

More people think online dating is OK

23rd October, 2013



A new report says most Americans think online dating is a good way to meet people. Almost 60 per cent of Internet users said there is nothing wrong

with trying to find a partner on the Internet. This has changed from ten years ago when the figure was 44 per cent. The report is from the Pew Research Center. It says around one in ten Americans has used online dating services. It also said 11 per cent of people who started a long-term relationship in the past decade met their partner online. However, some people think the Internet does not help with marriage. Around 32 per cent of people agreed that "online dating keeps people from settling down because they always have options for people to date".

Sociologist Dr Kevin Lewis of the University of California told the USA Today newspaper that women must be careful with online dates. He said: "For women, there are lots of guys who are just creepy or unattractive or undesirable." He also said men can have problems finding a date: "They can't get a woman to respond because [women get] so many messages." Dr Lewis also said that 38 per cent of online daters have read an online profile of someone they knew. The Pew Report warned people to be careful about those who tell lies about themselves online. About 54 per cent of online daters said they had a date with someone who was a lot different from their profile.

Sources: Al Jazeera / Pew Internet.org / USA Today

Writing

Compare and contrast online dating with normal dating.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

online dating / Internet users / find a partner / long-term relationship / settling down / sociologist / being careful / creepy / unattractive / messages / online profile / tell lies

True / False

- Most Americans think online dating isn't a good way to meet people. T / F
- Up to 60% of Internet users said it was OK to find a partner online. T / F
- Around 10% of Americans have tried Internet dating services. T / F
- About a third of Americans think online dating helps marriages. T / F
- A sociologist advised women to be careful of creepy guys. T / F
- Men find it difficult to find a date because women get many messages. T / F
- Very few people read profiles and know the person behind the profile. T / F
- Less than half of people said their date didn't match his/her profile. T / F

Synonym Match

- | | |
|-------------|----------------|
| 1. way | a. cautioned |
| 2. wrong | b. weird |
| 3. figure | c. cautious |
| 4. started | d. reply |
| 5. options | e. method |
| 6. careful | f. choices |
| 7. creepy | g. number |
| 8. respond | h. description |
| 9. warned | i. bad |
| 10. profile | j. began |

Discussion – Student A

- Are there any dangers for men?
- How do women find out if a guy is "creepy or unattractive or undesirable" before she meets him?
- Would you put your photo on an online dating service?
- Would you tell (small) lies about yourself on your profile?
- If you met someone online, would you tell your friends that?
- Is online dating better than "normal" dating?
- What would you say to someone you met online who lied on his/her profile?
- What questions would you like to ask Dr Kevin Lewis?

Phrase Match

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. online dating is a good | a. with online dates |
| 2. there is nothing wrong with | b. in ten Americans |
| 3. around one | c. for people to date |
| 4. started a long- | d. way to meet people |
| 5. they always have options | e. from their profile |
| 6. women must be careful | f. woman to respond |
| 7. there are lots of guys | g. term relationship |
| 8. They can't get a | h. trying to find a partner |
| 9. those who tell | i. who are just creepy |
| 10. a lot different | j. lies about themselves |

Discussion – Student B

- Would you think about online dating?
- Is online dating a good way to meet a possible partner?
- Do you think everyone will be online dating in the future?
- What are the advantages of online dating?
- Who does online dating help most?
- Is online dating good for marriage?
- Is always having "options for people to date" dangerous?
- Are more people in love because of online dating?

Spelling

- nothing ngwro with trying
- the iergfu was 44 per cent
- in the past eedadc
- the Internet does not help with mgaraier
- keeps people from glteitns down
- have ptsooin for people to date
- oitgicoSIslo Dr Kevin Lewis
- creepy or aativrctentu or undesirable
- They can't get a woman to pesndor
- women get so many ssgmaese
- tell lies about elmsvtseeh online
- a lot different from their poflier

Answers – Synonym Match

| | | | | |
|------|------|------|------|-------|
| 1. e | 2. i | 3. g | 4. j | 5. f |
| 6. c | 7. b | 8. d | 9. a | 10. h |

Role Play

Role A – Online dating

You think online dating is the best way to meet a future partner. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their ways. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): blind dates, parent-arranged meetings or love at first site.

Role B – Blind dates

You think blind dates are best way to meet a future partner. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their ways. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): online dating, parent-arranged meetings or love at first site.

Role C – Parent-arranged meetings

You think parent-arranged meetings are best way to meet a future partner. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their ways. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): blind dates, online dating or love at first site.

Role D – Love at first site

You think love at first site is best way to meet a future partner. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their ways. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): blind dates, parent-arranged meetings or online dating.

Speaking – First date

Rank these and share your rankings with your partner. Put the best places for a first date at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| • Italian restaurant | • The beach |
| • Movie theatre | • Hiking |
| • Disneyland | • A coffee shop |
| • A museum | • City sightseeing |

Answers – True False

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| a | F | b | T | c | T | d | F | e | T | f | T | g | F | h | F |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|

Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.