

Sex & Love

EUGENEANS WEIGH IN ON THEIR OWN LOVE LIVES

BY CAROLINA REID AND KEVIN SULLIVAN

Emily Aguilera, 26, single



What is the best part about being single?
Not having to answer to anybody but yourself.

What is the worst part about being single?
Nobody to split dinner with, half and half. Share portions, get that variety when you go out to eat; you're stuck to that one dish.

Have you ever been cheated on?
Not to my knowledge.

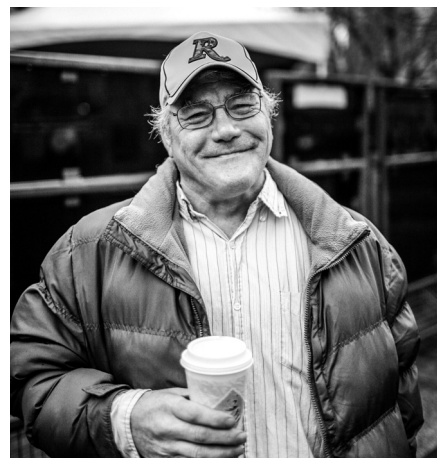
Have you ever cheated on someone?
Once. It was with one of my coworkers, and he lived in the same apartment complex as me. And I felt so bad. I ended up admitting it right after to my boyfriend, and we tried to make it work after that. But it didn't, so we broke up. But we dated for another year and have been best friends since then.

What is one of your most memorable Valentine's Days?

It was actually last Valentine's Day. It was my first Valentine's Day being single. I got to just play tennis with my closest friends, go to school, go sit in a park and hang out during our breaks. It was beautiful; there was no expectation for that day.

Have you ever walked in on someone?
Besides my parents ...

Michael Berge, 53, currently separated



What's the best part about being separated?
That's a hard one. Probably a little more freedom to find companionship.

What's the worst part about being separated?

Probably not being around her all the time.
What is one of your most memorable Valentine's Days?

Probably about three years ago, on the beach around the fire with a girlfriend.

Have you ever walked in on someone?
Nope.

Have you ever been walked in on?

Yep. It didn't go very well — it kind of ruined the moment.

Do you know what polyamory is?

No.

Can you take a guess?

Probably multiple partners?

Mel McDougle (with his son, Michael McDougle, 39), lonely



What's the best part about being alone?

Well, being lonely isn't all it's cracked up to be, like old age.

What is one of your most memorable Valentine's Days?

Probably before my wife died, we had a church Valentine's supper and they served some lousy spaghetti and charged ten bucks a plate. But I remember it well because it was colorful and my wife was with me — lots of people I love were there.

Have you ever walked in on someone?

Nope. But I'm about as loose as a homophobic bastard can get. I've always been a person that if I thought it was necessary, I did it. I got five children. Obviously I was busy.

Have you ever been walked in on?

I don't think anybody's ever walked in on me having sex. I'm a cautious fellow.

I always locked the door. I always liked privacy. I'm kind of a private fellow. I'm kind of old-fashioned that way.

Do you have plans this Valentine's Day?

Absolutely not. Without a girlfriend, Valentine's Day is better put off until Easter. It's a cold month. If I had me a [insert inappropriate ethnic term here], maybe things would be different.

Do you know what polyamory is?

That has something to do with the Greek word poly, and it isn't plastic, like polymer. I think it has to do with a group activity — group sex? Am I close?

Tiffany Trinidad, 32, married for 14 years



What's the best part about being married?

How do I put it? Not comfortable, but — you know, the security.

What's the worst part about being married?

Well, we get along pretty well but I guess disagreeing on stuff, on parenting. Usually I win.

Have you ever been cheated on?

Oh yeah. One time. We worked through it.

What is one of your most memorable Valentine's Days?

I think the one when we got together, because when we first got together it was on Valentine's Day in 1997. I don't remember what we did — I know he got me flowers, but I don't remember. We hung out.

Do you have plans this Valentine's Day?

I told him I want to go out. We haven't done that in a long time. Just getting out of the

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