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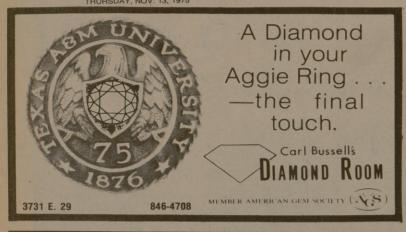
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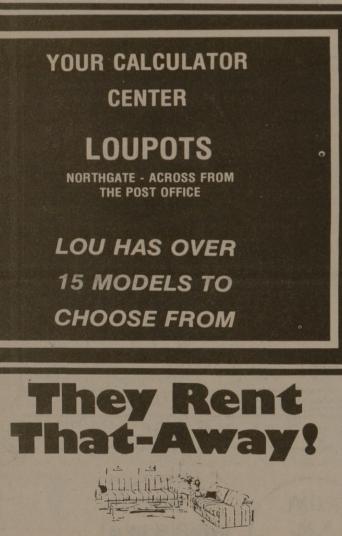


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A touchy subject More dating, more petting

By DOUGLAS KIRK Battalion Staff Writer

Psychology Graduate Student In assessing the permissability of breast-petting, 200 sub-jects were asked to rate their "status of dating situation

This is a phrase coined by the author which has five parame-ters and is designed to organize a respondent's degree of dating relationship. The first para-meter or dating status is casual, meaning a relation-ship which is new and fairly non-consequential. Steady dating is the second step and is characterized by increased seriousness, longer and more involved dates. The third step, expectant dating is a transi-tional type of dating found be-tween steady dating and engage-ment and involves discussion of future, love, and generally

includes marriage proposal. Engaged dating is next and is marked by engagement. The last step is married dating in which many forms of courtship

are still present even though the couple is married. Table I presents the status of dating situation for the respondent's present activity (column 1), the development of the relationship in which the first breast-petting ex-perience occurred (column and the development point at which males said they would attempt breast-petting and the females said they would permit

breast-petting (column 3). Table I: Status of dating situation and breast-petting (%).

Status	1 Present		2 First Petting Experience		3 Attempt Permit	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Casual	44	38	50	42	63	33
Steady	13	25	44	46	26	54
Expectant	28	29	4	10	5	8
Engaged	12	7	0	1	3	3
Married	1	1	0	0	3	2
No Response	2	0	2	1	3	0

One day

Males and females are not in agreement with regard to permissability of breast-pet-ting. As indicated by the table, twice as many males will attwice as many males will at-tempt breast-petting during casual dating than the fe-males will allow. Better than half of the females prefer waiting until the relation-ship has reached steady propor-tions before allowing busty ac-tivity.

Males will also attempt breast-petting under different con-ditions than females will allow. Sixty-two per cent of the males and 80 per cent of the females feel breast-petting should begin after "actions" have invited the activity. Thirty-four per cent of the males will attempt breastpetting even if not invited erbally or through actions to

female breast "more attrac-

Every male respondent said that breasts could be attractive as did 96 per cent of the females. And 96 per cent of the females. Ninety-five per cent of the males and 78 per cent of the fe-males said that some women are more attractive than others due to breasts. All the males and 98 per cent of the females felt clothing designs can enhance breast attractivity. Breast size affects attrac-tivity to 86 per cent of the males and 72 per cent of the fe-males. Likewise, breast shape affects attractivity to 94 per cent of the males and 90 per cent of the females. Breast po per sition and proportion to body affects attractivity to nearly (Position: M—96%, F—96%; Pro-portion: M—96%, F—92%).

Attractiveness, or sex-symbol of breasts was accepted as a reason for breast-petting.

✓The curiosity of differing anatomy. Males and females differ in anatomy and anatomy differs from female to fe-male. Curiosity about a woman's anatomy was a hypothesis supported by the study and is given as a reason for breastpetting activity. Sixty-four per cent of the males reported that differences in anatomy increased their interest in breast-petting.

✓ Sign of sexual ability (Mo-therhood). It was hypothesized that breasts could represent sexual ability or capability

of motherhood to the male.

This idea was rejected with 76

per cent of the men stating that

breast-petting represented no

psychological assurance that a female was sexually mature.

✓ Satisfaction of imparting pleasure. It was believed that

breast-petting is a popular

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activity due to the male's ato impart pleasure bility upon the female. Evidence shows this to be true. 94 per cent of the males said that they derived satisfaction through their ability to impart pleasure to their partner by breast-petting. 86 per cent of the females reported a simi-lar fealing lar feeling.

✓ Warmth-security-compassion drama. The breast region is associated with warmth and security in mother-infant relations. It was hypothesized that warmth and security of childhood could be carried over into adulthood with respect to a woman's breasts. When asked if breast-petting represented warmth, security or companionship to males, 62 per cent said yes. 60 per cent of the females agreed.

Ninety-four per cent of the males said they had rested their head upon their part-ner's breasts and an equal number of females said that their partner had done this. 68 per cent of the men said they re-ceived psychological or men-tal fulfillment or a sense of security from this act. 84 per cent of the females perceived that their partners received psychological ful-fillment and security. 81 per cent of the females reported feeling fulfilled and se-cure from the act of having a male rest his head on their chest. This hypothesis was supported.

✓Sexual foreplay. It was hypo-thesized that breast-petting occurs simply for the reason of sexual foreplay. Men reported (80 per cent) that breast-petting increases their ability to achieve sexual sat-isfaction. 76 per cent of the girls reported likewise.

✓ Nature-nutrition paradox. Breast-petting may be due to an unconscious wish to revert to childhood, a time when nourishment is derived from breasts. In term of personal-ity theorist Sigmund Freud, an oral fixation may cause a person to engage in breastpetting

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do so. Only 17 per cent of the girls will allow petting under this condition.

Why do college-aged men and women engage in so much breast-petting activity and why does such an overwhelming majority report enjoying the touchy subject? Seven hypothesis were advanced

to deal with this question. Six of the hypothesis appear to be true while only one was reject

✓ Breast attractivity: Sex Symbol of Society. In Ameri-ca and Europe, the woman's breasts have become a symbol of sexuality. Clothing designs have been patterned to make the

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