Does it matter who makes more? Exploring how income disparity impacts types of relationship arguments
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ABSTRACT
Qualitative data from a sample of women who completed an online survey was explored to understand how types of arguments differ based on whether a woman makes more, makes less, or makes the same as her partner/spouse. Findings suggest that regardless of income disparity group, women perceive that money is the most argued about topic in their relationship. Financial professionals should be prepared that money is a hot topic for any couple.

METHOD
• Sub-question 1: How does making more than one’s partner influence what women perceive to be the most argued about topic in their couple relationship?
• Sub-question 2: How does making less than one’s partner influence what women perceive to be the most argued about topic in their couple relationship?
• Sub-question 3: How does making the same as one’s partner influence what women perceive to be the most argued about topic in their couple relationship?
• Recruitment was done through social media outlets.
• Survey contained mostly quantitative data.
• Using qualitative methods, data was analyzed to explore the types of arguments women perceive that they argue about most in their relationship based on income disparity group.

RESULTS & DISCUSSION

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<td>Women who make more</td>
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<td>MONEY, chores, communication, lifestyle choices, time/schedules, parenting/children, career/work, extended family</td>
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PRACTICE IMPLICATIONS
• Regardless of whether a woman makes more, less, or the same as their significant other, money arguments are pervasive.
• Financial counselors, educators, and coaches need to be prepared to help couples manage money arguments.
• For couples where the woman makes more, arguments may differ from more traditional couples.
• Exploration into the power and control dynamic of couples across income disparity groups is prudent.