

# Six Celebrity Couples We Never Imagined Together



By Abbi Comphel and [Whitney Johnson](#)

There are plenty of pairings that just make sense: peanut butter and jelly; flip-flops and the beach; bright red lipstick and that little black dress, to name a few. That's not to say that unexpected matches don't make their mark: bacon and chocolate (seriously); navy and black; cowboy boots in the summertime. This idea holds true for relationships, too. Sometimes, a couple just seems right, and other times, it takes a bit more convincing to understand why they're a good fit.

**If nothing else, the celebrity couples below prove that love can pop up in the most unexpected places and that opposites *do* attract. As for bacon and chocolate, the jury is still out.**

**1. Johnny Depp and Amber Heard:** In latest [celebrity news](#), this A-list actor married the *Magic Mike XXL* star in February 2015. The celebrity couple have been together for quite some time now. With a 23-year age difference, the pair have definitely made headlines. Heard doesn't want to be known as Depp's wife. She wants to make a strong name for herself in the acting world. This is one beautiful power couple!

**2. Heidi Klum and Seal:** For Klum, it was love at first sight: she saw Seal in a New York City hotel lobby and knew that he was "the whole package." They were together for quite some time and were madly in love. The celebrity couple sadly did not make it like everyone thought they would, and the relationship ended up [celebrity divorce](#). But they are still very good friends and enjoy raising their four children together.

**Related Link:** [Heidi Klum & Seal Shoot Revealing Music Video](#)

**3. Lady Gaga and Taylor Kinney:** Everyone was shocked when they heard Lady Gaga was dating someone and even more surprised when they found out it was actor Taylor Kinney. The two are talked about in the media because they keep their relationship very private. They have been together for about four years now and seem very happy together. They were first introduced when Gaga was filming her music video for "You and I."

**4. Isla Fisher and Sacha Baron Cohen:** This petite, fiery redhead and tall funnyman wed in a private ceremony in Paris in 2010 after eight years together. The couple are now raising their three children in Los Angeles. Keeping in line with the secrecy of their [celebrity wedding](#), the couple waited quite a while to reveal the names of their celebrity kids: Olive, Elula Lottie Miriam, and Montgomery Moses Brian Baron Cohen.

**5. AnnaLynne McCord and Dominic Purcell:** The *90210* starlet and *Prison Break* actor were first spotted together in June 2011 and the two were very in love. With a 17-year age difference this celebrity relationship had a few struggles. But it seems the two are back together and still in love. McCord celebrated her 28th birthday this summer and Purcell was there to celebrate.

**Related Link:** [Isla Fisher Vacations with Sacha Baron Cohen, Kids](#)

**6. Ellen Pompeo and Chris Ivery:** Viewers are used to seeing Pompeo, who is best known for playing the title character of Meredith Grey on ABC's medical drama, *Grey's Anatomy*. On the show she was courted by and now married to McDreamy, the lead neurosurgeon at Seattle Grace Hospital played by Patrick Dempsey. However, in the real world, she has found her own McDreamy in record producer Chris Ivery, who she married on November 9, 2007.

**Who are some other unlikely celebrity couples? Share your thoughts below.**

---

# Five Reasons Why Opposites Attract



By [Jessica DeRubbo](#)

Why are nice girls attracted to bad boys? Because opposites attract – duh! For decades, we’ve been throwing around this cliché without really investigating why it may be true. I mean, at one time or another, haven’t we all been drawn to those who are so different from us that we’d be hard pressed to actually find a similarity?

For instance, your idea of having fun is to hit the bar scene and meet new people, while he wants to sit at home and watch sports. You’re super bashful at a dinner party, and he’s the life of the party. You were always a straight “A” student with no “naughty” record, while he struggled to pass in school and

spent the majority of his time in the principal's office. Despite those glaring differences, the thing is, sometimes being in a relationship with an opposite personality *works*.

So, let's find out why those who have very little in common find each other irresistible. Here are five solid reasons:

**1. It's all in the science:** A recent study shows that females are naturally attracted to men whose immune systems differ from their own. In fact, the more unlike a man's immune system is to a woman's, the more likely the woman is to remain faithful. Pretty soon, a simple DNA test may be the answer to all of our relationship problems.

**Related:** [Laws of Attraction Between Celebrity Couples](#)

**2. Curiosity:** Sometimes it's simply that we want to know how "the other half" lives, according to Ronnie Ann Ryan, MBA, CCC (known as The Dating Coach and author of *MANifesting Mr. Right*). "I am the type that wants to get from point A to point B as fast as possible," she says. "My husband wants to go the long way so he can see the sunset at the beach on the way to his destination. Learning to slow down has been very good for me."

**3. New and improved:** Having a relationship with someone whose perspective on life is completely different than yours serves to bring out a spanking new, and sometimes better side, of each person. Plus, being with someone who has a completely different opinion than yours can keep the spark alive in a relationship.

**Related:** [Male Perspective on How to Not Strike Out in Dating](#)

**4. Divide and conquer:** "Opposites can make fabulous partners because they complement each other," says Ryan. Instead of arguing over who gets to do the "good" chores and who gets stuck with the "bad," your likes and dislikes don't overlap.

You prefer washing the dishes, while he's totally fine with drying.

**5. It's a challenge:** Let's face it: they don't call it the "dating game" for nothing. Yes, eventually dating can turn from a contest into a serious relationship, but it starts out as a challenge to overcome. It becomes even more of a feat when you add opposite personalities to the mix. Bottom line is – the Venus vs. Mars dynamic is exciting!

**What are some other reasons that opposites attract? Share your thoughts below.**

---

## What Kim Kardashian Taught Me About Marriage





By Liz from WeLoveDates.com

I finally caught Kim Kardashian's wedding special while I was home sick one day, and now there are two hours of my life I wish I could get back. Three days later, when news of her impending divorce broke, I wasn't surprised at all. I mean, anyone who tuned in to her wedding special could tell that the couple barely liked each other. I was originally ready for Kim to go away, but Lord knows I love a great reality show train wreck. So, I couldn't look away.

While Ms. Kardashian and I couldn't be more different, we also have a few things in common. We're the same age, in love with being in love and have a particular affinity for high heels and hair extensions. I then came to the conclusion that Kim Kardashian could teach me a thing or two about marriage:

**Related Link:** [How to Make Your Marriage 'Easy Breezy'](#)

**Womens Intuition Is Real:** There is a small part of me that actually feels bad for KK. I have to believe that beneath all the makeup, the spanx, and the money, there's a real person

with actual feelings. Putting myself in her very expensive shoes, I wonder what I would have done if I had that “this isn’t right” feeling in the pit of my stomach. Knowing that when I called off the wedding it would affect so many people and would make me feel bad.

**Money and Marriage Don’t Mix:** By Kim selling out her wedding, getting married became part of her job description. This is where it gets tricky, because marriage should be about love between you and your partner ... and that’s it. I highly doubt that anyone wants to pay me to film my wedding (if you do, call me!), but this was a reminder to keep my eyes and mind on what matters, and to keep it sacred. The more you treasure it, the more you should protect it.

**Eloping may be the way to go:** I’ve always wanted a fairytale wedding, but watching this Kardashian sh\*t show has really forced me to re-evaluate my priorities. It seems as if we forget that marriage is not about the wedding day, the dress and the registry. It’s about joining your life with someone else’s, whether he lives in Minnesota or not, and whether there is an NBA lock-out or not. There’s simply is too much emphasis placed on the wedding, and not on your future life together.

**Related Link:** [Advantages of Eloping](#)

And, ladies and gentlemen, I want the life. I want that happily ever after.

---

# Budget-Friendly Tips for



# Holiday Weddings



By Cara Davis

The countdown to the holidays has begun. With it comes the only time of year that's simultaneously joyous and stressful. For some, this season will bring with it the event of a lifetime: a wedding. Those planning holiday winter weddings have several opportunities to save money and lessen the stress burden for themselves and their guests.

**Related:** [8 Alternative Wedding Trends for 2011](#)

## 1. Deck the Halls.

Most event locations will have already decked the halls for the holidays, allowing you to piggyback their efforts for a low-cost wedding. Go with Christmas hues of gold, red and green – or go for a silvery winter blitz. Strings of white

Christmas lights will transform any room into a holiday paradise.

## **2. Silver Bells.**

Create budget large-scale ornaments as decorations using Styrofoam balls spray-painted and covered in glitter. Or create groupings of bare branches spray-painted white and covered in silver glitter. Paper ornaments, like these ornament greeting cards, make great wedding invitations or wedding favors.

## **3. Seasons Eatings.**

Comfort food is a popular winter wedding choice (think soups, pasta, pot pies and mac-n-cheese). Don't shy away from cost-cutting measures like serving family-style or buffet. Consider a hot chocolate, cider, eggnog or coffee bar to which your guests can immediately help themselves (plus, you'll save hundreds by skipping the alcohol).

## **4. Marshmallow World.**

Gingerbread houses make quaint table centerpieces, as do natural greenery and berries. Cocoa mixes or cookie cutters also make inexpensive wedding favors.

## **5. Peace on Earth and Online.**

Couples are increasingly using online wedding planning tools, like creating or sending save-the-date and invitations online (40-percent increase over the last two years), personal websites and online RSVP services (23-percent and 31-percent increases respectively) and using social media to communicate wedding details (78-percent increase), according to TheKnot.com. Brides and grooms also have the option of registering online for gift cards at sites like CardAvenue.com, which is a great option for guests already overwhelmed with holiday shopping lists.

## 6. Jingle Bell Rock.

If you chose to have your wedding around the holidays, it's likely a favorite time of year for you. As such, incorporating favorite holiday tunes into your wedding reception is a must, and a fantastic way to get your guests into the holiday spirit. Pandora is an excellent, economical method to pipe in some yuletide carols at the appropriate time during your reception.

When all is said and done, you'll begin your first happy new year together, and that's something to celebrate indeed.

**Related:** [How To Have A Special At Home Proposal](#)

*Weddings expert Cara Davis is the author of Cheap Ways to Tie the Knot and blogs from her home in Orlando, FL, about cheap ways to spend and save at CheapWaysTo.com.*

---

# Don't Let Holiday Food Dictate How You Eat





Written by Aimee Wilcox

The holidays are for celebrating those meaningful traditions with the person who matters most to you. But, often times those celebrations are synonymous with food. So, how can you keep all the delicious treats and calorie-rich meals from adding up on the scale? Here are a few tips:

**1. Be there and be square: Bring the healthy food.**

If it's a potluck, holiday party or a family get together, ensure your access to healthy foods by volunteering to bring a healthy dish. It doesn't have to be fruits or vegetables (although those are great options); think outside the box with things like hummus, roasted vegetables or low fat cheese. But don't just bring it; the point is to fill up on the healthy food *first*. Or, eat a small meal (like soup) before you go so that you don't throw all self control out the window on an empty stomach. Keep your indulgences after that to a minimum (picking 2-3 other foods to sample is a good goal). Don't forget that drinks have calories, too. And, by all means, don't linger near the food table!

**Related Link:** [Diets and Dating](#)

## **2. Make your wish list known: Enlist the support of others.**

Tell your well-intentioned friends and family about your goals and kindly request that they steer clear of gifts that include holiday treats this year. It's probably inevitable that you'll get at least a few boxes of candy and cookies, so don't hesitate to re-gift them (unopened, of course) to others. If people ask, suggest gift cards for smoothies or a health food store. Or, ask them for a gift card so you can go on a shopping spree for a new workout outfit. And, don't forget to use the buddy system. Designate that trusted loved one for moral support through the holidays. An added bonus: share your dishes to cut down on the calorie intake.

## **3. Run like a turkey on Thanksgiving.**

Instead of meeting your date at a restaurant, try going for a bike ride, walk or hike instead. You can even go bowling, rock climbing, dancing or ice skating. Just find a way to be active together. Besides, you'll probably have a lot more fun. Even better, sign up for a Turkey Trot or holiday race. Those are the kinds of things that make for memorable (and healthy) holidays.

**Related Link:** [Learn a New Sport With Your Significant Other](#)

Staying healthy through the holidays may require a little more planning, discipline and activity, but you'll be glad when the number on your scale doesn't resemble the bill from your credit card this holiday season. Cheers!

*A full time mom to her four young muses, Aimee is also a part time writer and avid runner, and is always looking to keep a perspective on motherhood, life with kids and the Great Balance.*

---

# How to Avoid the Reality Show Relationship Curse



By Brea Gunn

One more Hollywood divorce has entered the official records. Kim Kardashian and Kris Humphries' fairy tale marriage lasted less than three months. Say what you will, but I think that this whole mess could have been avoided if they made their relationship more private. When you live your life so publicly, I'm sure that it's difficult to separate reality ... from reality TV. Even so, it seems that many stars have been swept away with the ratings, only to realize that they aren't as perfectly matched as they originally thought.

Why don't we start at the beginning of the end? Here are seven former celebrity duos whose relationships may or may not have dissolved as a result of being featured on reality TV:

**1. Jessica Simpson and Nick Lachey:** We all fell in love with Jessica Simpson and Nick Lachey on their series, *Newlyweds*. She was so sweet and innocent, and he was her protector. Unfortunately, they split shortly after their show wrapped in 2005.

**2. Carmen Electra and Dave Navarro:** This former couple took a run at reality television, too. They split while planning their wedding because they had agreed to air their plans on MTV and couldn't make up their minds.

**3. Hulk Hogan and Linda Hogan:** Hulk and wife Linda split after filming multiple seasons of *Hogan Knows Best*.

**Related:** [Hulk Hogan Supports Ex's Engagement](#)

**4. Jon Gosselin and Kate Gosselin:** This duo lasted longer than most, but split during their series that focused on them and their eight children.

**5. Travis Barker and Shanna Moakler:** Remember *Meet the Barkers*? The former couple filed for divorce after only two seasons ... and two and a half years of marriage. This on-and-off again couple is still a little confused about whether they should be together or not.

**6. Christopher Knight and Adrienne Curry:** Christopher Knight, a.k.a. Peter Brady, and his love, *America's Next Top Model* winner Adrienne Curry, split in May of this year. Apparently their show, *My Fair Brady* wasn't enough to keep them together.

**7. Kim Kardashian and Kris Humphries:** Let's face it: This whole debacle is going to be well overplayed while their divorce is pending.

**Related:** [A Reminder About Relationship Mistakes to Avoid](#)

The question is, what can you learn from all of these couples? A lot, actually. And your other half will thank you. Here are a few quick tips:

### **Have a Courtship**

It's old fashioned, but it's necessary. Kim and Kris dated for six months and look where it got them. Yes, Khloe and Lamar were engaged and married much faster and they are happily married, but they're the exception, not the rule. So take your time and date your mate a while before deciding on marriage. You'll learn more about each other, and be more prepared for a lifetime.

### **Watch for Warning Signs**

I don't want anyone to be paranoid, but think about this: how often did Kim and Kris fight during their relationship? I'm not talking about the little disagreements, like where to have dinner. I'm talking about kids, your home, and money. If you can't come to an agreement that makes you both happy, you're not going to be happy, and you'll follow in some pretty famous footsteps.

### **Discuss the Big Stuff**

Before the wedding, hash out all of the big issues. Discuss kids, money, location, pets and general life preferences. These are big items that you need to agree on before you walk down the aisle.

And after you've tied the knot, how do you keep your relationship going strong? The most important thing is to remember three simple words: I love you. Say them, and then say them again.



*Brea Gunn writes about the best Westchester wedding venues. Check out what these wedding business marketing insiders have to share.*

---

## Celebrity Couples Who Like to Shop



By Nisha Ramirez

We know celebrities love to shop, but celebrity couples who do it together are super cute! There's something about a guy holding a women's department store bag that makes us melt. In the real world, hitting the mall with your sweetheart can mean

total boredom for him and a headache for you. Maybe these celeb duos aren't captured on camera arguing because they don't have to look at price tags. Whatever the reason, below are five of Hollywood's most well-known fashion-seeking duos we can't help but admire:

**1. Gwen Stefani and Gavin Rossdale:** This married couple are always photographed and filmed with two things: their children and their shopping bags. Paparazzi regularly capture the rocker family cruising store aisles in style. They love fashion so much that Gwen even launched her own line. This family makes spending a paycheck look fun.

**Related Link:** [Zimbio's Top 10 Sizzling Celebrity Couples](#)

**2. Jessica Simpson and Eric Johnson:** This engaged duo and parents-to-be are always spotted together, in and out of retail stores. Since Jessica Simpson's pregnancy announcement, something tells us that the two will be shopping less for orange Birkin bags and more for onesies and designer baby clothes.

**3. Emma Watson and Johnny Simmons:** Thank goodness shopping is universal. Emma Watson and her new man, Johnny Simmons, went on a Paris shopping outing last summer. In fact, *People* reports that Watson tried on clothes and modeled them for Simmons in boutiques around the City of Lights. There's nothing like relying on your partner to give you an honest opinion.

**4. Reese Witherspoon and Jim Toth:** This actress and her agent know how to create romance out of a day perusing the shops. *Zimbio* caught the pair with their hands full of more than just shopping bags. The two lovingly shared hugs and kisses in between Witherspoon's visit to fitting rooms.

**5. Will Smith and Jada Pinkett Smith:** After dodging rumors of a divorce last August, the Smiths used a day of shopping to

prove to the world that their relationship was still going strong. The couple must believe in therapy—retail therapy, that is—because they are always spotted window shopping. Their last big purchase? Part ownership of the Philadelphia 76ers.

**Related Link:** [Celebrity Couples Who've Made the World a Better Place](#)

If you and your partner are dying to get out of the house and spend some quality time together, shopping may be the answer. You're sure to have a smile on your face when you're walking around in brand new high heels or a gorgeous multi-colored scarf around your neck.

**How does your significant other feel about shopping with you? Share your experiences below.**

---

## Women Have Fun Talking About Sports on 'WhileTheMenWatch'





By Andrew Pryor

To every woman who's ever gone to bed early on a Sunday night during playoff season, thinks a "pick-and-roll" is something people do when there's no Kleenex around and that a "buttonhook" is a nifty solution for a torn shirt—know this: You are not alone.

Lena Sutherland and Jules Mancuso, two long-distance best friends and self-proclaimed "sports widows," found that they had a lot in common when it came to sports. They realized this one day while talking on the phone while their husbands were engrossed in a big January football game. They chatted about their opinions on different sports, how hot the players were and how they'd always been interested in knowing just what a "sacrifice fly" could possibly mean. While talking this over, they came up with the concept of a show that would cater to other women whose husbands are married to the game. Thus, *While The Men Watch* was born.

Lena and Jules are co-hosts of their own radio program that they've described as "a cross between ESPN and Sex & The

City.” Their number-one goal is to get women involved in the discussion of sports in a way that appeals to them, not to men. “We try to have women engaged in a fun way, instead of spending their Saturday night alone,” states Mancuso.

**Related Link:** [She’s Got Game: The Women’s Guide to Loving Sports](#)

So how does someone introduce women into what’s always been a man’s world?

Sex appeal, for starters. On *While The Men Watch*, Lena and Jules engage in a different form of fantasy sports, one that focuses on what Jules calls the “fantasy boyfriend.” It’s a twist on the game with women in mind. “We print out the team roster, look at each player’s picture and stats, and choose the member that would make the best fantasy boyfriend,” says Jules. “It’s a fun time-waster and it makes a slow game go more quickly.” And of course, the radio program gives out prizes on occasion to lucky listeners, like jewelry and designer clothing.

But the husbands don’t always need to feel left out—Lena and Jules also encourage single women to learn about sports. “What we found was if you ask a guy one question about sports, it turns into a long conversation. Guys get excited when they find a woman that’s interested in knowing more about the sports they like—and that goes for single women as well as married women. A sports bar can be a great place to find someone new.”

*While The Men Watch* has covered sporting events like Games 6 and 7 of the World Series, as well as regular season hockey and football games. Jules admits that she and Lena can be a bit biased when it comes to picking a favorite team, though. “It depends on a lot of things,” says the radio co-host. “We usually favor whichever team looks like they can finish the game quicker, or the one that’s better-looking.”

**Related Link:** [Celebrity Couples You Just Might See at a Sporting Game](#)

*While The Men Watch* has over two thousand listeners per show—and not all of them are female. “We’ve had several men call into the program,” says Jules. “A lot of them just want to know what their partner’s laughing at while the game’s going on.”

So, for all of those ladies with men who leave them for their television sets or “live games,” you now have a venue to turn to—[WhileTheMenWatch.com](#).

You can look at the program schedule online at [WhileTheMenWatch.com](#) or check out their Facebook page or follow them on Twitter.

---

## **Kim Kardashian: Starring in Her Own Life Story**





By Amy Beth O'Brien

Regardless of what you may think of the Kim Kardashian/Kris Humphries whirlwind marriage, you have to admire a woman who knows how to play to her strengths. Ever since Kim's life became the subject of an E! reality TV show, her life became a business. Like any good businesswoman, she knew when to cut her losses.

Whereas most women in the non-reality world may have ignored the inner voice that told us we were [making a mistake](#) with our marriage and then spent years trying to make it work, Kim called it quits before anyone invested any more time or money.

**Related Link:** [Kim K's Divorce A Reminder About Relationship Mistakes to Avoid](#)

How many of us would have stuck it out because our parents spent a ton of money on the wedding and 400 guests bought us presents? How many would have been embarrassed to admit they made a mistake? Maybe we would have let it go on for years, had an affair, or brought a child or two into the equation in

an effort to do what we thought was the right thing.

After it ended, we'd tell our friends how we knew it wasn't right from the beginning. We just got so caught up in the wedding preparations and the desire for a fairy tale ending that we ignored the nagging inner voice of wisdom that told us we were on a road to nowhere with Mr. Wrong.

**Related Link:** [Kim Kardashian Files for Divorce From Kris Humphries](#)

It's a given that allowing your life to be put on display is probably not the best idea if you want your marriage to succeed, but for Kim Kardashian and Kris Humphries, I suspect they're no different from the thousands of other people who get married every year without enough forethought, only to wind up divorced. It's just that most of us would tie ourselves in knots trying to make it work and spend years in therapy avoiding the inevitable. We'd continue putting on a show for the sake of everyone around us, instead of acknowledging the reality of our lives. After a respectable amount of time passed, we'd finally give in and end it—an undefined amount of time that told society we at least gave it a shot.

Instead of judging Kim's 72-day marriage, perhaps we should admire her for being a little more real than the rest of us, having the savvy and the courage to play a starring role in her own life, and writing a script where the happy ending isn't the marriage, but in this case, a divorce.

*Amy Beth O'Brien is the author of four-time-award winning book Stuck with Mr. Wrong? Ten Steps to Starring in your own Life Story. Visit her web site at [www.amybethobrien.com](http://www.amybethobrien.com).*



---

# Fame, Fortune and Love: The World's Wealthiest Celebrity Couples



By Whitney Baker

Hollywood's It Couples outshine us regular folks in more ways than one: they're happily in love; they live extravagant and fame-filled lives; and they have more money than they can possibly spend. With a total of over \$535 million divided among them, the celebrity couples on our list better have some shopping to do – or they're going to be carrying around quite a few hefty wallets. Here they are:

**1. Beyoncé and Jay-Z:** This celebrity couple is not only the wealthiest couple on our list – raking in nearly double the next-richest duo – but perhaps the busiest as well. Pocketing nearly \$124 million, they earned their paychecks from music sales and singing gigs, as well as endorsement deals and clothing lines.

**Related:** [Celebrity Couples You Just Might See at a Sporting Game](#)

**2. Harrison Ford and Calista Flockhart:** Ford owes Indiana Jones a big thank you: the most recent installment, *Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull*, earned the action star over \$66 million. Flockhart starred in the ABC drama *Brothers & Sisters* (cancelled earlier this year after five seasons), bringing their collective income to over \$70 million.

**3. Gisele Bündchen and Tom Brady:** These pretty faces earned a combined \$63 million last year. *Forbes* ranked Bündchen the world's highest-paid model for the third-consecutive year, stating that her runway work and cover photos earned her \$45 million. During football season, Brady receives his \$18-million-a-year paycheck.

**4. Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie:** Reports from *The Sun* reveal that this famous couple spends \$10 million a year on their six children alone, accounting for only a fraction of their combined yearly salary of \$55 million. Another big chunk of their paycheck? They are currently renovating the \$56 million French Chateau that they call home.

**5. Will and Jada Pinkett Smith:** With wife Pinkett Smith focusing her efforts on behind-the-scenes work (both writing and producing), there's no doubt that Smith makes his mark on the big screen. Grossing over \$5.8 billion at worldwide box offices and commanding \$20 million per film, Smith is the primary contributor to the couple's joint \$50 million a year

income. With a paycheck like that, it's no wonder the couple is raising their family in a 25,000 square foot mega-mansion in Calabasas, Calif.

And now for the runner-ups:

**6. David and Victoria Beckham:** It looks like their 2007 move from London to Los Angeles is paying off, with the couple earning \$46.5 million in 2010. David's soccer career is supplemented with a few highly lucrative product endorsements, such as Armani and the after-shave and fragrance line called David Beckham Instinct, and Victoria has found chic success through her self-titled fashion line.

**Related:** [Celebrity Couples Who've Made the World a Better Place](#)

**7. Ellen DeGeneres and Portia de Rossi:** With Oprah running her own television network instead of hosting her show, DeGeneres is sitting pretty as the queen of daytime talk shows. De Rossi has been busy with her recent acting on *Better Off Ted* and sales from her memoir, *Unbearable Lightness: A Story of Loss and Gain*, making the couple's combined income \$36 million.

**8. Gwyneth Paltrow and Chris Martin:** Currently raising their two children in London, this overseas couple brings in a joint paycheck of \$33.5 million per year. While Martin depends on the worldwide success of Coldplay, the Oscar-winning actress's recent accomplishments include her performance in *Country Strong* and her guest appearances on *Glee*, as well as her family-focused cookbook, *My Father's Daughter: Delicious, Easy Recipes Celebrating Family & Togetherness*.

**9. Sarah Jessica Parker and Matthew Broderick:** The New York City-based couple brings in over \$29 million a year, with Parker as the unequivocal breadwinner. She recently left her position as chief creative officer of Halston Heritage, but has plenty of other lucrative projects to fall back on,

including that of movie star, perfumer and spokeswomen, not to mention her starring and producing roles in the *Sex & the City* television series and movies. Broderick has switched gears since his teen heartthrob days (circa *Ferris Bueller's Day Off*) and now focuses his acting efforts on Broadway.

**10. Tim McGraw and Faith Hill:** Thanks to the talents of these two country superstars, they brought in a combined income of nearly \$28.5 million. McGraw has enjoyed 21 number one singles on the Billboard Hot Country 100 charts and recently ventured into acting, appearing in hit movies such as *The Blind Side* and *Country Strong*. Meanwhile, Hill's musical prowess has earned her a Grammy Award, American Music Award and the People's Choice Award.

**Who is your favorite wealthy celebrity couple? Share your thoughts with us below.**

---

## **Kim Kardashian's Divorce: A Reminder About Relationship Mistakes to Avoid**





By Rosalind Sedacca, CCT

Sadly, celebrity divorces make all the headlines for all the wrong reasons. They showcase the most unconscious behavior, especially when it comes to relationships. Kim Kardashian's marriage going off track after such a short time is just one more example.

**Related Link:** [Signs that Kim and Kris were Doomed](#)

It appears Kim spent more time working out her wedding details than on determining whether this was a good match from the start. Unfortunately, celebrities are not alone in making this common mistake. Too many couples think no further than the honeymoon plans when contemplating marriage. They have no idea about the complexity behind real relationship issues and the maturity it takes to create a successful long-term outcome.

Divorced couples do, however. They learn through hindsight about the challenges two people face when living together week after week and month after month in today's stress-filled

world. It takes awareness, flexibility, great communication skills and the ability to understand your partner's perspective to make a relationship work – and that's just for routine life experiences. Throw in accidents, sickness, job loss and other major stressors, not to mention the complexities that come with having children, and it's easy to understand why so many marriages fail and too often end in divorce.

If you're divorced and looking to find a healthier, happier relationship ahead, or if you're marrying for the first time and want to avoid relationship disasters, here are some tips worth serious consideration:

**Related Link:** [How to Size Someone Up For The Long Run](#)

– **Know your partner well – during the good times and the bad.** It's after you face disagreements or nurse your partner through an illness that you find out with whom you are really contemplating spending the rest of your life. If what you discover makes you uncomfortable, have some serious conversations – or move on before making any further commitments.

– **Don't expect to be "completed," "saved" or "fixed."** No one can fill the void in your inner self. You're setting your partner up for failure if you expect them to fix your problems and love you through your unresolved issues. Do the inner work on yourself first, perhaps with the support of a therapist. Then seek out another soul who has done the same to partner with you.

– **Be hooked on more than just romance.** Happily married couples will tell you that you have to be more than great bed-mates to make a real relationship work. Look for common values, goals, beliefs and interests. Opposites may attract in the short-term, but you want a marriage based on respect and sharing a future together. If your core values and

interests are not aligned, you're facing a tough road ahead.

– **Be your authentic self – and don't change for a partner's approval.** You can't fake your way through a marriage. If you hate sports, the internet or pets, state it up front and find a mate who loves you knowing this reality. It's unfair to hide your true self from your partner, and it's a disservice to yourself pretending to be who you are not. Honor who you are and look for a partner with high self-esteem who loves themselves as well. That's a formula for lasting relationship success!

As Kim Kardashian discovered, money won't buy you a happy marriage. You can't use sensuality as a substitute for good sense. Relationships don't have storybook endings. They require constant attention, the ability to sacrifice and compromise at times, and a heavy dose of respect for the person you brought into your life.

Before setting out in the relationship world, work on your inner demons, let go of the baggage from previous relationships, and take your time in getting to know the special partner you are choosing. There's no magic wand that will make your relationship succeed, but these guidelines will set you on a course that will circumvent a lot of pot holes along the road to happily ever after.

*Rosalind Sedacca, CCT is a divorce and relationship coach. She is founder of the Child-Centered Divorce Network for parents and author of the internationally acclaimed ebook: How Do I Tell the Kids About the Divorce? A Create-a-Storybook Guide to Preparing Your Children – with Love! She is also co-author of the new book: 99 Things Women Wish They Knew Before Dating After 40, 50 & Yes, 60! Her free divorce and parenting tip sheet and coaching programs are available at [www.childcenterreddivorce.com](http://www.childcenterreddivorce.com). Rosalind's free dating tip sheet*

*and relationships courses can be found at [www.womendatingafter40.com](http://www.womendatingafter40.com).*

---

## **Five Ways Social Media Can Help Your Relationship**



By Diamon Hall

Perhaps you reconnected with the girl who used to pinch you on the playground, the professor who inspired you to land your dream job or a long lost distant relative who lives in Germany. Whatever it may be, websites like Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Google+, or MySpace are used in many different



creative ways. In fact, it seems that people can hardly function without social media nowadays. It helps you keep in touch with family, friends and even people you wouldn't normally communicate with if it weren't for those sites. If social media can help you in the platonic aspects of your life, then it can certainly help your love life, whether that means meeting a new flame or enhancing a relationship you already have. Here are five ways social media can aid you in matters of the heart:

**1. More ways to keep in touch:** Just like social media can help you keep in touch with family and friends, it can also help you keep in touch with your mate. You may not always be able to pick up your phone to call or even shoot a text. If you're at work and there's a computer available, it's probably easier to log on to a social site like Facebook and chat for a quick minute or send a personal message just to say "I love you."

**Related Link:** [5 Reasons Why Men Text Instead of Call](#)

**2. Dig deeper before the first date:** If you're just meeting someone for the first time, social media can greatly assist you in figuring out who this person is and what you can expect. Although you shouldn't judge solely on what you read online, the image someone gives off via social media sites can be telling. Browse through their identifying information, photos, and friend's comments. Often times it's insightful to see how a potential partner interacts with others.

**3. Stay close even when distant:** You or your honey may have to go out of town without the other sometimes. You can upload pictures of yourself to let them know what's occupying your time while they're not there. Facebook has even incorporated video chat on their site, which is a great way to seemingly shrink the distance between the two of you.

**4. Communicate more with his or her family:** Finally, social media is a way around being the shy one at the extended family

dinner table. Your partner's family is going to want to see you in person sometimes, but for the other times, talk to them via a social site. They'll be thrilled to know you think enough of them to include them in your virtual social life.

**5. Everyday use:** Sometimes you may not have the money to send flowers and candy, or even to go out to dinner. Your lives may be very hectic and you may hardly get enough time to talk. Utilizing social media will help you feel connected.

**Related Link:** [Do's and Don'ts of Flirtexting and Sexting](#)

**How has social media helped your relationship? Share your experiences below.**

---

## What to Wear to Meet His Family





By Sarah Ellis

If you're in a new relationship, the looming holidays may mean you're a tad anxious about meeting "the family." Naturally, you want to make a good impression, and while it's what's on the inside that counts, your appearance will speak for you before you even open your mouth. What you wear should certainly reflect your personal style, but try to move away from anything that's terribly polarizing and stick with something simple and classic. That means no glitter or sequins, nothing too body-hugging, and nothing low cut or short. Those rules are pretty much a no-brainer, but not everyone keeps that in mind! You don't have to go as far as a turtleneck and pearls, especially if that's not "you" – but try to channel more Olivia Palermo ... and less Kim Kardashian.

**Related Link:** [Etiquette Expert Says Kim Kardashian Should Return Wedding Gifts](#)

Stick with structured and ladylike, instead of sexy and fitted. Olivia knows how to work the classic pieces while putting her outfit together in a modern way. She doesn't look

outdated or prudish; she looks fresh and modern – like she was personally outfitted by Ralph Lauren or J Crew. Here are some tips to help you achieve that look:

**Tip 1:** Choose great fitting basics. Find a color that flatters you. That might be a simple wrap dress, a great pair of boot cut jeans, or a tailored blouse. You'll want the basics to be the foundation for the rest of your outfit.

**Tip 2:** Build with great accessories. This helps you look more polished and professional – and keeps you from looking too plain. Don't overdo it. You want to look like you cared enough to carefully choose your outfit, but avoid looking like you're trying too hard. You can wear multiple accessories, but choose one to be the focus. Maybe it's a statement necklace, or a scarf (perfect for the holidays), or a great structured handbag.

**Tip 3:** Poke around and see if you can find out how his family normally dresses. You don't want to show up in jeans to his family dinner if they typically wear skirts and dresses, and equally embarrassing would be to wear a fancy dress when his family is super casual.

**Related Link:** [Hair Battle Spectacular's Blondie Talks Hair Tips for Dating](#)

So, it's not your appearance that will make them decide whether or not you're a keeper, but it'll ease your nerves as you meet his family and help with that first impression. Just like going to a job interview, you want to look qualified and pulled together. Look great, and you'll feel great!

*Author Bio: As a newlywed, I am fully versed in making impressions on new family members. While I may not be a*

*professional stylist, I pride myself on choosing fashion that looks polished and classic, and I'm always helping friends choose their first date and meet the parents outfits. Although I'm a writer for Handbag Heaven by day, outside of work I take joy in being a matchmaker, a newlywed, and a momma to my precious puppy, Luna.*

---

## Top 5 Most Traveled Celebrity Couples



By Nisha Ramirez

Once you get past the daunting task of packing and airport

security, traveling can be a great way to bond with your partner. Whether you decide to take a road trip through the 50 states or hop on a plane headed around the world, visiting a new place and learning a new culture can bring the two of you closer ... and celebrities are no exception. So, take notes and get out your passport, because these star duos take traveling to the extreme:

**1. Ethan Zohn and Jenna Morasca:** Ethan Zohn won the hit reality TV show *Survivor Africa* and his girlfriend, Jenna Morasca, won *Survivor Amazon*. After being together for eight years, the adventure loving couple took traveling to new heights and joined the cast of *The Amazing Race* in September. Zohn and Morasca hoped the competition across the world would help them relieve stress following Zohn's battle against Hodgkin's disease.

**2. Miranda Kerr and Orlando Bloom:** Avid actor Bloom and his son, Flynn, always travel with hardworking mother, Kerr, for her modeling gigs. The Victoria's Secret beauty has a job that sends her around the world, and she hates being away from her two leading men. Recently, the family traveled to London, after two days of travel, to be with each other while Kerr walked in Paris Fashion Week. When the couple isn't traveling for work, they still find time to fly and visit Kerr's family in Australia. In September, the two went shopping for a house in New Zealand.

**Related Link:** [Miranda Kerr and Orlando Bloom Welcome a Son](#)

**3. Jay-Z and Beyonce:** These two hip-hop and R&B superstars are always hopping on planes. From laid-back summer vacations to mixing work and pleasure, Jay and Bey have racked up a large number of frequent flyer miles. While Beyonce was working on her album, *4*, the married couple took to France for some R&R and long studio hours. The travel time worked like magic, because Beyonce's album was a success and she's now

pregnant with their first child. In September, a month after the pregnancy announcement, the new parents vacationed in Hvar, Croatia.

**4. Prince William, Duke of Cambridge and Catherine, Duchess of Cambridge:** Traveling is a part of William and Kate's new life together, and they take it in stride. After their lavish wedding, the royal couple took a trip around Canada and the west coast of the United States this year. The North America tour took place from June 30, 2011 to July 10, 2011. Getting to see the world is just one of those royal perks!

**Related Link:** [Prince William and Kate Middleton Are On Their Honeymoon](#)

**5. Eva Longoria and Eduardo Cruz:** How do get over a divorce? Find a hot guy with whom to travel around the world. To kick-start their relationship, Longoria and Cruz vacationed in Mexico and Cabo in April and spent the summer tanning aboard a private yacht in Marbella, Spain. Talk about getting to know each other! Spain is Cruz's home country where he hails as a pop sensation. To top it all off, the duo were spotted in London in July as well. Experiencing new places and things often makes a couple grow closer. Longoria says, however, that she's not ready to tie the knot again quite yet after her divorce from Tony Parker.

**Where are the most exciting places you've traveled? Share your experiences below.**

---

## **Should You Channel Your Inner**

# Sadie Hawkins?



By Tanni Deb

In the 1934 classic comic strip “Li’l Abner,” Al Capp wrote about a lady named Sadie Hawkins who was frantic about the length of time she was waiting for suitors to approach her. When Sadie turned 35 years old, her father also became quite concerned and took it upon himself to find his daughter a mate.

So, he announced a “Sadie Hawkins Day” and summoned every eligible bachelor in town to a foot race. The foot race began with the men running as soon as they heard the first gunshot. A second gunshot was the signal for Sadie to run and the first man she caught would become her husband. By 1952, Sadie Hawkins Day was celebrated at 40,000 venues in the form of a dance where women asked men out.



More than 50 years have passed, and many women still wonder if it's acceptable to ask out a man. If you're a gal who is thinking of making the first move, know the pros and cons of the Sadie Hawkins scenario:

### **Why it Turns Him On:**

**1. Exudes Confidence:** Many men have difficulty figuring out if a woman is interested because they don't have the courage to approach her. Asking a guy out shows how confident and comfortable you are in your own skin and many men love a secure woman. He'll feel a lot less pressure being around you and it sets you apart from the others.

**2. Flatters His Ego:** When a woman strikes up a conversation with a man she likes, it can be flattering to him. After all, men are expected to be the gender to take charge. When you make the first move, it's a compliment to his psyche and often boosts his ego. This is a great way to get his attention. If your approaching him first seems to make him happy, he will credit that good feeling to you.

**3. Demonstrates Sincerity:** Having the courage to approach a man and directly ask him out shows a guy that you're serious about getting to know him. Men realize that it's not the norm for a woman to approach them and they know the difficulty of rejection. So, when the role is reversed, it makes him feel warm inside.

**Related:** [How to Master Being in a Relationship](#)

### **Why it Turns Him Off:**

**1. Feels Desperate:** Some men think that a woman who makes the first move is desperate. They may even begin to wonder if there's something wrong with her or if she's after something more. It's assumed that if a man is interested in a woman and thinks that she's worth it, he'll ask her out himself.

**2. Sends a Bad Message:** Some guys label a woman easy. He assumes that she's looking for a fling or one-night stand if she asks him out. The guys who are not interested in getting serious may take the offer to go on a date in hopes of something more, while the men looking for a serious relationship may feel awkward about the woman's forthright approach and never take things any further.

**Related Link:** [Find Out Why You're Single](#)

**3. Takes Away the Challenge:** Most guys love a challenge. They enjoy trying to win a woman over, especially if she's not easy to get. Men are attracted to chasing after what they want. So when a woman asks a man out, the challenge is over. The worst case scenario: if a man really loves the thrill of the hunt, he might reject the woman's offer...even if he's initially interested in her.

It can be downright frightening for a woman to make that first move but sometimes you just can't let destiny dictate a relationship. There are many men out there who would love for a woman to approach them. So, if you have the urge to get to know someone better, push the gender stereotypes aside and go for it. If the guy rejects your offer, he probably wasn't right for you anyway.

---

## Frugal Foodies: How to Save on Dining Out





By Andrea Woroch

Enough with the home-cooked meals. It's time to get out of the house and let someone else prepare your food for a change.

In response to tight budgets, frugal advisers have recommended for some time now that we stay at home to save money. But such deprivation grows old fast, so maybe it's time to consider these six tips to help you spread your dining wings without crash landing your budget:

**1. FourSquare Deals:** Members check-in to various locations on their mobile phones using this service, but did you know you can also receive offers for freebies and discounts simply by letting FourSquare know where you are? Check out a recent segment on FOX & Friends for a "how to" on using the app for restaurant savings.

**Related Link:** [Dieting Like a Celebrity Is Easier than You Think](#)

**2. Track Daily Deals:** Restaurants are one of the most common frequenters of daily deal offerings, so it pays to keep an eye

out for vouchers that can greatly reduce the cost of dining at a new or favored eatery. Just make sure you read the small print and are aware of expiration dates and exclusions. For example, most restaurant vouchers don't include drinks.

**3. Get Happy:** Eating early isn't just for our elders. Happy hour and early bird deals have become more common as restaurants try to fill in slow-traffic times. For example, Applebee's Neighborhood Grill offers full-size appetizers for under \$5 before 6 p.m., plus \$3 drink specials.

**4. Split It Up:** American restaurants usually overload our plates – unless they're into nuvo cuisine – so there's often enough food for two in a single order. You can cut your costs down to around \$20 by simply sharing an appetizer, entree and dessert with a friend or date.

**5. Gift Yourself:** We tend to think of gift cards in terms of what we can offer others, but they're actually very useful for individual purchases. Sites like GiftCardGranny.com let you purchase gift cards for several restaurants at a discounted rate, yielding immediate savings of up to 50 percent.

**Related Link:** [Sponsored Post: Comfort Food for Singles](#)

**6. MatchPin:** If you live in one of nine major cities, you might download the free MatchPin app. Membership brings you offers, rewards, contests and announcements from a variety of local restaurants.

*Andrea Woroch is a consumer and money-saving expert for Kinoli Inc.*

---

# How to Campaign for a Better Relationship



By Tanni Deb

With Election Day around the corner, this is the best time to campaign for a better relationship. Whether that means leaning to the left with a liberal approach or moving toward the right with a more conservative one, you deserve the best you can get. Use the following guidelines and you just may win a vote from that special someone:

**To find the perfect partner:**

**1. Figure out what you want in a partner:** Knowing exactly what you want in a partner will help you narrow down your choices just as you would with a candidate in an election. Otherwise,

you'll settle for anyone.

**2. Figure out what issues/things you can compromise:** Figure out what things you're willing to let go, such as finding a mate who doesn't have certain features or doesn't meet your height requirement. Although compromising is important for a healthy relationship, never do it for major issues. For instance, if you want a family in the future, don't make a life with someone who doesn't like children.

**Related Link:** [Three Tips to Enjoy Marriage Despite the Battles](#)

**3. Search:** You'll probably need to search in a variety of places before you find your perfect partner. Dating sites, clubs or even attending a party at your friend's house can lead you to your ideal mate.

**4. Get to know him/her:** After you've found the person you think is "The One," date seriously for at least a year. If you find that the person has way too many red flags or your feelings for him or her aren't strong enough, it's best to end the relationship so you don't drag it out for four more years.

**5. Marriage:** Talk about settling down and moving onto the next step in your relationship if you can see yourself married for the rest of your life. Unfortunately with relationships, it's not quite as easy as electing a new candidate whenever you hit a rough patch.

**To improve your relationship:**

**1. Communicate:** Communication is the key to every successful relationship. It helps avoid misunderstandings, fixes problems, and aids in understanding each other in order to improve your relationship. Ask your partner how their day was, if they have any new interests and any other common questions. You should also show that you appreciate your partner by complimenting him or her once in a while.

**Related Link:** [How to Communicate to Get What You Need](#)

**2. Listen:** Just like communication, listening is another major factor in a successful relationship. Your interest and focus is important to your mate and when you show that they have your full attention, it means the world to them. It will also build a sense of respect and trust between both of you.

**3. Think positively:** When you concentrate on the negative aspects, it'll cause tension in your relationship. The next time you have a negative thought about your significant other's actions, come up with a more reasonable explanation for his or her act and then discuss it. If an argument arises, control your tone and figure out what the major issue is or the message your partner is trying to communicate. Lastly, remind yourself frequently of the good times you've spent together.

**4. Common goals:** Having similar ambitions in life makes your relationship stronger. Figure out what both of you want and where you both want to be in the future. Find common goals and talk about how to achieve them together.

**5. Find time for each other:** Work is important, but for relationships to flourish, it's essential to have time for your significant other. Instead of taking things too seriously, spend time with your sweetheart, have fun and just relax.

**If you know other methods of finding the perfect partner or changing the relationship you're in, let us know in a comment below. Best of luck this election season!**

---

# How to Master Being in a Relationship



By Nan O'Brien

As a professional Spiritual Teacher and Intuitive Counselor, I am always asked, "When will I meet the right person?" You may think of yourself as a failure unless you are in a happy, committed relationship. You may feel you aren't attractive, funny, sexy, or smart enough. Ultimately, it all boils down to one question in your head: "What's wrong with me?"

The good news is, the answer is "nothing"! The most common reason people do not find happiness in relationships is because they have trouble learning the intuitive life lesson of *balance*. It can be tough to tell if this problem is at the root of your relationship issue. Ask yourself these questions:



Do you always feel you must take care of others? Do you feel guilty if you put yourself first? Are you attracted to partners who have had problems in prior relationships? Do you work at making your partner feel loved, while at the same time doubting if he or she feels as strongly as you do? Do your significant others go on to be in healthy relationships with others after leaving you?

**Related Link:** [Cougar Dating Love Lessons Even Demi Moore Can Use](#)

If you answered “yes” to any or all of these questions, you gravitate toward the emotionally unavailable person, and your relationships are based on *need* instead of *want*. The reason for this confusion is that feeling needed is often disguised as feeling loved. You give your all, hoping that it will somehow come back to you. You believe you must convince the other person you won't abandon them like everyone else has. You look for reasons that prove your partner cares (the smallest gesture seems huge), and you make excuses for what they don't do. You defend your lover to your friends and family, while deluding yourself. You know something isn't right, but you're so busy saving the other person that you lose yourself.

The key to the intuitive balance lesson is to learn how to give *and* receive. Before you can be in a relationship with others, you must first be in a relationship with yourself. This is *not* the same thing as being alone – because anyone can be alone! Being in a relationship with yourself means treating yourself as wonderfully as you treat others. Think about how much time, energy, and financial resources you spend on your partner in a relationship. Have you ever spent that much on yourself? You deserve the best of you; and you cannot give your best to others, or receive from them, until you have learned how to give your best to *yourself*.

**Related Link:** [Single Celebrities Who Rock \(and Rule\)!](#)

Once you have mastered being in a relationship with yourself, your energy shifts. You'll not attract, nor be attracted to, relationships that are unhealthy and need-based; you will resonate with partners who are able to give and receive, paving the way for a healthy and fulfilling want-based relationship.

The intuitive balance lesson is the key to successful and sustainable relationships. The timing is determined by you and how quickly you embrace being in a relationship with yourself. You'll find the perfect partner if you start by nurturing the one you already have – YOU!

*Nan O'Brien is a nationally-known Spiritual Teacher and Intuitive Counselor. She has hosted her own nationally-syndicated radio show and appears regularly on radio stations throughout the U.S.; is a frequent contributing columnist for websites and news outlets; has authored numerous non-fiction books; and is a sought-after public speaker. In addition, she conducts personal phone appointments. For more information, please visit [www.nanobrien.com](http://www.nanobrien.com).*

---

## **Communicate This: Signs That Kim and Kris were Doomed**





By Roshini Rajkumar

Most people were taking bets on the marriage before Kim Kardashian walked down the aisle to Kris Humphries. But even Kim's most critical pundits raised eyebrows when word got out divorce papers were filed so quickly after the extravagant wedding.

## **THE SIGNS**

You can find meaning in every visual, verbal, nonverbal, and physical cue. So I was not shocked to hear Kim and Kris would not live happily ever after. Let's start with Kris's last name, Humphries. For those who watch Kim's reality show, you know she waffled about whether she'd take Kris's name or not.

We witnessed fights she had with her mother who urged, if not demanded, her to keep her name as Kim defended her soon-to-be marriage and man. We even saw Kris acknowledging the name was Kim's tie to her late father. In the eleventh hour, Kim kept her own—much to what looked like the surprise of Kris—as the couple signed their marriage license.

## **BODY LANGUAGE**

Body language can say a lot about what's going on inside someone. Let's investigate their on-camera communication. Even as you look at Kim and Kris together, they are a mismatch—in size, in age, and in geographic demographic. All of these elements come across subtly and obviously when you watch their body language. These body language fractures were abundant in the days leading up to the wedding. From a cold wedding rehearsal and Kim pretending to be a runaway bride; and Kris needing to check his phone and text during these important preparations, their body language did not communicate, “Til death do us part.”

## **VOCAL BEHAVIOR**

When you listened to Kim in the days leading up to her wedding ceremony, you heard a lot of complaints about Kris and how he wasn't helping with even small tasks for the wedding.

If you focus on how Kim delivered these rubs against Kris with her vocal behavior, you get a foreboding picture of their future ahead. Subtextual messages are the messages we send beyond the words we speak. How Kim complained about Kris was just as significant as the actual content of the complaint. Recall the whininess in her voice. Then flash to Kris sharing his discontent when the couple reviewed their wedding reception seating chart. Exasperation is what you hear coming from Kris. The subtextual message there is: “Oh boy, will I ever be heard or respected in this relationship?”

He didn't have to say those words, but his vocal behavior, backed by his facial expressions, delivered that message.

## **PUBLIC EYE**

Though most people feel sympathy for anyone going through a divorce, it is challenging to feel sorry for this pair. Being hounded by paparazzi or having a reality show gets blamed for their eventual plight. But remember, they chose this life.

Kim has built a mini empire around the visual that gets covered, photographed, Tweeted. No man or non-Kim-focused agenda is going to get in the way. Remember the cover of People magazine with Kim in a wedding dress? Where was Kris then? Now apparently, he's out of the picture for good.

*Roshini Rajkumar is a communication coach and author of book Communicate That, where she shares insider tips for dynamic communication and authentic presentations. Learn more at [www.communicatethatbook.com](http://www.communicatethatbook.com).*

---

## **Celebrity Couples Who Could Use An Extra Hour of Sleep**





By Melissa Tierney

Whether we like to believe it or not, celebrities are just like us. They have hectic work schedules, grueling chores, and, of course, families to take care of. These five celebrity couples have been keeping busy with their growing families, their newest endeavors, and their constant presence in the spotlight. Yes, maybe they have nannies, assistants and personal trainers, but these celebs could definitely use an extra hour of sleep like the rest of us!

**1. Mariah Carey and Nick Cannon:** Between building their corporate empires by launching a clothing and accessories line, going on comedy tours, and recording hit songs with major celebs like Nicki Minah, the pop diva and radio talk show host have been keeping busy. It's now even tougher for the two to have a romantic night to themselves: they have newborn twins, son Moroccan Scott Cannon and daughter Monroe Cannon, which they welcomed into the world on their anniversary!

**2. Kim Kardashian and Kris Humphries:** This couple have been

grabbing media attention everywhere. With their recently announced divorce filing we wonder if it was all for the cameras? After all, Kim and her NBA beau Kris Humphries had almost as much buzz about their wedding as did the royal wedding between newlyweds Kate Middleton and Prince William. Although Kim filed for divorce only 72 days after the marriage, Kris says he hopes to reconcile.

**Related Link:** [Kim Kardashian and Kris Humphries Won't Be Looking For a New Home](#)

**3. Britney Spears and Jason Trawick:** The pop princess and her former manager may have ended things career-wise, but their love life is still feeling the spark. Spears is busy with her *Femme Fatale* tour with rap singer Nicki Minaj, but she still has time to show her love for her beau. He was lucky enough to be in the center of the action on August 2nd when he was pulled on stage in Uniondale, NY by his talented honey. In addition to resurrecting her career, she is also caring for sons Jayden James and Sean Preston. This mommy definitely needs some downtime.

**4. Sarah Jessica Parker and Matthew Broderick:** Over the years, these love birds have remained rock solid and are keeping busy raising their twins, Marion Loretta Elwell and Tabitha Hodge, and son James Wilkie. The fashion icon and actress has been maintaining a hectic work schedule, gracing covers of magazines and promoting her new movie *I Don't Know How She Does It*, in which she plays busy mom, Kate Reddy, who is trying to stay afloat with her finance career and busy family life. Looks like the movies are imitating real life when it comes to Sarah Jessica Parker!

**Related Link:** [Sarah Jessica Parker and Matthew Broderick's an Introduction for a Lifetime](#)

**5. Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie:** Between their six kids, acting gigs and philanthropic engagements, this duo does it

all. Pitt recently starred in the blockbuster baseball movie, *Moneyball*, with Jonah Hill, and Jolie has been busy with her film directorial debut, *In the Land of Blood and Honey*. She is also the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) Goodwill Ambassador when she's not directing/acting/mothering. This power couple definitely needs to catch up on some z's.

**Which celebrity couples do you feel need an extra hour of sleep? Share your thoughts below!**

---

## **Take a Walk on the Wild Side of the Caribbean**





By Max Milano

It's that time of year again when the winter blues start to kick in and people begin to daydream of a tropical holiday vacation. Many of us push aside the idea of a Caribbean getaway because we feel that it's either too expensive or not a place for folks who are single. Well, if you think the Caribbean is for couples only or people with money, it's time to think again.

Following are some undiscovered destinations where singles and groups of friends can take a walk on the wild side full of rum, salsa, reggae and the real *Pirates of the Caribbean*. The best news is that these locations are all a fraction of the price.

### **Old San Juan, Puerto Rico**

Puerto Ricans take partying seriously, and Old San Juan is stunningly beautiful. Surrounded by a fortified wall, it is one of the best preserved Spanish Colonial towns in the Caribbean. Narrow cobblestoned streets open into airy plazas where colonial mansions have been transformed into Nuevo Latino restaurants and trendy lounges. Stay at **Da House (\$80 to \$150 per night)**. It's a boutique hotel in the middle of all the action. Make sure that you sign up for the daytime salsa lessons at the Nuyorican Cafe downstairs, because once the sun sets, Old San Juan is the place to meet and mingle with beautiful people.

**Related Link:** [Madonna and BF Brahim Zaibat Vacation In ... Guéthary?](#)

### **Cartagena, Colombia**

Cartagena is the best kept secret of the Caribbean. This brightly colored Spanish colonial city knows how to party, while offering the best in regional Colombian food. Try the

Aguardiente, Colombia's firewater moonshine, mixed in with fresh tropical fruits. The best clubs don't get going until 4 am and don't close until the sun comes out. Recover with a hearty fish soup and a cold beer under a palm tree. **The Hotel Casa la Fe (\$150-\$200 per night)** is a beautifully refurbished colonial mansion with shady interior courtyards and a refreshing pool.

### **Isla Mujeres, Mexico**

If Cancun is Spring Break central, Isla Mujeres is the thinking person's tropical party island. Reachable by water Taxi from Cancun, Isla Mujeres is a tiny island that is all about beach shack restaurants, turquoise water, powdery sand and wild nightlife. Go for an early swim, have some lobster or the catch of the day for lunch, and then a snorkel in the afternoon before the evening festivities. The lively beach bars on Isla Mujeres run the gamut, from reggae beach bum joints to trendy Mexican cantinas. **Casa Sirena (from \$100 per night)** is a remodeled colonial home with ocean views. It's the perfect place to enjoy it all.

**Related Link:** [Real Housewives Stars Gretchen Rossi and Slade Smiley Go to Mexico](#)

### **Havana, Cuba**

With the gradual easing of travel restrictions, Havana is back on the American travel map (Canadians never stopped visiting).

Start your stay with a walk from the historical **Hotel Inglaterra (from \$65 per night)** to one of Ernest Hemingway's favorite Havana bars, La Floridita, for a cool daiquiri. Havana's restored colonial core is home to numerous bars and restaurants, including the world famous "La Bodeguita del Medio," perfect for that afternoon Mojito. Cuban music is best live, so reserve your spot at the Tropicana Cabaret for that Mambo Kings experience. Americans should check the state department website to learn how to book trips to Cuba.

## Kingston, Jamaica

Kingston Jamaica is not your typical Jamaican beach resort, but that is what makes it interesting. Visit Port Royal for the refurbished ruins of the original fort and docks of the real *Pirates of the Caribbean*. Hit Kingston's many bars, restaurants, jerk shacks and dance halls for Red Stripes, jerk chicken and wild times. Save some energy for a visit to the Bob Marley Museum or rent a car to drive up the Blue Mountains for the views and the coffee. James Bond fans may want to drive north to Ocho Rios to visit Ian Fleming's Goldeneye estate and stop by James Bond beach. **The Courtleigh Hotel and Suites in Kingston (from \$200 per night)** is the perfect base, with all the amenities you would expect from a business hotel.

## Airfare Booking

Are you sold on these affordable tropical destinations, but not on the cost of airfare? The secret of scoring the lowest airfares during the holiday is to book early (no last minute deals here). While flying out on Dec 22-23 and returning on January 2nd or 3rd will probably be expensive (these dates sell out first), you may consider flying out on Dec 24 or 25th and back on Jan 1st to save some money. The best recommendation is to leave the week before December 20th. Fares usually remain low until Dec 18th – 20th and then go back down after January 7th.

The Caribbean is affordable and anyone can have a good time. It's not just for romance. The place is swimming with activities and parties for anyone who wants to soak up some sun and have an overall good time.

*Max Milano is an international travel expert with Vayama.com, the only online travel booking site focused entirely on international travel – airfare, hotels and activities. He's also the author of The Mechanicals Recoleta, which is available on Amazon.*

---

# Would You Date a Single Parent?



By SMF Marcus Osborne for GalTime.com

There are so many roadblocks to lasting, loving, relationships in our lives that I can't help but to cringe when I hear some of the dealbreakers that people throw up on those cockamamie love lists they construct.

Can't be black, can't be divorced, can't be under 6'1", can't make less than one-hundred grand a year, can't drive a hooptie (if you're unfamiliar with the term "hooptie" consult your urban dictionary) blah, blah, blah.

Why do we do it? What's worse, we often fail to acknowledge our own shortcomings as we judge the next person. Boy, we can be self-centered. But that's another story to be told another time. Some of these "can't be's" appear on these lists with rather alarming regularity. Can't be divorced?? Are you kidding? Good luck with that one after age 30.

And there's such an overt bias against single parents or adults with kids from a previous relationship – wow! When you think about the debris of judgment these folks have to swim through in the dating pool on a regular basis, it boggles the mind. Why are they so persecuted? Why are they filtered out so quickly?

Yes, there's plenty of baby-mama/baby-daddy drama to spare in many a single mom/dad's world. But I'd submit that it's not always a nightmare. As a matter of fact, I'd say it's not nearly as awful a situation as we trick ourselves into believing it'll be. But since we only hear about the disastrous outcomes of single-parent dating, we assume it's the rule and not the exception. No one's more averse to drama than yours truly, but I'd at least take a chance before taking the blanket approach to all single moms.

Ok, so if the guy has 9 kids by 8 women or if she's got 5 kids by 4 guys, there may be some issues. I cede the point. But if you're really into a guy who has children from a previous relationship, why would you cut yourself off from him for that reason alone?

"Marcus, he was soooo great, but he's got a kid." I've heard this a million times, yet I still don't completely get it. And I'm uncertain which gender draws a harder line on kids. From my own, unscientific poll, it seems that guys are a little more willing to date a woman who has kids from a prior marriage or relationship – but I could be wrong.

*Mark this day on your calendar. Marcus Osborne said, "I could*

*be wrong."*

I do notice a dramatic difference in the dating attitude of the men I know who have kids, whether their kids live with them or their exes. The single moms are quite often paralyzed by the fear of rejection: "What guy is going to want to date a woman with kids?"

Should I even get into the whole "mother's guilt" thing? You know, the idea that as a single mom the only thing you should be worried about is *being a mom*. The notion that the only way you can be a good mom is to forego a love life or social life until the kids are all grown up and out of the home.

Personally, I think that idea is great – in theory. In practice I think it often results in lives that feel incomplete. And how can your kids be happy if they see that *you're* unhappy? Worse yet, they quite possibly could blame themselves for your unhappiness or loneliness. But hey, you're a single mom, you don't deserve to a partner, right?

On the other hand, the guys, though they may experience some trepidation about stepping into the dating world, seem far more willing to take their swings at love again.

I'm certainly not an advocate of having a bedroom with a rotating door. I think we've all seen and heard and learned enough to know that a single parent with a carousel of bed buddies probably isn't good for the children's emotional health and well-being. But tell me please, what's wrong with a responsible single parent going out on responsible dates with respectable people?

How on earth is this a bad thing?

---

# Cougar Dating Love Lessons Even Demi Moore Can Use



By Lucia

It looks like there's trouble in Cougar Paradise for Demi Moore these days. Her husband of six years, Ashton Kutcher, has recently been accused of infidelity. Though many people assume a split is inevitable, Demi was recently spotted on the red carpet still wearing her wedding ring.

A "cub" that strays can be devastating for Cougars (or for any woman for that matter). While dating a younger man can lead to an extremely fulfilling relationship, there are sticky areas that partners of the same age may not face. This relationship comes with its own set of guidelines, and the good news is that the challenges are usually due to the older

women's own self-sabotage and not the younger man's motives. Yes, that's a positive thing since most of this can be avoided with a little insight and guidance.

Below are a few love lessons that any Cougar (including Demi) can learn from in order to have a healthy relationship, no matter what the age difference:

**Don't Be a "Know-it-all":** Just because you're older, that doesn't mean you know everything. If you're controlling and don't give your partner room to express himself or allow him to feel like a man, you'll immediately become less attractive in his eyes. He's with you because you're smart, confident and he feels amazing being around you. If you make him feel emasculated, you will become his mother instead of his lover.

**"Sugar Mama" Trap:** You may make more money than your lover, but that doesn't mean you always have to pay. He's still a man, and men instinctually want to provide. It makes them feel good. Don't make the finances your sole responsibility. If you do, you're setting yourself up to be used.

**Underestimating Your Cub:** Being younger doesn't mean that your partner isn't knowledgeable about things that happened years ago or that he can't appreciate your past experiences. Nowadays, people of all ages are savvy – sexually and otherwise. So stay away from any reminders that make your partner feel like he has a lot to learn or isn't up to your level of sophistication, such as "When I was your age" or "You're too young to remember." He knows there's an age difference; there's no need to keep reminding him.

**Younger Women are NOT Your Competition:** He's with you *because* of your age, not *despite* it. You have many things to offer that women his age don't, such as knowledge, wisdom, life experience and most all, no drama. Acting like you're in your



twenties to attract or keep a younger man is a turn off. He expects you to be more mature and sophisticated. If he wanted to be with someone who was born in the same year he was, he would be.

**Ignore the Scornful Stares:** Even though others may have issues with you dating someone much younger, it doesn't mean you aren't in love. It means your man finds you attractive and interesting – and that's certainly nothing of which to be ashamed. After all, a big majority of men date younger women. It's time we got rid of the double standard!

*Lucia is an internationally known dating/relationship expert and TV personality specializing in Cougar relationships. She hosts "The Art of Love" on L.A. Talk Radio, is the author of "Lucia's Lessons of Love", a keynote speaker and a syndicated columnist. She hosted "The Art of Love" TV show for 3 years in Los Angeles. Lucia has also been featured on over 100 radio and TV shows including "Dr. Phil", "The CBS Early Show", "60 Minutes Australia", "The Tyra Banks Show", "E! Entertainment", "Good Day L.A.", "Playboy Radio", "Cosmo Radio" and "Fox Sports Radio".*

---

## How to Communicate to Get What You Need





By Dating With Dignity's Marnia Battista for GalTime.com

While some men just aren't Mr. Boyfriend Material, others just need clear communication from you about what you want, need and expect from them. To make things trickier, many women have difficulty articulating exactly what they're looking for. That said, imagine if you knew the following:

- Exactly what you want in a partner, including his values and goals in life.
- How to effectively communicate your needs and expectations without having to be bitchy, brash or judgmental.
- Simple ways to set boundaries to allow the possibility of a relationship to unfold before you knee-jerk kick him to the curb.

In order to get your needs met, you have to be able to articulate exactly what you need and then be able to communicate those needs in a way that is appropriate, kind, compassionate, and reveals your true, authentic self.

Here are three steps you can take right now to begin to

clearly express your desires to the man in your life so you can begin getting what you want:

### **1. Decide exactly you want.**

If you're going to communicate your needs and desires to your man clearly, you need to be clear in your own mind about exactly what those needs and desires are. Whether you want him to be on time, call instead of text, move the relationship to the next level, call you his girlfriend, or propose marriage, the first step is to own those needs and desires in your own mind.

### **2. Tell him directly.**

No matter how great a guy is, he's most likely not a mind reader. If you want him to call you instead of his usual texting, you're going to have to tell him so. He may or may not be willing to comply. If he isn't, it's up to you to decide if the issue at hand is a deal-breaker. The bottom line is this: Once you communicate, he knows what you need and expect, and you are both agreeing to whatever resolution is reached together.

### **3. Set boundaries—and enforce them.**

This is the most difficult part of self-care for many women. One of my clients recently shared a story with me about a date that went horribly awry. She had met the man online, and then they had met in person for coffee. Upon leaving the coffee shop together, her date discovered his car had been towed. Instead of politely excusing herself from the impending drama (setting a boundary), she felt obligated to be part of his crisis-management team. He called his mom, complained loudly about the \$200 fee he had to pay to get his car back, and whined for hours while she drove him around searching for his car, an ATM machine, and so forth.

My client, who had known this man for only an hour (give or take a few exchanged emails and texts), spent the entire time she was with him fantasizing about how she might exit the drama without hurting his feelings. The result was that not only did she see a part of him he most likely didn't want to share on a first date, but she also became annoyed with herself for not speaking up. She felt bad that she could not set the boundary immediately. Had she followed the two steps outlined above, it would have been simple from the get-go. Knowing she did not want to do crisis management for a man she had just met, she should have stated simply, "Thanks for the coffee. It's such a drag your car was towed. I'm going to get on with my day now, but I look forward to hearing how it turns out when we talk next." Instead, she wondered why he didn't give her an out, excusing her from dealing with his mistake so she could get back to her life.

Men deserve to know what you want so that they have an opportunity to deliver. It's that simple. Men are not mind readers. It's up to you to tell them what you want, need and expect.