Sex, Love, and Instagram: Relationships in the Digital Age

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Today’s Goals

Discuss **current trends** in dating habits among university students

Define “**Swipe Culture**”

Discuss the role of **media** and its impact on students’ **perceptions** of **normative** sex, dating, and relationship behaviors

Overview of the positive and negative **role of technology** within higher education settings
Discussion Guidelines

Active participation – we value your *insight* and *opinions*!

If you don’t know – *ask*!

This topic is *ever-evolving* - continue to educate yourself
What is emerging data telling us?
Modern Love

Online dating sites used:

- Grindr: 4%
- "other": 9%
- eHarmony: 7%
- Match: 9%
- OkCupid: 22%
- Tinder: 50%

57% of women report feeling harassed, compared to just 21% of men.

Ever felt harassed?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OkCupid</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>eHarmony</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Match</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tinder</td>
<td>39%</td>
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</tbody>
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AVG. DAILY CONTACTS:

- OkCupid: 9.13
- eHarmony: 1.24
- Match: 1.82
- Tinder: 14.10

Source: Pew Research, Consumers' Research
Swipe Culture
Are we dealing with a generation of ‘screen zombies’?

How are our students building and navigating relationships?
Virtually in Love <3

Taboo no more! Public opinion of online dating continues to improve.
• More are doing it!
• Acceptance & reception is greater: 80%

Usage is surging among 18-24 year olds
• 2013: 10%
• 2015: 27%
• College aged folks now the face of online dating

Viewed as efficient, easier, and better for building quality matches

Source: Pew Research Center
One character, Justin, covertly takes a photo on his phone - which could be perceived as explicit - of another character, Hannah. Justin then shares this with a friend who quickly spreads it across the school they all attend. Hannah later cites this as one of the 13 Reasons Why she commits suicide.
Let’s Practice!
Tainted Love: The downside of excessive access
When Red Flags Appear

- Control
- Disrespect
- Sexual violence
- Jealousy
- Isolation
- Intimidation
What digital IPV looks like

- Using **location services** to “keep tabs”
- Unwanted, explicit **pictures**, **demands**, or **sexts**
- Insisting on **access** to accounts
- **Unauthorized** access to phone or computer
An at-risk population

• 71% of women, 58% of men who have been victims of domestic violence are under 25 years old

• Men aged 18-25 in college are 5X more likely to be survivors than non-college students

• 18-24 year olds experience the highest rates of stalking

Source: Department of Justice
What's App?

- Hinge
- OKC
- Grindr
- Coffee Meets Bagel
- Tinder
- Bumble
Consent Apps

Students may struggle with the concept of **blanket consent** and expressing to a partner that they wish to engage in some sex acts **but not others**.
Tracker Apps

Stalking: A pattern of repeated, unwanted attention and contact that causes fear or concern for one’s own safety or the safety of someone else.
Positive uses of technology in higher education
“Chris Brown Fans Think People Should Forgive Him After Watching His Netflix Documentary”
Twitter-famous
Questions?