

4 WAYS TO NOT GET A SECOND DATE

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Throughout time, men have been employing dubious tactics to impress the opposite sex, much like cavemen banging sticks on rocks to serenade their women. Akin to their prehistoric counterparts, modern men know better than to be confident enough to let their personalities shine – what better way to a woman's heart than the crude ways tried by their ancestors? It is said that men who heed women's preferences find more success than their caveman-ly counterparts. In other words - smart men know how to ask, "What don't you like in a man?"

So, what *don't* women like in a man? Let's find out.

1. Talking a big game

The only thing worse than a wallflower at a party is the one who pretends he's Mr. Big. Acting like the coolest guy isn't going to land you a date, or her number. Rest assured, she can see right through your act. Incessant bragging only serves to expose your insecurities. Learn to listen - no matter how awesome your first live band performance may have been, it's always a better idea to ask her about her experiences.

2. Rushing Intimacy

Men often overlook the fine line between curiosity and intrusion, asking too many personal questions in an attempt to 'bond' with their date. Former heart-breaks and psychotic exes would naturally make any woman uncomfortable, if not outright hysterical. On a first date, it is essential to keep the conversation as fun and casual as possible. Tell her about the time you tripped on your graduation gown on the way to the stage or that one time you called your class teacher "mom" by accident. (Oh, you know you've been there.) Share a few embarrassing stories that don't make people cringe. Make her laugh – comfortable enough to share quirky stories of her own.



Some men also seem to consider intimacy and physical contact to be synonymous. Confused whether you should hold her hand or put an arm around her? Here's a hint – Wait for a cue from the lady herself.

3. Trying to one-up a woman

Trying to sound too intelligent in a conversation/text by spewing an excessive amount of atypical words/facts is a big no-no. This generally comes across as you taking her to school, especially if the topic isn't of particular interest to both parties. Yes, you may know more about Kobe Bryant's reverse slam dunk, but let the woman have her say. Not only does this engage her in conversation, it makes her feel as though her opinion counts.

4. Coming on too strong

Complimenting a woman is an easy and effective way

to make her feel like the unique gem that she is. However, too many guys overdo it by bombarding their dates with compliments. They either state the glaringly obvious or use the most clichéd pickup lines imaginable. Constantly calling her beautiful and sexy makes her feel like a piece of meat and makes you appear insincere. Want to wow your date? Try applying the laws of economics to your compliments - the more often you give them out, the less they mean. Be genuine. Tell her you like the way she did her hair or that her new spectacle frames look great. Notice the little things that aren't obvious. It'll make her appreciate you more.

All in all, understanding the feminine mind isn't as daunting as it may seem. Put yourself in her shoes. To summarise – Think like a woman.

Animes that made me the man I am today

ARASHI-SON

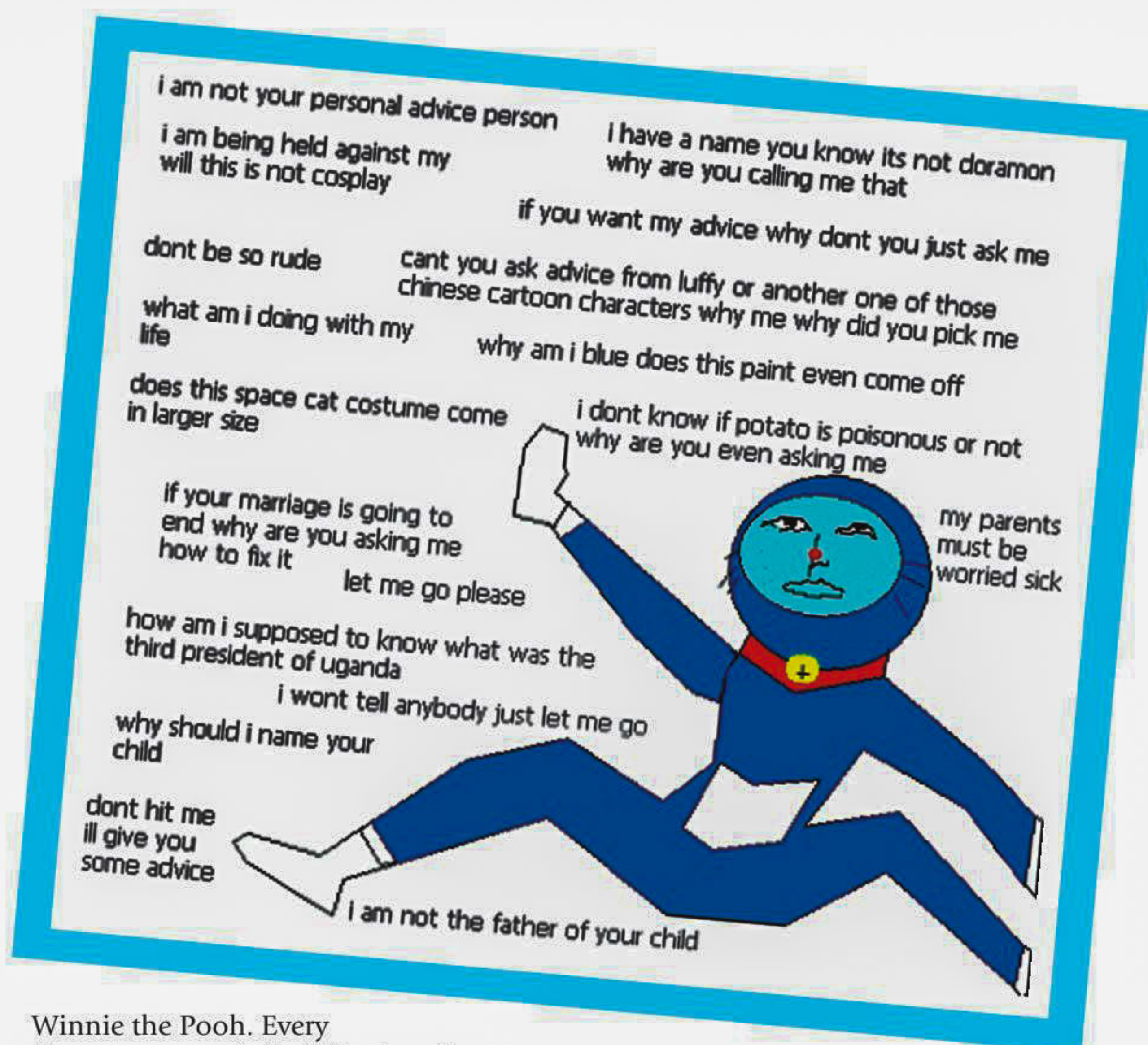
When I was a little boy who had nothing to do other than watch anime, I used to spend my days watching anime. Now I watch animes like Dora the Explorer and Superman, but even when anime wasn't mainstream I would watch it on TV. Animes have made me into the man I am today and it will have a positive effect on your life if you gave it a chance.

Responsibility with Cory in the House

Before you stop reading, first ask yourself, "What is an anime?" Animes are not restricted to any one nation or defined by art or voice actors. Animes are defined by the warmth of friendship, the same warmth portrayed in Cory in the House. Cory is an entity with the potential to bring about world peace. But he knows that with great power comes great responsibility just like his master Tobey Maguire taught him, so he doesn't just go about peace-ing anywhere he pleases. Cory in the House has taught me how to be compassionate, friendly and responsible, qualities found in all men these days, i.e. all men who watch Cory in the House.

Overcoming hardships with The Adventures of Winnie the Pooh

Ah, my days of youth, like the scent of fresh lemon. Back when everything was simple. Back when I went home from school and changed the channel to Animax to be greeted by the warm glow of



Winnie the Pooh. Every day was a struggle for Winnie as he battled with his crippling addiction to honey, and helped his friends come to terms with their own mental illnesses such as dyslexia, OCD and ADD. Overcoming hardships is one of the hurdles to becoming a man, and you

would never think to learn it from a Pooh named Winnie.

Friendship with Doaremon

Dooremon taught me that no matter how bad things may seem, you can always count on the little blue dwarf in a space-

cat costume by your side. I painted my friend blue and made him wear one of those costumes once just so that his advice was actually legitimate. How did this make me the man I am today? Well, I asked my space-cat blue-painted dwarf ex-friend many questions on how to be a man. He answered in groans of despair and an eerie silence, which taught me never to give advice to people while painted blue and wearing a space-cat costume. That is how Doramon turned me into a man.

Honesty with Pokemon

Back when I was just a wee tyke, I used to watch this cartoon for ages. I'm going to physically coerce my child into watching it so that he'll grow up to be an honest man. That's right, honesty is the best policy and where better to learn it from than Pokemon? Every episode Ash catches another Pokemon and goes back home exhausted and his wife asks him what he did the whole day and if he has been with someone else and why is he hiding his collar. Rather than what most men do these days, Ash just goes straight up and screams at her face that he caught another Pokemon, no questions asked.

This is what makes you a man; it is what it made me.

Honourable mentions: Tomas the Tank Engine, Two and a Half Man, Princes and the Frog, Tom Sawyer, Totally Spies, Winx Club.