

Dating & Romance

by Ron Louis

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As the statements of our interviews make clear, people involved in BDSM are well aware of the hazards inherent in what they do and take care to anticipate them, to understand them, and to avoid them.

People involved in BDSM make a real and absolute distinction between explicitly consensual acts between adult partners for their mutual pleasure and all of acts of violence against non-consenting partners. Imposing any sexual activity on a reluctant partner is morally offensive; imposing it on an unwilling partner (or upon anyone who cannot give legal consent) is a criminal offense. Further, state laws vary: Some of these activities, even between consenting partners, are illegal in certain jurisdictions.

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Romance and Dating

Romance and dating go together. They move as one unit. What is it that each of us look for in a date? Is it the instant connection; the feeling of lust building by the moment? Or is it the combination of language and expression?

I had hoped to find some solution to men's dating quandary (Where to meet women? What is the best way approach them? And what do they want out of a date?). Of course, I didn't find the formulaic approach I hoped for. I got tangents, half-truths, everyone's opinion and contradictory theories. It made dating even more confusing.

As for romance, that is even more difficult to quantify and determine. Once you strip away the traditional notions of flowers, candy, and candlelight dinners, what is underneath? Why do such things make a woman's heart sing so beautifully? And what else has the same effect?

The interviews presented trends to me in both categories. After dozens of attempts, I can now explain several things women have suggested men do and don't do. I can personally vouch for many of them. Trust me.

This chapter focuses on what women want. It gives the intellect room to blossom and expand. What follows are short summary's from interviews on confidence, romance, communication, and random advice for men.

CONFIDENCE

Confidence is what 90% of the women mentioned as THE key quality that attracts them to a man. It is not only the way in which men talk to women, but rather in the confidence in their own lives. Older men, for example, were frequently mentioned as having the inner strength to talk to any woman, any time. "Nice guys" might get women to talk with them and be friends, but in the end they won't get them in bed.

Confidence can take many forms and shapes. Like when a man knows who he is. He acts with no hesitation, and carries himself accordingly. He speaks his mind, keeps his word, and is willing to pay the price to be accountable.

Women also perceive a man as confident when he has a stable career, or he is driven to further his career. Drive is displayed by focus, concentration, determination and a need to better himself.

ROMANCE

Being romantic is another biggie with the women interviewed. Romance is the thought behind the action, not the action itself. It is a quality of being attentive, not necessarily giving material possessions. Romance can be perceived as appreciation. Giving her flowers because it warms her heart; just as a token of your affection.

A foundational quality of romance is a woman feeling comfortable and safe. This is often a function of having an open heart, being funny, and displaying thoughtfulness.

UNDERSTANDING WOMEN 101: THE RULES OF WOMEN

These "Rules of Women" are generalizations--you will, of course, be able to find women who are exceptions to these "rules." Don't worry about it. The bottom line is, your interactions with women will go more easily if you act as though these rules are true.

• Men often relate to women like they are screwed up men.

Women are not just "screwed up men," or "illogical men." They are women. If you relate to women as if they were just screwed up men, you'll always be trying to fix women and always be trying to make them act the way you wish they would act (that is, the way you would act).

• Integrity

Women do not have integrity the same way men do. While men are more likely to have integrity to their word, women are more likely to have integrity to their feelings. This means that if a woman's feelings tell her to do something that is contrary to what she said she'd do--such as showing up for a date-she's likely to do what her feelings tell her to, rather than to follow her commitment. Another way to say this is to say that women are, on the whole, more committed to doing what their emotions tell them than they are to keeping their word. Don't let this drive you crazy. It's not bad, just different than the way you are.

• Changing their minds.

Women want to be able to change their minds as much as they want, whenever they want, for whatever reason they want or for no reason at all. This may seem crazy or illogical to you, but remember--she's following her feelings, not her verbal commitments.

Women use hints and innuendoes to tell you what they want.

When you interact with women, don't expect them to be direct with you about what they want. Once again, this isn't being screwed up, it's just a difference between the ways men and women do things. This means that when you ask women what they want, you should provide a menu of options, rather than expecting her to generate anything.

• Women want life to be an unending date.

Women want things to be romantic, and in some ways prefer an emotional roller coaster to things being calm. Another way to say this is to say that woman have a wide emotional range, and want to express it fully.

• Women can be surprisingly mean.

Many men who've gone through a divorce have found out how surprisingly mean women can be. In some ways this is because women are more invested in the concept of "fairness" than men are. While you don't expect life to be fair, and don't think about it much, the women in your life very well might. So if you feel shafted, you might not do much about it...but if a woman feels shafted, often she feels it's "only fair" for her to even the score and take revenge.

• Women often start, steer and end relationships.

From time to time it's useful to consider the possibility that women date you when they want to, and get rid of you when



they want to, and will set you up to be the "bad guy" when they are ready for the relationship to end. Warning: this is not an excuse to be a jerk, and then to say, "She must have wanted it that way." It's simply a useful perspective to take from time to time; you are still responsible for your actions.

Women want what they want when they want it because they want it.

Asking a woman why she wants something, or, even worse, why she doesn't, is always a mistake. She wants it because she wants it. Which, when you think about it, is basically true for you, too. Give her the space to want what she wants when she wants it because she wants it, and don't let it drive you crazy if it doesn't make sense to you.

Follow these rules and women will be much less frustrating to you!

RANDOM ADVICE FOR MEN

Be present with her and make your interactions with her personal, not generic. Don't just "bullshit" her. Give up controlling the situation. Pay attention to her, and truly listen.

Sincerity is essential. If you lie, she will know.



Don't take sex and dating too seriously. Have fun, and free yourself up in the process.

On a date don't be a Doubting Thomas. Focus on what IS working.

There is a paradox in being attracted to a woman and showing her you are interested, and then not being too forward or overly sexual.

More times than I can count, women mentioned bad hygiene as a turn off. Most had dated, or been approached by, men who smelled badly and dressed sloppy. They all found it to be turn off. Men should be aware of this. Another complaint from women, was that many men seem desperate. Women all find that a turn off. One woman said, "I don't want some wimpy needy boy who is looking for his mommy." It is confusing. Men need to be strong and sensitive, but not desperate.

Many women commented that they enjoy being pursued. They like the courting process. They like the open flirting and excitement that goes along with it. Ignore all you have heard to the contrary.

Do what you do, and be yourself. Find your own path. Be sexual and date in ways you feel comfortable. Constantly act as if you are the man you have always wanted to be.

Lots of guys don't know when a woman is giving them signals they are interested. Here are a few: eye contact, smiling, giggles, open body language, joking, touching you, and glassy eyed looks.

Many women suggested that men listen to them more. Listening is an expression of caring. It is be an access to intimacy.

In terms of meeting a woman, do the things you would normally do anyhow. Find a woman with similar interests so you have mutual ground to stand on. Some possibilities include; join a book group, the gym, rock concerts, and coffee shops. Go anyplace that truly interests you, and the women will follow.

On the date, take her outside of her normal realm. Go someplace "special." •

NAME: Jane

AGE: **41**

CAREER: Waitress

RELATIONSHIP STATUS: Living with boyfriend

What are some pickup lines that work well with you?

I don't think lines work that well. What works is rapport, and eye contact is really critical. Somebody who isn't afraid to look at me while he talks to me is important. It's a good sign that a guy is attracted to me.

What do you find attractive?

Self-confidence is really important to me, more important than appearance. Another thing that is attractive is someone who is attracted to me and shows it.

How does he show it?

By paying attention to me and flirting with me. Also, when they act like they are really interested in me and they want to get to know me. I notice when their pupils dilate a little bit when they look at me. The guy also has to have a heart, a big heart. And he can't be a pathetic whiner. That is the biggest turn-off.

Does showing heart make you trust the guy because you think he is a good guy, or do find it sexy, like you want to sleep with him because he is so sweet?

It is a definite turn-on. For me another turn-on is someone who is psychologically perceptive and fun, but not like a comedian. Also, someone who is a risk taker and takes risks in conversation with me, like he might reveal some personal thing about himself. I like them to reveal personal information to me. Fun is also really sexy.

What is the shortest elapsed time you have had between your meeting a guy and sleeping with him? Some of my readers want to know how to score in the fastest possible way.

I'm not really a fast girl. I'm sure it is a matter of at least days and even weeks. To me, some of the best part of lovemaking is the anticipation and the building of sexual tension and chemistry in the relationship. Even if I am really attracted to a guy, I will never sleep with him on the first or second date on general principle, because it would take away some of the fun for me.

On a typical first date, what do you do with a guy?

I would make out passionately. I probably wouldn't remove any clothes.

So the easiest way to get you into bed is to know you over time, be really flirtatious, to go slowly? To have sex with you, a guy would have to wait three or four dates. I'd have to work over time to get you.

Yes, and you have to move at my pace and establish rapport with me. I have to feel like I am not just a benchmark, that there really is something about me in particular that really turns you on.

Maybe there is a way I could move through all of your criteria quicker than you think. Maybe you could finally have sex like you have desired all your life.

I just really disagree with what you are saying. Maybe some other guy will woo me and charm me, but you are definitely not getting in my pants tonight.

We will see about that. Do you want a guy with lots of money to shower you with gifts and prove his love to you?

I am not that attracted to guys with money. If they have it, great, but it isn't necessary. I am much happier if a guy displays his affection through touching me and wanting me.

I read a book recently that described a theory from Neuro-Linguistic-programming (NLP), about how people have different strategies of how they feel loved. Visual people want a lot of gifts and want to be shown that they are loved and taken lots of places. A more kinesthetic person wants touch, and auditory people want to hear their partners compliment them and sweet-talk them.

What advice do you have for men on what to say to women, and how can they start a conversation that leads to sex?

Attitude is really important, but it's hard to define. I think women want to be appreciated. It is important for a man to act like he is genuinely attracted to a woman trying to score or objectifying her. If you are, she is likely to pick up on it. I think you can just be genuine. It's a paradox, because you are trying to pick her up, but not in some jaded or cynical way.

You don't have to say anything profound or amazing. You can just begin a conversation about some ordinary thing that is going on, like the decor of a restaurant, or whatever. It doesn't have to be that profound; that is a mistake many men make. You can even ask some open-ended question.

What would a guy do that would turn you on?

Before I answer that, I'm going to share a little piece of advice with your readers. This goes back to self-confidence, and I call this the "piece on the side theory." One way to have a lot of confidence and to feel attractive is to know that there is someone in your life that likes you enough to fuck you. You don't necessarily have to be in love them or be in a relationship with them. This can just be a friend, or someone who likes you but you aren't madly in love with. Once you have this person in place, it takes the edge off. You don't have that desperate sense when you go out to meet a woman. It is a good way to keep yourself confident and to confirm your attractiveness and desirability.

In a nutshell, go out and fuck whomever you can get your hands on. It's recreational sex and it will help your attitude.

The other thing that is a trap is the myth of serial monogamy, or the feeling that you can only pursue only one person at a time and you immediately stop seeing everyone else. Not everyone does this, but most people do.

I was talking to a guy today who had just started dating a woman, and his mistake was that he stopped seeing all other women and only focused on her. In the end she dated someone else. He clearly should have kept his options open. He was dating only one woman and he should have had a few options.

But we are focusing on how a guy can score. What is it going to take for a man have sex?

I don't think there is a formula. Almost everyone likes surprises. Someone who takes me outside my ordinary realm of existence is definitely exciting. If you can do that, you have an edge over someone else. In my life the only time I had a one night stand, the guy didn't take me anywhere.

Does bullshitting and smooth talk work with dumb women?

Often, when a guy thinks he is bull-shitting a woman, one of two things happens: either she is a victim and she falls for it, or she is playing the biggest game on him. He might get laid, but he may also get just totally fucked with emotionally, financially and in other ways. There are a lot of very dangerous and manipulative women out there.

What are the common turn-offs and mistakes that men make?

The biggest turn-off is a pathetic whiner. I have several examples. Most men know what I am talking about. Men need a level of confidence to bag a woman, so insincerity is a turn-off. Women are used to that and they screen for insincerity. Because men have such a strong sex drive, and women feel like they are constantly getting hit on, they screen for insincerity.

What are some other pet peeves?

Men who grab my ass while they interview me. Being tight with money is another, but the biggest one is the pathetic whiner.

What other advice do you have for men who want to have one-night stands?

One thing is not to be ashamed of wanting to get laid, not being ashamed of your sexual desires. Being really honest with yourself is important. You don't have to be totally honest with a woman, but be honest with yourself about the fact that you want a sexual relationship.

A lot of men seem to have shame about that desire and they fuck with themselves and women. These guys try to act asexual when they are really feeling horny, and when it really comes out it seems unexpected. A woman will be angry if you give her mixed messages. So the answer is to be a flirt, be appreciative of her beauty and sexuality. Focus on what you want from her. Have some balls, don't act like some asexual father figure or some feminist guy from the very beginning. •

NAME: Megan

AGE: 19

CAREER: Caregiver for elderly

RELATIONSHIP STATUS: Boyfriend

Is confidence important to you?

I like a guy who is confident in himself yet tender. I like someone who is willing to open up to me and cry and say, "I need you here." Yet, I like a guy who can hold me tight throughout the night when I am having a bad night. Or a guy I can wake up at 3:00 a.m. and tell him about a nightmare I've had.

Is the "bad boy" image a turn on for you?

I've been through that phase. However, I make sure they have a wild side. I've never dated a guy who didn't have a leather jacket and a bike. Also, at one point or another, all the guys I've dated have been in the military. I've dated a lot of guys, starting when I was 12.

What about shy guys?

Shy guys are interesting, but they don't know what they want most of the time. Shy guys come up to me and don't say anything. It is not until they have had at least three beers that they will even talk to me. Once you get them talking they are fascinating, but guys who are more open and more aggressive are more attractive. The first thing my current boyfriend said to me was, "Your eyes are beautiful," and he didn't look down at my breasts or anything.

Do you like to be romanced?

I love romance.

What would be the ultimate romance to you?

The ultimate would be to have a man sweep me into his arms on the spur of the moment just because he wants to. He would pick flowers for me on the street and say, "Because I love you, because you are my darling."

Ultimate romance would be in a rose garden having a picnic with soft violin music, Enya, or Nine Inch Nails. I would want him to talk to me as we lay on a blanket. Romance is to kiss and hold each other under the stars with a bottle of red wine and pieces of fruit, feeding each other. I love to play like kids and yet be lovers. That to me is very romantic.

What advice would you give a guy who just wanted to have a one-night stand?

I would tell him to go up to a woman and say, "I don't want a relationship with you, but I find you extremely attractive. I'd really like to go home with you and pleasure you for one night. I would like to lick you and taste you and fuck you, and enjoy your body and to have you enjoy mine."

Do you really think that would work?

Yes, I've used that line and I've had guys use that line. I've had my boyfriend use that line on other women.

What is such a turn-off for you during sex that you need to get away from a guy?

When they don't listen to me. When I say no it means no. One time a guy did not listen when I said no. To me that is wrong so I drew a knife on him.

What did you do with the knife?

I put it through his thigh then I got up and left. He was later bandaged up by some friends. It wasn't that bad, it was just a flesh wound. The wound didn't need stitches or anything like that.

Do you enjoy pain?

Yes, I do, I like to be tied up and whipped.



Do you enjoy other forms of pain?

I like to have cuttings done. I usually use a lancet. It is like a straight-edged razor blade, but it's for medical use so it's been sterilized. It's like a paper cut with a pattern. It just scratches you and then you bleed and have a scar.

Do you have scars all over your body?

I have some, but I take really good care of my body and make sure I heal well. I don't get scars where people can see them. I have a tattoo on my back.

What would be your ultimate lover?

My ultimate lover is someone who can pick me up and slam me against the wall and fuck me. He is also someone who will eat me out until I scream or fuck me in the ass. The ultimate lover is very forceful, and gentle and caring at other times. He will tease me, kiss me and hold me. He doesn't have to have a huge dick, he just has to know how to use it. Of course it is nice to feel something big inside me, but nine times out of ten, guys with the bigger dicks don't know how to use them. They also have to be able to deal with fingernails dug into their back, because I have one-inch nails.*

NAME: Lisa

AGE: 27

CAREER: Software programmer

marital status: Single

How do you feel when men approach you?

It depends on how they approach me. If they are nice and pleasant and considerate, then I'm flattered.

If a man approached you and you were interested in him, would you give him your phone number?

I definitely would not give him my home phone number. I live in New York, give me a break. I'd either take his phone number or give a work phone number and work it like that. I don't give out my phone number because you just can't do that where I live. If I felt really comfortable with the guy I might give him my work phone number.

What would a guy say that would impress you?

He'd obviously have to say more than a line. I would need to have a nice conversation with the guy and want to get to know him. If he approached me and started talking to me, he could talk about himself. I'd rather he didn't talk about me.

I realize that part of what will get me every time is if someone will pay attention to me. Pay attention to me and look me in the eye when you talk to me, those are the major things. If he seemed normal, I would consider going out with him. If I was attracted to him, sex is always part of it.

When you are dating a guy do feel like you control sex?

Now I do. The first couple of times I didn't, but I will never do that again.

How do you control sex?

I control the speed it happens and whether or not he is going to get that part of me. In general, I think women definitely control sex because there is so much of a taboo at this point on rape and date rape. Guys are watching their step so carefully that I think women have the control now.

How are you manipulative?

I'm not so much manipulative with men in general, it's more specific people. I can arch my eyebrow in just the right way to get them to feel bad enough and do whatever I want them to do.

Do you ever make the first move?

Yes, I am notorious for it. I start kissing a guy, or I might just grab a guy. Once, I wrested a guy to the floor because I wanted this guy so badly and I was getting nowhere with the subtle signals. I finally just pinned him down and kissed him. Sometimes you just have to be that way because they are being so careful.

If I wanted to have sex with you tonight what would I do?

There would have to be an extreme level of attraction or a lot of alcohol, preferably both. If it's a one-night stand he's got to have a lot to offer. I mean that physically and in how he satisfies me. Sex is the one area where I don't go out with doorknobs. The men that I sleep with are confident, outgoing and attractive.

What do you think guys need to know about having one night stands with women?

The biggest thing men need to realize is that sometimes sex is just sex and this applies to women too. The next morning, most guys are like, "Oh my god I think we have a relationship now." For me it's like, "No honey, you can leave now " It's a two way street. There are a lot of women with huge sex drives out there. Women are ten times as raunchy in conversation about men than you can ever imagine.

I have a theory that men are the romantic ones. Everyone always thinks that women are the romantic ones. Women are always the ones being cast as the sensitive emotional types. It's true, we probably are more ruled by our emotions, but it doesn't necessarily mean we are more romantic. I think its all a big scam.

I think men are the romantic ones since they have such a romantic or overly romanticized view of what a woman is. They think a woman is this soft and flower kind of romance novel. When it comes right down to it we are much more practical than men. In a romantic relationship, women are ten times more practical.

The other half of the theory applies to why men fear commitment. They fear commitment because they have much more of an idealized view of what a commitment is. For men, a commitment to a woman means that they are going to make this woman the center of their universe. She is like the end all and be all and this is going to be the person they are going to love forever. Everything revolves around her and they even put her up on a pedestal.

The reason why men are so skittish when they are making a commitment is because they want to be sure they are making the commitment to the right person. Whereas women, in contrast, view it as much more a partnership or an enhancement of their life not an end all and be all. For women, relationships don't mean that they necessarily loose the rest of their lives. Women are more practical in this sense than men. I think men need to realize that if they put a woman on a pedestal she will fall off.

What do men need to know about having one-night stands?

If men want to have one-night stands then they definitely have to project the confidence. Men need to be like, "Ok I can give you such a night." The best line ever given to me was given to me by this guy who came up behind me and whispered in my ear with the utmost confidence, "I want to make wild passionate love to you all night long," that was amazing. It was really effective with me because the guy was so confident. The confidence in what you say to a woman is everything.

With my last couple of one-night stands I talked to the guy for at least a couple of hours of working it, there was definitely a spark. If you want to get laid tonight you need persistence, patience, focus and attention. Having those qualities will definitely pay off. •



NAME: Terri

AGE: 20

CAREER: Hotel manager

marital status: Single

What is romance?

Romance to me is candlelight dinners, or a walk on the beach. A walk in the park under the stars, or being alone at home with the person cuddling, things like that.

How do you feel when those things happen?

I feel good. It makes me feel more loved and wanted than any other thing like going out. Going out and doing things is fine and fun, but romantic things make me feel like the man is taking time to care and to show me his emotions and feelings.

If you were giving advice to a close male friend about dating, what would you tell him to do?

First of all, I would tell him to be straight up and honest with the woman. He should tell her exactly what he wants. Don't play games with her. Show her you are serious.

Look at the person. I can't explain the look, it would be that smile in that look that some guys have. That look that says, "I'm interested, but I don't know how to say it." It's a shy kind of glance and a smile. Flirt openly! If the girl has any sense, she will catch on. If she likes you she will flirt back; if she doesn't, she won't. If she doesn't don't pursue it. If she does, talk to her, get to know her, and find out who the real "her" is. And then decide if you want to take her out and if you do just tell her.

What would your ideal lover be like?

He would be very romantic. He would also have a passionate needy side, like he couldn't wait. He would be spontaneous and sexually dangerous. He wouldn't care what anyone else thought. So, if he wanted to make love outside in the middle of the street, he would just do it. He would be tall, dark and handsome, built well, but not a muscle man. And he would have a nice smile. •

NAME: Shelly

AGE: **47**

OCCUPATION: Vocal teacher

marital status: Single

What qualities do you look for in men?

He has to be very intelligent and open to a very eclectic variety of things. I need someone like myself. I am extremely intelligent, literate and successful in my field. I have tended to be drawn to men who are not as successful as me. In my most successful relationship the man was very successful. He was very famous in his field. He was a brilliant musician.

What qualities do you need in a man to be in a serious relationship with?

I need a man who is responsible for himself not a wannabe. He knows who is and where he is going. A man who already has his profession and knows what he is doing. Someone who loves what he does and whose work makes him happy.

A man who is not happy with his work is emotionally dangerous, because a man who is not happy with his work is usually not happy, period. A man's work is so important to him. If he is not doing the work he wants to be doing and wants to be doing something else, then he is emotionally dangerous to be around.

I just don't want any part of a man like that. He has to be honest and truthful and monogamous. I don't want any more shit about other women. I don't want to deal with it. I'd rather be alone.

Do you go out on dates often?

I don't want to go on a fucking date. I want a partner. I don't want to waste anymore time. If I want to go on a date, I'll go out with someone who is a real friend. I don't want to go on a date, I want to be with a man. I just want to go up to a guy and say, "Hi, do you want to have a monogamous relationship or not? If not, get the fuck out of here." I am just at that point.

I realize that I don't need a man who is my equal. I need a man who is a little beyond me because my equal could become some sort of competition. I need someone who is beyond me.

I used to think things like the guy being on time, telling the truth and bringing me flowers were a big deal. I now believe that if he doesn't do all those things, I don't even want to know him. I don't want to waste my time. He has to be on time. He has to tell the truth. He has to be responsible. He has to not waste my time.

I don't even want to deal with a man who doesn't have those qualities. I don't have any patience left. I don't want to be his mother. Shelly's finishing school is closed. This time around I just want to have fun. If you have problems, deal with them somewhere else.

What are turns-offs in men? What won't you put up with?

I don't want a man with sexual problems. I need someone who is free with his sexuality. I need someone who I don't have to worry about who he is flirting with.

I meet a lot of men who are not generous enough with me. They are stingy. I want a man who likes to be generous with me.

What is your advice for men?

Get your shit together, really get your shit together, do it for yourself. The biggest complaint that women have about men is that they are immature. They don't act like men, they tend to act out like boys. Get over it already, handle it and be responsible. Be in the world and create something with yourself. To me, the men who are the most attractive are the ones who are open and honest and not playing games.

Men and women are different. We don't speak the same language. I think men should take the time to understand



what women are like and what we need. We really do need all the little things taken care of; that's what makes us feel safe.

I really think that a problem with the American male is that he is so irresponsible as a rule, but there are individual exceptions.

I went to seminar where they said that men were supposed to bring three things to a relationship: fun, sex, and clarity or certainty. Clarity and certainty go together, that is what a man is supposed to bring. He also has to be clear. The woman brings vision and that's it, men don't need anything else. He doesn't need to be in a relationship the way a woman does. He needs her vision. Women can see things and men are focused on one thing at at time.

I think the fear of commitment is total bullshit. People can't commit to someone else because they are afraid to commit to themselves. Women are always saying that men are afraid to commit. I don't have that fear. Whatever I take on, I take on balls to the wall. I need someone who will put his chips on the table and play full out. •

The 8 Dating Myths

Let's face it, dating sucks. It sucks to be rejected by hot and busty babes, and it sucks to be alone. It sucks to be so nervous around a woman that you babble incoherently and it is even worse to act like a stud and have her slap you in front of your buddies. To make matters worse masturbation can get awfully unsatisfying after a while, even with the best porn flick or sex toy. So what is the solution? Get out date, deal with the inevitable rejections, have fun, and learn about the machinery in your own head that leads to trouble and failure with women. When it comes to dating, most men are run by myths, misconceptions, and denial of their power as men. Understanding the myths and the solutions will leaves you free to flirt and date women, and more importantly create the sex life you have always wanted.

I have listed a few dating myths that will begin to shed light on your most intimate dating troubles. These are complied from How to Succeed With Women, the best-selling book I co-wrote, published by Simon Shuster in 1998.

So wake up, smell the coffee, pay attention, and you may just learn something. Even if you act like a know it all, we know the truth: YOU DON'T! You have bought into some of these myths and they have caused you trouble somewhere down the road.

MYTH #1

You have to be a politician, millionaire, athlete, or blessed by god to get hot dates

Guys love to believe that they don't have what it takes to get laid. Most men use their lack of success as an excuse for not dating and pursuing the women they really want. These men blame the system, society, social issues, and economic realities for the lack of sex, not the man in the mirror. While being in a position of power or being a rock star will obviously get you a large pool of women to draw from, you too can get hot sex if you heed my advice.

Here is the good news and the bad news. The good news: there are hot and sexy women available to you tonight. After personally surveying hundreds of women; most are looking for a man like you, a normal guy with normal desires and a normal job. The bad news: you have to work to get women. It won't happen by you staying home complaining about it. The point is that you have what it takes to get women when you understand what the game is.

Repeat after me, "Dating is simply a numbers game." You flirt with x number of women and that will result in x number of conversations which will lead to x number of coffee dates which will lead to sleeping with x number. The work for you is to reduce what "x" is. To date means flirting with women and initiating conversations with women. Figure out the number ahead of time and then create a plan to go out and meet and talk to women. The process is simple if you are willing to create a step by step plan and follow it.

MYTH #2

Just be nice and interesting enough you'll get a woman

This is another horrible myth promoted by SNAGS (sensitive new age guys) and feminist men. Believing that being nice and interesting will work is one of the worst ideas promoted over the past 20 years. Do you really think women are looking for "nice" guys anyway? (the answer is an emphatic no). The bottom line is that women want to be SEDUCED and ROMANCED. Most men think that is they like a woman, and she says that he is "sweet," "interesting," or "a wonderful friend," that he is moving the relationship towards romance and sex. This is dead wrong. The reason why is because women will either put you into the category of "friend" or "lover," but not both. When you are nice and interesting a woman will likely put you into the category of friend, but not lover.

If you don't believe this, just look around at all the jerks who have sex with the hottest women. Women certainly are not having sex with these guys in every position imaginable because they are interesting, intellectually stimulating and polite. No, these women are hot and heavy because these men are exciting, romantic, fun, and even a bit dangerous.

The solution: don't give up being interesting and nice. That too would be a fatal error. The solution is to bring out other parts of your personality with a woman. Bring out the romantic part and let that guide you in sweeping a woman off her feet. Get into her shoes and figure out what would turn her on and excite her. If you find yourself spending time discussing fascinating topics, but not romantic ones, change the subject back to her beauty. Memorize poetry and whisper passages into her ear. If you tend to make the mistake of being a friend focus your attention on romance and seduction and avoid the "fascinating" thoughts in your head.

MYTH #3

Be a Woman's Therapist and You'll Get Laid

Along the same lines as being a nice and interesting guy, many men use the therapist ploy to attempt being lovers with a woman. We've seen this myth play out time and time again by desperate fools trying to get laid. The ploy usually works this way; a horny guy is friends with a woman he wants to date. He thinks that if she opens up to him emotionally then it will likely lead to sex. He thinks that if he can solve her emotional problems she will want to date him. Then, to his surprise, things pan out differently. Suddenly she starts to discuss every problem in her life with him. The guy thinks this is good and listens more and more and more to her complaints. In fact, he thinks that the more he listens to her, the better the chances are of her going to bed with him. She starts crying on his shoulder more frequently and even begins asking him to take her out for ice cream, expensive dinners, and even loan her money when she becomes too depressed to work. Now it turns ugly, she begins telling him about her problems with men. Our jr. therapist stays in the role of advice giver and a lowly "friend' to the woman. She dates the jerks and comes to him for advice.

The solution: never be a therapist to a woman. Remember, you are either a lowly friend or a lover, not both. The most important thing in dealing with a woman is to make your romantic interests known right away so she thinks of you as a potential lover, not a friend. When you are become a confidant to a woman she begins to associate you with her negative emotions and negative experiences putting you further out of the running for lover. If you are in this position with women right now, stop being the therapist today. You are wasting your time and avoiding being out in the world pursuing other women. Get out now while you still have a chance.

MYTH #4

There is a Limited Number of Available Women

This is the type of myth promoted by babies disguised as men. This myth is promoted by men who can't get laid to save their lives and then search for lame reasons why. In fact, there is no evidence anywhere to back up this claim. Does the high percentage of divorce and affairs justify this myth? No. Does the high number of single prove that this is indeed a fact? No. Does the large number of personals ads reflect this to be true? No. That is why it is called a myth and simply unfounded. Enough said.

MYTH #5

You Don't Have What it Takes to Get Laid

In their quietest moments, some men believe that there is something fundamentally wrong with them. They truly think some core part of themselves is fundamentally flawed. To this I say YOU ARE WRONG!

It is every man's birth right to bed a woman. After studying this topic in an exhaustive fashion, I have noticed that the size of a man's belly or even the size of his IQ (not the size of his penis) has no bearing on his ability to get women. I've seen fat men with models, short men with sexy 21 year olds, and guys so ugly that they looked like they were beaten with a bag of quarters cuddling with hot and sexy babes. I won't bore you with stories about idiots. You can be a nerd with a pen protector and get



tons of sex if you have the necessary confidence. No matter what you look like women will want you if you demonstrate confidence and are out flirting and dating women. I recently saw an obese 45 year old guy flirting with every hot woman in a crowded bar. They stared into his eyes fascinated and turned on by his confidence and wit. He made no apologies for his size or his ugliness and the women went for it.

Once again it comes down to pursuing women. Just doing it. Here is secret; many models complain that they can't get a date. Many claim that men are too scared to approach them because of their beauty. Be in the small cadre of studs who flirts with the women who you are attracted to and you will be miles above the pack. This is purely a numbers game. Once you begin flirting with 10-20 women per day you will quickly results.

MYTH #6

Getting Women is Too Time Consuming or Difficult

Guys complain to me all the time that getting women is too hard. They act as if dating women were rocket science or that it was as complex as learning brain surgery.

Getting a woman need not be a complicated or time consuming matter. There are simple skills you can learn and actions you can take today that will have you meeting women. For instance, the easiest places to meet women is in bookstores, coffee shops, health clubs, and in restaurants. The trick is to go to these places at the same time on a regular basis. You can then make friends with the regulars.

Another trick is to list out organizations or groups you are part of in which there are many women participants and going to at least two evening meetings per week in which there are women. If you want to stay home then you must play with personals ads in magazines and online.

For the guys who complain that it is too time consuming to meet women, remember that learning any new skill takes time. Once you understand how and where to meet women it will take less and less time. Most of your time will be spent up front finding women and building up your numbers of one night stand honey's and regular bed mates. After that it is all maintenance. I've had students who work two full time jobs at once and still have time to date and bed women. After the initial learning curve they learned the specifics on how to meet women and were do with a minimal time investment.

MYTH #7

Women Know What They Want and They Will Tell You

Have you ever noticed that women will talk about the kind of man that they want, and end up with someone completely different? It happens all of the time. What women say they want, and what they actually respond to, are often totally different.

The bottom line is that women love men who are generative and creative. If they have to tell you how to get them, what to be like, and how to behave every step of the way, they aren't going to be turned on by you. It's your independent nature that gets them going, not you dependency on being told how to be. Besides, some of the traits that women complain about most in men have in them the seeds of the traits women find most attractive about men. In the film "The Full Monty," a bunch of out-of-work male steelworkers decide that they will make their money by putting on a strip-show for the local women. The plan has "trouble" written all over it--none of these guys are particularly great-looking. It also speaks to a basically male trait that women find both aggravating and attractive: men are trouble-makers. They take on silly projects, push them to their limits, and even sometimes make them work. This troublemaking quality is the flip-side of the generative, creativity that women desire so much in men. If you count on women to tell you what they want, and how to behave in order to get them, you short-circuit this creative, trouble-making nature that women love so much.

Women can't tell you what they want in a man--they can only tell you what they think they want in a man. There's a big difference. They also aren't attracted to men who approach as supplicants, begging for the easy keys to melt a woman's heart. Don't fall into the trap.

MYTH #8

Dating Should be Fair

This one myth gets men in more trouble than almost any of the others. If you are a man who whines about how dating isn't fair, and how you have to do all the pursuing of women, you must stop that right now.

I hear it all the time: "Why can't a woman ask me out for once?" "If women really believed in equality, they'd kiss me first!" "I'm tired of doing all the pursuit with women. It's their turn now." Blah blah blah. If it makes you feel better, you are right: It is unfair that you have to do all the pursuing, and that you have to take all the emotional risks by making all the "first moves."

We've even known men who confront women about their not pursuing men. One man named Cameron made it a habit of confronting women who didn't do "their fair share" of the pursuing. He'd tell them in no uncertain terms that, if they wanted to date him, they'd have to do at least half of the initiating, the pursuit, and the emotional risk-taking. "It's the

age of equality," he'd explain to them. "You get equal rights, so now take equal responsibilities!" Cameron didn't have many second dates.

Other men we know just complain about it. They whine to their friends about how women just aren't willing to do the work to make a relationship happen. They complain about how, every time a real risk has to be taken, it's "the man's move." They say they are waiting for a woman to pursue them.

The solution is to get over it. If you don't have the sex life you want, it's your responsibility to get it. It is not women's responsibility to take care of you, and to make sure you have what you want in relationships. Expecting them to do so is just immature.

Use these myths to propel your own seductive desires into full gear. These techniques have been time tested and have received wonderful results from men world wide. Stay aware of the myths that run your sex life and choose the path towards sexual prosperity, it will create the abundant sex life you have always wanted. •



Pickup Lines and Seduction

After a few weeks of studying the hottest "get laid quick" books, and armed with a few splashes of pheromone-scented sex cologne, Michael was ready to get some pussy. He approached the first hot-looking woman in the packed dance club. She seemed like a willing target with her a face to die for and tits that any porn star would be proud of. Any man in his right mind would want to sink his cock inside her. Within a few seconds of eyeing her, Michael whipped out a "proven to work every time" pick up line. His first attempt was the classic, "Your father must have been a criminal because he stole all the stars in the skies and put them in your eyes." Our nubile babe responded with a cold, blank stare. Michael shrugged off the rejection and went back for more. He tried something more mod, more hip, "Congratulations! You've been voted "Most Beautiful Girl in This Room and the grand prize is a night with me!" Our sexy chick looked noticeably pissed off and slapped poor Michael. Without saying a word she wandered off into the crowd.

Are you tired of face slaps, expensive and overrated whores, lonely nights with your right hand, and phone sex bills that induce your next heart attack? Picking up that fine piece of ass in the bar or bookstore can be accomplished with pick-up lines, persistence, flirting skills, common sense, and lots of practice. Unless you are millionaire, a rock star, professional athlete, or just damn lucky you probably need help. Lots of it. I am here to help! I have conducted research on the past, present, and future dating trends and have come back with a cascade of information that will help you move into the new world of dating,.

The art of seduction begins with an ability to create romantic conversations, a freedom to flirt, confidence, and a command of language. Shakespeare was lucky enough to have four. Casanova and Don Juan were able to capture scads of woman's hearts and pussies by the power of their words, body language, romantic skills, and their sheer animal magnetism.

In the good old days, we'd all go out, attempt to get women, get lucky, or go home alone with hot spanking material and that was the end of it. But the world is now a different place that it was 20 even 10 years ago. The world of sex and dating is radically different than ever before. The availability and accessibility of sexual partners is more and more readily available. Today there is an explosion of cyber-sex, hot filled Internet meetings, virtual reality, political correctness as the norm, passion filled sex videos on the rise, personal ads, and a trend toward fashionable singles parties. At them same time it seems easier than every to screw things up with a woman, and the odds look worse than ever.

If you think approaching a woman with sleazy pick lines like the following batch will actually work, you are worse off than we thought.

- "Hi, my name's (your name). Remember it, you'll be screaming it later tonight!"
- "Hi, I'm an astronaut. My next mission is to explore Uranus."
- "What's a cheap slut like you doing in a classy joint like this?"

The first thing to consider in any flirting and pick up situation is to create clear and precise outcomes for every interaction with a woman. On first contact the goal is to break the ice. Second contact is to establish trust and build rapport. Third is to develop romantic feelings. Fourth is to develop a next date or lure her to a place with a bed. The fifth and ultimate goal is to score! Along the way it is crucial that you keep yourself focused on the outcome. Also heed the classic motherly advice, stay calm, cool, and collected.

A big part of the art of flirting is timing. According to master seducer Don Steele, author of *How to Date Young Women*, there are three types of opening conversations with women. The outcome goal and type of approach varies with each circumstance.

Situation number one. The woman will be at the same place tomorrow. This is your typical busty waitress, sexy grocery store check out girl, raunchy meter maid, or chatty cashier. You know where they will be over the next few days or weeks and can strategize to "bump into them" again and keep building the seduction over time.

Situation number two, the woman will be in the same place for a few hours. This is the chance meeting at an event situation. A drunken lady at a friend's party. Working over the cousin at a friend's wedding. Seducing a lonely business executive at a hotel lobby or bar, and so on. These situations require you to strut your stuff and work quickly to win her over. The master seducer will use the lack of time to move through the stages of seduction rapidly.

Situation number three, the woman will be gone in a few minutes unless you say something and make your move. This is obviously the most urgent situation of them all. Waiting in line at the movies or a store is a classic example, as is talking to a woman at a nearby table at a restaurant. These situations require you to move quickly on the rapport and trust. But the commando pledge is useful to remember: Go in, get the job done, and get out. Go for the phone number, email address, or place of work. Better yet, move the conversation to a coffee date. In either case, he who hesitates masturbates.

Here is the low down on pick up lines. Michael Cunningham, a psychology professor at the University of Louisville, spent many years studying the success rate of various approaches and lines. In the 1980's he sent graduate students out to bars to do "field research" and the findings were not too surprising. He found that the direct approach was the best. The most successful line was, "I feel a little embarrassed about this, but I'd like to meet you." The runner-up line was, "What do you think of the band?" Running a close third was the obvious, "hi," this worked nearly as well as the others. I'm glad they are handing out Ph.D.'s to figure this rocket science logic out.



While the information from Cunningham validates my premise that we all have what it takes to approach women and persist in our attempts for sex, other "experts" claim that pickup lines simply don't work. Monica Moore, Ph.D., professor of psychology at Webster University in St. Louis, as quoted in *Sex a Man's Guide*, by Bechtel is one of them. Ms. Monica has been studying courtship issues since 1978 and claims that women have sized you up and decided whether or not they will sleep with you within the first few seconds of meeting. Moore says that the best way to access a woman's level of interest is through body language. The true tell tale signs are the classic licking lips, coy smile, eye brow flash, short darting glances, and her

running her fingers through her hair. She says that picking up women is more of a process than an event. It is a sensual dance between a man and a woman, enticing the other into deeper and deeper levels of intrigue and sexual tension.

While both lines and body language signals work, what seems to be more important is the willingness to put yourself on the line and risk rejection. We've seen guys score with ploys as ridiculous as going up to every woman in a bar and telling them that it is his birthday and won't one of them go home with him. Finally, after being slapped, spat on, and having drinks poured on him, one brave soul took him up on his offer. So what if it was a mercy fuck? It worked.

Now a historical perspective. In the 1970's men everywhere approached sexy disco queen's with lines like, "What is your sign? Do you come here often? What is a nice girl doing in a place like this? Haven't I seen you someplace before? And with all the CB phases, like "What is your handle?" Men attempting these lame lines mostly went home alone. Perhaps doing bad imitations of John Travolta, Saturday Night Fever moves in the mirror while beating off to the music. One thing is for sure, the true kings of disco went home and pussy by the mouthful because they had mastered the art of seduction.

In the 80's with all the horrible haircuts, horrible music, and Pat Benetar look-a-likes there was a pull towards the stupid. Lines like "Are those space pants? Cuz your ass is out of this world," surfaced and we all became a bit dumber.

In the 1990's men, often inspired by illiterate rap stars, or moron heavy metal rock singers, still seem to think that silly, direct lines work. Many women we have interviewed have even been approached with the ever popular, "Come over here and get a taste of America's most wanted." Lines like this are part of a long lineage of adolescent approaches that make any guy using them look like he has a Ph.D. in idiotology.

The most successful men succeed through the superhighway of sex because they are able to seduce a woman slowly through email, often posting romantic, not overtly sexual, questions. They are able to reveal personal information to the woman, creating an environment where the woman in turn, also opens up opens up. The other crucial detail is not to push too hard, too quick for sex. The fact of the matter, which we all hate to admit, is that women are in charge of whether you are going to

bed with them or not. And they control the timing and pace of the experience. If you fail to recognize this and try to defy the law, you will lose 90% of the time.

Personals ads are another trend that we will see continue to expand into the new millennium. They have become a popular and accepted way to meet your mate. A few short years ago the only folks placing personals ads were frustrated swingers, S&M thrill seekers, and other groups too numerous to mention. Nowadays your local newspaper is likely to feature a personals ad section. We recommend that you be clear, romantic, and unique in your ad, avoiding the mundane details of your life. For instance, a typical stupid ad from a guy reads like this, "SWM 44, likes cars, beer, works in a screw factory, and likes fishing." What woman would be interested? An important tip is when you describe a state of mind or a feeling state they will likely experience it as you describe it. So, if you describe feelings of lust, connection, extreme fascination, to a woman she will go inside and experience those feelings. You must be subtle when you do this because women's bullshit detectors usually function like a well-oiled machine, picking up every detail and foul thought in your little head. So, write your ad with mystery, passion, and wildness, and you will get the best results.

Even with all the trends, technology and pickup line tricks, the foundation of dating and flirting will always be the same. It is simply a numbers game and more important is that you go for it 100%. Go for it! Date and approach as many women as possible. It is your job to break down your own shyness, and your resistance to scoring and being a super stud. No matter what your body looks like or your profession, there are women available to you. The true master seducer is persistent and stays on course to his goal. If you take on this attitude and act accordingly, you are bound to be successful and will be well ahead of 90% of the other jerks out there. Good luck on the pathway to sexual success and prosperity into the new millennium and well beyond. •

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