

Dating Scene Trends and Views

Serbian transcript:

Генералног мишљења о томе, односно неки генерални закључак о томе како изгледа дејтинг сцена... Тешко да може да се изведе један. Оно што је дефинитивно, а то је да смо ми врло либерални у погледу тога кад се почиње са изласцима, кад се почиње са сексом, колико партнера је океј имати пре брака или уопште у животу, чак је и... Мислим, чак и геј сцена је код нас, мислим, врло отворено се показују и мушки и женски, а, како да кажем, особе те оријентације, тако да... Неке су опет статистике, рецимо: са тринаест година већ двадесетак посто девојака чак имају први сексуални однос. Са петнаест је тај проценат рецимо 30, до осамнаесте већ је 70-80 посто. Дакле, јако рано се креће, и све раније и раније се креће са сексуалним односима.

Број партнера потпуно... Дакле, чак ми се чини да можда је из тог неког, из те неке потребе да се... Ипак је Србија патријархална земља. Ми смо јако дуго неговали те неке традиционалне вредности и тако даље, а и [...] Чини ми се као да је одједном почео тај неки тренд надокнађивања тога, доказивања како смо ми сад постали савремени у том погледу. У сваком случају, јако је постало тренди и имање више партнера истовремено и опет кажем, ран улазак у целу ту причу, тако да сада по том питању онако стојимо раме уз раме са најмодернијим европским моделом дејтинга.

Наравно, сад кажем опет индивидуални су случајеви да отац не дозвољава на пример кћерки да доведе момка. Таквих случајева свуда има, просто. Мислим, за нас је негде Холандија као синоним за земљу у којој су питања партнерских односа најлибералнија, верујем да ће се и тамо наћи један отац који ће својој кћерки да забрани; али генерално нема никаквих ограничења ни по питању довођења партнера у кућу, ни по питању тога где се врши размена нежности [...] Сви могући, да кажем, облици испољавања љубави, размене нежности нису табу.

English translation:

A common opinion or general consensus on what the dating scene is like... is hard to come up with. What is definitely true is that we are very liberal on when one should start going out or start having sex and how many partners one should have before marriage or in general; even the... I mean, even the gay¹ scene here... both men and women openly show [their preferences]; that is, how should I put this – people of that orientation, so...

¹ The term *gej* (trans. “gay”) is commonly used as an umbrella term for the entire LGBT population throughout the former Yugoslavia. However, with the growth in awareness, the term *LGBTQ populacija* (“LGBTQ population”) is becoming more common.

Some statistics say that, for example, about 20 percent of people – girls as well – have had their first sexual encounter at the age of 13. That number at 15 [years of age] is at about 30 [percent], and at 18 it's already up to 70-80 percent. So, people have their first [sexual] experience very early on in life, and they are starting to have sex sooner and sooner.

The number of partners is completely... So, I even think that this is because there's a need to... [pause] Serbia is a patriarchal country after all. We have upheld these traditional values for a long time, and... [tape break] It seems to me that all of a sudden there is this trend of making up for this, while also trying to prove that we've become a more modern society. In any case, it's now very cool to date more than one person at the same time and, like I said, to enter this whole thing early on, so in that respect we're on par with the current European model of dating.

Of course, like I said, there are individual cases in which a father doesn't allow his daughter to bring her boyfriend home with her. These cases generally exist everywhere. I mean, Netherlands is here [in Serbia] synonymous with an extremely liberal country in terms of partners and relationships, but I still believe that even [in the Netherlands] there might be a father who'll sanction his daughter's actions. Generally speaking there are no limitations, both when it comes to taking someone home and places where people display their affection² [tape break]. Also, there are taboo ways to show affection, to put it that way.

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² The speaker here refers to public places, insinuating that public displays of affection are common and not frowned upon in Serbian society.