

QuickieChick's Video Dating Tips: Moving In With Your Man



By [E!'s Famously Single Dating Coach, Laurel House](#)

Dating Advice from E!'s *Famously Single* Laurel House on Moving In Together

In this week's [dating advice](#) video, relationship expert and E!'s *Famously Single* dating coach, Laurel House will be sharing her secrets and tips for dealing with those common dating dilemmas and relationship woes. For the dating expert's first video, she tackles the tricky subject of moving in with your man, answering questions like: How do you keep the spark alive? How do you forge a deeper bond with your partner? And how do you avoid becoming just roommates? Time to take notes, ladies!

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Tell us: What did you learn after moving in with your man?

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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Can a Magic Pill Help You Live Forever?



 By Jennifer Harrington

If you could take a pill and live for 500 years, would you do it? Mark Wexler's new documentary, *How to Live Forever*, which chronicles how we might delay, or even defeat death, is centered on this thought-provoking question. As I sat and watched the screening of this new documentary, I couldn't help but wonder what this meant for relationships and marriage.

After all, 500 years is an awful long time to be with one person. Would this miracle pill allow women an extension on fertility, giving us the ability to really have it all – a career, family and children?

Though the documentary didn't answer those questions, it *did* introduce us to a colorful cast of characters, including 94-year-old exercise guru Jack LaLanne (who passed away earlier this year) and 101-year-old chain-smoking, beer-drinking marathoner Buster Martin.

Each senior citizen profiled challenged the stereotypical notion of youth and what truly gives life meaning. Celebrities Suzanne Somers (who declared she would like to reach the age of 100, or even 120!) and Phyllis Diller made cameos to share their tips on finding the fountain of youth.

Everyone in the film had a variety of opinions regarding how to live a long life, and each had something that got them out of bed every day. The passions of those profiled in *How to Live Forever* varied from kite flying, to fishing, to martinis (Eleanor Wasson, profiled in the film, is the author of the book *28,000 Martinis and Counting*).

However, there were two stories that made a lasting impression:

First was the story of an 80-year-old woman, who not only competed in the Ms. Senior America beauty pageant, but was preparing to become a bride for the first time. Her message centered around being receptive to finding love at any age. It was a good reminder that it's often the simple things in life (love, family and laughter) that contribute most to a long and happy life.

The second was the story of a Japanese adult movie star who is featured in films with his long-time wife. His universal message focused on romance and intimacy being important in keeping us "young at heart."

Director Mark Wexler commented on the common thread that linked each person in his documentary and said, "These were people who'd lived through turbulent times and faced great adversity, yet no matter where they were or what their background, they all shared remarkable grace, humor and

resilience.”

Interestingly, most of the people profiled in the documentary said they would decline the opportunity to live 500 years, if given the choice.

Cupid wants to know: If you could live for 500 years, would you stay with the same person or have multiple marriages?

For more, check out *How to Live Forever* on May 13, or visit the documentary’s page on Facebook.

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When Strangers Click – HBO’s Take on Online Dating



 By Jennifer Harrington

With love on everyone’s mind on [Valentine’s Day](#), it’s no surprise that HBO chose Feb. 14 to premiere a documentary chronicling the new avenue to find love in the 21st century – online dating. *When Strangers Click: Five Stories From the Internet* tells the stories of individuals who have explored Internet dating.

[Trailer](#)

Knowing the documentary would premiere on Cupid’s big day, our friends at Single Edition invited us to an advanced screening in New York City, which featured a Q&A with Robert Kenner of the Oscar-nominated *Food, Inc.*, who both directed and produced

the film. The audience included 12 to 15 dating and relationship bloggers based in the city.

For anybody who has ventured into online romance – or for those who are just curious about discovering love on the web – *When Strangers Click* is worth checking out. This movie both resonates with and intrigues viewers, resulting in a very entertaining one-hour special.

From the woman who cried on her 30th birthday because she was convinced she would spend the rest of her life alone (but later found love online), to the New Jersey woman who married a Prague-based man who spoke virtually no English simply because she felt the indescribable “click” with him, it’s easy to become emotionally invested in these real stories of love. More shocking is the tale of a Swedish man who created an avatar on Second Life, an online virtual world: he forged a relationship with a woman he met through the site, went on to father her child, and the two continued their virtual (and real-life) romance.

During the Q&A, many bloggers noted that the documentary felt a bit “dated,” as it mentioned AOL and chat rooms. A few bloggers also said that the film reinforced negative stereotypes about online dating (one said that the people profiled seemed to be “on the fringe” of society), which were more prevalent 10 years ago, but aren’t now. However, they appreciated that Kenner picked a variety of different stories to tell and that not all of the stories had a happy ending. In fact, he mentioned that he is looking for more stories to potentially do another segment.

While surprising, this extreme quest for love makes viewers question how far they would go to find their own soul mate in a world increasingly dominated by social media. With more people than ever venturing into the world of online dating, this movie is sure to spark dialogue about dating virtually.

Don't forget to catch *When Strangers Click* on **Monday, Feb. 14** at **9 PM ET** on **HB02**.

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