



## Financial Issues More Than Twice as Likely as Sex to Cause Tension in a Relationship

*LearnVest's Money Habits and Confessions Survey Reveals New Data on Connections between Love and Money*

**NEW YORK, NY, February 1, 2017** – According to new findings announced from [LearnVest's Money Habits and Confessions Survey](#), conducted by Wakefield Research, the majority of Americans in relationships (68%) say finances are more a source of tension with their partner than their sex life. Perhaps this is why the survey also found that one in five Americans (20%) never have serious conversations about finances with their significant other. More than half (53%) of partners have four or fewer serious conversations about their finances with their significant other each year. That means that most American couples average only one serious discussion per quarter about their spending, budgeting or how to manage their money.

“Money consistently ranks as one of the leading sources of conflict for most couples,” said Alexa von Tobel, CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™, CEO & Founder of LearnVest.com and New York Times best-selling author of *Financially Fearless*. “While a significant portion of Americans would rather avoid the money talk, making a point to discuss finances on a regular basis with your partner is crucial to any healthy relationship.”

When it comes to love and money, Americans give considerable weight to financial habits. Finances can mean an end to romance, with nearly one in four (24%) Americans saying they have broken up with a significant other over money issues. The survey also found that most Americans (58%) would prefer to be single forever than have a spouse who was financially irresponsible.

Other findings from the survey include:

- **Money secrets between American couples.** Nearly half of Americans (48%) don't know the balances of their significant other's investment accounts and nearly a third of Americans (32%) don't know their partner's salary (32%) or the balances of their partner's bank accounts (31%). More than a third of Americans (34%) have hidden purchases in the past year from their significant other – and on average, they've hidden 4 purchases from their partner in the past year alone.
- **Wants and goals for their partners.** When asked which financial goals they want their significant other to prioritize more in 2017, 51 percent of Americans said paying down debt, 44 percent said establishing an emergency savings fund and 41 percent said making and adhering to a monthly budget. Americans would also like their significant other to cut their spending on dinners out or bar visits (33%), clothing (18%) and entertainment (17%).
- **Money talks.** When asked who they would be most comfortable talking about their financial situation (such as how much money they had saved or any financial issues they had experienced), less than half of Americans (44%) say they are comfortable sharing their personal finance issues with their partner.



LearnVest offers a variety of resources to empower everyone to have the money talk with friends, family and significant others. To get started on tackling financial unity, visit [www.learnvest.com/havethetalk](http://www.learnvest.com/havethetalk).

### **Methodology**

The LearnVest *Money Habits & Confessions Survey* was conducted by Wakefield Research among 1,000 nationally representative U.S. adults ages 18+ between December 8<sup>th</sup> and December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2016 using an email invitation and an online survey.

### **About LearnVest**

LearnVest is one of the fastest-growing financial planning platforms in America. Through the comprehensive and dynamic LearnVest Program, LearnVest helps thousands of households nationwide take control of their money. LearnVest's innovation solution joins powerful technology with a force of LearnVest Planners to efficiently deliver affordable, accessible and unbiased financial advice.

As a disruptor in the financial planning space, LearnVest has been awarded numerous accolades for its product innovation. These include being named as one of Time's "50 Best Websites," Fast Company's "Most Innovative Companies," and three years running Best of Show awards at Finovate Fall 2011, 2012 and 2013. Since its launch in 2009, LearnVest has raised nearly \$75 million in venture financing. For more information about LearnVest, please visit [www.learnvest.com](http://www.learnvest.com).