial resources affect marital bliss?

WITHOUT HARDSHIPS



are "happy and satisfied" in marriage with one bank account



WITH HARDSHIPS

are "happy and satisfied" in marriage with one bank account



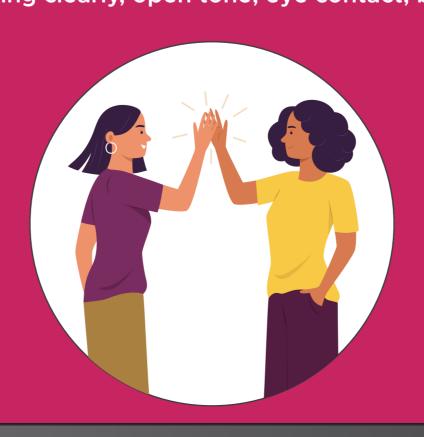
Come Together

Do the "basics of communication" (i.e., speaking clearly, open tone, eye contact, body language) help prevent financial struggles?

WITHOUT HARDSHIPS



of communicative couples are happy and satisfied



WITH HARDSHIPS

say communication basics help them through financial struggles

