



Here we are again, folks, back on the college scene for another episode of "The Dating Game," brought to you by your local love-lorn *At Ease* hosts. This week, in honor of Valentine's Day, we are making a special guest appearance at Texas A&M University, asking Aggies their opinions on dating.

In order to find a wide variety of people to play our game, we visited the Sterling C. Evans Library, the Memorial Student Center, Rudder Tower and several of the dorms on campus.

Let's get the ball rolling with our first topic: Who is asking who out?

We asked ten female members of our studio audience whether they had ever asked a guy out. Of the ten, only two had not taken the initiative and made the first move. Those gals who had asked guys out said they saw nothing wrong with starting things off.

"By asking a guy out, I'm just showing him that I'm interested," said one student. "Guys ask girls out — I don't see why they can and we shouldn't."

Yet all of the gals felt that it is not as acceptable for gals to do the asking as it is for guys. They said that the double standard is a reflection of the way most people are brought up, rather than the way women want things

uncomfortable with that at all."

Of the ten females from our studio audience, not one of them said she minded paying when she did the asking, and eight out of ten said they didn't mind paying some of the time or going dutch when the guy did the asking.

Fayee Durham, a sophomore psychology major, said that she and her boyfriend either take turns paying or go dutch. But she added that he payed for everything at first.

The guys who were interviewed agreed with this system for the most part. A whopping 9 out of 10 guys said they pay 100 percent at the beginning of any relationship. Once a relationship has been going for a certain amount of time, most feel that sharing the financial responsibilities is acceptable.

"Everyone has outgrown the standards which say that the guy has to pay all the time," said Randy Keith, a sophomore marketing major. "This is the '80s. Girls should be able to pay if they want to."

The typical rule of thumb followed by couples is whoever has the more disposable income does the paying.

But as far as the casual, guy-ask-gal-for-the-first-date dating goes, it remains standard for the guy to pay. In fact, most gals think if the guy doesn't pay for the first date, that is

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to be. They said that it's simply hard to break an old habit.

Ten male members of the audience were asked the flip side that question. When asked if they had ever been asked out by a gal, the response was not overwhelming, with only six out of ten guys answering yes.

Roughly half said they felt funny going out with a gal when she did the asking, except if the date was a dorm or sorority function, while the rest said they don't mind at all being asked out by gals.

"I find it very flattering to be asked out by a girl," said Tim Washer, a sophomore business major. "It's nice for a change."

Gals asking guys out on dates brings up the second category of today's survey: Who pays?

"If I ask a guy out, I make it understood that I'm paying," said a female freshman bioengineering major. "I don't feel

grounds for dismissal.

Mel Wylie, a senior applied mathematics major, related an experience which reflects the feelings of many gals who have to pay for a first date: "I went out with a guy (no names mentioned, but Rob for short) and on our first date, he said he had to cash a check because he didn't have enough money. Half-seriously, I said I could pay until he got cash. I couldn't believe it! He took me up on my offer and I ended up paying for the movie!"

The matter of a gal having to pay for the first date introduces our next subject of the day: Dating pet peeves.

In this section, our players have chosen to remain anonymous since they don't want their comments in this publication to influence their dating futures at A&M.

Our first contribution comes from a gal who has been on a fair share of dates, many set up through mutual friends. She said her

