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12 WAYS TO AVOID BECOMING OUR CLIENT

Friends often ask **KELLY MCCLURE** and **FRANCESCA BLACKARD**, Partners at McClure Law Group, what are the most common triggers for divorce. "It usually is not just one thing, but a culmination of things," says Kelly. Here to share their friendly advice with you, Kelly and Francesca recommend avoiding these ten behaviors to keep you out of their law office:

1

LACK OF SEXUAL INTIMACY

We are all tired. We all have long days, but you have to think about the message you relay to your spouse when you constantly turn them down. We strongly believe that if the sex is still alive, the marriage is salvageable.

2

NO DATE NIGHTS

Prioritize time together, away from friends and away from children. Don't forget to date your spouse. Get dressed up, try new restaurants, book that last minute trip to Miami! Be spontaneous!

3

NEGATIVITY

Every marriage goes through its ups and downs. Remember that when you are going through a hard time. Life throws us curveballs. It's up to us to know that "this too shall pass."

4

NEGLECTING ONESELF

The old saying is true. If you don't love yourself, you can't love anyone else. Make sure you check in with yourself and your health both physically and mentally. You are half of your marriage anyway!

5

LACK OF EMOTIONAL INTIMACY

Every human struggles with insecurity. It is important for a spouse to feel loved and emotionally connected to their significant other. Say "I love you" often. Send a random text letting your spouse know you're thinking about them. Little things make a huge difference.

6

DISPUTES REGARDING THE CHILDREN

All parents disagree on issues with their kids. We aren't telling you to be a submissive spouse. What we are telling you is to listen, communicate and determine how to incorporate both of your styles. Get professional recommendations when necessary. The worst thing you can do for you AND your kids is to create turmoil with your spouse.

7

HIDDEN SPENDING

Don't sign up for secret credit cards or hidden bank accounts. Marital relationships should be an open book and hiding your spending from your spouse can be a slippery slope.

8

SECRET INAPPROPRIATE RELATIONSHIPS

Everyone has friends at work, but do you take it to the next level? If you aren't willing to share the details of your relationship with your spouse, then it probably isn't a relationship you should be having.

9

LIVING SEPARATE LIVES UNDER THE SAME ROOF

Sharing an address isn't the same as sharing a life. When your days, priorities, and routines never intersect, the marriage often fades quietly long before anyone says it out loud.

10

HOLDING GRUDGES

Many clients come in and complain that their spouse is still mad about something that happened 10 years ago. We aren't saying that everything is forgivable, but if you do want to avoid being our client, then you must forgive and move on. It may not happen overnight, but you cannot heal if you do not forgive.

11

FRIEND NIGHTS ON REPEAT

Are you loading up your social calendar with girls' or guys' nights? If you're spending more of your free time with your friends than your spouse, you may need to readjust your behavior. Many clients come in complaining that their spouse has closer relationships with their friends than them.

12

WALKING ON EGGSHells

Constant nitpicking is a source of contention that can make the other spouse feel like they are walking on eggshells. Pick your battles and self-reflect- we all do things that may annoy the other spouse, but it's more annoying to constantly dwell on those tiny things that in the long run, don't really matter.

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