

# Rihanna and Chris Brown Spend Christmas Together at Lakers Game



By Jennifer Ross

It was Christmas in LA for Rihanna and Chris Brown this year. On Dec. 25, the returning duo celebrates Christmas together at the LA Lakers vs. New York Knicks basketball game being held at the Staples Center. An eyewitness tells [Usmagazine.com](http://Usmagazine.com) Rihanna, 24, and Brown, 23, were “laughing and chatting.” Also, they seem to look “happy together.” The attire for the evening is all black, with Rihanna bearing her midriff and Brown wearing a leather jacket. Although Rihanna and Brown have spent more time together lately and tweeted photos showing them together, Rihanna still considers herself single.

On Dec. 18 she tweets, "Being single sucks."

**How do you know when to give your ex a second chance?**

**Cupid's Advice:**

The fact is, there are many reasons why a relationship doesn't work the first time. Yet, no matter what broke you and your ex apart, you both are once again ready to rekindle your love for each other. Should you do it or move on? Here are a few clues to tell you whether or not to reconcile:

**1. Better timing:** Perhaps one of you wasn't ready for a serious relationship in the past. Now, you both are ready and in the right place/right time, mentally and emotionally. Only when you two are on the same path can your relationship have a real chance at flourishing.

**2. Things are different:** After analyzing your first time around, you and your ex have realized where things went wrong and want to try again in a different manner. Without understanding the past, you and your mate will return to being exes again.

**3. Acceptance:** At the end of the day, you and your ex partner truly accepted each other in true form. Furthermore, you both realize that the things that broke you two apart weren't really that serious at all. Having someone that loves you for you is a great foundation to start with in a relationship.

**How did you know to give your ex a second chance? Share your story below.**

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# Sources Say Rihanna and Chris Brown Made Out at NYC Club



By Jennifer Ross

Are Rihanna and Chris Brown reuniting? A source told [UsMagazine.com](http://UsMagazine.com) that Rihanna, 24, and Brown, 23, were caught making out at New York City's Griffin Club on Monday night. And that's not all! According to *Celebuzz*, Brown, who was seated at a different table than Rihanna, climbed over the center stage to get to her. The two then began to dirty dance with each other, unworried about the public. Late into the night, they eventually left separately. Where was Brown's now ex-girlfriend and aspiring model Karrueche Tran, 23, in all this? Not by his side.

**How do you know whether to give your ex a second chance?**

## **Cupid's Advice:**

Just about everyone deserves a second chance at one point in their life. While your partner may have been the main culprit to the problem, there were other factors to consider that may have been your fault. Even so, should you consider giving your partner a second chance, here are three tips to ponder before you do:

**1. Time has passed:** Enough time has passed to give you both the space to reflect back on what happened, who did what, and where did each of you go wrong. Without you and your partner separately analyzing the issue and your negative contributions, history will repeat itself.

**2. Taken responsibility:** After re-evaluating what went wrong, the two of you have either taken or begun to take the necessary steps in fixing the issue within yourselves. Working on yourselves first ensures that you can give each other the openness to work through it and have a real fresh start at love again.

**3. The decision is agreeable:** In deciding to reconcile, the two of you have agreed to do so protecting each other and lovingly together. By both being on the same path and honestly dividing up the work between each other, only then can your relationship move forward with the best chance of surviving.

**What reason(s) helped you decide to give your partner a second chance? Comment below.**

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# Rihanna Says the 'Slightest Things' Remind Her of Chris Brown



We all remember the tragic ending to Rihanna and Chris Brown's relationship in February 2009 after he physically assaulted her. But, recently on *Oprah's Next Chapter*, the pop star confessed that her ex will always have a special place in her heart. Rihanna continued to tell Oprah Winfrey, "I am reminded by a lot of things. A lot of memories we had. By the slightest things: hotel rooms, tour venues. Any little things: music, songs." Not only is Rihanna still reminded of the singer, but she felt protective of him when he was being charged for assault. She felt he needed help rather than to be locked up. Rihanna revealed a lot of mixed feelings in this interview,

which could ultimately lead her back into the arms of Brown.

**How do you keep thoughts of your ex from preventing you from moving on?**

**Cupid's Advice:**

Usually when a couple has a dramatic break up, there's a lot of baggage that comes along with it. Here are some ways to prevent that from helping you move on:

**1. Accept it as the past:** A big problem of past relationships, is that you continue to dwell on things that already happened. You have to accept them as things that you cannot change and just learn from any past mistakes. Accept it and move on.

**2. Become friends with your ex:** You don't necessarily have to become best friends with your ex, but if you have friendly conversation from time to time, you're most likely to get any thoughts about them out of your system. Hopefully by having a friendly relationship you can learn to be happy for them in the present, and having their support will help you move on.

**3. Go out and meet people:** The best distraction from an ex, is someone else in your life. Go out and meet new people. Go on dates and allow yourself to be distracted from any thoughts you may have about a past relationship.

**How would you keep yourself from thinking about an ex? Share your thoughts below.**

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# Celebrity Couples Who Have Been Hurt By Their Own Stardom



By Courtney Allen

In wonderful world of Hollywood, maintaining both a long-lasting relationship and a fast-paced career is evidently a huge challenge. The jam-packed schedules and non-stop tabloid mania in the everyday lives of celebrities leaves us constantly wondering when the next split will be—the fact they are going to happen is a guarantee. Nasty rumors of deceit, unexpected flings with co-stars and stress from an intense life can make stardom a celebrity couple's worst enemy. Unfortunately for these five celebrity duos, losing their battle to fame proved inevitable:

**1. Kate and Jon Gosselin:** Jon and Kate Gosselin first captured our hearts with their hit TLC show, *Jon and Kate Plus Eight*, which documented their hectic life as parents of sassy-yet-sweet twin girls and a set of adorable sextuplets. The Gosselins graced our television screens for seven seasons as they traveled the globe as a family, while we all hoped their marriage wouldn't end like many of the reality star relationships that preceded them. But Jon and Kate proved no different as the show slowly revealed Kate's exploding temper and ego while the tabloids unraveled Jon's late-night getaways with other women. Years later, the two had one of the most public divorces in Hollywood.

**Related Link:** [Hollywood's Messiest Splits](#)

**2. Rihanna and Chris Brown:** Rihanna and Chris Brown shocked the world when their relationship began in 2008. In our minds, the singers couldn't be a more perfect match, as they're two beautiful and unique voices with stunningly-good looks. Things quickly changed after an incident in 2009 in which Brown allegedly assaulted the female pop star. The two have made amends since then and rumors of a new relationship have spread, especially after the recent release of their song, "Birthday Cake (Remix)." But due to their long-lasting tabloid presence and heated past, we can't help but think that a second try will end in disaster.

**3. Jennifer Aniston and Brad Pitt:** The split between *Friends* star Jennifer Aniston and Brad Pitt, her "Mr. Perfect," was by far the most controversial divorces in the history of Hollywood. With Aniston's glowing skin and Pitt's captivating eyes, they always had America's attention. It wasn't until the 2004 production of *Mr. and Mrs. Smith* that things seemed to get off track. Pitt quickly fell in love with co-star Angelina Jolie while filming the movie, leaving him and Aniston's happily ever after in the dust as rumors swirled of an affair. Jen filed for divorce in 2005 and Pitt almost immediately began dating Jolie. Now called "Brangelina," the couple has



six kids and have made their mark as one of the most powerful couples in Hollywood.

**4. Kim Kardashian and Reggie Bush:** Kim Kardashian bared it all for her E! show *Keeping Up With the Kardashians*, including her relationship with NFL star Reggie Bush. The reality show revealed their head-over-heels romance for several seasons. But after their final split, the unfortunate truth was revealed: Kardashian's stardom was too much for Bush, who never seemed to adjust. Kardashian has since been searching for her fairytale: a guy who accepts both her and her lifestyle. She found love in her marriage to Kris Humphries, but that relationship ended after just 72 days. Now the star is happily dating Kanye West. Thankfully, the socialite seems to be taking her new relationship slow, because if there's anything Kim has learned, it's that fame comes at a high price.

**Related Link:** [Why You Should be Happy You Aren't Famous When it Comes to Love](#)[Love in the Limelight: Why You Should Be Happy You Aren't Famous](#)

**5. Katy Perry and Russel Brand:** California girl Katy Perry and British comedian Russell Brand began dating in middle of 2009. The two didn't waste any time getting serious as news of their engagement hit the headlines by the end of the same year. And in just ten months, the couple was married. The world watched the pop-star and her new hubby closely as we formed our opinions on whether they would last. Fourteen months later, the pair proved all the doubters right. Russell Brand filed for divorce last December, citing irreconcilable differences. But between both of their busy schedules and separated traveling, it's no wonder the pair couldn't stand the test of time.

**Which celebrity couples do you think have been most hurt by their stardom? Share your thoughts with us!**

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# Chris Brown and Drake Reportedly Brawl Over Rihanna



Early this Thursday, the entourages of singers Chris Brown and Drake got into a massive and violent fight at W.i.P., a downtown NYC club. Though the two singers never attacked each other directly, their posses traded blows and Brown was cut by a bottle thrown in the process. Most suspect that this brawl broke out over Rihanna, whom the two have both been romantically linked to in the past. A source told [Us Weekly](#) that although Rihanna is very glad she wasn't there, she "loves this drama" and, after speaking to Brown and Drake, still "thinks it's crazy."

**What do you do if someone you're interested in has another admirer?**

**Cupid's Advice:**

It's always hard when a crush seems to have feelings for someone else, but if you approach the situation carefully, you'll find that you're very capable of winning out or moving on. Here are some tips for doing those:

**1. Sort out your feelings:** When you realize that someone else likes the same person you do, take the time to rethink your situation. Do you genuinely want to be with your crush, or are you just pining for them because they might become unavailable? If you're only acting out of jealousy, it's time to move on to another person.

**2. Approach your crush:** If you've realized your feelings for someone are strong and genuine, then the easiest way to ensure they end up with you and not someone else is to ask them on a date. Don't sit around and wait for them to come to you if you really care about them. If things go well, you shouldn't have to worry about their other admirers.

**3. Be ready to move on:** When someone has another admirer, there's always a chance that they will end up with them instead of you. Make sure you remember that there are always other people out there if things don't work out.

**Have you ever had to compete for a crush with another admirer? Tell us what you did below.**

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# Chris Brown Watches Rihanna from Afar at NYC Club



Singers and exes, Rihanna and Chris Brown are anything but predictable, making it difficult to keep up with their roller coaster relationship. What's known for sure about the pair is that both artists have an undeniable love for partying, so running into one another is inevitable. Last Monday night, the pop star was under her ex's surveillance, when they both showed up to the New York City hotspot, Avenue, reports [People](#). Although Brown was reportedly surrounded by close friends drinking champagne and taking shots, he couldn't refrain from looking over to Rihanna's table, who apparently was with her latest suitor.

**What are some ways to avoid an awkward confrontation with your**

ex?

### **Cupid's Advice:**

Since you can't ban your ex from going to your favorite places, there's always a risk you'll run into him or her. Here are some ways to avoid confrontation if you happen to have a run in with a past flame:

**1. Pretend you don't see them:** This doesn't have to be as immature as it sounds. If you happen to notice your ex is at the same place you are, don't make it obvious. Discreetly keep it to yourself; that way, if they see you, the ball is in their court.

**2. Don't try to show off:** The worst thing you can do is attempt to make your ex jealous by dangling a new prospect in front of him or her. This behavior will not only make you look silly, but your attempt will send a message that you're trying way too hard, which gives your past lover a reason to confront you.

**3. Play it cool:** Don't get upset or flustered and remember that they're most likely feeling the same uneasiness. Take a deep breath, smile and carry on as you were. A light conversation may be nice, but it's certainly not necessary.

**What have you done to avoid an awkward confrontation with an ex boyfriend or girlfriend? Share below.**

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## **Celebrity Couples Who Let**

# Money Ruin Their Relationship



By Lily Rose

It's 2.6 inches wide and 6.1 inches long, and we all want it. We're not sure what you're thinking, but we're talking about the Benjamin's, dough, loot, c-notes, otherwise known as ... money. The green stuff may not be the root of all evil, but it certainly is the root of a lot of relationship woes. Just ask these celebrity couples:

**1. Sir Paul McCartney and Heather Mills:** In June 2002, model Heather Mills and former Beatles member, Sir Paul McCartney, married, but then divorced just four years later. Money may not have ruined this couple's marriage, but it certainly made an amicable post break-up relationship seem improbable. Once the divorce papers were filed, the mudslinging started. Mills

branded McCartney an abusive drug user, while she was labeled as a high-class prostitute. Watching the nasty insults and allegations flying back and forth was like watching a fast moving tennis match—it left the public dizzy and a bit nauseous. With a model on one side of the court and music royalty in the other, our bets were on McCartney. Mills ended up with a £24.3 million settlement, a mere fraction of McCartney's total net worth.

**2. Rihanna and Chris Brown:** It's all in the tweets, folks. Pop star Rihanna and long time ex-beau, singer Chris Brown, may be doing a little something-something on the down low. Brown's new girlfriend, aspiring model, Karrueche Tran, and Rihanna have even engaged in a little social media sparring on Twitter. If Rihanna and Brown are privately seeing each other, money is a likely factor in their unwillingness to publicize their reconciliation, as Rihanna fans may never forgive the pop princess for taking back her abusive ex. And seeing Rihanna and Brown together is just one more reminder of Brown's assault conviction— a reminder his career may not survive.

**Related:** [Rihanna Explains Why She's Still in Contact with Chris Brown](#)

**3. Nick Lachey and Jessica Simpson:** No one can argue that reality television is financially lucrative. But, many celebrity couples pay the ultimate price – their relationship. Just ask Jon and Kate Gosselin, Travis Barker and Shanna Moakler or Carmen Electra and David Navarro. Maybe it's the stress of having each of your private moments taped and shared with the public, or maybe it's having a camera crew following you around, hoping for controversy. Who knows? But one thing is crystal clear – couple-centered reality TV shows are almost always a precursor for divorce. For singer Nick Lachey and *Fashion Star* judge, Jessica Simpson, however, divorce may not have been such a bad thing. On July 15, 2011, Lachey married television host, Vanessa Minnillo and on May 1, 2012, Simpson

and fiancée, Eric Johnson welcomed their daughter, Maxwell.

Related: [What Attracts Us to Bad Boys?](#)

What are some other celebrity couples who let money get in the way? Share your ideas below.

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## Rihanna Explains Why She's Still in Contact with Chris Brown



In May's issue of *ELLE*, Rihanna finally shared with the world



why she is back in contact with ex-boyfriend Chris Brown. It's been three years since Brown assaulted Rihanna and, according to [UsMagazine.com](http://UsMagazine.com), since then the duo has collaborated on two singles and has been secretly hooking up for about a year. Rihanna says, "I respect what other people have to say. The bottom line is that everyone thinks differently," in response to the furious reactions from fans and critics about the couple reuniting. "It's very hard for me to accept, but I get it. People end up wasting their time on the blogs or whatever, ranting away, and that's all right. I don't hate them for it," she says. However, the singer refuses to apologize. "Because tomorrow I'm still going to be the same person. I'm still going to do what I want to do."

**When your partner makes a mistake, how do you know whether to forgive them or not?**

#### **Cupid's Advice:**

It's hard to know when to give your sweetheart a second chance or not. Cupid has some advice:

**1. Weigh your options:** Will this same thing happen again? Will you be more miserable with or without your beau? These are some important questions to consider when dealing with mistakes made by your lover.

**2. Consider the mistake:** Breaking up or staying together after a mistake all depends on the magnitude of the error. If your man cheated on you, say goodbye and move on. If your guy made a fool of himself in front of your parents, talk to him about it and ensure it won't happen again.

**3. Wait for an apology:** If your partner realizes they are in the wrong on their own and they apologize, breaking up with them is too extreme. However, if your significant other does not even realize they've upset you, you probably need to let them know and consider breaking things off.

How did you decide if it was okay to forgive your partner?  
Share your stories below.

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# Rihanna Is Supporting Chris Brown in iPhone Theft Allegation



Rihanna is standing by her ex, Chris Brown, while he awaits the decision on whether or not he'll be charged in theft of a cell phone, [RadarOnline](#) reported. Brown has been accused of stealing a woman's iPhone as she snapped a picture of the R&B singer while he sat in the back of his car. Brown purportedly

snatched the phone saying, “B-tch, you’re not going to put that on the internet” and drove off. A source close to the situation told the site that Brown is claiming that he absolutely did not steal the phone. Rihanna has subsequently stated that she will stand by him during the investigation and whatever the future holds. Given the past these two have together, Brown was humbled by Rihanna’s firm support. “He told her he appreciated her despite the criticism she has endured for recording songs with Chris [Brown] and welcoming him back into her life,” the source said.

## **What do you do if your partner gets involved with the law?**

### **Cupid’s Advice:**

Getting in trouble with the law is not fun, especially when it involves your lover. While it all depends on the situation and how you choose to handle it, Cupid has some advice to help:

**1. Be their support system:** “Through sickness and health, and ‘til death do us part...” Getting involved in the law can fall somewhere in between those two. Having your significant other in trouble with the law can be a stressful situation for the both of you, but try to be there through the difficult time.

**2. Ignore the negative feedback:** In this situation, there’s always going to be at least one person who’s going to degrade your decision to stand by your mate. While the backlash may get to you, develop thick skin and try to remain positive about the circumstances.

**3. Move along:** If your partner is in serious trouble with the law and it gets to the point to where you no longer have the patience to deal with it, then it may be best for you to move on and live your life.

## **What would you do if your partner got involved with the law?**

Share your comments below.

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## Exes Rihanna and Chris Brown Collaborate on Song



Rihanna and Chris Brown recently spent time working on the other's songs, which were released on Monday. This collaboration was completely unexpected after the domestic violence drama the two went through in 2009. However, according to [People](#), the pair were spending time together the night of the Grammy's, which marked three years since the incident. On Twitter the former couple have been displaying friendly behavior. The lyrics Brown sings in Rihanna's song

are inappropriate; however, they do suggest he is missing her.

Rihanna's lyrics are more straight forward: "I love you baby," she sings.

**Why would a woman reconnect with an ex who physically hurt her?**

### **Cupid's Advice:**

Dealing with past abuse is a very difficult topic for a woman to discuss. Here are some reasons it's natural (yet dangerous) to reconnect with an abusive ex:

**1. He is forcing her:** It's rare for someone to run back to their abusive partner, but often times threats have something to do with it. These threats could be dangerous, as well as powerful and frightening for a woman who does not know what options she has.

**2. She thinks it will be different:** Some women believe that when a man says, "I've changed" that he means it. However, an abusive man rarely ever fully changes, and there is always a chance of history repeating itself.

**3. She is in denial:** When men are abusive, they are often able to force a woman into believing that the abuse is her own fault. This is never the truth. No one deserves to be abused. When a woman does not realize that what is going on is a serious problem, they will often return to the man.

**Do you know a woman who reconnected with her abusive ex? Share your stories and advice below.**

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# Rumor: Chris Brown Reportedly Has Disgusting New Pickup Line



According to [UsMagazine.com](http://UsMagazine.com), a woman was reportedly approached by Grammy winner Chris Brown, 22, with one absurd pickup line. Brown is rumored to have told the woman, " Can I get your number? I promise I won't beat you!" After pleading guilty in 2009 to beating ex-girlfriend and singer Rihanna, 24, many think Brown should take domestic violence seriously, to say the least.

**What are some ways to know when a pickup line is sincere?**

**Cupid's Advice:**

Pickup lines get bad reps, but sometimes a guy can really be trying to compliment you. Here are some ways to know if a pickup line is sincere:

**1. Serious:** If a guy tries to talk to you and gives a line that doesn't leave him or his friends laughing, he may be sincere about going on a date.

**2. Compliment:** There is a thin line between giving a compliment and being a bit disrespectful. If the line makes you feel confident and not harassed, romance might be in the making.

**3. Conversation:** The best pickup line gets a potential partner to talk. Asking about the weather, sports or how someone is feeling can spark chemistry.

**How do you respond to sincere pickup lines? Share your comments below.**

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## Chris Brown Wishes Rihanna a Happy Birthday Via Twitter





Three years after pleading guilty to assaulting his ex, Chris Brown and Rihanna seem to have come to some sort of a truce.

This week, Brown sent his former girlfriend a message for her birthday via Twitter: "HAPPY BIRTHDAY ROBYN!" Rihanna then thanked him via her own Twitter account, according to *People*.

Lately, controversy has been brewing as the duo are back on speaking terms and rumors that they may be getting back together are circulating. The pair have even collaborated with their music, as Brown is singing on a remix of Rihanna's track "Birthday Cake," called "Cake."

**Is it OK to stay in contact with an ex who treated you poorly?**

### **Cupid's Advice:**

When someone you love treats you badly and it eventually leads to a breakup, it can be a hard thing to get past. Sometimes it's impossible, and other times it just takes a very long time. Cupid has some advice:

**1. Let time pass:** The most important thing you can do is to take enough time that it's actually likely that your ex has



changed. If you jump back into a friendship prematurely, you may end up getting hurt all over again.

**2. Regain trust:** It's very possible that you'll never be able to fully trust your ex again, especially if what he or she did was bad enough. If you can't regain that trust, there's no point in re-establishing a relationship. On the other hand, if you think trust is possible again, just take things slow.

**3. Consider benefits:** Consider what the perks are of retaining contact with your ex. If you can't imagine that it'll add something positive to your life, then cut ties completely.

**What are your thoughts on staying in contact with an ex who treated you poorly? Share your comment below.**

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## **Valentine's Day Duos: 5 Hollywood Relationships That Spiraled Out Of Control**





By Katanya Royster

Relationships can be hard work, and they require a lot of effort to be put in from both ends. When you both commit, it makes it all worthwhile- in most cases. While many relationships start off on a high note and continue on the path of blissfulness, others plummet to a place of irreconcilable differences, physical altercations and repeated infidelity. They end up heading straight to Splittsville. In fact, all you have to do is ask the following couples:

**1. Chris Brown and Rihanna:** Typically, the phrase “first love” invokes visions of butterflies, sunsets and all things untainted. But, in 2009, we saw an ugly side of first love. Singer, Chris Brown, was accused of assaulting his popstar girlfriend, Robyn “Rihanna” Fenty. At the time of the assault, Brown was 19 and Rihanna was 20. After pictures of Rihanna’s badly beaten face surfaced, fans immediately took sides. Some were ready to dismiss Brown’s actions as a forgivable misstep, while others were relentless in their criticism of him. Either way, it was the worst possible ending to a seemingly beautiful love story. Or was it?

Recent tweets make it seem as if reconciliation may be on the horizon.

**Related:** [5 Celebrity Couples We Want to See Reunite](#)

**2. Russell Brand and Katy Perry:** A shocked public let out a collective gasp when Russell Brand filed for divorce from his wife of 14 months. Failed Hollywood marriages are no surprise, but for some reason, we thought these two would be different. So what if Brand is a recovering sex addict and Perry is the daughter of evangelical ministers? We still thought this couple had a fighting chance. Brand's boredom with the couple's sex life and his inability to be alone, may have contributed to the couple's marital problems, reported *US Weekly*.

**3. Kim Kardashian and Kris Humphries.** Many thought Kim and Kris' lavish wedding was a publicity stunt. So, when Kim filed for divorce after only 72 days of marriage, no one was shocked – except maybe Kris. The NBA star claimed he was surprised by Kim's actions and that he wanted to make the couple's marriage work. After the split went viral, Kim was embarrassed and, in a rare move, retreated from the public eye while her ex-hubby was booed in NYC during a basketball game. Thus, if the marriage was a publicity stunt, it may have been the worst one in history.

**Related:** [What Kim Kardashian Taught Me About Marriage](#)

**4. Kobe and Vanessa Bryant:** In 2003, Kobe was accused of sexually assaulting a 19-year-old hotel employee. Kobe proclaimed his innocence, but admitted to infidelity and famously apologized to his wife, Vanessa, with a \$4 million ring and a custom-made Lamborghini. It seems that Kobe's relationship patchwork was a bit like someone putting a Band-Aid on broken leg – a nice gesture, but it didn't actually fix the problem- a cheating husband. In 2011, after 10 years of marriage, Vanessa finally filed for divorce citing

“irreconcilable differences,”. Either way, a woman scorned, plus a husband worth \$150 million dollars, minus a prenup, equals trouble. With that kind of money up for grabs, this downward spiral may have only just begun.

**5. Tiger Woods and Elin Nordegren.** Tiger Woods’ fame had just as much to do with his clean cut image as it did with his amazing golf game. However, a one-car accident near Woods’ and Nordegren’s Florida home changed his reputation forever.

A parade of women subsequently emerged and admitted to having affairs with the golf pro. In an attempt to save his marriage, the father of two spent six weeks in a rehabilitation program for sex addiction. Nonetheless, Nordegren filed for divorce granted on the basis that the couple’s marriage was “irretrievably broken.” Nordegren was awarded an undisclosed settlement amount thought to be in the neighborhood of \$100 million dollars.

**How did you know when you or a friend’s relationship was over? Share your stories below.**

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## **Hollywood: Portrayals of Domestic Violence**





By LaVonya Reeves

As a survivor of domestic violence, this is a subject close to my heart, and it leads me to asks questions like:

- **What responsibility does Hollywood have for depicting healthy relationships?**
- **Do they accurately represent abusive relationships?**

You've undoubtedly seen the headlines and read the stories, as there are cases upon cases of such violence. One relatively recent example has to do with the controversy surrounding Eminem and Rihanna's music video for "Love The Way you Lie," which depicts the emotional highs and lows, resentment and lies, and even physical altercations in one specific abusive relationship. In the video, actress Megan Fox and the former hobbit guy from *Lost* (Dominic Monaghan) show us an unhealthy relationships filled with sex, tender moments, fights, violence, and fire.

And let's not forget the highly publicized domestic violence

incident between R&B singers Rihanna and Chris Brown. Rihanna (whose unhealthy relationship with Chris Brown was made public when he hit her) also sings the chorus and is shown throughout the video.

*Abuse and domestic violence does not discriminate, as there are as many men who fall victim to domestic violence as women.*

*Look at MTV's Teen Mom reality star Amber Portwood who was arrested and charged with felony domestic battery and child neglect stemming from her behavior on the reality TV series.*

*Portwood, 20, while in a tumultuous relationship with her on-and-off fiancé, punched him in the face. Gary Shirley, 24, is the father of Portwood's daughter, Leah. He subsequently filed charges against her for assaulting Shirley in front of their child.*

### **What is Dating and Domestic Violence?**

Dating or domestic violence is not a disagreement; it represents a violation of trust.

### **Pre-battering violence:**

Verbal abuse, hitting objects, throwing objects & making threats.

### **Beginning Levels:**

Slapping, pinching, kicking, and pulling of hair.

### **Severe levels:**

Choking, beating-with objects (sticks, ball bats, etc...), use of weapons, and sexual assault.

One in 3 women in battering relationships is sexually assaulted. While drinking and drug use do not cause battering, these elements can create a violent situation. When chemical dependency is involved, both the injuries and lethality of abuse may increase.

An estimated 1.3 million women/men are victims of physical assault by an intimate partner each year. Some studies say the numbers are even greater – up to 5.3 million – since most

assaults go unreported.

If you or someone you know is a victim or have been a victim to domestic violence, please tell someone, because help is available.

**Call 911**

**The National Domestic Violence Hotline**

<http://www.ndvh.org/>

(TTY) ANONYMOUS & CONFIDENTIAL HELP 24/7

1.800.799. SAFE

(7233) 1.800.787.3224

**National Sexual Assault Hotline**

RAINN RAPE ABUSE & INCEST NATIONAL NETWORK

<http://www.rainn.org/>

1.800. 656-HOPE

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# Rihanna Follows Chris Brown On Twitter and Angers Fans





Rihanna made her lack of anger towards Chris Brown apparent on Monday, when she decided to follow her abusive ex on Twitter, reports [UsMagazine.com](http://UsMagazine.com). Rihanna and Chris Brown had a very public breakup after Brown attacked Rihanna nearly two years ago. The domestic violence case still deeply resonates with fans. One of Rihanna's Twitter followers tweeted, "I never thought you would go back to him! You better not. It's your life, but you do have people that look up to you (e.g. young girls)." Rihanna replied, typing, "It's f\*cking Twitter, not the altar! Calm down!" The singer then qualified her harsh words, adding, ""Baby girl, I'm sorry. I didn't mean to hurt or offend you – just needed to make it clear!"

**What are the perks to staying civil with an ex who hurt you?**

### **Cupid's Advice:**

While many of your friends may advise against it, remaining civil toward an ex does have some benefits:

**1. He serves as a reminder:** Having your ex somewhat close to you can help you ward off remaining feelings of affection. It



will be easier to stay away from your ex when you are able to more easily remember the pain he caused you.

**2. You can help him:** If your partner's injustice against you was due to a problem he was battling, then you may be able to help him recover. For instance, if his anger issues ended your relationship, you can encourage him enroll in anger management.

**3. Your conscience benefits:** While it may not be easy to take the high road, remaining civil is the right thing to do. Being kind to people, even those who may not necessarily deserve your kindness, is rewarding.

**Have you ever had a hurtful ex? Leave a comment below!**

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## **Chris Brown Is Upset He Cannot Move On from Past With Rihanna**





Rapper and R&B star Chris Brown can't seem to shake his past with former flame Rihanna, reports [People](#). Brown became visibly upset and violent on Tuesday morning during an interview for *Good Morning America* when interviewer Robin Roberts began to inquire about his past with Rihanna. A source close to the actor says, "He's been trying to move on from his past and focus on his music, and he's finally putting out an album..." Brown tweeted later on that day giving a shout out to his fans, "Thank you to everyone who supports my music!!! Key Word (music) !!! Love y'all."

**How do you start new after you cheat on someone?**

### **Cupid's Advice:**

Nobody can answer for you or explain why you cheated, but making sure that you don't repeat the past is imperative to your future. Cupid has some tips on how to start fresh:

**1. Take some time:** Take time off from dates and pick-ups. The down time will give you the opportunity to reflect on your recent relationships.

**2. Figure it out:** What was the reason that you cheated? Were you unhappy? Did you do it just because you could? Knowing the motive behind your actions is the first step to correcting any future decisions.

**3. Be honest:** In your next relationship, be open and forthcoming. Before things get too serious, have a heart-to-heart and explain your past, what you did and why. Being up front from the beginning will show your new partner that you've turned over a new leaf.