## Features



## Dating Lies

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Honesty for most people is a major factor in any relationship, but are we really honest when it comes to getting what we want? Naturally the longer two people are involved he more honest and open they become. The initial dating periods are the most crucial when the uncertainty of the situation is the highest.

Psychologist Susan Cochran of California State University at Northridge interviewed more than 400 college students about the extent of lying which occurs in relationships. The questions were divided into areas of minor, serious, and dangerous lies.

The minor category covered such things as "I'm busy on Friday" when you don't want to go out, or "I just love baseball" when in fact you hate it, or the area of grades and GPAs. In this category almost a 100 percent of the students, both male and female, admitted to lying fairly often especially during the first month of dating.

The second category covered the "lines" which are used to attain a sexual goal. Men admitted using deception as a seduction technique three times as often as women. Surprisingly the majority of women professed to knowing they were being handed a line and overlooking it. If a new partner asked, 47 percent of the men and 42 percent of the women said they would underestimate their total number of former lovers. In the area of "one night stands" 42 percent of the men and 33 percent of the women said they'd "never" share that secret with a sexual partner. And one in four men and one in ten women admitted to hiding an ongoing sexual relationship from another potential partner.

The area of dangerous lies covered the issue of VD. Surprisingly the percentages of those who said they would never tell a potential partner that they were exposed to any form of VD was alarmingly high. Over 50 percent of both the males and females said they would insist on the use of condoms, but would

not tell their partner the reason was because they had some form of VD.

When the subject was explored further only 33 percent of the subjects said they would refuse sex at the last minute if the condom was not available. The subjects at that point engaged in a form a magical thinking where they believed 1) that their own judgement and insight was good enough to detect if their partner might have VD. Thus they convinced themselves that any potential partner they chose is clean and has always taken the proper precautions before the fact that they are not being taken now is just an accident and surely has never happened before. 2) at that point they would rely on the assumed total honesty of their partner, believing that if a disease were involved then he or she would never have allowed the situation to get this far. And 3) that even if VD was an issue "I

contd. on next page

## Sandler.. contd. from pg. 1

feminine means any more," said way of encouragement, and Sandler.

When discussing the climate unconcious put down. of classrooms, Sandler listening to what students have to men care as well." say, a professor is more likely to

feminine." "I don't know what nod and gesture to a male, as a shuffle papers to a female, an

Lecturing to a good-sized generalized that faculty members crowd, Dr. Sandler concluded her make more eye contact with men visit by saying, "We [women] as opposed to women. While will go forward... because many



