

**"POWER BALANCE": ASSESSMENT AND INTERVENTION**

ASSUMPTIONS: - Power is dynamic, not static concept, and always shifting  
 - There is no perfect balance

FACTORS OF BALANCE	ASSESSMENT & INTERVENTION	LEVERAGES/ENTITLEMENTS IMBALANCE
1. Bargaining ability negotiation experience	Interactional vs. judgmental assessment	Ethical issue: termination mediation
	Pattern of imbalance: Characterological or circumstantial:	
2. Access to resources - money - information - support systems	Should there be intervention: - degree and nature of imbalance - what's at risk	WHEN: AN INFORMED/VOLUNTARY AGREEMENT IS NOT AVAILABLE
3. Mental & emotional intellectual factors	When to intervene: timing	Consideration of BATNA/WATNA
4. Physical health		
5. Timing of divorce	How to intervene: strategies/techniques	
6. Legal entitlements 7. Structural factors (relationship) 8. Cultural, racial, ethnic differences 9. Alcohol, drugs 10. Political considerations 11. Gender differences	<u>SKILLS AND TECHNIQUES</u> 1. Form questions about balance: test hypotheses 2. Articulate imbalance: acknowledge in session ("put it on the table") 3. Education/information from mediator 4. Assign reading materials 5. Use of other professionals: lawyers, accountants, counselors - out of session - in session 6. Caucus with parties 7. Control for mediator bias, e.g., family violence 8. Maintain balance between parties	How to terminate and empower parties