**Development of the Couple Financial Conflict Scale:**

**A Pilot Study**

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**Couple Financial Conflict Scale (CFCS)**

An assessment tool designed to measure financial conflict in intimate relationships.

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| 1 | How often do you and your partner experience financial conflict? |
| 2 | How often do conversations about money lead to you and your partner feeling closer to each other? |
| 3 | How often do conversations about money lead to arguments? |
| 4 | How often do money conflicts lead you to feel distant from your partner? |
| 5 | How often have financial conflicts led you to consider divorce, separation, or terminating your relationship? |
| 6 | How often do you feel that you and your partner have successful financial communication? |
| 7 | How often do you feel heard by your partner when discussing money? |
| 8 | How often does your partner criticize your financial decision-making? |

It is well known that financial stress in a marriage is one of the leading causes of divorce. Difficulty communicating with your partner regarding your shared common goals, long term planning, debt, spending habits, as well as attitudes towards savings and investing can lead to serious issues with trust and moving forward as a team. Conflict often arises when assumptions are made but not shared and when the partners cannot agree on how to solve these issues. This scale was created by the researchers to attempt to document the severity of conflict present as a means to measure starting points and progress towards conflict resolution- hopefully. I find that its application can therefore be used as a potential learning tool for couples to work together to address their issues and be more open to change in attitudes and behaviors that will lead to collaboration rather than separation of their financial work as a couple.