## **Values Card Sort**



Boldness  Being willing to undertake things that involve risk or danger	Autonomy  To be self-determined and independent
Courage  Acting with courage	Security  Maintaining the safety and security of myself and my loved ones
Authority  Having authority & being in charge of others	<b>Loyalty</b> Being loyal to friends, family, and/or my group
Competence Being competent & effective in what I do	Love  Having relationships involving tenderness, love, and affection
Creation Building, designing, and/or repairing things	Community  Being a part of and contributing to a group
Peace  To work to promote peace in the world	Self-Control  To be disciplined in my own actions
Contribution  Having a sense of accomplishment and to make a lasting contribution in the world	Piety  Acting consistently with my religious faith and beliefs

Problem Solving Figuring things out, solving problems	Competition Competing with others
Helpfulness  To be helpful to others	Justice To promote fair & equal treatment for all
Connection  To have close, supportive relationships with others	Humor  To see the humorous side of myself and the world
Responsibility  To make and carry out responsible decisions and meeting my obligations	Intimacy  To share my innermost experiences with others; to fully know and be known by others close to me
Romance  To have intense, exciting love in my life	Respect Being respectful to others
Commitment  To make enduring, meaningful commitments	<b>Fun</b> To play and have fun
<b>Leisure</b> To take time to relax and enjoy	Generosity  To give what I have to others
Compassion  To feel and act on concern for others	Knowledge  To learn and contribute valuable knowledge
Simplicity  To live life simply, with minimal needs	Non-Conformity  To question and challenge authority and norms

Genuineness  To act in a manner true to who I am	Curiosity  To be curious and discover new things
Passion  To have deep feelings about ideas, activities, and people	Beauty  To create and/or appreciate beauty around me
Spirituality  To grow and mature spiritually	<b>Tradition</b> To follow respected patterns of the past
Rationality  To be guided by reason and logic	Growth  To keep changing and growing
Ecology  To live in harmony with the environment	Health  To be physically well and healthy
Openness  To be open to new experiences, ideas, options	Creativity  To have new and original ideas
Adventure  To have new and exciting experiences	<b>Dependability</b> To be reliable and trustworthy
Honesty  To be honest and truthful	Virtue  To live a morally pure and excellent life
Hard work  To work hard and well at my life tasks	Challenge  To take on difficult tasks and problems

This value is very important to me	This value is important to me
This value is less important to me	

## Directions:

- Sort these cards into three piles (very important to me, important to me, less important to me) according to what you value most in an intimate partnership. You're sorting *relationship values*, not values in yourself or in your partner.
- You can put 10 values in the "very important" pile.
- Now, take the cards you put in the "very important" pile and sort those from most to least important.
- Write down your 1-10 ranking.
- Reflect on the following questions.
  - How did you feel as you were completing this activity?
  - What do you notice about your findings? Is anything surprising to you about your findings?
  - Which people, experiences, or cultural identities most inform/influence your values?
  - How do you assess/evaluate the degree to which your intimate relationship aligns with these values?
  - How do you know when your behavior or your relational choices are not aligned with your most important values? In other words, what are your cues that you're "out of alignment"? Think about bodily sensations, emotions, and behaviors.
  - How might remembering your most important values be helpful to you going forward?
- If you are in an intimate relationship, discuss the following with your partner:
  - In what ways are your lists similar?
  - o In what ways are your lists different?
  - What surprises you about your partner's list?
  - How might you incorporate each of your values into rituals, practices, and agreements that support your relationship?
- Consider posting these values in a place in your home so that you can reference them in an ongoing way.