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RED FLAGS

Quick Involvement

- 6 months or less before living together/engaged
- Claims of love at first sight
- Says you are the only one who can make him/her feel this way
- Pressures you for commitment

Unrealistic Expectations

- Compliments you in a way that makes you seem superhuman
- · Very dependent on you for all needs
- Expects you to be perfect
- Says things like, I am all you need. You are all I need

Controlling Behaviour

- · Advises you how to dress without your asking for advice
- Pretends to be concerned for your safety or your productive use of time
- Acts like you do not have the ability to make good decisions
- Becomes extremely worried or angry when you are late
- Constantly questions who you spend your time with, what you did/wore/said & where you went
- Insists that you check in constantly
- Monitors your phone/email
- Makes you ask permission to do certain things

Jealousy

- Wants to be with you constantly
- Accuses you of cheating all the time
- Follows you around or frequently calls during the day
- Odd behaviours like checking your car mileage or asking friends to check in on you

Isolation

- Tries to cut off all your resources
- Puts down everyone you know: says friends are stupid, promiscuous, or accuses you of cheating with them; says family is too controlling, they don't really love you, or you are too dependent on them
- · Refuses to let you use car or talk on the phone
- Makes it difficult for you to go to school or work

Blames Others

- If there are problems at school or work, it is always someone else's fault
- You're at fault for everything that goes wrong in the relationship

Blames

- Makes you responsible for how they feel:
- You made me mad.
- · You're hurting me by not doing what I ask.
- I can't help being angry.
- You make me happy.
- You control how I feel.

Hypersensitivity

- Easily insulted
- · Sees everything as a personal attack
- Has a tantrum about the injustice of things that happen to him
- Totally goes off about small irritations
- Looks for fights
- · Blows things out of proportion

Disrespectful or Cruel to Others

- Punishes animals/children cruelly
- Insensitive to pain and suffering
- High expectations of children beyond their abilities
- Teases children or younger sibling(s) until they cry
- · Doesn't treat other people with respect

Expects Control During Sex

- Little concern over whether you want sex or not, & uses sulking or anger to manipulate you into compliance
- Makes sexual or degrading jokes about you

Rigid Sex Roles

- Believes women are inferior to men
- Unable to be a whole person without a relationship

Dr. Jekyll & Mr. Hyde

- Sudden mood changes--like the person has two different personalities
- One minute nice/next minute exploding
- · One minute happy/next minute sad

Past Battering

 You may hear the person was abusive to someone else they were in a relationship with, they may deny it saying it is a lie or their ex is crazy/it wasn't that bad

Breaking or Striking Objects

- Used as punishment
- Breaks cherished possessions
- May beat on tables with fist
- Throws objects at/around/or near you

Any Force during an Argument

- Physically restrains you from leaving the room
- Pushes or shoves you