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Men: On Dating

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"It’s a date!" answers Freshman Darlene Mote, and then a million questions on men and dating pop into her mind.

WHAT DOES HE THINK OF ME?" It’s a fascinating, age-old question, and who knows better than men themselves? To find what’s on the masculine mind when it comes to women, we’ve questioned men on the Iowa State campus, and here’s what they have to say—

1. Do you look at every girl you date as a possible wife?
   A. Yes—30%  b. No—70%
   Freshmen and sophomores answered no almost unanimously, but the proportion of yes answers was very high among the seniors.

2. Would you advise a girl to smoke if her date doesn’t smoke?
   a. Yes—24%  b. No—70%

3. If you had a choice, which type of girl would you prefer to date?
   a. Sophisticated—4%  
   b. Quiet and sweet—42%  
   c. Lively and vivacious—36%  
   d. Athletic and sports-minded—6%  
   e. One who lets her intelligence show—12%
   Don’t despair if you’re not the sweet or the vivacious type. Several remarked, “I like ’em all!”

4. For what reasons do you feel that a girl should refuse a date?
   a. She doesn’t want to date you—37%  
   b. She wants to but is really busy—57%  
   c. She thinks you’re getting too serious and just likes you as a friend—24%  
   d. She’s hoping someone better will call later—2%

5. Under what circumstances do you think a girl may break a date?
   a. She made another date first and forgot—34%  
   b. She has a better date offer—7%  
   c. She has a big test the next day and needs to study—45%  
   d. None—14%
   Any reasons were accepted rather grudgingly, and most fellows agreed the girl should have enough sense not to get into a situation where she has to break a date.

6. How much do you consider a reasonable amount to spend on a girl for a snack after a regular weekend date?
   a. 20–50 cents—27%  
   b. 50 cents–$1.00—60%  
   c. $1.00–$2.00—13%

7. Do you enjoy an informal date, such as a walk or a coke in the Union, or do you feel that to ask a girl for a date you must take her somewhere special like a movie or party?
   a. Informal date—89%  
   b. Movie or party date—11%

8. Do you expect a kiss from a girl on your first date?
   a. Yes—17%  
   b. No—83%
   Some answers were conditional—“if we hit it off together especially well” or “if we already know each other fairly well.” One fellow remarked, “I don’t expect a kiss, but I’m sure not disappointed if I get one.”

9. Should she make an exception after a special occasion?
   a. Yes—59%  
   b. No—41%
   “Just if she wants to, not because she feels she owes me something,” was the most common response.

10. For informal dates such as a picnic do you think girls should wear:
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a. Bermuda shorts—12%

b. Blue jeans—29%

c. Slacks—39%

d. Any of the three—20%

Most men said a girl should dress in whichever she looks best and finds most comfortable to wear. They also liked girls who dress like girls and wear skirts most of the time.

11. Do you think that most of the time girls date you because:
   a. It’s going to be a good party—14%
   b. She enjoys your company—52%
   c. Just to have a date—18%
   d. You have a car—16%

Which of these reasons do you consider justifiable?
   a. —21%
   b. —70%
   c. —9%
   d. none

12. How far in advance should you ask for a regular weekend date?
   a. Same day—none
   b. One day—15%
   c. Three days—65%
   d. One week—20%

For a formal dance?
   a. Three days—none
   b. One week—22%
   c. Two weeks—58%
   d. Three weeks—20%

13. List any typical feminine actions which you dislike.

All the long-repressed ideas on girls came pouring out on this question; everything from “I don’t like a girl who out-does her date in sports such as bowling,” to “I don’t like masculine girls who are always hitting you.” Here are some of the replies that were given over and over:

1. Snobishness—failure to speak when greeted on campus.

2. Flirting.

3. Insincerity—acting artificial and trying to impress people.

4. Talking about other dates.

5. Talking and giggling too much—this ran to other extreme, too, criticising girls who can’t carry on a good conversation and girls who never crack a smile.

6. Messiness—this included not only wearing run-over shoes and having messy hair, but gum chewing and putting on make-up in public.

7. Gossipping.

8. Being unappreciative—little things like neglecting to say thank you when a man holds open the door, or forgetting to tell a date she enjoyed the evening after the man has done his best to show her a good time.

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