

Cross-Cultural Research on Love and Sex

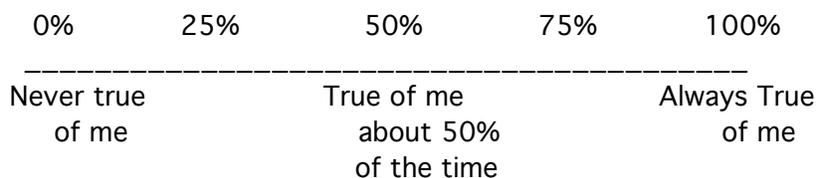
This research focuses on how men and women from different cultural backgrounds view passionate love and sex. We would like to know something about the thoughts, feelings, and experiences you've had in such relationships. Please answer honestly. Your answers will be kept strictly confidential.

Romantic Feelings and Experiences

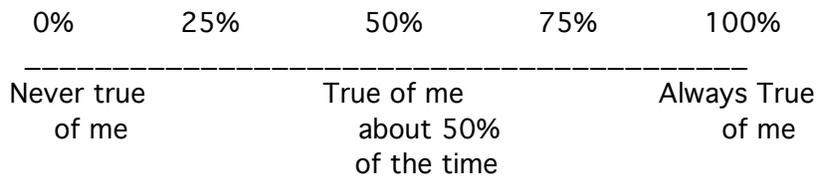
People often want very different things and have very different experiences in their romantic relationships. Some people prefer to be involved in a romantic relationship, but deep down they know that, if things fall apart, they will be able to manage on their own. Others need to be close to someone; they are miserable when they are forced to be on their own. Still others need great deal of time on their own. Some people aren't quite sure what they do want. (They would like to be in a relationship, but somehow they always seem to fall in love with someone who isn't interested in them.) Finally, some people are just very casual about relationships . . . or uninterested in them.

Please take a moment to think of the times you have been romantically and/or passionately in love. (It doesn't matter whether or not your feelings were reciprocated). Please read the following six descriptions, and indicate to what extent each describes your feelings and experiences in romantic and passionate love affairs.

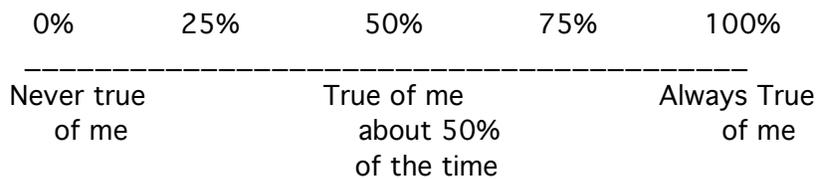
1. I Am Comfortable With Closeness and/or Independence: I find it easy to get close to others and am comfortable depending on them and having them depend on me. I don't often worry about being abandoned or about someone getting too close to me.



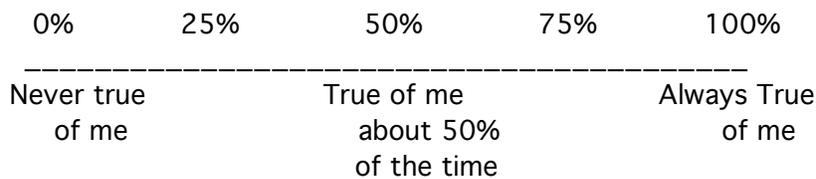
2. I Need a Great Deal of Closeness: I find that others are reluctant to get as close as I would like. I often worry that my partner doesn't really love me or won't want to stay with me. I want to merge completely with another person, and this desire sometimes scares people away.



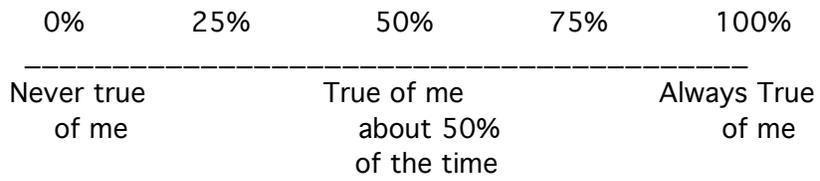
3. I Need a Great Deal of Independence: I am somewhat uncomfortable being close to others; I find it difficult to trust them completely, difficult to allow myself to depend on them. I am nervous when anyone gets too close, and often, love partners want me to be more intimate than I feel comfortable being.



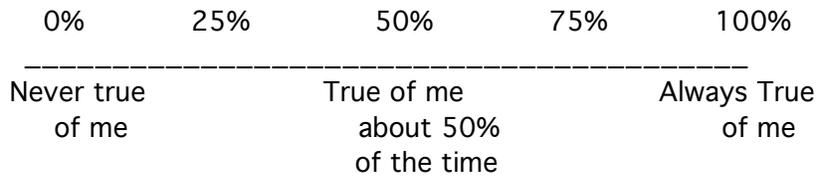
4. I Am Not Quite Sure What I Need: Sometimes, I don't know what I want. When I'm in love, I worry that my partner doesn't really love me or won't want to stay with me. When people get too interested in me, however, I often find that I'm just not interested in them--I end up feeling bored, irritated, or smothered. Either I fall in love and the other person doesn't or the other person falls in love and I don't.



5. I Am Fairly Casual About Relationships. I like having someone, but I don't want to have to get too committed or to have to invest too much in a relationship.



6. I Am Uninterested in Relationships: I don't have time for relationships. They are generally not worth the hassle.



Love Schemas

In the previous section we described six "love schemas":

1. I am comfortable With closeness and/or independence.
2. I need a great deal of closeness.
3. I need a great deal of independence.
4. I am not quite sure what I need.
5. I am fairly casual about relationships.
6. I am uninterested in relationships.

This time, we are interested in finding out which of the six descriptions sounds most like you. Which sound somewhat like you. Which sounds least like you. Please rank order these six descriptions—going from that which sounds most like you and best reflects your experiences in passionate love relationships to that which sounds least like you and with your experiences. (Just indicate the appropriate number in the circle).

- Sounds most like me. (The best fitting description).
- Second best fitting description.
- Third best fitting description.
- Fourth best fitting description.
- Fifth best fitting description.
- Sounds least like me.

Scoring

Assessing Love Schemas. All subjects are asked to read the six items comprising the Love Schema (LS) scale. The first three items are taken directly from Hazan's and Shaver's (1987) Adult Attachment Questionnaire (AAQ). The remaining three items were constructed to tap

the three love schemas which were not included in that scale. Subjects were asked to rank and then to rate⁴ the extent to which each of the six schemas seemed representative of their own feelings and experiences on a 5-point Likert-type scale ranging from 100% (Always true of me) to 0% (Never true of me.)

1. On the first items, we simply used a ruler to measure how secure, clingy, skittish, fickle, casual, or uninterested in relationships people are. The higher the score (100%) the higher they are on that dimension (as compared to 0%). Treated as a continuous variable.

2. On the rank order measure, we simply looked at people's first choice.

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