

THE campus

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3 **IT'S SEXY TIME**
Before the lights go out, read about STD's, condoms and the deed itself.

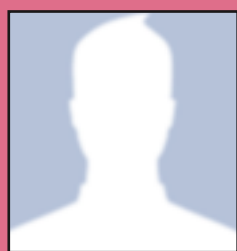
CHOOSING ABSTINENCE **10**
Some students decide to wait until they meet the right person to have sex.

Let's talk about sex... and relationships



Sara Humm | Illustration

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FACEBOOK OFFICIAL
Couples define their relationship statuses.

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SPEAK OUT
See what students and The Campus staff say.

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SEX IN CLASS
Human sexuality class opens discussion.

Sexting risky if not with the right partner

Sexting, or sending sexually explicit text messages, can have both negative and positive consequences.

Sending sexually explicit images is not a new concept. The Internet is a place where sexually explicit images have been sent around for quite some time.

Sexually explicit messages of many kinds have been around even longer than the internet.

Has texting taken seeing someone naked to a new level? Absolutely. Can sexting freak someone out if you don't have that type of relationship? Definitely.

While it may be fun to send pictures back and forth to someone you're talking to, you wouldn't want to be a victim of sexting gone wrong.

If you are going to send someone a picture of yourself that you'll regret later, you probably shouldn't be doing it. If you don't know the person all that well, that should also be a red flag. How do you know they aren't going to show it to other people you know?

If both people involved in the sexting 'exchange' are getting what

they want and plan to keep the pictures for themselves, then no one else will really know. Right?

There is no way to tell if that person is showing the photo of your goods to their best friend, coworkers, mom, cats and everyone you know.... and everyone you don't know.

Before you know it the whole world (or at least a good amount of people) have seen what you have to offer (or don't have to offer) from a small, sometimes pixelated screen.

Not to mention if the recipient of the photo loses their phone or it is stolen. Your not-so-private parts could be spread all over the Internet without your knowledge.

Sexting can also exceed the line of creepy. If someone isn't expecting to receive x-rated photos from someone they are talking to and the next time they open their phone and are blinded by non-tanned or ungroomed body parts, that crosses the line.

It's things like these
There are also legal issues with sexting, which can lead to problems especially for freshmen and other students who still have friends in high



school.

These issues would lead us to believe that sexting is a bad idea...if

you must send sexual images to others, you should consider something more secure than your cell phone.

McMillian: Inclusive climates don't just happen



As believers in the mission of a liberal arts education, it is important for members of our university community to consciously create an environment of inclusion by actively fighting hate and discrimination on our campus.

Indeed, the world around us is moving forward, and as an institution whose goal is to create the game-changers of the future, we can't afford to be left behind.

Inclusive climates don't just

happen, but rather are influenced by the culture that has been established by those who wield influence in an organization. Students experience inclusive classroom environments when instructors purposefully establish rules of appropriate conduct and strictly prohibit all forms of bigotry.

If students learn nothing else in their time here, they must know that all opinions and lifestyles are valid, regardless of how far the deviate from the majority.

Inclusive teams exist only when coaches explicitly remind their athletes that players cannot function cohesively when some members are excluded. Coaches are responsible for using their sport to help shape the attitudes and behaviors of their players.

And although "locker room talk" will remain a breeding ground for hostility of all kinds, coaches must instill in athletes the core values of being a true Champion of Character.

Finally, inclusive organizations cannot prevail when some members are not allowed to exist openly and don't have access to all the rights and privileges of the majority population. To create an inclusive climate on the grander University level, our leaders must take responsibility for establishing a culture that values every person involved, that outwardly defends each of its members, that validates and affirms the myriad of lifestyles that are represented, and that awards equally all the benefits of being a participant of the institution.

Even if choosing to do so is

difficult or expensive, and even if it makes some people uncomfortable, taking the steps to ensure that all members of the university are treated with fairness and dignity affirms Ottawa's mission as a liberal arts institution, reflects our values as a school founded in the image of Christ, and keeps us in step with the surrounding social and political environment that has already realized that all viewpoints have worth.

And if we have the audacity to accept people for who they are, to let them thrive in an environment that is welcoming and affirming, to be protective and supportive in the face of those who prefer complacency, I can assure that the sky will not fall. The world will not end. Hell will not freeze over.

The Campus

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The truth about sexual health, diseases

By SARA HUMM
Photography Editor

“Sex is a healthy thing,” OU school nurse Martha Dodd said.

The Kinsey Institute reports that 89 percent of males and 92 percent of females have had sex by the time they are 24 years old.

“College students are at the height of their physical wellness,” Dodd said. “However, there should be a level of responsibility.”

While sex may a taboo subject to talk about, sophomore Resident Assistant Adam Henn says people need to talk about it.

“It shouldn’t be repressed,” Henn said. “People should be open to talking about it because it is human nature.”

An article in the 2010 Journal of Sexual Medicine said no one can act ignorant when it comes to talking about the topic of sex with adolescence.

“We cannot withhold information from children, adolescents or adults, live in silence about this taboo subject and expect everything to turn out all right,” former Surgeon General, M. Joycelyn Elders wrote in this article. “We have tried ignorance and it does not work.”

Henn made an informational bulletin board in Martin Hall to educate residents about the risk factors of having unsafe sex and how to properly use a condom.

Henn said some people weren’t open to the idea of having safe sex as a subject of the bulletin board, but he wanted to educate those who needed it.

“It is tough to make everyone happy,” Henn said. “I’m just trying to look out for the people who could be taking part in risky behavior and try to prevent bad situations.”

Dodd said students should be wise about when they have sex, such as after a night of drinking.

“When you drink, it decreases your ability to make smart, social decisions,” Dodd said. “You don’t



Sara Humm | The Campus

A 2010 report released by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment started there were 38 Chlamydia and 4 gonorrhea cases that were reported in Franklin County between January and June.

think about consequences.”

Dodd said while young people are going to be together, they need to be prepared to protect themselves.

“Sexual relations are a good part of a relationship,” she said. “Guys and girls are going to be together. They just need to be cautious.”

The Kinsey Institute found that 45 percent of men and 38.7 percent of women ages 18 to 24 say they have used a condom in the past 10 vaginal intercourse acts.

Henn said he thinks it is important for students to know about protection because sex can have consequences.

“I think it should be practiced safely because diseases can be spread very quickly and unplanned pregnancies can be prevented,” Henn said.

Dodd said when two people consent to sex, each person is sleeping with everyone their partner has slept with.

“Couples can pass around STDs

when they are having sexual relations outside of an exclusive relationship,” she said. “If you are in a healthy, exclusive relationship, there is time to discuss things like STDs and protection,” Dodd said.

The Bureau of Disease Control and Prevention by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment published the state’s STD rates in a June 2010 report.

The report found that from January to June 2010 there were 4,817 reported cases of Chlamydia, 1,002 reported cases of gonorrhea and 43 reported cases of early syphilis.

Of these numbers, there were 38 Chlamydia and 4 gonorrhea cases that were reported in Franklin County. There were no reported cases of syphilis.

Dodd said while not all symptoms of STDs are evident; there are ways to prevent contracting STDs by just looking.

“Before you go to bed with

someone, turn the light on and explore,” Dodd said. “Look for sores, warts and other things that do not look normal.”

The Center for Disease Control says not all warning signs for STDs can be seen right away, some can take many years before there are symptoms.

The CDC also says there are many undetected symptoms of non-curable diseases like genital herpes and HIV.

Dodd said people showing symptoms have an option for receiving treatment.

“If you have symptoms, you can walk in to any health department in Kansas and be treated,” Dodd said.

To be tested for STDs, free condoms and birth control, the Franklin County Health Department is located at the Franklin County Annex, 1418 S. Main St., Suite 1.

Free condoms are also available in the OU nurse’s office in Mowbray Union.

To get tested for STDs, free condoms and birth control visit:

Franklin County Health Department
1418 S. Main St.

To get free condoms on campus:

OU nurse’s office- Student Union
Faculty office in Admin 304

Human sexuality class busts myths

By DANIELLE JURSKI
Editor-in-Chief

Associate Professor and Chair of Social Sciences Tonia Salvini says her Human Sexuality class busts a lot of myths college students still have about sex.

"An open dialogue is important," she said. "Each class takes on a different personality. If there are specific things the class wants to talk about, we focus on that."

Salvini thinks the topic of sex is often 'skirted around' because people don't know how to talk about it.

"It's something the school system and communities need to emphasize," she said. "There's no information out there. It needs to start in adolescence and continue through young adulthood. This education could affect students for the rest of their lives."

Senior Jill Francis thinks students enroll in Human Sexuality for different reasons.

"I think the younger students choose to enroll in the class because they have a lot of questions," Francis said. "The older students seem to look for the more scientific answers of why things happen. I think it's a good self discovery class. I'm learning a lot from it."

Sophomore Cristina Uribe is enrolled in the class because she knew it would be interesting.

"It's a beneficial class because people need to be aware of what they are doing," she said.

The first project in Human

"An open dialogue is important. Each class takes on a different personality. If there are specific things the class wants to talk about, we focus on that."

- Tonia Salvini

Sexuality requires students make the male and female anatomy out of food. This project includes labeling and describing each part. It must be made of 90 percent food or recycled materials. Students in the class choose teams and also work together on a presentation to go along with their project.

"A good way to break the ice is to go through these exercises," Salvini said.

Francis agrees that it is a good ice breaker that helps aid discussion in class.

"People were more willing to talk after this project," Francis said. "I like it because it's a fun and interesting way to explain anatomy. People get really creative."

Salvini says she teaches Human Sexuality from an interdisciplinary inclusive view.

"We talk a lot about obstacles and barriers like sexual assault, rape and unintended pregnancy," Salvini said.

Francis thinks Salvini makes this class a memorable one.

"Salvini is really interactive in class," she said. "It makes students more relaxed and willing to talk."



Sara Humm | The Campus

Emily McAfoos and Josh Ragsdale of 'Team Vulva' create their cake in Martin Hall kitchen for Human Sexuality. The teams made the sexual anatomy of males and females from food and recycled material.

Former flames try to make amends despite history

By JENNA LUNGER
Staff Writer

With Valentine's Day still fresh in her mind, sophomore Tonya Monteer has been looking back on her past relationships.

Monteer says she only talks to one of her exes but she tries not to because ex boyfriends or girlfriends are just not friend material.

According to randomhistory.com the most common time for couples to break up is anywhere from three to five months. The cause could be from anything but Monteer thinks the hardest break up to get over is when you have been cheated on.

"I think being friends with your ex

all depends on how the relationship ended," Monteer said. "If it was a messy break up, like if one of you cheated there is no way you could be friends because there would always be resentment in the relationship."

Monteer thinks guys are more willing to be friends because they do not get as involved in the relationships as girls.

"I'm not saying you should not be friends with your exes I am just saying it will cause less drama with your new relationships," Monteer said. "People are jealous."

Freshman Dakota Peterson thinks being friends after a break up can be hard. He thinks exes are exes for a reason.

"It all depends because if it is a mutual break up then a lot of the time it will not be as hard to be friends," Peterson said. "You have to be able to handle it and accept it."

Peterson believes that guys are more willing to let go of the relationship, they just want it to be fast, short and painless. Girls on the other hand are more likely to still want to talk after it is over. They want to be friends but it can get sticky.

Although Peterson thinks being friends with exes could be great, he thinks people are exes for a reason.

On the other hand, Sophomore Morgan Beckler thinks it is perfectly fine and normal to be friends with

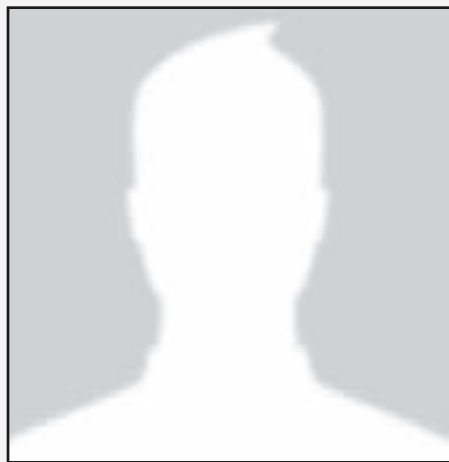
your ex because most relationships start out as good friendships and turn into something more.

"I don't think it is a big deal having exes as friends," Beckler said. "It is just a question of maturity, if one person can't handle it your friendship will not work out."

Beckler thinks the type of friendship that comes out of a relationship is always going to be different. She believes that you should not hang out one-on-one with an ex unless you think you can handle it, if you can't handle the one on one hang out in a group.

Although she knows not all exes can be friends, she does believe that with time a friendship could form.

"Facebook official" new term to describe relationships



By TRAVIS ADAMSON
Staff Writer

The term "Facebook official" is becoming a regular term among Facebook users to describe the status of a couple.

Part of social networking is people posting information about themselves and their everyday lives. Single, in a relationship, engaged and married are all options that Facebook provides for "relationship status."

There are differing opinions about putting personal information on Facebook.

"I don't like putting my personal stuff on my Facebook, like who I am dating." Freshman Paige Mead said "I don't like people knowing my business."

Freshman Becca Colson said she doesn't like setting her status unless the relationship is serious.

"I hate when someone is in a relationship one day, and not the next." she said.

Freshman Matt Smith said he

doesn't really mind if status change frequently.

"I think it doesn't really matter if they change their status," he said. "It is nice to know if someone is in a relationship or not."

Smith said if he is in a relationship with someone, he really doesn't mind if they change their status or not.

"I don't think they have to change it because it is their own personal page, they can do what they want." Smith said.

Colson said sharing personal relationship information on their own Facebook page can cause some turmoil in their own relationship because of what other people find out.

"Girls start way too much drama" Colson said. "The way I see it, if you aren't in the relationship then stay out of it."

Smith disagreed saying if you aren't doing anything wrong then it shouldn't cause a problem.

Mead said prior experience has shown her people commenting on

updated statuses can cause trouble.

Junior Matthew Pritchett said finds a sort of strategy to sharing his personal information on their page.

"I figure if you get in a relationship here and want it to be a big deal, post it on Facebook." Matthew Pritchett said. "If you want to keep it on the down low, then keep it off of Facebook."

Colson said she feels most people share too much personal information.

"But I also believe it is a good way to vent," she said.


Mead sees it a bit differently, and believes it can get a little annoying always seeing useless information.

"People put too much personal information, I mean honestly who really cares if you're fighting with your boyfriend." Mead said "So why blow up everyone's news feeds with useless things?"

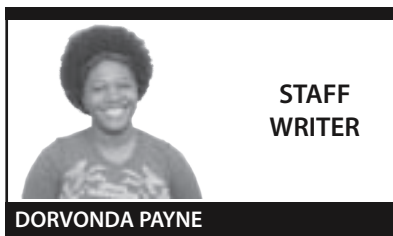
Smith agreed saying that people do need to keep things a bit more personal instead of talking about it with all friends.

 Single

 It's complicated

 In a relationship

If you ask me: Be open while you're young, hot



Hallmark holiday might prompt you to think that it's a great idea to put a shower curtain on the bed, get a bottle of baby oil and play "slip & slide". To that I say... go for it! It's awesome. Or so I've heard. My point is we're young. This is likely the hottest that our bodies will ever be. Rock it. Rub it. Bang it. Flick it. Dip it. Flip it. Bop it. Twist it. Pull it. Whatever.

I am not arguing for promiscuity. In fact if you ever have the pleasure of conversing with me (Yes, I said pleasure. I am awesome. Recognize and come to terms with that before entering my life space)...I digress. If we ever speak you will see that I am very chaste. In terms of numbers. I don't advocate high body counts. I am not in any way a serial killer if you catch my drift, but if you are then good for you. Bop it and so on.

However there is some stuff that is just too much for anyone. Things that I don't understand. For example: I was recently asked what I thought about Dirty Sanchez'. I didn't really know what that was so I Googled it. As for my thoughts, it's among the nastiest things I've ever heard and I have three brothers. Seriously people, its right up there with the chili dog. If you don't know what a chili dog then Google it. Its not for the faint of heart.

Like I said before we are as hot as we'll ever be but that doesn't mean go crazy. Lets not go around doing stuff that you can't take back. I don't know about you but I'd rather not be 40 years old, sitting at my desk at the wonderful job that my college education has afforded me, wearing a diaper because I was so eager to have "fun". See what I'm saying?

With that being said there is still lots of awesome stuff that won't leave you incontinent or unable to look your children in the eyes. Simple stuff like gold wrappers with the word Ecstasy on them. I never cared much about science but when I tell you that somebody combined the magic of unicorn tears, glitter, sunshine and Wonka candy bars it is 100% truth. Those things are AMAZING! Way better than a bard or stuffed animal.

If you can fit them or have a partner who can, get some. Get a lot. Grab the economy pack, lock yourself in the house for a weekend and discover the magic. If you can't fit it, just take a pass. Its better to be honest because a baggy fit is only cute for pants. Not hats. And guys - we might not laugh to your face but - we tell our friends.

Comment on these stories online at www.oucampus.org.

Let us know what you think of this issue! Facebook: The Campus.

What do you



YOU SAY.....

JAKE MCMILLIAN



BEING IN THE FRIENDS ZONE?

"Relationships are hard and people's feelings are valuable. Don't waste your time because you'll be unhappy and don't waste the other persons time when they could be happier with someone else."

FRIENDS WITH BENEFITS?

"If you are mature enough to handle that kind of relationship, all the power to you. But if you are not mature enough to handle that don't put your heart on the line."

ONE NIGHT STANDS?

"Things happen and I'm not going to judge you for what you do. Don't play, don't front. That's not my thing, I wouldn't want to partake in that."

RELATIONSHIPS IN COLLEGE?

"If you can find me a date, I'll take it!"

MARGUTT HILL



"I know how to play my position well so if you want me on the friends list, that's fine. People don't want to commit but they want that aspect of a girlfriend. They want to have a girlfriend yet still be able to do what they want. The world doesn't work that way."

"I believe it's selfish because people don't want to commit to a relationship but they still want the aspects of a one. If you have known someone forever but don't have the relationship connection, just emotional and want to have sex, then it's on."

"They happen, I can't judge people. If the individuals have sex for one night and blame it on their drunkenness, they really just wanted to tap that. They just needed an excuse."

"They are a good thing but they happen with time. You can't just meet someone the first day of freshman orientation and fall in love. Individuals need to get together on an attention wanted basis rather than an affection basis."

RUSTY THOMAS



"It means they are wanting to work on having a good friendship first. Sometimes you get in a situation where you're friends with a girl and you want to be more but she doesn't so then you have to try and meet in the middle."

"There can be positives that come out of it or negatives. You have the chance of catching anything they might have but people still do it for pleasure."

"They're probably not a good thing. Things happen when people get alcohol in their system. I really don't agree with that, but it happens."

"I think they could be a good thing or a bad thing. I think you should probably date someone above your age - never go down. Especially if you're in college."

MARIAH MELTON



"On to the next one!"

"It's a bad thing because you'll get hurt."

"They're dumb, especially when people are drunk. Just don't do it."

"People should just hang out and not look for a relationship while in college. People are just horny."



about....

BEING IN THE FRIENDS ZONE?

"It sucks to be in the friends zone, but we probably put people there more than we realize. Some people just aren't meant to be."

FRIENDS WITH BENEFITS?

" Don't let feelings get involved, but that seems almost impossible sometimes.. It's just sex! "

ONE NIGHT STANDS?

"Successful night."

RELATIONSHIPS IN COLLEGE?

"They are hard no matter what. It takes a lot of work, and really teaches us a lot about ourselves."

....WE SAY

JOEL WRIGHT



DANIELLE JURSKI



JOSHUA VAIL



SARA HUMM



"A person can never have too many friends, but things can get difficult if one person wants to be more. To me, keeping the friendship in tact is more important than starting something two people may not be ready for. Someone will get hurt in the end."

"I think most of the time friends with benefits happens by accident. It's easy for a flirty friendship to turn into a physical one. Once you've started, it's hard to go back to being just friends again. Things can get messy once someone wants out."

"If both people are okay with one night of (protected) fun, then by all means, get it on. I do think, however, that if a person is constantly looking for a one night stand they may have a self esteem problem and are using sex as an ego boost."

"I think relationships are important in college. They can help you grow as a person and teach you lessons you can't get from any classroom or person. I don't think there's anything wrong with being committed and caring about 'that one person' in college."

"It's best not to worry about being in the friends zone. If you've found the right person, eventually you'll get out of it. It's not something that you should try to force."

"Personally, friends with benefits is something I couldn't do. I wouldn't be able to separate the physical from the emotional."

"No way. I don't understand these and I wouldn't do it."

"Relationships are hard anytime. There will always be other commitments and balancing your priorities will always be hard. That said, if you find someone with similar interests who wants to live in the same area after school, you're golden."

"Being in the friend zone sucks if you want to be with that person but sometimes the friend zone is the best way to still have a friendship with that person, even if it's hard."

"Sometimes friends with benefits can be a good thing....as long as both people know that it won't turn into anything more. However, it's hard to not get attached to people when you have a physical relationship."

"One night stands aren't for me but if you get what you are looking for and it's safe and consensual then it can be a good night for you."

"I would pick a relationship over a one night stand any day. However, I don't think many college relationships last. College is for having fun and being free before you get kicked out into the real world, serious relationships can prohibit that."

Long distance relationships require time

STACEY GORTON
Staff Writer

Part of college is moving away from home, and from this came the evolution of long-distance relationships for college students.

"It's hard," Senior German Madera said. "Don't do it unless you absolutely have to."

Despite the negative reputation that the long distance relationship has received, students at Ottawa University seem to agree that when put into the college atmosphere it is possible to maintain such a relationship.

Madera said being in a long distance relationship is hard but it is possible if the couple communicates and focuses on the little tasks that help them stay connected.

"I have been in a long distance relationship for a long time and maintenance is complicated because we both have to be patient and communicate well," he said. "It takes little things like calling her every morning or writing letters."

Senior Steven Brumley met his girlfriend while he was stationed in Germany.

He said while he didn't plan on continuing his relationship when he came to Kansas he felt it was hard to meet people in Ottawa and Kansas and realized they still saw each other fairly regularly so the relationship continued.

Brumley said the key to a long distance relationship is honesty and making time for each other.

"You have to be truthful and tell them everything," he said. "You should expect the same because when the lying starts is when the relationship crumbles. Don't lie to those who trust you."

Brumley said he keeps his relationship alive by talking on the phone regularly and each of them fly to see the other every three to four months.

"I probably see my girl more than some guys their girls that live three hours away," Brumley said.

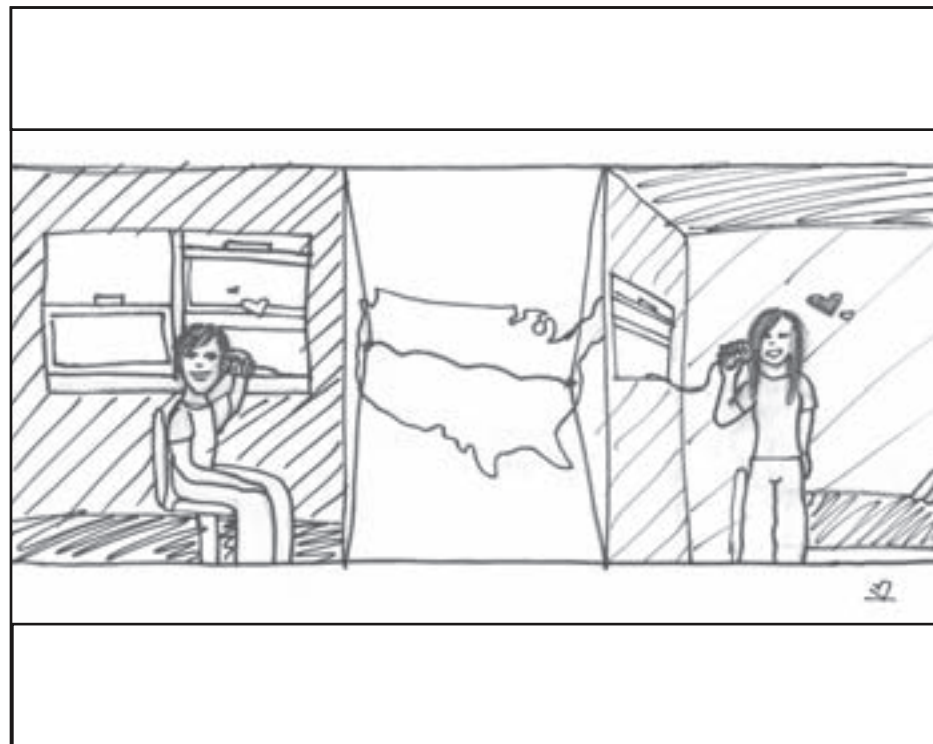
Even though the long distance relationship is possible, they don't come without their complications.

"You can't see each other when you are happy or when you fight," Madera said. "We have to take the time to understand what we are asking and why we are fighting and go from there."

Some students argue that it is the approach that a couple makes in their relationship that will lead to the success or downfall of a relationship that is long distance.

"You should never start out long distance," Sophomore Abby Folsom said. "They only work when two people have been together for a while and have built up trust between them."

So while the long distance relationship may be difficult many



Katie Seabolt | The Campus

Long distance relationships may be hard because of the physical communication, but if both people are willing to communicate, it could work.

students see the possibility for a long distance relationship to become long term under the right conditions.

"If you do get into a long distance relationship make sure you try harder than you expected," Madera said. "Just have patience, communicate and sensitive."

Whether meeting overseas

before coming to school or having a significant other back home, long distance relationships are part of the college experience for many students around campus.

Students seem to agree that it is not the distance that breaks the relationship but the actions of the people involved in the relationship.

Marolf: Relationships have good, bad points



Being in a committed relationship while in college has both good and bad moments.

I have been in a relationship since before I started at Ottawa University. I do not think that being in a committed relationship while in school is a bad thing, as long as it is handled in a good way.

I feel like my boyfriend, Curry, and I have great communication most of the time, but nobody is perfect.

When we first became a couple, I made it clear that as long as I am in school and dancing, they are my

top priorities. It is great that he is so supportive and understanding. This is a strength of our relationship.

One of the things about our relationship that I am not happy with is the fact that we do not have the option to see each other whenever we want.

As a college student I am prone to money issues. I cannot always afford the gas to go whenever I want to spend time with Curry.

At the same time, not going to school together has some benefits. We do not need to see each other all the time. We both need our space.

After all, separation makes the heart grow fonder, right? Besides, we still get to talk enough.

We always talk to each other on the phone at night before we go to bed, about how our days went.

Some of the good things about

being in a committed relationship while in college are always having someone to talk to about anything. I have a great supporter on my side. Curry is always encouraging me to do the best that I can while I am in school.

On the days that I get really distracted from my homework he will even stop texting me so I can focus on my homework and get everything I need done. Curry is also a very smart person. Any time I have a question about homework, he is the one I turn to for help.

Some of the bad things about being in a committed relationship is that I am constantly getting distracted with a text message while I am trying to study.

Curry is almost the only person I have conversations with through text messaging. Sometimes there can be some confusion in our relationship

since a lot of our communication is through text messages.

Another thing is that it makes me sad to see all the couples on campus hugging and holding hands, knowing that I do not get to do that every day.

In the end, we are both happy about how well our relationship is going. I have learned to look on the bright side of things.

I will not always be in school and far away from Curry.

We always end up making time for each other some way or another. Curry makes it to almost every game that I perform at and then we usually have a little date night out to dinner after the game and hang out until he has to go back home.

Also, when we have a break from school we get to spend plenty of time together. No matter what, I always have a great time.

Gorton: Being married in college is a blast



STAFF WRITER

STACEY GORTON

It's safe to say that getting through college isn't always easy.

For some it ends before graduation but several of us will walk away with a degree and possibly a life-long relationship.

For me, that life-long relationship of marriage started after my freshman year. I got married when I was 19.

Generally people respond similarly when they hear I have a husband. I'm usually bombarded with questions about why, what it's like to be married, did I miss out, how'd my husband and I meet and so on.

From being questioned I'm usually lectured about my age, meeting other guys and my social life. The girls at work like to tease me as they get excited about going out, and I get excited about a new appliance.

But I'm here to set the record straight about being married in college: it's amazing.

I'm not going to write this to pretend marriage is easy - it's not.

There are days I get home from school and work so tired that even the sound of Sam's chewing risks pushing me over the edge of normalcy and into the depths of insanity.

I'll go on to admit that since marriage my drive to finish my education at the top has more than wavered. It's hard to study animal behaviors or drag myself to another

group meeting when my husband is at home.

And even when I do make an effort to do homework while he's home, if either of us isn't happy from something that happened that day, the homework is going to be pushed aside and forgotten until we are settled.

It's true. My marriage does pretty well dominate every aspect of my life which sounds...awful. Really, it's not. Sam is my support system.

On days when I get home from school and work so tired that I can hear every movement of his food as he chews, if I do snap a little he is right there to talk to me about what's wrong.

And the misconception that because I married so young I can't go out for fun whenever I want - false. I can go out with my friends and have a good time whenever I want the only difference is that I call Sam to let him know where I am.

What keeps me from going out? I'd rather be home. What most people don't realize is that with my schedule and my husband's, we only see each other about two days a week. I will choose my husband over going out any day and it's not because I feel obligated - we have a blast together.

In the end it doesn't matter how many questions I have to answer about being married in college. It's amazing and I wouldn't have it any other way. Yes, marriage has its challenges. Not everybody should run out and have a wedding during their college days.

But for me, if I could do life all over again, I wouldn't change marrying my high school sweetheart one year into my college career.

Fulmer: Returning to school after having a child is hard



STAFF WRITER

DANIELLE FULMER

After being in a long-term relationship for six years, dealing with the struggle of paying a mortgage, a car payment, all the electrical bills, insurance...should I go on?

I realized that the only way that I could better my life and financial situation was by returning to school. The only problem was that I had experienced one of the most life changing experiences you will ever have. I brought a child into this world. It changes you as a person, it changes you as a couple, and it changes how you are as a college student.

After taking a break from college and staying at home with my child for two years, leaving the little critter behind became a hard thought to comprehend.

Balancing school and work is hard enough for college students. You add on a relationship and there's even more steam to the kettle.

Being a parent in school does not grant you a get out of jail free card. Homework, deadlines, due dates, all of those things do not care about a sick three-year old or the fact little Tommy hasn't seen his mommy or daddy all day and there's at least three hours of homework to do before bed.

Part of the college experience is the social life that you develop while in school. Having a child changes that social life because the free time you do get away from your homework, you

often want to spend with your child.

Another problem often faced with having a child during school is babysitting. The average cost of daycare adds an average of \$20,000 extra to your living expenses each year. Finding the money to cover that while paying for a \$20,000+ college education is not an easy challenge.

Bringing a child into your home is a very important decision that must be well thought through. You have to ask yourself about college, about your goals, and about your future. Even with careful planning having a child while getting your college education is unpredictable and challenging.

Being a non-traditional student and taking an extended (more than two years) break from college, I would highly recommend completing your education before you begin thinking about planning a family. I do also believe though, that mothers and fathers should not put school out of their minds.

Reaching for a higher education after you have a child not only betters yourself, but it betters your child. It leaves an example for them, proving that anything can be accomplished if you put your mind to it. It is not impossible, and with a caring University can be a very manageable experience.

To those younger students that are thinking about having children, or those who perhaps are not using proper protection and living life sexually in an incautious manor; you have to remember the amount of time it takes to keep a relationship going, much less a relationship with a child and school. Your life as you know it will change FOREVER. Being a parent in college is not a task for everyone.

SPEAK OUT:

Do you think it's easy to cheat or be unfaithful in college?

AMANDA MARTINSEN, '13



"No because people could find out easily while at a small school."

CORY SMITH, '13



"No because if you really like the person you won't cheat on them."

ILSE CONARD, '14



"I think it is easier while in separate colleges, but overall I feel it is not easier to cheat than in high school."

ALLISON HAMLIN, '12



"Yes. There's more time apart and you're all living in the same place so there's more opportunity."

Lust, love deep questions for OU students



Sara Humm | Illustration

By JOSHUA VAIL
Webmaster

The question of love vs. lust is important to some people because couples want to be sure that their relationship is built on a good foundation.

Junior Richard Hines believes that lust and love are two separate things. He believes that love is on a continuity that does not include lust. While lust may exist in loving relationships, it's a separate entity.

Junior Charlie McMichael has a different view.

"Love is nothing more than people wanting to be with one another," he said. "It's more of a mixture of emotions, lust and desire."

McMichael said lust is part of what people call love.

"Lust is a form of desire and when people see something they desire they go after it," he said. "Therefore, people are in pursuit of a relationship."

Senior Kurt Jennings, who recently married fellow student and senior Sandra Jennings sees lust as something selfish that is completely separate from love

"Lust is about what I want all the time," he said. "Love is sacrificing and wanting what's best for the other person."

Hines' continuity starts with liking

and moves into deeper stages of love.

"Like is, you want to get to know them better," he said. "Love is [usually] when you've known them for about a year and a half."

Hines said just knowing another person for a certain amount of time is not enough.

"I believe you can get to the stage of like in college," he said "With so much other stuff going on in college you don't have time to focus on that relationship."

Senior Sandra Jennings agrees that love takes a lot of time and focus.

"In college, can love happen? Yes," she said. "But, people expect it to happen a lot faster than it does."

Sandra Jennings said she met Kurt in grade school and they started dating their senior year in high school. They spent a semester apart between the time that she started attending OU and the time that he started.

"In my friends' experiences it's very hard to connect on the level that Kurt and I did," she said.

McMichael said finding love is just finding someone who is compatible.

"And in the case you do find someone you're compatible with, you have similar interests with, then you can start a relationship. One of the great truths in this world is that nothing lasts forever."

Students choose an abstinent lifestyle

By JENNA PHILLIPS
Staff Writer

Junior Charley Worthey said he is waiting to have sex until marriage because he loves Jesus and wants to be obedient to him.

"If sex is made for marriage as the Bible says, that is where it will be at its best," he said.

Freshman Erica Layton agrees with practicing purity in relationships. Layton and Worthey have been in a relationship for the past 4 months.

"People talk about how much they can do [with their significant other], but instead of asking how much is too far, you should ask God how close you should get to them," she said.

Layton and Worthey made the decision to pray about their relationship and not even kiss before they get married.

"We decided that we're not going

to kiss until we get married so we can enjoy the wonder and mystery of sex and avoid temptation," Worthey said. "We want to draw our line as far away from it as possible."

Worthey has done a lot of studying about the issue of purity. He mentioned a study that was done in which found that 31% of people who waited until marriage for sex had a higher satisfaction rate.

"If the God of the bible really is the King of world, then reality should reflect that," he said. "God wants you to have the best sex possible."

While some people practice abstinence for religious reasons, there are those who wait until marriage for personal choice.

Junior Lucas Straub says he is waiting until he gets married for personal choice and so things will be more memorable when he does engage in sexual activity.

"I think it creates a lot of fights

when you do get married," he said. "Plus I think it's something special that you share."

However, Straub said when he finds his future wife, it doesn't matter to him if she is pure or not.

A study done by USA today reported that 95 percent of people have engaged in premarital sex.

"I think everyone has sexual temptation to some extent, it's how you deal with it that matters," Layton said.

Straub said there are times when he has been put in difficult situations, but stayed true to his values in abstinence.

"I've been put in situations where that was their intention but I said no," said Straub. "I've never even had that thought, it's always been an absolute no for me."

Worthey recommends practicing abstinence and waiting for marriage because of the effects he has seen

from some of his friends who have experienced sex before marriage.

"I know people who've had premarital sex and they aren't as happy," said Worthey.

"It seems to me, those people have sex out of bondage rather than love."

Worthey and Layton both said when you find the person you are supposed to spend your life with, it is worth it to put your values first and stay pure.

"It's not about finding the right person," Layton said, "It's about becoming the right person first."

The couple relates purity to the Bible in Proverbs 5:18-19. It is for those reasons that Worthey said others should wait for marriage to engage in sexual activity.

"I want people to have the best sex possible, not in a perverted way, but to avoid the wounds that premarital sex causes," he said.

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Men: Independence throws chivalry off

By JOEL WRIGHT
Managing Editor

If chivalry is wrong, Stephen Jordan does not want to be right.

Even though he is currently single, he says he has an idea of how men should approach relationships with women.

"Guys are supposed to treat girls with respect, honestly," he said. "The guy should open doors and pay for things, but don't overdo it."

Jordan also said that matters can get complicated with the opposite sex because women are getting more independent when taking care of their money.

"Girls are manipulative," Jordan said. "This generation has almost forgotten about chivalry, and women are all about independence."

Chivalry can be defined mainly from a male's point of view as a polite attitude, behavior or demeanor toward women.

Junior Clarence Anderson has been in a relationship for a year and four months and said he is used to acting chivalrous with his lady when he takes her out.

"I pay most of the time," he said. "But we take turns."

His attitude has changed a little bit over the past 16 months, as the relationship aged.

"I paid for it more then because I was trying to impress her," Anderson said.

Junior Marsette Harris has been

in a relationship for almost the same amount of time as Anderson. Harris went into dates with very much of the same attitude, and tries to keep it up.

"I approached it by paying for things just because it's gentleman-like," he said. "I pay the majority of times, but sometimes she surprises me and pays."

Harris said that it is a different situation when the two people are not officially boyfriend and girlfriend, but if they are working toward something bigger it is acceptable.

Jordan said even though men and women's attitudes seem to be changing, chivalry is not dead. It is just on life support.

"No, it's not completely dead, just buried alive," he said. "There are people who still use it, but a lot of our generation has no idea how to be chivalrous."

Anderson also said things have changed from what he had been taught and told.

"I think it has changed a lot from talking to my parents and grandparents," he said. "Men used to be more gentlemanly than they are now as far as opening doors and paying for things."

He also said because of women becoming more independent, they don't want or need men to be as chivalrous as they used to be.

"I think women are trying to be more independent so they don't care, because they're trying to do more



Sara Humm | The Campus

Is chivalry dead or still thriving? Men and women of OU weigh in on this topic and how dates should go down.

things on their own," he said.

Even though relationships have changed over time, Jordan said there is not much to misunderstand.

"Girls need to stop playing games and guys need to stop being players," he said.

Women: Chivalry can change if a relationship deepens

By NICOLE BECCHINA
Staff Writer

Dating is where it all begins.

In today's society, dating can have a plethora of different meanings. To freshman Hannah Utley dating is when two people are just seeing each other without a total commitment.

"Dating is when a guy and girl go out on dates and it's not a serious relationship, but they're not seeing anyone else," Utley said.

Junior Breanna Jones enjoys going to dinner on a date.

"On a date I like to go to dinner, it's intimate but public," Jones said.

Jones said she does not expect to have to pay on the first date with a man, but when things get to be more serious, she does not mind spending some money.

"I would never pay on the first

date," she said. "Beyond the first date, if we are dating, no I don't mind going dutch."

Sophomore Carley Bonnet has a different opinion.

"I think these days it just depends," she said. "You shouldn't expect a guy to pay so you definitely need to discuss that before the date happens."

She also said things should not change much after the first date.

"As far as past the first date it's the same thing," she said. "It should be equal between both the guy and the girl when it comes to paying for dates."

Bonnet said she does not like when conversation is lost with the person she's on a date with.

"The worst thing is being around someone on a date or even in a social setting and the conversation just becomes awkward and then it's like

'well, where to go from here,'" she said.

The beginning of the dating process is the part that Utley said she really enjoys.

"My favorite part about dating is probably whenever I see him I get butterflies and can't stop smiling," she said.

Jones said she has not lost her faith in well-intentioned men, and really likes someone who can treat others right.

"I really have an appreciation for a respectful guy, because I don't believe chivalry is dead," Jones said.

Jones said while she appreciates when men are respectful and polite, but she thinks it is getting harder to come by.

"I don't believe chivalry is dead, however I think that it's almost impossible to come by," Jones said.

"In the past it was second nature for a man to hold open doors and pull out chairs."

She said the way things are today, women have to do more looking out for themselves.

"Today, if I want my chair pulled out or a door opened for me, I had better do it myself," Jones said. "With that said, every so often I see a guy doing it though, and it's nice to see."

Jones also thinks that being independent is important.

"I also believe that nowadays, women are more independent and have that 'I can do it myself' attitude."

Utley believes men should be more chivalrous and women should be able to expect it.

"I think (men) do need to be more chivalrous and girls should expect it or at least want guys to be chivalrous," she said.