

LOVE & SEX 2018

OkCupid's 2009 report showed that although black women respond the most to messages sent to them ("In many cases, their response rate is one and a half times the average, and overall, black women reply about a quarter more often than other women"), they receive the least responses when they're the ones to initiate the conversation. They're responded to an average of 34.3 percent of the time, versus an average of 42 percent for women as a whole.

The site also has a feature similar to Tinder in which users swipe profiles right if they're interested and left if they're not. In its 2014 report, OkCupid released data from such a swiping system that showed Asian men were 20 percent less likely to swipe right on a black woman, Latino men were 18 percent less likely, white men 17 percent less likely and black men only 1 percent *more* likely to swipe right on a black woman than any other race.

"82 percent of non-black men on OkCupid show some bias against black women," the study says.

This data was specifically for heterosexual users, but OKCupid's 2014 study also displayed data for users searching out same-sex relationships, and the data was similar for black women there.

Snow has looked for both men and women on dating apps, and says women tend not to show interest in her.

"It's hard to pinpoint, because maybe they just don't find me attractive, but it's been really hard to find women to date here, too, and it's hard to not think that race has something to do with it," she says.

This type of treatment is not limited to women. Men of color and gender non-binary people of color also face racism when looking for love online.

Kainoa Pilai is a 24-year-old gender non-binary trans person who uses they/them pronouns. They've been using dating apps for about six years.

They say their staple app has been Grindr, roughly the equivalent app to Tinder for gay, bi, trans and queer people. "It's pretty much geared for anyone who's not straight," Pilai says.

Pilai is now in a non-monogamous relationship with their current partner, and is still using Grindr "every now and then." When they used the app more frequently, they say, racist messages were a regular occurrence.

"At least weekly I'd run into racist nonsense, be it on the fetishization end or on the more violent, antagonizing end."

They continue: "I'll either have people just flat-out tell me, 'I don't like black people' or, like, 'Sorry you're not my type,' which most of the time is code for the same thing — especially in Oregon."

Grindr is especially infamous for some of its users' very blunt racial preferences. Pilai says they regularly stumble across profiles that include statements like: "No [insert race here]."

"I just don't message them, obviously," they say of the racially discriminatory profiles. "But, I'll keep my eye on them," Pilai adds. "These aren't just cute preferences; this is actively harmful shit."

Living in an area that touts itself as being progressive and accepting of diversity, this ignorance towards race in the realm of online dating is especially disappointing.

"Specifically here it's like, honestly at this point it's defeating. It just feels like a blow after blow after blow of people telling you that you're not good enough just because you're not white," Pilai says. "That's honestly what it boils down to when people tell you these coded messages that boil down to, 'Don't talk to me if you're black.'"

Although people with racist tendencies on online dating sites may seem like a niche category of the nation's population, this isn't just about a problem finding a date. The racism faced online by people of color is a microcosm of larger issues of beauty and worthiness in our society.

"It's really important for people to acknowledge that these dating preferences are rooted in what's called Eurocentric beauty standards which are a widespread, arbitrary set of beauty standards projected by media that we consume," Pilai says, "and it shows that whiteness is most beautiful and white features are beautiful."

Think about the models we regularly see on billboards or America's A-list celebs — a majority of them, even if they're not white, have Eurocentric features: slim noses, silky hair. I'm saying majority here, because obviously we have A-listers with darker skin tones and "kinky" natural hair that don't fit in to this mold, like Lupita Nyong'o.

But you don't see Hollywood overrun with women who look like Nyong'o. You do, however, see multiple women who look like, say, Nicole Kidman, Scarlett Johansson or Charlize Theron.

These beauty standards come out in dating apps like Tinder, where you make a split-second decision of whether you want to swipe someone right or left based on their photos. But they also come up in the more platonic interactions of our everyday lives when we meet someone for the first time — in job interviews, at work interacting with customers, when trying to rent an apartment or AirBnB.

The way you're perceived changes the way you're treated — online or off.

Is this person presentable? Are they professional looking? Are they worth spending my time on? All these questions are subconsciously answered in a split-second based on appearance.

These are all things that are constantly on my mind as someone who is not white.

All I know is: I'm very happy I'm not single.

that's kool u like
deftones, btw I love
black chicks

Today - 10:52 AM

What do you like about
black chicks specifically?

Today - 3:32PM

Their skin tone, hair,
eyes, and I don't
want to sound
gross or generalize,
but I admire how
they have nice
booties. I am def a
deftones fan. I think
it's interesting you
did not put hip hop
or rap in your list of
preferred music.

YOU MATCHED WITH THIS GUY ON 7/4/17

Hola :)

Jul 4, 2017, 5:45 PM

Hey :)

Jul 5, 2017, 11:07 AM

You are fucking
beautiful hahaha
first thing that came
to mind was African
queen

YOU MATCHED WITH BRO69 ON 11/19/17

Just have to say
the way your hair
reminds me of Hey
Arnold, but it's a
good look

That's definitely not
a compliment but
ok lol

Sent

I seriously didn't
mean to offend you
you're actually
pretty scrumptious

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**2018 OSCAR-NOMINATED
DOCUMENTARY SHORTS**
PROGRAM A
FRI-THU 11:00 3:30 7:40
PROGRAM B
FRI-WED 1:10 5:40 9:45
THU 1:10 9:45
JANE
FRI 11:00 4:40
SAT 3:00 4:40
SUN-THU 11:00 3:00 4:40
CALL ME BY YOUR NAME
ADVANCE TICKETS RECOMMENDED
DAILY 11:00 1:50 5:00 6:50 9:30
I, TONYA
ADVANCE TICKETS RECOMMENDED
FRI-SAT 7:30 9:50
SUN-WED 1:00 7:30 9:50
THU 1:00 9:50
THE SHAPE OF WATER
ADVANCE TICKETS RECOMMENDED
DAILY 11:00 1:40 4:20 7:00 9:30
METROARTS
PREMIUM EVENT ADMISSION
THE ROYAL OPERA: RIGOLETTO
SAT 11:00
THU 7:00
COMING SOON
HAPPY END FOX TROT
BOMBHELL: THE HEDY LAMARR STORY
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**2018 OSCAR NOMINATED SHORTS -
ANIMATION**
12:00, 4:15, 8:30
**2018 OSCAR NOMINATED SHORTS -
LIVE ACTION**
2:00, 6:15
**THREE BILLBOARDS OUTSIDE
EBBING, MISSOURI (R)**
Nominated for 7 Oscars, including Best Picture
12:30, 5:30
LADY BIRD (R)
Nominated for 5 Oscars, including Best Picture
3:00, 8:00
Forbidden Fruit presents
THE ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW (R)
(with live shadowcast)
Friday & Saturday 11:00 pm
Tickets: \$10 Advance/\$12 Door
Local beer, wine and cider... & now kombucha on tap!
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**WONDER**
3:00*
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**GET OUT**
3:10*
(4 OSCAR NOMINATIONS)

**FLORIDA
PROJECT**
5:00
(OSCAR NOMINATED)

**DUNKIRK**
5:10
(8 OSCAR NOMINATIONS)

**GET OUT**
6:55
(4 OSCAR NOMINATIONS)

**THREE
BILLBOARDS
OUTSIDE EBB-
ING, MISSOURI**
7:00
(6 OSCAR NOMINATIONS)

**BLADE RUNNER**
8:45
(OSCAR NOMINATED)

**THE DISASTER
ARTIST**
9:05
(OSCAR NOMINATED)

***\$5 MATINEE SATURDAY & SUNDAY ONLY**