Celebrity Dating Rumors: Gwyneth Paltrow Is Dating 'Glee' Co-Creator Ben Falchuk



By Shannon Seibert

According to celebrity dating rumors, romance has once again struck on the set of *Glee*! Gwyneth Paltrow and Ben Falchuk were spotted on a flirty dinner date at East Borough in L.A., according to <u>UsMagazine.com</u>. Paltrow has made five guest appearances on the co-creator's show as Holly Holliday since 2010. Following her celebrity divorce from Chris Martin in March, Paltrow's relationship with Falchuk has progressed from professional to personal over recent months. Falchuk has also recently split from his ex-wife Suzanne of 10 years. Both the actress and the producer share children with their celebrity exes and are seemingly close to their former partners. We're excited to see what Cupid has in store for the new <u>celebrity</u> <u>couple</u>!

Rumor has it that Paltrow is already part of a new celebrity couple. How do you know when you're ready to move on after a split?

Cupid's Advice:

Moving on can sometimes feel like you're climbing a neverending mountain, but then one day, you finally reach the top, and you realize the view isn't half bad. When you feel that you have closure from your past relationship, the next step is moving forward. If you're wondering whether or not you're up to starting something new, consider these three pieces of love advice:

1. You physically feel better: Sometimes, emotional pain transitions into physical pain. There seems to be a neverending pit in your stomach that leaves you feeling nauseous. When you've let go of past emotions and memories and accept that he isn't coming back, you feel lighter. The songs on the radio don't "speak" to you anymore; you aren't avoiding certain places you went together; and you find yourself forgetting to think about him from time to time. This weight that lifts is a sign that you don't have to be held back anymore. Paltrow has been able to let go of past grievances after her celebrity divorce, and they've even remained close friends. There is nothing keeping you in the past, so you can create your own future.

Related Link: Gwyneth Paltrow and Husband Chris Martin Split

2. You've thought about dating again: When you're ready to move on, thoughts of dating cross your mind more frequently, and they usually aren't about your past significant others. Finding new men to reach out to can help stimulate the healing process and allow you to consider new avenues for finding love. Celebrity couple Paltrow and Falchuk both waited until the right moment to be together.

Related Link: <u>Chris Martin Says He's 'Friends' With Estranged</u> <u>Wife Gwyneth Paltrow</u>

3. You've had complete closure: Closure is hard to come by, but when you finally have it, everything feels at peace. Though the truth about why things ended may hurt, it also allows you to feel more in tune to your senses. There won't be any more "what ifs" nagging at your mind before you go to sleep each night. You won't be analyzing everything that went wrong, and you'll be able to just have the memories of everything you did right. Use your past relationships and love to help you in the future.

How did you know it was time for you to move forward? Share your story with us in the comments below!

Christina Aguilera Names Daughter Summer Rain Rutler





By Shannon Seibert

As of Sunday, August 17th, Christina Aguilera's baby girl officially has a name: Summer Rain Rutler. The singer and her fiancé Matt Rutler shared their wonderful news on Twitter, writing, "So proud to welcome our beautiful daughter Summer Rain Rutler into the world." The baby is the happy couple's first child together, and Aguilera also has a son with exhusband Jordan Bratman. The new parents announced their engagement in February of this year after meeting on the set of *Burlesque* in 2010. According to *UsMagazine.com*, the songwriter stayed out of the spotlight for most of her second pregnancy and was pretty content about it. "So blissful in taking this time for creating all things blossoming new on the horizon," she shared. "Album, baby & beautiful music to come."

What are some creative ways to announce the name of your new baby?

Cupid's Advice:

Baby announcements are fun for everyone! Each time you turn

around, there's something new on the Internet that you wished you had tried. Baby news is always big news, no matter how small the package. With this thought in mind, we've pulled together three adorable ideas to make sure that you have the most talked about baby announcement.

1. For a comical approach: Boast about your news while getting a good laugh out of your loved ones by taking a silly approach to your baby announcement. Play up the stereotype of men fearing a baby on the way and pose a photo of your partner freaking out about the news. Or you could use the "pregnancy cravings" aspect of your baby news and send out a double-sided picture with a giant tub of ice cream, titled "Guess what's on the way?" Then, on the other side, place a genuinely excited picture to show that you're both terrified and happy about the news.

Related Link: <u>Christina Aguilera Welcomes a Baby Girl with</u> <u>Matt Rutler</u>

2. For a sentimental approach: Black and white photos automatically generate an aura of seriousness, and when you add the right camera angle, you can create a magazine-worthy shot. Send out an adorably constructed picture with your partner. When your little love-bundle is born, hold him or her together with your wedding bands dangling off your angel's toes. The symbolism behind the two separate entities creating one will resonate with your family and friends, demonstrating the significance of this moment.

Related Link: <u>Christina Aguilera and Matt Rutler Enjoy Dinner</u> <u>Date</u>

3. For the whole family: Getting the whole family involved is another way to make your baby announcement. Your little "big brothers" and/or "big sisters" can line up their shoes. Then, add a pair of baby booties to the end of the line. People will get the idea that another one is on the way! It's also a chance for you to show off how much your children have grown. An addition to the family is always exciting for everyone, including your pets. For animals, the family is their "pack," which makes everyone an equally important member. If you're having a Christmas baby, pose your loveable furry friend next to the tree with a sign that says: "Mom and Dad got me a human for Christmas!" The approach is funny and sweet in one wonderfully-wrapped package.

How did you make your baby announcement? Share your stories with us in the comments below!

Find Out the Duggar Family's 5 Rules for Relationships and Love





By <u>Courtney Omernick</u>

In the <u>latest celebrity news</u>, another one of the Duggar children, Jessa, got engaged to Ben Seewald this past week. <u>People.com</u> put together an article summarizing some of the major relationship and love rules that the Duggar family has. The top five are: set boundaries; court, don't date; save the physical relationship for marriage; ask (lots of) questions; and have a weekly date. The soon-to-be married celebrity couple has obviously benefited from the Duggar family's two-cents, so this wholesome love advice is something for the books!

What are some important pieces of love advice for all couples to remember?

Cupid's Advice:

When it comes to relationships and love, many people have

their own rules and requirements, but there are a few rules that should be followed in *every* romantic partnership. What are they? Cupid has some love advice:

1. Make your relationship top priority: This rule goes for both parties. If one person is putting in 80 percent of the effort, they will become exhausted, and the relationship won't go anywhere. If you're truly committed, make sure that the other person comes first.

Related Link: <u>5 Reasons Why You Should Date Someone Who's</u> <u>Older Than You</u>

2. Honesty is always the best policy: If you feel like you can't be honest with your partner, it's probably best that you two go your separate ways. Trust is the biggest thing in a relationship, and you can't have trust without honesty. It's important that you feel like you can be open at all times with your partner.

Related Link: <u>On-Again, Off-Again: Celebrity Couples Who Can't</u> <u>Make Up Their Minds</u>

3. Think of the big picture: Remember what is most important in your relationship and pick your battles carefully. Romances aren't perfect, so let go of the smaller issues and remind yourself every day why you selected to be with your partner.

What is your best piece of love advice? Share in the comments below!

Celebrity Interview: Maternity Expert Rosie Pope Encourages Moms "To Be Really Present in the Moment"



Interview by Lori Bizzoco. Written by Laura Seaman.

Rosie Pope knows all things related to pregnancy and parenting, bringing child care and fashion advice to mothers and mothers-to-be everywhere. She owns Rosie Pope Maternity and Rosie Pope Baby, runs MomPrep classes, and is often featured on television for her mothering expertise. Fans may also recognize her from the Bravo reality TV show Pregnant in Heels. As if that's not enough to keep her busy, she's also the author of Mommy IQ: The Complete Guide to Pregnancy.

Celebrity Interview with Reality TV Star Rosie Pope

The maternity expert and celebrity mom welcomed her fourth child, daughter Bridget Monroe, in March, and luckily, her older kids — son James Roderick, almost 6, son Wellington Reade, 3, and daughter Vivienne Madison, 2 — are happy to have a new baby sister. "The sweetest thing about bringing Bridget into the world is that her siblings are so attentive to her. They want to do everything for her and just be really involved," she explains in our celebrity interview. This new baby didn't bring the jealousy and clambering for attention like the previous children did, so maybe the fourth time is the charm!

Of course, with summer coming to a close, we asked the Londonborn star about how having a big family affects their <u>celebrity vacations</u> and time together. They like to keep it local, though she says they're a "pretty adventurous" bunch. When it comes to transportation, driving is the only option, as you can imagine the hassle of a family of six at the airport. "We're all about the minivan!"

There's one mother that we'll never see driving a minivan, and that's Kate Middleton, the beautiful Duchess of Cambridge. Middleton and Prince William recently celebrated their son Prince George's first birthday, and the media didn't miss a second of the celebration. So how will the royal lifestyle impact the adorable prince's upbringing? "As he gets older, he's going to start being more and more aware of what's going on around him. As a baby, he doesn't realize that there are paparazzi everywhere and that everyone wants to know everything about him." Of course, his father was also brought up in the public eye, and he can help his son every step of the way.

Related Link: Prince William and Kate Middleton Attend Church

Celebrity Mom Shares Best Relationship Advice

Whether you're the future queen of England or a mother of two in a small town, you can bet that your marriage will change after you have children. A growing family means more stress and responsibility, but it also brings a new happiness that you didn't have before. Sometimes, it's hard to remember how to be a couple with your partner, but Pope has some relationship advice for every parent to follow.

First, you have to make good communication a priority in your relationship. "It's really, really difficult to communicate with each other when so much is going on. You have to be honest about the things that aren't working and the things that are working," she shares in our celebrity interview. "If you dish it out, you have to be able to take it too. So if you want your partner to be honest with you about things that aren't quite right, you have to be able to handle that."

Next, she encourages you to not wait until Friday night to have a date night. Take advantage of any free time and do something spontaneously! Pope's favorite date night is when her and her husband enjoy some alone time at home. After all of the kids are in bed, her husband cooks a delicious meal, she makes cocktails, and they meet on the porch to have a romantic evening together.

The third must on the maternity expert's list is taking the normal parts of every day and making them special. This could be going to the gym together, taking a trip to the grocery store, or getting ready together in the morning. Use these seemingly ordinary daily chores to enjoy each other's presence and build on your relationship. Now that your life is busier than ever, you need to appreciate the little things.

Related Link: Make Your Relationship Count This Year

Last on the celebrity mom's list of advice is telling your love story when times get tough to "remind each other of how you used to feel." Now that you're parents, it might be hard to remember when you were both single and just getting to know each other. Think about falling head-over-heels in love with each other and why you thought your partner was the perfect person for you.

Perhaps the most difficult adjustment for new parents to make is finding time to be intimate. Her solution to this situation is, as she put it, very much like going to the gym: "Get creative, make yourself do it, and you won't regret it!" Remind yourself that you have to be intimate as a couple, even with the hustle and bustle of being parents. You have to work for it!

Not only does Pope have the busy life of a wife and mom, but she's also juggling the stress and pressure of an extremely successful career as a maternity expert. Handling it all is simple: "It's about two things. First, you have to be really present in the moment, because you don't have a lot of time to do anything. Savor any minutes that you spend by yourself, with your kids, or while you're at work. You have to be 100 percent present to feel fulfilled and know that you're getting the most out of every moment."

And second, you have to remember that life changes. The kids won't be toddlers forever, so you won't always have to deal with the messes, the need for attention, and the constant craziness of little ones. However, that also means that the positives of the toddler stage will fade. "Now, they want to play with me all of the time, but I know in a few years, I won't be cool enough," the author says with a laugh.

Related Link: Rosie Pope Welcomes Baby Girl on Mother's Day

Pope is one mother who seems to have it all figured out. And

she certainly knows what's *not* in her future: another reality TV show. "Reality TV is crazy, and I don't think I'm that crazy!" Don't rule out a second book – or a fifth child – just yet though. "If I don't have another baby, maybe I'll write another book next year!"

For now, she's focusing on her baby clothing line, Rosie Pope Baby, which launched in February and is continuing to expand. The adorable outfits are available in a variety of sizes, ranging from newborn to two years old. "It's a real marriage between fashion and function," she explains. "I think parents will find it very practical but also very pleasing."

To see more of Rosie, check out her website, https://rosiepope.com/. She also responds to questions via social media on her Twitter @RosiePope, www.facebook.com/RosiePope, www.instagram.com/rosiepope/, and /www.pinterest.com/rosiepope/.

Date Idea: Show Off





By Brittany Stubbs

Have a hidden talent that you want your love to appreciate? Set up a night where you can reveal your true self and impress your sweetheart. Your partner probably knows all about what you do for a living and your favorite hobbies, but there's that other side of you that doesn't always see the light of day. There is nothing more intimate than allowing your man to discover something new about you.

Finding inspiration might mean going back in time. Maybe you were on the dance team in high school and want to show off some of your old moves. That doesn't mean you have to start stretching and attempting the splits in your living room. Start looking for those videos of performances you never thought you'd watch again, make some popcorn, and cuddle up on the couch. Your partner will love seeing you in your youth as much as you'll enjoy laughing at yourself.

Related Link: Date Idea: Slumber Party

Or perhaps you aspired to be a stand-up comedian back in the

day. Come up with a routine to make your lover laugh. If your sweetie has a thick skin, get creative and incorporate them into some of your jokes. Whether the routine goes smoothly or you're stumbling along, by the time you're finished, you'll both be on the floor laughing.

After you've revealed your hidden talent, sit back and allow your partner to share something you never knew about them. You'll be surprised how much closer the two of you will feel after this experience! Whether you're showing off tricks you haven't pulled out in years or talents you're still secretly working on, you'll learn more about each other and create a great memory along the way.

Related Link: Date Idea: Game On

To get your friends in on the fun, host a talent show. Invite a few of your favorite couples over for drinks and appetizers, followed by every couple putting on a mini performance. Take it a step further and present an award for the most entertaining show. Whether your friends impress you or make you cry from laughter, you'll want to make this night your newest tradition.

Have you shared a hidden talent with your partner? Tell us about it the comments below!

Single in Stilettos Show: Top 5 Dating Mistakes Women Make





On this week's <u>Single in Stilettos</u> show, founder Suzanne Oshima talks to dating coach Tripp about the top five dating mistakes that women make. As someone who works regularly with men and knows what they want in a partner, he's seen what happens after women make one of these errors: You don't offer to pay for the date; you act like you don't care; you don't show *any* affection; you talk too much; and you don't give him a chance to be a gentleman. Taking any of these missteps, especially in the beginning stages of dating, can turn a man off...so avoid these behaviors if at all possible! **Related Link:** Tripp on How to Be More Than a Fling to Him

For more information about Single in Stilettos shows,

click <u>here</u>.

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

Ladies, what dating mistake do you find yourself making most

Can Love Be Better the Second Time Around?





By Patricia Bubash for Hope After Divorce

Yes, it can! This answer is according to the couples that I interviewed for my book, *Successful Second Marriages*. What prompted a book about second marriages? The failure of my own second marriage and my admiration for remarrieds who found success in this second chance love – success in spite of the negative numbers for second marriages. Statistics approximate

that half of first marriages end in divorce. For second timers, the odds for staying together get even tougher: Twothirds of those taking the plunge a second time don't make it. With odds like these, it is surprising that more than half of those first-time exes remarry...but they do! We are a nation in love with *love*.

Related Link: <u>A Hole in My Heart</u>

So yes, love *can* be better the second time around if we do some self-introspection, a little homework. When we're met with failure while attempting a new project, a recipe, school work, or a job, we question what we did wrong. We don't want to repeat our mistake and fail again. This mindset should also be true for a marriage. Whatever happened in our first union, we did make some contribution to the demise of that marriage. Maybe not to the extent of our ex-spouse, but we were half of the doomed duo.

Love can even be better the second time around with the same former spouse if needed relationship work is done by both parties together as a team. Take two celebrity couples in the news for possibly getting back together again: Hilary Duff and Mike Comrie as well as Gwyneth Paltrow and Chris Martin. Good for them! There truly is hope for couples to work together to strengthen their relationship and be happier and better than they ever imagined they could be. Owning up to the individual part we play in the relationships we are in is what matters most. We can only be fully responsible for ourselves and how we choose to participate in our marriages.

Family/marriage therapist Mary Duparri has observed a certain pattern with clients who have found love again. Their comments relay their total lack of responsibility for their failed first marriage. They say, "Now, I have found the right person. I choose the wrong person before. I shouldn't have married him (or her) in the first place, but this time, I have the right one!" The therapist expressed her dismay that her clients do not accept any personal liability for the previous marriage and do not look into what went wrong so mistakes would not be repeated. Instead, they conclude it was simply the *wrong* person. Now, this new love is the *right* person – a perfect match. Problem solved.

A pleasant change for DuParri would have been to have the couples I interviewed as her clients. These nine pairs had done their homework before committing to another relationship. As much as they all agreed that after their divorce they hoped for another relationship, they also, very vehemently, stated, "I never want to go through another divorce!" They were going to do everything in their power to make number two a success. The tagline on my book reads "Inspiring, Encouraging, and Hopeful" — words descriptive of the couples interviewed. Every time I left a home, I felt humbled and gratified for our conversations. I knew that I needed to be more attentive to my own marriage (yes, I've been in a third-time-is-charm marriage for the past 24 years). I found myself aspiring to have a relationship similar to that of the couples I was talking with.

Related Link: <u>Second (and Third) Marriages: Destined for</u> <u>Divorce?</u>

Their stories were the catalyst, a personal goal to write the book. In terms of my own personal understanding of what went wrong with my second marriage, how had I contributed to the failure of it? And what was the formula for success the second time around?

1. Know yourself. Before you say "I do" again, know what you really want in a marriage. Are you looking for companionship, security, credibility, a family? What are you willing to contribute? Do some introspection. I was impressed with the number of individuals I interviewed who did just this – spent some time alone, getting to know themselves better versus

rushing to become a twosome again. Taking time out for a little constructive self-awareness leads to a better relationship when that true love comes along.

2. Discuss finances. I know this was a problem in my second marriage. I owned the home we shared, earned more money, and had job security. This is especially important when each person has children. Decide who is responsible for what expenses and have this clearly determined before you become a married couple.

3. Don't expect love and acceptance from their kids! Many a troubled, disappointed parent has come to my office to bemoan, "I have found the love of my life, and my children are being horrible" or "I don't know what is the matter with them. I have finally found my soulmate." Well, you may be in love, but your children are not. They have another parent, so give them time. Don't rush them to acceptance of this "wonderful" new husband or wife.

Related Link: <u>Maggie Scarf Breaks Down Unique Family Dynamics</u> in "The Remarriage Blueprint"

These two celebrity couples – Duff and Comrie and Paltrow and Martin – show us that there is hope and promise for the possibility of working harder together to build a stronger foundation for our relationship, marriage, and family. Good for them – we are cheering them both on!

I learned much more than these three tips from my wonderful second timers. Love can be better the second time around when we don't rush to action (marry again too quickly), do some introspection, clarify financial responsibility, give kids time to adjust to the new person, and read *Successful Second Marriages*!

For more information about Hope After Divorce, click <u>here</u>.



Patricia Bubash received her M.Ed. in Counseling from the University of Missouri, St. Louis. Working with students and families has been her true calling for over thirty years. For more than twenty years she has presented workshops at the community college on a variety of topics relating to parenting issues, self-esteem and issues relative to divorce. Patricia is a Licensed Professional Counselor in the state of Missouri and, a Stephen Minister. She

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Sofia Vergara Speaks Out About New Boyfriend Joe Manganiello





By Laura Seaman

Actress Sofia Vergara recently spoke about her relationship with actor Joe Manganiello. The couple has been seen together a lot this summer, and they are adorable together. "You know, I'm just having a great time," Vergara said in an interview. "It's a special time in my life, and I'm trying not to think too much about it. It's something very new, so we will see what happens." The two were seen kissing during their vacation to Miami, where Manganiello also met the Vergara family. When asked if her mother approved, the actress replied, "What is there not to approve of?" A source told <u>UsMagazine.com</u> that the pair spends every night together, and that Manganiello cooks for his girl on their night in.

What do you do if your family doesn't approve of your partner?

Cupid's Advice:

Maybe you're not as lucky as Sofia Vergara, whose mother approves of her new boyfriend. If your parents don't approve of your partner, it's going to add an awful lot of stress onto the relationship. But don't worry! There are ways to address the situation and try to make everyone happy. Just follow these simple tips from Cupid:

1. Ask your family why they don't approve. Who knows, maybe there's a good reason your family doesn't like your new love interest. They might bring up some red flags you'd never noticed before. Take what they say into consideration. They know you best, so their opinions should be important.

Related: <u>Sofia Vergara and Joe Manganiello Pack on the PDA on</u> <u>Double Date</u>

2. Tell them why your partner makes you happy. Maybe your family just doesn't understand your relationship, but if it makes you happy, they should be happy for you. Explain to them what you like about your partner and why this relationship has been good for you. They might just need to have it explained to them in a way they can understand.

Related: <u>Sarah Hyland Says Sofia Vergara and Joe Manganiello</u> <u>Would Make 'Hot Babies'</u>

3. Bring them together more often. First impressions are important, but they could be completely off! If your family didn't like your partner at first, try bringing them around more often and see if the opinion changes. Sometimes it just takes a while for a family to warm up to the idea of a new person being around. Soon they could start warming up to him or her and your situation will be just fine!

How did you deal with a partner your family didn't approve of? Let us know in the comments!

5 Reasons Why You Should Date Someone Who's Older Than You





By Shannon Seibert

An age gap doesn't necessarily mean that there is something missing from the relationship, in fact sometimes it brings a couple closer together. It may be cheesy but the phrase "Age is only a number" is actually quite accurate. Who you fall in love with isn't your choice, it's a matter of the heart and soul. If you find someone who you just instantly click with, it shouldn't matter what decade you were born in. Check out our top five reasons why you should date someone who is older than you and feel confident about your loving relationship:

1. You can offer each other a new perspective: Your

significant other is someone who you can confide in, and sometimes an age gap allows you to receive a different reaction to a situation other than your own. This way you can use your significant other for guidance and support in your decision-making. As they have generally had more liferexperiences you will be able to feel confident that they know what they're talking about. In turn, you can also "keep him young" by being adventurous with him. Try out new date ideas, travel together, or anything else that he may not have done on his own.

Related: Date Idea: Redecorate

2. He will have a sense of maturity: It seems to be a rare trait that is hard to find, and just because he's a man, it doesn't mean that there isn't a little boy underneath. Women naturally mature faster than men, they experience more rapid brain growth and development. This is why women traditionally date older. Sometimes we are faced with serious circumstances in life that you'll need to lean on your partner.

3. He will most likely be more financially stable: When you're young, it's easy to make whimsical purchases on pay day. With your older guy, he may know a thing or two about having a large savings account. This gives your man a lot of credibility because balancing your finances is a good quality to look for. This means he will be able to provide for you and support you if your relationship were to take the next step. Also, your dates will probably a lot nicer than just dinner and a movie.

4. An older man knows chivalry: Chivalry isn't dead, ladies, it just may be a few years ahead. He's been in the dating game for a quite a while and now he knows what he wants. There won't be any games, or second guessing, he will treat you like the lady you are. In your generation you may not have a lot of doors opened for you, but when you date older this simple gesture of feminine appreciation is the first of many. Related: Zac Efron and Michelle Rodriguez Amp Up PDA in Spain

5. They're better at sex: Not that these criteria are in any particular order, but this is definitely one of the important ones. People neglect sexual chemistry as an important quality of a relationship, saying "It's not all about the sex," but in reality, sex is pretty significant. Sex allows you to reach a whole new level of intimacy that just emotional attachments cannot equate to. It's the synchronization of the emotional and physical chemistry that can mold the most beautiful forms of love. Older men are generally more experienced in the bedroom, so let him spoil you. This being said, you could also learn a thing or two from him!

Are you dating someone older? Share with us why you don't mind an age gap in the comments below!

Daniel Radcliffe Says Girlfriend Erin Darke Is "Definitely" His Best Friend





By Ann Luther

Daniel Radcliffe seems to have it all these days. In addition to a booming career, including a stint on Broadway, he's happily in love with girlfriend of two years, Erin Darke. The couple met in 2012 while filming the movie *Kill Your Darlings* and have been together ever since. In a recent interview, Radcliffe even told <u>UsMagazine.com</u> that Darke is "absolutely" his best friend. "I think that's the kind of relationship I always aspire to have with someone I'm in a relationship with. You want that person to be your best friend," he candidly shared. "In the case of Erin, we definitely are."

What are some advantages of your partner being your best friend?

Cupid's Advice:

Having your partner be your best friend can create a sense of ease and comfort in your life that is unimaginably good. So what are a few of the benefits of this two-in-one relationship? 1. There is no such thing as "too much information": When there is a strong foundation of friendship supporting the romance, there is more trust. If you and your partner start as friends, you can break down more barriers, which leads to more honest communication. There are no secrets because you do not fear judgment or betrayal from someone who is already your best friend.

Related Link: <u>Daniel Radcliffe New Girlfriend Erin Darke Have</u> <u>'Great Chemistry'</u>

2. Activities are more fun: In a typical romantic partnership, there is a ton of fun, but you probably find the need for a night out with your buddies to get into some different antics that you wouldn't embrace with your significant other around. However, if your beau is your best friend, you'll probably feel comfortable including each other in your friends-only activities, which leads us into our final point...

Related Link: Daniel Radcliffe Says He Loves the 'Idea of Lots of Kids'

3. There is no need to keep your friends separate: Chances are, your sweetheart is already in your group of close friends. That means no neglecting your pals for your partner or vice versa. It also means that, when you're just hanging out, you get to be surrounded by everyone you love, not just your love. Of course, when the night is over, your best friend turns back into your other half, and the fun continues with the two of you alone!

What is your favorite aspect of being in a relationship with your best friend? Tell us in the comments below!

On-Again, Off-Again: Celebrity Couples Who Can't Make Up Their Minds



By Deanna Atkins and Laura Seaman

In Hollywood, you never know who's going to be the next big couple, especially when the new duo may breakup before official word even gets out. To be fair, it has to be difficult to maintain a relationship that's constantly in the public eye. Aside from frequent budding romances, we're constantly hearing about those twosomes who just can't commit. They're on one week and off the next week, and then before you know it, they've eloped...only to divorce weeks later.

These three pairs constantly keep us guessing and never fail

to surprise us with yet another breakup or makeup. Sometimes we enjoy staying on their relationship roller coaster ride, but still, we have to wonder why these stars are so incapable of staying together:

Lady Gaga and Taylor Kinney: If you were as busy as the pop star, you'd probably find it challenging to keep a boyfriend too. But as her touring schedule has slowed down, it seems like she and the *Chicago Fire* actor are back on again! The 'Born this Way' singer has been with the 33-year-old for three years now, and rumor has it, she's been looking at wedding dresses in Canada. The pair have been seen on romantic skinny dips and dining at Gaga's father's restaurant, but don't be fooled by their seemingly effortless relationship because it's definitely a tough one to maintain.

Sammi Giancola and Ronnie Ortiz-Magro: Whether this couple's out of control relationship was purely for entertainment purposes or not, everyone can't help but love to hate the Jersey Shore duo. The guido and guidette got together on the first season of the show, and, ever since, we've seen the twosome through the crying, name calling, and all out physical brawls. It's actually a rarity when they're filmed not fighting.

That said, there are those times they honestly look happy together. Between his fohawk and her Jersey-girl attitude, they couldn't be more perfect for one another. Let's give them some credit though: Since the filming of the sixth season ended, they're officially on and have even moved in together.

Related Link: <u>Celebrity Couples Who Reconciled for the Summer</u>

Selena Gomez and Justin Bieber: This A-List couple has been on and off for quite a while. As of now, the pair seems to be back together. For the past few years, fans have been told about their constant breakups, only to be shown pictures of the two cuddling on Instagram. It's no surprise that there's friction between them. The former Disney star seems to be rapidly climbing the ladder of success in both music and film. Bieber, on the other hand, just keeps getting in trouble and can't seem to catch a break. From his DUI to videos of his vulgar behavior, this pop star isn't gaining much support lately. For a while, there was even a petition to deport him to his home country! Despite all of this drama, America's darling seems to be smitten with this Canadian bad boy.

Related Link: Justin Bieber and Selena Gomez Attend Bible Study

Whether these celebrities don't realize what they have in front of them or they're waiting to see what else is out there, anyone can relate to needing a push in the right direction. It may be time to quit the games and find a more compatible mate or accept that you're truly in love with your partner. Either way, it's not beneficial for anyone to be in a consistent on-again, off-again relationship!

Have you ever been in an on-again, off-again relationship? Share your experiences below.

'Hunger Games' Star Leven Rambin and 'True Blood' Alum Jim Parrack Are Engaged





By Ann Luther

We all saw *True Blood* alum Jim Parrack's heartbreak when he ended his marriage to his wife of six years, Ciera Parrack. However, he quickly moved on, proposing to *Hunger Games* star, Leven Rambin, after only a few months of dating. According to *UsMagazine.com*, they even made their big news official on Facebook: Parrack changed his relationship status to Engaged over the weekend. The new couple does, in fact, seem very happy in this Instagram video they posted announcing their hiatus from social media. Best of luck to the adorable pair!

How do you know when you're ready to move on post-divorce?

Cupid's Advice:

Divorce is one of the most difficult things a person can go through in life. It is the end of something that was supposed to last forever. It's hard to believe that you'll someday move on — and maybe even find love again — when you feel so wrought with despair. However, know that you *will* feel closure and happiness again…eventually. So how do you know when the time is right to open up your heart to someone new?

Related Link: <u>Kendra Wilkinson Wears Telling T-Shirt After</u> <u>Meeting with Divorce Lawyers</u>

1. You're going out with your friends: If you can go out with your friends, you can go out on a date. Put a little extra effort into your beauty routine to make yourself feel your best. Even if you're not ready to get into a serious relationship, going on a date is a simple step in the right direction.

2. You miss what you had but not your ex: There is a big difference between missing a person and missing a feeling. When you lose a partner, it's almost always best to leave that person where they belong: in the past. A feeling, however, can always be found again. It may not be the same feeling you had with your ex, but it will be extraordinary because that is what love is. The important thing to remember is that you will have many loves in your life. Don't give up!

Related Link: <u>5 Celebrity Couples Who Are Still Friends Post-</u> <u>Divorce</u>

3. You're okay with being alone: Something we all struggle with is recognizing the difference between being alone and feeling lonely. Being alone is a part of life, even when you're married. You should be at peace with your thoughts, your choices, and your life. There is nothing scary about being alone. You are free in so many wonderful ways!

How did you know that you were ready to move on after a breakup? Tell us in the comments below!

Celebrity Interview with 'True Blood' Star Jamie Gray Hyder: "It's Nice to Be With Somebody Who Can Take Care of You"





By Sarah Batcheller

Jamie Gray Hyder is a young, energetic actress currently starring as Lucia, the sultry sister of a drug lord on USA'S *Graceland*. Video gamers may also recognize her as Echo in PS4's *Killzone Shadow Fall*. Hailing from the Washington D.C. area and being a proud University of Georgia alumnae, she stuns audiences across the nation with her exceptionally sexy and adventure-seeking characters, but she may be best known for her role as Danielle, the spunky, tenacious werewolf on HBO's *True Blood*. Of the show's epic final season, she says in our celebrity interview, "It's already been pretty intense, and I think we're going to see a lot of the same – I think we're going to lose a lot more people we've come to love!"

Celebrity Interview with *True Blood* Actress

The Virginia native is spending much of her summer on the set of *Graceland*. In fact, she was gearing up to film the two-hour finale episode when we spoke with her. For fans anxiously waiting to find out what happens next, she shares, "You can see a lot of things starting to brew, so you can expect the more recent plotlines that have been introduced to really start to develop and play out. You're going to see a lot more happen between Johnny, Carlito and Lucia!"

Hyder has a firm grasp in her newfound stardom and certainly hasn't let fame change her approach to love – not that she has much time for romance right now. "I'm in a relationship with whatever show I'm on at the time," she says with a laugh. Now, that's true dedication!

Related Link: <u>Courtney Robertson Tells All In New Book: "I</u> <u>Really Didn't Hold Back!"</u>

Still, she's got some very focused opinions on what she wants in a guy. She's looking for a man who is comfortable with himself and capable of taking the reins in their relationship and love. "I can be stubborn, and I can be sort of like a manager," she admits. "I want someone who puts me at ease, so I don't feel the need to be that way. Plus, it'd be nice to be with somebody who can take care of me occasionally."

Not surprisingly, the actress acknowledges that dating in the

spotlight can be tough, particularly because people aren't always interested in you for respectable reasons. "You're going to get those guys who really appreciate you for you and a sea of others who are only interested because of what you've done or where they see you going."

Jamie Gray Hyder Shares Dating Advice

Regardless of what kind of man eventually captures her heart, she believes that communication is most important in any partnership. "You have to be able to talk to each other about whatever it is that needs to be discussed," she explains in our celebrity interview. "If your partner is going to be defensive or disrespectful, it makes it really hard to have a conversation. Good, open communication can really be helpful to any problem you may face."

Of course, if you can't work through certain issues, the sensible star encourages girls to recognize that truth and move on, no matter how hard it may be to say goodbye. Sharing her best <u>dating advice</u>, she says, "You're supposed to be with more than one person in order to figure out who's right for you. A relationship and love that doesn't go as planned or ends in heartbreak shouldn't really feel like a failure because it's just part of the process. You need that step to get to the right guy."

Related Link: <u>'Bachelorette' Star Desiree Hartsock Says</u> <u>Confidence is Key to Finding Mr. Right</u>

Hyder was rash and real while discussing the "friend zone," an area that many women feel stuck in when it comes to their relationship with their crush. If someone's been lingering in that place with their love interest for too long, "it's indicative that you make better friends than romantic partners - otherwise, something would have already progressed. It's harsh, but it's honest!"

In the spirit of her own shining entry into Hollywood, she details her thoughts on how a busy, career-focused woman could better balance her professional goals with her relationship hopes. She remarks that it's important to know why both are big parts of your life, rationalizing, "If I weren't able to focus on my career and do a good job at my work, I wouldn't be a happy person or a suitable partner. So I know that my work is important for me to be a whole person, which is good in a relationship."

After a little thought, she adds, "Having that warm human interaction and affection of a relationship and love, someone's who just there for you, is equally important too."

You can keep up with Jamie on Twitter @jghyder and www.facebook.com/jamiegrayhyder! You can catch her on Graceland on Wednesday nights at 10/9 c on USA.

David Arquette Says He Doubts He'll Attend Ex Courteney Cox's Celebrity Wedding





By Courtney Omernick

Even though David Arquette has remained close with his celebrity ex Courteney Cox, he doubts that he will be attending her upcoming <u>celebrity wedding</u> to *Snow Patrol* band member, Johnny McDaid. According to <u>UsMagazine.com</u>, Arquette said about his relationship with Cox and her fiance, "We are all very tight and very close and very supportive of everyone." These two celebrity romances have proven that, even among the stars, friendship with exes *is* possible!

Celebrity romances don't always end in drama! What are some ways you can also remain supportive of your ex post-split?

Cupid's Advice

It can be challenging to remain close or develop a friendship with your ex post-split, but if you're looking to remain

supportive of them, Cupid has you covered! Check out our love advice below:

1. Focus on yourself first: If you want to go back to just being "friends" with your ex, the first thing you need to do is focus on yourself and lose your "couple" identity. Take some time to be away from the person and work on you as an individual. Deal with the break-up in your own way before connecting with the other person again.

Related Link: <u>Courteney Cox's Fiance Johnny McDaid's Mom</u> <u>"Loves" Her</u>

2. Support their milestones: After you've spent time away from the relationship and understand yourself as an individual, you can show the other person your support through simple texts, e-mails, and phone calls. For example, if your ex just finished their first marathon, extending your thoughts through a "congratulations" text can show them that you're still a part of their support system. We're sure that Arquette expressed his happiness about Cox's upcoming celebrity wedding!

Related Link: <u>Courteney Cox Is Engaged to Snow Patrol's Johnny</u> <u>McDaid</u>

3. Be a resource: If you hear that your ex is going through a hard time with a family member or having problems with their computer, make sure they know that they can come to you for advice or help. Assisting them in finding a solution for their problems shows that you still want to remain active in their lives and support them through difficult situations.

Have you been supportive of your ex post-split? Share your stories in the comments.

Kendra Wilkinson Wears Telling T-Shirt Post-Divorce Lawyer Meeting





By Courtney Omernick

It looks like Kendra Wilkinson is letting her clothes do the talking. According to <u>UsMagazine.com</u>, Kendra Wilkinson stepped out of her divorce lawyer's office on August 8 wearing a shirt that said, "I'm Not Sorry." As previously reported, Wilkinson's husband, Hank Baskett, cheated on her with a transgender YouTube model named Ava Sabrina London back in April. What are some ways to cope with the divorce process?

Cupid's Advice:

When you get married, the last thing you want to think about is the possibility of divorce. But, unfortunately, divorce is more common than we'd like to believe. So, if you find yourself going through this painful time, what are some ways you can cope with the process? Cupid has provided some tips below:

1. Recognize that it's ok to have different feelings: One moment, you may feel relief that your marriage is coming to an end, and the next, you might become extremely frustrated with what's going on. It's normal to have a number of different emotions during this time. Leaving your past behind and exploring a new future is an emotional journey for anyone!

Related: Jason Aldean Defends Relationship with Former <u>Mistress</u>

2. Give yourself a break: As if you're life wasn't busy enough before the divorce process started, now you're dealing with paperwork, custody battles, and mixed emotions. It may seem weird to suggest a break during this hectic time, but don't be afraid of not giving it your all on the job or your fullest attention to your friend's needs. This process and how you handle it comes first.

Related: <u>10 Signs That You're in Love</u>

3. Don't isolate yourself: Sharing your feelings with friends and family members during this time is a healthy way to cope with the stress, anger, frustration, and more that a divorce process brings. You might even consider joining a support group or seeking a therapist.

Have you ever gone through a divorce? How did you cope with the process? Share your stories in the comments.

Courteney Cox's Fiance Johnny McDaid's Mom "Loves" Her



By Shannon Seibert

Impressing the parents is quite the feat, but Courteney Cox has certainly mastered the art of making a lasting impression. Cox's fiancé Johnny McDaid's mother Pauline McDaid gushed about her daughter-in-law to be. Pauline shared that the *Cougar Town* star is extremely empathetic and that she feels like a part of the family. According to <u>UsMagazine.com</u> Pauline said the pair are happily in love, and can't wait to be married.

What are some ways to impress your partner's parents?

Cupid's Advice:

Meeting the family is a huge deal. First impressions say a lot about people, but you do want to make a lasting impression. The best way to impress his parents is to not try to be overly impressive. just be yourself and take these subtle suggestions into consideration for when you're with his family:

1. Remember stuff about them: It sounds simple enough, right? Remembering her favorite recipes, their hobbies, his favorite place to go fishing. All of the little things accumulate over time. His parents will feel appreciated that you would take the time to get to now them and want to learn about them. Ask them questions about how they met, funny memories, and what your partner was like growing up. They'll enjoy the conversation and you'll get to know them through the way they talk about him.

Related: <u>Adam Levine Shares First Post-Wedding Pic with Wife</u> <u>Behati Prinsloo</u>

2. Not being afraid to be yourself: Your partner's parents are going to be looking for a good match for their son. They will value your honesty over everything else. Don't shy away from talking about your goals, plans, and what has made you who you are. If they can't appreciate you, then it's a good thing you're dating your partner and not his parents.

Related: Zac Efron and Michelle Rodriguez Amp Up PDA in Spain

3. Be inclusive: There is nothing more exciting to parents than being included in their children's life. Be the one to reach out and invite them over for a barbecue, get your nails done with his mother, play a family game of poker, anything to interact with them. This way you won't just be the woman steering their son away, you'll be a part of their family too. What are some ways you were able to get close to your partner's family? Share with us in the comments below!

Date Idea: Redecorate





By Brittany Stubbs

It may sound cliché, but decorating your home with your love is a great way to bond. Even if you don't live together yet, you can have fun fantasizing about what your place will be like when you do move in together.

Start with the room that the two of you spend the most time

in. Maybe it's the living room where you have *Dexter* marathons together, the bedroom where you like to hide out on lazy Sundays, or the kitchen when you're sharing a bottle of wine and catching up on the day's events. Discuss what you both enjoy about the room in the current conditions and what you would both like to change. Feel free to turn to magazines and Pinterest to get some ideas flowing!

Related Link: What You Need to Know Before You Move In Together

Once you and your partner decide what changes you're looking to make — whether it's simple decorations to the walls or a new piece of furniture — get out there and start looking around. While online shopping seems easy, you'll have a much better time actually getting to see the artwork or coffee tables in person.

If you're just looking to add a few decorations, antique shops are great places to find unique items that will spice up your place. These purchases often make great conversation starters as well. You may even find something, like a coffee table or an outdated couch, that needs refurbishing – a project that you can tackle together!

Redecorating doesn't require spending a ton of money. Try something fun and different like going to a garage sale in your area. Look out for listings in your local paper on the weekends. It's amazing what treasures you may find when you step into someone else's past. Even if you walk away with a single picture frame, the two of you will have fun rifling through the sales. You may even find items that spark some great memories, so you can learn more about each other at the same time.

Related Link: Date Idea: Deck the Halls

If you don't live together yet, you can make your significant other feel special by letting them have some input on changing up your pad. Maybe you're in the market for some new living room furniture, and who better to shop with than the person that snuggles with you on the couch? Including your partner will tell them that their opinion is important and worthy of a long-term investment.

You may not agree on everything, but keep in mind that you're doing this as a team and there will have to be compromises. No matter what, don't forget to have fun!

Cupids wants to know: Have you ever redecorated your home with your beau? Tell us in the comments below!

Kendra Wilkinson Is Meeting With Divorce Lawyers Post-Scandal





By Shannon Seibert

This could be the end for yet another Hollywood couple. Kendra Wilkinson is weighing out her options after her husband Hank Baskett's shocking cheating scandal with transgender model Ava Sabrina London. The beautiful blonde just recently welcomed her second child with the ex-NFL star into the world, her daughter Alijah. According to <u>UsMagazine.com</u> Wilkinson is definitely considering filing, but she wants to review her options before she makes the decision to call it quits with her marriage.

How do you decide whether or not to call it quits on your marriage?

Cupid's Advice:

You thought this man was your forever, and now you're having doubts. Don't fear, it's normal for people to gal apart over the years, but it is a huge decision to separate completely. You don't want to stay with someone who can't make you happy, and you don't want to make someone stay 'for the kids' or any other reason that they would feel pressured to. Take these criteria into your decision making before you decide what is best for both of you:

1. There is no love left: There is a difference between loving someone and being in love with someone, but you have to be smart enough to know the difference. Once you have been married to someone for a period of time, the butterflies, the heightened emotions may diminish but this is the person you chose to be with forever. If you cannot remember who that person was, then there is nothing left for you to build on.

Related: <u>Beyonce and Jay-Z Continue to Avoid Each Other on</u> <u>Tour</u>

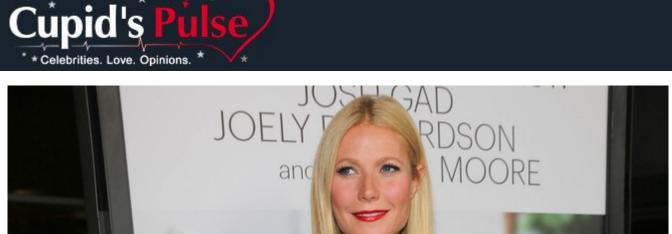
2. The trust is gone: You cannot be with someone who you cannot trust to make the right choices. If he's keeping secrets, lying, or going behind your back, that is not fair to either of you. Same goes for yourself. If you cannot allow yourself to be fully open in your marriage, than you probably shouldn't be in one. This is a partnership where both partners have to come together under a united front, and you can't stand together when you keep trying to stand alone.

Related: Megan Fox: "It's So Hard To Be A Working Mom"

3. You've exhausted every other option: Therapy didn't work, reaching out to loved ones, trying time a part, none of it helped. This is probably because you're at the stage when your hearts have already given up on one another. Once this happens, no matter what you try, you won't succeed because deep down, you don't want to. You want out, and maybe you're just not brave enough to say it.

How did you decided to leave your partner? Share your story with us in the comments below!

George Clooney and Amal Alamuddin Get Marriage License in London





By Shannon Seibert

The wedding bells are ringing! George Clooney and Amal Alamuddin snagged their marriage license in London at Chelsea Town Hall. The pair has been engaged since April and the actor and lawyer power couple is planning their wedding for this fall. According to <u>UsMagazine.com</u>, a source says that this is the happiest relationship that Clooney has been in, and the pair have a healthy, and wonderful love. What are some ways to know you're ready for marriage?

Cupid's Advice:

Marriage is THE commitment. This isn't something you do just for fun, because your parents want you to, or because you're feeling pressured to. This is all about you and your man, so you want to make sure this is the right man going into it. Take these thoughts into consideration before you say "I do":

1. There is nothing holding you back emotionally: It is only normal for everyone to come with some sort of emotional baggage from past relationships. Before heading toward the altar, take a moment to breathe. If you don't find yourself drowning in other entanglements, secrets, or reservations, it's safe to say you can take this step forward with your love.

Related: <u>Justin Verlander Tosses Baseball to Girlfriend Kate</u> <u>Upton During Game</u>

2. It's not about the wedding, it's about being married: As we grow up we are instructed about how our lives are supposed to go. You go from being a child to being in school, then graduating, getting married, and having children. This is supposed to be sufficient by societal standards but this is the person who is going to stand by your side forever. If you're just looking forward to wearing a white gown and the honeymoon, then marriage isn't for you. This is going to be hard work on both ends, and nothing will be easy from this point forward.

Related: Former 'Bachelorette' Desiree Hartstock Celebrates Upcoming Wedding with Bridal Shower

3. You're 100 % sure about your partner: If you can say wholeheartedly that you trust your partner with your life, then you're in safe hands. he's your knight in shining armor,

who has been there for you through your ups and downs, has seen you in both positive and negative lights, and still finds you wonderful. You deserve eternal happiness, and you have to find that with someone who makes you feel good about yourself. There is no room left for doubt within a marriage, so don't take any into it.

How did you know you were ready to be married? Share with us in the comments below!

Single in Stilettos Show: Why He Didn't Call You Back





On this week's <u>Single in Stilettos</u> show, founder Suzanne Oshima talks to dating coach Mr. Locario about the reasons why he didn't call you back. He explains five possible scenarios, straight from a man's point of view: He already has a girlfriend; he never really liked you in the first place; he's scared of or intimidated by you; he's just a player; or he views dating as nothing more than a game.

Related Link: Mr. Locario on Where Are All the Good Men?!

Remember that sometimes, when a guy doesn't call you back, it's for the best. After all, you deserve better than that!

For more information about Single in Stilettos shows, click <u>here</u>.

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

How do you handle it when a guy doesn't call you back? Tell us in the comments below.

Screwing the Rules Video Dating Tips: Forget the Bouquet!





By E!'s Famously Single Dating Coach, Laurel House In this week's dating advice video, relationship expert and E!'s Famously Single dating coach, Laurel House talks about why it's the big and little things that create a happy romance. "Relationships aren't about the high notes. They're about the in betweens," she explains. "It's actually the mundane, the day-to-day, the little things – that's what a relationship is made of." You know you really care about someone when you find yourself sending "thinking of you" texts or picking up Kleenexes because you remembered they ran out.

Dating Advice from E!'s Famously Single Dating Coach on Why to Buy Flowers

Related Link: Find the Love of Your Life

House adds, "Just the big things are not enough to sustain a relationship. On the same note, just the little things, while

they're great...sometimes, you need something a little bigger."

For more information about our dating mentor, click <u>here</u>.

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

Let us know your thoughts in the comments below!

Zac Efron and Michelle Rodriguez Amp Up PDA in Spain





By Shannon Seibert

This weekend Zac Efron was spotted with his arm draped over his hot new flame, Michelle Rodriguez. The pair was whisked away to Ibiza, Spain where they cuddled and turned up the PDA on the beach of the Mediterranean island. The played together in the water, walked along the beach, and even took the jet ski for a spin. According to <u>UsMagazine.com</u> Michelle and Zac have great chemistry, so it looks like this hot new couple will be around for a little longer!

What are some ways vacation can bring you closer together as a couple?

Cupid's Advice:

The perfect getaway can spice up your love life. A tropical paradise, a cozy cabin in the woods, or even the right mountain can spark a flame that you cannot at home. Vacations are an easy way to break free of the everyday work routine. You have no other choice but to focus on the person your with, which is why these three elements of a vacation are so crucial:

1. It creates a feeling of seclusion and intimacy: Vacations are perfect because they're all about escaping reality for a short while. When you and your honey travel together, there is an aura of seclusion that engulfs you. It's exciting to think that for miles the both of you only know each other. Nothing is familiar, so you make this place your own.

Related: <u>Kendall and Kylie Jenner Cozy Up to Chris Brown and</u> <u>Trey Songz at Party</u>

2. It allows you to have deeper conversations: When you're away from the hustle and bustle of your home life, you're able to find yourself focusing on topics of conversation that you may not have been able otherwise. The beach breeze coaxes deeper thoughts out of your mind that will flow freely like the waves of the sea. Relax and enjoy exploring the mind of

your significant other.

Related: <u>Report: Kim Kardashian and Brandon Jenner Kissed</u> <u>'Back in the Day'</u>

3. Time isn't an issue: Vacations don't typically have set schedules, therefore you and your partner are able to move through activities at your own leisure. This way you and your man can discover fun activities that you both agree on, which can give you new experiences to build on. You may not be able to climb a mountain at home but here you can build some muscle, as well as solidarity within your relationship.

How has vacations brought you closer to your partner? Share your stories with us in the comments below!

Why Having a Pet Can Be Beneficial to Your Relationship





By Bernadette McCadden and Laura Seaman

Having a pet can be extremely beneficial in creating and maintaining a healthy relationship. A study of 240 couples by the University at Buffalo found that those who own cats or dogs "have closer relationships, are more satisfied in marriage, and respond better to stress than couples who do not." But as with anything in life, there *can* be too much of a good thing. While many couples thrive when raising a pet together, some couples overwhelm themselves with the responsibility.

If you and your partner are in a new relationship, having a pet can give you fun things to do together. If either of you have a dog, take the pup out for late night walks together or pack a picnic and enjoy a day in the park! If you are already in a serious relationship and are thinking about starting a family, getting a kitty or puppy can be a great next step. It introduces you to the idea of focusing your time and energy on helping something other than yourself grow. Consider these two couples for some celebrity inspiration! Related Link: Date Idea: Volunteer Your Time Together

Ellen DeGeneres and Portia de Rossi: This blonde-haired, blueeyed couple makes for adorable pet parents. DeGeneres has gushed about their animals on her show, and the couple can often be seen taking care of their funny friends. Their fuzzy entourage includes cats Charlie, George, and Chairman and dogs Wolf and Mable. The TV star loved animals so much that she wanted to be a veterinarian when she was younger, but everyone can agree that she makes a great entertainer!

The comedian once told her viewers a funny story about a time when she came home and talked to her cat over the intercom to let it know she was home. She didn't think it was weird, but her wife just stared and asked her, "Did you just intercom the cat?" She replied, "Well yeah, it's the same thing as calling out. I was just using an intercom."

Related Link: Stars and Their Pets: Dating and Mating Habits

Mary Tyler Moore and Robert Levine: The actress and her husband take Moore's passion for animal rights to a personal level. The couple has 11 horses and 2 goats at their home in the country. They also have two rescued dogs, a miniature schnauzer and a golden retriever. Six of their horses are rescued as well, with two of them being "cop" horses that weren't cut out for the force. "They are just out to pasture and have nothing but a good time, eating their heads off, romping, and frolicking and just doing all good horsy things," said Moore in an interview with *The Pet Press*.

Levine had a part in naming their miniature schnauzer Shana Meydela, as his Jewish heritage helped them come up with the name. Put together, Shana Meydela means "pretty girl." The couple later adopted their dog Shadow, the golden retriever.

How has having a pet affected your relationship? Let us know in the comments!

Five Things No One Wants To Hear On a Date



By Sarah Batcheller

Sometimes, we hear certain phrases, and they alert a big, waving, red flag. Other times, we *say* those some phrases, not realizing how poorly they come across to someone we're trying to impress. Below are five sayings you want to seriously avoid while out on a date, whether they're coming from your mouth or his:

1. "I hate labels": When someone says they hate labels, it can

come across as, "I don't want people to know I'm dating you." Receiving this message is a huge turn-off. By saying it, you're just expressing that you don't want to have to fully commit to anything. But labels aren't always a bad thing! They simply mean both partners have happily defined their relationship.

Related Link: What Do the Drinking Habits of Singles Reveal?

2. "I don't really have any hobbies": If you say this phrase to someone, they will instantly picture you lounging in a dark basement and going through a bottle of wine alone. Hobbies are the vibrancy of a person's character; they're telling of where that person came from and what their interests and talents have grown into. Don't be shy to share who you really are!

3. "I've never been in a committed relationship before": Nobody wants to metaphorically hold your hand through the dating process – literally hold your hand, yes, but not actually take on the role of dating coach (besides, we have taken care of that for you!). While it may be true that you've never been in a committed relationship, that's not something you want to share on a date. Your potential boo could interpret this as a premature excuse for an unwillingness to commit to *them*.

4. "I forgot my wallet at home": What you're really saying is, "I forgot my wallet at home." What they're hearing is, "I purposefully forgot my wallet, so I wouldn't have to pick up this check." This age-old trick is a huge deal breaker. Even if it were an honest mistake, any sign of flakiness is a wrong-way sign. Your date wants to know that you came fully prepared to the date and are wholeheartedly into it. Forgetting your wallet shows you rushed out of the door.

Related Link: <u>So You're Dating a Mama's Boy!</u>

5. "I still live with my mom": Still living with your parents can be a sign that you're not ambitious or responsible enough

to get out on your own. Even if you've fallen on trying times and need to lodge there for a little, it's not something you want to highlight to someone on a date. You're basically just telling that person the reasons why you don't see it working rather than focusing on all the reasons why it *could* work.

What's the one thing you never want to hear on a date? Share in the comments below!