

Strife is a bickering, arguing, heated disagreement or an angry undercurrent

**strife** (strif) *noun*

1. Heated, often violent dissension; bitter conflict. See Synonyms at DISCORD.
2. A struggle, fight, or quarrel.
3. Contention or competition between rivals.

Other descriptive words: rivalry, wrangling, debate, provocation, factions

SPIRIT OF STRIFE



*For where envy and strife exist,  
confusion and every evil will be there.*  
James 3:16

Helmet of Pride  
Breastplate of Unrighteousness  
Sword of Bitterness  
Shield of Hate

Hammer of Judgment  
Cloak of Deception  
Boots of Anger  
Speaking Forth Lies

## What doors open for strife?

1. **Lips** (Proverbs 15:1,4; 18:6)
2. **Pride** (Proverbs 13:10)
3. **Debate** (2 Timothy 2:23,24)

## Seven Rules on couples having a good fight:

1. *Keep it honest* ~ Be committed to honesty and mutual respect
2. *Keep it under control* ~ Make sure the weapons are not deadly
3. *Keep it timed right* ~ Agree that the time is right
4. *Keep it positive* ~ Be ready with a positive solution, soon after the swing
5. *Keep it tactful* ~ Watch your words and guard your tone
6. *Keep it private* ~ Don't swing at your mate in public
  - a. Avoid open bold embarrassment or subtle, cutting sarcasm
7. *Keep it cleaned up* ~ When it's over, help clean up the mess. This involves kindness, tenderness, and forgiveness

## Best way to stop a fight:

"When you are beaten surrender ... some adult married couples can be very poor losers. Very childish. All it takes is three monosyllabic word: 'I am wrong' or 'You are right'. When you say this, the fight ends."

James 3:14-18 (KJS) But if ye have bitter envying and strife in your hearts, glory not, and lie not against the truth. 15 This wisdom descendeth not from above, but is earthly, sensual, devilish. sensual: or, natural} 16 For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work. confusion: Gr. tumult, unquietness} 17 But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partial ity, and without hypocrisy. partiality: or, wrangling} 18 And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace of them that make peace.

Words of wisdom & humility:  
"I think I am right, but I may be wrong"