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Money Talk Guidelines:

KINGSBURY'S RULES FOR FIGHTING FAIR FINANCIALLY

BE RESPECTFUL

Treat the other person in the conversation with respect. Respectful behaviors include listening carefully, not interrupting, and refraining from using profanity or blaming language.

2 USE "I" STATEMENTS

Use "I" statements to communicate how you feel and what specific action triggered this emotion. Avoid the urge to point a finger and blame your partner.

3 LISTEN ACTIVELY

Active listening is a communication technique that aids in mutual understanding and involves asking open-ended questions, then listening carefully to the answers. It does not involve offering your opinion on the information your partner has shared.

4 DON'T MIND READ

Don't try to read your partner's thoughts as it tends to make people angry as the person feels unheard. Instead, ask open-ended questions to learn more about your partner's money mindset.

5 PRACTICE CURIOSITY

Bring a healthy dose of curiosity to every money conversation. To do this, pretend you are a scientist interviewing a subject for a research project. Ask thoughtful, clarifying questions to learn more about your partner's perspective on the financial matter at hand.

6 AGREE TO DISAGREE

Agree to disagree before you engage in a money dialogue. Remember that the goal of a money conversation is to understand each other's viewpoint, to keep an open mind, and to lay the groundwork for more financial dialogues in the future.

7 GIVE YOURSELF A REWARD

Reward yourself and your partner after each financial conversation. Together, you have taken a proactive step toward financial health and wellness, and you deserve some recognition.

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