

## Forgive – Even If You Can't Forget

Second only to infidelity, financial stress and incompatibility tears apart more marriages and families than anything else. When couples start having money problems, tempers begin to flare. When tempers begin to flare, frustrations begin to build. And when frustration mounts to monumental levels, you can expect the big trouble to begin. It can lead to affairs. It can lead to drinking. It can lead to drug addiction. It can even lead to abuse. That's why it's important to take control of the situation early on, to prevent as much damage to your marriage (and your credit) as you can.

If you've started getting late notices or notification that you're accounts have exceeded their spending limit, don't ignore the problem and simply hope that it will go away. Money problems very rarely take care of themselves. It's going to be up to you and your partner to get the job done.

At the first sign of trouble, make it a point to sit down together and create a workable, realistic plan. Find out exactly how much you owe, how long you have to pay it and where you plan on getting the money that you need. While it may seem scary now, it's nothing compared to what it will be if you ignore the situation for another six months. And usually, once you have a chance to look at the whole picture (possible solutions included) things really aren't as bad as they seemed at first.

If you begin to see that financial worries and troubles crop up more regularly than you might like, it might be a good idea to consider teaming up with a professional. Financial consultants and credit or debt specialists have the training, experience and insight you'll need to find your way out of your financial woes. Especially if you guys are habitual offenders.

Once you've managed to get things back under control, be sure to take some special time together to kiss and make up for any disagreements or fights the problems might have stirred up. Then, make a solid commitment to keep your money under control.

If you prevent financial problems you're also preventing unnecessary marital problems!

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Kathy Stafford, Relationship Coach

“I show singles how to get married and couples how to STAY married”

Do you want more from your relationship? Go to <http://www.dearkathy.com> for relationship articles, advice, and programs.

Do you go from one failed relationship to another? Do you want to find that special life partner? Get Kathy’s new book, “Relationship Remorse: Mistakes Women Make When Shopping for a Man.” and learn the right way to find a loving and committed life-partner. Order the book at <http://www.relationshipremorse.com>

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