





## One in four women give up financial control

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**ONE in four women do not protect themselves financially in the event of their relationship breaking down, despite 40 per cent of marriages ending in divorce, a survey released today shows.**

The survey by The Heat Group, a leading marketer to women, also found that one in five women say they believe in the "forever after fairytale" and trust their partner implicitly so there was no need to take precautions.

Gillian Franklin, managing director of The Heat Group, says financial independence and security is highly valued by most women, but it seems "the veils of romance cloud pragmatic vision".

"It is true that few couples buy a property with the intention of a relationship breakdown, however, the cold hard reality is so many relationships do," Ms Franklin said.

"Legally binding documentation, whilst somewhat clinical and boring can save a huge amount of financial heart-ache in the long run."

The survey found that 65 per cent of females say they believe property is a good investment but they either couldn't afford to purchase property on their own or believe a property purchase will cement their relationship further.