



SpousalConsolidation.DoUsPart!

We are dedicated members of our society stuck in loans that leave few options. Some of us are **tied to abusers** through these loans. Some of us have **uncooperative former spouses**, leaving us to pay the full balance of our shared loans. Some of us are public service workers, dedicating our lives to improving the lives of others. We all seek **freedom to choose** how we manage our loans and the right to separate these loans.

Our combined payments, to date, comprise 80% of our combined original balance, yet we still owe 136%.

97%

were not aware of Congress's intent for impending program abandonment in 2006

34%

are tied to their former spouse or abuser only through this loan

84%

were unaware of the distinction between Direct & FFEL programs during consolidation



A generation of borrowers

40+

Raising children, sending children to college, caring for aging parents and retiring

We wish to have the **Joint Consolidation Loan Separation Act** passed into law. Many of us are seeking **freedom** from former spouses that are uncooperative and/or abusive. **This bill does not provision student loan forgiveness, but rather allows two comakers of a Joint Spousal Consolidation Loan to split the loan into individual loans based on their respective loan portions.** It would give comakers freedom to separate from abusive/uncooperative spouses, freedom to choose who manages loans, and freedom from inept loan service providers. It would finally sunset an abandoned program and administrative headache in its entirety.

**budget neutral
bipartisan
bicameral
common sense**

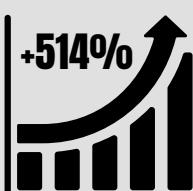
Joint-spousal consolidation loans, (FFEL & Direct) are a unique form of hell. They remain **a rusty shackle that binds former spouses and victims of abuse, permitting financial abuse to persist well beyond divorce**. In a majority of cases across our group, the victim has been left footing the bill of their former abuser. **The Reauthorization of Violence Against Women Act statutes the term 'economic abuse', but there is nothing to dissolve these loans.**



...The bottom line is this spousal consolidation has kept me bound to my abuser. These loans have continued to be an avenue in which my abuser continues to intimidate and abuse me. The government has allowed this with no solutions. They have forgotten me."
~Jen, SpousalConsolidation.DoUsPart! member

Congress instituted this program in 1992 as a student debt solution to ease management and affordability for student borrowers. **In 2006, Congress abandoned this program to avert default risk due to divorce rates.** While Congress, servicers and investors walked away from the risk, borrowers were left strapped to it and with no recourse in a proverbial policy vacuum.

1995 - 2005



SOLICITATIONS BY LENDERS VIA PHONE
2000 - 2005

85%

MEMBERS WERE ADVISED BY LENDERS, DoE & PRIVATE LENDERS TO DO JOINT CONSOLIDATION

91%

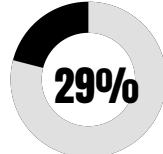
At age 40+, cannot grow their retirement & liabilities > assets

84%

Cannot budget and save for the tax bomb from IDR forgiveness



**DEFAULT(ED)
OR EXPECTED**



**BANKRUPT(ED)
OR EXPECTED**

These loans hold financial liberties captive and prevent any real reprieves for any spousal consolidation borrower, thereby minimizing access to the 'American Dream' and forcing debtors into legal, financial and physical peril and compromise.

There are **26,526 unique joint consolidation loans** carried by **14,782 unique borrowers**. They have been plagued with high default risk.

Statistics are results of the SpousalConsolidation.DoUsPart! Who We Are Survey.

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