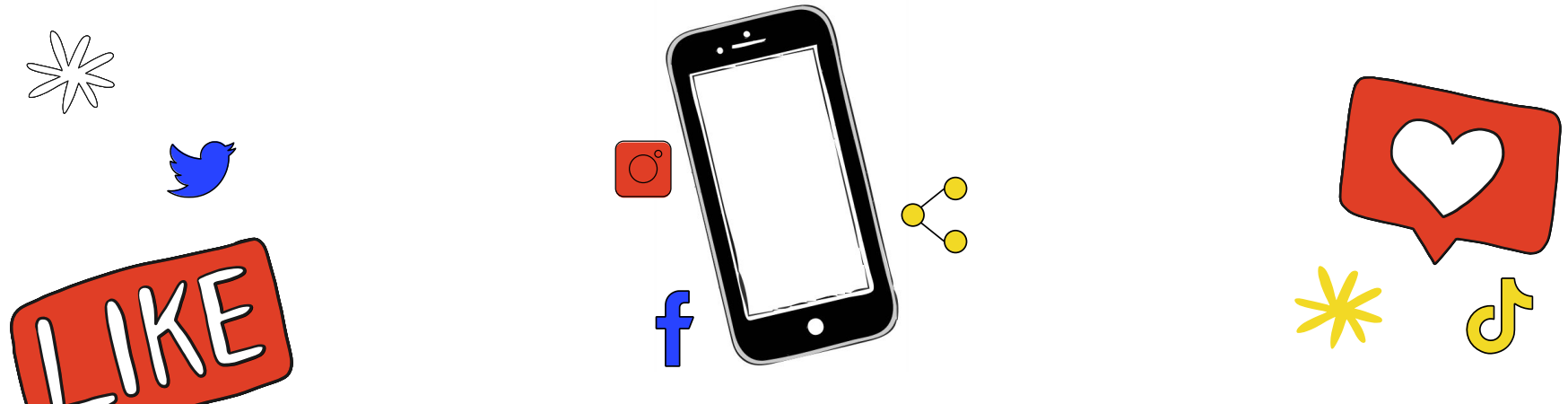
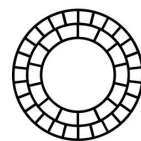




The “Talking” Stage

Mediated Communication and Romantic Relationships





VSCO



No, we're just....

[a "thing"]

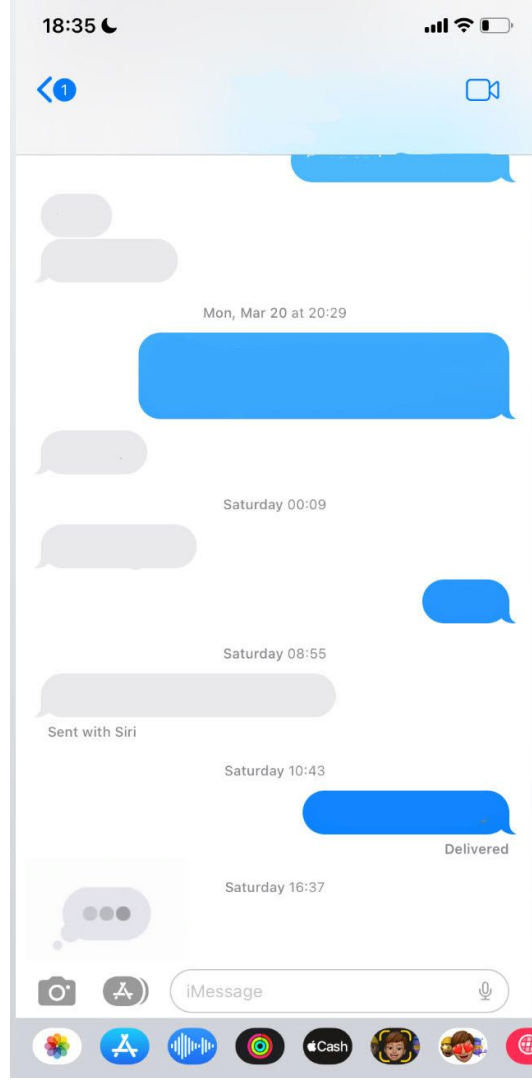
TALKING.

[crushing]

[a situationship]

[friends]

[dating?]



The “Talking” Stage

In this presentation we will: define and create awareness of the “talking” stage in relation to mediated communication



Relationship Stages

- Look at Relationship Models
- Define “talking”
- Give contemporary examples



Relationship Initiation

- The Desire to Date
- Strategic Behaviors in Relationship Initiation
- Social Networking Sites and Relationships

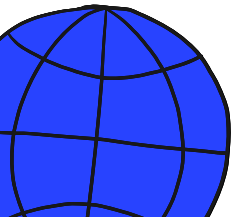
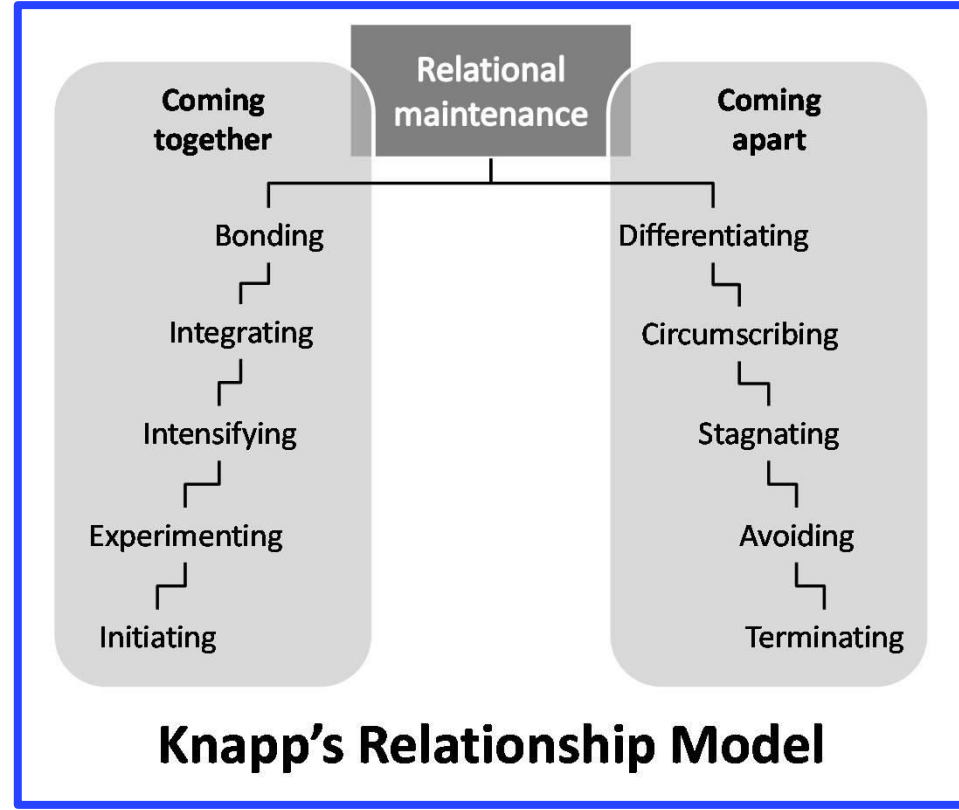


Relationship Investigation

- Relational Uncertainty
- Signs of “talking”
- Destiny beliefs

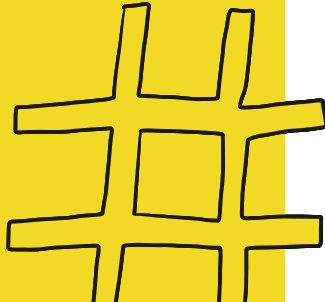


Relationship Stages



Relationships

The role of Facebook in romantic relationship development: An exploration of Knapp's relational stage model



Social Media and Stages

“Intensifying” and “integrating” stages had different components in an online setting

Fox et al. (2013)



Relationship Status

- Going “Facebook official”
- Soft launch/Hard launch



Emerging Adulthood Relationships

Confident in future plans = greater chance for a committed relationship
Shulman & Connolly (2013)

“Talking”

- Talking is defined as a label for the relationship initiation stage focused on *self-disclosure*



Powell et al. (2021)

Qualities of talking

Study looked into three components
-Intimacy, passion, and commitment

“Just talking”

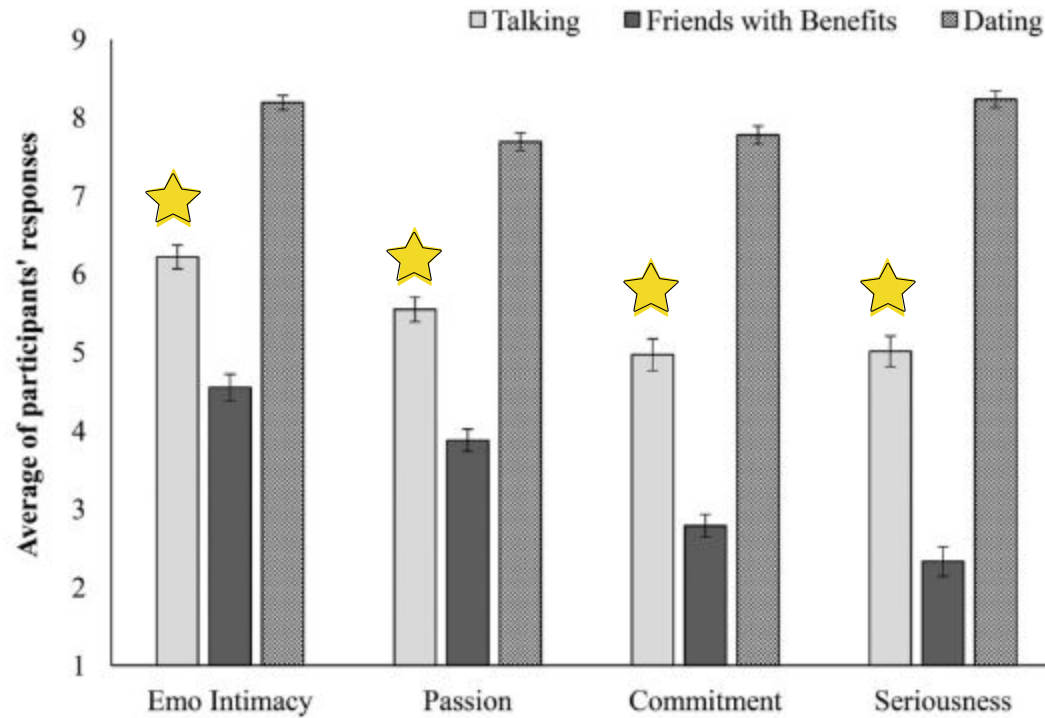
Compared to FWB, casual dating, and seriously dating
Moving away from a “hooking up” title

Findings:

When individuals are talking less deeply there are fewer physical acts
(Overall less commitment)

A new stage

This talking stage can be a new development in the relationship model



Relationship Comparison: Talking, FWB, Dating

Contemporary Examples



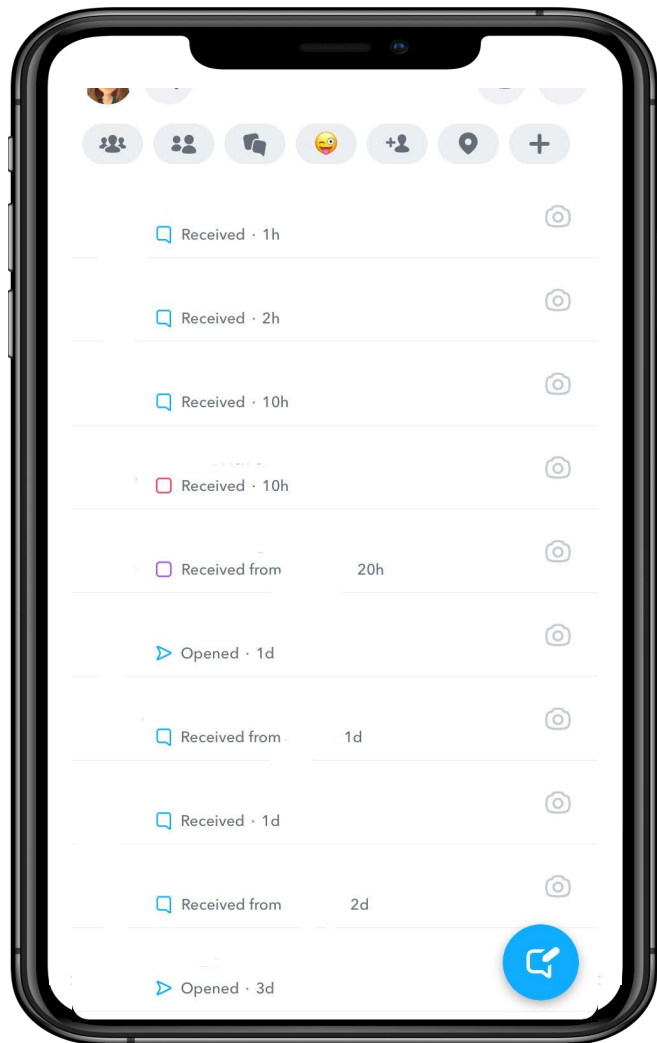
REFINERY29

VOGUE



wikiHow

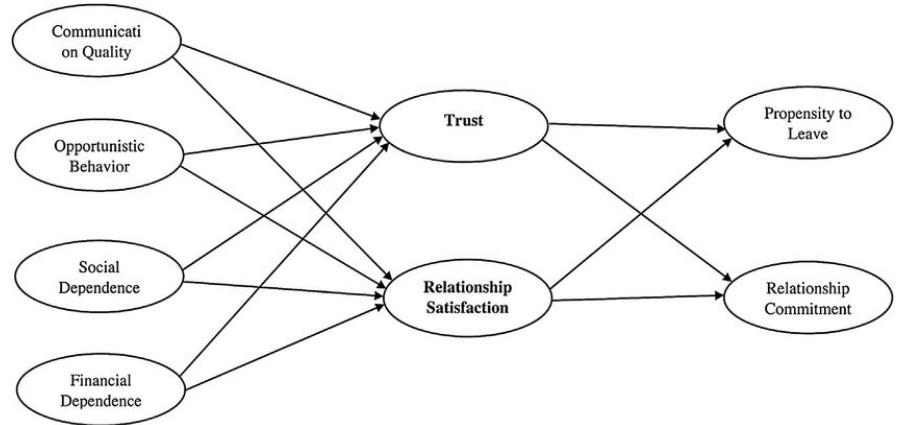




Lydia's Examples



Relationship Initiation





Why Date?

Affection Exchange Theory

- We desire the need for affection
 - Verbal affection
 - Direct Nonverbal affection
 - Indirect nonverbal affection

We want to feel wanted

Talking and dating can potentially fulfill these desires

-seeking attention and validation

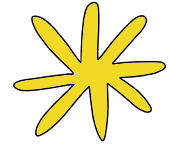


Relationship Initiation and Development

- Fundamental Interaction Skills
- Function-focused Communication Skills
- Relational Development

INITIATION:

qualifiers, clearance, opener, find integrating topic, self-presentation, and plan for second encounter



Behaviors Present

TABLE 2: Results of Paired *t* Tests Comparing the Seven Factored Strategy Ratings for the Eight Strategy Categories, Study 1

Strategy	Strategy Rating						
	Proficient	Agreeable	Potent	Open	Flirtatious	Phony/Fake	Inhibited
Emotion	13.27_a (3.33)	18.76_a (5.70)	16.61 _b (4.74)	13.53 _b (3.59)	4.61 _c (2.22)	<u>2.75_f</u> (1.98)	3.88 _d (2.08)
Direct	12.78_{ab} (3.81)	13.12 _c (6.57)	21.56_a (4.64)	15.75_a (3.26)	7.45_a (2.13)	3.35 _e (2.25)	<u>3.23_c</u> (2.48)
Indirect	11.76 _b (2.71)	16.04 _b (4.35)	14.33 _c (4.16)	11.76 _c (3.13)	6.03 _b (1.58)	4.09 _d (1.78)	4.51 _c (1.60)
Manipulate setting	11.96_{ab} (3.29)	16.68_{ab} (5.59)	15.68 _{bc} (4.72)	11.97 _{bc} (3.30)	6.36 _b (1.96)	4.47 _{cd} (2.23)	4.62 _c (1.84)
Joking	8.94 _c (4.18)	15.25 _{bc} (6.83)	12.08 _d (5.21)	7.58 _d (3.79)	5.87 _b (2.50)	5.32 _b (2.45)	4.70 _c (2.21)
Resources	<u>7.57_{cd}</u> (4.19)	<u>9.93_d</u> (6.23)	14.30 _{cd} (4.08)	8.04 _d (2.52)	4.99 _c (2.66)	6.62_a (2.23)	4.27 _{cd} (2.23)
Third party	8.53 _c (4.10)	<u>11.59_d</u> (5.72)	12.99 _c (5.13)	8.80 _d (4.35)	3.63 _d (2.24)	4.90 _{bc} (2.29)	5.57 _b (2.20)
Passive	<u>6.40_d</u> (4.28)	16.32_{abc} (6.13)	<u>8.13_e</u> (5.61)	<u>5.16_e</u> (4.03)	<u>2.55_e</u> (2.25)	3.80 _{de} (2.51)	6.47_a (2.80)

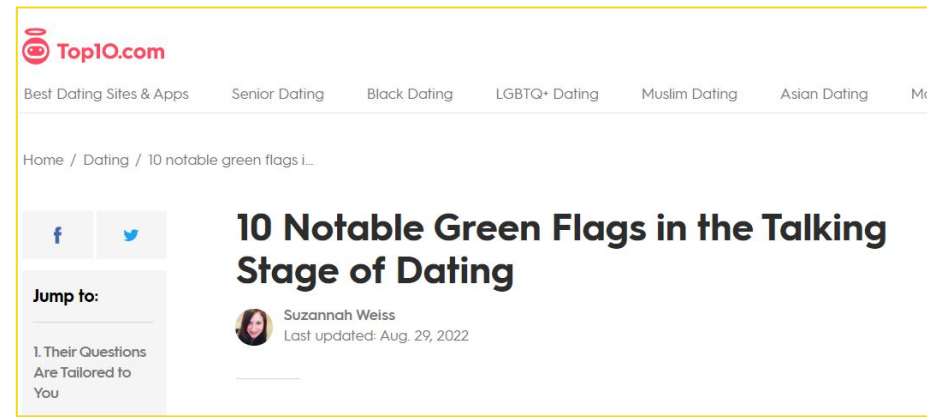
NOTE: Different subscripts within each column indicate significantly different means at $p < .0002$, two-tailed. Numbers in boldface type indicate highest scores within a column; underlined numbers indicate the lowest scores within a column. Standard deviations are shown in parentheses.

Clark et al. (1999)

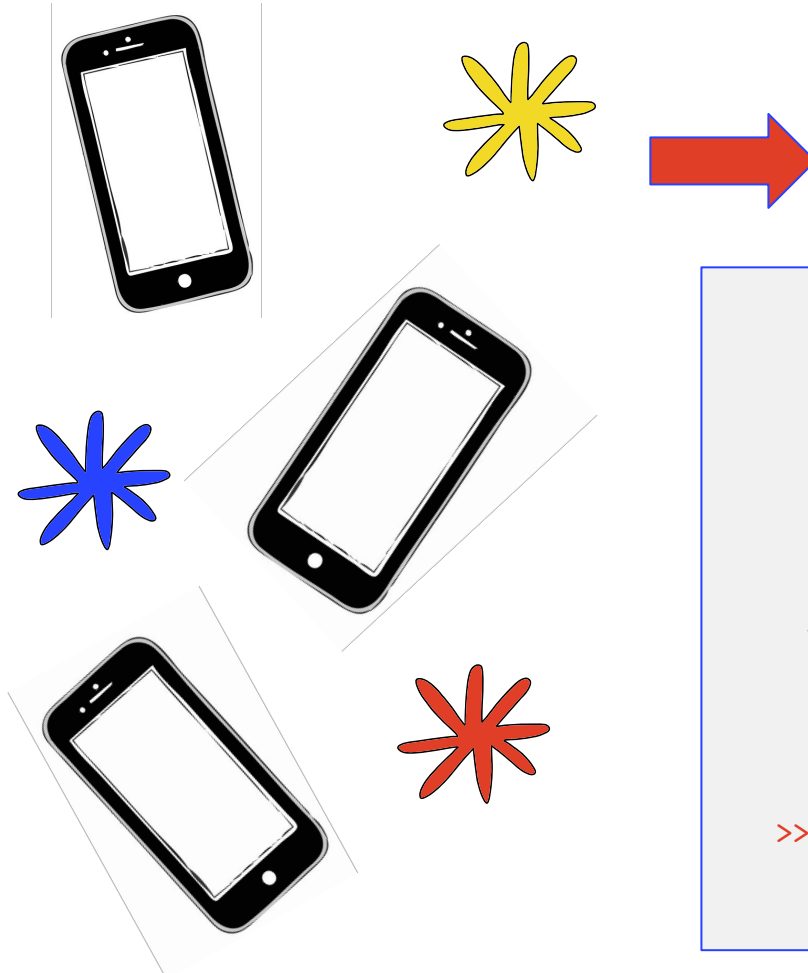
wikiHow

- Talking stage:
 - Several weeks to 2 months
- “Getting to know someone”
- It’s not meant to last forever!
- Talking
- Texting (mostly everyday)

>>>STEERING CLEAR OF DEFINING THE
RELATIONSHIP



- Their questions are tailored to you
- You never run out of these to say
- They respond in a timely manner
- They are open with you
- They are clear about what they want
- You feel comfortable opening up
- They speak positively about their family
- They speak kindly about their exes
- They’re talking about meeting up



Attachment

- Social anxiety - turning to social media
- Faster disclosure (deeper connections)

McKenna et al. (2002)

- Feeding into toxic behaviors
 - Addiction to checking in on them
 - Attachment behaviors

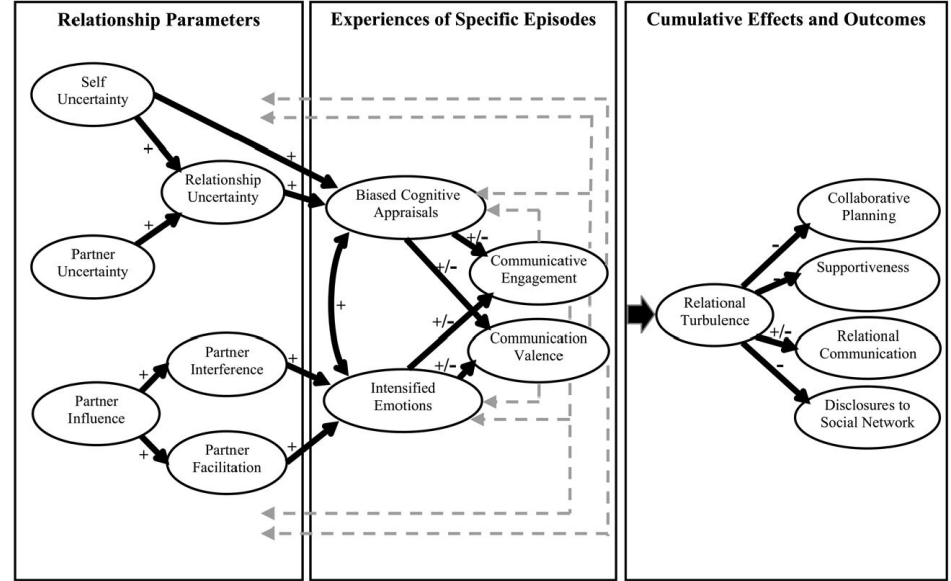
>>RELATIONSHIPS THEN

>>RELATIONSHIPS NOW

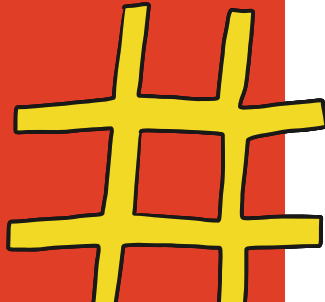


Relationship Investigation

LIKE



Relational Uncertainty



Worried and Anxious

What if my relationship doesn't work out? Is this serious? Is my partner serious?



Talking = Relationship Ambiguity

-active and passive responses
-set relationship behaviors (women more active)

Fox, & Andereg (2014)



Functionality

Maybe you **don't** want to know....

- topic avoidance is most prominent at moderate levels of intimacy

Knobloch & Carpenter-Theune (2004)

Relational Turbulence Theory

Self, Partner, Relationship Uncertainty

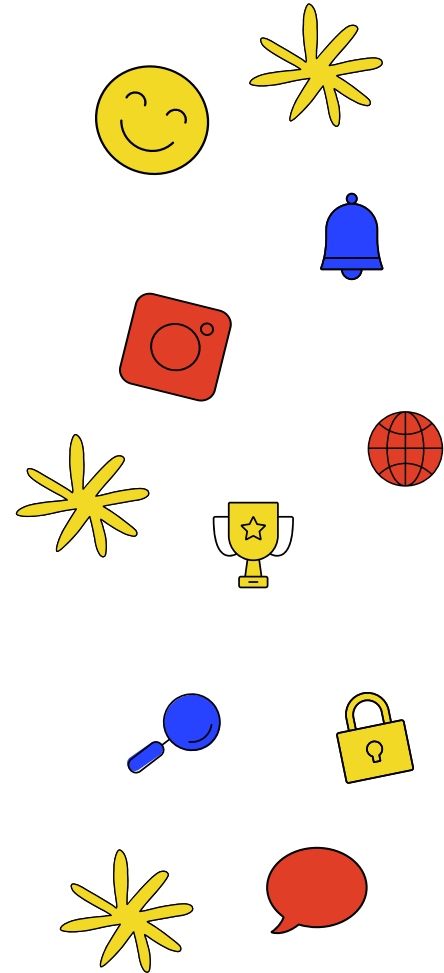
- Biased appraisals
- Intensified emotions

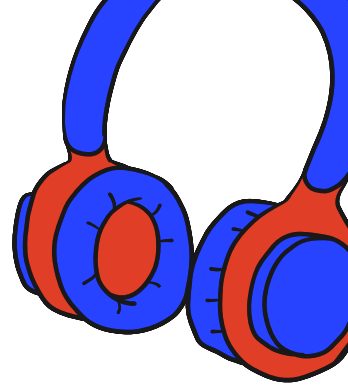
Braithwaite & Schrodt (2022)

Secret Tests

- To see if they can gain more information during periods of transition

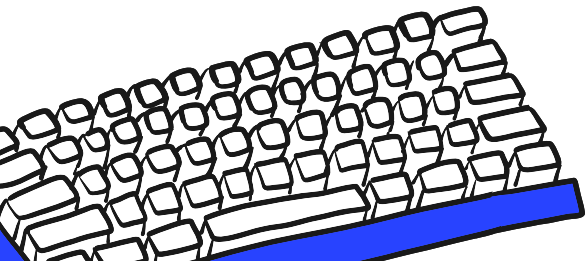
Knobloch. & Carpenter-Theune (2004)





“A relationship development perspective assumes that people make sense of a relationship differently at various points in its trajectory.”

Knobloch & Carpenter-Theune (2004)

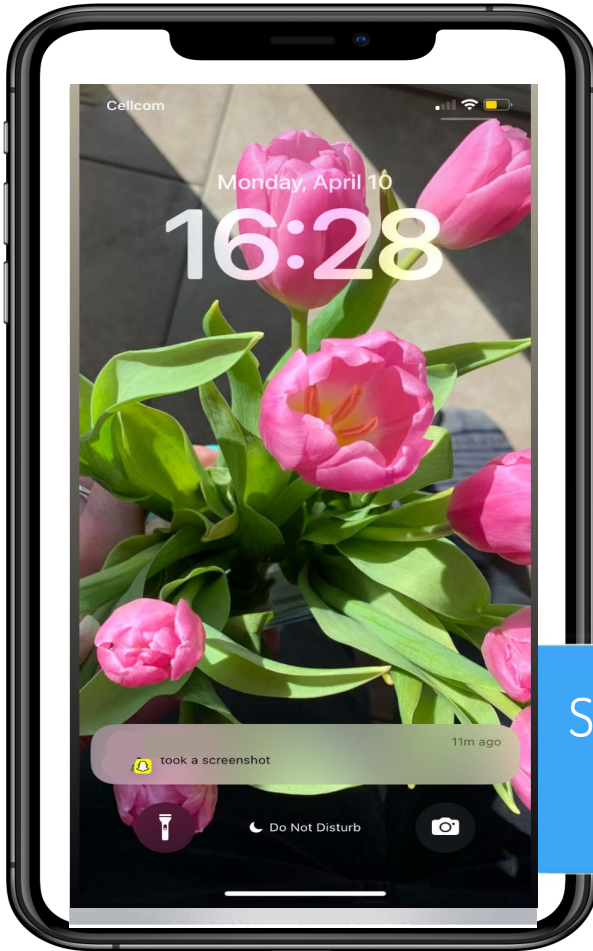


SOCIAL MEDIA IS WHERE **TALKING** AND **SURVEILLANCE** THRIVES

- (preoccupied, secure, dismissing, fearful)
 - **Fearfuls** are more comfortable with using social media because of the ease to monitor observe threats passively



Social Media Surveillance can affect:
satisfaction, stability, and security



Destiny Beliefs



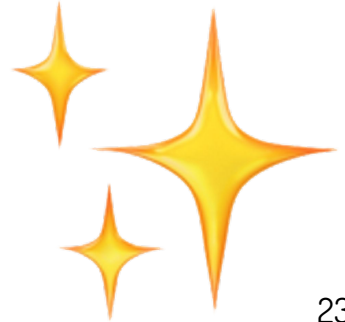
- Romantic Destiny Narrative

Based on “cues” (positive or negative)

- Working on the relationship or saying that it’s “meant to be”

Talking Stage = fantasizing about the future, what it could entail

-We can be doing this even unconsciously!!



Belief in Destiny



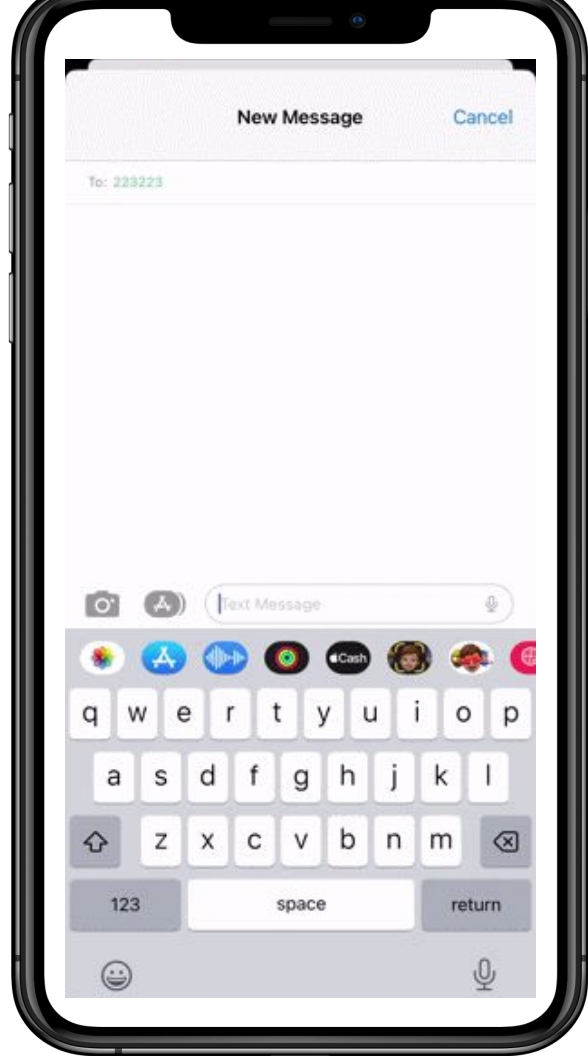
Disengagement
Restraint

Belief in Growth



Relationship Maintenance
Development

???????



???????

???????



ENJOY



THE “TALKING” STAGE



WHILE IT LASTS

Things to keep in mind....

- Talking can lead to distress? :(
- You can talk to more than one person at a time

The grace period... following Knapp's Model

Interest, Initiation & Getting out



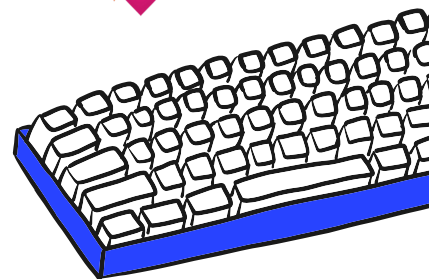
Read 1/1
Delivered



WOW

Thank you!!!!

Let's keep talking :))





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