

Till Debt Do We Part...



Did you know that African Americans are huge consumers? In fact, an August 2021 article at McKinsey.com stated that we accounted for \$835 billion in consumer expenditures in 2019.

And while that's impressive, there's another side of that consumerism that can derail plans to achieve FIRE...uncontrolled debt!

You may think I'm the purveyor of bad news, but knowledge is power; and I want to help all VSU FCU members avoid major financial pitfalls. But especially our Millennial and Gen Z members. So just what constitutes uncontrolled debt?.

Basically, it's the inability to meet your ongoing expenses. Uncontrolled debt can include paying high interest rates, poor financial management skills, and excessive spending. If you find yourself in any one of these situations, do not despair! Recognizing a weakness is the first step in addressing it.

The benefits of controlling debt, and not letting it control you, are many; that even covers improved health and a brighter outlook on life in general. Good debt management improves your credit score, lowers insurance costs (think auto, rent, and homeowners' insurance), and helps you gain greater access to prime rates and avoid predatory lenders! And let's face it, the stress associated with poor financial management can make life miserable.

Don't forget, VSU FCU is here to help you navigate all aspects of your financial life. If you're enjoying reading my blog, let me hear from you and let me know how the credit union can become your partner for life! Email me with your comments at katrina.peerman@vsufcu.org, I'd love to hear from you!