

# ...ns of the super studs ★★★

The following excerpts are from a book-size text on dating practices written by D.F. Miller, published by the Importer of Fathers of Liguori, Missouri 1957. This warehouse of moral ethics for five cents and is one of those rare books that makes life worth getting out and for.

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men to keep their hands chaste and the difficulty of the tendency of powers and for another. Original sin. It is the evil of the world. Modern world is the worst of the men regard to even urge "inhibitions" of young men the voice of free to give by they wish. Arguments of n, such as magazines advertise- cite young lawful sex tremendous do not have to resist.

Nevertheless it cannot completely snuff out any individual's instinctive respect for the virtue of purity. And a little thought and meditation on what chastity is, and on how and why it should be practiced on dates, will help many young men to preserve themselves and their girl friends from evil habits that might otherwise destroy their characters, their happiness, and souls.

The rules that young men should observe on their dates with girl friends are here put in the form of frank directives that anybody can understand. It is hoped that they will both clear up confusion about what is right and wrong on dates, and strengthen the motivation of those who want to obey God's laws, shield their girl friends from sin, and prepare in the best possible way for a happy marriage. It is assumed, of course, that the dates spoken of are lawful dates. This means that they are dates of men who are free to marry with girls or women who are also free to marry. Regular dating on the part of married or divorced men, or with married or divorced women, is wrong in itself, apart from any other rules to be laid down.



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of marriage, and they contribute to growth of character in both boy or girl. The important thing, however, is that you have planned something definite to do each time you go on a date with your girl.

4.

You must, on principle, avoid certain practices on your dates that are nothing short of a strong invitation to sin.

The following practices are exceedingly dangerous and foolishly imprudent for any young man who wants to keep himself and girl friend pure:

1] Making a drinking party out of a date. If you spend most of an evening with your girl friend in a tavern or at a cocktail bar, imbibing alcoholic beverages, you will almost invariably find that your ideal of purity will begin to dissolve into strong temptations to sensuality. It won't seem nearly so bad to you then to seek occasions for sinful actions as it does when your mind is completely clear.

2. Driving your girl friend to a lonely, secluded spot where, you say to her and yourself, you "just want to sit and talk." Set it down as a fundamental principle that darkness and solitude are dangerous on your dates, and avoid them. If you really want to sit and talk, there are many places to go where there will be little danger. Go to a city park or a public beach where

there are lights, other people around, and interesting things to watch. You can talk there without being overheard by others, but without accompanying dangers.

3. Attending dances in dimly-lit halls or back rooms of taverns, where any kind of dancing is tolerated. If you go to places where other couples are indulging in the wrong kind of dancing, you have only yourself to blame if you find that their example fires your own evil desires.

4. Renting a cabin or going to a summer cottage alone with your girl friend. Even if you happened to be one in a hundred who could do such a thing without falling into sin, almost anybody who knew you had done it would assume that you had fallen into sin. That shows how common is the conviction that such dating is a serious occasion of sin. For beach and swimming and summer-outing parties with your girl friend, you will find that there is safety only in numbers. Go with a crowd, or at least with another high-principled couple.

5. Going to your girl friend's apartment, or permitting her to come to yours, for a date. Or concluding an evening date by going into your girl friend's home, or bringing her into yours, at a late hour when there is nobody around. Too often this is done for the express purpose of sin. But even when that purpose is denied, it is

almost sure way of finding yourself tempted gravely. A date with your girl friend even after you have become engaged, should end at her door when you bring her home. Don't let the evil example of hundreds induce you to break this rule.

5.

You need to be prepared for occasions when a girl friend whom you happen to be dating will expect or suggest sinful familiarities.

It is sad that this must be so much as mentioned. Yet such is the corruption that has eaten into modern society that you may at times find yourself on a date with a girl who brashly invites petting and familiarity.

There are two things you should be prepared to do in such a case. The first is to use the occasion to explain simply and clearly your ideas and ideals of purity. Don't be ashamed to do so, like so many young men who, by a kind of perversion of their very nature, think it shameful not to be sinful. If the girl has any decency at all left in her character, she will be deeply moved by the expression of your ideals.

The second thing to do is make up your mind on the spot that this is the last time you will date this girl, unless it becomes absolutely clear that she agrees with and accepts your own ideals. Don't take the slightest chance of ever becoming tied to a girl who shows evidence of promiscuity

6.

You need to understand the rules of both propriety and morality in respect to kissing on dates.

Kissing can be one of two things. It can be a sacred sign of affection, a fond way of greeting or saying goodbye to someone who is greatly loved. As such it belongs by propriety to the more intimate and secure relationships of human life. Parents and children, brother, and sisters, relatives, friends of long standing, properly make use of the kiss as a sacred symbol of affection on meeting or parting. The kiss of charity and peace is even found in the liturgical services of the true religion.

Despite all publicity and example to the contrary, do not think that even this kind of kiss should be a part of every date you have with a girl. After you have known a girl for some time, when you both have a feeling that some day you will belong to each other, the kiss as a sign of affection, of greeting and farewell, would not be improper. But don't cheapen this sacred symbol by demanding or asking it of any girl whom you happen to date.

Kissing can also be a source of sin. It can be taken out of the realm of pure and decent affection and extended into a violent incentive to passion. This is done when it is prolonged unreasonably; accompanied by provocative and enduring bodily contact; corrupted entirely by directly immodest actions. Such kissing is sinful, and you would not be guiltless merely because you said about it: "I only wanted to show my affection." You wanted something more and you know it.

