## Hollywood's Most Unexpected Celebrity Couples





By Katie Gray

In Hollywood, anything is possible. There have been many times that <u>celebrity couples</u> became an item, shocking the public and causing a lot of conversation. Sometimes these <u>celebrity relationships</u> have even ended in <u>celebrity weddings</u> and <u>celebrity babies</u>. We tend to take some <u>relationship advice</u> from these celeb couples during their happiest of times.

#### Cupid has compiled five of the most

## unexpected celebrity couples through the years:

- 1. Kylie Jenner & Tyga: This is one of the most shocking celebrity couples in recent years! Kylie Jenner, star of Keeping Up With The Kardashians, and rapper, Tyga, became an item in late 2014. It shocked people because there is a bit of an age difference, as Jenner is 18 and Tyga is 26. However; the cosmetic queen often shares cute photos and videos of their celebrity relationship on Snapchat.
- 2. Blac Chyna & Rob Kardashian: As the saying goes, they're "keeping it in the family." Rob Kardashian, 29, is now reportedly engaged and expecting a child with Blac Chyna, 29. The brother of Kylie Jenner and all of the Kardashian siblings is expected to have a celebrity wedding and celebrity baby with the ex of her current boyfriend, Tyga. Furthermore, Blac Chyna and Tyga even have a baby son together who is one year old.

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3. Demi Moore & Ashton Kutcher: Everybody uses the term 'cougar' to describe a woman who dates younger men. This was a big phase in Hollywood in the early 2000's. The most popular celebrity couple with a big age gap was Demi Moore and Ashton Kutcher. They are 15 years apart, and this made them one of the most unexpected couples in Hollywood. Their celebrity marriage lasted from 2005-2013 and showed us age is just a number!

Related Link: <u>5 Celebrity Couples Who Live Modestly</u>

**4. Britney Spears & Kevin Federline:** "Hit me baby one more time!" One of the most shocking celebrity couples of all time was the princess of pop, Britney Spears, and her back up dancer, Kevin Federline. They married in 2004, divorced in

2007 and have two children together, Sean Preston and Jayden James. They even had their own show at one point, entitled Britney & Kevin: Chaotic that revolved around their home videos. Although this couple split, they showed us how to mix business with pleasure.

**5. Charlize Theron & Sean Penn:** Popular actors Charlize Theron and Sean Penn have each seen their share of time on the big screen. This celebrity relationship began in the winter of 2013. They were engaged a year later and then the following year they ended their celebrity relationship in the summer of 2015. It was fun while it lasted, especially because they used to even watch shows together such as *The Bachelor!* 

Who are your favorite shocking celebrity couples? Share below!

## Celebrity Interview: 'RHOD' Star Stephanie Hollman Says Her Life Is All About Her Family





By <u>Mary DeMaio</u>

In the latest celebrity news, *The Real Housewives* franchise has extended to Dallas, Texas to follow the elite and extravagant social scene. In the premiere season, the women are all very open and honest with the struggles they encounter every day. In our exclusive <u>celebrity interview</u>, Stephanie Hollman shares her secrets of being a stay at home mom, how she balances and brings harmony to her marriage, and reveals her best relationship advice.

### Stephanie Hollman Reveals Best Relationship Advice

In order to stay connected and create closeness, Hollman, and her husband go to therapy once a week. They talk and pray about anything that is bothering them. They also have date nights every Friday to catch up with each other and have some alone time. "Our kids are respectful of that, you have to make your marriage important," she says. Children can sense when everything is not okay, so it is imperative to set a good

example. "Harmony in the household makes a difference in the child's life," Hollman says.

At the end of the day, it all comes down to her children and husband, which are her utmost priority. Hollman and her husband are on the board of the domestic violence agency and they really hope that their children will follow in their footsteps. "I want my sons to treat women respectfully, be chivalrous, and open doors," she says. "I feel like that is lost now. People should make phone calls, not texts." She wants her sons' wives to look at her one day and say thank you for raising such great men. "My life is my children and my family, and as boring as it sounds, it's what makes me happy."

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"Family Comes First"

## Reality TV Star Talks About Authenticity In Celebrity Interview

New to the reality TV scene, Hollman wants viewers to walk away understanding that no one is perfect. She is a stay at home mom with a six-year-old and a four-year-old and she works hard to juggle their lives with the expectations of her husband, Travis Hollman. "I have little breakdowns, my husband and I argue. People need to see we aren't all perfect," she says. Giving up her career as a social worker to have babies, Hollman wouldn't change a thing. "I have always been the girl who never tried to do anything out of my comfort zone," she revealed in our celebrity interview.

She was approached out of the blue to do 'RHOD' and wasn't looking for it. "I wanted to see what I was made of because if I didn't do it, I would have always wondered, what if," she adds. Her friend Amanda Ward had suggested her and Brandi Redmond to the producers, saying she had two girlfriends that are really goofy and always making people laugh. Within six

weeks they were cast. Hollman and Redmond had been friends 10 years prior to the show. "I don't feel like I have to try. Sometimes it takes so much effort to have a conversation. It's not like that with Brandi," she adds. In their friendship, they are dedicated to talking everything out before it leads to a fight. "Our relationship is better than other people's marriages," Hollman says. The reality TV star hopes that it stays that way because she would never want to damage their friendship over a show. In terms of where she sees her career going next, the celebrity mom says that she just wants to live the journey God has for her. "If something comes out 'RHOD' career wise, that would be amazing," she says. Hollman hopes to use this experience to learn more about herself.

Related Link: Celebrity Interview: 'RHOD' Star Cary Deuber
Says Co-Star LeeAnne is "Loud and Obnoxious"

Philanthropically, giving back has always been in her heart and she wants to be able to make a difference in the world. "I was born in a small town in Oklahoma and wasn't raised with the luxuries I have now," she shares. At times, her family members would struggle, but people reached out and supplied them with food when they needed it most. "I am now able to give back in a different light. I have the resources to financially make a difference for these charities," she says. Hollman leads the charitable contribution efforts for her husband's company, Hollman Inc., but she doesn't work directly under him. "Bravo is very colorful. I appreciate that they have to be," she says. Her husband is obsessed with to-do lists and when he goes out of town he writes down what needs to be done. "He is such a great provider. He doesn't care what I spend. I think they were trying to make it like I had an allowance, but it's not like that at all," she says.

The Real Housewives of Dallas airs Mondays on Bravo at 10 p.m. EST.

You can keep up with Stephanie Hollman on <u>Twitter</u> and

# Celebrity Interview: 'Full House' Star Candace Cameron Bure Talks 'Fuller House' & Relationship Advice





By Rebecca White

Her career has come full circle since the Full House star Candace Cameron Bure has reprised her role as DJ Tanner on the Netflix original Fuller House. In our exclusive <u>celebrity</u> <u>interview</u>, the actress talks about the show's revival, her relationship advice for moms with a busy schedule, and her partnership with Unilever to inspire people to change their recycling habits.

# Candace Cameron Bure Opens Up About Career and Relationship Advice in Celebrity Interview

The excitement was palpable when fans first learned that Fuller House would be coming to Netflix earlier this year. The 13-episode series premiered in February and the cast will begin filming season two next week, Bure shared with us in our celebrity interview. But the fans weren't the only ones excited. The cast had been hoping and praying that the revival would develop as well. "It's been so wonderful," the celebrity mom shares. "We are so happy that all of the fans embraced it and enjoyed all the episodes in season one."

Related Link: <u>Celebrity Interview: 'DWTS' Contestant Candace</u>
<u>Cameron Bure Says "Dance Parties" Have Always Been Her</u>
<u>Favorite Family Activity!</u>

On top of the *Full House* revival, Bure is also a co-host on *The View*, acting in multiple productions, and is a busy wife and mother managing a career and her family life. "I work hard, I hustle, and I grind," she says. "At the end of the day, you can't forget what's most important and for me that's my family. For all the moms out there juggling both like I am, work hard but give yourself a break. Just remember that the ultimate legacy is the legacy you leave with your children, not on a resume."

Although the actress is working on both coasts right now, her celebrity relationship with husband Valeri Bure still comes

first. "When we're home and together, it's about the quality time," she shares. "It's just being present and enjoying one another's company." Bure also reveals that they don't have to do anything extravagant in order to keep the marriage going. "The marriage is all about the communication and the love," Bure says.

Related Link: <u>Celebrity Interview</u>: <u>'Fuller House' Actress Lori Loughlin Talks About the Holidays & Her 'Tight Knit Family'</u>

With the summer coming up, the talk show host has recently partnered with Unilever in order to inspire people to make a change in their recycling habits. The star shares that only 14 percent of Americans recycle their bathroom bottles while 56 percent recycle their kitchen items. As a self-proclaimed beauty junkie, Bure wants to #ReimagineRecycling and bring awareness to bottle bias. "All our bathroom products should be recycled as well," she says. "This is such an easy thing to do and it makes a big change for our planet."

Keep up with Candace on Twitter <a>@candacecbure</a> and <a>Instagram</a>.

For more videos from CupidsPulse.com, check out our <u>YouTube</u> <u>channel</u>.

## Dating Advice: 5 Ways to Stop Fighting Over Minor Things — Like the Dishes!





By <u>Josh Ringler</u>

When you're involved in a long-term relationship, you may realize that the relationship has problems which stem from minor things. The small things, like the dishes, cooking, and other household chores, , may turn into big problems that can jeopardize the happiness of your love life overall. The following pieces of dating advice will help you turn over a new leaf and become like a new and seemingly perfect celebrity couples. But, don't worry, there won't be a celebrity divorce, or any breakup for that matter, if you follow these tips to smooth it all out!

## These pieces of dating advice will keep the fighting over minor things to a minimum. Use this love advice to keep your relationship strong!

1. Ignore it: At first, simply trying to let the little things go may be one of your best options. In the media, we all see

the little problems that happen in <u>celebrity relationships</u>, but those are usually sorted out quickly! A great piece of dating advice is to just keep things the way they are and see if they go away before taking drastic actions.

Related Link: <u>Dating Advice: What To Do When Your Relationship</u>
Gets Real

- 2. Find peace, and then talk: Usually, talking about something in the heat of the moment is not a good idea. Remember, a great piece of love advice is to know how and when to communicate the most effectively. Celebrity breakups happen all the time, because little problems, like whose turn it is to do the dishes, escalate and turn into a major problem for no reason. Finding peace and letting the situation calm down before a discussion is crucial. Reflect on the issue, and if it really is minor, address it as such. Don't escalate it into a bigger problem than it really is.
- **3. Don't fight:** This is obviously easier said than done, but if the problem is actually minor, you shouldn't be fighting about it. While minor issues can be problematic in the short-term, it is important to remember that your relationship should be more valuable to you than who does the laundry, for example.
- 4. Make a schedule: If small daily tasks are of the source of your relationship problems, then the best thing to do may be to make a schedule of tasks. For example, if your partner cooks one day, you clean, or vice versa. The dishes can be alternated every other day, and the same goes for making the bed. A really important piece of dating advice is to help each other out, instead of tearing each other down.

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**5. Compromise:** Another idea to consider is compromising and determining what to do collectively as a team. Those awesome

celebrity relationships have their fair share of compromising, so why can't you jump on board, too? If you like to make the bed more than cleaning dishes, then maybe the two of you can trade that off for a day, or even a week. If the two of you are truly in love, compromising is a great piece of dating advice that will keep the relationship stable and the two of you happy for years to come!

These pieces of dating advice will help you keep the minor things from affecting the health of your relationship. What are some of your experiences? Comment below.

## Relationship Advice: Making Marriage Work Like Beyoncé





By Dr. Jane Greer

During the premiere of her new visual album *Lemonade* this past weekend, Beyoncé shared very personal moments between her and her husband, <u>Jay-Z</u>. The <u>celebrity couple</u> have had their share of marital rough patches. The challenge of a successful marriage is making it work with all of the elements of difficulty that arise, whether that be finances, children, inlaws, infidelity, or whatever else might bring a bump in the road to a relationship.

Beyoncé is addressing this important aspect of how much work goes into a marriage in this new album, and she is carrying on with the effort to make her bond with Jay-Z better and stronger than

#### ever.

Beyoncé and Jay-Z share a celebrated personal and professional celebrity relationship, but you don't have to build an empire with your partner to make it worthwhile to preserve what you have together. Even so, this idea of having to work and put effort into a marriage or relationship is often frowned upon, and gets a bad reputation because it takes on this connotation of being a burden, a chore, or a responsibility. It's as though people think if it isn't easy, then it's better to just call it quits and get out.

Related Link: Expert Dating Advice: What Beyoncé's Body Language Says About Her Love for Jay-Z

When Ben Affleck so famously said that marriage takes work, it was like he said something awful, instead of something positive. It reminds me of a couple that came to see me a few years back. Things were difficult between them, and the husband didn't really want to be there. He asked, "Why should I have to work at it? If it's so much work, then we must be in a really bad state. So, why not just end it?" I said, "Okay, you can make that choice, but keep in mind then you are going to have to put the work into dismantling your marriage." I went on to highlight all the effort that would take — dealing with the divorce, splitting up their assets, finding a new place to live, starting to date again. And then, if he was lucky enough to find someone he liked and wanted to spend time with, he would have to hope that he got it exactly right that time so he wouldn't find himself having to work on that relationship one day. He looked at me and said, "Okay, let's work on the marriage." He could finally see that there was no guaranteed easy route, and as I pointed out, nobody gets a pass, so it was worth it to him to try to take his marriage to a higher ground.

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So, how do you begin to work on your marriage or relationship? The most important piece of <u>relationship advice</u> I can offer you is communication. So often there are misunderstandings and one person can become defensive or take something personally, which is not meant to be that way at all. Without talking about it, on both ends, people can begin to feel disappointed and alone. I have one patient who was dating a woman he really liked. Their first few dates were great, but on the fourth date he avoided kissing her goodnight and anything else that would go along with that. She was clearly upset, withdrew and didn't take his calls for several days. He was clueless about why this was happening, and didn't understand what had prompted her cold shoulder. He started to think he had been wrong about her; who needed to date a woman who changed her mind so suddenly? So, I encouraged him to talk to her, rather than just respond to what seemed like a negative situation. I told him that since he saw this as a promising relationship, he might as well ask her what was going on. When he did, she told him the truth, that she felt bad and unattractive when he didn't kiss her the other night. And then it all became clear to him. The truth was, he had eaten a whole clove of raw garlic at dinner, he didn't realize it until it was too late, and he was self-conscious about his breath. She had no idea about the garlic, so she thought he was rejecting her. Once he told her why he hadn't kissed her, she completely understood and even laughed about it. What they went through is a prime example of a couple doing the work. Without being open with each other, their relationship could have skidded off the track. Instead, I am happy to report they are very much in love and planning to move in together.

It is so basic really, but so important. The crux of any relationship is being able to speak to your needs and real feelings in a way that doesn't carry blame. The hope is that you will each understand what the other person is experiencing. Once you are able to do that, you can put your heads together to find common ground and compromise,

eventually realizing that the whole of your connection rises above each of your individual needs. Working on it means being willing to challenge yourself, to push yourself past your comfort zone, to be willing to be open, sometimes trying something new and different, which is not always easy. It means not reacting to the other person, but checking things out with them first. It means being willing to struggle with uncertainty and tolerate the frustration that goes along with waiting for changes to happen, and not knowing if they will. It is about balancing your hope for the future against your disappointments of the past, so you can continue to persevere together.

In the end it is that world and life you have built together that will fuel the effort it takes to do the work that makes it work. The art of problem-solving with your partner takes creativity and brainstorming, and makes you closer because you each feel cared about and supported, which is worth its weight in gold. It can be as valuable as anything else Beyonce and Jay Z create together.

Please tune in to the Doctor on Call radio hour on HealthyLife.net every Tuesday at 2 PM EST, 11 AM PST. First and third Tuesdays are Shrink Wrap on Call, second Tuesdays are HuffPost on Call, and the last Tuesday of the month is Let's Talk Sex! Email your questions dealing with relationships, intimacy, family, and friendships to Dr. Greer at askdrjane@drjanegreer.com. Connect with Dr. Jane Greer on Facebook, at www.facebook.com/DrJaneGreer, and be sure to follow @DrJaneGreer on Twitter for her latest insights on love, relationships, sex, and intimacy. For more on Dr. Greer, visit http://www.drjanegreer.com.

## Kissing Co-Stars: On and Off-Screen Celebrity Couples





By Katie Gray

When couples on-screen become real <u>celebrity couples</u> off-screen, we get extra excited. What could be better than falling in love with a movie relationship, and then learning that it is actually a reality? It's a fairy tale come true when it becomes an actual <u>celebrity relationship</u>! Whether the relationships last or are just a fling, it's fun while it lasts. In many cases, it's ended in <u>celebrity weddings</u> and <u>celebrity babies</u>. We can all take a cue and <u>relationship advice</u> from these cute celeb couples who show us love on and off-screen!

# Cupid has compiled our six favorite on and off-screen celebrity couples:

- 1. Ben Affleck & Jennifer Garner: This celebrity couple met on the set of *Daredevil* and ended up getting married and having children together. They married in 2005 in Turks and Caicos and have three children together: Violet, Seraphina and Samuel. They announced they were divorcing in 2015, but they remain friends and family because of their offspring. Garner has also dated previous co-stars such as *Alias* co-star Michael Vartan, and she was even married to Scott Foley for three years after meeting him on the set of his series *Felicity*. It's true that love can be found on set!
- 2. Brad Pitt & Angelina Jolie: Everybody loves Brangelina! This celebrity couple met while filming Mr. & Mrs. Smith together and caused a big stir, as speculation stirred that an affair happened between the two while Pitt was still married to Jennifer Aniston. They denied it, but in 2006 they announced they were expecting a baby. The pair got engaged in 2012 after seven years of dating and married two years later in 2014 at their estate in Correns, France. Although they were trying to kill each other on-screen, they sure make it work in real life! They seem to have a happy, healthy marriage and children.

Related Link: 5 Celebrity Couples Who Live Modestly

3. Ryan Reynolds & Blake Lively: Spotted: one of the best celebrity relationships in Hollywood started on a set. That's right, lovely Blake Lively and handsome Ryan Reynolds, met on the set of *The Green Lantern*. This dynamic duo started dating a year later in 2011, purchased a home together in 2012 in Bedford, New York and married a few months later. The former *Gossip Girl* star gave birth to their daughter, James, in 2014

and it was just announced last month that they are expecting their second child! Congrats to the happy pair!

4. Ashton Kutcher & Mila Kunis: "Hello Wisconsin!" The costars we all loved on the hit sitcom That 70's Show, Ashton Kutcher and Mila Kunis, are now a happily married celebrity couple. The pair began dating in 2012, were engaged in 2014, gave birth to their daughter Wyatt Isabelle in October of that year and married in July of 2015. They show us that it is good to date for a couple of years to really get to know a person before jumping into wedlock and parenthood. It seems to be working well for them, as they are now happily married and the proud parents of a beautiful baby girl.

**Related Link:** <u>5 Celebrity Couples Where The Woman Earns More Money</u>

- **5. Freddie Prinze Jr. & Sarah Michelle Gellar:** This celebrity relationship is one of the longest lasting in the entertainment industry! Fellow actors, Freddie Prinze Jr. and Sarah Michelle Gellar, met while filming *I Know What You Did Last Summer* and have been an item ever since. They even costarred in the *Scooby-Doo* film together! They were engaged in 2001, married in 2002 and have two celebrity babies together. This celebrity marriage shows us how to make a genuine relationship last!
- **6. Channing Tatum & Jenna Dewan Tatum:** This married celebrity couple met in 2006 on the set of *Step-Up*. They have been giving us major relationship goals ever since. They got engaged in Maui in 2008 and married in a celebrity wedding in 2009 in Malibu, California. The *Magic Mike* star has even been referenced recently in Drake's new album. The rapper, has a lyric that says, "Got so many chains, they call me Chaining Tatum."

Who are your favorite celebrity couples on and off-screen? Share below!

# Relationship Advice: 5 Ways To 'Affair-Proof' Your Relationship





By Jess Brighton

Romantic relationships are often the most significant relationships we cultivate throughout our lives. We invest massive amounts of time, emotion and trust to build an intimate connection and history with the person we care about. Over time, our relationships (and even <u>celebrity relationships</u>) seemingly take on a life of the own. We become just as protective of it as we are of those we love. My role

as a relationship coach is to help couples to protect what they have spent years building together, and help them maintain or rebuild a fulfilling and meaningful relationship. I'm asked all kinds of questions about relationships.

# The two of the most common questions are 'why do people have affairs?' and 'what can be done to safeguard a relationship from an affairs?'

People often have affairs because they've grown apart as a couple, are dissatisfied with the relationship and are no longer getting what they need from their partner. Once this happens, it becomes difficult to be open and ask for what they're missing. They often end up trying to find this missing piece with another person. On my website, I discuss ways to 'affair-proof' your relationship. On occasion, I'm asked if I really have a solution that guarantees a partner won't cheat. Although I don't have a magic potion or pill to keep your partner from cheating, I do have some valuable <u>relationship</u> advice that will help significantly reduce the risk of an affair in your relationship. Normally, I only offer these principles in my workshops, but I want to share them exclusively with Cupid's Pulse readers. So here they are in no particular order: the five principles to help you 'affairproof' your relationship:

#### **Develop A Positive Mindset.**

A positive attitude will get you a long way in your life, and the same is true in your relationship. How you view your relationship and partner is a major component of a happy and successful relationship. This is because you are the common denominator to everything that happens to you in your life. When you're unhappy or negative, so is your mindset. In this case, the way you interpret and respond to everything and everyone is with negativity. I suggest you start a new daily ritual. First thing in the morning, think of one thing that you are grateful for in your life. This will force you to think positive and eventually shift your mindset from negative to positive.

In addition to developing a positive mindset, you need down time to relax and relieve stress. I use the example of an engine to explain the importance of down time. We power through life every day with meeting deadlines, challenges and obligations. Just like an engine needs scheduled maintenance to remain running at peak performance, we too need to schedule down time to maintain our busy lives. To help you maintain your positive mindset, you need to take time to do things that bring you happiness.

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#### Communication.

Effective communication in a relationship includes the exchange of messages through verbal and nonverbal means as well as active listening. Both partners will be more willing to talk about issues when they know they will actually be heard. In addition, it's important to be aware of your tone when you are speaking. Phrases such as 'why do you do this' or 'you never do that' are aggressive. The person being spoken to will feel they're under attack. Instead, rephrase your statements and use 'I' instead of 'you'. Now you're simply expressing your feelings to your partner and not attacking or accusing anyone of a negative action.

#### Don't Ditch The Dates.

Remember when the two of you first met? It was all wine, flowers and romance. Your time together was magical and you

couldn't get enough of each other. Fast-forward to today, and it's a bit of a different story. The wine, flowers and romance have since been replaced with apple juice, deadlines, and exhaustion. Your time now is mostly in passing and spent discussing who will be taking which child to which practice. When you do get 'couple time' the last thing you want to talk about is the two of you or your relationship. These days, 'couple time' consists of planning the week and discussing work, bills and family issues. And what about your sex life? Neither of you can recall the last time you had sex and the times you did, it was routine and took some serious advanced planning.

We naturally become preoccupied with our busy lives, and your romantic relationship often gets neglected. When you stop being intimate and making time for each other, your relationship begins to resemble a roommate situation. I suggest being proactive by planning regular date nights. Even if its once a month, taking time out as couple will help you maintain your intimate connection. Go out, have a few glasses of wine, hold hands, make eye contact and talk about what you love about each other and what brought you together in the first place.

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Be Unconditional With Each Other.

Being unconditional with your partner doesn't mean you're a doormat and willing to tolerate anything in your relationship. It does mean that you appreciate the person at a core level and accept the traits, passions and interests that make them who they are. This is easier said than done. Yes, you're a couple, but you're still two separate people with different views, values and preferences. At some point, you'll upset one another. In this instance, setting boundaries and being honest and open to compromise will assure you remain unconditional and maintain the healthy balance in your relationship.

#### Don't Try To Change Your Partner.

When the two of you first met, you had instant chemistry and could not get enough of one another. Your time together was romantic, carefree and lighthearted. Your relationship progressed and eventually you took the next step and moved in together. Over time, the newness of your relationship wore off and you settled into day-to-day life. Early on in your relationship, you overlooked little things about your partner that were slightly irritating. These days, it's a different story and those once small annoyances are now a big deal and hard to ignore. Trust me, something you find to be slightly annoying early on will only become more annoying and problematic down the road. Maybe it's a bad habit, an annoying best friend, or a philosophical difference. Whatever the case, the chances of your partner changing for you are very slim. The more you try to change a person, the more defiant they become. The best approach is to determine early in your relationship what you can live with in and what's a deal breaker.

So, there you have it Cupid's Pulse readers, the five principles to protect your relationship from an affair. With this knowledge, along with your commitment and teamwork as a couple, you can have the relationship of your dreams! Maintaining a healthy relationship isn't easy, but it is certainly worth the effort after all of the years and emotions that both of you have invested.

Jessica Brighton is your all-American girl, who had a good life and a good marriage, until the 2008 financial crash brought down her relationship. That's when she turned to escorting. And through that, she has gained insight into what makes up a successful relationship. As a former escort-turned-relationship coach, Jessica helps people build healthy relationships.

## Relationship Advice: 10 Strategies to Make Your Good Relationship GREAT





By <u>Josh Ringler</u>

Being in a healthy relationship is a really good thing. Having a GREAT relationship is an even greater thing! Below are 10 pieces of <u>relationship advice</u> that will help you and your loved one go from good to great, and hopefully even better than that. These tips are easy, fun, and will surely enhance the strength of your relationship. Sometimes a relationship will hit that make-it-or-break-it point, and if yours is one

that you think will make it, check out the tips below to really make your love life grow.

# Check out these pieces of relationship advice to sky rocket the greatness of your relationship:

- 1. Don't get stale: Becoming the greatest can take some time whether you're focused on yourself or your relationship as a whole. But if you want to turn your relationship from good to great, a crucial key to that will be keeping things fresh and preventing "old" or "tired" feelings. Date nights with creative date ideas should only help improve your love life and keep things growing.
- 2. Surprises: Along the same lines, an important piece of relationship advice is to keep the surprises coming. One a week is probably too many, but even little things to change up your routine will help. If you and your partner are trying to keep things exciting, surprises are a great way to accomplish that.
- 3. Inside jokes: Laughter is a great way to sooth the soul and to make your relationship shine. Whether it is a funny word or a funny facial expression that only you and your loved one understand, it will keep your relationship lighthearted and easy, instead of serious and difficult.
- **4. Work out any problems that arise:** Problems in a relationship are unfortunately likely to happen now and then. If you have your heart set on working it all out, keep it that way. A great relationship doesn't allow the little waves to sink it. It's important to work out whatever issues arise, and to fight for those you love!

Related Link: Relationship Advice: 10 Tips for Couples from 'The Energies of Love'

- **5.** 'Make communication great again': The level of communication you and your partner have is a great way to determine the level of success of your love life. If your communication is getting stronger, your relationship will, too. If there are talking problems, you may be experiencing some relationship problems, too. So, take this essential piece of relationship advice to heart and work on communicating better.
- **6. Keep working on it:** If you want to make your relationship great, you have to work on it. Just sitting around letting things happen may not work to really get your relationship to where you want to be! Put some effort, time, and care into your relationship and it will definitely become great.
- 7. Vacations: Day-cations or vacations are an effective way to change up the scenery while adding awesome memories to your relationship's collection. Consider going to an amusement park, water park, or even a fun day in Central Park. Find a mountain to go hiking in to get out in the fresh air! Vacations are awesome ways to spend a lot of time together while also indulging in new experiences together.
- 8. Spice it up: If some of the sparks in your relationship are going out, or if there are aspects that have gotten too predetermined, changing things up behind closed doors, or in the way those moments are done can really help to improve the relationship. If the sparks are many, the relationship will be beyond great.

Related Link: <u>Top 5 Pop Culture Celebrity Couples To Seek</u> Relationship Advice From

**9. Family time:** Spending time with the loved ones of your beloved is really a great way to show that you sincerely love and care about their family. Whether it is playing with their

younger cousins/siblings, or having an extended family dinner with their parents, family time is a nice way to enhance how the two of you feel about each other.

10. Gifts from the heart: Feelings are sometimes best shown and not talked about. A hand-drawn card, a bouquet of flowers, or maybe their favorite candy that is hard to find is a way to show that you care. Gifts that come from your heart show her/him that you are really thinking about them and that you want to make them smile! Smiles go a long way in turning your relationship into a great one.

What are some other ways to take your relationship from good to great? Share your thoughts below.

## Weekend Date Idea: Spa Day at Home





By Ché Blackwood. Updated by Brooke Crawford.

Warm weather is on its way, bringing with it romantic outdoor dates in mini-skirts and toe-baring sandals. But first, you and your honey need to leave all of your winter stress behind. What better way to do so than to treat yourself and the one you love to a spa day at home! Keep the day intimate by pampering one another on this weekend date idea.

### Spoil Your Partner with This Spa-Inspired Date Idea

Related Link: Date Idea: Take Time to Relax

Start off by giving each other manicures. If your beau protests, remind him that there is nothing wrong with a man keeping his nail beds healthy. A bonus palm massage will keep the afternoon flirty. Let him pick out a color and attempt to paint your nails. Keep some nail polish remover handy just in case he has trouble staying in the lines. If you're feeling daring, give each other pedicures to get your feet sandal-

ready.

Spend the next hour of this date idea creating makeshift facials with items you already have in the house, like lemons, yogurt, and honey. You can also purchase a mud mask from a drug store or splurge by heading to a salon to experience the pore-cleansing heaven together. If you do stay at home, apply a mask to your partner's face by taking the time to massage it into his temples, cheeks, and jaw. This simple act will leave him relaxed and feeling like he received a professional facial.

Related Link: Taking Time for Yourself

A healthy diet is just as important as soft skin, so be sure to cook a low-calorie meal together afterwards. If you want to keep it light, blend together a mixture of organic berries and Greek yogurt for a delicious smoothie.

Once you are done, take a few moments to meditate with one another. Sit in silence and enjoy the tranquility of a quiet afternoon with the one you love. This <u>dating advice</u> is sure to relax you both and refocus your relationship.

How do you like to pamper your honey? Let us know in the comments below!

## 5 Celebrity Couples Who Live Modestly





By <u>Katie Gray</u>

When <u>celebrity couples</u> are humble and genuine, we feel more connected to them and admire them even more. Whether they have simple lifestyles outside of work, stay low key by avoiding the public eye, or live in an average sized home, we love celebrity couples who live modestly. Our favorite stars in <u>celebrity relationships</u> are more down to earth and endearing when they're living modestly, although they have so much success. We can all take <u>relationship advice</u> from these celebs!

# Cupid has compiled a list of five celebrity couples who live modestly:

1. Sarah Jessica Parker & Matthew Broderick: One of the cutest celebrity couples in Hollywood, for years, has been Sarah Jessica Parker and Matthew Broderick. The actors married in 1997 in a <u>celebrity wedding</u> and have three <u>celebrity babies</u>

together. Although Parker's character, Carrie Bradshaw, on Sex and the City was super into spending money on designer clothing, Parker opts for dressing her kids in Gap clothes and hand-me-downs. Although she has a net worth of almost \$100 million, this celebrity relationship is genuine, which is likely why their marriage works so well!

Related Link: <u>Top 5 Pop Culture Celebrity Couples to Seek</u>
Relationship Advice From

- 2. Princess Kate & Prince William: We all love the royals! Prince William and Princess Kate are living a fairytale, however; they opt to live modestly, too. The proud parents of two even opt to do their own grocery shopping! Also, Kate Middleton doesn't have a set fashion stylist, instead choosing her own outfits and choosing to re-wear an outfit from time to time. Even when you're royalty, you can enjoy the simple things in life!
- 3. Kristen Bell & Dax Shepard: Kristen Bell is famous for playing Veronica Mars and being the voice of Gossip Girl. She is also known for loving coupons and the sales at Bed, Bath & Beyond. That's right; she and actor husband Dax Shepard, enjoy buying things on sale just like the rest of us! Their celebrity wedding was at the courthouse and only cost them \$142 dollars. It's the little things in life that mean the most!

Related Link: Celebrity Couples Who Gave Us Major Relationship
Goals

4. Mariska Hargitay & Peter Hermann: The Law & Order SVU actress, Mariska Hargitay, has garnered the reputation of being humble and down to earth. She and her actor husband, Peter Hermann, are also modest when it comes to finances. They put most of their income in savings for the future and have said they want to be good role models for their children, so they live as if they don't have a lot of money. Although they

earn a swell living in the entertainment industry, they enjoy living low key and showing their children how the working class does it. Props to them!

**5.** Jay Leno & Mavis Leno: Jay Leno, the former star of *The Tonight Show With Jay Leno*, and his wife Mavis Leno have been married for years and choose to live quite modestly. Although he made millions on his late night talk show, they don't spend much of his earnings from that. A big portion of the income that finances their lifestyle actually comes from his stand-up comedy paychecks. A big round of applause to the Leno family for keeping it successful and simple!

Who are your favorite celebrity couples who are living modestly? Share your comments below!

## Pitch Perfect: Skylar Astin Says Celebrity Wedding Will Happen This Year





Interview by Lori Bizzoco. Written by Dena Linzer

Fans smiled, laughed, and adored him in *Pitch Perfect* and *Pitch Perfect 2*, where the charming Skylar Astin melted our hearts alongside Anna Kendrick. But the aca-awesome news revealed during our <u>exclusive celebrity interview</u> last week was that the two love birds plan to tie the knot before years end! Astin spoke to us about his <u>celebrity wedding</u> and discussed his career and his partnership with megabus.com.

# Celebrity Interview: Skylar Astin Talks Career and Upcoming Celebrity Wedding

While planning a wedding may be stressful to some, the New York City native says he and Camp want to have a "very unique and very relaxed" wedding, where everything is calm, cool and collected. The *Pitch Perfect* stars have been together since June 2013 and announced their celebrity engagement in January

2016. While the duo doesn't know the exact date, Astin confirms the pair will tie the knot by the end of the year. The wedding planning is going well and the two are having fun putting together what Astin calls "the best, most meaningful party of your life." Heartthrob and talented singer, Astin is just as sweet off screen as his on-screen character, Jesse in *Pitch Perfect*. He thinks of his celebrity wedding to Anna Camp as "our own love story."

#### Related Link: Hottest Single Celebrity Ladies of 2015

When it comes to Astin's career, the star has a packed schedule, between his upcoming series and movies. But this is exactly what Astin wants. "I love being busy," he shares. He feels fortunate to be at the height of his career. Astin is entertaining on the big screen and on the stage as well, with his experience on Broadway. The star says that he enjoys both while explaining that the beauty of working on Broadway is that you have the freedom to change your character each night.

## Related Link: Anna Kendrick Speaks Out About Celebrity Marriage

The charismatic actor and singer also sees the importance in charity work. "Since I actually have a voice, I want to use it for good things," he says. Using his voice, Astin has partnered with megabus.com to provide eco-friendly travel. Megabus.com is an express bus service that goes to 120 cities, transporting 81 passengers in a comfortable double decker bus. For their 10th anniversary, megabus.com is partnering with Arbor Day Foundation to plant 10,000 trees along their bus routes. They also have a Green Road initiative where they are educating their drivers on driving in an eco-friendly way.

Keep up with Skylar on Twitter @SkylarAstin and Instagram

For more videos from CupidsPulse.com, check out our <u>YouTube</u> channel.

## Dating Advice: 10 Ways to Use Social Media to Snag Your Crush





By: <u>Josh Ringler</u>

Social media is becoming one of the best ways to snag your crush. The following pieces of relationship advice will not only help your love life, but will also help you woo your love interest! Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, and Snapchat can be useful tools in improving your friendship and turning that crush into a relationship! They aren't just mediums for celebrity relationships or for celebrities to show off.

Check out the following <u>dating advice</u>, and get ready for romance!

# These pieces of dating advice will help you turn your crush into a relationship. If you want your chances at love to improve, read Cupid's tips below!

- 1. Show off your talents: Social media is a great way for your mom to show you off to the world, but it does not have to be just for those annoying family members (Sorry, Mom!). Social media is usually the first thing a person will do to find out information about you, and you want to make sure your profile is full of good photos or posts that show off your smarts, skills, and good looks. Photos that show off what you can do can really help to make them realize what a catch you could be. An important dating tip is to realize that what's online is the first indication of what others may think of you, so make sure it fosters the right impression!
- 2. Flirting: Flirting is usually the first step in solidifying a relationship and making a friendship simply more than two people talking. Whether it is just by posting cute tweets, or putting nice things on Facebook, your crush will definitely appreciate the public compliments. That being said, make sure to minimize the amount of "cuteness" you put out publicly, especially if you're unsure of how she/he feels about you.

Related Link: Expert Dating Advice: What is Love & How Do I Find It?

3. Play "tag": We have all been tagged in posts about "three friends who will always be there for you" or in "tag the friend you would want to do this with" posts. These posts are

- a great way to show that your crush is on your mind. Tagging him or her in a post is a cute way to publicly flirt. They will appreciate that you were thinking about them, and that will make them happy. Happiness is one of the keys to snagging your crush!
- 4. Use your personality: Another great thing about social media is the ability to talk about what you are passionate about with a community of other people. Whether it is politics, sports, entertainment, or even social issues, there is almost certainly a hashtag that you can use. That being said, it's important to think about who will see what you say. Your future employers, educators, and your crush will definitely be interested in what you have to say, so here's a good piece of dating advice: be careful! Curse-fueled rants about almost anything will not help your chances.
- 5. Show what you are interested in: Liking a page/photo or retweeting a promotional tweet can be tell-tale ways to figuring out what your crush is into. Don't become your crush and like everything they do, but for example, if you notice your crush is really into a specific sports team, ask if they would like to go to a game with you. If they really want to go see a new horror movie, maybe that could be your next date. While you don't want to seem like a stalker, talking about a tweet or post can keep a conversation interesting.
- **6. Work the camera right:** You can, and should, untag yourself in embarrassing photos to make your profile look as good as it can be. Photos are the easiest way to show off your crush, and vice versa, so the better your photos are online, the better your chances.
- 7. Use the "Like" button: Don't be the one that likes everything your crush posts or likes online, but at the same time, don't be afraid to "like" what he or she posts once in a while! You should care about what they are saying, and if you like what they post, it's important to show it. Be careful

about what your actions online, though. For example, if he or she posts a photo with someone who could be competition, hesitate to "like" it because then your crush could get the idea that you want to be friends and not something more. Don't let the competition get ahead of you!

- 8. Post things with them: People, whether they admit it or not, love to be on social media with their friends. If you and your crush go somewhere, or even take a fun selfie, don't be afraid to post it on any of your social media accounts! If you really want to snag them before someone else does, posting photos on Snapchat, Instagram, Facebook, or even Twitter, with them is a great next step. If rumors start spreading that that photo could be something more, it will get in your crush's head, sparking curiosity.
- **9. Out with the old & in with the new:** Clean up your profile. We all have embarrassing photos and posts from our awkward middle school days and apps like Timehop happily remind us of our past. Cleaning out these photos to not only better represent how you act and look currently, but also to show off the best side of you. You want your profiles to show off your best qualities, and 30 photos of Starbucks coffee may not be the best representation.

Related Link: <u>Dating Tips: Spring Cleaning Your Online Dating Profile</u>

10. **Snapchat Streak:** Odds are if they are your crush, they are also high up on your Snapchat best friends list. Maybe they are even #1, which by the way, is a great way to use social media to get them to be more than a crush. Snapchat streaks are great ways to show others that you are friends and snap each other often, and it is also a cute way to have a *reason* to snap if you need one. It is a great way to become #1 in their heart by being #1 on their Snap!

Did you become social-media-savvy in order to snag your crush?

# Relationship Advice: Why Are Women Attracted to Unavailable Men?





By Dr. Jane Greer

Actress <u>Scarlett Johansson</u> revealed to *Cosmopolitan* that years ago, she was in a <u>celebrity relationship</u> with someone who was forever unavailable, and that was when she hit "rock bottom." She described him as "so attractively unavailable."

Her story raises the question, why are women attracted to men who are unavailable? What is it about the "chase" that is appealing to us? Check out this <u>relationship advice</u>.

Whether you are in high school dealing with a boyfriend who you feel loves you too much, or you're a movie star with people constantly asking you out, or you are recently divorced and getting more calls than you ever did, but none of them seem right, you might be in that funk so many people find themselves in where the men who are interested strike you as unappealing availability-wise, but the ones who won't commit are "attractively unavailable," as Scarlett described her onetime boyfriend. Sometimes the guy who wants to commit to you and does not hide his feelings is equated with the good and nice guy, as opposed to the one who says he will call, but doesn't, and who instead is seen as the romantic bad boy. For some reason, the fact that the guy likes you so much makes you question his confidence and desirability. You might ask, why is he available in the first place? If he were more secure and attractive, wouldn't he be taken by now?

**Related Link:** Relationship Advice: When to Stop Wearing Your Wedding Ring

There are also the possible elements of a challenge or a competition. If someone pulls away and becomes seemingly less interested, then you might feel the need to try to get them back. It can become more about having their love than actually sharing the love with them. Or, if that someone begins to give another woman attention, you might feel jealous and try to take that focus away from the new love interest and return it to you.

### **Related Link:** <u>Four Changes You MUST Make to Avoid Falling Prey</u> to the Unavailable Man

So why do so many woman choose the undependable, withholding man over the one who is ready to profess his love to them? In terms of family dynamics, there is the question of what you did and didn't get growing up from family members, especially mothers and fathers. On the one hand, it may be that you are constantly trying to get what is out of reach. On the other hand, you might be more comfortable with less commitment and emotion in a relationship. That constant chase can also become a vehicle for your self-esteem and believing you are better and greater if you are able to attain the unattainable. In other words, if you can convince a man who is not eager or willing to commit to do so, then you must be extra special, and this can set you on a journey that does not have a happy ending.

If this sounds familiar, and you are constantly chasing your man, or not sure when he might call or ask you out again, it could be time to look at it from a different vantage point and turn it inside out. Why spend your efforts trying to get someone's affection that at best will be inconsistent and leave you wanting more, when you can instead choose someone who will be dependably loving and offer you a true sense of fulfillment? The goal is to feel valued, cared about, and loved for who you are and what you do, the qualities you already possess, rather than having to prove your worth to a guy who is not looking to ever really be fully involved with you. Overhaul how you are going about seeking happiness and security. If you are lucky enough to be with a good guy who does nice things, accept it and believe that you are worth it. Look to reciprocate and build on a relationship with someone who is able to give you the closeness and companionship you are looking for. Try to stop seeing that as boring, and instead see it as rewarding and positive. In many ways it is like developing a new muscle. Do your best to stop flinching and being turned off by nice behavior, and begin to welcome and appreciate it so that you can feel good about yourself, rather than not.

It's important to be aware of these things, if, in fact, there is a pattern in play and you are continually choosing partners who can't be there for you, so you can make better choices in the future. Ultimately you want to strive to try to feel like a winner because of the things you can have, not for half-heartedly getting the things you can't. It looks like Scarlett has finally been successful at that.

Please tune in to the Doctor on Call radio hour on HealthyLife.net every Tuesday at 2 PM EST, 11 AM PST. First and third Tuesdays are Shrink Wrap on Call, second Tuesdays are HuffPost on Call, and the last Tuesday of the month is Let's Talk Sex! Email your questions dealing with relationships, intimacy, family, and friendships to Dr. Greer at askdrjane@drjanegreer.com. Connect with Dr. Jane Greer on Facebook, and be sure to follow @DrJaneGreer on Twitter for her latest insights on love, relationships, sex, and intimacy.

# 5 Celebrity Couples Where the Woman Earns More Money





By <u>Katie Gray</u>

Celebrity couples typically have a steady income. Whether they are in the film, music or fashion industries, they are making some serious money. With that money, they are able to donate to charity, go on luxurious vacations and have lavish celebrity weddings. Some couples even have celebrity babies, which they of course dote on! Although there is wage inequality still happening in the world right now, sometimes the women do earn more in their celebrity relationships!

# Cupid has compiled five celebrity couples where the woman earns more money than the man:

1. Gisele Bundchen & Tom Brady: This celebrity couple is arguably one of the best looking couples in the world. Gisele, a supermodel and former Victoria's Secret angel, earns an average of \$45 million a year. Her football husband, Tom, has a four year contract with the New England Patriots worth \$72

million. There is no shortage of cash for this pair. However; Bundchen does earn more than her male counterpart. Woman power!

Related Link: Gisele Bundchen Says She Knew Celebrity Love Tom Brady Was The One 'Straightaway'

- 2. Julia Roberts & Daniel Moder: Actress Julia Roberts was the highest paid actress in the world in the 90's and early 2000's. The Oscar winner set a record in 2003 when she was paid \$25 million for her role in Mona Lisa Smile. Her estimated net worth is well over \$100 million, and she's also been on People Magazine's list of "50 Most Beautiful People in the World." Her cinematographer husband Daniel Moder, met her on the set of her film The Mexican in 2000. They wed two years later on her ranch in Taos, New Mexico. They have three celebrity babies together.
- 3. Jennifer Aniston & Justin Theroux: Jennifer Aniston will go down in history as an icon for her role as Rachel Green on the hit sitcom *Friends*. She's also starred in countless romantic comedies. Her estimated net worth is \$150 million. She married fellow actor, Justin Theroux in 2015. However; she is the breadwinner in the relationship and has a higher salary! You go girl!

Related Link: Find Out Details About Jennifer Aniston and Justin Theroux's Celebrity Honeymoon

4. Beyoncé & Jay-Z: Everybody's favorite celebrity relationship in the music industry is hands down Beyoncé and Jay-Z. They both have successful careers as music artists and sell out shows. They dated before having a gorgeous celebrity wedding and having their celebrity baby, Blue Ivy. It's been reported that Beyoncé has been earning \$40 million a year and Jay-Z is making \$38 million a year. It seems as though Bey is slaying and earning slightly more! But one thing is for sure, they have no shortage of cash in this celebrity relationship!

5. Jessica Simpson & Eric Johnson: Jessica Simpson first rose to fame as a singer from Texas. Then, she went on to become a successful businesswoman with her Jessica Simpson fashion line, a Weight Watchers deal and was a Fashion Star host. Her brand is a billion dollar brand. Her athlete husband, Eric Johnson is a former NFL star who played for the San Francisco 49ers and the New Orleans Saints. Although professional football players earn good money, this celebrity mama is earning more. They have two celebrity babies together: a daughter, Maxwell Drew and a son, Ace Knute.

Who are some other celebrity pairs where the woman makes more than the man? Share your findings below.

## Weekend Date Idea: Walk for a Charity





By Gabby Robles. Updated by Brooke Crawford.

The sun shines brightly, and the air is a cool. It's particularly enjoyable outside, and charity walks are perfect for this time of year. Throw on a pair of leggings and lightweight t-shirt to take a walk for a cause with your lover. Sometimes, weekend date ideas can get repetitive. The movie theater, a favorite restaurant, or the local art gallery are all typical date night spots. Try our dating advice and do something that will give back and get your heart rate up!

### Give Back With This Date Idea

Finding a charity walk is simple. If one of your Facebook friends is not posting about one, check out local listings on your own. Check your local Starbucks; each store has a non-profit board that often has all sorts of charity events posted.

Related Link: <u>Celebrity Couples Who've Made the World a Better</u> Place

If you want to choose a cause that is close to your heart, search for events related to that cause and see if there is a walk going on. Runs that fund breast cancer or leukemia research and poverty are pretty common. You and your significant other can talk about what charities are important to you. Make it a topic of discussion to deepen your bond and open you up to each other.

Doing a charity walk not only promotes and helps out the cause, but it's also a great way to do a fun workout with your sweetheart. Usually, these walks are at least a 5K, so you'll be able to replace gym time. Even if you opt to walk rather than run, as many people do, you can have some alone time with your significant other and possibly make a few friends along the way.

Related Link: Date Idea: Volunteer Together

Most walks take place in the morning, so end this charitable date idea by heading to your favorite brunch spot to recap the morning and share a delicious meal.

What charity events have you participated in? Share with us in the comments below.

### Top 5 Pop Culture Celebrity Couples To Seek Relationship Advice From





By <u>Katie Gray</u>

There's nothing true romantics love more than following the <u>celebrity relationships</u> of their favorite <u>celebrity couples</u>. Whether they're musicians, actors, designers or models, these couples are artistic. In addition to their booming careers, some of these couples have had extravagant <u>celebrity weddings</u> and have subsequently had <u>celebrity babies</u>.

# Cupid has compiled the top five celebrity couples in pop culture to seek relationship advice from:

1.Taylor Swift & Calvin Harris: Superstar Taylor Swift and her successful DJ boyfriend, Calvin Harris, have been dating for quite awhile now. Swifties are especially excited to watch this celebrity relationship grow. This couple shows us that we need to take the time to spend quality time together, because communication is key. Swift and Harris go on cute date nights and take relaxing vacations together.

2. Gigi Hadid & Zayn Malik: The cutest celebrity couple right now in young Hollywood is for sure supermodel Gigi Hadid and singer Zayn Malik. The former member of boy band One Direction and the gorgeous Victoria's Secret model show us that in relationships, it's good to show support for your partner's accomplishments. During the iHeartRadio Music Awards, Gigi was so proud she was happily Snapchatting Zayn and adding photos to her "story" on the photo sharing app.

Related Link: Celebrity Couples Who Gave Us Major Relationship Goals

- 3. Beyoncé & Jay-Z: The most famous celebrity couple in the music industry is Beyoncé and Jay-Z. The relationship advice we can garner from these performers is the importance of going through the stages of a relationship in a timely fashion. Bey and Jay didn't rush anything, and they gave their relationship the appropriate amount of time to grow. They dated for seven years prior to marriage, allowing them to truly know one another. They then they got married and had their daughter Blue Ivy afterward.
- **4. Mila Kunis & Ashton Kutcher:** Hello true love! These actors prove that you can go from co-stars to soulmates. Mila Kunis and Ashton Kutcher made fans around the world very happy when they became an official celebrity couple. These proud parents show us the importance of raising your baby to the best of your ability. Also, that privacy to an extent is important!

Related Link: Actresses To Look To For Relationship Advice

5. Kim Kardashian & Kanye West: Right now, the most publicized celebrity couple is Kim Kardashian and Kanye West. Kardashian and West show us that we need to dote on our partners and take care of them to show how much we truly care. Kanye is known for giving Kim flashy gifts. In addition, their celebrity wedding was one of the most talked about events of the year. It was a star studded affair that lasted weeks. They are also

the proud parents of North West and Saint West.

Who are your favorite celebrity couples? Share in the comments below!

### Celebrity Interview: 'RHOD' Star Cary Deuber Says Co-Star LeeAnne is "Loud and Obnoxious"





Interview by Michelle Foti. Written by Dena Linzer. Edited by

#### Lori Bizzoco.

The trailer for *The Real Housewives of Dallas* is full of glitz and glam, lively nights out and of course episodes filled with drama. The big spenders and even bigger egos take on the Texas city with their scandals, parties, and unfiltered mouths. In our latest <u>celebrity interview</u> on CupidsPulse.com, we had the pleasure of chatting with cast member and reality TV star Cary Deuber, where we got the scoop on what to expect this season from the Texas bombshells. Deuber, an East Coast native, also chatted about her marriage, motherhood and how she feels about her co-stars.

# Reality TV Star Cary Deuber Gives Us Relationship Advice In Celebrity Interview

New to the reality TV scene, Deuber is a certified registered nurse first assistant (CRNFA), but that's not her only job. She also has a daughter, two step-children, and three dogs, with her husband, successful plastic surgeon, Dr. Mark Deuber. The couple met while at work, where they had a strictly professional relationship but when they found themselves both single, they decided to give it a go. The yoga enthusiast and travel fanatic works side-by-side with her husband now.

Related Link: <u>Celebrity News: Teresa Giudice Says She Will</u> 'Miss the Passion' When Joe Goes to Prison

Most couples would have a difficult time maintaining a healthy relationship working with their spouse but Deuber says they are best friends. "We have a mutual respect for each other. At work he's my boss, at home I'm his," the star says. The dedicated mother feels that it is important for the audience to see that she has a career and a family. "I'm a working woman," she says. "I think it will be interesting for

viewers to see that I'm a hardworking mother."

Deuber explains her decision for joining the cast by saying, "I try everything once in life, that's my motto." The Connecticut native does admit that whenever you put five women together there is bound to be craziness and plenty of "ups and downs." If the trailers are any indication, we will certainly see Deuber in the middle of her own drama with co-star, LeeAnne Locken. "She just thinks she owns the city. I just find her loud and obnoxious," she says calling her a "Dallas Socialite" in the trailer. "If I had to vote someone off the island, it'd probably be LeeAnne."

Deuber considers Stephanie Hollman and Brandi Redmond her closest friends and acknowledges that she has no regrets about her time on the show. "I'm very excited with how all of this turned out," she shares.

Related Link: Celebrity Baby News: 'Real Housewives' Star Kandi Burruss Gets Real About Tackling a New Baby

At the end of the day, it all comes back to Deuber's family and husband which she puts first before anything else. "Making my husband a priority keeps our relationship as great as it is," she says describing her favorite date night by far was the night they got engaged. "It was in Turks and Caicos and we were just laying by the pool and he proposed to me. It was amazing."

The best piece of dating advice Deuber offers for a successful marriage is to make sure your spouse is your priority. "Make time for them, and make sure everyday you're telling them you love them and how important they are in your life," she adds. The philanthropist and animal lover stressed the importance of vocalizing appreciation and having open communication on a daily basis.

In our celebrity interview, Deuber hints that we will be seeing a lot of their relationship on the show this season. "I

call him my backpack, and I take my backpack everywhere with me," she laughs.

The Real Housewives of Dallas airs Mondays on Bravo at 10 p.m. FST.

You can keep up with Cary Deuber by following her on <u>Twitter</u> and <u>Instagram</u> @CaryDeuber.

# Dating Advice: 7 Ways to Subtly Flirt with Your Love Interest





### By Josh Ringler

Flirting with your love interest can be one of the hardest things to do. It can sometimes be awkward or uneasy, but it can also make your love life grow. Flirting is one of the best ways to further your relationship and to make it happen. If you are unsure or nervous, subtly flirting is a good way to see if there is potential! Use the pieces of dating advice below to get your flirt on and bring your relationship to the next level.

# These pieces of dating advice will help you get your love interest to be yours! Check them out below!

- 1. Laugh at their jokes: Laughter is the best remedy for happiness, but it is also a key ingredient for subtly flirting with your love interest. Laughing shows you are focused on what they are saying and enjoy spending time with them. Even if the joke or story isn't so funny, giving it a little laugh will surely brighten your potential partner's mood and make them feel appreciated. If they feel comfortable around you and can share funny stories, that is absolutely a positive sign of things to come.
- 2. Use emojis: Emojis are not just for middle-schoolers or for those Facebook relatives who want to stay hip. They are a great way to enhance a conversation if you use them correctly. An important piece of love advice revolves around the fact that the two of you are communicating well and are spending time with each other to talk. So, if you are, emojis should definitely be part of the conversation over text. It may seem silly, but a heart emoji, a kiss emoji, or a heart eye emoji would be a hint that you want something more!
- 3. Like and comment: Social media is a great way to subtly

flirt with someone. If your crush posts a photo on Instagram, or a tweet on Twitter, don't be afraid to like or comment on it! Your love interest may be looking to see if you liked it, and they may not think you are into them if you didn't like that recent selfie they posted. An important piece of dating advice is to make your potential partner happy. If you do that, your love life will blossom. Social media isn't just for those <u>celebrity couples</u>!

Related Link: <u>Dating Advice: 10 Ways to Use Social Media to Snag Your Crush</u>

- 4. Snapchat: Snapchat, and snap streaks, are really good tools to use when trying to secretly get your crush to fall for you. If you look good in the snaps you send to them, you will certainly pique their interest. Snapping is easy, and by using some filters and facial recognition videos, you can have a fun and cute conversation. While the two of you build up a streak, you can be building a foundation for a relationship, too.
- 5. Compliments: Being nice is a great way to enhance your love life. Complimenting your love interest will also definitely help your chances! If you don't overdo it and don't make it extremely obvious, compliments are a great way to subtly flirt. There's a fine line between being too nice and just being casual. If you say, "You look good today", you should definitely be prepared for a comeback in case she/he says "Oh, so you're saying I don't look good most days?" It will probably happen the first few times, so be ready for a cute comeback!

Related Link: Dating Advice: How To Flirt With A Little Touch

6. The little things count: If the two of you are hanging out or going on friendly dates, the little extra things you do can go a long way. Buy smaller things like an ice cream, or a movie snack. Consider making them a nice gift, like a drawing. Don't be afraid about making things weird with something

personal, or if you think you may be being too polite. There's no such thing as being too polite, especially if a relationship is in the future.

7. Dress well: The way you dress can say a lot about who you are and how you act. If you and your love interest are going out for a fun night out, a great piece of dating advice is to keep things casual. That being said, sweatpants and a sweatshirt to the movie theater may not be the best idea either. Your best bet would be to consider what the two of you will be doing and dress accordingly. Try to impress them; just don't wear a gown to the movies!

These pieces of dating advice will help you subtly flirt to get your love interest as your partner. Did any of them work for you? Comment below.

# Author Interview: Linda & Charlie Bloom Talk Relationship Advice, Debunk Myths About Love





By <u>Michelle Foti</u>

Growing up, kids watch movies like *Cinderella, Snow White*, and *Sleeping Beauty*, which promote an ideal that "happily ever after" exists. In fact, many people get their beliefs about love from movies and pop culture. In their third self-help book, *Happily Ever After...and 39 Other Myths About Love: Breaking Through to the Relationship of Your Dreams* authors Linda and Charlie Bloom prove that accepting common myths such as "couples with great relationships don't fight" can prevent you from building the strong relationship you hope for. In our author interview, the married couple offers some <u>relationship advice</u> on how to get over those myths that may be causing you relationship problems. Prepare to have your belief system turned upside down, for the sake of a thriving relationship in your future.

## Married Couple & Author Duo Offer Relationship Advice On Getting Over

### Myths About Love

To start, we know your first two published books were very successful! What are your hopes for your newest release *Happily Ever After*?

Linda: We hope that we can get into the heads of many couples who are motivated to take a deep look at their belief systems. We want them to see whether the beliefs they are basing their relationships out of are really serving them or maybe inhibiting them in some way. We're all about going for the gold. If we're in a relationship, we might as well have the greatest relationship we can have. And we think really looking at some of the ideas we have and the myths that are popular in our culture is a direct avenue to having a finer, more fulfilling relationship.

Was it something in your mutual experience as psychotherapists and counselors, your personal lives, or another inspiration that led you to choose the angle of relationship myths?

Charlie: We've been doing the work for quite a while. It just seems in the last few years we've come upon a lot of people who are making decisions about their future in terms of relationships and marriage that are based on assumptions that we have found aren't always necessarily true. It seems to be an increasingly large number of people who are buying into certain cultural assumptions and beliefs about relationships without really checking them out. We decided to collect what we came to believe are some of the more prevalent, popular beliefs and myths. Our hope is really that people will just begin to be a little bit more open to questioning the possibility that this isn't necessarily always true.

What is the biggest relationship myth that people often believe? Why is it so often thought to be true?

Linda: We call the book Happily Ever After because we all grow up with these fairy tales. The prince and princess stories, the Cinderella stories, where you finally find true love and walk off into the sunset together. It's such a romantic myth and it sets up people for so much disappointment. It's not realistic to think that you're going to be happy all the time. Even the happiest people get the blues. Even the happiest couples sometimes have an argument and every couple, if they're together long enough, is going to hit a rough patch. Maybe a big rough patch. This is the one we lead with because we want to introduce the reality right away. Especially to the young starry-eyed couples who expect to always be so starryeyed. That fading effect is going to happen and you have to be more purposeful about keeping the relationship cleaned up. Our marriage advice is to have apologies and forgiveness ready if you have an argument. There is some work that needs to be done periodically for the relationship to be a great one.

Related Link: <u>Celebrity Wedding News: Hilary Swank Is Engaged</u> to BF Ruben Torres

One myth that you disprove in your book is, "Love can heal all wounds." Why isn't this idea true? How can believing it hurt your relationship?

Linda: Love is an extremely powerful force. It can take us quite a long way, but this is another one of those leaps that can set us up for an expectation that's going to be bashed because even if the person that we're with loves us a great deal, we may have experiences where we lose something and it's a deep, grievous loss. Losses can be very horribly painful and our partner can certainly be there for us. Certainly they can listen to us, they can let us cry on their shoulder, but we have to do some of the work by ourselves. Just because they love us doesn't mean that heals it. We have to be proactive about learning from those downfalls, about learning how to repair after there's been a nasty argument when we said things that we didn't really mean. So it takes some skill in addition

to the love and it takes a lot of love to get people motivated to get their skill level up.

What expectations, if any, should individuals enter a marriage with? What crosses the line as being too high of an expectation?

Charlie: I don't think there's anything wrong with having expectations as long as you're willing to take a certain amount of responsibility for having them come about. So for instance, if you have the expectation that you're going to be taken care of by your partner in every way after you get married, I think you're probably going to be disappointed when that doesn't happen because one of the myths in the book is that my partner should be able to fulfill all of my needs. Some people do go into a committed partnership with that expectation and that is inevitably going to lead disappointment because there is no one person, no matter how much they love you, who is capable of providing for all of your needs. So, expectations themselves are not the problem. What I would say can be a problem, and this is related to expectations, but is a little bit different, is entitlement. Entitlement means that I have a right to expect you to provide this for me. That's my inherent right. I can do that, I'm entitled to it. That is something that is doomed to disappoint.

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Into Romance

"Once a cheater, always a cheater." How do you justify this idea as being a myth? If a partner cheats on their significant other, how is the relationship supposed to return to its former state? Is this even possible?

**Linda:** We have met many people over the years who in their sub-consciousness, or their immaturity, or in their self-indulgence broke their fidelity vow and they cheated on their

partner. They may have lied about it and covered it up, but eventually they did come clean. It's always easier if they volunteer the information and confess rather than being sought out. But couples can learn from their downfall because this is one of the really painful things that some couples have to go through. It's actually rather common, that at some point in the decades of the marriage that one or both of the people are going to stray and break their fidelity vow. It's the belief that the damage could never be repaired that really finishes a relationship off. We want people to take a look at this and see if this belief is in them, whether there's any openness to possibility. If you can avoid it, do that. But if it happens, at least be open to the possibility that a full recovery can take place and then some.

### Did your relationship inspire the inclusion of any particular myths in *Happily Ever After*? If so, what one?

Charlie: There's a lot of the myths in the book that I think one or both of us have bought into to some degree. It's pretty hard to live in this culture and not absorb some of the beliefs that are prevalent, particularly when they are reinforced by a lot of other people. Some of them are used in popular culture, in movies, in songs.

Linda: I thought that telling the truth meant I wanted to have an honest relationship. I didn't want secrets and lies, so I was committed to an honest relationship. But the way I went about speaking some of my truths was not very skillful. I was run by the belief that I had to express my anger as if holding that anger in was going to explode like a pressure cooker. I was unkind, unpleasant, and rude. Sometimes I cursed and threatened and did things that caused harm to the relationship under the guise of 'I'm just being honest.' It took me a while to get past this belief because I didn't want to repress myself and be inauthentic. I realized this belief was making a mess of my life and damaging my relationship. People were afraid of me. But there is a way to be honest and it's not a

lack of genuineness; you can be genuine, you can be authentic, you can be honest, and you don't have to cause harm with your truth telling.

Now for some love advice! In your 44 years of marriage, what's the best piece of relationship advice you've received?

Charlie: Three words: Hang in there. Because an awful lot of people, when the going gets rough they tend to bail out before they really give it their best shot. I'm not saying that every single relationship can or should work. There are some that are just plain mismatches and they're really not meant to be. If you're giving it your best shot, you do hang in there, things don't change, and it really starts to erode your wellbeing then it is time to take a step back and take a look at whether this really is something that you need reconsider. But more often than not, people don't hang in there long enough to really turn things around. Sometimes they may quit just before the potential turning point comes up because sometimes we have to sink down. So what we often encourage people to do is to see if you can just hang in there a little longer to see if things can turn around. Hang in there. That's a piece of relationship advice that I think can serve a lot of people.

Related Link: Relationship Advice: Author Dave Kerpen Talks 11
People Skills and Dating Tips

What would you consider the greatest adversity that couples experience today? How can they overcome it?

Charlie: We live in a culture that doesn't really support relationships as much as they need support. There's a saying that it takes a village to raise a child. It also takes a village to raise a partnership. I think it's a great adversity to many of us that there isn't enough necessary support for people who are really trying to create a healthy, successful, fulfilling relationship. We seem to put more value on the

material side of life and that is very unfortunate. When you don't have a fulfilling inner life and you don't have a fulfilling interpersonal life then you're going to be much more inclined to seek out material success and money and ego. We need to recognize and accept the natural human tendency to seek and need deep connection with other people and not get pulled into the cultural myth that material, financial success is going to lead to greater happiness.

For more on Linda and Charlie Bloom visit <u>Bloomwork.com</u>. Happily Ever After...And 39 Other Myths About Love: Breaking Through to the Relationship Of Your Dreams is now available on <u>Amazon</u>.

## Weekend Date Idea: Bases, Peanuts, and Home Runs!





By Gabby Robles. Updated by Brooke Crawford.

It's time to make a baseball game your next weekend date idea. Although tickets can be pricey, it *is* possible to watch a baseball game without breaking the bank. It only takes a little creativity and thinking out the box to make this date idea happen on a budget! Don't worry — Cupid is here to provide <u>dating advice</u> to help you flesh out the details.

### Enjoy a Baseball Game on This Date Idea

Taking your man to watch a baseball game is the perfect opportunity to let your beau see your sportier side. Use this date idea to let loose. Impress your man with your passion for the sport and knowledge of its history.

Related Link: Date Idea: Learn a New Sport Together

Make it a group date by inviting some friends to join in on the fun. You may even be able to play matchmaker! Or if you want to keep it in the family, ask your guy's siblings or parents to join you. This will give you a chance to get closer to his loved ones in a social, relaxed setting. Either way, it's a great time to make some memories.

Instead of taking a trip to your major league team's stadium, stay local. Find a sports bar near you where you can watch the game and have a few wings. As long as you're both into the game and enjoying your time like the rest of the baseball fanatics, you are sure to have almost as much fun as actually being there. You can also wear your favorite jersey or your team's color to really get in the mood.

If you are not into the bar scene, take your date to check out a local county or high school baseball game. Most cities have baseball teams that play open games on the weekends. Be sure to bring snacks (boiled peanuts and Cracker Jacks are two winners!) and wear your favorite baseball attire.

### Related Link: Melissa Malamut — How to Love Sports

While there, see how you can get involved. Maybe they have a co-ed team that you could join! Athletic skills are one of the many ways couples can connect. It's also a great way to meet friends and possibly find a new baseball-loving crew. Doing something that you both love is essential to a strong relationship, and when you keep it light-hearted, you're sure to have a great date!

How have you incorporated baseball into a date idea? Tell us in the comments below!

# Weekend Date Idea: Spring Cleaning





By Ché Blackwood. Updated by Brooke Crawford.

A fresh breeze through your curtains and the smell of Daffodils only means one thing: It's Spring! With the great scents and not-so great-showers comes the sudden urge to read outside together, plan a picnic, and, unfortunately, clean. This year, turn one of the most daunting tasks of the changing season into a great date by taking on the challenge with your sweetheart. This weekend date idea is sure to spruce up your love life and your home.

## Tackle Spring Cleaning With These Dating Tips

**Related Link:** <u>Dating Advice: Is Spring the Time for a New Fling?</u>

Grab some bagels and head over to your beau's place. Bring garbage bags and Lysol to help him clean until his pad shines and smells of lemons. If he's a true bachelor, you might need a box of rubber gloves too. Since getting rid of the old to make room for the new can cause anxiety, be sure to stay encouraging and upbeat. Go through his items together, as doing so will give you the opportunity to learn more about him. You will be able to hear the story of his favorite old sweatshirt or that strange, vintage lamp, giving you a glimpse into his past.

If you are motivated enough, then head on over to his office, and help discard old papers and files. Most companies have an <u>office cleaning service</u> but unfortunately, they can't go through years of documents. So, he will need your help with that.

After his home and office are spotless, switch roles and turn the focus onto your own home. Stay open-minded and don't be afraid to share intimate details of your life before you met him. Testing your boundaries will make you grow closer — and you'll be freeing up closet space at the same time!

Related Link: <u>Dating Tips: Spring Cleaning Your Online Dating</u>
Profile

After you have had all the cleaning you can take, celebrate by going shopping together. Pick out a pretty picture or unique clock to fill up all that new, empty wall or bookshelf space. If you are really feeling romantic, purchase an engraved picture frame to memorialize the day. There is nothing better than a fresh-scented home filled with even fresher memories.

These dating tips are sure to help when you are struggling for a few date ideas this Spring!

How can you use this dating advice to keep spring cleaning fun? Share your thoughts below!

Celebrity Interview:
'American Idol' Winner Trent
Harmon Is the First
Contestant to Sing Justin
Timberlake





By <u>Katie Gray</u>

Last Thursday night, April 7th, Trent Harmon, who chose the Harold Melvin and the Blue Notes classic "If You Don't Know Me By Now" and Sia's hit "Chandelier" for his final performances, was crowned the winner of the 15th and final season of American Idol. That's right — Harmon is the final American Idol! He now has a record deal with Big Machine Records, and his first single "Falling" — which was co-written by American Idol judge and country superstar Keith Urban — will be on country radio.

Harmon, a 25-year-old former waiter from Mississippi, auditioned for the reality TV show in Little Rock, Arkansas. The country boy grew up on his family farm and would perform at his family's restaurant. During his time on American Idol, he wowed the crowd with a Lynyrd Skynyrd cover and a rendition of Chris Stapleton's "Tennessee Whiskey." He's the third winner to pursue a career in country music, following in the footsteps of Carrie Underwood and Scotty McCreery. In our exclusive celebrity interview, Harmon discusses his relationship with God, his love for country

### Celebrity Interview with the Final American Idol

After he won, the singer thanked his mother, family, and God. He's a man of faith, and it's easy to see that being a Christian is a big part of his life. When he had mono during the reality TV show and was essentially quarantined and isolated from the rest of the cast, he would pray, "It's just me and you. It's just you and me, God." He didn't have his parents with him and relied heavily on his faith. "If you can make it through this competition without believing in something, I wouldn't say that's impressive," he shares. "Instead, it's kind of scary."

His relationship with God has been a part of his singing for as long as he can remember. He recalls his mom teaching him "Amazing Grace" at the age of 5. Of his deep connection to the song, he says, "That song means something. There's a reason it's considered a classic." It was while singing "Amazing Grace" that he realized he could sing harmony.

Related Link: Celebrity Interview: Mackenzie Bourg Channeled JLO During Love Songs

As important as his faith is, when it comes to his music, the country classics really have his heart. "Whenever I got the opportunity to pick the song myself, I was singing country," he shares. It's no surprise, then, that Harmon's musical influences are country singers. "I've always enjoyed the classics," he says. "I love Conway Twitty. I'm a big Elvis fan — you know, Elvis did country. I'm a Ray Charles fan, and he did a country album."

Of his future fans, he explains, "Country music supporters — they go to the shows; they go to the festivals; and they buy

the songs. If you can make it in country, you can have a career." Willing to move anywhere, he may even relocate to Nashville.

## Trent Harmon Opens Up About His Reality TV Journey

Given the intense schedule of American Idol, Harmon hasn't had time for a break. "I have sleep scheduled for next Friday," he says with a laugh. Being the Final Idol is still completely surreal to him. "It hasn't really sunk in. I jumped in the shower and started doing my warm-ups and practicing my songs, and then, I realized I don't have to do that anymore," he reveals in our celebrity interview.

Perhaps the most special moment of his journey was getting to perform a song by Justin Timberlake, who had never granted anyone permission to use his music on the show. Earlier this season, Harmon performed the hit "Drink You Away," which Timberlake released to country radio after a performance with Stapleton at the Country Music Academy Awards in November 2015.

Related Link: <u>Celebrity Interview: American Idol Sonika Vaid</u>
Channels Love for Family

He also had the opportunity to speak with some of the people on his bucket list, including Jordin Sparks and David Archuleta. Of the advice that he received from former contestants, he says, "They told me, 'Don't ever, ever, quit being genuine. Don't ever get out of that head.'" He was lucky enough to exchange numbers with some of them and looks forward to networking and applying their tips to his future endeavors.

Harmon never wanted "to coast along" and wasn't going to give anything less than his best. Ultimately, he credits this mentality and a lot of hard work with winning *American Idol*.

"I knew that if I pushed myself and worked really, really hard, I could be more than just a pretty voice. I practiced every day," he says. "I practiced every different angle to be good, to be better, to be the best."

You can keep up with the American Idol winner on Twitter <u>@TrentWHarmon!</u>

Celebrity Interview:
Hollywood Triple Threat
Sugith Varughese Discusses
New Role In 'The Girlfriend
Experience'





Interview by Lori Bizzoco. Written by Mary DeMaio.

In the latest celebrity news, the famous Steven Soderbergh film turned television series, *The Girlfriend Experience*, premiered on Starz last night, April 10th. Fortunately, we had the chance to interview Indian-born Canadian actor Sugith Varughese, who plays Tariq Barr, the managing partner of the law firm where Christine works. For those who don't know the plot, Christine (played by Riley Keogh, daughter of Lisa Marie Presley) is a legal intern by day and a high-end escort "girlfriend" at night.

In our exclusive <u>celebrity interview</u>, Varughese opens up about the show, the casting of his character, and his long-term relationship off-screen.

## Celebrity Interview: Sugith Varughese Talks Acting Experience

Being in the business for more than 20 years as a scriptwriter, actor, and director, Varughese thought he'd seen it all. However, one of the biggest surprises came about after

his audition for *The Girlfriend Experience*. "I went in for a three-line part as an East Indian businessman who's on the phone with his wife in Bombay just before he's about to hire one of these escorts," he explains. "I used an Indian accent for that part." His agent called soon after and said that he "didn't get that role." Instead, they cast him for a major role in the series, one intended, he says, for a strong white male character. "The producers had a new vision and even changed my character's name to reflect my background," he adds.

Related Link: <u>Celebrity Interview: 'Flesh and Bone' Star</u> <u>Karell Williams Talks Relationship Advice, Saying, "Be True,</u> <u>Be Real, Be Vulnerable"</u>

For Varughese, it was important that Barr has tremendous confidence, power and status. "Here is a guy who is Indian-American and a managing partner of the biggest patent law office in Chicago," he says. "He didn't get that job because his dad owned the firm. He's going to be somebody who had to be twice as good as everyone else to get where he got."

Even the way his character dressed was significant to the actor, who noted that he spoke with the costume designer and tried to make Barr's suit more distinctive. "It was a great opportunity to bring a lot to the performance because the part wasn't already laid out like a regular television show," he says. In fact, he didn't even know what was going to happen to his character until the week of shooting. "We didn't get the scripts in advance," he shares.

Given the most recent controversy with the Oscars and the trending hashtag #OscarsSoWhite, there is clearly a problem in terms of recognizing diverse film-making and acting talent. Varughese believes that many of the nominees who should have been on the Oscars stage weren't there. "I think that the industry itself is changing, but I don't know if the recognition side of the industry has caught up," he says in

our celebrity interview. "It is important that the people who are doing it and being successful at it are acknowledged as much as anyone else."

### Actor Reveals His Best Relationship Advice

In terms of celebrity relationships, it's no surprise that dating an actor can be tough. Jealously, competition, and conflicting work schedules aren't easy to handle. Depending on the person, finding that balance can be a bit of a struggle. Luckily for Varughese, his long-term partner doesn't work in show business. "The balance is all on my part, and it is up and down," he says. "She is able to keep things on a more even keel."

Staying true to yourself, he says, is the most important relationship advice he can give. "The world is divided between us and them," he explains. "It's important to emphasize the values that you want in your life in order to make sure that your partner measures up and is consistent with your principles or convictions." Varughese shares that he and his significant other couldn't be more different in terms of personality, career, and background. However, the one — and most important — thing they have in common is their core values, including family and love. As a result, they don't have many conflicts. "If you have the same values, you have a shot at making a relationship work," he says. "If you don't have the same values, but you're both actors, I don't know if it will work out."

**Related Link:** Relationship Advice: Understand What You Don't Want

As for what's next, Varughese recently finished shooting a pilot in Vancouver — and it was another part that was originally cast for someone completely different. "It's an

exciting time for actors of diverse backgrounds," he says. "There is now a chance to come into your own and not be judged by ethnicity but by your abilities."

You can keep up with Varughese on Twitter @SugithVarughese.
Tune in for The Girlfriend Experience on Starz!

# Celebrity Couples: Marriages That Survived the Seven-Year Itch







Jessica Alba and Cash Warren

What a fantastic love story this celebrity couple shares! Alba met Warren on the set of 'Fantastic Four' in 2004, and by 2008, the two had said "I do." The pair later welcomed daughters Honor and Haven. Photo: STPR / PRPhotos.com