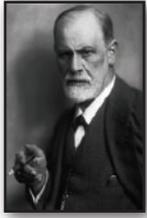




# Women: A Language Men Will Never Understand



*"The great question that has never been answered, and which I have not yet been able to answer despite my thirty years of research into the feminine soul, is: What does a woman want?"*

**Sigmund Freud**

Having grown up with sisters, I have been observing the opposite sex for my entire life, and yet I in no way understand them. I decided to research this subject a little further, so I asked my Women of Distinction candidates what it is that they would most want from their man. They answered: love, respect, quality time, honesty, effective communication, humor, gratitude, praise, care and consideration, earnest listening, eye contact, excitement, fun, and physical affection.

*"A woman marries a man expecting he will change, but he doesn't. A man marries a woman expecting that she won't change, and she does."*

**Anonymous**

## Quality Time

One of the most universal things women want is quality time with their spouse. Most women in happy relationships have a half hour of uninterrupted time with their spouse each day. In this difficult economy, I've found that the stress levels on both the husband and wife leads to difficult times together just trying to make ends meet. It is important to have quality time daily—not to discuss money or work or the kids, just time to wind down and enjoy each other. We should try to have at least two date nights each month, to do nothing but enjoy the other's company and enrich our relationship.

## Gratitude and Consideration

Women work extremely hard every day, but tend to be much underappreciated. Women want to be appreciated for all they do. My wife was caring for her mother for two weeks last month and I had to do all the cooking, cleaning, and laundry. I realized how much she does as a wife,

mother, daughter, and associate editor of our magazine. She is quite a hard worker and an amazing woman. A simple thank you for their dedication and hard work would be much appreciated, I'm sure.

## Earnest Listening

Women want men to understand them. It's also important for women to help men understand how to listen. Men often don't have a clue they're being poor listeners. More often than not, men are sitting there thinking, "When is this going to end?" Whereas the woman asks, "Why can't you just listen to me? I don't want your advice; I just want you to listen!" When women talk about something that is troubling them, they are often looking for communication that expresses empathy and connection. But, our society teaches men to use communication instrumentally, so they tend to offer advice. Thus, women sometimes interpret men's advice as not listening, but men think they are helping to fix the problem by offering solutions.



*"To be happy with a man you must understand him a lot and love him a little. To be happy with a woman you must love her a lot and not try to understand her at all."*

**Helen Rowland**

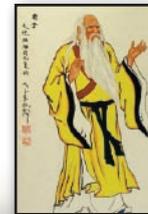
## Love, Excitement, Fun

Once the first child is born everything changes. Responsibility sets in and all the factors like jobs, mortgages, and household expenses can add to relationship anxiety. We have to set aside time free from

discussion of the stresses of life. There is a time to discuss work, money, and planning for the future, but it's not all the time. When both the husband and wife are in business together it is so easy for the focus of every conversation to be the business. Quality time is even more crucial in these relationships. Take time to relax and enjoy the fruits of your labor. Plan weekend getaways, surprise each other with fun nights, remove the tension and strain of work, and give each other time to rekindle the love and excitement that made the courtship fun.

There is a classic complaint in life: men accuse women of being too emotional and women accuse men of being aloof and not emotionally involved in the relationship. Each thinks the other could change—if they really wanted to. But there is a reason for this. Men and women are built differently. Our emotional and physical makeup and our upbringing determine how we will treat our mate.

Although women are from Venus and men are from Mars, we need each other to be complete. Once we have found that love of our life, nothing is more important than to secure it and try to understand the other's language of love and what it is that will bring us joy and happiness together.



*"To love someone deeply gives you strength. Being loved by someone deeply gives you courage."*

**Lao Tzu**

