

When learning about relationships, we often are not instructed fully on what is healthy, what is normal, and what is unproductive. When people talk about Intimate Partner Violence (IPV), or domestic violence, we can easily point out the negative actions, but what about the positive actions?

In this brochure we explore the Equality Wheel\* and examples of Economic Partnership. The finances of the home include paid income, managing debts and bills, prioritizing purchases, budgeting, spending, and creating savings.

In some relationships, people manage to both work outside the home, while in others it makes sense for one person to stay home with the children. Having a solid partnership means big financial decisions are made together, while each person trusts the other to be responsible with daily spending.

\* The Equality Wheel was developed by the Domestic Abuse Intervention Project Duluth, MN

## Facts on the basis of a healthy relationship:

Partners trust each other to not deliberately hurt one another and are intent upon loving themselves and each other.

They each work to support one another, rather than being intent on protecting, avoiding or controlling.

Healthy partners, instead of being threatened by the other's success or joy, are delighted by it.

It is the commitment to learn about love that leads to being able to take personal responsibility for your own feelings.

For more information or help call:

[Insert your local contact info]

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## ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP



**What does it look like to have cooperation in relationships?**



**Mending the Sacred Hoop**  
mshoop.org

Erica got pregnant while in college. She quit to become a stay-at-home mom while her partner, Alton, remained in school. After years of working Alton got a great job offer in another state, but after discussing it with Erica, they decided not to take it – it was too far away and too much work to relocate.

When making big decisions around career moves it's not just more money that is a factor. Cost of living, more work expenses, and even isolation from family and friends are big factors to consider and both parties have to agree to all terms for it to work.

The whole family likes to travel to ceremonies and be outdoors. They can't afford to go all the time, so they prioritize trips and realize that they will have to miss a few.

Being a financially responsible adult means you have to make good decisions with your money and be reasonable with pleasure spending.

Alton got into a car accident. He knows his insurance premiums will increase, but is determined to drive safe, increase his deductible to off-set some of the cost.

There are many options for managing finances. One has to be diligent and flexible with options to overcome hurdles.

The refrigerator broke down and Erica and Alton had to use the money that Alton was saving for an ATV to buy a new one.

Balancing needs and wants along with deciding which purchase benefits everyone most, is mature decision making.

Alton and Erica have a regular routine, so setting a budget for bills, food and clothes was pretty easy. Since Erica is home she handles the shopping and Alton manages the bills.

Splitting tasks can be an effective way to handle the burden of managing finances. Some people choose to split the load 50/50 and others take turns. Overall you want an agreed-upon division of the work involved.

