

Rules of Engagement – 7 Rules for Fighting Fair — Part 2

Agree or Disagree?

Indicate whether you agree (A) or disagree (D) with each statement on the lines below.

H **W**

8. _____ _____ We fight over symptoms, not actual causes.
9. _____ _____ Fights should never deal with more than one issue at a time.
10. _____ _____ When labeling (or categorizing) your mate during a fight, you must make certain you are accurate.
11. _____ _____ Bringing up the past **can** be helpful in settling today's fights.
12. _____ _____ Quoting well known authorities on the subject can give your side of the argument credibility.
13. _____ _____ When your partner finally gives in and says "You're right!" the fight is over.
14. _____ _____ Physical contact while fighting should be avoided because of our human tendency to inflict hurt when we are angry.

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8. Find out _____ you're fighting about

The heart of the discerning acquires knowledge; the ears of the wise seek it out (Prov 18:15)



9. Stick to the _____

10. Avoid _____ or name calling.

...anyone who says, "You fool!" will be in danger of the fire of hell (Matt 5:22c)

11. Leave out past _____.

[Love] is not rude, it is not self-seeking it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs (I Cor 13:5)

Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it [becoming like Christ]. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus. All of us who are mature should take such a view of things (Phil 3:13-15a)

12. Don't allow _____ parties

13. Remember it's the one you _____ you're fighting with.

[Love] is not rude, it is not self-seeking.... (1 Cor 13:5)

What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don't they come from your desires that battle within you? You want something but don't get it (James 4:1-2)

14. Hold _____ while fighting

➤ Conclusion

Now that you know these things, DO THEM. That is the path of blessing. (John 13:17 LB)

➤ **Couple Sharing**

1. The guideline I will need the most help in applying is

You have my permission to help me apply this by

2. The guideline I would most like you to apply in our fights is

3. Review the 7 guidelines together asking each other the following questions about each one:

1) Do we need this guideline in our fighting?

2) Are we applying this one regularly?

3) Do I need to concentrate on this one as one of my top three guidelines?

4) Do I need help in applying this one? Will you help me by:
