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What to Do About the Money Your Parents Loaned You If You're Planning to Divorce

Critical to the plan for divvying up property is the need to sort out your debts. Credit card bills, car loans and home loans are relatively easy to account for. The couple will have monthly statements and can, in most cases, agree whether to split the debt between them. Trouble arises for loans made by parents or other relatives during the marriage. The most common family loan may have been for a down payment on your house. If your parents gave you the cash, you have to determine whether that was a loan or a gift.



Generally, you look at the circumstances surrounding the payment. Did you sign a promissory note with your parents? Have you made payments? Did you agree on an interest rate? If the answer is no, the court will probably treat that loan as a gift not subject to property division by the judge.

Tips for Weathering the Storm After a Divorce

Going through a divorce can feel a lot like having a death in the family. In a sense, it is a figurative death of the family life that you had once hoped would last. As such, most people go through a type of grieving process after the divorce. One of the best ways to cope is to recognize this grieving process and let it play out. Some survival tips might help you weather the storm. First and foremost though, allow yourself the time to grieve.



Don't Let It Jeopardize Your Job

Whatever turmoil you're experiencing, protect your working life, your income, and your financial stability.

Hang on to Your Real Friends

You'll find out who your real friends are during your divorce. Keep them close.

Avoid Romantic Entanglements

Most experts counsel staying out of romantic relationships for at least a year.

One Surefire Way to Alienate Your Children During a Divorce

Divorcing parents understandably worry most about how their divorce will affect their children. You will all have to transition to a new custody and parenting time schedule after your separation. Your children need your help learning to adjust to spending time with Mom and Dad apart. Remember, your children still rely on both parents for love, support and stability. Resist the urge to put your children in the middle of disputes with your ex.



One surefire way to sabotage the kids' adjustment period is to use them as spies or go-betweens for disputes with their other parent. It's confusing and emotionally traumatic for a child to feel pitted by one parent against the other. If at all possible, keep spouse-to-spouse conflict away from the kids. Your divorce lawyer can help you find family counseling if you feel you need it.

Your case is important to us. If we can't help you, we'll do our best to refer you to someone who can.

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