

Low - Hanging Fruits of Modern Day Courtship

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Abstract

Once upon a time dating and relationships involved meeting someone in a snap at the movies, bars, clubs, malls, schools, workplaces, walks on the beach or just about anywhere that had social gatherings or eateries. The problem is when you become a busy and professional career person the dating scene just doesn't seem to be at the top of the list of goals, like moving up in one's career path is. After you are finished working a busy career, at the end of the night you are just too exhausted to experience the aspects of the dating scene, in order to be in a relationship in hopes of finding that special someone to build a life with. Here comes the development of online dating, which can be utilized on a mobile phone or on a computer via a dating app or website. A dating application that utilizes the GPS location of cell phones and allows the usage of digital photos to facilitate the aspects of online dating. The goal of dating apps is to accelerate, encourage, and allow the ease of filtering through potential dating partners by first engaging in brief playful interactions and talkfest to possibly meet up and commence an amorous relationship. Approach---This paper will utilize an online source, author experiences regarding dating and its online aspects, ins and outs of online dating, downsides of it and interviews of those who have experienced the consequences of using dating apps. Findings--The results would determine the benefits, misconceptions and downsides of dating via online correspondence versus organic dating for very busy and professional career individuals.

Keywords: *Online dating; eHarmony; match.com; Internet dating; POF*

1. Introduction

It doesn't matter whether you are female or male because when you are a busy professional with a full-time career and exhausted at the end of the day you just don't have time to be organic about dating and relationships. This means that at the end of a long, worn out and stressful workday you are just too tired to go out to late night dinners, clubbing or to do anything organic that resembles traditional dating by going out to meet a potential partner. What is needed is something that provides ease and openness that's unlimited and unrestricted. Just something that is less time-consuming, lets you pick the time and place for a

meeting and allows you to do it your way. Where and what is such a thing that works with your professional career schedule and individual tiredness to level the playing scene of dating and potential relationships? That would be online dating apps that are accessible via mobile phone or computer for internet dating, which is one of the various synonyms used to term dating apps.

Here comes online dating apps, which are varied and many in their type because they are basically search tool apps. Wikipedia describes dating via online correspondence, which can be termed as internet dating, virtual dating or mobile app dating is a technological method that people employ to seek and socialize with potential individuals with the goal of finding their partner match for romantic intentions via online dating services [1]. The online dating apps that people utilize for dating via instant messaging was created through an online dating service. An online dating service is a business that allows the assistance and finesse of searching for potential partners by endowing certain facets like websites and software apps that through either mobile device or computers with internet capabilities. Online dating services located on both mobile devices and computers that allow users to become members by making it profile-based, where customers can input personal data about themselves like a photo, videos, gender, location, age, sexual orientation and appearance, plus make their profile visible to others to make them searchable within the online dating service [2]. Once an online dating profile is created members are able to view the profiles of other members to decide whether or not they want to commence social interactions.

2. The World of Online Dating

The world of online dating is nothing like organic dating in that you have scammers and lots of catfishing, which could have something to do with the dating service app and its location of profiles. Catfishing is the use of deceptive activity in developing a phony profile on dating via social media. According to Wikipedia, catfishing involves scamming for their financial aspects for whatever reasons the scammer could invent [3]. Apparent signs of catfishing would be if the online villain doesn't have a social media presence, come up with excuses to avoid video calls and phone calls. Their profile photo is found under various names on the information superhighway. Unsuspectingly, they start asking you to send them money saying that they are stuck in another country or whatever scam reason they use, and they assert that they have undying affections for you and haven't formally met you. Plus, they have only known you for five minutes or a few days and ask to communicate off of the dating app and move it to a messaging app like WhatsApp or Snapchat [4]. This catfishing practice also involves sharing and uploading the photos and personal aspects of another individual to enable them to seem like the actual person to the online dater chatting, helping to create a fake relationship with them via social media. Catfishers are able to upload fake photos by utilizing multimedia and creativity software products that we as common users employ for our employment duties, educational activities and personal activities like editing family photos and art projects.

Online dating villains exploit these types of softwares that have Adobe software functionalities. For example, there is an application called Procreate, which allows any user to import and share photos, files and images, plus select the type of file as procreate, GIF, TIFF, PNG, JPEG and PSD [5]. Procreate can be retrieved from an Apple store and can only be employed on IOS (Apple) computer products like mobile phones and iPads. The functional actions that you can do with the previously mentioned file types in Procreate are once you import images into the software you can add text, and use the software's clipboard to cut, copy and paste files, plus it allows the user to input files in a variety of ways with whatever you are utilizing the software for [5].

3. Apps and Matches

There are a variety dating apps that appeal to diverse relationship interests and include the assorted religions of individuals, but just to list a few; POF (Plenty of Fish), eHarmony, Match.com, Tinder and religious dating apps like JSwipe (Jewish), Christian Connection (Christian) and Muzmatch (Muslim) [1]. The previously mentioned dating apps allow people to select potential mates by location, status, religion, education level, culture, identity and sex. Regarding the advantages and disadvantages of utilizing Internet dating, being successful at finding potential matches is hit or miss. You may have to explore more than one dating service twice, sometimes thrice, thus increasing the likelihood of encountering danger in dating that is facilitated via computer networking.

One advantage of dating facilitated via computer networking are the dating services that provide personality tests to match users and stimulate the chance of prospective candidates not only being matched together, but also being companionable. Additional rewards of Internet dating are while employing online dating apps the user has dominance and has many choices to allow them plenty of matches of their choice. To the busy and exhausted professional career workers, having a dating app provides much convenience that works around their demanding work schedules allowing them to either accept or reject any of their numerous number of candidates.

It can be said that employing the dating apps can be the most fruitful and rewarding when it results in a potential candidate becoming a date, then after a number of dates and sufficient time together turns into a marriage of life partners. An example of the fruits and rewards of the benefits of internet dating is Vincent, 43, (Director for Compliance Operations for Oncor Electric Delivery) says that with his online dating experiences he had three terrible dates and two potential dates in a few months. Out of these five dates, his wife was the solid candidate, and they have been married for ten years with two children; he utilized eHarmony in New York.

Now with Beata, 43, (Relativity Specialist at New York State Department of Financial Services) according to her account of online dating, for a few years she went on dates and in that time, she found a potential match. Currently, she is recently married to her match; she used POF in New York. Congrats to Vincent and Beata for finding their potential match with the method of online dating with the service of two different dating apps in the same state. However, not every online dating user has their happily - ever-after success story. Now in the state of Nevada, when you employ eHarmony, you don't seem to get potential candidates as with POF in Nevada, it's known locally as the "hookup" dating app. Plus, on POF you get all the catfishing and scamming.

4. Not so Prince Charming results!

For one thing, when it comes to dating apps providing users with a number of choices in selecting their potential candidates, "it risks promoting the tendency" depends on what your opinion is or what you found in research to focus more on their many choices to aid them in finding the "perfect someone," when in reality they should be viewing matches to seek potential candidates in hopes of finding a solid match out of a few leads. Yes, Internet dating apps have personality tests to match users to stimulate their chances of prospective candidates, but these tests aren't foolproof. One thing that is probably the most hated aspect of internet dating is when finally, after sifting through your matches and going on oh my God dates of disasters, you

think that you have found a solid match after weeks of conversing through social networking via messaging until all of a sudden without explanation or warning you are “ghosted” by the other party.

Wikipedia defines ghosting as when one party in the Internet dating app suddenly discontinues all communication with the other party without warning beforehand [6]. Here you are, thinking it was something that you said or did that caused them to suddenly behave in such a way. The truth is if you aren’t the only user that did the ghosting, you will never know what they were thinking when they decided to just ghost you out of the blue. The only thing that you can do as the “ghosted” user is take their behavior as they aren’t interested, and you just need to move on to someone else in the dating app world. The problem is when you have been catfished, scammed and ghosted after using more than one dating website app, you start to think maybe you will never find any potential candidates, much less a solid one. The question you ask yourself is, “will I ever get the happily-ever-after that Vincent and Beata have or am I just a doomed spinster with a streak of unluckiness no matter what internet dating app I utilize or the many choices it offers its online users?”

5. Discussion and Conclusion

What can be said about dating facilitated via instant messaging and matchmaking websites is not everyone has the same experiences with anything regarding the online dating world because their experiences can be positive, negative, mixed or the waiting between matching and unmatching from another online user’s dating profile. When it comes to the internet dating world, there is something about time, place and what another user’s profile says to you visually and mentally at first glance and how much it varies with each profile that you browse through.

It doesn’t matter because it can be anything in another user’s profile that has you saying to yourself maybe this is the one that you should match with or that there is something about their profile that wasn’t in the other user profiles...then maybe you say to yourself about something you read or saw in their profile that you don’t know what it is, but this makes them a catch. It’s when the user and yourself don’t match well, then you say to yourself maybe you were wrong and searching for all the wrong things and not in the right places. Or maybe like with everything else in life patience is a virtue and in time, but not when you expect it---it could be in the users that are in your liked profiles, the one that liked you or just messaged you with a greeting of hello or good morning. With the dating world it’s trial, error, patience and time because all you really need and are waiting for is one definite yes from an online user, and then it’s get something and wave because you are finished with the world of online dating and its variety of websites. Remember; be aware and be careful in the Internet dating world.

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