

Economics Perspectives
Oprah's Debt Diet

Name _____

What percent of Americans are living paycheck to paycheck?

What is "the big monster lurking" in the background?

How are people losing their freedom?

Who needs to go on the Debt Diet?

The Bradleys – Lisa and Steven

How much do the Bradley's earn? How much debt do they have? (label each)

How much are their car payments? How much do they spend on take out food?

Why do you think they are having marital problems?

What bills have been shut off? What is the total of her Cell phone bill?

What is the total of her college student loans?

How many pages is their credit report?

How much is Lisa spending on her hair each year?

The Egglestons

What do Dan and Sally do for a living?

What does Sally think has caused their debt?

What do Dan and Sally make per year? How much debt do they have? (label each)

What happened to Dan's 401K money?

How much do they pay for football tickets? How much did their weekend in Las Vegas cost?

What effects has worrying about money and bills had on Dan and Sally?

How long does it take the Average American family to go from financially sound to bankruptcy according to the expert?

How much per month is Sally paying for interest on her credit card?

The Widlunds – Marnie and Mark

How much debt do the Widlunds have?

How much do they spend on entertainment per week?

What does Marnie spend her bill money on?

What has kept the Widlunds from divorcing?

How are the children affecting the Widlunds money problems?

How much will they save by not going to the craft store per year?

How much will they save if they cut their food budget in half?

What are the first four steps of the Debt Diet plan? (they will repeat them again in Show 2)

Show 2

The Bradley's

How long does it take them to go through all their bills and paperwork?

Why do you think it is harder for others (both family and friends) to deal with Lisa now that she is on the plan?

How much are they able reduce their cell phone bill in a month?

How much will they save by getting rid of some of their cars?

How much do they pay in ATM fees per year?

What is Lisa's allowance per day on the plan? Why do you think she is upset by the changes?

What secret is Lisa hiding?

How much did Lisa spend in the first week of the plan? How much did Steven spend?

When people shop what are they really trying to do?

How much do they save per year by trading the piano? The TV? Cable? How much total is saved? (label each)

The Widlunds

What is their credit score? What is the median credit score in the US?

What is the value of their 2nd mortgage? How far behind are the payments?

What is their total debt?

How much were they wasting per year on “nothing”?

How does the cash only spending plan work?

What step is taken to prevent them from cheating on the plan?

What 6 things do they have to stop doing according to the expert?

What were some things the Widlunds did to cheat on the plan?