

10 Celebrity Couples We Never Knew Existed



By [Whitney Johnson](#)

Most of the time, famous folks can't get away from the spotlight. Rumored relationships and long-term loves alike are splashed on every magazine cover or tabloid site, making it difficult *not* to know who dated who in Tinseltown. Every so often, though, a celebrity couple flies so far under the radar that gossip-hungry fans miss their Hollywood romance. Read on for a list of 10 celebrity couples that you may not know existed:

1. Shia LaBeouf and Hilary Duff: These Disney darlings went on a terribly bad date – “probably the worst date either of us

have ever had,” according to the *Transformer* star.

2. Lance Armstrong and Ashley Olsen: This unlikely duo were spotted making out in 2007 at Rose Bar in New York City. Their relationship never took off – which is no surprise given that the cyclist is 15 years older than the designer.

3. Matthew Morrison and Kristen Bell: These famous faces attended New York University together and dated very briefly. Despite their eventual breakup, Bell still calls the *Glee* star “Matty.” Perhaps we’ll see them double dating with their respective fiancés soon.

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4. Jake Gyllenhaal and Natalie Portman: Long before his heavily documented romance with country singer Taylor Swift, Gyllenhaal was linked twice to the *Black Swan* actress, once in 2006 and again in 2008.

5. Dennis Rodman and Madonna: Rumor has it that Madonna desperately wanted to have the former basketball star’s baby when they dated in the early 1990s. Luckily, no child resulted from this unlikely pair.

6. Jake Pavelka and Kristin Chenoweth: It’s hard to believe that the star of *The Bachelor: Wings of Love* and the pint-size Broadway powerhouse are an item, but they’ve been dating since late 2012 after meeting at an awards show.

7. Donald Faison and Minka Kelly: This under-the-radar twosome dated for a year from 2004 to 2005. Now, they’re both happily taken: Faison is expecting his first child with wife Cacee Cobb, while Kelly has reunited with ex Chris Evans.

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8. Sean Penn and Florence Welch: It’s no secret that Penn has a thing for sultry songstresses – anyone recall his post-divorce romance with Scarlett Johansson? Lately, this

potential pair has been laying low, but earlier this year, there were a number of paparazzi photos filled with PDA.

9. Ashton Kutcher and January Jones: Long before Kutcher married and divorced Demi Moore, he dated up-and-coming actress Jones, who had recently relocated to Los Angeles to pursue her big screen dream. The couple, who dated from 1998 to 2001, attended his *Dude, Where's My Car?* premiere together in one of their rare red carpet appearances.

10. Matt Dillon and Cameron Diaz: Who knew the stars of *There's Something About Mary* were an item off-screen too? This duo dated for three years, splitting in 1998 – the same year that the hit comedy was released.

Did we forget one of your favorite couples? Tell us in the comments below!

How to Deal with Your Partner's Professional Failure





By Courtney Allen

It is said that “a woman’s loyalty is tested when her man has nothing, and a man’s loyalty is tested when he has everything.” And let’s face it; every guy and gal is bound to face these crucial tests in their relationship.

That is because in this complicated and unpredictable life, failure and success go hand in hand; whether it is at your first D1 college soccer game after your coach unexpectedly declares you goalie or your first, real job out of college as a local reporter at your hometown television station. But it’s not failure that defines you; it’s how you recover from the seemingly life-ending experience that determines just how bright your future will be. Believe it or not, your partner can make all the difference in getting you back on the path to success. For better, but in this case, for worse, every great partner will do these exact things to get the one they love through the hardest of times:

- 1. Express empathy:** When your partner’s world is crashing down around them, all they want to know is that you

understand. Everyone has been in the professional “hot” seat and it is important to remind your honey that it is a typical experience. Take powerful stories of basketball god, Michael Jordan, Apple mastermind, Steve Jobs, and talk show host turned Forbes Most Powerful Woman in the World, Oprah Winfrey, who experienced some of the biggest failures before reaching their ultimate success. Even though failure is common, be sure to make your love feel special by showing that their particular situation is especially important to you. Be extremely attentive and respond to their feelings with sensitivity, taking into account the type of person they are.

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2. Be a source of encouragement and support: Bouncing back after a failure is the toughest part of the experience. Constantly reassure your partner of their full potential. Failure creates a world full of doubts that can often be very hard to go up against. Help build up the confidence of the one you love after it has been stripped away by vocalizing their strengths and engaging in activities that they feel confident in. Express your 100 percent commitment to their happiness and let your honey know you are in it together.

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3. Help look toward the future: Moving forward is essential after a failure and can determine what comes next. Create a positive atmosphere for your partner so that they can leave the negativity in the past. It is impossible to visualize a better future if the past is clouding your vision. Lend a hand in the tiresome search for a new job or the discovery of methods of improvement. Help come up with an ambitious plan that includes dreams, goals and means of reaching them. Your love’s future is in their hands. Be a continuous reminder of this, as it will lead their life in the exact direction they want it to go.

What are some ways you've helped out your partner after a failure? Share your ideas with us!

Kelly Rutherford On Her Divorce: "The One Thing I Know Is That My Kids Are Loved and That We're Working It Out"





By [Whitney Johnson](#)

Gossip Girl fans recognize Kelly Rutherford as prim and proper socialite Lily van der Woodsen, a character who captured our hearts despite her shortcomings. You could fault Lily for a number of things but being a protective parent wasn't one of them. When speaking about her character on the show, the actress says, "It was a lot of fun. She was a very different type of mother than we're used to seeing on television."

Now, Rutherford is tackling an even more challenging role in Lifetime's *A Sister's Nightmare*, which premieres this weekend. The blonde beauty plays Jane Rydert, a police officer whose life changes drastically when her older sister Cassidy (Natasha Henstridge) shows up after being released from a psychiatric hospital. Unable to convince anyone that her sister is still dangerous, Jane must protect her niece Emily (Peyton List), who she's been raising for the past 16 years.

Rutherford was initially attracted to the movie because it was "very different than what I had done before. It was nice to do something that was a big contrast to *Gossip Girl* and the

character that I played for six years – to shake things up a little bit.”

And, of course, the cast is always an important piece of any project. For this role, she reunited with one of her love interests on *Gossip Girl*, Matthew Settle. “It was wonderful to work together again,” she exclaims. “Natasha and Peyton are incredible too. They made it very believable for me. It was really a lovely experience.”

Ultimately, though, the ending hooked her. “There’s this huge twist that you don’t see coming. It made me really like the script,” the Kentucky native shares. “It was really fun to play a character who ends up being totally different than you thought.”

Naturally, being a parent herself – to six-year-old son Hermés and four-year-old daughter Helena – impacts the way she approaches each project. For Rutherford, her kids are always her priority. “I do my best to work around them,” she explains. “It all goes by so fast that you don’t have time for guilt. When I’m with my kids, I want to be totally present. And when I’m working, I want to know that my kids are attended to and happy.”

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It’s no surprise that motherhood has changed the single mom. “I learn something new every day. I want to be a better example for my children. It’s a different type of pressure to be a good person when you have little eyes looking up at you!” she says with a laugh.

Part of being the best mother she can be is going with the flow. “As a parent, you realize that every day brings new things.” This summer brought a lot of fun for the family of three. “I asked my kids what they wanted to do, and they said, ‘We just want to be with you.’ So that’s what we did! We went

to the Hamptons for a few weekends. We did everything we love to do in New York City too: go to the museums, ride scooters in the park. They took swimming and piano lessons. My daughter took ballet and French classes.”

Unfortunately, Rutherford has been dealing with some more serious problems. In June, she filed for bankruptcy due to financial problems stemming from her lengthy custody battle with Daniel Giersch. Her ex-husband, who resides in Monaco, was barred from returning to the United States – which means that Rutherford must travel back and forth to see her children.

“It’s not always easy, that’s for sure,” she says of her divorce. “The biggest thing is to stay positive when you talk about the other parent. You have to be honest; you don’t want to lie, but you want to say it in a way so it doesn’t have an edge. My kids really pick up on whether I’m okay emotionally. As long as I’m okay, they’re okay. If I lose it, who do they have to look to for strength?”

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The actress adds, “When they have questions, I sit down and answer them. I try to be as kind and respectful of them as possible. I let them know that I don’t always know either, that I’m figuring it out too. The one thing I do know is that they’re loved and that we’re working it out. I encourage them to just enjoy every moment, whether they’re with me or their dad.”

Rutherford applies this philosophy to her own life as well. After a relaxing but busy summer, she’s ready to step back into a role on primetime and is excited to be joining the cast of *Reckless*, a show premiering on CBS this fall.

Plus, she’s considering expanding her work as an activist for custody issues into a book. “A few people are encouraging me, but I don’t know if it’s the right time yet. I’m just waiting

to see how things play out.” One thing’s for sure: We’ll be cheering for her every step of the way!

You can catch Rutherford on A Sister’s Nightmare on Lifetime on Saturday, September 7th at 8 p.m. ET. You can also follow her on her personal site, <http://www.kellyrutherford.com/> or [Twitter](#) @KellyRutherford/ and [www.facebook.com/thekellyrutherford?fref=ts!](http://www.facebook.com/thekellyrutherford?fref=ts)

Five Secrets Truly Happy Couples Know



By Lesli Doares

Reality shows focus on hooking up, finding a spouse and the wedding. Movies and books end at the beginning of a couples' life together or as the relationship is ending in divorce.

There is very little focus on the time married. Ben Affleck got in trouble at the Oscars when he publicly thanked his wife, Jennifer Garner, and the work their marriage has been for the last ten years. Wow, who wants to sign up for that? So, how does any couple keep their marriage healthy and happy over the years?

Five simple rules to keep you in love through the years:

1. Give at least one genuine compliment each day to your partner about something that matters to them. It will make them feel noticed, appreciated and loved. Having it be important to them really lets them know you are paying attention.

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2. Spend at least 30 minutes of quality, one on one, time together each day. This allows you to get past the relationship killing exchange of information and tune in to what is happening in each other's lives at a more intimate level.

3. Continue to date. The two of you fell in love by spending time together and having fun. Once the routine of day-to-day life with work, kids and chores goes on for a few years, it's easy to lose track of that. Having regular dates, where the purpose is to have fun and reconnect, not analyze the relationship or discuss issues, keeps the spark alive.

4. Go to bed at the same time. Shut down the technology, turn off the television, forget about the never finished housework and spend some quiet time together. Keeping different schedules makes connecting physically much more

difficult and that is not good for long term happiness.

5. Change up your sex life. Get out of the “it’s Tuesday, you know what that means” routine. Spice things up by trying different times, places and activities. Have fun figuring out how to outsmart the kids in finding private time. Don’t make it so hard that you just give up.

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Each of these rules builds from the one above and each one deals with an aspect of intimacy. Truly successful couples follow them diligently and that’s how they stay out of the headlines.

Lesli Doares is a marriage consultant/coach and the author of “Blueprint for a Lasting Marriage: How to Create Your Happily Ever After with More Intention, Less Work”. Find her real and practical relationship advice at www.afearlessmarriage.com. She tweets @LesliDoares.

Celebrity Couple Predictions: Katy Perry, Kate Middleton and Fergie





By [Shoshi](#)

For today's expert post, I want to look at the energy of three celebrity couples who are celebrating exciting times in their relationships: Katy Perry and John Mayer, who are back together and recently released their first duet; Kate Middleton and Prince William, who welcomed their son, Prince George, in July; and Fergie and Josh Duhamel, who are expecting their first child very soon.

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Katy Perry and John Mayer: This musically-talented duo is on again – at least for now. It's becoming difficult to define their love since it tends to change so quickly. Mayer has actually managed to keep his mouth shut about this relationship, unlike his behavior in the past. (Did we really need to know that sex with Jessica Simpson was like a drug?)

When looking at the energy around the couple, it seems like they're having fun. While they do enjoy each other's company,

what keeps them getting back together is their ability to relate to one another. It's a level of comfort that they both need at this time.

There's been buzz about their new duet – and for good reason! Mayer sings that he can see himself growing old with her. How adorable is that? The only thing is that gushy love eventually ends. The soulful singer has a habit of quickly becoming attached to the woman he's dating, so only time will tell if they survive past the honeymoon stage.

In their duet, he also wrote that he couldn't run anymore. He's finally starting to show signs of getting serious about his love life. During his relationship with Perry, she will help him grow up a bit. Even so, Mayer will become bored and soon move on to the next lady.

Kate Middleton and Prince William: Ever since Kate Middleton and Prince William announced their engagement, the world has been enchanted with the lovely couple. When Kate announced she was pregnant with a royal bundle of joy, we couldn't wait for the baby to arrive!

We can all finally relax: Prince George is here and has been presented to the world. The Duke and Duchess's marriage appears to be going strong; in fact, they've never been better. Surrounding their relationship is the energy of Princess Diana, as if she watches over them and guides her son. Without a doubt, these two are best friends. They want to keep a low profile and simply enjoy their lives together.

There is another baby energy circling Kate. They want to wait a bit before their next child, but they may not have a choice. Don't be surprised if she's soon pregnant with baby number two, which will bring them a daughter.

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Fergie and Josh Duhamel: Fergie and Josh Duhamel cannot wait until the arrival of their son. The energy in their relationship has shifted for the better since Fergie got pregnant. Rumors had been circling about Josh's activities with other women, but now, he's a bit more centered and focused on family.

Fergie has just legally changed her name from Stacy Ann Ferguson to Fergie Duhamel. It is said that, when you change your name, you change your destiny, so the newly-annointed Mrs. Duhamel has shifted her energy on many levels.

Josh is going to be really close to his son – it'll be hard to find him in a photo without him. It will cause him to want to work less, while Fergie will be inspired with material for a new album dedicated to the two men in her life and the love she has for them. It's a very happy time in the Duhamel household. All the best to them!

For more information on Shoshi, click [here](#).

Finding Yourself Again





By Molly Reynolds for [Hope After Divorce](#)

Months after my very messy divorce, I found myself sitting in a greasy diner with my friend Christi, and I was at a total stand still. I was staring across the table at her, trying not to cry into my grilled cheese sandwich as a million thoughts ran through my mind.

Christi had never been married before. In fact, she had been single since I'd known her. She is beautiful, funny, smart, a great friend – and one of the happiest people I know.

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I finally opened my mouth.

“How do you do it?” I asked her.

“How do I do what?”

“How do you be single?”

She smiled. “You just do.”

I wanted to take notes. “No, tell me. What do you DO? Like, what does your typical day look like?”

I got married when I was twenty and was now pushing thirty. It didn't seem like an odd question to me at the time; I had never been single as an adult. My marriage was isolating and highly emotionally abusive. My days were wrapped up working, spending time with my husband, cooking, cleaning, paying the bills, helping him with whatever he needed. I had so much free time now and didn't know what to do with myself. More honestly, I didn't know who I was as a single person.

Thank God for good friends. “You do whatever you want!” she said with a laugh. “If you want to stay out all night, you do it. If you want to spend the weekend watching *Desperate Housewives* on Netflix, you do it. If you want to eat a jar of olives for dinner, you do it. It's actually pretty awesome.”

The thought of this absolutely terrified me. Battle lost. Soggy grilled cheese.

This story illustrates co-dependency at its finest. Unfortunately, co-dependent women often find themselves with a narcissistic husband. Katie Holmes and Tom Cruise are a prime example. A narcissist systematically makes his partner give up who she is in order to serve his own ideals and needs. If you are fortunate enough to break free from the abuse of a narcissist – as Katie was – you're going to have to take a lot of time to rebuild yourself.

I hate labels, but a lot of us are co-dependent. If we're partnered with the wrong person, the effects can be devastating. We think giving absolutely everything over to our marriage and forgetting ourselves makes us a better partner. It doesn't. It doesn't even make us a better person. Luckily for us, it's a bad habit and *not* a life-threatening disease.

One of the hardest things about any kind of breakup (even if your spouse was a total loser) is that you have to learn how

to relate to the world differently. There's no partner to call and check-in with when you have to make a decision or if something good happens. You find yourself with a lot more alone time, and if you're not careful, your mind can go to a very dark place...which is why it is imperative that you find yourself again – or find yourself period, whatever the case may be.

Related Link: [Are You Dating Someone with Narcissistic Personality Disorder?](#)

Fill those empty moments in your life with people and things that you [love](#). And if you don't know what you love, find out! A fun, cheap way to do that is sites like Groupon or Living Social. Maybe you've always wanted to take belly dancing class – do it! Or if you've always loved cooking or boxing, find a Meetup in your area. This is also a great way to make new friends and remind yourself that this tough time in your life will absolutely pass.

Learn how to do you. Habits are tough to break but fight against co-dependency as hard as you can. You are a whole, perfect person on your own. You don't need anyone else to be complete. Later on, if you choose to have another relationship, do it because you want to, not because you need to.

Be happy with who you are because life is too good to waste. Live as hard as you can.

Following her work as an actress, Molly Reynolds began her writing career covering scripts for film producers and working in commercials at Tombo Films, a boutique production company that created spots for the likes of Apple, Petco, and Coca Cola. Since then, she has written anything from ads to children's books to musical theatre, with a special emphasis on socially conscious material. Her latest musical, Benny (book and lyrics), has been performed in Los Angeles and New

York (most recently at the Fingerlakes Musical Theatre Festival). Molly is a contributing expert at HopeAfterDivorce.org, CupidsPulse.com, and LAFamily.com. She is currently the Director of Development at LUCID and a strong advocate for empowering women and minorities. The Gingerbread Pimp, Molly's fearless new musical that takes a bite out of domestic abuse, was performed at the New York Musical Theatre Festival on July 18, 2013.

Celebrity Couples that Work Great Together



By Kristyn Schwiep

Keeping up with Hollywood's most talked-about relationships can drive you crazy. From weddings, pregnancies and hook-ups gone wrong Cupid has come up with a list of our top celebrity couples who work great together amidst all the Hollywood fame:

1. Blake Shelton and Miranda Lambert: Country music royalty, Shelton, 36, and Lambert, 29, have been happily married for two years. Recently the country stars have been in the middle of rumors regarding their shaky relationship, but Shelton has nothing to hide from Lambert. According to *People*, Shelton gives Lambert full access to his phone. "That's really the kind of trust we have. There are no secrets," Shelton says. Trust is the basis of all great relationships, and there is no doubt that these country starlets are doing it the right way.

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2. Portia de Rossi and Ellen DeGeneres: DeGeneres, 55, and de Rossi, 40, married in 2008. They are one of Hollywood's favorite beloved gay couples due to the fact that they live their lives as honest and openly as possible. Though the couple doesn't want to have kids, de Rossi tells *Rolling Out*, "We are the best of friends and married life is blissful, it really is. I've never been happier than I am right now." Best friends make the best partners.

3. Justin Timberlake and Jessica Biel: One year after their wedding, Timberlake, 32 and Biel, 31, are still happily in love. The happily married man dishes to DeGeneres that he still enjoys sneaking a peek at his beautiful wife. According to *People*, Timberlake gushes that if he only starts to make bad decisions – for the rest of his life, he has made one really good decision and that was marrying his best friend. Apparently, they are even planning on having a baby.

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4. Ben Affleck and Jennifer Garner: After 8 years of marriage

and three children, Affleck, 40 and Garner, 41, have managed to make their relationship work against the Hollywood odds. Even after thanking Garner for working on their marriage at the 2013 Oscars and throwing everyone into a tizzy, Garner wasn't worried. According to *E Online*, Garner said what he was trying to say was, "Look, what we have is really real and I value it above all and I'm in it with you and I know you are in it with me." It's refreshing to see that these two Hollywood starlets have managed to make their marriage work and that they value each other.

What celebrity couple do you think work best together? Share your thoughts below.

'Tough Love: Co-Ed' Star Kyle Keller Says, "Listen to Your Heart and Be Truthful to Yourself"





By Kristin Mattern

Kyle Keller and her lovely personality are no stranger to the media circuit: progressing from a sports broadcaster to host of MAXIM radio to executive producer for MediaKillers.com, Keller's charm has brought her from into the spotlight. Her outgoing persona, stylish wardrobe, and sex appeal have even landed her two shows of her own, *Style with Kyle* and *Kyle's Ultimate Challenge*. "Everything I have done in my career is connected," she explains. "It's all personality-based, whether I'm in front of or behind the camera. I think the most challenging part is getting people to take me seriously, but it's been a fun ride."

Expanding her resume, the blonde bombshell is now a member of VH1's popular show, *Tough Love: Co-Ed*. "I felt like the only way I was going to find love was by going on television," she candidly admits. "I knew it would force me to be true to myself. I couldn't lie if I was on TV." Coached by dating and relationship expert Steve Ward, Keller recalls how the tough love guru used honesty to break down the celebrities and show them that even though they're amazing people, they, like

everyone else, have flaws. "I was true to myself and found my own way, and I'm hoping that viewers will take something away from my journey."

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In a twist, this season of *Tough Love* features not only the famous Steve Ward but also his sister Monica, who provides a feminine view on dating. "Steve is really tough and no nonsense when it comes to giving advice. He's honest to the point where it can break you," the contestant remarks. "Monica is great. She's really tough too. You just have to watch the show to really see them in action!"

Of the other seven cast members, Keller notes, "Everyone has different personalities, and we sometimes clash because of it. We all went on the show for different reasons. I think viewers will see that and will really love it." It isn't easy living in such a full house, but they all learned to improve not only their relationships with love interests but with family and friends as well. When asked about the number one lesson she learned, Keller refers to Steve's book *The Crash Course in Love* and says, "Don't be weird."

The broadcaster begins the show with the title "Miss Disconnected" due to her penchant for long-distance relationships and magical ability to talk her way into the friend zone. "Steve and Monica really honed in on my hang-ups and helped me figure out who I am as a person and who I want to be in a relationship. The question is: Did I listen to their advice? Did the other housemates?"

When it comes to her personal life, the vivacious blonde is seeking the same spark she sees between her parents, who have been married for 41 years. "They have the best relationship. They're best friends, and they really love each other." Getting more specific, she adds, "I'm looking for someone who is kind and who loves his family. I want kids, so a deal

breaker is somebody who doesn't." The star's ideal type is a guy with kind eyes and a great smile, someone who is tall, dark, and handsome.

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Keller has learned a lot from her past dating experiences and, of course, from *Tough Love: Co-Ed*. For others looking for love, she says to "listen to your heart and be truthful to yourself. And remember that exes are exes for a reason, but they're not a mistake because you learn from them. They're a good thing to have."

The host also advises against plastering your relationship status all over social media: "Unless you're engaged or married, don't do it. Social media ruins relationships. Your love life should be personal."

See more of Kyle Keller and what she learns about love on VH1's Tough Love: Co-Ed, which premieres tonight at 10 p.m. ET! You can also connect with her on her personal site www.mskylekeller.com/, Twitter [@MsKyleKeller](https://twitter.com/MsKyleKeller), [instagram.com/mskylekeller/](https://www.instagram.com/mskylekeller/), and [facebook.com/MsKyleKeller](https://www.facebook.com/MsKyleKeller)

7 Ways to Know If It's Really Love





By LaKesha Womack, Author of *“Is She The ONE?”*

Love... What is it? How do you know when you have found it? For some it is easy to determine but for most of us, we need a sign, a couple of clues...

Love is a choice. When you love someone, you have to remind yourself, sometimes daily, that this is the person that you choose to be with. No one is perfect so they will make you mad, make you feel like breaking down but if it is really love, you would rather be with them than without them. The temptation to escape your situation, even temporarily, will come at every turn. You will have a choice to stay or to go, if it's really love you will choose to stay.

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Love requires time. Always remember quality over quantity. Sometimes people get confused and think that you have to spend every free moment with another person; however, you want to be sure that you are giving the best of yourself to that person instead of the most. You need to be present and living in the

moment when you are with them. Focus on creating meaningful conversations and moments that build a solid foundation for your relationship.

Love is a priority. You make time for what's important to you. Just as you should choose to spend time with the person you love, that person should be priority in your life and not an afterthought. This does not mean that you must center your life around another person but if you find that you are not considering how your decisions will affect him or her, you probably aren't in love.

Love is unconditional. When you really love someone, you don't try to change them. You love them "because of" who they are and not "in spite of" what you see. You don't look at their flaws and think of ways to change them rather you realize that their assets and flaws combined create the person you love. Love should be inspiring and uplifting.

Love makes you vulnerable. When you love someone, you let down your guard and let them in. You make yourself emotionally available to share with the other person. You talk about feelings, your past, your present and your future. Most importantly, you are honest. Effective communication requires trust because once you let your guard down and begin sharing, you trust this person to take care of the information you are sharing and to accept you as you are.

Love requires compromise. You will not always be right nor will the other person always be right but you must be willing to meet each other in the middle. You will know its love when you willingly give in to make the person happy and they do the same for you.

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Love requires commitment. When you love someone, you don't want anyone else. When you love someone, you give it your all. You leave nothing on the table. You don't hold back.

There is no Plan B.

LaKesha Womack is the author of "Is She The ONE?" a relationship book written for men who think they are ready to get married but want to be sure. It provides ten exercises for a couple to use and determine whether they truly know each other well enough to commit the rest of their lives to each other. Network with LaKesha on Twitter (@LaKeshaWomack), Facebook (MsLaKeshaWomack) and LinkedIn (WomackCG) after you visit her personal blog (LaKeshaWomack.com).

Should You Listen When Your Parents Advise You to Break Up?





By Jennifer Harrington

As if relationships aren't challenging enough, many people face an additional obstacle when they discover that their parents do not support the romance and advocate a breakup. While it's always important to be true to yourself, love can sometimes be blind and sometimes outside opinions can be helpful in evaluating your relationship. After all, your parents have known you the longest and only have your best intentions at heart. So, how do you know when you should listen when your parents advise you to break up? Here are some of Cupid's tips:

Take their counsel to heart

When your parents voice their concerns about your romance, it is only natural that your first instinct will be to fight back and reject their opinions. Once you've had a chance to cool down, take some time to objectively assess what was said about your relationship and partner. Evaluate if their concerns are problems that can be addressed. If the situation can be addressed, do everything in your power to show your parents

that you heard their feedback and that you're taking steps to make things better. It's more likely that your parents may be concerned about something that can't easily be changed. Regardless, it is essential that you try to understand why your parents are counseling you to break-up.

Related: [Cameron Diaz Discusses Her Break-up Style: Break Up and Move On](#)

Solicit feedback from other loved ones

It's important to also talk with other family and friends to see if they agree with your parents' advice to end your romance. Seek out opportunities to honestly and openly speak with other loved ones about your relationship, and figure out if others agree with what your parents are saying. Your parents are people entitled to their opinions (which may or may not be valid), but if others echo their remarks, it's time to take notice that your relationship may be more flawed than you realized.

Assess the situation

Ultimately, you have the right to choose who you want to date – and you may fundamentally disagree with the opinions others have about your love life. However, when the people closest to you don't like the person you love, it can make your life very complicated and potentially unpleasant – and you have to decide if you are ready for those possibilities and if your partner is worth it. Ask yourself if your love is strong enough to survive such adversity. Everybody has different relationships with their families; you know your family dynamics and yourself well enough to figure out if you can imagine a happy future without your parents blessing your relationship.

Related: [5 Celebrity Exes Who Became Famous After the Break-Up](#)

Love is a powerful influence and motivator in life – but this

applies to love you experience with your family and friends, not just who you date or eventually marry. While love can be complicated, it should always bring positivity and well-being to your life. Be mindful of your parents counsel and don't be afraid to take some time away from your romance if it helps you figure out what you need and what will make you the happiest long-term.

What are some other way to deal with your parents' relationship advice? Share below.

Stacy Keibler and Michael Chiarello Are Looking For the Next 'Supermarket Superstar'





Interview by [Lori Bizzoco](#); Editorial by Kerri Sheehan

Lifetime welcomed a new reality show to its ranks this summer with the July 22nd premiere of *Supermarket Superstar*. The show has been described as *Shark Tank* with food, giving undiscovered food entrepreneurs a chance to stand out among the big brands in the highly competitive food industry. Stacy Keibler, who made a name for herself as a World Wrestling Entertainment Diva, hosts the program. The blonde bombshell was known as “The Legs of WWE” due to her tall stature, but she rose to even greater prominence during her relationship with A-list actor George Clooney, which ended earlier this year.

On *Supermarket Superstar*, aspiring foodie entrepreneurs pitch their products to three mentors: Debbi Fields, the founder of Mrs. Fields Cookies; Chris Cronyn, the president of Dine Marketing; and Michael Chiarello, megastar chef and retail visionary. These recognizable faces help contestants tweak their edibles so that they can win over Tom Dahlen, the buyer for A&P supermarkets. The *Supermarket Superstar* who Dahlen chooses in each episode wins \$10,000 in cash and \$100,000 in

product development as well as a chance to compete for their product to be sold in A&P supermarkets and their affiliates across the country.

When she was first approached about the show, Keibler was already developing her own healthy food line. The former *Dancing with the Stars* contestant has “always had a love of food and cooking, so it just seemed like the stars were aligned, and it was a perfect fit.” It’s clear that the actress enjoys being a part of the program, even though she has a hard time guessing the winner each week. “I want everyone to win! I just love seeing their journey and watching them evolve through the whole process.”

Food titan and main mentor for the competitors, Chef Chiarello, would agree. He explains, “I think all of their stories are so extraordinary, and you fall in love as you learn more about each competitor.”

Supermarket Superstar gives some people the big break they’ve been searching for but denies others of their dream. Both Keibler and Chiarello are familiar with the nature of competition – as a WWE Diva and *DWTS* contestant and a *Top Chef Master’s* contestant respectively. In the end, they want to see the contestants do well, and Chiarello expresses his hopes that “as the series grows, we’d like to see a regional launch of each week’s winner because they all deserve a regional spot.”

Keibler echos Chiarello’s sentiments, saying, “We have people who have a great idea, people who have put their soul into trying to fulfill this goal, so I think the show is such a perfect platform for people to try to make their dreams a reality.”

The model hopes that the show will be renewed for a second season. She believes that it’s captured viewers because it shows “an inside process that most of us are a part of but

know very little about. We're all consumers of food; we all go to the supermarket; and we all eat. We don't necessarily know the story behind how the products got onto the shelves."

Speaking of being a consumer of food, Chiarello has some tips for cooking a meal for your special someone. The chef has been married since 2003 to his wife Eileen and shares, "When I'm trying to do something romantic, it's not so much about lobster and caviar, but instead, it's about threading a story through the couple of dishes that you have." For example, you could make a delicious poached peach desert because the scent of peach reminds me of you of your partner.

Chiarello warns against taking your partner out for a swanky four-hour, six-course meal though. "It's not going to end like you hoped!" he jokes. "Keep things fresh and light and build stories with it. After all, it's the stories that create the flavor memories."

You can catch Supermarket Superstar on Lifetime on Thursdays at 10:30/9:30c. For more on Keibler and Chiarello, be sure to follow them on Twitter.

VMA Performer Joey Fatone Says Understanding Is the Secret to His Strong Marriage





Interview by [Lori Bizocco](#). Editorial by Kristin Mattern.

Joey Fatone – former N’SYNC member, *Dancing with the Stars* contestant, host, entertainer, and man of many hats – will be taking the stage tonight in a much-talked-about reunion with Justin Timberlake, JC Chasez, Lance Bass and Chris Kirkpatrick at MTV’s Video Music Awards tonight. Outside of this exciting performance, he’s stepping into the limelight with a new show for the Live Well Network, *My Family Recipe Rocks*. “It’s exciting. We actually go into people’s homes and watch normal, everyday people in everyday kitchens break down their recipes that they’ve passed down for many generations,” he shares. “I think it’s a really cool idea.” The star loves that he gets to meet so many families from different backgrounds across America who share their unique meal ideas with him.

With experience being on the Food Network as well as dabbling in cooking at home, it’s no secret that Fatone is comfortable in the kitchen. On *My Family Recipe Rocks*, he has encountered recipes that harken back to his own Italian roots and bring up memories of making his father’s sauce and meatball recipe, while other times, he comes across food he’s never made or

even tried before. “In one episode, this woman makes a sauce with meatballs that was very similar to what I make – just a few little things were different,” the star says. “And it’s also really cool to see things I’ve never seen or would have thought of, like baba ganoush.” Thanks to the show, Fatone’s had the opportunity to meet people from every walk of life and all kinds of backgrounds – from Egyptian and Middle Eastern to India to Irish and Italian.

Related Link: [Mario Batali Shares His Tips for Cooking at Home on Date Night](#)

The family man has put his newly-honed culinary skills to good use at home too. “I’ve made a lot of recipes from the show for my family. If I don’t have the recipe, I always try to figure it out and remember what it was made of.” One delicious recipe he tried out was a dish called Saucy Balls. It has ground pork and turkey made into a meatball with cream cheese and different herbs that is then wrapped in a pastry puff and drizzled with a balsamic glaze after cooking. And that’s just one of the many mouth-watering recipes that people pass on to the celebrity host!

My Family Recipe Rocks aims to bring families together over meals. “It’s fun to be creative and try to incorporate the recipes from the show at home – like every Friday night have a cooking night with the whole family,” the host comments. “I think that’s part of what’s cool about the show. It inspires people who never thought they could cook and actually feed their family.”

His wife Kelly and their two daughters, Briahna and Kloey, enjoy cooking as much as Fatone does, and together, they love making traditional family recipes as well as breaking out the cookbook and trying something new. His older daughter even made the couple salmon with dill sauce for their anniversary one year. “I’m not a salmon person at all, but I was shocked because it was really good!”

Related Link: [Simon Cowell Speaks Out On Becoming a Dad](#)

The star chalks up his strong marriage to understanding. "It's not easy. You need to be understanding," he explains. "You've got to balance your career and home life, and you have to spend time with the kids." On date nights, he and Kelly enjoy going out for Indian food or trying somewhere new. "We like to try different restaurants in our city. She'll pick a place one week, and I'll pick one another week. It's good. We enjoy trying new spots."

For him, his lovely daughters are the most amazing part of his life. Even when he was on tour with N'SYNC, he still made time for his children, and sometimes, he even brought Brihana with him when he was traveling with the group.

Looking back on his career, Fatone says, "Being a semi-finalist on *Dancing with the Stars* was fun, and performing with legends like Michael Jackson and Celine Dion was equally awesome," he recalls. "When I sit back and think about all the things that I've done, it's kind of mind-boggling. It's just been really amazing."

Be sure to tune in to watch Fatone's performance at the VMAs on MTV at 9 p.m. ET! You also can watch him showcase unique recipes from families across America on My Family Recipe Rocks! on the Live Well Network – visit livewellnetwork.com/My-Family-Recipe-Rocks/8432939 for episodes and recipes. Connect with the star at www.joeyfatone.com/ or follow him on Twitter @realjoeyfatone and facebook.com/RealJoeyFatone

Do the Chicken Dance: Tips for Surviving Wedding Season Single



By Rachel Seliger, JDate Community Manager

The summer months are known for a few things: warm nights, pool parties, BBQs and of course, weddings. For singles, wedding season is exciting, but it can be overwhelming when you feel like you are always the bridesmaid and never the bride.

JDate, the leading online Jewish singles community, recently surveyed members and discovered that 31 percent of singles daydream about their future wedding before they are engaged.

Daydreaming is harmless, but in the meantime, with wedding season in full swing, you might have to put those dreams on hold and support a few others.

To help arm the single wedding goer this season, I've compiled a list of tips that will guarantee you have an amazing time and celebrate the new couple in style.

Related: [Reap the Benefits of Cutting Costs on Your Big Day](#)

Define +1: If your invitation includes a +1, it doesn't necessarily mean your guest has to be a romantic partner. Of course check with the bride and groom first, but it might be a good idea to bring a close friend or family member as your partner in crime.

Reserve your seat: If you are flying solo, don't be afraid to make sure the bride or groom knows you want to sit with the other singles! Not only is it a great way to make friends you won't be sweating through the whole ceremony about sitting with a group of couples who might ask the infamous question, "when are you getting married?"

Reconnect with old friends: However you are related to the bride or groom, there are probably other guests that you know at the wedding. Maybe it's old friends from your childhood who you lost touch with or a relative of the bride and groom. Don't be afraid to say hi and spark a conversation. Everyone loves to reminisce!

Related: [5 Conversations Every Couple Should Have Before Getting Married](#)

Do the chicken dance: You are never too old to flap your wings! Popular wedding dances like the chicken dance are perfect for singles because they don't require a partner and are an opportunity to find your next dance partner. Now get out there and shake your feathers.

Rachel Seliger is a dating guru and Community Manager of JDate.com, the premier online community for Jewish singles. When she's not shopping for her next pair of great heels, she is busy blogging on JDate's exclusive tumblr blog tumblr.jdating.tumblr.com/ featuring great first date outfit ideas, tips to make your JDate profile shine and more.

10 Relationship Behaviors You Think Are Odd... That Are Totally Normal!



By Laura Seldon for GalTime.com

What's "normal" and what's not when it comes to dating, love and relationships? Think you and your partner align with the average couple? Or are your relationship behaviors totally out there? We've asked several therapists, marriage counselors and relationship experts from around the country to shed some light on relationship behaviors that seem odd at first, but are actually quite normal. Take a seat and see how you and your mate compare!

1. Changing feelings

Once upon a time you loved rocking the highest of high heels. These days, however, you're much more apt to throw on a pair of flats. It may sound simple, but your ever-evolving feelings on shoes can help to serve as a reminder that feelings come and go – and that's OK.

"Love is a living entity," explains Karen Sherman, Ph.D. "And just like people have good days and bad – so will there be periods where the lovin' feelings just won't be there. Hang in, focus on the positive and the feelings will come back."

2. Going through "adjustment periods"

"If you decide to marry, even if you've lived together, the first year is likely to be bumpy," warns Sherman. "You are now in a legally committed relationship, the dynamics change and there is a period of adjustment. Having lived together doesn't prevent this adjustment period."

So, if you and your better half are not in a state of bliss at every moment, it doesn't mean your relationship is doomed – it just means you're normal.

Related: [Must Love Dogs: More Singles Getting Pets](#)

3. Enjoying different hobbies

He's into fantasy football and you're into shopping? Better yet, you're into fantasy football and he's into shopping? Either way, it's totally normal for you and your main squeeze to have different interests.

"You don't have to like all the same things to have a healthy relationship," notes Sherman. "What matters is having the same values." So go ahead and enjoy your fantasy football draft, and then swoon over the new shoes your man just bought online. You both deserve to enjoy your hobbies without feeling guilty.

4. Needing alone time

Are you the kind of person who would take yourself out for a date night for one? If so, you are not alone.

"Washing a car, walking a dog or exercising alone are signs of a healthy relationship with a secure attachment," says Lanada Williams, a licensed counselor in Washington DC and Maryland. "Remind yourself, the individual you met still needs time to breathe and thrive."

5. Being slow to compliment

When is the last time you told your partner how hot they looked? We're all guilty of holding back compliments, and, according to Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist Holly Cox, it may even be something you're doing on purpose!

"When you give a compliment to anyone, but particularly someone you like a whole lot, you're putting yourself on the line," explains Cox. "Clients tell me they are often afraid their partners will reject the compliment – or worse, say something along the lines of, 'Wow, you're finally noticing everything I do around here. Uh-huh. What do you want?'"

Although this may be normal behavior, that doesn't mean it's

OK. Remember to compliment your partner and accept the praise they give you!

6. Having trouble getting in the mood

Every married couple has experienced one of those nights (or mornings) where one member of the duo is ready for a racy romp, but the other is ready for a mellow nap!

“Virtually all couples have sexual desire problems sooner or later,” says Licensed Psychologist Dr. Kate Roberts. “Couples often go long periods of time without having sex and then once they start up again, their sex life continues on its own.”

Related: [Dating Advice: 10 Great Date Ideas Under \\$50](#)

7. Withholding information

Sure you told your partner about that expensive purse you just bought – you just chose not to reveal how much you dropped on it!

“Couples often have different priorities for discretionary income and it’s not uncommon for them to keep their secret stashes of clothes, toys, candy or other discretionary items,” says Dr. Roberts.

Just remember it’s never healthy to lie about how much you spend. If your partner asks how much you blew on that new pair of Jimmy Choos, keep it real. Lying to your partner – especially about money – is never going to lead you anywhere good.

8. Sparring, bickering & fighting

As two different people with two different philosophies on life, you’re bound to disagree at one point or another.

“Fighting is normal,” explains Therapist Dana Ward. “While some couples may think fighting is the sign of a bad

relationship, it actually is very important. The key is fighting with a purpose.”

So, whether you are fighting about something as trivial as how to fold socks, or as significant as a job transition, make sure to fight the topic – not each other.

9. Finding other people attractive

You may be utterly in love with your partner, but that doesn't mean you can't admire a hottie with a great set of legs.

“You can and should appreciate all the beauty and dashing good looks all around you,” shares Ward. However, she notes, “Attractive and attraction is different. Find other people attractive, but stop short of allowing yourself to be attracted to them.”

10. Getting scared and pulling away

Pulling away, taking a time out, going on a break – we're all human, and being vulnerable with someone else can at times be scary enough to make you run for the hills!

“Sometimes when things are getting very serious men, in particular, may pull away while they decided to move forward,” explains Relationship Coach Stef Safran.

However, just because one person in the relationship needs a breather, it doesn't mean your relationship is in desperate need of an SOS. It just means you're human!

Now that you've read through these 10 strange relationship behaviors that aren't actually weird at all, hopefully you feel a little better about your own relationship. If you still think you're odd, though, then embrace the quirks that make your relationship special and take a line from Holly Golightly in *Breakfast at Tiffany's* – “It may be normal, darling; but I'd rather be natural.”

Should You Have a Second Date When the First One Was OK?



By Kerri Sheehan

Everybody dreads first dates. They're awkward, uncomfortable, and how many times can you really tell a relative stranger about your life goals? Many people look for that initial spark when on a first date and without that present won't even consider a second date. How do you know when opting out of a second date is a mistake? Here's some advice:

Is there some form of chemistry?

Some people needed immediate chemistry whereas others are content to go on a second date if the first date presented no red flags. Good chemistry can come from a lot of different ingredients. A strong physical attraction, shared interests, or compatible personalities can all be indicators of that wow factor sort of chemistry. Situations like these generally lead directly to second date. If you sensed some sort of chemistry, but you're not really sure that it was the strongest you've experienced then a second date couldn't hurt your cause. Maybe your date was having an off night that messed up the spark and the chemistry will be stronger the second time around. That second chance could land you a new lover.

Related: [Top 3 Common Dating Mistakes College Students Make](#)

Don't stress

It's okay not to want to give a second chance. What if your date said or did something that really truly upset you? Did you have a battle with an eating disorder and your date happened to make a dig at girls who don't eat? Or maybe your date said something bad about teachers, not knowing that your own mother is a teacher? If so then it's more than okay to put this date in the dud pile. There is absolutely nothing wrong with knowing someone isn't right for you from the get-go.

Think of what you have to lose

Unless you're one date away from Mr. Right, then accepting the invitation for a second date doesn't impede your life in anyway. Dates can be pretty fun as long as you enjoy whom you're going on the date with. If you rated the date as okay then going on a second one could even produce better results. Even if the second date once again doesn't wow you then you could have made a good friend in the process of trying to date him.

Related: [Avoiding the Top 3 Dating Myths](#)

Ultimately it's up to you whether or not you want to go on a second date when the first one wasn't all that special. Don't feel bad about turning down the offer for a second date, but also don't say no too soon as your feelings may change after you get to know the person better.

How do you decide if you should go on a second date? Share below.

Why You Should Hold 'Marriage Meetings'



By Matty Staudt for GalTime.com

I have been with my wife for over 10 years. We have an amazing relationship that is full of love and understanding. We rarely argue, never fight and are genuinely each other's best friends. The one thing that we have recently realized though, is that we don't really communicate everything that is on our mind or bothering us about the other person. We are so busy keeping each other happy that we don't make time to talk about the little bothers that can build up.

Most couples come to this point after awhile together and instead of making the time to talk, they let the little things sit and don't address them, when they probably should. The problem with this is, similar to a pressure cooker, people end up storing too much little stuff and eventually it turns into a big thing that explodes. Exploding is never good and instead of issues being resolved, they become a giant whirlwind of accusations.

So we have started doing something new that I think has made a great relationship even better. Once a week we have a "Marriage Meeting." This is a time that we set aside once a week to talk about things that might be bothering us, or to just tell the other something that we appreciate about them. There are some rules that sound easy, but can be a little more challenging than you would think.

1. The meeting should be held at the same day and time every week. No skipping! Because if you skip one, the next thing you know you're skipping two...then three.... And so on.

2. Each partner has one turn to state something that is on their mind or bothering them.

RELATED: [Absence Shouldn't Make the Heart Grow Fonder](#)

3. One partner talks, the other listens. This is not a discussion. Anything said is to be listened to only... No responding. This gives each person time to think about what

the other has said and then work on a solution.

4. If there is nothing bothering one partner, then they should use the meeting as a time to tell the other something that they appreciate about them or mention something they liked about them during the past week.

5. Again... NO RESPONDING. This can be somewhat difficult, because the initial, knee-jerk reaction is to defend oneself. But this is a meeting not an attack and anything said should be given time to resonate.

RELATED: [Does It Matter If You Have A Lot In Common?](#)

6. Each partner should take what was said and try to work on it the following week. At the next meeting you can discuss what you did about the issue or how you tried to resolve it – IF in fact there was an issue to be resolved.

These meetings have been great for us. They have allowed us the opportunity to A) discuss issues that we would normally suppress and B) voice our appreciation for things that might otherwise go unrecognized.

I believe these are fantastic tools for any relationship at any stage. Give it a try and let us know how it works for you. You can email me at matty@straightmalefriend.com

3 Things a Couple Can Do to Combat the Top Risk Factors

and Save a Marriage



By Mark Baer

Marriage is a wonderful institution that affords couples significant psychological, emotional and financial benefits, in addition to being a commitment of their love to each other. Almost certainly, nobody enters into a marriage, expecting that it will end in divorce. However, over the years, certain risk factors that contribute to the likelihood of divorce have become increasingly clear. The following is a list of 5 of the top risk factors for divorce:

Quality of interaction

Researchers have been able to predict with 90 percent accuracy whether or not a couple will divorce within 5 years, based

upon the quality of their interaction. Negative interaction is highly predictive of marital distress.

Related: [5 Ways to Stop Sabotaging Your Relationships](#)

Having divorced parents

Children of divorce have a higher rate of divorce, particularly when their parents' divorce was a complete surprise to them. Such surprises cause children to lose trust in their relationships.

Marrying at a very young age

Marrying before age of 26 increases the likelihood of divorce, particularly earlier on in the marriage. As might be expected, this has to do with maturity. In fact, our brains do not reach full maturity until around age 25. Is it realistic that a lifetime commitment entered into before reaching maturity will last a lifetime?

Lack of a college education

There happens to be a correlation between income and education level. Since poverty causes a tremendous strain on marital relationships, the lack of a college education is a top risk factor.

Manner in which a person reacts to problems and disappointments

People who have strong or defensive reactions to problems and disappointments have a higher risk of divorce than those whose reactions are more reasonable and who have learned the art of non-defensive communication.

As with most things in life, some things are easier to address than others. The following is a list of the top 3 things couples can do to combat those risk factors:

Marital education programs

Studies published in the Journal of Family Psychology and in other highly respected organizations indicate that participation in marital education programs leads to more satisfying marriages and more than doubles the likelihood that couples will stay together. Those programs teach couples communication and problem solving skills, and how to maintain and intensify fun, affection and sexuality. Please note that “counseling” and “marital education programs” are not one and the same.

Therapy

If one or both spouses suffer from trust issues with regard to relationships or have a personality tendency to have strong or defensive reactions to problems and disappointment, it might behoove them to seek therapy in an effort to resolve those issues.

Related: [Five Celebrity Divorces We Really Weren't Expecting](#)

Return to school

It's never too late to return to school and complete high school or its equivalent and enroll in college. This may require making certain sacrifices, especially when people are already experiencing financial difficulties. However, if income and level of education are related and you don't obtain additional education, how do you otherwise address the strain that poverty takes on a marriage?

Mark earned his B.A. in Economics-Business from UCLA. From there, he went on to earn his law degree from Loyola Law School. He also completed extended studies in International and Comparative Law at Cambridge University in England. Mark is a public speaker and regular contributor and legal expert to a number of outlets including: The Los Angeles Times, Forbes, The Wall Street Journal, REUTERS, TIME Magazine, The

Pasadena Star News, KTLA Morning News as well as numerous ABC, CBS, NBC, CW, and FOX affiliates around the country.

Celebrities Who Dated Out of Their League



By April Littleton

Everyone has heard the saying “opposites attract,” but we still can’t help but wonder how certain celebrities end up with some of the people they date. Is it their personality? Or maybe it’s because of their outlandish style. Whatever the case may be, some of the most average-looking celebrities end

up with the most stunning beauties in America. Here's a list of celebrities Cupid thinks date out of their league:

Jermaine Dupri and Janet Jackson: Everyone was stunned when the producer, rapper and songwriter confirmed to the public that he was dating Janet Jackson. The duo dated for eight years until they finally called it quits in 2009.

Related: [5 Celebrity Couples that Waited for Marriage](#)

Jamie Kennedy and Jennifer Love Hewitt: Kennedy dated his *Ghost Whisperer* co-star from March 2009 to March 2010. However, the relationship wasn't smooth sailing when harsh criticisms about their love affair hit the newsstands. In an interview for [People](#), Kennedy said dating Jennifer Love Hewitt wasn't easy when no one wanted them together in the first place.

Marilyn Manson and Dita Von Teese: This isn't the first time the musician, actor and painter landed such a hottie. Manson was engaged to Rose McGowan from February 1998 to January 19, 2001 before he met Dita Von Teese on the set of one of his music videos. They became a couple on his 32nd birthday. They married in 2005 only for Von Teese to file for divorce a year later due to irreconcilable differences. In an interview with the *Sunday Telegraph*, she said, "I get the impression he thinks I was unsupportive, but the truth is I wasn't supportive of his lifestyle, and someone else came along who was."

Macaulay Culkin and Mila Kunis: The world never understood the relationship between these two celebrities. Culkin began dating the *That '70s Show* actress in May 2002. The couple stayed together for nearly 9 years – longer than anyone would have guessed. On January 3, 2011, Kunis' publicist confirmed their breakup. The duo remain friends while Kunis has moved on to Ashton Kutcher.

Kris Humphries and Kim Kardashian: Even though the *Keeping Up with the Kardashians* star is in a happy relationship with Kanye West and is a new mom to baby North, we can't forget about her brief marriage to Kris Humphries. The basketball player began dating Kardashian in October 2010. They became engaged in May 2011 and married that same year in August. The wedding was highly publicized and even had its own two-part TV special. However, the marriage didn't end in bliss. Just 72 days later, Kardashian filed for divorce.

Related: [Celebrity Couples Who Met on Set](#)

Russell Brand and Katy Perry: To this day, we still don't know what the *Teenage Dream* singer saw in Russell Brand. The couple began dating after meeting for the second time at the 2009 MTV VMAs. The pair became engaged in December of that year and married in a traditional Hindu ceremony in October 2010. Just 14 months into the marriage, Brand filed for divorce via text message and never spoke to Perry again.

What other celebrities do you think date out of their league? Comment below.

'Austenland': Whimsical World of Fantasy Shows the Beginnings of Love





By April Littleton

A 30-something-year-old woman's lifelong obsession with Jane Austen leads her to to a theme park based on the writer's stories and there she meets a handsome suitor. Although she is unable to enjoy the same luxury perks as the wealthier bachelorettes who are currently staying at Austenland, she decides to make the most of the trip anyway. During her stay, she falls in love with a servant and all of her dreams begin to come true.

Should you see it:

Keri Russell, Jane Seymour and Jennifer Coolidge are just a few of the A-list stars who are signed up to play a part in this film. If you're a fan of rom-com movies, *Austenland* will be the perfect flick for you to see before summer ends.

Who to take:

This movie would be great to see with a bunch a friends or if you know someone who is interested in any of Jane Austen's works, they might find *Austenland* interesting as well. It is a

romantic film, so taking a date who doesn't mind your choice of genre wouldn't be a bad idea either.

Related: [‘Girl Most Likely’ Shows the Ups and Downs of the Healing Process](#)

How do you know when someone is “The One?”

Cupid’s Advice:

You might be in love for the first time or you’ve simply just never had strong feelings for anyone before until you met your current partner. Either way, you’re wondering if he/she may be the love of your life. Nowadays, it’s hard to peg out the sincere boyfriends/girlfriends from the illegitimate ones. Don’t worry, Cupid has your back:

1. Communication: How well do the two of you communicate with each other? Is your significant other a good listener? If the answer is yes, your partner may be thinking about a long-term [relationship](#). Only those who are really invested in a solid relationship will be attentive, so keep that in mind the next time you start to notice your love dozing off in the middle of your conversation.

2. Respect: If your honey really is The One, he/she will treat you like a queen. Does your partner cater to your every want and need? Are you able to fully express your opinions and thoughts? Does your love keep all promises? You should be able to say yes to all of these questions without hesitation. You might have a keeper on your hands, but if you have any doubts about his/her feelings for you, you need to rethink the status of your relationship.

Related: [‘Between Us’ Tests the Boundaries of Old Relationships](#)

3. Family and friends: What do your family and friends think about your significant other? Good or bad, your loved ones may

be able to see things in your boo that you wouldn't be able to see because of your romantic feelings. If there's any concern coming from your family or friends, take it into consideration before you make any solid commitments.

How did you know your partner was "The One?" Comment below.

'Devious Maids' Star Alex Fernandez Says, "Life Isn't All About Work"



By Petra Halbur

Chances are, you're familiar with Alex Fernandez's work. After years of playing small roles on television shows like *Heroes*, *Prison Break* and *Army Wives* and lending his voice to video games like *Call of Duty: Black Ops* and *Socom 4: US Navy Seals*, the actor is now enjoying more prominent parts on Lifetime's hit summer series *Devious Maids* as well as *Killer Women* and *The Bridge*.

Related Link: [Jacqueline MacInnes Wood, Star of Lifetime's 'Her Husband's Betrayal,' Says, "Don't Look for Mr. Right"](#)

Additionally, Fernandez recently completed his run as Roy Vickers on the revamped classic *Dallas*. He says it was "pretty amazing" to work on a show with such a legacy. "The original *Dallas* is a show that I grew up watching," he adds. "It was on for so many years in the 70s and 80s, and everybody of my age remembers it. When it came back on and I got cast in a role that was going to be there for the entire season, it was very exciting."

He was also touched by the respect shown to actor Larry Hagman, who played the iconic oil baron J.R. – respect that continued even after his passing last November. On the daily call sheet, which lists all the actors in order of their prominence on the show, Fernandez notes that "Larry was always listed as number one, and I thought that was a really nice testament for those of us who frequently work as television actors. I found it to be a really touching tribute."

Hagman isn't the only co-star who stands out in Fernandez's memory. The Miami, Florida-born performer recalls appearing on an episode of *Robbery Homicide Division* back in 2002 and being struck by the warmth and professionalism of the show's lead actor, Tom Sizemore. "That was the first time in my whole career where the star of the show treated me like a scene partner, treated me like a fellow actor. He's had a lot of personal problems over the years that have been in the media,

but he'll always have a really warm place in my heart for the way he acted towards me."

The actor has also found an amazing co-star in Judy Reyes, who appears as his wife on *Devious Maids*. He plays Pablo Diaz, the husband of Reyes's character Zoila Diaz, who is an ambitious maid working for a rich family in Beverly Hills. Fernandez describes Reyes as the sort of actress that doesn't make work feel like work and says that she "knows her stuff" yet is very relaxed on set.

There was one scene, in particular, that he was excited to film with her: At the end of one episode, they shared "a really sweet kiss." By his own admission, he hasn't had many romantic scenes in his career since he usually plays "cops and criminals." "I told my Twitter followers to tune into *Devious Maids* because, for the first time in my television career, they were going to let me kiss a girl on camera!" Unfortunately, he was disappointed when a producer later informed him that the scene had been cut.

Though his many projects keep him on the move, Fernandez doesn't seem fazed by his busy work schedule. Quite the contrary, he enjoys it. "I really love to work. I love to travel between sets. In the case of *The Bridge*, *Dallas*, *Killer Women*, and *Devious Maids*, they're all shot in different cities," he reveals. "You would think that I'd be exhausted or annoyed, but I'm just exhilarated. Honestly, I can't think of a single time that I felt stressed out."

However, he does admit that spending so much time away from loved ones is "not exactly fun." He and his girlfriend live in Los Angeles, and it takes some extra work to keep their relationship strong. "When your job requires that you travel as much as mine does, you have to make a little more effort to make sure that you're not letting too much time pass between seeing each other."

Related Link: [Absence Shouldn't Make The Heart Grow Fonder](#)

Fernandez says that his idea of a great date is a day spent at the movies followed by some coffee and conversation at a cafe. For his last birthday, the couple went to their favorite Chinese restaurant to work on a play that he is directing and she is producing. "We sat at the table and spread out all the papers that we needed. We ate and worked and talked, and to me, that was a fantastic date," he says with a laugh.

He adds, "For anybody who's working a lot, especially if they enjoy what they do, they have to remember that life isn't all about work."

Be sure to catch Fernandez on the season finale of Devious Maids, airing this Sunday, August 25th at 10/9c!

Kathy Hilton on Her Marriage: "I Thank the Lord Every Day – I'm Very Blessed"





Interview by [Lori Bizzoco](#). Editorial by Sarah Ribeiro.

Kathy Hilton is no stranger to the spotlight. As a child actor, she played roles on notable programs such as *Happy Days*, *Family Affair*, *The Rockford Files*, and *Bewitched*. Her husband, Richard Hilton, is one of the most high-profile businessmen in the country, and her daughters, Paris and Nicky, have had their share of fame as well. But although you may not see Kathy on the big screen anymore, her life is busier than ever. She works with causes such as Erase MS, the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation and the Starlight Children's Foundation. Plus, she designs the Kathy Hilton Collection – “a line of exquisite evening wear for women of all ages that includes an element of high society at affordable prices” – and she does this all while managing a family and keeping her marriage strong.

Life in the public eye can be difficult at times, and maintaining a marriage is just as hard. Hilton met her husband when she was only fifteen years old, and they were married four years later. “We were always together,” she shares. “We grew up together. A lot of people say, ‘Oh, young marriages

don't work out.' I thank the Lord every day – I'm very blessed."

Related Link: [Tips to Win the Love of Someone Rich or Famous](#)

After 34 years together, she credits alone time at the start of their marriage for keeping their relationship strong. "We got engaged, and we moved to New York. Having that time alone without *anyone* poking their nose in our business gave us the opportunity to grow. If we had a disagreement, I couldn't just run home to my parents."

And cherishing that alone time keeps their marriage going even now. When they're not balancing their busy careers or hanging out with their four children, they just like being together."We have date nights all the time," the businesswoman reveals. "We enjoy the social life with our friends, but sometimes, we'll both look at each other and go, 'Honey, I'm peopled out!' I'll dress up, and he'll take me out to dinner, or we'll spend some time in private."

The couple will kick off Richard's birthday – Saturday, August 17th – with some "alone time": sitting in traffic on their drive to the Hamptons. "We do the same thing every year. We live in Southampton, so we'll leave from the city. We stop at William Poll Gourmet Foods for sandwiches – they have the best chicken salad with bacon – and pack a picnic to eat while we sit in traffic for nearly three hours." The family plans to dine at The Palm to celebrate.

Of course, the Hiltons expect to be interrupted at times. "We have our own private life, but as I've always told my girls, 'Anything you sign up for in life, there's a price.' There's always people coming up to say hi or ask to get a picture. It's fine – sometimes, we'd rather people just come up and say hi than whisper and point."

Related Link: [Ali Landry Talks About Expanding Her Family, Date Night](#)

But the family manages the fame well – just as long as they get to be together. Although Paris and Nicky have their own careers and live on their own, they still spend time with their parents and brothers. “We spend all our holidays together, I cherish it, especially having four children,” the family matriarch shares. “I love nothing more than knowing each of my children are in the same building. When we’re on holiday, we have breakfast, lunch, and dinner together every single day. They’re my kids, no matter what. They’re always gonna be my little babies.”

Stay tuned for our future posts about Hilton, which will focus on her Kathy Hilton Collection, her entertaining tips and more! In the meantime, you can check her out on Twitter @KathyHilton and www.facebook.com/OfficialKathyHilton.

Top 3 Common Dating Mistakes College Students Make





By Chau Nguyen, "America's Hottest Dating Coach"

No parents, no rules and unlimited alcohol can trigger a lot of heartbreaks for many unsuspecting college students. Look at what happened to Justin Bieber and Selena Gomez. They have great songs, but their relationship is a train wreck! Protect yourself by learning the top 3 common mistakes college students make in dating.

1. Thinking that dating doesn't exist in college anymore.

I've interviewed hundreds of college students and asked them one question, "*Does dating still exist in college?*" Some students would tell me, "*Of course! I'm in a relationship right now,*" and others would say, "*No way! Dating is taboo in college.*"

Everyone has an opinion on this topic, but the truth is that dating *does* exist in college.

Even if all of your college friends are hooking up, there are many others who are in exclusive relationships. So if you want to be in a serious relationship, remember there are guys who

are looking for the exact same thing right now.

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2. Believing that you have to put out.

One college woman at the University of California, Irvine told me, *“All the girls are putting out, so if I don’t do it, I can’t compete with them.”*

All her friends immediately nodded in agreement. That’s a huge misconception among smart and beautiful college women. If they just want to explore their sexuality, then by all means, be safe and have fun! But many of the guys I interviewed told me that they would never consider getting serious with a woman after having a one-night stand with her.

Is that a double-standard? Completely. It’s not fair for women, and I can sympathize with that. That’s why the best cure for this is to control the pace of the interaction.

Women *do* have the power to veto. If you think he’s moving too fast, stop him. He will respect you for standing your ground, and more importantly, you will respect yourself more.

Related: [Returning to the Dating World](#)

3. Waiting too long to bring up the “relationship status” talk.

Most women understandably hesitate to bring this topic up because they worry that it might scare the guy away. So they just play along until they find out that he’s been hooking up with other girls on the side.

You don’t have to force him to be your boyfriend the first day you meet him. But you need to make one thing very clear early on—is this going to be an exclusive relationship, or are you both free to date other people too? Just be sure to approach

him from a place of confidence.

Tell him, *"Hey, I'm curious. We obviously like each other. So where is this going?"*

If he wants to be exclusive with you, you've hit the jackpot! If he doesn't, you've saved yourself a lot of time, energy, and heartache. Either way, it's a win-win situation for you.

Chau Nguyen, "America's #1 Dating Coach for Tech Guys," helps men and women skyrocket their confidence and succeed in dating. He is the founder of The One Who Gets It. For more information, please visit www.TheOneWhoGetsIt.com or follow him on twitter @datingcoachchau.

Does It Matter If You Have A Lot In Common?





By Matty Staudt for GalTime.com

Whenever anyone starts a relationship or meets someone, the first thing people want to know is, "What do you have in common?" On the surface this seems like a good question and one that warrants serious thought. The more I think about it, though, and think about my wife and I, it seems to me that what you have in common is not the most important thing. In fact, having things not in common makes for a more interesting life in the long run.

Here are some things I DO NOT have in common with my wife... and I believe add to our relationship rather than take away from it.

Music

Yes, we can agree that the Beach Boys were awesome and everyone loves the 80's, but when I really want to crank up my tunes, my wife is not around. I like to pump metal, rap and even country from time to time. And when I do, I like it full blast. My wife does not. So, on car trips we have to find

alternatives to music, or just have conversations while driving. We have amazing talks and love our road trips because we are not just zoning out to music, but rather talking about things we don't talk about in our daily lives. I still pump my music too loud, I just do it alone in traffic.

Related: [Absence Shouldn't Make the Heart Grow Fonder](#)

Food

We love to eat. Let me repeat, we LOVE to eat! Going out to dinner is one of our favorite things. But when it comes to our favorite foods, we are total opposites. I love sushi, she can't stand it. She likes SPAM, yes, SPAM. How can two polar opposites in the food department find common ground? We find new places that have food we both have never tried and on occasion she lets me go to sushi while she gets whatever hot food they offer on the menu. Food is important in relationships, but it is not a dealbreaker. That is unless they are vegan.

Sports

I love them, she can't stand them. I thought this would be hard to make work, but after pushing her to go to a few baseball games, we have found that she actually enjoys going to the ballpark. Sure it's for the beer and dogs, but still we do it together and we are both happy about it. If I need to watch sports, that is a good time for me to do my own thing with friends and let her do something for herself. (That usually means shopping.)

Related: [Why You Should Hold 'Marriage Meetings'](#)

Friends

I am a person who needs to have a lot of friends around and hates to do anything alone. My wife would be fine to keep her own company 90% of the time. We make it work because we are

each other's friends. She fills that gap I need and when she needs her alone time, I head out with my boys. Happy, Happy, Happy.

My bottom line is that not having things in common is not always a bad thing. It opens doors for both people to explore new options and new ways of thinking. Not having the same interests makes life so much more interesting for you in the long run. Let's face it, agreeing on everything is boring and having someone who challenges you and your comfort zone makes for a much more interesting long-term life.

Lessons From Jennifer Garner and Ben Affleck





By Tammy Greene for [Hope After Divorce](#)

There are few other couples that have amassed more attention in 2013 than celebrity power couple Jennifer Garner and Ben Affleck. It has been a memorable year for them with Affleck's huge success and Oscar for his brilliant movie *Argo*. In the coming months, Garner will step back into the spotlight with the film adaptation of the popular book, *Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day*. With their stellar careers, three beautiful children and easy affection with each other, it seems like this Hollywood pair has it all.

But let's not forget the bumpy path these two heavyweights took before they found each other. No one can ignore Affleck's relationship with Jennifer Lopez, a love that the media referred to as "Bennifer." The couple called off their engagement after only 18 months of dating. And Garner isn't without her own, though certainly less notorious, relationship history: She married fellow actor Scott Foley in 2000 and found herself divorced in 2004. Though celebrity couples seem to live a fairytale, these two prove that happily ever after

does not come easily.

We often find ourselves looking to celebrities to guide us in our lives – from how to dress, what to eat and where to shop. Similarly, we look to them to guide us in our relationships. Here are three lessons that we can learn from this fan-favorite power couple.

Related Link: [Celeb Couples: More Like Us Than We Want to Admit?](#)

Keep your personal life personal.

It is hard to say exactly why, but the media bombed hard on Bennifer. Whether it was because of their rather embarrassing nickname or possibly their highly-criticized movie *Gigli*, this couple could do nothing to escape the jokes or harsh criticisms. What might have topped it all off was the music video that the pair filmed together for Lopez's song, "Jenny from the Block." The couple openly displayed their affection for each other in a way that many felt was unnecessary, leaving themselves open to severe criticism by critics and fans alike. It was no surprise, then, that they soon broke up.

There is something to be said for keeping your personal life personal. Publicly displaying arguments or overtly sexual displays of affection leave you open to criticism and opinions from third parties. Thanks to social media, many feel it's okay to air their dirty and sometimes very inappropriate laundry for the world to see. In truth, nobody really wants to hear all about how angry you are at your husband or know what your "dirty talk" sounds like. Keep the details of your relationship personal. Being in a relationship is hard enough; there is no need to invite the unnecessary opinions or criticisms of others.

Admit that marriage is work and work on it daily.

Upon winning the Oscar for Best Picture for *Argo*, Ben Affleck gave an acceptance speech that caught people's attention. He said to his wife, "I want to thank you for working on our marriage for ten Christmases. It's good. It is work but the best kind of work, and there's no one I'd rather work with." The actor was criticized for possibly alluding to the fact that his marriage was in trouble. According to the happily-married duo, though, his speech was totally misunderstood.

Why is it that our society struggles to admit that marriage is work? Anyone in a good and happy marriage knows that daily effort is required for a successful relationship. It seems that people would rather hear that all is rosy and perfect in the land of Hollywood. Affleck should be commended for reminding all of us that what you love is worth the work.

Related Link: [What We Can Learn From "the Work" Celeb Couples Do](#)

Don't take things too seriously.

As a result of the media criticism for his acceptance speech, Affleck found himself having to clarify what he meant and took the opportunity to do so while hosting an episode of *Saturday Night Live*. During his monologue, with the help of his lovely wife, they showed fans that they were still in love and happy and could laugh and joke about the way the acceptance speech was construed.

Being able to laugh in a relationship is a vital part of happiness. It is important not to take things too seriously and to always try to find the humor in situations. There are endless factors that add stress to a relationship and can work cracks into any strong foundation. Laughter can often be the glue that keeps those cracks from splitting in half. There is something admirable about a couple who doesn't take themselves too seriously.

Garner and Affleck are a power couple who seem to have it all

together, but they remind us that the path to a happy ending can often be blocked with bumps and turns. Still, it is undoubtedly a path worth taking.

Tammy Greene is a graduate of the University of La Verne. She has worked as a Child Life Specialist and social worker assisting families who have children with illness or mental disabilities. Tammy is a producer of the national PBS children's television show, Curiosity Quest. She has a blog, Married and Naked, where she shares personal lessons learned from her own life, offering helpful ways to navigate through the challenges of marriage. Tammy is a contributing expert at HopeAfterDivorce.org, FamilyShare.com, LAFamily.com and CupidsPulse.com. She is happily married to her high school sweetheart and is the mother of two. See Tammy's Curiosity Quest website curiosityqueststore.com/ and follow her blog, married-and-naked.com/