

QUESTIONS FROM WEEK 8 READINGS

SocSci200, Spring 2000

MAHONEY

What factors affect the “best alternative to a negotiated agreement” of partners in a relationship? How will a change in the “BATNAs” of a husband and wife affect the outcome of marital bargaining?

HOCHSCHILD

When couples bargain over issues such as “the second shift,” often one partner “wins” while the other loses. These conflicts and the resulting inequities can be destabilizing for a couple. Using the example of Nancy and Evan Holt, what roles do “family myths” and “the politics of suppressing comparisons” play in managing these tensions? What is the link between the power of what Hochschild identifies as a “cautionary tale” and a person’s BATNA?

You should be able to answer these in 1 to 2 paragraphs or 3 to 10 sentences.