

your own values. For instance, if religious beliefs or personal preferences prevent you from eating certain foods or from drinking alcoholic beverages, you should not be embarrassed to explain this to your host or hostess.

In Canada, relations between the sexes are quite informal. This freedom may sometimes be misinterpreted. For instance, if a man and woman share a seat on a train or bus, they may talk to each other but this should not be taken to indicate that either wishes to continue the chance acquaintance. Similarly, on campus, when men and women invite each other to join in various social activities, it need not imply sustained interest.

Most Canadians believe in equality between the sexes, but forms of courtesy in this country have traditionally given women preference. A woman goes through a door before the man who is escorting her. When a man and woman walk together, the man walks on the side nearer the street. A man usually rises when a woman enters a room, and takes off his hat when greeting women.

Further information about life in Canada and at a Canadian university can be obtained from individual universities and campus organizations.

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