

HAPPIER ABROAD

**Why You Will Have A Better
Love and Life Beyond America**



**Your Ultimate Inspiration for
International Dating and Living**

By Winston Wu

Back Cover

"No country has it all. It therefore stands to reason that in order to have it all, living in more than one country is often a necessity." - Ladislav, Chief Advisor of HappierAbroad.com

Are you tired of or dissatisfied with the following norms in modern America?

- The anti-social isolationist lifestyle where working and consuming are the only concerns in a culture where love, romance, passion, social connection, expression and genuineness are lacking or subdued.
- The lack of human connection and cold ice barrier between strangers in a paranoid society driven by fear.
- The constant feeling of insecurity, loneliness and social disconnectedness.
- The unattainability, unavailability or lack of women you desire, depriving you of quality female companionship.
- The fake social culture that doesn't allow you to be yourself and denies all the above.

If so, then this book is for YOU!

The GOOD NEWS is you don't have to put up with any of it. There are many overseas cultures where all these norms are REVERSED! It's one of the **BIGGEST SECRETS**, but you won't hear about it from conventional sources due to the taboo nature and denial of these truths.

For a breathtaking visual glimpse and proof of this, see the Photo Collage inside this book.

Winston Wu, his friends, advisors and fans have been sharing their discoveries of a better love and life overseas since 2002. This grand book compiles together their testimonies, observations, experiences and comparisons which serve as a Gospel of hope for the countless frustrated lonely males in North America that there are better options for them abroad in the areas of love, romance, social connection and personal self-esteem.

These discoveries are eye-opening, enriching and life-transforming. They will inspire you and show you a freer, more fulfilling existence and love that will change your life forever! All of this is REAL, credible and easily verifiable. There's a better love and life for you out there. So if you're ready to take the "**red pill**" then get this book!



HAPPIER ABROAD

Why You Will Have A Better Love and Life Beyond America

Your Ultimate Inspiration for International Dating and Living

**By Winston Wu
Founder of HappierAbroad.com**

"No country has it all, and most countries are heavily weighed in one direction and severely poor in another area. Countries that are materially rich are poor spiritually and socially. Countries with the best jobs opportunities cannot usually provide too many gorgeous dates. Countries with the most beautiful women have bad economies and rotten politics. It therefore stands to reason that in order to have it all, living in more than one country is often a necessity."

- Ladislav, Chief Advisor of HappierAbroad.com

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Foreword by Ladislav

There is an army of one million single men in America now looking for girlfriends and wives while the women are having a ball.

About a decade ago, a Chinese government official warned that if the Chinese parents keep aborting female fetuses in favor of male ones, in one generation, there will be an army of one million bachelors roaming the countryside looking for wives.

While the Chinese authorities are rightfully concerned about the fact that one million Chinese young men won't be able to find life partners and create happy families in the future, virtually no one in America is talking about the already existing huge surplus of young men who have to compete for girlfriends and wives in the USA.

Numbers do not lie- have a look at statistics across the country and you will see that overall, young men outnumber young women by somewhere around 11:10. In some places it is 12:10 or more. Add to this the fact that Hollywood brainwashes young women that they deserve rich and handsome young husbands with big cars and great careers and houses, and the fact that 20% of sexy hunks with money and good looks get 80% of the women, and you have a recipe for a disaster for a simple young man who just wants a date. He can't get one because numbers and statistics are not in his favor. Social and demographic trends are not in his favor. The Puritanical culture of not talking to strangers is not in his favor. In other words, he is behind the eight ball when it comes to dating.

However, the above cold facts are not even an issue in today's America and are not known to the average Joe. He is told that he lacks social skills to pick up women, that he needs to get a better job and improve his appearance, lose weight and develop confidence, pump some iron, take a karate class, all the while American women who dress like janitors and have bad manners apparently have very little problem dating handsome young men. That is the result of the imbalanced demographics in the USA.

The solution to the problem is simple- the surplus men, many of whom are not in the most desirable category from the American woman's point of view, should go to places on Earth where there is a shortage of men and a surplus of women and where young women outnumber young men.

Try it and you will see what I mean. Go to two cities- Moscow and Manila. You will see more young women on the streets than young men. Always. And guess what else you will see- women try to look better, they behave in a sweeter manner, they try and be nice to guys because if they are not nice, another woman will whisk the guy away from her- guys are in demand.

You will see than instead of steely, supercilious looks that you get from women in the US, or no looks at all, your appearance as a man on the streets of Moscow or Manila will attract curious, friendly and warm expression of interest from young ladies all over. They will be asking you questions, flirting with you, and saying yes to a dinner invitation.

So, why are they so nice? Because good men are hard to find there. The men can get a girlfriend any time they want, and at any age. They do not need to exercise, take classes in social skills, dress well or join clubs. And they are the ones who do the choosing.

In many countries where there is a shortage of men, women stay virginal before they get married because no decent guy would want to marry a "used" woman. Why get damaged goods if there is plenty of fresh, brand new stuff to go around? "You are not a virgin? Get away from me! I don't need you!" is the attitude of the men there.

Men walk proud and tall there, they do not sing whinie, sweet songs to women, women sing those to men and about men. It is a man's world out there and a man's market.

Do you want to be there? I bet you would.

Also, in their economies, women have small salaries and need men to help them survive and establish families. A guy with a good job or any guy who can afford a decent date is hard to find. In their country, there is an army of SEVERAL MILLION LONELY BACHELORETTES who cannot find a good boyfriend. Is that where YOU would like to be now?

So, the choice is yours: do you want to be a private soldier in the horny army of a million angry and frustrated bachelors in the USA who are fighting over a perennially small number of arrogant, capricious and self absorbed women and be chasing the will-o'the wisp that seems to always move away from you, or do you want to be surrounded by an army of a couple of million young bachelorettes? I bet that unless you are a glutton for punishment, you would choose the latter.

That is why you would be *Happier Abroad*.

Ladislav
Chief Expat Advisor of HappierAbroad.com

Preface and Acknowledgements

It is not easy to write a book like this that goes against the grain and transgresses many taboos. To do so requires passion, vision and a fervent dedication to a higher purpose. But when one follows the path of truth and conviction, one often receives help along the way.

And that has been the case here as well. The more I wrote for and championed my cause, the more others contributed with their experiences, observations and testimonies. Together we validated and supported each other so that we knew we were not alone. This book wouldn't have been possible without the help and support of many others. So I am deeply grateful and thankful to all my Advisors, Fans, Readers and Forum Posters for their contributions. Together we make a difference.

I am proud to present this mega compilation of intellectual essays, compelling arguments, reasons, facts, photos, comparisons, testimonials and quotes from people all over the world that testify to a real hope and solution for lonely frustrated single men all across America for a better love, life and truer freedom overseas. It is a reality that has transformed lives and spirits.

Many tales and observations from expats and perpetual travelers are presented who have experienced richer and more soulful cultures beyond the US Matrix. Though nothing beats personal experience, this collection is sure to be the next best thing.

Deep down, everyone in this movement has lived by the motto of "The truth shall set you free" while speaking unprecedented truths that have not even been accepted in the alternative media genre yet. For that they should be commensurated as pioneers.

So it is my hope that this collection will be a source of inspiration, hope and validation to you all in your quest for truth, happiness and an authentic joyful existence.

In closing, I would like to again thank all who were a part of this work, either directly or indirectly. I give special thanks to my Expat Advisor Ladislav for his many contributions of wisdom and experience throughout this book which has greatly elevated the content to a higher perspective that I could not have achieved myself. I also thank my other Advisors for their help, and my Fans, Readers and Forum Posters for their participation and contributions as well.

And I thank you the Reader for your interest and courage in learning about the life-changing truths and discoveries presented here as part of your own journey. May the spirit of freedom, authenticity and shared happiness always follow you as I wish a safe and pleasant journey through life.

Sincerely,
Winston Wu
Founder of HappierAbroad.com

Other Books by Winston Wu

(Available in Paperback, PDF and Amazon Kindle format)

The Happier Abroad Guide to International and Global Dating

Winston's Guide to Traveling and Dating in Russia

Available at HappierAbroad.com

Debunking PseudoSkeptical Arguments of Paranormal Debunkers

Debunking the Arguments of Christian Fundamentalists and Evangelists

Available at DebunkingSkeptics.com

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Photo Collage of My Dating Life Abroad

Visual Proof that location alone skyrocketed my Dating Life from zero to infinity!

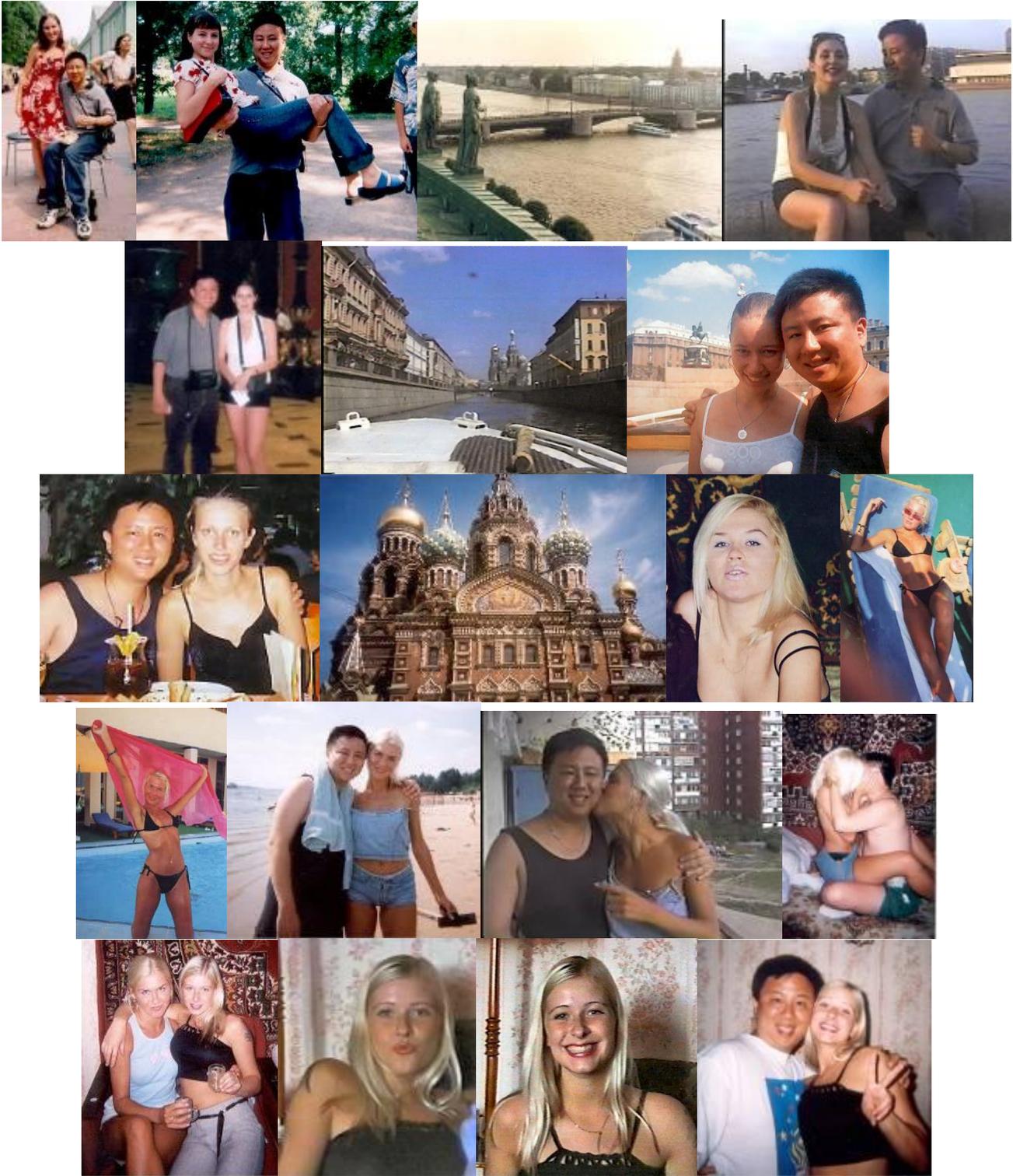
(Like I've always said, if the problem is me, then why don't I have the same problems beyond America?)

They say that pictures say a thousand words. So see this Photo Collage below for visual proof of my claim that location alone transformed my Dating Life from complete hopelessness to everlasting abundance, and that women overseas are much more warm, open, friendly and easier to meet! (Even without reading this book, these Photos alone are sufficient to explain why I'm "happier abroad" :))

See what happens to a lonely isolated guy when he steps beyond the "USA Matrix" to countries and cultures where he is in the action and game everyday, where he truly starts LIVING, where meeting girls comes naturally and is part of the flow of things, and where love, dating, sex, beautiful girls, romance, fun, adventure, and pleasure are no longer things he only sees on TV, but **experiences in real life!** See why many expats consider foreign countries a "dating paradise". **See my Dating/Love Life skyrocket from zero to infinity!**

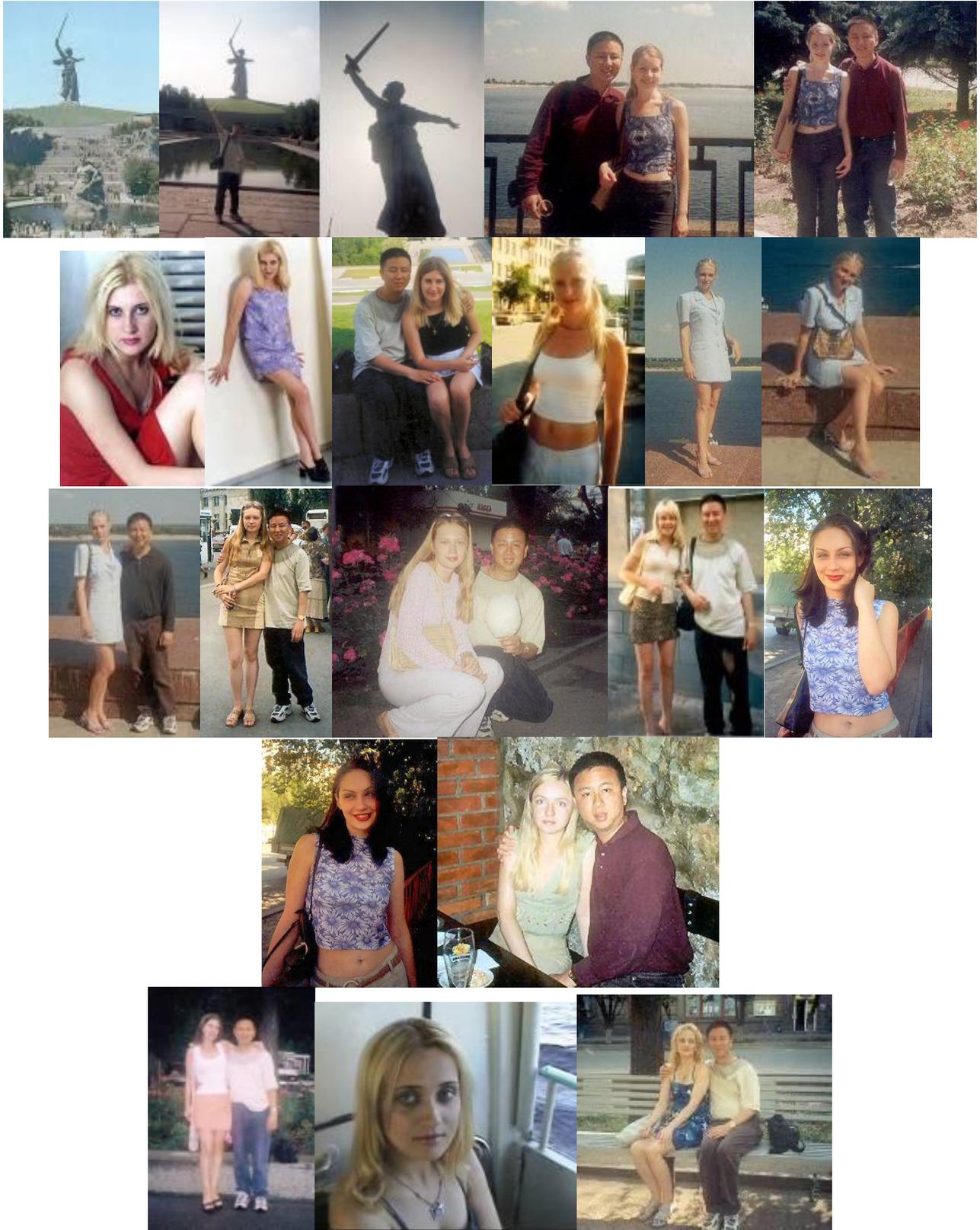
RUSSIA, UKRAINE AND EUROPE











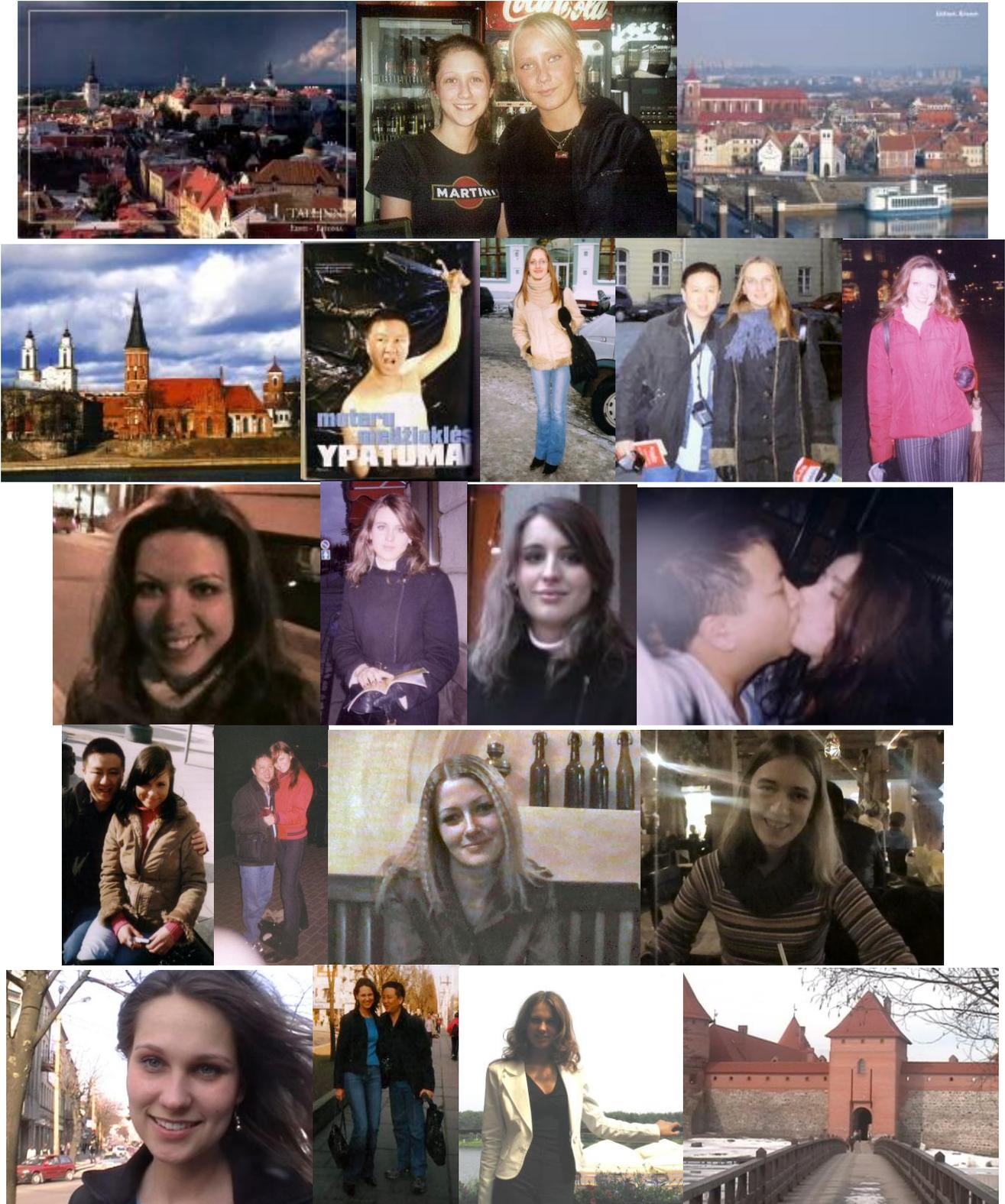


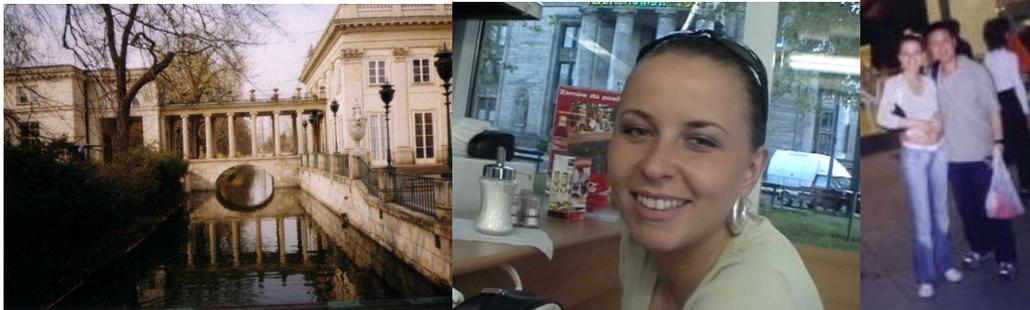




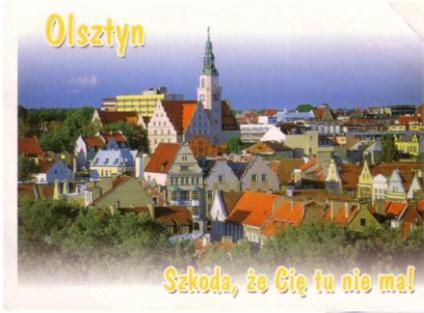












MEXICO



THE PHILIPPINES





























[\(More images of Philippines girls continued in this forum thread\)](#)

Note: Also see my [Foreign Female Encounters Film](#) containing video clips of foreign girls I met, and my [Approachable Faces Gallery](#) showing a refreshing difference in attitude!

Not bad for a guy who couldn't get any dates in the States, huh?

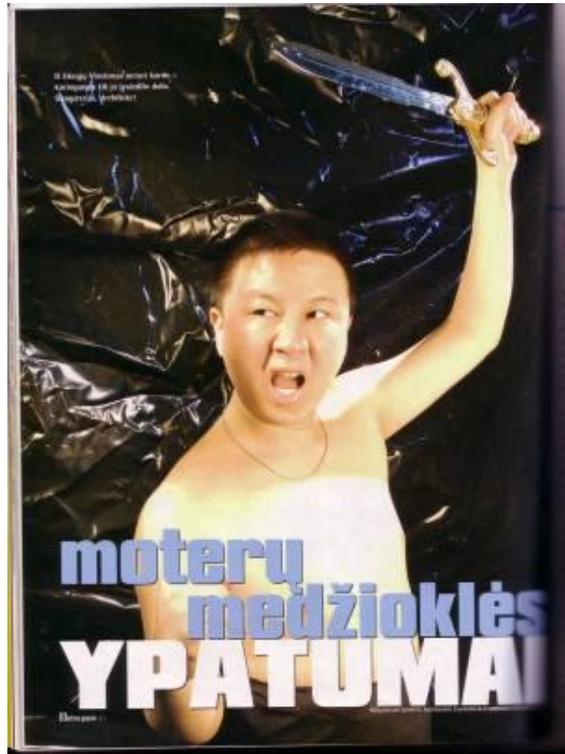
As you can see, once outside the USA Matrix, my dating life SKYROCKETS from ZERO to INFINITY, going from complete hopelessness to everlasting abundance! Love, dating, sex, beautiful girls, romance, fun, adventure, etc. are no longer things I only see on TV (like in America), but are what I EXPERIENCE in REAL LIFE! Thus, BEYOND America is where my dreams and fantasies come true and where I truly start LIVING! I don't even need any "game" or BS seduction techniques either. All I have to do is step OUT of the USA MATRIX and be my naturally charming, funny, cute, outgoing, sociable, passionate self, and that's it! It all happens NATURALLY from there and my dating life turns around 180 degrees! **As in real estate, dating is all about location, location, location!** [See these other testimonials that attest to this too!](#)

And how do you like the rich cultural scenic environments of Europe and Russia shown above? Breathtaking aren't they? Now you see how dull and lifeless suburban America really is.

Now, compare all that above with [my life in the States](#), which basically consists of working, watching TV on the couch, eating junk food, going to Walmart, and living a sterile monk-like existence without any fun, romance, love, sex, excitement, experiences or adventure, and perhaps then you'll understand why I'm so passionate about all this!

Do you also see now that the world outside the US isn't as gloomy and dismal as the US media likes to portray? Being always "in the game", and having beautiful cultural scenic environments to immerse myself in, I NEVER have to stay home and feel bored if I don't want to (like I was forced to in the States)! In fact, outside America I don't even need to watch TV since my REAL LIFE abroad is much more exciting than what's on the tube!

This Photo Collage, in addition to the book contents, are MORE than enough real life proof of the claims in this book! Since I can meet, date, and romance beautiful women anytime I want, naturally and mutually, I am truly FREE! Plus, I am finally VALIDATED in that now I know that the problem wasn't me after all, but with the US social environment and culture!



(Image of Winston Wu featured in the Lithuanian magazine *Antre Puse*)

Quotes about Winston Wu from Readers, Fans, and Advisors

(Sources linked where possible.)

*"People can be divided into three groups
Those who make things happen
Those who watch things happen
And those who wonder what happened
You are in the first group Winston"*
- [Ernie, San Diego, CA](#)

"Despite all the flak you get you are certainly an interesting character and probably the most famous (or infamous) self-made asian on the internet" – [Rob, USA](#)

"Most Asians don't think for themselves. They simply follow the pack. You are one of the exceptions."
- Jean, Colorado

"You're probably the most atypical Asian male I've ever met."
- Peter, an old Scottish traveler I met in Estonia who's been to nearly 100 countries

"Winston, you are a White man trapped in an Asian man's body. All the characteristics I associate with Asian men seem to be the opposite of you. You do not do what society tells you to do. You do not work hard just for the sake of working hard. You find White women attractive." – [Jean, Colorado](#)

"As far as you being a banana – a white man trapped in an Asian body - I would like to qualify that you are not an American white man inside an Asian body but a European Existentialist - a Frenchman, Italian or Spaniard trapped in an Asian body. You are certainly not a modern Anglo-Saxon trapped in it." - Ladislav, my Expat Advisor

"I would say that yes, I have not seen even one Asian person like yourself. There are rebellious types and these are women often, and they rebel by joining the American mainstream. Same with Asian guys who start acting

"American". But for an Asian to rebel not only against Asia but against America because it is TOO repressed for your taste, that is really taking the cake. To most Asians America is synonymous with a loud free place where you can shed your inhibitions." – Ladislav, my Expat Advisor

"Winston you are now an Asian American Moses, and you are leading your people out of the "captivity" of boredom, loneliness, lovelessness and datelessness to the various promised lands of milk and honey, many honeys that is and milk is to come later. Lol." - [Ladislav, my Expat Advisor](#)

"What I also love about this book is Winston's philosophical view of the world. I have never in my life seen an Asian guy with such a brilliant, philosophical mind. There have been times when I thought I was crazy thinking the way I was thinking, especially as it pertains to America and its awful, non-inclusive culture. However, after reading Winston's words, I totally feel relieved and vindicated, knowing full and well it's society that is crazy, not me!" – [Steve Hoca, Amazon.com Review of Happier Abroad](#)

"Hey Winston...I see you're famous. Maybe not quite receiving the positive feedback that you might have been hoping for but nevertheless, you can see how much your stories of your adventures and thoughts have affected others. As I always say, the show must go on."

- From my Guestbook: http://www.happierabroad.com/Guestbook_archive.htm

"Your tenacity is astounding. All the stuff you went through. Most people would have given up."

- From my Forum: <http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=364>

*"Winston, even though i don't agree with all you are doing there, I do support your adventures and would to commend you for doing what many guys are far too chickens*** and cowardly to do ..so my hat is off to you and I would like to hear more about your times abroad."*

- From my Guestbook: http://www.happierabroad.com/Guestbook_archive.htm

"I love rebels and free spirits, I really do. And that's why I like Wu so much. There are so many people who turn into depressed potatoes in the USA. They just sit there and get more and more depressed. And if you don't fit in, they just label you a "loser". Wu didn't just sit down and take that. Wu rebelled against that."

- From my Forum: <http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=91>

"To be honest with you Winston, I think almost all of the girls you hit on (and many of them you scored) are all very hot. This makes me wonder how you did it, especially the fact that you're an oriental. I know some guys who have a lot more than you, but they can't do anywhere near what you did (in terms of girls of course)."

- [Fan Mail](#), referring to the [Photojournals](#)

"Winston, I am amazed at your ability to attract women that are much more attractive than yourself. I wish I had more of your magic. I consider myself much more attractive than you, but you seem to do better with the ladies. What is your secret?"

- [Fan Mail](#), referring to the [Photojournals](#)

"I dont know how you do it, but whatever it might be (wit, charm, outgoing personality, etc.), i think you've got game (by that i mean confidence). Frankly, I think you just have an uncanny outgoing personality."

- [Howard, USA](#), referring to the [Photojournals](#)

"You are a monster asset for meeting women."

- Peter, expat living in Philippines and Central America

"Photos prove everything they backup the talk. You walk the talk so to speak and very few of these other men on these Blogging sites can ever claim this not even the agency owners whom many are scamming many men."

- [Derek, Washington](#)

"Wu-man, I got to give it to you. You have surrounded yourself by everymans passion. Hundreds of beautiful women. All thru history men have surrounded themselves and fought over the presence of women. Could there be any better reason to fight over. For whatever reason you have accomplished that feat. You have surrounded yourself by beautiful women... P.S. I believe that you can prove your point anytime." - [Fan Mail](#)

"After reading all your ebooks and following your advice to visit Lithuania I did and met the love of my life. I really give you credit because you are 100% right. I'm never dating or going with a shallow, superficial American woman ever again. I would also like to let you know that I am getting married in MAY 2008. Keep up the good work Winston you do inspire people." – [Fan Mail](#)

"Just thought I'd say hi and tell you how much your writing inspired me... I think people "need" to read what you've written" – [Joan, USA](#)

"I enjoy your writing and you are one of the most inspiring dudes around. Main thing is you don't give a shit what other people (especially white) say about you - highly unusual, unfortunately, for any race of people, Chinese especially. So your stuff is absolutely awesome." – [John, USA](#)

"No B.S., you're a big, big inspiration and i'm glad to hear you're doing good in Angeles City. Sounds like heaven to me." – [Ernie, USA](#)

"The stuff you recommend, winston, has always managed to utterly CHANGE MY LIFE. Thank you for being an inspiration. You will never know how much it means to me!!!"
- [Elizabeth, Orange County, CA](#)

"I visited your website, happierabroad.com, and I agree with everything you write. You are my hero! You have spoken truths that many men do not understand. You have broken ground that many men have not... You are an inspiration!" – [Mark, Washington DC](#)

"You are a hero for the underdog, proving that with balls and determination you can find fun, sex, love, and happiness....."
- [Jeff, Atlanta](#)

"Winston the reason you are successful is that you admitted there was a problem and went outside the box to get what you want. Most people settle for what life puts right in front of them."
- Jeff, Atlanta

"Winston you're one of the few people who will tell it like it is, even if it makes yourself look bad. I give you that. Most guys brag and BS and deny their faults. Like Dwight (our mutual friend) if you say something happened, it happened. And like him, you don't just talk about it, you DO IT."
- Jeff, Atlanta

"I'm currently 17 years old and like you I am a Chinese American. I love the ebooks you have online and I really enjoy hearing about your success with white women abroad. I have a research paper on "my hero" and I choose to do my report on you and your success." – [Joseph, USA](#)

"Winston, YOU ARE MY HERO. Nobody can understand you and your noble quest unless they have lived in Russia. What drove you will drive any real man who goes there, but you had the courage and balls to stick out horrible shit that comes along with the beautiful women."
- From my Guestbook: http://www.happierabroad.com/Guestbook_archive.htm

"YOU ARE MY HERO TOO. Here I am with clinical depression feeling like I'm wasting my year after college and its honestly giving me hope browsing your photo collages and seeing that happiness is definitely possible, no matter who you are."
- [Karen, Stanford, CA](#)

"You are a champ. Most of us, even if we did find the holy grail would either be too selfish or more likely shy and embarrassed to ever come out publicly the way you have. Your generosity of spirit is truly amazing." – [John, New Zealand](#)

"This guy is a legend... Read his long story and the photos (including the albums) and you will be amazed... my hero"
- Reference from <http://www.freewebspace.net/forums/showthread.php?t=2189614>

"Listen, you're the man!" – [Rick, USA](#)

"You are AWESOME!" - [Fan Mail](#)

"You inspire me! Never change!!"

- From my Guestbook: http://www.happierabroad.com/Guestbook_archive.htm

"Your book was refreshing. I thought I was the only one who thought this way about American social climate." - [Fan Mail](#)

"Your website truly is a treasure! It's making me more self-aware in areas that I may have been slipping into "typical American mode" in, and is opening my mind even more." – [Megan, Wyoming](#)

"Dear Winston, I have just read your article Propaganda vs. real life in America. I only wish I could be so eloquent - its as if you have been reading my thoughts. I came here for over 20 years ago searching for the stars with my 2 kids."

- From my Guestbook: http://www.happierabroad.com/Guestbook_archive2.htm

"I cannot express in words how impressed I am by your work and how accurate and true you are to yourself. I have lived in the US for 13 years now, and I can't but agree with every single word you wrote... Congratulations again on a job well done!!!!!" – [Fan Mail](#)

"Everything you wrote in your treatise is precisely to the point... It took me a while to realize that there was a chasm of difference between the media picture of America and real life, but when the truth hit home, I felt very disappointed and empty. I even had a lapse of self-condemnation as I thought the problem was in me. I have gotten over it now and can see clearly. Your writing puts all the pieces of the puzzle together very well."

- [Yuri, Russian immigrant](#)

"I am from Athens, Greece. I came across your web site while googling trying to find web sites with articles about the differences between Europeans and Americans. I am writing an essay for one of my courses at college and I needed that kind of info. I have to admit that I was hooked up by your articles. Many of the situations that you describe were like a revelation to me." – [Kostas, Athens, Greece](#)

"A GREAT WEB SITE! Thanks for the many hours of work it took to put together. Also I curse you for the many hours I'll spend reading it all. ;) Thanks again."

- From my Guestbook: http://www.happierabroad.com/Guestbook_archive2.htm

"Sir, first off, let me tell you in one word what I thought of your e-book... OUTSTANDING!!!!!!!!!!!! I'm currently reading it right now and it is great!!!" – [Darryl, NY](#), Retired Air Force

"I have been reading the stories and adventures of Winston, and like the rest of you I'M IMPRESSED!!!!... I am striking out on a BOLD and NEW path for my life such as Winston did... I love how he persevered and finally got the girl of his dreams. WAY TO GO WINSTON..."

- From my Forum: <http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=444>

"Winston - what a fantastic site. Your trip to Russia makes me weep tears of laughter. Keep it up (as it were)."

- From my Guestbook: http://www.happierabroad.com/Guestbook_archive.htm

"Winston, as I was watching your adventures, I was thinking what a lucky person you are to have experienced so many things - regardless if they were positive or negative. You did this on your own, and you should be proud of yourself. Most of your enemies simply sit and write behind a computer, but you have lived it - which means a lot more. Think of how many men in the US will never have the chance to do what you have done. I guess what I admire most about you is that you been willing to share your experiences with the rest of the world to enjoy, and I am happy to have come across your site 3 years ago..." - [Giovanni](#)

"Winston keep up the good work. I really feel you are one of the more intelligent and insightful individuals out there on the internet. I'm sure there are lots of American men of all backgrounds who agree with your articles."

Ignore the naysayers and bitter Americans out there who want to bring you down to their level. Be yourself and be happy with life. Life is short and sometimes that's all we can do is just be." - [David](#)

"Cheers Winston, Keep the faith! As Teddy Roosevelt said, 'The only man who never makes mistakes is the man who never does anything.' You live your beliefs while your critics just sit back and second guess you...Godspeed!"

- From my Guestbook: http://www.happierabroad.com/Guestbook_archive.htm

"I like Winston's style because he lets it all hang out and that allows others to make objective observations. Winston blitzes into the unknown with his hair on fire and, for better or worse, allows others to live vicariously through his exploits. Some may not agree with Winston's modus, among other things, but nobody can deny Winston is a trailblazer."

- From my Forum: <http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=3392>

"Winston talks the talk, and he walks the walk. Thats more then can be said for most. Kudos Winston."

- From my Forum: <http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=3392>

"I tell ya Winston, you are gathering quite the little fan club... Well, its like the old World War II motto goes; "If your taking flak, you must be over the target."

- From my Forum: <http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=4020>

"After months and months of observing your views and actually reading through your articles, and experiencing various American people, I made a conclusion that you are correct and I fully agree with your views on Asian/American mentality vs European/Latin/Australian mentality. I would rather be happy and live life to the fullest than rot my life in bad quality with large money that cannot buy happiness. Thanks for your enlightening articles."

- From a former critic of mine

"I thank you Winston from the bottom of my heart for showing me and other lonely men THE WAY to PARADISE. You beat out ALL of the PUA propaganda, so called "guru's and experts" out there and you actually are OUT THERE DOING instead of just talking about it. Those seduction books I use to buy are total GARBAGE compared to what YOU'VE proven and you put PUA artist and experts to complete shame with SIMPLICITY and REAL PROVEN SOLUTIONS WINSTON..."

- [Dwayne, NY](#)

"Thank you Winston for all of your help. Your knowledge and experiences are inspirational and GOLDEN and you are well liked and honored by MANY. Do not let the HATERS get you down. Because these types of people will not do for themselves, than to bash you all day in B.S. topics and post. Why don't they step outside the matrix and go abroad to be happy also? Keep up the good work my friend. You're doing EXCELLENT !!!"

- [Dwayne, NY](#)

"It's such a wonderful time in my life and YOU are the person I thank for this guidance and for making HappierAbroad.com and giving lonely guys everywhere a chance at solutions and cures to datelessness and hope to having a life that is fulfilled overseas. I'm so excited and so happy now Winston."

- [Dwayne, NY](#)

"Hi Winston, your site and stories are excellent. I think your detractors are envious and secretly admire you as well. Ken."

- From my Guestbook: <http://www.ultraquest.com/view/1200586414>

"Having been in band, I've done well with women in America, but I am very well travelled outside the US and only the blind could not see that what you say is true."

- From my Guestbook: <http://www.ultraquest.com/view/1200586414>

"Hi, I've not just read your advice, but I've followed it too! I'm so glad to leave the West because of all the heart-ache and problems with women who really don't want or need a man, so theres no use trying. Russia is poorer,

*but I don't need all the consumer sh*t & women don't expect me to buy it for them (what a relief). I hope more people think for themselves and Winston's site is great for free-thinkers."*

- From my Guestbook: <http://www.ultraquest.com/view/1200586414>

"Winston's blogs and photojournals are epic! I have a new internet hobby now: reading Winston's stories. I'm moving to St Petersburg in the new year and as I was researching I came across Happier Abroad, and I couldn't agree more with the overall message... Winston is absolutely right from my experiences. I had to go somewhere and then come back to see the light, but I definitely see it."

- From my Forum: <http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=4278>

"You are an infinite inspiration to me and I feel tremendous admiration to the fact that you actually put your dream into reality!!!"

- [James, Vancouver, Canada](#)

"SWEET website. WOW! Inspiring, useful, fun. Fascinating to see the reactions of your readers! As one pointed out, you really are a leader. Unusually truthful and courageous."

- [Jester, CA](#)

*"To sum it up, Winston Wu has just become my new inspiration, my new god, my new role model, my hero, my icon. Seeing so many ****ing pics of him with harems of chicks kissing and hugging him makes me feel like a ****ing poor sap. I need to learn how to be a real man who gets to **** real girls from this guy. I think I seriously lack a good male role model in my childhood years though I had a father."*

- From my Forum: <http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=4700>

"I want everyone on this site to know that Winston is 100% right. I have lived abroad and seen the difference in my social life, in how it made me feel inside; and I've also seen the antisocial lame-ass dating scene in the US, and how it undermines a man's confidence and inhibits his ability to simply be himself. It is an absolute shame, and no man should have to live that way. Thanks for a great site Winston. You're doing a service to all American guys by exposing the limited possibilities for happiness and social connection in the US."

- From my Forum: <http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=4580>

"man - you are the man - i have looked through very briefly on your site - but i want to walk in your footsteps man - i'm depressed here in the U.S - no action - absolutely no satisfaction - i see some of your fotos - all of the girls look hot to me. i don't even have any chances with the ugly girls here in the U.S - sucks." - [Dave](#)

"I would recommend this website to anyone, HappierAbroad.com, created by Wu, a genius at any rate. He's someone who's actually gonna show you proof. All these other websites you go to, they really don't show you anything. His book has changed my view of American culture 180 degrees."

- From Kairosan's video review of Happier Abroad: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w_mtDro7dRY

"Your book has exposed me to a paradigm shift with regard to dating. My collection of dating/seduction books is now merely a repository of rubbish."

- [Jelani, NY](#)

"I appreciate Winston doing this site because frankly, I know he's right. Before I moved abroad my social life in the US was a 2 out of 10 (at best). When I moved abroad all that changed dramatically, and I made true friends and dated gorgeous women."

- From my Forum: <http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=4742>

"I've never been to the Philippines, Winston, but after spending a month in Thailand I'm willing to believe everything you say about it... That was my first trip abroad, Winston, and it has convinced me that your position that Western guys can have a better life in other countries is absolutely correct."

- From my Forum: <http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=2412>

"I believe in Wu. Wu was right about the Polish girls and them being really friendly and giggling and blushing. Wu was right about being able to go over to the girls' tables and immediately go and sit with them. Wu was right about the society being more open in Poland than in America. WU WAS RIGHT!!! ... Wu is trying to help other people's lives. And he helped my life because I stumbled upon his website and read his stuff and I was inspired in part by his website to try Poland. AND IT WORKED!!!! WU WAS RIGHT!!!! WU WAS CORRECT!!!!"

- From my Forum: <http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=118>

"You are the man, Winston!... I recommend your website and YouTube videos to everybody... Your personal accounts of women (and people in general) being more approachable, friendly, and caring in other parts of the world serve as hope to those of us living in the frigid, hostile U.S." - [Ghostforever, Happy Bachelors Forum](#)

"I've been through your site before and I admire your courage in going out there, actually taking action and sharing your experiences... Most people don't even get out of their own bedroom door, for you to actually go out and do it, and then share with everyone else what you learned earns you a ton of respect." - [Kestral, Happy Bachelors Forum](#)

"Winston, Your analysis of the social scene in the U.S. is spot-on. This country is social hell... Thank you, Winston, for providing reassurance to those of us who haven't traveled as extensively as you." - [Ghostforever, Happy Bachelors Forum](#)

"Dude you are awesome... Happierabroad, nomarriage, and the-niceguy gave me hope! Your like.... the justice league? or something!" - [EstevanMusic, YouTube comment](#)

"You're the man Winston! Fabulous channel! I wish I was in your shoes." - [RussX5Z, YouTube comment](#)

"Your a genius Wu and a pioneer for waking up your fellow countrymen to REAL WOMEN overseas the women in my country are about as bad. American men are good and decent and deserve better than the feminist nightmare there being offered in their own country." - [Jimmy27Paul, YouTube comment](#)

"I never write to a public space as am very private. But what got me in your site that it is very deep; it looks at a problem of insanity (again, stated by those who are from abroad, or Americans who tasted life/cultures abroad; Americans themselves are in a delirious oblivion about themselves and their "culture") of Americans, their life style and "culture" at every angle, in depth, diagnosing the insanity, looking at the possible causes of it, and offering suggestions to cure. It was by far the most comprehensive and cumulative work I've ever encountered on the subject. Big thanks to you for that, for devoting your life to this cancerous world's problem. At first I thought that emphasis on dating is a bit shallow and might repel some thinking, deep people, but the more I looked at it, I came to think that it might just do the opposite..." - [Tatiana](#)

See Also:

[Testimonials that Dating is all about Location!](#)

[Letters from Expats who are Happier Abroad](#)

[Fan Mail Archive](#)

[10 Unique and Outstanding Things about Winston Wu](#)

Introduction

*"If the society in the US says that the problem is *you*, then try changing societies. You may be in for a big surprise."*

- [Ladislav](#), Expat Advisor of HappierAbroad.com

"You are a champ. Most of us, even if we did find the holy grail would either be too selfish or more likely shy and embarrassed to ever come out publicly the way you have. Your generosity of spirit is truly amazing."

– [John, New Zealand](#)

About me

Dear Reader,

Greetings. Welcome to the Happier Abroad Grand book. My name is Winston Wu. Thank you for your interest and for allowing me to share with you the [incredible life-changing discoveries](#) I made overseas.

First, a little about me. I am an Asian American male of Taiwanese descent, but unique in that I think for myself and am a nonconformist. I am a traveler, writer, online entrepreneur, freethinker, truth seeker, intellectual and romantic. My passions are traveling, writing, culture, art, acting, metaphysics, philosophy, spirituality, and beautiful women. I have many interests and curiosities that make me an explorer at heart.

I am sort of an eclectic in that I have a blend of traits more common among the Spanish, Italian, or French - though I am passionate, free-spirited, sensual, romantic, expressive and artistic, I am also intellectual, educated, cultured, refined, insightful, organized, and practical as well. Such a blend makes me more of a European or Latin than American or Asian, as I tend to have far more common with the former than with the latter. I am an Existentialist type of person who delights in reflection, introspection, truth-seeking and the search for meaning. That's what makes me tick. Thus, I don't have the typical American or Asian view that life is all about making money and being committed to a career and routine. Instead, I share the European/Australian attitude that life is about having new experiences and adventures, exploring the world and meeting interesting people. I judge my life and self-worth by the richness of my experiences, rather than by career status. That's who I am. More about me can be read in my [Biography](#).

I immigrated from Taiwan to America when I was 3 years old. Growing up in California, I was always sort of a misfit. This affected me more the more I grew up, especially in my social life and dating. Deep down I always wanted to fit in and belong, but the more I tried, the worse it got. Something was not quite right but I couldn't put a finger on it. Being the least attractive race for a male in the US (Asian) and being short at only 5ft 7, was a huge impediment for me in the dating arena. Plus when the 90's came, feminism and anti-male attitudes in women began to worsen, making things doubly difficult for men. I could never get a decent date no matter what I did. Yet I was not allowed to complain about it cause we are taught to blame ourselves and not others. None of the cliched advice or seduction books worked for me. I was too far out of the type range of most women, who were already super picky to begin with. I either had to lower my standards to rock bottom, or depend on luck. Neither option was viable. Frustration and loneliness grew and plagued my years. ([see my story here](#)) I deserved better and I knew I did. The following quote eventually applied:

"When one realizes that his life is worthless he either commits suicide or travels."

- Edward Dahlberg

So, not wishing to end my life, I decided to travel, and that's when everything turned around for me.

When I first went to Russia in 2002, I was mesmerized at how approachable, open and relaxed people were, especially the young women. It was surreal and unimaginable. Coming from America, I was used to only old people and little children being open and relaxed, not young attractive women, which in my cultures are the LEAST open and approachable. In Russia, I kept pinching myself to see if I was dreaming, but I wasn't. It was real! I had discovered the "holy grail" of dating and social life.

See these links for total proof:

<http://www.happierabroad.com/slideshows.php>

<http://www.happierabroad.com/ebook/Collage.htm>

<http://www.happierabroad.com/film.php>

But the problem was this "holy grail" was a huge social taboo, so taboo in fact that you will not find it mentioned in any book or publication. You see, in any culture, you are NOT allowed to say that people are anti-social, uptight and closed. You are only allowed to either say that everyone/most people are friendly and wonderful, or blame yourself for your own self-deficiencies. But you are NEVER allowed to blame the social culture or environment, no matter how justified it may be to do so.

In fact, if you go to the largest public library, you will not find any book or publication stating that people in any particular culture are uptight, anti-social, closed and unapproachable, or that some cultures are more open and sociable than others. Neither will you find any book in your library that mentions the reality of this "holy grail", for to do so would violate the social taboo mentioned above. The closest thing to it would be sociology/cultural studies textbooks which mention that some cultures are more individualistic while others are more collectivist.

The truth is that in America people live a highly materialistic and segregated lifestyle devoid of human connection. The purpose of their life is business and productivity, and life itself is reduced to a business resource. The society and media evaluates its citizens in terms of economic functions (e.g. workers, tax payers, consumers, etc.) rather than as human beings with spirit, feelings and passion. As a result, people become machines, stiff and repressed, devoid of romance and passion.

Whatever the case, it does seem that the more materialistic people's lifestyles become, the less social they are and the less human connection there is. With wealth and "economic growth" comes loneliness and social disconnectedness. But of course, the media NEVER mentions this, cause it's a total taboo. Instead, the media always sees economic growth as a win-win situation for everybody without trade-offs. It's as if you are supposed to deny and suppress your need for human connection or companionship. That's really sick.

Even in First World European nations there is still a lot of romantic passion and soul in their culture and people. But somehow, this seems to be lacking in the USA and the cultures of workaholic East Asia (Japan, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Korea, etc.), which are more robotic and stiff. The regimented socializing that does take place in such workaholic cultures is usually fake, artificial, uptight, pretentious and a cliché rather than a truly flowing interactive experience.

The men in these countries have slimmer pickings, because the women tend to be less approachable and more uptight, closed and anti-social. They can afford to be that way because with money, they don't need men, and without passion, they have no need for connection either. Thus they can become jaded, egotistic and feminists who harbor a disdain for men (as they do in the USA). Plus, there are usually too many men and not enough women because many male immigrant workers come there to make money.

But in lesser developed countries that are more economically challenged, the women have fewer choices. There aren't enough eligible men for all the women, so the females have to be sweeter and more feminine and develop better qualities. This makes such cultures a "dating paradise" for men from First World cultures, who are treated far better, more appreciated, and have far more choices among attractive females.

A growing number of men in First World nations are beginning to realize this and capitalize on this "big secret" and "holy grail", but the media still considers it a taboo subject and would never cast it in a positive light. That's what makes the media sick. They want us to be dumbed down repressed robotic work slaves who live in fear and obey whatever they are told on TV, rather than become enlightened with the truth. Anything outside of the media's narrow box is ridiculed or marginalized by them with trashy non-intellectual soundbytes of a herd mentality.

During my travels, I have made impressions on others. I've been on national news in three countries. I have written [travel guides](#) that have been viewed by many. And I've received hundreds of [insightful fan letters](#) from those who share my views and observations, which few have the courage to express publicly. Fan sites and critic sites about me have been created as well, since I have become sort of an online public figure. Businessmen have even offered to fly me abroad with them as their guide/translator.

Objectives

In this **Happier Abroad Grand book**, I will reveal the life-changing romantic, social, psychological, cultural, and economic benefits beyond America that most Americans are unaware of, to help change lives and counter the media's highly negative coverage of anything abroad. I hope to inspire others who are dissatisfied in America to find love, happiness, and a better life abroad, giving them options that they otherwise wouldn't know about. I will accomplish this by presenting a mass assortment of experiences, observations, reasons, lessons, comparisons, photos, testimonials, quotes and comments from myself and many others, including other expats, foreigners, immigrants, and perpetual travelers. All of these sources are REAL life experiences by REAL life people.

I will also bring exposure to the dysfunctional anti-social culture in America that has left many lonely, isolated, alienated, insecure, depressed, empty, miserable, dateless, sexless, and suffering in silence, making the USA one of the worst places for social life, dating and mental health. My solution is an overseas path and lifestyle that has proven to work for many, myself included, which has led many to dating, social and personal fulfillment abroad.

I hope that this information will inspire you and enlighten your perspective, providing hope and validation as it reveals forbidden silent truths that many have felt but few have dared to discuss.

Keep in mind though, that the observations and experiences that I describe in here are general rules, not absolutes. I acknowledge that there are always exceptions to any general rule.

If you haven't yet, see this [Checklist](#) to see if this book is for you. And if you found the benefits in this [Comparison Chart](#) appealing, then this book is for you.

It is my contention that many in America are silently thinking, *"Why do people around me seem so anti-social and dislike the company of others? Why does it often feel like there is nothing to do in America except make money and suffer stress? There's something not right about all this" but that they are afraid to express these thoughts out of fear or ridicule, wondering instead, "Is there something wrong with me?"* But deep down, many are subconsciously or instinctively dissatisfied or disappointed with these norms in modern US society.

In fact, my innermost thoughts in America have always been, *"Gosh, my life here is so isolating, lonely, depressing, uneventful, sexless, loveless, dateless, and funless as hell. But if complain about it, people will blame me, because they prefer to deny the reality of the segregation here. So I can't even talk about it! Yet I KNOW for a fact it is NOT my fault, but no one will listen! Instead, they wanna pretend that everything is great and everyone is friendly, and expect me to as well, regardless of the reality. How can I keep pretending that everything is great and that I'm happy, when reality is the opposite? I'm sick of wearing a fake mask for everyone, but what can I do? What is the problem? Nothing seems to work! I feel powerless but at the same time I don't wish to endure this either! What can I do?!"*

Those were my constant thoughts during my [20 years of loneliness, datelessness and ostracization in America](#).

There are many out there who feel the same way we do, more than you might think. I know this because of all the hundreds of [Fan Letters](#) I receive (some of which are quoted in this book), people I talk to in person, and the folks who talk about it in my [Online Community](#).

Often, those who feel this way don't know how to put these feelings into words. They say they can't put a finger on what's wrong, or are afraid to express them due to fear of condemnation, since our culture has a "victim-blaming mentality" where anyone who complains or doesn't fit in is seen as "the problem". People have been socially programmed by society that the way things are is how it is supposed to be, and that everything outside the US can only be worse. But the good news is that nothing could be further from the truth and there are alternatives. There are many areas around the world where those these factors are reversed. Our media and society never talk about it. But we should cause it is important. So many men could be benefit if we did.

As far as I know, this is the ONLY book that provides an encyclopedia of serious and substantive reasons and comparisons WHY one will be happier psychologically, socially and romantically beyond America, and why many are going overseas. Other expatriate sites are merely resources that provide practical information for expats already living abroad ([such as the ones here](#)). They cover mostly economic

concerns, jobs and politically correct topics. They do nothing to CONVINCe or INSPIRE those who aren't informed about the benefits of living abroad, while HappierAbroad does exactly that. In short, they only deal with the HOW, while we deal with the WHY. As any sensible person knows, the WHY should be dealt with before the HOW. The reason they don't deal with the WHY is because they have to do with taboo and politically incorrect areas you aren't supposed to talk about.

But we at HappierAbroad hold TRUTH and HAPPINESS as our highest ideals, not political correctness. We cover truths that other expat and travel sites are afraid to touch. That's what makes this book unique and special.

Unlike the typical clichéish media propaganda story of an immigrant who fled oppression and poverty in a foreign country to find freedom, opportunity, and a better life in America, which you've probably heard too many times already, this book is quite the opposite. It basically contains the following:

- 1) A compilation of observations and comparisons of life in the US vs. abroad with regards to culture, social life, dating/love life, and mental health, which I reveal are far better, more wholesome and natural overseas.
- 2) Why and how an Asian American misfit like me fled social oppression, alienation, cultural persecution, loneliness, boredom and a sexless sterile existence in a hype-driven fake consumer culture to find freedom, self-expression, wholeness, connectedness, cultural enrichment, a richer social/dating/love life, a higher social status, fulfillment, stimulation, adventure, etc. in foreign countries.
- 3) A collection of essays against the hype, consumerism, and rat race workaholic nature of American life and culture, which poisons and empties the soul as well as health.
- 4) A compilation of comments and opinions from immigrants, foreigners, travelers, and expatriates that are discussed privately, but which you will NEVER hear in the conventional public media.

The observations and comparisons I make in this book Happier Abroad are based on my experiences abroad in the regions of America, Europe, Russia, Mexico, and Asia, the hundreds of people I've met on my travels, the experiences of perpetual travelers, and others who have written me over the years.

The objective is to INFORM people who are dissatisfied in America, that there IS an alternative BEYOND America where they don't have to put up with an anti-social, isolating, workaholic, consumerist, fake artificial and sexless lifestyle.

One of my readers summed up America perfectly with this sentence:

“America is a country that is built for doing business, not for living life.”

Amen to that. And in fact, I and many others could write volumes on that sentence (which I already have here of course) and give so many examples to support it.

The most important discovery I've made during my travels is this:

Beyond North America, the social atmosphere is much more natural and free flowing (in most places)

For a breathtaking quick visual glimpse of what I'm talking about, see this [Photo Collage](#).

I guess a secondary objective is to warn impending immigrants planning to come to America that what they will face is different from the rosy picture that Hollywood and America's propagandists paint. In reality, most immigrants who come to the US do not see it as a win-win situation where everything is better. Instead, they either have mixed feelings about it, or regret it. Common complaints they have are feelings of isolation and stress. For examples, see [these interviews reported in Little India magazine](#). There you will see that even those who work with immigrants on a daily basis through organizations report that most of them are unhappy with coming here or have mixed feelings about it. For many more quotes and comments from immigrants, see [this page](#).

Now, I acknowledge that in America, we enjoy certain freedoms, such as freedom of speech and religion. However, it is a mental and psychological prison where the mass populace are dumbed down and mind controlled. It is a culture where there is little to do but work to death while living in stress and

isolation. Entertainment in America is often a fake commercialized type of “fun” (e.g. Disneyland). And as mentioned above, the terrible social scene and mental health just don’t make it worth it for soulful people like me, regardless of how much money you make, when there are better alternatives out there.

If my objectives resonate with you, then please help share this movement by forwarding the link to HappierAbroad.com to others you know who could benefit from it. Or print out and distribute these [Pamphlets](#). There are millions of American males living in frustration, loneliness, and quiet desperation that you could help by doing so.

How I was “saved abroad” once before: Foreshadowing in my life

Just as in literature when “foreshadowing” is used to predict an oncoming significant event in the story or character’s life, real life itself often contains clues that foreshadow our adult destinies, if we are keen enough to see them. I have noticed some in my life too. For instance, at 17, to escape a nightmarish dysfunctional hellish environment in high school, where I could no longer function or study, I went overseas at to my native country of Taiwan for a whole year, where I felt accepted and whole within a supportive environment. This served to rejuvenate me and accelerate my mental, emotional and spiritual growth, allowing the “real me” to emerge from its shell which for years could not emerge due to the socially persecutory and psychologically oppressive environment of high school in America. After that, I suddenly became more communicative and expressive than ever before. A “new me” emerged, literally, as though my soul was “replaced”. ([You can read more about it here](#))

In spite of this though, I was brainwashed at the time by US culture to believe that it was the greatest and coolest in the world, so I wanted to return to the US again. Nevertheless, the rejuvenation allowed me to complete high school and then years of college after that. Upon graduation and into adulthood, as I slowly began to see the dysfunction, madness and artificial nature of US culture and society, even without the persecution of high school, I became more and more alienated and psychologically fragmented. So again, I began looking for meaning and alternatives. Eventually that led me abroad once again, where I made wonderful discoveries that years later led to the creation of HappierAbroad and its messages.

So you see, the year in Taiwan when I was 17 was a sort of “foreshadowing” of my life and destiny to come.

All my life growing up in California I had unnatural and weird social problems that made no sense. There was no logical way to solve them, and my peers could only give highly subjective and ambiguous advice such as “*Act more cool. Look more cool. Get a makeover. Walk with confidence.*” Etc. which never really worked cause they were unnatural, subjective, artificial and tried to get you to be something you’re not. My parents even took me to professional psychiatrists, therapists and counselors. But despite all their years of academic training, all they would do is listen to me and offer some medication to help. They offered no solutions or remedies. They were not intellectuals who could think outside the box. I was told the “party line” that the problem was within me, that I had to “fix” something in myself. I was the problem, not society or the culture. That was the illusion. You can read the story of my [20 years of loneliness and datelessness in America, in which I tried everything to no avail, here](#).

Some even suggested that the solution to my hopeless dating and ostracization problems in America was to become GAY! (So to these ignorant Americans, even changing your sexual orientation was a solution preferable to going abroad?! Not that I could have anyway, as I have not the slightest attraction to guys). Thank God they were wrong. It seems that most Americans are so entrenched in their belief that America is where it all happens that going beyond the USA Matrix never occurs to them.

NONE of them ever told me that my weird social problems could be solved by GOING ABROAD! Such solutions were outside their universe and paradigm.

In the final analysis, GOING ABROAD was what saved me, transformed me, and changed my life, not the BS advice I received from peers and psychiatrists in the States. Bottom line is that overseas, **I FEEL GOOD** about myself, and that’s the most important thing.

I never felt accepted by American culture, never fit in, and never felt comfortable in its social or dating environment at all. Hence I was always seeking an alternative, which I found at first in New Age groups; they satisfied me intellectually and spiritually, but not socially, culturally, romantically or sexually of course. I had an

insatiable appetite for adventure, freedom and romance that a spiritual life or even therapy in America could not fulfill. Thus, I needed a bigger change, and that answer finally came about from going ABROAD. It was only then that I found the fulfillment and joy that I've always wanted but couldn't get in America. It was only then that my dreams and fantasies, which weren't possible in America, came true. This book explains why and how, as well as the observations, insights and comparisons I gradually discovered.

Why we can't look to the US media for truth about a better life abroad

Throughout the years I've been working on this site and book, people often write to me, *"Wow I agree with everything you wrote. The thing is, I thought I was the only one who felt that way. I didn't know anyone else did too!"* ([examples here](#)) as if their feelings are suddenly validated by the revelations in my writings. Now that's great, but we might wonder how so many could feel this way but not know that anyone else did too. The reasons are, I think:

- 1) Most people who feel dissatisfied or out of place in America tend to blame themselves, for our culture teaches that the misfit or complainer is "the problem", and not the culture or country. (but upon reading this book many say they realize they were not the problem after all, American culture was)
- 2) The US media NEVER covers or reports on any of the things I write on this site/book for it's not in their interest to, for their job, according to insiders and media critics, is to dumb down the population and make them live in fear and paranoia, so they will overwork and overconsume..
- 3) Most people who feel this way are too afraid to express it out of fear of condemnation, of being seen as a freak or told that there's something wrong with them. After all, people don't like exposing their weaknesses, being seen as misfits or weird outcasts.
- 4) Many who feel this way simply lack the ability to express it or can't find the words to do so, since after all, we are not socially conditioned in American society to think or say such things, even if we feel them.

In reality, there are many real life stories and experiences such as mine, but our corporate-controlled, feminist media isn't interested in them. They only see within the parameters of its rat race/workaholic mentality and hype-driven consumer culture. The US media doesn't teach us to think at all, but *tells us what to think*. From its tone and opinions that come at you, the US media assumes that everyone in its audience is a narrow conformist like themselves are.

In addition, our media tries to indoctrinate you into believing that our nation is the center of the world where everyone wishes to come, and the most ideal, containing ALL the parameters of your life choices. (And that's funny since the US is only 5 percent of the world; What a narrow minded media) America is portrayed as the "universe" where all can come to have freedom, opportunity, and a better life. There is no other alternative in our media's eyes. Everything outside of America is portrayed as inferior, miserable, poor, oppressed, and dangerous. There's also the assumption that anything not possible in America is not possible anywhere.

This treatise will show point-by-point that the US media's stereotype is wrong and inaccurate. In fact, the US media doesn't teach you anything about the outside world beyond America. It only shows you disasters and dumb things about celebrity lives, telling you nothing of the positive benefits overseas. Therefore they are a bad source of information for those wishing to go abroad or seeking happiness overseas. After all, the media is not in the business of selling tourism.

Every year over 300,000 Americans leave the country to move overseas, and more than a million go for lengthy stays, according to a new book [Getting Out: Your Guide to Leaving America](#) But the US government and media never look into it to find out WHY expatriates relocate abroad. Instead, they act as though this increasing phenomenon doesn't exist. They prefer to portray going abroad in a negative light, covering sad stories of people going abroad to meet tragic fates. So I've decided to take it into my hands to be the one to explain the reasons to the country and to the world, using my own transformed life as an example.

Since the life-changing TRUTHS and SECRETS unknown to most Americans presented here will NEVER be covered by the US news media, nor even acknowledged to exist by them, it is up to ALL OF US to share these life-changing secrets with others.

Preliminary Notes

Keep in mind that this book is not for the politically correct, as they may be offended or repulsed by these observations and comparisons, but for truth-seekers and those who are willing to think “outside the box” and seek a better life.

Please keep in mind that the dissertations and observations expressed here are only general rules, not absolutes. I acknowledge that exceptions exist for every general rule, and that readers can always cite exceptions to any general rule with examples of their own. Thus, absolutes are not claimed here, only patterns and tendencies.

I should also clarify that though this book may sound “anti-American”, it is not intended to be. It is simply about the truth, which is that for me and many others, America has one of the worst cultures for social life, dating, mental health, family harmony, etc. and that there are better alternatives in other cultures. In fact, the overseas solution has proven to be the BEST one that has proven consistently to work for the average decent guy.

This treatise began when I started writing it as an article for a local newspaper back in 2003 which promised to publish it but then changed its mind (no surprise). Back then, it was only 20 pages long. Since then, I've revised and expanded it many times over the years, adding new observations, insights, comparisons and quotes from readers and forum posts, to the point where its size has now reached book-length. Therefore, you may notice that the many chapters in it are repetitive or seem out of order. This is because the chapters were not written in order, but added in different places as they were written. I apologize if any of that becomes annoying.

This is not a guidebook telling you what to do. In fact, no one can rightly tell you what to do with your life. There is no magic formula or single path that is right for everyone. Everyone has their own path, destiny and karma that is gradually discovered through progressive revelation. One only needs the courage, vision and inspiration to “go for it” and find their true path and calling. Thus no one person, no matter how brilliant or experienced, really knows what is “right” for another. To presume that they do would be foolish. However, there is nothing wrong with simply sharing one's observations, experiences and discoveries for others to consider and reflect on.

One thing I've learned is that as you travel abroad, you begin to realize that your view of your country from outside of it is very different than from inside of it. In a country, you tend to think within its insular environment and vibe. But outside of it, you are able to view it from a more detached viewpoint. As with anything, you tend to view something much more clearly when you're out of it than when you are in it. In fact, many Americans have reported that after spending extensive time abroad, that they find American culture to be a lot more fake and superficial in comparison now than before. Therefore, keep in mind that your perspective will change from now as you travel internationally more.

So thank you for your time and interest. I hope this book will help expand your mind, culture and life.

Should you wish to discuss any of the contents of this book with others, you may do so in my **Online Community** at <http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/index.php>

Sincerely,
Winston Wu

- **Open to contributions:** If you have an idea, observation or chapter that you feel would make a good contribution to this book, you can send it to me at WWu777us@yahoo.com.

Note: If you feel inspired or enriched by this book, you can help support us by joining one of our [Dating Sites](#) or ordering [My Russia Trilogy Videos](#).

A BIG SECRET I want to share with you!

*"Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things that you didn't do than by the ones you did do. So throw off the bowlines. Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover."
-- Mark Twain*

Are you tired of or dissatisfied with the following norms in modern America?

- The anti-social isolationist lifestyle where working and consuming are the only concerns in a culture where love, romance, passion, social connection, expression and genuineness are lacking or subdued.
- The lack of human connection and cold ice barrier between strangers in a paranoid society driven by fear.
- The constant feeling of insecurity, loneliness and social disconnectedness.
- The unattainability, unavailability or lack of women you desire, depriving you of quality female companionship.
- The fake social culture that doesn't allow you to be yourself and denies all the above.

If so, then the **GOOD NEWS** is you don't have to put up with any of it. There are many overseas cultures where all these norms are **REVERSED!** In fact, I'll tell you a **BIG SECRET** with you right now that you will NEVER hear from conventional sources.

The **BIGGEST SECRET** that's being kept from you is that if you are an average decent Western male, you are **GOLD** and a **BIG CATCH** to millions of thin beautiful feminine women all over the world who will treat you right - for REAL! No joke.

This is a HUGE life changing secret that will transform the lives of countless lonely frustrated single males in America, yet is never told to them by mainstream sources because it is taboo in our culture and society to mention such things. That is a big INJUSTICE and we are here to help correct that. When American males discover this themselves overseas, they typically go into disbelief and awe, exclaiming *"My God, where have I been all this time?! Why didn't I go abroad sooner?!"* This is how women were meant to be when God created them! *Why didn't someone tell me sooner?!"*

Now, we all know the rule of thumb that "If something sounds too good to be true, it probably is." But this IS one of the exceptions (which we have abundant proof of) making it one of the Biggest Secrets. Many guys have trouble believing this until they experience it themselves. But that's what we are here for, to show you a mountain of authentic proof which will inspire you and change your life!

You see, in many overseas countries, the gender and dating imbalances are reversed in YOUR favor! As you know, in the US it seems that every decent woman is taken, super picky, or not even looking, leaving many single males out of luck. To make things worse, many women are corrupted by feminism, treat men badly, and don't even need them. It's gotten so bad that it's not even worth your time to try anymore. But in many other countries, particularly less wealthy ones (Russia, Ukraine, Asia, Eastern Europe, Latin America, etc.) the supply and demand are REVERSED. There aren't enough good men, and an excess of women, so the women are the ones who have to impress the men, become sweeter and more feminine to get them. This gives males the upper hand with so many choices that many of them don't want to commit. Thus it becomes a dating paradise for YOU, giving you so many choices that it can spoil you rotten! This is a HUGE life changing secret that has transformed the lives of many frustrated and lonely guys at a dead end in America. It's a simple fact, kept silent due to its taboo and politically incorrect nature in the anti-male culture of the USA. But you don't have to worry about us spoiling the "frontier" for you though. With the USA comprising only 5 percent of the world's population, and the fact that most men who write foreign women never actually get off their butt to go overseas, you do not need to worry about saturation.

The truth is there are so many quality available women all over the world who are thin, feminine, sweet, approachable, unspoiled and will treat you right, that you will have trouble deciding which one to choose! So why would you want to remain on a sinking ship, when you could skyrocket your love life and dating

from zero to infinity by simply dating globally rather than locally?! Now, this might sound too good to be true and you might be wondering what the catch is, but I will swear to you that it is. Me and many others have lived and experienced it firsthand. If you come to my site and see the [testimonials](#), [interviews](#), [photos](#) and [videos](#), we'll prove it to you beyond a shadow of a doubt. The good news is that if you want, you can easily find a traditional wife, or party like a **Rock Star** in areas of the world like Latin America or Southeast Asia, for really cheap! Why should only the rich and famous be allowed to? You can too! All you have to do is to first make the mental choice to do so. We can guide you from there on.

Therefore, if you wanted to, you could be

- 1) **Traveling the world experiencing great sites and cultures, enriching yourself while learning things you never dreamt of.**
- 2) **Living in an environment and atmosphere where social connectedness is the norm, where there is an instant familiarity vibe between strangers.**
- 3) **Meeting and dating beautiful attractive women (many or one, it's up to you), never being without female companionship.**

for years, without a lot of money! I've been doing it (evidenced by the pictures on my site) and I've seen guys in their 20's and 30's doing it. You don't have to be "financially independent" by American standards, or old and retired with a pension either.

How, you might ask? Well it's simple, yet it's not because it's taboo in workaholic strict countries like America (which is "built for business, not for living life" as one of my readers said). Therefore, it requires that you free your mind first and realize that all you have to do is GO ABROAD to a country where what you want comes more naturally and easily for you. They do exist, but you gotta let go of the notion that "your country has it all" first. The reality is that there are so many countries where the cost of living is dirt cheap so that you will automatically be rich by the standards there, which will put you in a position to get what you want and need. In fact, going abroad can be the BEST THERAPY for all your crazy problems in America!

You see, our culture has taught us that America has it all and that anything not possible in America is not possible anywhere else, so we assume that there is no point in even looking beyond our borders. To most Americans the notion that something outside America is "better" is unthinkable. Therefore, this simple "secret" goes against what we've been conditioned us to believe. Also, it is taboo and unpatriotic to say that something in another country is better than what you have in yours. Doing so makes you look like a traitor and a loser. So you have to let go of that and learn to see the world as your home, not just your nation.

Another taboo is that you are not allowed to blame society for your problems. Instead, you are expected to blame yourself. That's why almost no one ever talks about this, even if they know it. But we at HappierAbroad are an exception. I could care less about what's taboo, as I'm all about the truth, not about living in fear of taboos, especially when my happiness, fulfillment and freedom are at stake.

Breaking this "taboo barrier" is what makes this simple secret so difficult. But it can be done, if you really WANT to!

The first step is to STOP believing the BS that you were born to become a corporate slave and that your life purpose is to serve the system until you are old, useless and need viagra, in order to be able to do what you want. Detach from all that BS. Such ideas were not designed for your interests. Don't waste the best years of your life buying into it, never experiencing all the joys, pleasures, and wonders that the real world has to offer. Also, you've got to STOP the inclination to do what society expects of you rather than what you REALLY want to do.

You've got to FREE yourself of all that. To put it simply, **you've got to FREE your mind first**. I know that's easier said than done, but if you REALLY want to do it, YOU CAN!

It's not easy disassociating from deeply ingrained beliefs that your family, society, educational establishments, media and peers instilled into you. And it's not easy to follow an unconventional path either, but hey, your happiness is at stake here, and if you are not happy conforming to the US rat race matrix, and it's not what you really want, then you've got to do something about it. Remember that there are other options!

The US media will hide anything from you that will help free you of your enslavement, misdirecting it with bad news instead to dumb you down and keep you enslaved. But as in Plato's Cave Analogy where the tribe of cave dwellers sit in a candle-lit cave watching the shadows on the wall while one of them ascends to the surface into the world of daylight and truth, you've got to do the same, breaking from the flock that keeps you in fear and isolation, to live the life you want.

Once you do though and see the light, you'll be glad you did. When you taste the reward of TRUE FREEDOM, you'll never want to go back to being a prisoner again. To walk this path you've got to believe that the meaning of life is to have RICH EXPERIENCES. That's what will motivate you and give you the strength, will and passion to make the necessary changes.

YES! There is a REAL solution to the isolation, loneliness, stress, datelessness, sexlessness, and meaningless life in America that WORKS! But conventional sources will NEVER tell you about it. You will only hear about it from alternative sources like HappierAbroad. So if you're reading this, count yourself lucky to be among the few that knows about this secret. It works, is life-changing and opens your eyes to a whole new world. So you've got to decide whether you want to waste your time living in fear of American societal taboos, or living a rich, fulfilling, meaningful happy life where your needs and wants are met. If you're willing to choose the latter, we will guide and inspire you to do so.

The rest of this book will convince you of the reality and benefit of this "secret" with a great deal of reasons, experiences (from many others) and explanations that will be of great inspiration to you and open your eyes. Awakening is the first step. After that comes the "how to" planning and selection process. For that stage, we will guide you with suggestions, choices and options through our [online community](#) and [other resources](#). Everyone's situation is unique and different, so we (our advisors and community members) will offer guidance on a case by case basis.

What about money?

I know what you're thinking. You need money to live and travel right? Sure. But there are many ways to live frugally and cheaply. The info is out there in books (e.g. "Europe on a shoestring") and online resources ([see here for a list](#)).

If you need to earn more money to continue living your dreams abroad (and you are not retired with assets, pensions or social security), you can just get a job in the country you love. It's a lot easier than you think if you are already IN that country. But you have to GO there first, not try to get it in advance. Most overseas jobs are NOT advertised online, and the ones that are, are hard to get, so don't bank on them (unless you have very special qualifications that they need). If you just GO there though, start asking around and networking, you will get important leads that open doors to work options for you, even if you don't speak the language. There are PLENTY of overseas jobs available, some even by US corporations based abroad or are outsourcing. Some may pay well, while pay just enough for you to get by (but isn't it more important to be happy than rich?).

And if you have some capital to spare, you can start your own business abroad of course, but you'll want the best advice you can get first, for that isn't something I would just jump into.

Another option is to cultivate some kind of residual income online like I do, from either online businesses, websites, or freelance work. This is even better as it would give you a lot more freedom in your schedule and allow you to work from anywhere with an internet connection. There are now so many ways of doing so. You don't have to be a computer wiz or tech geek either. For an overview, see this page:

<http://www.doshdosh.com/ways-to-make-money-online/>

You can also make money online from anywhere in the world as a freelancer. If you have any programming skills, web design skills, or just good solid writing skills, you can put them to use as a freelancer. And if you're good, the client may request more of your services on an ongoing basis. Here are a list of sites that offer jobs for freelancers.

<http://myseoblog.net/2008/04/07/lists-of-freelance-sites/>

<http://www.freelancer.com>

<https://www.demandstudios.com>

<http://www.essaybay.com/>

As of now, you can even make money teaching English online! For example:

<http://www.verbalplanet.com/teach-english.asp>

You can then continue living a life of freedom, love, beauty, stimulation, cultural richness, connectedness, expression and passion that you couldn't in the US. Always remember the motto "*Where there's a will, there's a way.*"

Sure you'll have to be prepared to make sacrifices. But that's life – a series of tradeoffs. If the rewards are worth it, that's what counts. I know it's hard to get out of a comfort zone where you are afraid of change, even if it means living in misery. But remember this saying: *You regret more what you didn't do than what you did do.* If you can find the courage and will to save up, sell that house, end that apartment lease, or quit that boring job, and stop making excuses, you can be truly FREE and not have a "stone around your neck" any longer. You will be glad you did.

And no, you don't have to save up a million dollars first. That's an illusion designed to keep you enslaved. Between five and ten thousand will do as a jump start. The rewards and benefits of having TRUE FREEDOM, not just of location but of mind too, are more than worth it.

Ask yourself these questions:

Would you rather have YOUR LIFE be like a beautiful moving movie, filled with rich experiences and moments, living your fantasies? Or would you prefer to watch A movie at home while winding down from a stressful day at work, just to mildly distract yourself while you doze off to await the same colorless routine the next day, while your neighbors are shut in their homes doing their own thing ignoring you like you don't exist? I've experienced both, and I can say hands down that the former is FAR FAR BETTER.

Anyway, I hope that gives you a better perspective of the big picture of what's available to you.

And if you ever need to discuss your personal situation or get advice from others about it, feel free to come to my [online community](#).

Now let me share with you the world I've experienced beyond the US matrix. It will open your eyes, awaken you, and most importantly change your life. So if you're ready to take the "**red pill**" then READ ON!

Why people leave America: The REAL reasons

"The World is a book, and those who do not travel read only a page."
- Saint Augustine

According to the Travel Channel and mainstream travel and expat sites and guides, the reason people travel is to experience other cultures. And the reasons people move overseas are to experience other cultures, for work, or to retire and bigger property for less.

But in reality, major decisions and changes are made not for one reason, but for multiple. And in this case, some of the multiple reasons are considered taboo and politically incorrect, so are never mentioned in mainstream channels, only in private conversations.

One example, as mentioned earlier, is the big secret and taboo truth that in general, foreign women treat men better than American women do, and if you are a decent American male, you are considered gold to millions of thin beautiful feminine females all around the world. This is something any average American male can experience, but is taboo to utter of course, so you just can't say that kind of thing openly, no matter how true it really is. That's the kind of censored world (and especially our country) we live in.

Most expat sites give only politically correct non-controversial reasons for everything. They do not get into deeper truths like we do, but prefer to play things safe to not offend anyone. So they only deal with the HOW of expatriation, serving as a resource guide for jobs, property listings, and general facets of life that are non-controversial for people who ALREADY live abroad or have already decided to. They do not deal much with the WHY aspect of going abroad. We at HappierAbroad are the only expatriate site that does, and that's what sets us apart from the rest. We make truth our priority, not political correctness.

Now to the average American, on the surface, the topic of why one wants to live abroad might seem strange cause it goes against their programming that America is a shining beacon of freedom, prosperity and opportunity that everyone wants to come to, not come from. So how could this even be an issue? It goes against everything we've been conditioned to believe.

So let's break it down.

First, the reality is, as they say, that money isn't everything. There are simply other factors that matter to people's lives – quality of life, peace of mind, leisure time, interpersonal relationships, feeling of worth, the need to have meaning in one's life, culture, sex, companionship of beautiful quality women, sense of belonging, connectedness, etc. America may be great for some things – career, money making opportunities, customer service efficiency, privacy, consumer choices, religious freedom, etc. - but it is not good for social life, connecting with others, developing quality truer friendships and camaraderie, or for meeting/dating women at all. In such categories it ranks quite low in fact. [See the chapter that outlines what America is good for and what it isn't.](#)

Thus, for those who strongly care about the factors that America ranks low in, there will be an inevitable disappointment and dissatisfaction. Therefore, it is logical to expect that some people will go abroad to areas where those factors which are important to them rank higher in their favor in comparison to the US.

And with certain things getting worse in America – the economic recession, social disconnectedness, breakdown of the family, increasing divorce rate, superficial culture, feminism corrupting women's personalities and relationships, increasing paranoia, health, stress/overwork, obesity, increasing mental health problems, unpopular US foreign policy, the "War on Terror" propaganda, etc. – those seeking happiness and fulfillment abroad are increasing, albeit still unreported by the US media.

As mentioned in the introduction, according to [Getting Out: Your Guide To Leaving America](#), approx 300,000 Americans move abroad each year and around a million go overseas for extended trips. Sure some of them go for "job relocation" or to experience other cultures that they like. Others are trying to escape the excess

materialism, stress and high cost of living in America. But there's much more to it than that, and few people are willing to talk about them outside of private conversations.

As far as I know, American expat males go to the Philippines for these primary benefits:

- 1) The cheaper prices and lower cost of living increases their money and purchasing power multiple-fold.
- 2) The everlasting supply of available attractive women for love, dating, marriage, companionship, or sex.
- 3) Peace of mind with less stress and less pressures, in a more accepting environment that does not leave one feeling insecure, and lets them do what they want.

Those are BIGGIES to men of course. And I believe that if more dissatisfied men in America were fully aware of these benefits, expatriation among them would skyrocket.

Basically, one feels better abroad about themselves, their relationships, and their life. And for men, the ability to get women any time they want and thus feel wanted and desirable is definitely a biggie. This leads to better relationships, self-esteem and more time and opportunities for relaxation and enjoyment.

The US is a country built strictly for business and workaholics. Its social environment is fragmented and disconnected, its daily life is stressful and demanding, its relationships are unnatural and dysfunctional. Many foreign countries have environments that provide relief from all that. For men especially, foreign women tend to be more friendly, feminine and treat men better, which is a huge refreshing difference for them. And of course, some countries have rich magnificent cultures such as those in Europe which provide much stimulation and adventure.

Despite all these reasons, what it really comes down to is that one simply "fits in" better in another country out there or vibes with it so that it just "feels right".

See these letters from expats who describe their reasons for going abroad in their own words, with complete honesty and no political correctness:

http://www.happierabroad.com/Great_Letters.htm

Here are some letters from that collection.

Take for instance this blunt summary by this expat in the Ukraine of his life there vs. in the USA, which is brutally honest and the kind you aren't supposed to share openly.

"OK,

I have Erra clean the home for me..spotless it is....then Katya comes by and she assist in cooking "Erra also has a degree form a tech school in home economics" The I have Olga..who comes by to help Olga is my friend she is 19 and works at a local store...If all else dont work I have many a neighbors ready to assist ole Si...I feel like a king here...I havent cleaned my home for at least 6 months...nor have I done my laundry, pulled weeds, mowed grass, jarred foods, picked fruits "I had over 150lbs of grapes mine you" my beautiful, lovely women do it all for me....I am a little king in so called poor Ukraine. I live on 400 USD a month "total poverty level USA" But I have hot water, good foods, 3 homes paid for cash" I get massages near daily by a lovely lady,sex on demand, foods cooked for me restaurant style..and I drink and am merry during the holiday..Never lonely "a friend-women is a phone call away" ...and people ask me why I have not returned to the USA...aWell let me explain my life if I returned there..lets compare. I'd be making MUCH more money...maybe 75K a year...BUT I'd be paying the bank on the home. I'd likely be lonely as friends in USA I need appointments for..Women..well I'd have to search the Yahoo personals for some gross obese fat chick...Then add she is on some type of medication or has luggage. Sex...likely masturbation...yeah id have maybe better roads, and fast food.....and would be making good money...but....I think I'll take my 400 bucks a month and be very happy here!"

And my Expat Advisor explained his situation and reasons like this:

<http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=222>

"I emigrated to the US in 1978 because I was escaping from military service in a dictatorial country which was getting ready for war.

I love the US for its gov't, its business structure, it's educational opportunities and its political and religious freedoms. I love the general Anglo Saxon sense of responsibility and how efficiently and smartly things are done. I am a US citizen now and will not change that no matter what. I have repaid all debts I owed, never defaulted on student loans and am a law-abiding citizen.

But there are things that I do not like and they are of social character- racial discrimination in social interactions, how people are officially divided into Whites, Blacks, Hispanics and Asians, etc. and how females behave, dress and treat men. I do not like the high divorce rate. I do not like how people are hyphenated- Irish-American, Italian-American etc. Even in Social Security annals, they write " foreign-born" and "American-born". Why they need to do it is beyond me.

Also, if you are a male immigrant from a non-white/non 1st world country, you will generally not be accepted as dating material by American women. I have heard and seen it over and over again. Plus the "real" Americans will not want to associate with you for friendship either. Even if you have a tiniest trace of an accent, you will be rejected. Socially, it is very nativistic and snobbish. This is why, unlike in quite a few other countries(even China , Korea and Japan) foreign men (even Bangladeshis) have local wives, in America you almost never see that. Even I know Germans here who have German wives, not American ones.

The best and most natural way of integrating into society is by marrying into it but it rarely happens to immigrant men in the US. They are just not marriage material.

Plus in the US people generally live in ethnic ghettos and do not associate with others. I call it apartheid and I am very much against apartheid.

In the country where I grew up I was a popular guy and had dates and many friends. I became a lonely man in the US. I could not stand it and decided that I had to combine America with another country. Since I began doing that, first by going to Japan and then other countries, my loneliness disappeared. It was the right choice for me and it worked for me.

The last straw? I applied for several jobs and they would not hire me. They kept asking me about the country I was from and all that. They did not like the fact that I spoke many languages. "Why? What is your nationality?"

I also got called a "foreigner" at one job I did get, and when I protested and said I was US citizen, I was told "I mean a foreigner, not born here." That was it. I was on the next plane out. I owe it to myself to live in a friendly place where people are not so nasty.

I got an MA in TESL and began teaching."

See more [expat letters here](#). For [statements from those who go abroad for love/dating, see here](#).

As you can see, there is a quality of life overseas not possible in the US for most, which is never shared publicly due to political correctness. For many expats, once they see these differences between the life they have overseas vs. the life they have at home, which gives them a much bigger picture, they realize that they prefer to stay abroad and that they are "Happier Abroad". Reality seems to be a total contrast to the US media's propaganda that America is the best of the world and that everything outside of it is worse.

Of course, there are other expats, including expat couples, who live abroad because they are attracted to a certain foreign culture and their soul feels more at home there. Or because they are tired of the workaholic rampant consumerist lifestyle in America as well as the growing unpopular US foreign policy.

Some of these expats live on incomes from pensions, social security, or residual income from businesses they have back home or that they've started in their new country. Others live on savings while they find work in their

new country. And some who specialize in certain trades work as freelancers or contractors in their new country making a little money off the side.

In any case, each expat has a uniquely different story, but they each have in common their courage to take the plunge and go out of the American matrix, which discourages such things. And of course, average people are not able to think outside the propaganda or box that they're instilled with. Most people are afraid to go against the grain, so these expats tend to lean toward being more unconventional.

Whatever the case, one thing is for sure, pretty much all of them are HAPPIER ABROAD! (no pun intended on the title of this book) And that's why they STAY overseas, some for years, others for decades.

Some mono-nationals in the US who are judgmental and prejudiced against foreign countries might consider these expats to be losers, misfits, or freaks who take advantage of poor countries and women. But that isn't looking at the big picture. In their minds, they are merely going to where they feel comfortable, happy, and more content. And there's nothing wrong with that. After all, if you aren't happy or getting what you want in one place, there's nothing wrong with going somewhere else where you will be happier or get your heart's desires. Why remain standing in quicksand?

And finally, one other important pattern among them is that the longer they stay overseas, the MORE observations and opinions they acquire will be similar to the ones in the rest of this book! That's because the longer you're out of America and the more multi-national/cultural your perspective becomes, the TRUER the observations and comparisons in this book become to you.

So read on if you dare. And prepare to take "the red pill" (ala the movie "The Matrix"). But be warned, once you're enlightened out of the "matrix", you can never really go back and fit in like you were when you were a drone indoctrinated with US propaganda. So make your choice! Will you choose Truth or the path of least resistance?

Note: If you wish to discuss your reasons for going abroad or ask advice about it, feel free to do so in my forum: www.happierabroad.com/forum/index.php

Four major things in America that drove me overseas

Now let me state for the record, I don't hate America as a country. And I am not unpatriotic either, but neither am I a blind patriot who is brainwashed. (In fact, I find patriotism to be illogical and non-objective)

America is great in many ways with some important benefits and advantages - its political/religious freedoms, career/money making opportunities, general orderliness and efficient control/planning (compared to third world countries at least), generous government benefits, and many laws designed to protect the common people.

It's just that there are key elements of life, society and culture in the modern USA that I find intolerable and incompatible with who I am. Here are some of the main ones:

1) People are generally anti-social, don't talk to strangers, don't know their neighbors, and have an isolation mentality that makes them PREFER being alone. Thus, it is hard, unnatural and "against the grain" to try to meet people in America. (Yet ironically, if you have no social life, you are considered a "loser"; That's what I call being caught between a rock and a hard place) If you go out alone, you tend to STAY alone. And of course, you are expected to enjoy being that way. So if you are a person who needs others or is dependent, then you may have a perpetual problem and get told there is something wrong with you, finding little sympathy. Those who are anti-social themselves or overly individualistic don't mind this as much though, since anti-social people don't mind others being the same way. But those who are very social like me will have a problem with it, and feel out of place. Even when people are forced to interact with others in social situations, they tend to act fake, polite and distant, which is reflective of their isolation mentality. Also, the average person only meets people through school, work, or mutual friends, and thus their social life is confined within a very small circle their whole life. So, if there are no women you are attracted to in your social circle or clique, (assuming there are females in your clique) or who are attracted to you, then you are screwed (not physically either, unless you go to a whore) in the dating arena. Thank God that the internet is helping to change this, but I should add that you don't tend to meet quality people online in the USA but you do abroad.

2) The lifestyle consists of working to death just to survive, and pay off bills and debt. "I owe, I owe, I owe so off to work I go" is the mantra of the middle class lifestyle, as one expat put it. However, freespirts like me tend to view the purpose of life as simply to "enjoy it" through enriching experiences while growing in self-expression, not to suffer and toil to death. Thus, our attitude is "against the grain" here. Many see making money as the highest goal or aspiration, and are willing to sacrifice every aspect of existence for it, including their precious time, health, heart and soul. Few people know how to truly enjoy life or even have fun. Even at parties, people mostly talk about their work and profession. Also, the pleasures and entertainment most people indulge in are artificial and commercial in nature, rather than soulful and natural. And romance has decreased in the collective mentality and culture to almost nil.

3) The US news media, in particular the network corporate news media (e.g. CNN, ABC, NBC, Newsweek, Time Magazine), is very unintellectual and possesses no insight at all. It rarely hosts or broadcasts any deep thought-provoking or meaningful discussions. Instead, they either attempt to instill fear and paranoia in you with reports of disasters and tragedies, implying that the only "important news" is "bad news", which I strongly disagree with. I've never understood what good they think comes out of telling everyone "bad news". Nor do I understand why "bad news sells" since it doesn't "sell" to me. (Maybe I'm just weird) Or they constantly try to distract you and waste your time with mind numbing trashy content, covering trivial stories that are completely useless and irrelevant to the average person's daily life. In the process they waste billions of dollars of expensive broadcast air time which could be used to cover meaningful and higher quality content instead. Rarely do they cover anything useful, enlightening, meaningful or positive that can change your life for the better. Thus, a person seeking to expand his/her mind, soul or cultural awareness will get absolutely nothing from the US network media, except maybe an insult to his/her intelligence. I hear far better discussions about world events and how things really are in pubs and youth hostels than on TV. The US media assumes that viewers are dumb and address the audience as though they were talking to "lemmings", which to me is insulting as well as a waste of my time, contributing nothing to my rich inner world at all. In fact, every time I turn on the news, I feel that it's constantly trying to "dumb me down". Thank God that there's PBS, the Discovery Channel, and the History Channel which have far more respect for viewer intelligence, or else I wouldn't watch cable TV. That juvenile computer hacker helping Bruce Willis in the movie "Die Hard 4" put it well when he said, "The news wants you to live in fear, so that you will feel empty and consume useless junk."

4) The women in general are extremely anti-social (unless they are old, unattractive or very poor), do not like to meet people, have a deep subconscious hatred of men, do not need men, do not even need the company of others, set standards that almost no man can meet, have a sense of entitlement that is off the chart, are unromantic, unsensual, untender, and very unfeminine in their attitude, looks/dress, personality and behavior. They are also conditioned by the culture to believe that any man who approaches them, pursues them, or flirts with them must be a creep or desperate, implying that a "normal man" is supposed to never pursue a woman but instead only let the women pursue them, which rarely happens, hence a no win situation in the US dating scene. Now, if you add the qualities in number 1 to this, it gets even worse, so you realize that trying to meet or date women in the US can be a total nightmare, and an exercise in futility. As a result, there are too many men, including me, who become couch potatoes, overeating and masturbating, having no choice. In short, the women simply don't want to meet you, and there's not much you can do about it.

Now, since meeting and courting beautiful women is one of my biggest passions in life, and I need to have a great sex life, the conditions of number 4 are a BIG NO-NO, intolerable and totally unacceptable. Thus we have a problem. Some men can tolerate it, but not me. Being dateless and sexless is one of the three things in life I can't stand (the other two being fatal heights and early mornings) but alas, dateless and sexless is what I am in America, no matter how hard I try to change it. And since I love to socialize, have quality conversations, and meet quality people, number 1 is a big no-no too, leaving me lonely and bored.

Number 2 and 3 are more tolerable (despite the title of this chapter) for they can be avoided or worked around through alternative choices and lifestyles. But still, they attempt to invalidate me, for the US media assumes by default that its viewers are unintellectual, conformists to the workaholic rat race consumerist lifestyle, and think within a very narrow box. If you are a freethinker or freespirt who thinks outside the box, then you don't exist to the US media, and thus are invalidated.

Furthermore, as mentioned in number 2, many see making money as the highest purpose or aspiration in life, and for them, American offers them great opportunities to achieve their highest goal. But no true intellectual

would set that as the highest aim. Thus, the US lifestyle offers little for the true intellectual or freespirt like me, and in fact, who they are tends to go “against the flow” of society.

Anyhow, because of number 4 and 1, there are just too many lonely depressed men who become couch potatoes, eating potato chips, watching TV, and masturbating when horny, cause they have no other choice. But who is trying to help them? Definitely not the US media. Only a few resources are, such as me and my website. But unlike some sources, I am not full of any BS, but a truth seeker who tells it like it is. That you can count on.

In the next chapters, I will elaborate much more on the four “intolerables” above.

Discuss this article here: <http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=1322>

Reader comments:

- “*** WWu, this is very good essay. I too have all but given up on a dating life in the USA. It is just impossible to meet attractive women. I think this mainly has to do with the shortage of attractive women (which is due to the recent sex ratio imbalance caused by the Baby Bust that has never happened before in human history, as well as the obesification of the American Woman), which allows them the ability to not have to date outside their little clique (only strange, desperate, or slutty women would allow themselves to be picked up by a stranger - unless he looked like Brad Pitt, of course.) This causes men like us who - through no fault of own - have poor social cliques to be unsuccessful in the USA. Women in other countries, like Eastern Europe or in your case, the Filipines, do not have near as much ability to date within their own clique, so they are open to being picked up by a stranger.”

- “The reason America is like that is because it's all a big plan. A big plan for the drug companys, corporations and government to screw up citizens as much as possible so they can sell them more chemical drugs, unnecessary surgeries, shitty chemical food and make them work like slaves to buy more and pay more taxes.

North American women are fat because they hate men. That's my theory about fat North American women. European women are not as fat and they don't hate men as much. There is a connection for sure!”

Why dating abroad is not for losers

For those wondering if striking out in your own country and having to go overseas makes you a loser, as your pride and ego might wonder about, here is a sensible reason not to see it that way from my Expat Advisor:

Are we losers?

To those who consider us losers, here is our answer:

We have discovered that love and sex are commodities as any others and they both obey market trends and the laws of supply and demand. We treat male and female attractiveness only in marketing ways, as well.

In other words we export the attractiveness of the American male to global markets rather than depending on the domestic markets alone. If that is being a loser, than any export company that tries to find better markets for its products is a loser, too.

Global marketing is a respectable trend and international trade is a quadrillion dollar a year business. Can you imagine someone writing an email to a large global company with billions in sale around the world and saying something like this:

You loser, what's wrong with a good old American market? Why can't you find an American customer.

Worse yet: Hey what's wrong with American investors? Why sell out treasury bills to the Chinese and Saudis?

As it happens, an American Citizen man (of any race, age and looks) is in greater demand in many countries than he is at home where he is surplus merchandise. So, we are here to market ourselves on the global scale.

Some more words of advice from him:

Happier Paths

So many of us spend decades of our lives climbing social ladders of societies where competition is high, the dog-eat-dog attitude is the norm, and true friendship and love are devilishly hard to find. We grow stronger in such an environment, wiser in an unhealthy way, and, at the same time, tougher and colder. We are true societal warriors, ready to crush the guy next to us for the benefit of taking his place in the social order.

In the meantime, there are places in the world where we are needed by many people who are actively searching for our help. Many would like to make friends with us and even share their lives with us. However, somehow most of us do not like to look “down” – we are trained to climb, climb all the way to the top. Be like the big players- the highly paid actors, millionaires, doctors, and other great people.

Then, many of us complain of loneliness and coldness among the skyscrapers of Hong Kong, New York or Tokyo not realizing that ultimately we have made the choice to be there, karmically or otherwise. If we really wanted, there are many places where people want us, and often, we can go there and live a life with much less competition and much more acceptance and respect, but many of us simply do not dare to. Or, we are just ashamed to. What will our friends think of us when they see us with those who are poorer than us? In countries that are poorer than ours? Nah!

One of the sources of my feeling inferior to my fellow (wo)men was that I would always compare myself to those above me socially, economically, ethnically and otherwise, while totally ignoring the so many people “below” me in so many places where I would be so much more welcome.

After I hit forty, had a divorce and a near bankruptcy, I finally woke up and began thinking of where I could contribute to the development of the world while at the same time not to become a pauper. It did turn out that one could do both- one really did not need to sacrifice one's comfort for the sake of serving one's fellow human being. I also started looking for social life in countries where I felt people would be seeking me out instead of me having to seek them out.

So far, such a balanced life has proven to be a very happy one. When I compare my personal state of mind, and, most important, my present level of happiness to the times when I was living in the concrete jungles of big 1st World cities, thinking only of myself and how I could please the people above me, I always note with satisfaction that, I have, in fact become happier.

So, the lessons that I have learned can be summarized as follows:

1. There are plenty of people in many countries that need you. Find out in which ones, where and go there.
2. Do not worry about not becoming one of the people at the top of the world. That may or may not make you happy. There are still many places where people would like to have you as a leader; and you can serve them and enjoy the same respect amongst them that billionaires have in large industrial world capitals.
3. There are jobs that pay well, but which are still located in places where people need you. You can kill two birds with one stone- make good money and contribute to humanity. There is no need to become a “hippy volunteer”.

Finding a situation like that is easier than one may think. And it may be the best path to follow if one wants to become happy.

With that, let's begin the main sections of this book.

Social culture and people

Highlights of general differences

For a great rundown of general differences between the US and most countries overseas in terms of social life, dating, love and mental health, see this comparison chart:

<http://www.happierabroad.com/comparison.htm>.

It tells it like it is, with no whitewash or political correctness.

Here are five norms in modern America and how they are reversed overseas.

The anti-social and segregated lifestyle devoid of human connection

The worst thing about the USA is that the social climate is stuck up. It does not flow freely and naturally like it does in most of the rest of the world. Instead, it is locked, contrived and artificial. For the most part, people like to stay locked in their cliques and routines, keep to themselves, and don't like to meet new people or expand themselves. There is no sense of human connection. People live in isolated bubbles and are disconnected. Thus trying to meet people in the US feels awkward and unnatural as if you are doing something you aren't supposed to be doing and violating other people's bubble. Generally, people don't talk to you unless you're in their clique or it's business-related.

But on the other hand, people in most countries abroad are much more lively and free-spirited. They are incredibly open, friendly and naturally love meeting new people. And there is a general sense of interconnectedness with people there. They have a totally different attitude toward strangers than people in America where meeting people close themselves into cliques and limit their social interaction to it.

But in Europe/Russia you almost never feel like you're a stranger to anyone. There are always people around me who want to meet me, no matter which city I'm in, and it feels fluid and natural, not like you have to make something happen. In fact, when arriving in a new city in Europe/Russia where I didn't know anyone, within an hour or two I would meet new people, collect several girls' phone numbers (and unlike most girls here, they follow through on appointments rather than flake out!) and I would already have plans that day or week. And I wouldn't even have to try to make those things happen either. They just happen naturally with the flow. Contrast that to places like my reclusive anti-social town of Bellingham, WA where you can live for years and only have one or two regular friends!

The fake artificial social culture

The way that people socialize and interact in America also seems very fake and artificial. And in fact, it's one of the first things that foreigners notice upon arriving in the US. You can tell most Americans are not comfortable in social settings, especially with meeting new people or strangers. Thus, those of us who are social, lively, genuine, sincere, and down-to-earth often feel awkward in such climates, and have a difficult time connecting or bonding with others in such a socially cold world. After all, how can a sincere deep person connect or "fit in" with those who are the opposite? It's awkward, unnatural, and uncomfortable.

The workaholic and mind numbing lifestyle and culture

America is a workaholic country where most people "live to work" (as they say in Europe). There is little passion or ambition outside of that.

This workaholic, materialistic consumption lifestyle and environment is mind-numbing and isolating. In the large scheme of things, there is very little room or reward for creativity or self-expression. As a result, the people who thrive on intellectual or spiritual growth often struggle and feel alienated in mainstream America, because the lifestyle, environment and conditions don't cultivate such things. Instead, they cultivate a staunch conformist and materialistic mentality. Just look at the general cookie-cutter architecture in America such as suburban

homes, strip malls, corporate buildings, franchise stores, etc. and you will see that it all symbolizes and represents a conformist creed and mentality.

In contrast to the general bland cookie-cutter appearance of buildings in America that have no character, the rich architecture in Europe/Russia is vivid, surreal, colorful, stimulating, with a lot of character and rich with culture. In Europe/Russia, the culture and architecture puts most places in the USA, especially suburban America, to shame and emptiness. There are gorgeous museums and structures everywhere to stimulate your mind, intellect, and imagination. You are constantly stimulated by everything around you, so you barely notice the time passing and you feel intrigued by every moment.

Unapproachable, paranoid and hostile women

In North America, women tend to be very cold, reserved, defensive and stuck up toward strangers. As a result, trying to meet them feels awkward, unnatural, and inappropriate. When you do, you feel like you are doing something you're not supposed to and risk looking like a creep to them.

In contrast, the women overseas are a hundred times more friendly and open. And this is true not just in poor third world countries, but even in Western Europe as well. They treat men better too. Western men who experience this are often amazed at how open and natural foreign women are to meeting strangers. In Europe/Russia, women are more naturally curious, intellectual, and uninhibited than their western counterparts. There, meeting women comes easily and naturally, which is a delightful surprise to Western men who are accustomed to the opposite. It almost seems too good to be true, but it is, so many men think to themselves "My gosh. Where have I been?!"

After being in Europe/Russia for many months, I can certainly tell you that although Americans are richer in money than Europeans/Russians, the European/Russian people definitely have RICHER SOULS than the American people do. In general, Europeans/Russians are much much more open and easy to connect with. And they seem much happier too, which is contrary to what our media portrays.

All these things will be elaborated more on in subsequent chapters.

Why America is bad for Social Life, Dating and Mental Health

Note: This is an expansion of my [Pamphlet](#) and [home page intro](#), which I am writing as a script for a YouTube video I'm working on.

Video script: Three Taboo Truths in America and the Overseas Solution to them

Hello, my name is Winston Wu, founder of HappierAbroad.com, the most truthful and unique expat dating site on the web.

Today I'm going to be talking about 3 taboo truths in America that you aren't supposed to talk about, and the Overseas Solution to them.

But since they affect many people, I feel that they should be addressed, rather than ignored or denied.

So let's begin.

1) There is little sense of human connection in America.

- Every man is an island. There's no feeling of connection with other people. An "ice barrier" exists between strangers, hence we have the term "breaking the ice". People generally live in their own bubble. This is something very obvious. You can see it everywhere out in public. Yet no one dares call attention to it for some reason.

And it's not about who you are either. Even if you're attractive and have a lot of friends, as a third person you can still see that this is the way things are between people out in public.

Here are some examples from photos I took of people on a Seattle Ferry:

<http://www.happierabroad.com/Ferry1.jpg>

<http://www.happierabroad.com/Ferry2.jpg>

Simply put, people don't want to connect in America. They just meet for convenience and then go their own way. And you are expected to do the same. If you want to connect, then America makes you feel like there's something wrong with you. Neighbors don't usually even know each other. You can be in crowded places and feel all alone. That's not normal in most of the world.

- People are socially engineered to be anti-social, segregated and paranoid of each other. They are generally uptight, stiff. Trying to meet people feels awkward and unnatural.

- Groups are generally non-inclusive. You can see this when you go out in public. People socialize only within the group they're with. You can't just "go out and meet people". It doesn't work that way, despite what you see on TV and in the movies. So if you go out alone, you usually stay alone.

- Greetings are polite and superficial. People will ask "How are you" when they don't really care how you are, yet they will always expect you to say that you're "great" or "fine".

2) The dating scene is a nightmare for many men.

Now this is a very taboo area in particular because there is an unspoken rule in America that says anytime you publicly compare men and women, you MUST ALWAYS put the women in the better light. In other words, the women have to always come out on top. This is an unofficial rule that everyone knows and goes without saying. Comedians, performers, public speakers and authors abide by it usually.

However, I am not here to be politically correct, so let's cut the bull and just go to the truth:

- In America, women generally despise men and see them as fools, creeps and predators. Their culture, media and peers all condition them this way. You can see this in day time talk shows and glamour magazines. Now how good can a dating environment be if one gender hates the other? How healthy can such a relationship dynamic be? I mean, get real.
- Females are not feminine or sweet. You can see this in their looks, personality, demeanor and dress style. They don't even giggle or blush. Instead, they're tough and unfeeling, which is glorified in the movies. Yet every normal guy prefers a feminine woman over a non-feminine one. (Though the feminized politically correct men in America will not dare to admit it of course)
- The women are often unapproachable, defensive and paranoid, so they are not even easy to meet. Men do not feel comfortable or natural trying to meet them. Hence few guys have the guts to approach attractive females, not cause they lack courage, but because the females carry a vibe that they don't want to be approached.
- They have an off-chart sense of entitlement and think that they deserve the best of the best in everything, as if they were some kind of royalty. Thus they reject 99 percent of their admirers. Their expectations are too unrealistic.
- Even worse, they seem to have this strong psychological resistance to intimate relationships with males. You can sense this in their attitudes and interactions with them. Often when they start getting close or intimate, they suddenly back off and drop things cold.
- They blow off men who are interested in them as though it were a routine and expected maneuver. This is indicative that male/female relationships and dating are not natural in US society, as if you are not even supposed to pursue them.
- In fact the whole male/female polarity is totally out of whack. Male/Female energies and behaviors do not complement each other at all, but are dysfunctional, conflicting and totally out of balance and harmony. This is obvious to any honest observant person.
- Men do not feel wanted or needed, and that's a bad thing which affects their self-esteem. Who wants to feel unwanted and unneeded?

Also, a man's niceness is not rewarded, but spat upon. You might have heard the term "Nice guys finish last"? Well nowhere is that more true than in America's dating scene. You get nothing for being nice to women. No points or rewards. It does not count at all in US dating.

Now if you ask me, any society that looks down upon niceness is one f***ed up dysfunctional mess. No question about it.

- On top of that, Single men outnumber single women in America, as [evidenced in these stats](#). This means that there are too many men competing for too few women, giving women too many choices and men too few. Anyone can see this both in real life and in [online personal ads](#), where women receive hundreds of times more responses than men do. And of course, they are far pickier.
- There are more lonely frustrated dateless guys in America than in any other country. That's why the whole PUA industry is primarily based in the US. And that says a lot right there.

3) The artificial culture erodes your self-worth and sanity.

- You are conditioned to feel insecure and unworthy, to keep you weak and easy to control, through a series of subtle subliminal messages. You are definitely are not conditioned to feel whole and complete in America. For some reason, everyone feels inadequate... like they're not good enough.

Of course, if you were whole and complete, you couldn't be controlled or manipulated. So they try to manufacture an emptiness inside of you.

- You are taught to fill this emptiness by living to work and consuming endless junk you don't need. That's why the model citizen in America is a workaholic and you are taught that "you are what you do".

They perpetuate this myth that making money and buying endless junk will make you happy, which is false. As Wayne Dyer said, "There is no way to happiness. Happiness is the way."

But in truth, the key to happiness is not in your productivity and wealth. It's in your outlook and attitude, quality of relationships, and having healthy balances, just enough, in the areas of life that are most important to you.

- The social culture is like a mask of fakeness that you can never really "be yourself" in. You're expected to always act happy like everything is great. That's why when you go to work, people ask "How are you?" and you always have to answer "Fine" or "Not bad", even if you're feeling like shit. It's very unnatural and fake.

In such an environment, how can you ever be your true self, or even know your true self?

- Many develop phony or unnatural personalities to compensate for their inferiority complexes. You can see this in a lot of people in America. I'm sure you all know someone who brags, exaggerates or makes up stories about their lives to impress others. Or people who act phony and are not sincere or down to earth. Deep down they have a wound that they are trying to cover, and develop all these complexes as a band aid. It's very sad.

This is especially true with minorities. If you look at black people in America for instance, and compare them with black people in England, you will notice a big difference. The blacks in the UK seem far more well adjusted and whole, like they are part of the mainstream, whereas blacks in the US seem to suffer from an inferiority complex (through no fault of their own).

Such a difference is very noticeable, one of many in fact, but of course you will NEVER hear about it in the media or any large scale magazine. It's way too TABOO to mention.

- These aspects of the artificial American culture is very undermining to one's psychological balance and wholeness. In other words, it's detrimental to your mental health.

Implications and Solutions:

These three dysfunctional conditions culminate to make America one of the WORST, if not the worst, countries for Social Life, Dating and Mental Health, and explain why it has the HIGHEST rates of mental illness and loneliness in the industrialized world (look it up or see the stats on my site).

Yet US society is in denial about all this. These realities are unacknowledged, and it is taboo to mention them (especially # 2) lest you be perceived as a "loser". Instead, you are expected to always maintain the façade that "everything is great" and if you have a problem you are expected to blame or improve yourself.

But the truth is that the problem does not lie in the victims, but in the dysfunctional society itself, evidenced by the fact that for many sufferers, these problems *alleviate* once they are in different cultures, which I demonstrate on my website.

You see, many mainstream people do not see the truth the way it actually is. They filter everything through what I call "politically correct lenses" which are designed to focus only on nice and simple practical things. That's why they can't mentally recognize anything negative about other people, cultures or society, even the most obvious things. It's not that such negative aspects don't exist. Of course they do. But people are conditioned to not generalize or stereotype negative attributes to others, even if they're true. This applies to many in the world, not just in America.

That's why many in the mainstream are not able to mentally recognize the obvious truths above. Their "politically correct lenses", which only focus on positive and practical things, filter them out.

Now there is nothing wrong with being polite and not wanting to offend others. That's part of our social conditioning and is usually a good thing. But if it ends up filtering out the truth from your world view, especially when it comes to acknowledging serious problems, then it may not be such a good thing after all.

Plus most people are not that perceptive when it comes to other people, relationships, culture and psychology. They are not accustomed to analyzing such things, and lack the depth and insight to make assessments in

those areas. Instead they are trained by society to focus and deal with practical issues, like food, money, physical objects and structures. So their common sense is primarily in pragmatic areas.

Another factor is that those who do recognize these obvious truths are afraid to mention them openly because it makes them look like maladjusted losers, and plus they know that the politically correct mainstream will mentally resist these truths too. They know this instinctually.

Nevertheless, you can take solace at least, in that NONE of it is your fault. As the great Indian sage Jiddu Krishnamurti stated, "It is no measure of health to be well adjusted to a profoundly sick society."

So the next question is: What can we do about all this?

Well we can expose it publicly, like I'm doing now. But what else can we do about it? Can I just go out and change the whole fabric of American society? Of course not.

BUT I can tell people that there's a SOLUTION to all this!

And that solution is: You can simply go abroad to other cultures and environments where these conditions are better or reversed.

However, such an idea strongly goes against our conventional wisdom and paradigm.

You see, when you have a problem, you are taught to stay put and try to solve it, cope with it, or improve on it. Running away is seen as escapist and cowardly. So we all first ask ourselves, "How can I fix my situation so that it will be better? What improvements can I make?" When you go to a therapist for instance, they're gonna suggest you to learn coping skills rather than tell you to go somewhere else where things are better. That's our "mental prism" so to speak, and few can think outside the box.

And that's fine. But you gotta look at the scope of what you're up against. For example, if you were standing on a sinking ship or in the path of an oncoming freight train, would you stay put and tough it out, or would it be more sensible to escape from it?

In this case, the individual can't change the dysfunctional US culture and society. It would be like an ant trying to move a hill. Why continue to play a losing game with a losing hand?

Plus there is no real solution, not even from the PUA or self-help movements, that any average person can simply take and consistently and reliably turn around his Dating, Social Life and Mental Health with guaranteed results. None.

You see, in order to validly claim that something WORKS, it has to WORK for any average person reliably and consistently, not just for a few or a minority. Otherwise, it doesn't work. Simple as that. I mean, if a computer program only worked 10 percent of the time, would you say that it "works"? Would you sell it or promote it?

Yet NONE of the remedies and techniques of any of the PUA or self-help movements out there fulfills this criteria.

But the overseas solution DOES!

You see, every male expat living overseas who has dated there is of the unanimous opinion that his relationships, social life and mental health are far better than they were in America (or Canada or the UK). Even though everyone is different with varying opinions, on that they are unanimous on. What does that tell you?

Obviously, this means that ANY average Joe (with no a-hole personality or mental problems) can turn their life around using this path as their solution. Thus it REALLY WORKS.

But you don't usually hear about it cause it's taboo and goes against the grain. Well now you have.

So, why does the overseas solution work? Because in most foreign countries, the taboo truths above are the exact OPPOSITE:

1) There is more natural social connectedness.

- The social environment is more open and inclusive. It is easy and natural to meet and connect with others. There is an instant familiarity between strangers rather than an ice barrier. People do not have a "keep out" wall or vibe around them.

So even when you go out alone, you can meet others. It feels natural and part of the flow. You don't need any artificial "social skills or techniques". You can just be your pro-social open self and it happens.

- With a feeling of natural connectedness, you do not feel alone even when you are physically alone.

- Friendships and bonds are truer. A spirit of camaraderie exists between people that you don't find in America. You can see it between friends and in the communal environment.

2) Dating and relationships are more natural and fulfilling.

- Women are generally feminine, sweet and modest. They dress, look and act feminine. Girls giggle and blush, like real girls do.

- They are more approachable and easier to meet. Compliments flatter them and do not creep them out. They are enthusiastic about dating.

- Females do not have any psychological block or resistance toward relationships with males, but seek it and dream of it. Deep down, they respect and need men, providing love, companionship and support.

- The men feel wanted and needed. Their niceness is rewarded and it wins actual points too.

3) You feel more accepted, whole and good about yourself.

- The "real you" is allowed to flourish with a natural sense of wholeness and oneness, both inner and outer, which leads to a healthy psychological balance.

- People like you just for you and accept you that way. You do not need to act "fake" or develop inferiority complexes. People are far less artificial.

- When you have problems, friends will listen and care. You do not need to go to a therapist.

Implications and Conclusions:

Now isn't that the way it should be?

So the obvious question now is: ***Which of the two social environments described above - America vs. Overseas - would YOU be happier in?***

Enough said.

Yet most Americans never hear about these comparisons, for it goes against their indoctrination that America is the greatest in all things and that everywhere else can only be worse. And those in the know have to be careful not to be too open about these truths due to their taboo and politically incorrect nature.

So these comparisons are never acknowledged publicly.

And that's what we are here for, to disseminate this life-changing information to those in need (since no one else will).

You see, I know that once you go abroad and experience all this, your life will be changed forever!

The voluminous material at my website demonstrate and prove all this conclusively, with an abundance of testimonials, interviews, photos, videos, articles, ebooks, guidance and an online community.

The Happier Abroad movement has changed lives and inspired others, providing hope, validation and a Proven Solution that has led people like you to Love, Social Connectedness and Personal Fulfillment overseas, thus becoming "Happier Abroad".

So visit www.HappierAbroad.com today! And if you have any questions, post them on my Forum.

Thanks for watching.

Discuss this article here: <http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=7052>

Update! My video lecture based on this script is now available to watch at:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5gAJhuocKeg>

What America is good for and what it isn't

Lately, there has been a lot of talk in the alternative press and internet about America becoming a warmongering fascist police state that is invading other countries without justification, causing massive loss of innocent life and taking away our liberties and freedoms.

There may be a some truth in that, but what isn't commonly mentioned is that there are other big weaknesses, disadvantages, and negative aspects in America besides its fascist elite and shadow government as well, which hardly ever get discussed in public outlets outside of private conversations.

Thus, these anti-government protestors make it out to be as though without the tyranny of the government and corporate elite, America would be a perfect country that is great in every area and the freest country on Earth. That just isn't so, for it has some strong social, psychological and spiritual weaknesses that immigrants and foreigners often observe and talk about, but which are totally ignored in the corporate media and public forums. For some reason, there is a deafening silence regarding them. Every country has its pros and cons, including America, so why are these "cons" ignored?

When problems in America are discussed publicly or in the corporate controlled media, it's mostly always about economic problems, jobs and crimes, but hardly ever about the social life, dating scene or mental health of people, which are just as important if not more. After all, quality of life in terms of social, romantic and psychological areas, are important and affect one's mental health, relationships, happiness, and reason for living.

So anyhow, here are the real life disadvantages, problems, and weaknesses in America that no one has the courage to publicly discuss, but exist nonetheless, and are important. Since others don't have the guts to speak about them, I guess I will.

So, here in plain truth is what America is good for and what it's not. Any honest well- traveled expat with vast international experience who tells it like it is, having no fear of political correctness will vouch for these as well.

What America is good for:

- **Finding a job / Making money**
- **Religious freedom**
- **Privacy / Being left alone**
- **Quality / Efficiency / Customer service**

What America is NOT good for:

- **Dating women (love, romance, sex for men)**
- **Inclusive social scene / Connectedness**
- **Mental health / Psychological well being**

Description of each of the above:

Advantages and Strengths:

Finding a job/ Making money – Finding work, if you're serious and persistent, is relatively easy in America, as long as you play by the rules. It may not be your ideal position, but you can find a job that pays, if your standards aren't too high. And the pay rate for any position, even at minimum wage, is relatively high compared to most of the world. And if you are a workaholic, you will fit into the corporate culture just fine and be rewarded for your conformity, performance and work ethic.

Religious freedom – In America, you can practice almost any religion you want, as long as you don't harm other people or infringe upon others' rights, or do anything illegal as part of your religious practice.

Privacy / Being left alone – If you like being alone, not bothered, and having your own space isolated in your

own home, America is a good place for that, as privacy and isolation are the dominant norm in the social culture. As long as you have income and can pay your bills (or live with those who can) you can have all the privacy you want, especially in the US suburbs, which is very isolated and segregated by its nature. (yet paradoxically, if you have no friends or can't get dates easily, then you are considered a loser by more shallow aspects of the pop culture).

Quality / Efficiency / Customer service – Compared to developing countries of the 2nd and 3rd world, American products, services and infrastructure are first rate and high quality. Generally things run efficiently in both the private and public sector. Competition and the workaholic lifestyle help make this so. There is constant pressure and strive for efficiency, and things are well defined, specific and structured logically. Communication is literal and articulate to minimize misunderstandings too. Generally, things are run and maintained with rigid quality control standards and laws.

In addition, customer service in the corporate and business sector is superb, speedy, and quality controlled (in most cases at least, compared to the rest of the world). The motto that “the customer is always right” makes America very pro-consumer. America is also one of the few countries, even among industrialized nations, where you can get a full cash refund in retail stores for something you bought within a few weeks, whereas in other countries you are only allowed to exchange your product if it was defective.

Disadvantages and Weaknesses:

Dating women (love, romance, sex for men) – Let's face it, America has just about one of the ALL-TIME WORST dating scenes for men, if not THE WORST. It is a nightmarish hell of epic proportions and the whole process for men is one of the most frustrating and unnatural things in the world. See my essay about it here: <http://www.happierabroad.com/introduction.php>

So if you are a guy who enjoys being involved with beautiful women, hanging with them, dating them and making love to them (getting laid so to speak), you may find America to be one of the most frustrated, prudish and frigid places where you cannot unleash or express your desires, especially if you are just an average nice guy.

There are just SO MANY things and factors going against you in this area that make it extremely difficult or impossible, no matter what you do or how you act and project yourself. And this is the case even if you are good looking or wealthy.

But of course, all of this is taboo and forbidden to discuss publicly, because there is an unspoken Gospel Law in America that says that men are never to complain about women, who are innocent and can do no wrong. To do so would be anathema, regardless of the facts or reality. (after all, truth is anathema to the US media) And also, in any public discussion about men vs. women's issues, the women must always come out on top, while men are to be shamed or laughed at as fools. Thus the media is biased only toward hearing the complaints of women, not men. Anyone who violates these politically correct boundaries will be attacked and condemned.

Nevertheless, the horrible lopsided dating scene for men in America is all too real, regardless of public denial and taboo. Here are examples of factors against men in the US dating scene:

- Women have become stuck up and paranoid, living in fear of male strangers, thinking that there are many psychos out there. All this is reinforced by the culture and media.
- Women are taught not to need men, but to look down on them and be independent instead. And in fact, many women on their day off prefer to be alone, walk their dog or visit a girlfriend rather than spend time with a man on a date. Any man who complains about this is considered “weak, needy or desperate”, thus the blame is shifted onto him.
- Women are not feminine anymore and in fact are conditioned to detest femininity. They neither act feminine nor dress feminine. This is a big turn off to most men, but most are afraid to complain about it because to do so would be taboo and politically incorrect. Also, they do not blush or giggle and are not moved by flattery.
- Women are very picky and hard to get. They have a sense of entitlement off the charts, and have a way of undermining men's confidence and pussy-fying them. Getting a girlfriend or getting laid in America is HARD, and if you manage to get one every few years, you are considered “lucky”. Plus most women prefer only white men. Some like Blacks and Hispanics, but Asian men are in the worst position as polls show that they are favored the least by American women. (while Black women are favored the least by American men)

- More or less, something like 80 percent of the women go for the top 20 percent of the men, leaving 80 percent of men to settle, lower their standards, or remain single. Clearly women have the upperhand, and they have all the power and choices, for the US is a woman's market.
- Single men outnumber single women in America, as [evidenced in these stats](#). There are too many men competing for too few women, giving women too many choices and men too few. Anyone can see this both in real life and in [online personal ads](#), where women receive hundreds of times more responses than men do. And of course, they are far pickier.
- Decent looking and above women who are not overweight in America are nearly unattainable to the average guy. In fact, to many guys' standards, any girl who is not fat (or nerdy looking) is considered "hot", sadly enough. The rest of the women who are overweight or unattractive have hateful angry personalities and demand that men submit to them (as they do on sitcom TV shows like Home Improvement).
- Most American women are either overweight or look/act too manly, thus making them physically unattractive to a man's basic nature and taste. If she is thin or at least decent looking though, then she is almost never single (unless she wants to be or no one fits her standards), or she has loads of guys hitting on her to choose from, so that courting her feels like trying to win the lottery.
- Most average men in the US have a chance to get a girlfriend once every few years, so that they can have regular sex again. If she dumps him, he has to wait another few years, or longer. And that's excruciating and it damn sucks as well. This is because meeting women in America is both hard and unnatural. You can't just "go out there and get a girlfriend" as the cliché goes. In reality, American women are cliquey and don't like talking to strangers (contrary to what Hollywood portrays), so you've got to meet them through school, work or mutual friends. Most people's social interactions in America are limited through the connections of their clique (if they even have a clique). And even if you do meet them, you have to then pass her highly picky standards, or else she will just blow you off. To the average guy, this is a horrible nightmare where they have almost no choices or power at all. Worse yet, if you complain about it, you will be blamed and told that if you were worthy you'd get the women you want, so you must not deserve it.

With all that going against men in America's dating scene, it's no wonder that so many male expats overseas unanimously agree that foreign women are far better and that they'd never go back to trying to get American women again. With many of the above factors reversed, male expats find foreign women so refreshing beyond words, so that they ask themselves "Where have I been? Why didn't I come here sooner?"

This is the one thing male expats who are dating or married to foreign women all agree about. Expats commonly talk about this in private conversations, but for some reason, it's rarely ever mentioned in public media outlets, even on the internet, and even on expat websites, except for sites like HappierAbroad.com.

If you wish to contest any of this, then ask yourself this: Why there is such a large pickup artist community in America for frustrated chumps, whereas in other countries there isn't? Why are there so many pickup artist gurus (Mystery, Ross Jeffries, David DeAngelo, etc.) with speed seduction books and websites, even offering seminars and training camps, for frustrated chumps who can't get laid and can't get chicks who have reached the end of the line? How come it's not like that in other countries? Think about it.

Inclusive social scene / Connectedness – The social atmosphere and vibe in America is not generally inclusive, but highly exclusive and rigid. It just does not flow well. And most people, especially women, are uncomfortable talking to strangers. That's why there is the term "break the ice" between strangers as an "ice wall" exists between people. Americans do not tend to be good at bonding with others, but meet for convenience and then go their separate ways when business is done. They are psychologically isolated and prefer being alone. Yet ironically, in shallower aspects of the pop culture, you are deemed a "loser" if you don't have any friends and can't get dates easily.

There is no sense of human connectedness at all in America. People are in isolated bubbles and only talk to you if it's business-related. "Every man is an island" as they say. Thus, there is an inherent feeling of disconnectedness in America, which immigrants often notice immediately. ([I've elaborated on this here](#)) Rather than a sense of camaraderie like there is in most countries' social atmosphere, there is an inherent sense of separateness and isolation in America instead. And that of course, is a breeding ground for loneliness and alienation, which contributes to lower self-esteem, increased feelings of insecurity, and poorer mental health, as we will discuss next.

Mental health / Psychological well being – It's no secret that the US has the highest rates of mental illness in the industrialized world (and perhaps in the whole world itself). Many studies and news reports have

concluded this. For example:

<http://msnbc.msn.com/id/5111202/>

In some studies, the number of mentally ill in America has been estimated at a whopping 50 PERCENT!

<http://nysun.com/editorials/are-we-really-ill?fark>
<http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=3823>

And studies show that Americans have fewer close friends now than ever before, as loneliness has become a national epidemic in the USA.

http://www.livescience.com/humanbiology/060331_loneliness.html
http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2006/06/22/AR2006062201763_pf.html

Obviously America is a lonely fragmented country that is hard to make friends in, nevermind getting dates as well. Thus it's no wonder why so many Americans have to go to therapists and psychologists to talk about their problems (whereas in other countries, almost no one needs them), since they don't have real friends who care about them enough to listen to them.

One can only speculate as to the reasons why there is so much mental illness in America, but there's no doubt that the above mentioned disadvantages contribute to it. Americans are psychologically fragmented and disconnected. Due to this as well as other factors, being in America tends to make one feel more "insecure" about oneself. But we are told that feeling insecure is normal and that you should be strong and independent. But alas, it is not natural. How can feeling insecure be natural? If it were, then you would feel insecure and fragmented in most other countries as well, but you don't.

So it's no surprise why many visitors to the US remark that Americans as a whole do not look happy at all, despite being the richest nation on Earth, but instead look very grumpy, irritable and fat. As spiritual leader Jiddu Krisnamurti said, "It is no measure of health to be well adjusted to a profoundly sick society"

In most other countries, you feel more relaxed, less stress, and more "at one" and connected with everything. There is a wholesomeness and integration on the inside that you don't have in America. It's as if you were finally free to "be yourself", and free from an insecure fake culture that forces you to be either a winner or loser in it. But in America, you feel alone, isolated, and insecure, like you've got to do something or else you'll be trampled upon and looked down on.

Many expats, experienced travelers and immigrants I've known have concurred with this.

In summary, whether the strengths or weaknesses above matter to you more depends largely on your needs, values, priorities, personality and interests of course. But as for me, the three disadvantages of America mentioned above are more important to my quality of life than the pros listed. Hence, that is why I am "Happier Abroad".

Discuss this article here: <http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=6405>

Bland cookie cutter architecture vs. rich stimulating one

As anyone who's been to the US or lives there knows that its architecture consists of cookie-cutter type buildings which basically look like bland bags and cubes. There, buildings are designed for commercial use and efficiency only. Its corporate buildings, offices, and strip malls exemplify this consistently.

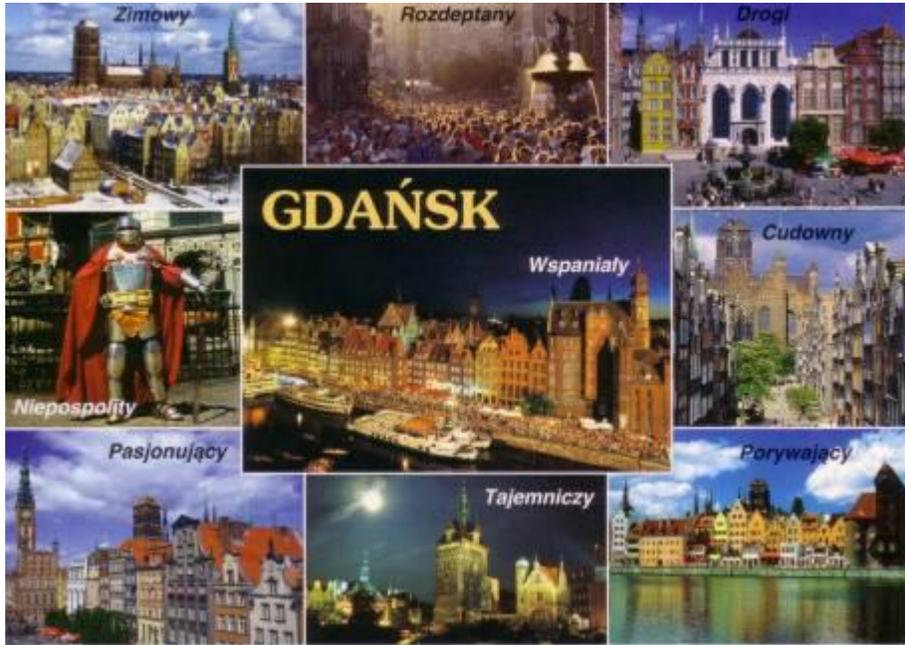
Just go to a library or bookstore, and pick up a book showing landmarks of the world, and you will see what real culture other nations have in their buildings, structures, and monuments. Then you will see how clueless America's culture and architecture really is.

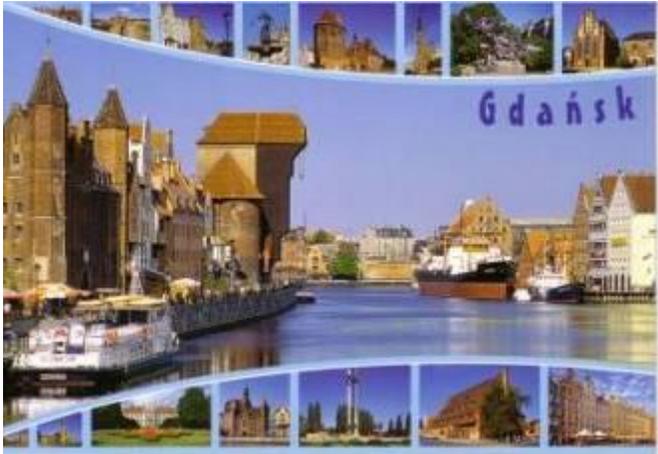
Some try to excuse this and America's lack of culture by claiming that it is a new country only 200 years old. What these linear-sighted people fail to take into account is that first of all, America's settlement and colonization began 500 years ago after the year 1492, not merely 200 years ago after the Declaration of Independence and Revolutionary War was won. Second, what culture America had back in the 19th Century in the character of its Victorian style buildings was later destroyed, replaced by bland cookie-cutter style buildings designed solely for commercial use. Go to any city museum with old 19th Century photos, and you will see all this.

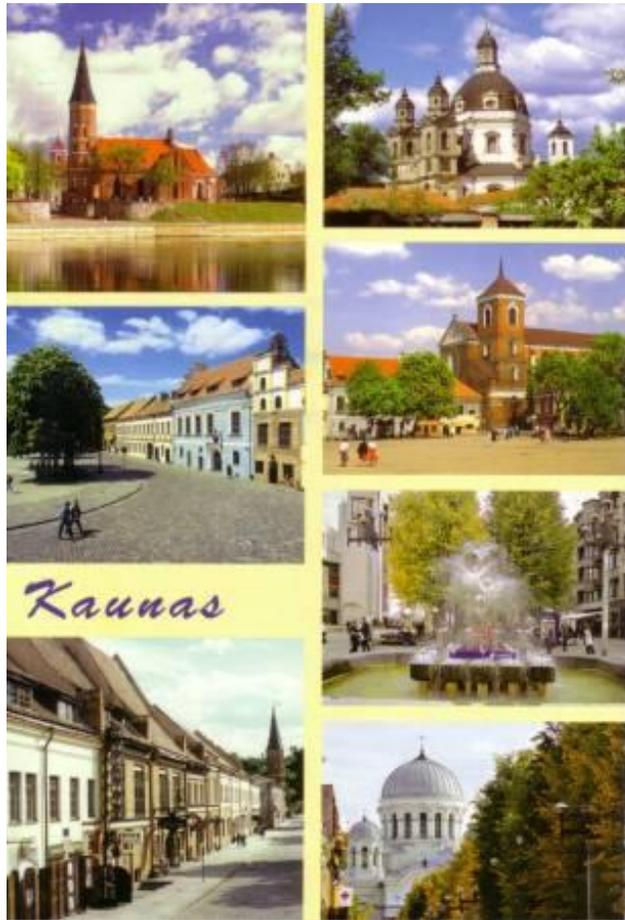
The bland lifeless characterless architecture of the US makes the national weight epidemic even worse cause its environment just isn't stimulating enough for people to go out and take walks as it is in Europe/Russia.

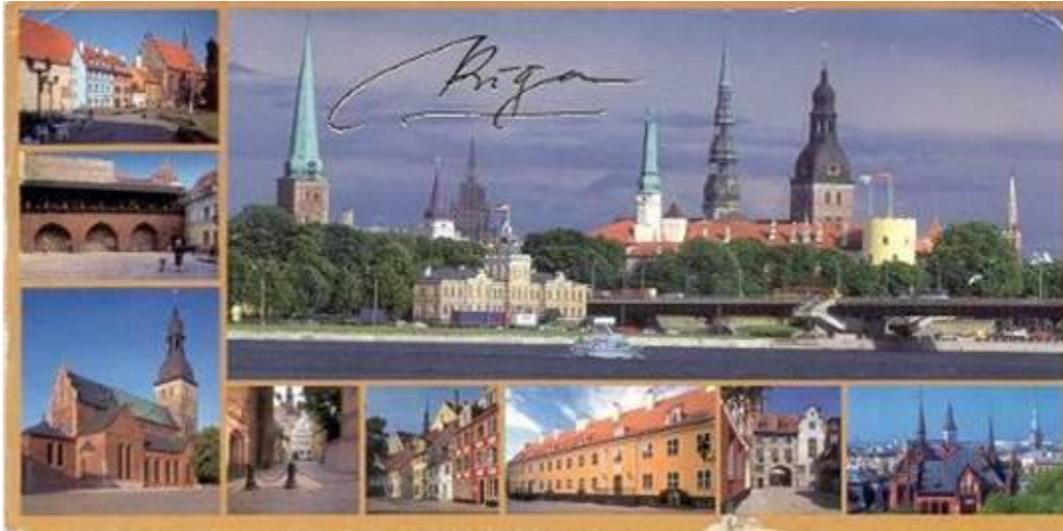
On the other hand, in Europe/Russia, the architecture is rich, stimulating, colorful, historic, and full of character/personality. For some great examples, see these links of postcards I collected and photos I took in Europe/Russia:

EUROPE



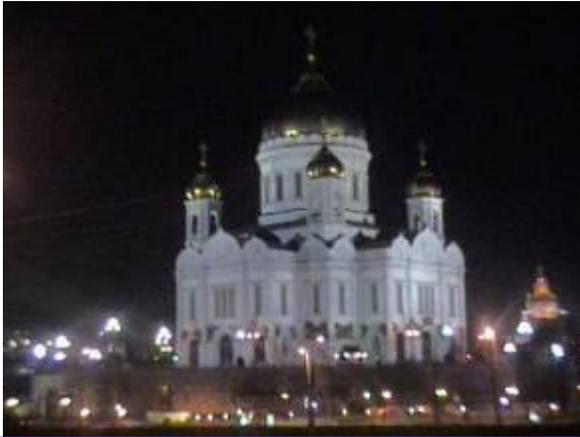


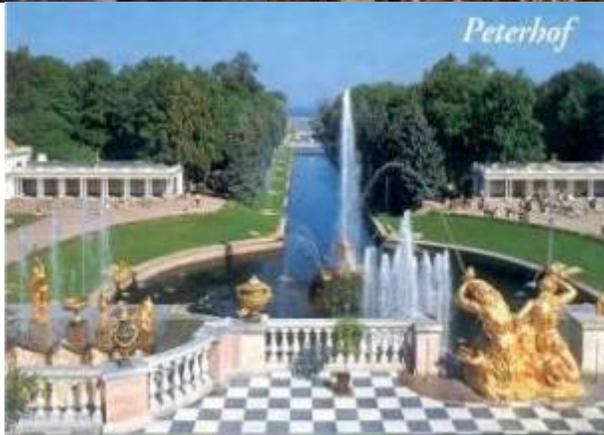




RUSSIA











To see more, see my [Photojournals](#) and [Russia/Europe Photo Collage](#). As you can see from the rich images and architectures above, even Russia, which is considered by the US as a third world country, looks much more "established" culturally and historically than the USA.

Even small towns in Europe look richer and more cultural than in the US, as you can see in these photos below:



In contrast, see these suburban strip malls in the US, designed without regard for style, culture, or personality, but for uniformity, efficiency and commercial use.

AMERICA



As they say, "We are the product of our environment."

Meeting people – clique restrictions vs. free-flowing

With America's bizarre isolation mentality, which is unusual in the world, social life is stuck up. It does not flow freely and naturally like it does in most of the rest of the world. Social interactions tend to be confined and restricted within cliques. Generally, people, especially women, don't like to meet others.

Like Orientals, Americans nowadays tend to close up into small cliques or groups and stick to their routines, keeping to themselves. For the most part, people ignore your existence if you aren't part of their clique. I've never understood why they do that. I find it awkward and contrary to my approach, as I am expansive and adventurous, and would hate limiting myself like that. It's against my nature to close myself up into a small clique and limit my social life to it, hence an inherent conflict between my groove and the US social structure.

In general, Americans are social only to those within their clique. When it comes to meet new people or strangers, they tend to be very lacking in social skills or confidence. Some even freak at having to talk to strangers, acting as though their bubble is being burst. That's why many require alcohol in order to open up to new people. But even when socializing, Americans tend to adopt this fake, artificial style and tone that foreigners find distasteful and unnatural.

To meet people in the US social environment, you are forced to try to break into a clique, and sometimes that could take several years. Now that may not be a problem for long-time residents who have established cliques and friendship networks, but for the newcomer, it's very alienating and non-inclusive. In other countries, you can meet people without having to "break" into cliques. Therefore, social life and interaction in the US is very limited, confined, and restricted compared to the rest of the "normal world".

Thus, trying to meet people in the US is a Catch-22. On the one hand, you gotta have a lot of friends to meet new friends, but on the other, you can't get friends in the first place unless you have them already. So you see, the whole process is locked and unnatural. You have to try to "break in" so to speak.

I'm not saying that there are no sociable or friendly people in America, but there is definitely something peculiar that makes Americans unnaturally anti-social, non-inclusive, isolationist, and cliquish toward strangers. In most of the US, strangers are strangers and people don't like to meet you unless it's through an organization like work, school, clubs, common friends, church, etc. and even then, it's not always easy to get to know them or become a part of their social circle. I've always found that to be awkward and unnatural. And this is especially true more so of women than of men of course as for some reason, as American women are far more cliquish than American men comparison-wise.

Basically, in Anglo and Oriental societies, there is a proper way to meet people, make friends, or get acquainted with the opposite sex, and that is by introductions through mutual connections. Not only are most too shy to talk to strangers, but they are taught that it is improper, indecent, and "wrong" as well. The only ones who tend to talk to strangers freely are old people and little children. Therefore, it is very hard to meet people or get dates there if you're new. The social environment does not flow freely at all, unlike many European, Latin, or African countries. Having to depend on introductions through others is very limiting indeed, but alas, it is the "proper" way to do things, and most are afraid to deviate from it.

So, in Anglo-Saxon dominated countries (America, Canada) and in Oriental countries (Chinese, Japanese, Koreans mostly), it takes time, effort, and luck to meet people by developing connections through the proper channels first, which is usually through school, work or mutual friends. That means little of it is really in your control. You gotta mostly wait and hope you get lucky. After all, you can't just meet people in public or talk to strangers while you're going out and doing something, for to do so would make you appear rude, inappropriate, and even "freakish".

Unfortunately, those who are seeking dates or an intimate relationship are in the worst position, for their romantic choices are strictly limited within their schools, work environments, and social cliques. Thus the millions of other potential partners they could be matched with out there, are simply closed off to them and off-limits. It's very sad and depressing, if you ask me, but that's how it is. (Thank God though, that the internet now offers them a way to meet people that they otherwise wouldn't have been able to meet through these traditional channels, otherwise their situation would be hopeless unless they had the right connections)

Most Americans have no idea that most of the rest of the world is not like that. Since they have nothing to compare it too, they assume that the rest of the world is the same, but thank goodness it's not. In my experience of traveling and meeting thousands of people, I've concluded that over 90 percent of the world is more inclusive than in America.

In most parts of the world (not just according to my experiences, but those of many others as well) you can just walk in out of nowhere a total unknown, yet meet a lot of people, get dates, and have fun. But not so in the US. No way. The social attitude and environment is too cliquish for that. People fundamentally don't even like to meet people. You gotta WORK HARD to meet people. It doesn't come naturally, smoothly or freely. You gotta "prove your worth" to break in or be accepted by a social clique. And that just sucks for an expressive people-person like me. In the states, to have a "life", you have to be part of the "in crowd" or else you're nothing. And if you're not attractive or desirable by the cultural standards here, then you'll never fit into the "in crowd" anyway, which is extremely limiting.

I've always wondered as to why that is. Though I can speculate, one person with similar observations ruminated:

"There are probably different reasons. Some are taught that interacting with strangers is a big NO NO, and I understand, in these days, there are a lot of weirdos and crazy people, and sometimes they do spoil the image for people like us, who are just naturally friendly.

Some of them are OK with just having pets, and think about it, Americans are probably the only nation where they worship their pets to the point where it makes you wonder whether they value humans less than their pets. I know a lot of single women who have two dogs and cats, and they just fine by themselves. They don't need men.

Also, a lot of people feel good in their little bubbles and have fragile egos I think, so they are careful as to who they will talk to and interact with. They are not curious or interested in much around them...

I tend to open up people at parties and when I am socializing, but most of them are very intelligent and have either moved to the States recently, or are just naturally curious and outgoing people with HIGH SELF ESTEEM....and their brains are not poisoned and are not paranoid when someone actually is interested in finding out about them, and they reciprocate with their interested in me and what I do.... I think it just boils down to the fact that most of Americans have no intellectual substance and its very hard to related to them on anything other than what they see on TV and in magazines....

When you are surrounded by bunch of chodes and lifeless souls, of course, people like me and you, will feel alienated, but i dont take it personally, its just the place we live in... hard to find an interesting person!"

In Europe/Russia in general, meeting people is a whole different dimension than it is in the USA. There, people are inclusive and approachable, and have the attitude that meeting people is interesting and stimulating, especially foreigners. Differences arouse curiosity there. You never feel like you don't exist. You can meet people anywhere, on the street, standing in line, at a bus stop, etc. And this applies even if you're a shy person too, because the fact that people are open and welcoming to strangers, GIVES shy people a confidence they wouldn't normally have. The process is very mutual. You don't really have to "make" it happen.

Many have related to me the same observation and experience. For instance:

"I just talked with a guy who lived with his parents in Europe. A young guy, he's confirmed much of what you've said, and doesn't believe he wants to live in the US.

All the clichishness, the "I am better than you" because I can exclude you--he says it's all so stupid."

But in the US, people are defensive to strangers approaching them and so it's much harder since it feels inappropriate to try to meet people. Words can't really describe the kind of social vibe I'm talking about in

Europe/Russia. You'd have to be melded in that kind of environment and stay for a while to know what I am talking about. Eventually, you feel like a different person yourself than the person you were back home.

In fact, when I arrived in a new city in Europe/Russia, it would usually only take a few hours to already know some people, get contact information, and make plans. Just doing normal things will usually create natural opportunities that get you acquainted with people. When you see how easy it is, you will soon become less shy and more direct yourself. People in Europe/Russia are totally UN-cliquish, which is so refreshing when you're new.

To sum it up, here's the big difference for me. In the US, (California and Washington to be more specific) I've tried my whole life to have a good social life, but yet I'm never able to for some reason, no matter how hard I try, even when I try and go out everyday! But on the other hand, in Europe/Russia, I can often get a date within AN HOUR (literally, no joke) if I wanted to. So what the @\$% is wrong with North America and its vibe? I often wonder if it's a case of my aura clicking or not clicking with my environment or not, cause this problem doesn't appear to be as widespread as it should be, though to me, it is as real as the air around me. But still, I never understood why the difference in social life/atmosphere is so huge for me.

Isolation/exclusive vs. Communal/inclusive atmosphere

In general, people, friends, and social circles in the US are generally exclusive and isolationist in nature in their form, structure, vibe, energy, chemistry, etc. Simply put, in the US people don't generally don't to strangers unless it is business-related or they are introduced by mutual friends. And even when strangers do talk, it's usually polite and distant, rather than engaging and involved. In fact, in neighborhoods and apartment complexes, few even know their neighbors or are close to them. This seems more true of women than of men though, as US women are more exclusive, less approachable and prefer closing themselves up into cliques than US men.

Anyone can see this. The only people who don't and consider America to be sociable, are popular people, beautiful women, those who like talking to old crazy men on the street, and the politically correct who never or rarely travel.

In almost any public place in the US, even in most work and school environments – people only talking to people they know, ignoring everyone they don't, or sitting and reading/doing their own thing, not wishing to be bothered. You can sense an invisible wall around them that closes them off to others in a shell, making them unapproachable and non-inclusive, as if they love loneliness and isolation. Even in social situations or parties, where people are physically together, you can still sense the isolation mentality that people are accustomed to, which shows in their distance, over-politeness, and plastic-like style of communication toward each other.

The isolation mentality in America is so dominant that you can feel the vibe of it everywhere that says *Mind your own business. Don't talk to anyone you don't know.*

To see a typical example of what I mean, see these photos I took on a ferry depicting the isolation mentality of the general public:





For me, meeting people in America is just plain weird. When I try to, it feels awkward as if I am invading someone's personal space. Perhaps it's just because I'm used to the European vibe, which is 1000 times more inclusive than in America.

The US is one of a few countries where social groups are exclusive in general. The only other ones I know of are Japan, Taiwan, Germany, and Switzerland (but even in those countries, some have reported having a better social life and more inclusive environment than in the US). In the rest of the world outside the US, and on most continents, social groups and communities are inclusive, warm, and approachable.

Within the US, some report that southern states such as Texas are more inclusive, sociable, open, loud, talkative and hospitable, whereas northerners tend to be more reserved, cliquish, shy, quiet, and exclusive. These characteristics of northerners and southerners is true in Europe too.

In the US exclusive social environment, one feels pressured to have to "fit in" somewhere, or else become alienated and risk an identity crisis. The US, I find, is the hardest place in the world to try to "fit in". And since social interaction tends to be limited to within cliques, it compels you to join one in order to have any social interaction at all (which is usually plastic and shallow anyway) It's just way too easy to feel alienated, but it shouldn't be that way. And fortunately, in most of the world - the "normal world" that is - it isn't that way.

In addition, some of these cliques in the US aren't penetrable even if you look or think like the clique members, because they consist mainly of people who grew up together. For example, white yuppies who have moved to LA have complained that the yuppie cliques there don't seem to accept them even if they look like them, because those cliques consist only of people who grew up together. That's how exclusive it is to the extreme. They simply don't take new applicants. That's what sucks about American social life.

Talking to strangers – North America vs. Most Countries

In North America in general, it is socially unacceptable to talk to strangers in public, unless its business related or you need directions. And people don't like to meet new people unless they are introduced by mutual friends. Anything else is seen as a violation of the normal boundaries, especially with women. You are only supposed to meet new people through mutual friends, or through participation of an organizational activity that allows interaction. That's how people "meet" in America, but even when they do, it's mostly polite and superficial, not engaging or heartfelt. Such is very limiting, because in Europe and most of the world, you can meet people more easily in different places as part of the natural flow of things.

A German exchange student commenting about my site on a forum, gave the following classic example of meeting people in the US vs. Europe:

<http://reddit.com/info/22ggh/comments>

"[saprian](#) 2 points 6 days ago

My experience here might be specific to the area were I'm staying (when I say US, I technically talk about the state I'm staying in), but I found for example that people in the US don't seem to make friends in classes; I found that pretty weird.

Let me give you an example that I found pretty striking. During my stay here I started to take dance classes. I found if I run into somebody from the class somewhere they would ignore me, not say hello, and in some cases even break eye-contact and all that, unless (!) we had officially been introduced, talked with each other or danced at the class. They treated me like a complete stranger.

When I went home to Germany for a couple of weeks I found a local dance-school and went to one of their practice sessions. On my way home at the train station I run into a couple I had seen at the dance; we hadn't talked, danced or been introduced to each other. We made eye-contact and started talking (and that was 2am at night at a deserted train station) - it was the most natural thing in the world and the conversation was very warm and friendly."

Of course, other socially acceptable places are bars, nightclubs, and parties. But even in those places, people are still reluctant and uncomfortable talking to new people, and you can feel it by the inhibition they show when interacting with them, as well as the distant "boundaries" they put up.

And if you think about it, the fact that we have a common term called "breaking the ice" between strangers implies that there exists a "cold boundary" between people who have never met. Thus a definite social barrier exists.

You can easily test this by approaching any woman in public that you are attracted to. Just say "excuse me" and she will automatically put up a "force field" toward strangers that says "you are only allowed to talk to me if you need directions or have an innocent question". Few guys have the guts to try this though, not because they are cowards, but because they know that it's socially unacceptable and inappropriate to meet girls this way, and "creepish" as well (though Hollywood sitcoms like to ignore such social boundaries).

Here's a case in point. Italian guys have no fear of initiating contact with women and "breaking the ice", not because they are braver than American men so to speak, but because in their culture and country, approaching women and being forward with them is socially acceptable, normal and natural; a man is allowed to be a man in other words, whereas here we are taught that trying to meet women you don't know is inappropriate, creepish, and subject to disciplinary action and public shame even.

One of my readers noticed and concurred:

<http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?p=5184>

"Not only that but try meeting a woman like that in America at a museum or anywhere else for that matter. In America it's taboo to talk to strangers unless you are at a bar, nightclub or party. Even at bars,

clubs and parties, the women are not really friendly or receptive to meeting men. In the US, you need to have friends to introduce you to someone. I read a statistic recently that said 63% of people in America who are married, met their spouse through a friend or family member. In other countries like the Philippines, Russia and the Ukraine, you can easily meet women in public like Winston has done. He was able to meet women on buses, trains, parks, bookstores, shopping malls and museums. Try doing that in America!”

Anyone can see what I describe everywhere in public, even in a crowded city street - people minding their own business, ignoring all others, etc. They are either too shy, fearful, or uncomfortable talking to strangers. Others are sociable but don't talk to strangers out of respect for the social boundaries of “no talking to strangers unless its business-related. That's just the norm in such societies. **From birth, Americans are taught not to talk to strangers by their parents, instilling a discomfort and paranoia toward strangers early on.**

In such non-inclusive societies, only freaks, weirdos, or drunkards talk to strangers. The only acceptable way to meet people is by breaking into cliques, being introduced through mutual friends, or by joining organizations and participating in activities with them. It's very controlled, strict, rigid, plastic, mechanistic, and tunnel-vision in nature.

One reader observed:

“The fear of crime, “someone will steal my precious...” results in people failing to connect in public and treating all strangers with suspicion and fear... I have seen this in America where it is unthinkable to strike up a conversation with a stranger. In Europe, I've talked at length in the tube, parks, and pubs with people I don't know from Adam. In America people will avoid making eye contact and seek an isolated seat on public transport. All of this reflects a basic spiritual bankruptcy that characterizes modern life. We've never had more, but have never felt more empty. Technology has made communication world wide more readily available, but we sit in our rooms typing on keyboards, rather than going out to the square or market to connect with others.”

And a Hawaiian female traveler commented:

“Alright I just read the rest of your paper and though I still agree with the original thought I can see where you placed your finding... without a doubt the countries I have been too particularly Sweden and Jordan when traveling many times perfect strangers would ask for my friends and I to come visit... have dinner, tea, etc without wanting or expecting anything in return. These things you would never, ever see in the states where everyone stranger or friend is looked at as a threat. hope you had a good day,
Maureen”

Now, if you think that only unattractive rejects feel and experience this anti-sociality that I do in the US, think again. Here is an insightful female letter I've read on this matter, which was passed on to me, written by an allegedly “hot girl”:

“Hey Winston, thought you might be interested in this. An old friend from college sent me this - and she's a very attractive girl, for your information - and it surprised me because it sounds exactly like something I remember you writing. Just that it's from the perspective of a hot girl:

“L.A. feels pretty boring to me, but then again, i definitely do not get out much right now that i'm in school and working all the time... when i do go out though, it doesn't seem to be very social... like, people usually stay with their friends, and as girls, we're trained to think that any guy that comes up to you in a bar or club is either a) a creep, or b) desperate.... it's odd that we think that way, but it's the culture... so where are you supposed to meet people?

another reason i think people are so uninteresting here in the States, is because of the whole

politically correct thing... it has a huge effect on what people will allow themselves to express, and as a result think... it's like we're too civilized or something... so people become breathing versions of their environment, American society: conventional, washed-out, literal, pedestrian, square, colorless, mundane, and uninteresting... always looking to the future, and never living in the moment.. and if you do live in the moment, you somehow feel guilty... it's so sad to see it so clearly when you come back from being abroad for a while...

Machismo is repulsive, but what's attractive is guys who are guys... and that inevitably involves some raw, uncooked, unrefined, aggressive characteristics... maybe the problem isn't that guys here aren't these things, but that women are mentally trained to be repulsed by it... and when we go to other countries, we automatically sort of drop all of our expectations about how "our men" are supposed to be (because they're not our men) and we "allow" it ... and when you guys go to other countries, the women don't have the same expectations that american women do, and you find it more liberating and interesting to be with them, like they just allow you to be guys... i don't know, all i know is that i can't wait until spring break when i can go on another vacation...""

Now, don't get me wrong. I need privacy too, but not to the point where I am left with little or no social interaction.

Simply put, America doesn't provide as much social interaction as I need. Its people (other than progressive/eccentric/freespirit folks) generally prefer isolation/privacy/being left alone, over social interaction, and being workaholics over having fun. I am the opposite of all that and don't fit in. I just don't understand why most Americans are like this. It's like they have become a different species than me and other freespirits.

In suburban apartment complexes, it sickens me to see how cold and non-existent neighbors are to each other. They rarely interact other than to say a quick polite artificial contrived "hi". What makes them like this, I wonder? Is it mere imaginary paranoia, a love of loneliness? Or are they just a different species from me and other freespirited folks, or what?

Those whose world is limited to the USA think that this is the universal norm and assume that everyone is like that. Well they are dead wrong. On most continents, and in most countries outside North America, people are comfortable, relaxed and unparanoid about talking to strangers, which they see as normal and nothing to fear. This is true in Russia, Ukraine, most of Europe, South America, Africa, Australia, etc. In such areas of the globe, people talk to strangers as if they already know them. The environment and vibe is much more inclusive. And meeting people is natural, normal and part of the flow, rather than an uphill struggle like it is in North America. Therefore, outside North America meeting people usually happens anywhere in public, and is the norm rather than the exception.

In Russia, for example, almost everyone talks to strangers without shyness or fear. The ironic thing is that in Russia, with a high petty crime, talking to strangers is actually more dangerous than in the USA. But Russians are unparanoid and unshy about whereas Americans are shy and uncomfortable talking to strangers even though in their country it's generally very safe to do so. Thus it is logical to assume that Americans are in a thicker "psychological prison".

"Breaking the ice" - Proof that Americans are uncomfortable talking to strangers

I'm sure you've all heard the term in America "breaking the ice" referring to initiating contact with strangers. This common phrase speaks volumes about the social barriers against talking to strangers in America (so you don't have to take my word for it). And the fact that we have such a phrase to describe talking to strangers, pretty much proves my claim that Americans are uncomfortable talking to strangers and see it as abnormal, awkward, and intrusive (unless its business-related), making it self-evident. Obviously, if talking strangers is like "breaking ice", it implies that there is a cold, sterile, "ice barrier" that naturally exists between strangers by default, making it a huge psychological obstacle between both parties (even if one is from abroad) to initiate contact. If you've never left America, this seems normal, but if you are used to a country where there is no "ice" between strangers, then it seems awkward, unnatural, and inhuman for Americans to be this way.

Unfortunately, talking to strangers or "breaking the ice" in America freaks many people out, and makes the initiator feel awkward and intrusive. And if you must break the ice, you gotta do it in a very subtle, distant, overly polite, proper, nonchalant manner to avoid being seen as intrusive or "creepy". You can't be too forward, passionate, wild, or sensual like you can in Europe, South America, Mexico, Russia and the former Soviet Union, etc. To me, that's just weak, since I'm already used to it being totally different.

Thus, even a very outgoing sociable person from abroad who opens up to everyone will feel shy and cautious in the US, not because he/she is that way, but because since everyone else around that person IS that way, it rubs off on him/her, making that person abide by this norm.

Even if you go to a crowded nightclub where people are partying and dancing, where it is more socially acceptable to meet people (at least in concept), most still keep with the company they are with, talking only to their friends, rather than meet any new people. And sadly, you can still feel the strong vibe that most of the girls there don't want to talk to you. So even there, if you go alone, you are likely to be alone. And if you try to break that hard "ice" by saying hi to girls there that you don't know to introduce yourself, you will feel guilty for violating "the boundaries" and, unless there is something really special about you, they will either look at you like you're a freak, ignore you, or say hi quickly and then leave. I've always said, North America is the only part of the world where you can be in a room or area full of gorgeous women who are all "unapproachable" (for various reasons). In other countries, that is virtually impossible. I can personally attest to this.

Anyone who tries to deny this collective social contract is either lying, deluded, or religiously against generalizing (the politically correct crowd) that they will always play devil's advocate to anyone who makes observations about people, no matter how true. It's just way too obvious, as obvious as the big obesity epidemic is in America. So much so that I would only need 5 - 10 minutes out in public to show someone all this in person. People out in public just don't approach people, so demonstrating that first hand would be way too easy. In fact, it's easier to demonstrate than shooting fish in a barrel. Surprisingly, even though I could prove all this in 5 minutes, there are still those out there who try to deny that this is true!

On the other hand, in most of the world, not just in Europe/Russia, one can easily go out alone without having to be alone. It is easy and natural to meet people, find company to hang out with, someone interesting to spend your time with, or even get a nice date with the opposite sex that same day or night, if you just chat them up sincerely. Or sometimes of course, they may chat you up as well. **So in a sense, you don't even have to "break the ice" because there is no "ice" to begin with!** You can see ample evidence of this, enough to convince anyone, in my [Photojournals](#). And even if you remain alone, you still know deep down in your intuition, soul, and gut instinct that you don't have to be alone, because the vibe all around you in public is far more inclusive and warm than in the USA, which is inherently exclusive in its nature, form, collective mentality and public behavior.

All this I can guarantee 100 percent beyond any doubt, and I give my word to it.

And even in nations which are somewhat cliquish, such as Britain, France, Germany or Japan, it is still easier to meet people when you go out alone (at least for those like me), comparatively speaking, than it is in the USA.

Reader comments:

- "Most Americans that I know have big issues about going anywhere alone. They won't eat alone, won't go shopping alone, won't travel alone, and won't go anywhere alone, because it's a big stigma to do things alone in America. That may be the real reason you feel "lonely" in America. Americans hang out in their little groups, and you are considered a "loner" if you don't have one of these little groups/cliques of your own. In Italy, I noticed people were perfectly content to do things by themselves, and when you are alone in Italy, you do not necessarily FEEL alone, because you usually interact with people. In America, many people are self-conscious about being alone, because people will stare or make a big deal about why you are by yourself. If I do something alone in America, and I am approached, yes I usually get annoyed. It's because of the way Americans approach me. In other countries, I am more open, because it's a different kind of approach. It's less intrusive, and less opportunistic. In America, usually it's something along the line of some person thinking that I need them because I am alone, they want something from me or because I am alone, that means I am looking for someone to hit on me. In some other countries, they do not act as if there is anything unusual about being alone, and if they approach you it is because they actually have something to say. Not because they want something from you or think they need to rescue you from being alone. Chances are, when you approach someone who is alone, you are approaching them in your American way, and that is why you experience responses of rejection. Sometimes you seem to forget, with all of your perpetual campaigns of America bashing, that you are American and still have many American traits, like it or not."

- "i go out alone all the time, and many times i feel soooo isolated because everyone is so "mind your business"... i had no idea that many parts of the world weren't as cold socially... sometimes i just want to go to a bar, and find friends, but jeez thats even hard to do... i am one of those pretty girls whos guilty of being cold towards some guys, (but how else do you weed out the ones you get creepy vibes from?) but lately i've been trying to make genuine eye contact with more guys, (and girls- but they are even harder to connect to) and i try to give a real smile- it gets me nowhere"

- "Very good, I have experienced this many times but have never articulated it in my mind as being a social custom. In fact, I've stopped going out alone since I meet much more people when I am with my friends, and even then I feel as if I am at a job interview when meeting girls instead of being able to communicate freely and honestly, without any pretense. Of course I am not talking about the slutty girls (which are plenty here), but the average girl."

- "cool shit, Winston.

I think too though that many americans get a sense of superiority in excluding others. They feel bigger when they do this. Not always but often.

In germany, i've been told that you can go out by yourself and you won't get the vibe from people that you are a loser who has no friends.

I got to meet you some day. You're a very interesting person.

Take care."

In America: going out alone = staying alone

Here is another big difference between America and the rest of the world, which makes the social life really sad and suffocating for me.

In America, if you go out alone, you are almost guaranteed to be alone, unless you get really lucky. Usually, nothing happens socially if you go out alone. It's not the kind of place or society where you can go out by yourself and meet people "just because" to hang out with. That's why people in America are so adamant about having friends to go out with because deep down, they know that if they go out alone, they will stay alone. And they fear that being alone will bring a feeling of detachment and alienation which leads to insecurity. That's just how it is here.

This poster on my Forum put it so well:

<http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=173>

"If you don't already have friends and a circle of friends, then you are automatically a loser. So here, in the US, you have to put on a false and fake persona that you're busy with all your friends--otherwise you can easily create the impression that you are a loser. It's sick! But this false image you have to present is what is called 'social skills.'"

In Germany, I've been told that that cultural behavior doesn't exist. There is no stigma for being by yourself and or earnestly trying to connect with people. You can go to bars by yourself freely and no one will judge you as being a friendless loser."

The social norms here dictate that people in public stay with the company they are with. These are the unspoken but real customs of the social scene and public life in America. It's nothing official, just a learned habit that people here grow up with. No one needs to mention it, because it's just how people normally are out in public and socially. It's a mutual understanding of the collective in America, one that we grow up with and assume is the norm. In general, people have an isolationist mentality rather than an interconnected one with others. Though it's far different from how other countries are, (which do not have the inherent isolation mentality that America does) most Americans don't know it, because the rest of the world is not part of "their world".

Anyone can go out in public and see that this is so - those that are out alone, stay alone (and strangely enough, they want to stay alone, especially if they're female), and those that are out with their friends/family, stay hanging around them. You can see this in any public place - cafes, restaurants, Starbucks, grocery stores, parks, bus stops, malls, and even bars and nightclubs. Attempting to violate this rule or change it is awkward and against the flow, making you feel like a lone ant trying to change the social rules of the whole ant colony.

In the US the only socially acceptable places to try to meet people outside your clique and friends are at parties and nightclubs. Therefore, theoretically the only people who socially thrive in the USA (who can't relate to my views in this treatise) and are actively meeting people, are the regular party animals and club hoppers. I find that rather restricting and limiting.

The party animal types are the ones considered popular, cool, and look down on the rest as uncool geeks and nerds. The scene is pretentious and artificial. Those who aren't partiers and clubbers are pretty much out of luck, and instead have to rely on friend's introductions or the internet, all of which have a low probability of success. Of course, you can join a church to meet people, but unless you believe in the religion, you will feel that it's wrong for you to be there just for social purposes. Activity clubs are a good venue, but usually, you only form acquaintance relations.

However, even as far as nightclubs and bars goes, people still seem predisposed to sticking in cliques and are uncomfortable talking to strangers. And besides, the quality of people you meet in those types of places tends to be low, as well as the dark energy of its environment too. Such is so obvious that it's become common wisdom in the advice articles of pop culture.

I don't know about you, but this extreme rule of "there is a time and place for everything" – restricting meeting new people to parties only, is extremely limiting, and doesn't fit my style since I am not the type who thrives in

American parties, clubs or cliques. Hence, it is unlikely for me to find a niche in it. It's not that I dislike parties or that I am shy and introverted, far from it. I love them, but it depends on the company that are in them. Most party-goers in the US are not people I resonate with or enjoy being around, for they speak in an airheadish and artificial tone and style that I don't fit the "flow" of.

One person on my Forum accurately observed:

<http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=18>

"In America there is the mentality that we don't talk to strangers and some people don't even talk to their neighbors! How are you supposed to meet people when it's taboo to talk to strangers? I guess the bars and nightclubs are the only socially acceptable places to talk to strangers! That really limits your opportunities to meet people. No wonder why so many people are using the personal ads and internet dating! People even avoid making eye contact with others when out in public!"

In most of the world though, it's not like that at all. There isn't a strange inhibition against talking to strangers, and it does not feel inappropriate or out of bounds to meet people in normal public settings. Rather, the social atmosphere is natural and free-flowing.

The big social Catch-22 in America

What's ironic is that the US social atmosphere is inherently anti-social and isolationist so that trying to meet people goes "against the grain", yet if you have no social or dating life, you are considered a "loser" and told there is something wrong with you. It's a Catch-22 that puts one "between a rock and a hard place". It doesn't make sense, and is illogical. In an anti-social isolationist culture, shouldn't it be more "normal" to not have a social life than to have one?

One of my readers noticed:

<http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=1323>

"How true! America is an isolationist, antisocial culture. So of course it will be hard to meet people and make friends. On the other hand, if you admit that your having a hard time meeting people, you are considered a freak and a loser. So, you wind up lying to people and telling them how great your social life is! How strange is that! Only in America does that happen!"

To elaborate on this social Catch-22:

- On the one hand, you are expected to mind your own business, not need others, and leave other people alone (especially women, who are given special protective status in America). You are supposed to be independent, not lonely, and not complain about lack of companionship, friends or lovers. In fact, you are supposed to pretend that you don't have any natural desires for love, romance or sex (unless it is reciprocated) otherwise you are a creep and pervert. You are also expected to only socialize within your closed clique, while fearing all outside strangers as potentially dangerous psychos and creeps, essentially shutting them out.
- On the other hand, if you don't have friends, can't get dates, can't meet people, and don't get invited to social activities, then you are considered a loser or socially dysfunctional. Yet given #1, this is what you'd expect as the logical consequence if you don't have an established clique of friends to begin with, for the inherent nature of such cliques is exclusive and designed to "shut you out". And this is true even if you are a really social outgoing extroverted friendly person! Hence the irony and hypocrisy. Essentially you are "between a rock and hard place".

This Catch-22 is the equivalent of me putting you in a locked cell, starving you without food, yet blaming YOU for getting hungry! It's sheer lunacy no doubt.

In spite of this Catch-22, it is taboo to complain about it or expose the conflicting nature of it. Instead, you are expected to utter the programmed party line that our culture and media promotes, which is that "People are naturally open, friendly and cool. If you are a great person who is positive and cool, you'd have plenty of friends and people would invite you into their social and personal lives."

If that isn't true for you, then you are expected to blame yourself, for it is assumed that if you were positive, fun and cool, then people would be open and inclusive toward you. So again, society pits the blame on the victim rather than on itself and its inherently dysfunctional and socially segregated nature.

So, we have a Catch-22 here that you aren't allowed to talk about, and a programmed belief that you're supposed to buy which does not necessarily fit the reality. And anything that conflicts with it is seen as false, wrong, or even socially deviant.

Go figure.

Ok America, I give up. If you don't value the plain and simple truth about your lies, hypocrisy, Catch-22's, dysfunctionality, social segregation, false programming and victim blaming mentality, then I won't participate in your insanity. No thank you! I'll take my sanity and precious valuable life and time someplace else that is saner and more socially functional, healthy and natural.

Peace out.

On the other hand, social groups in foreign territories - Europe, Russia, Latin America, Australia, Philippines, etc. are very inclusive in nature (if you even want to call them “cliques”, for we are referring to mere circles of regular friends). You can FEEL this inclusive nature and sense of interconnectedness in the social energy of these foreign environments. (Sometimes, as I did, you can even feel it in the air before you meet anyone) There, people love meeting new people, and accept them socially, even if on a casual basis. This is definitely true without a doubt, as I've experienced it time and time again over there. It's a totally different vibe, atmosphere, and dimension, as though you're in another world or universe. Words can't convey what I mean. Only personal direct interactive immersion in such scenes can.

In countries that are socially open – e.g. European nations, Russia, Latin America, Australia, Philippines, etc. the social energy and structure doesn't have the exclusiveness like in America. In a sense, meeting people is not a problem because there is an interconnected nature rather than exclusive cliques. There are circles of friends/acquaintances of course, but they aren't as exclusive in their form and vibe. Abroad in the “normal world” so to speak, there's no "I won't socialize with you because you're not in my clique" type of mentality or attitude like in the states.

For example, one of my consultants had this to say about how he personally feels whenever he goes to the Philippines:

“One thing you will notice in the Philippines is that you can be yourself and still be treated well and most people will just accept you as you are and treat you as a human being.

That is called Freedom. The freedom to be yourself.

I am not afraid to go to Casinos there, bars and restaurants and that I will feel out of place or see cocky people around swaggering or puffing up their chests. All social interactions are smooth and friendly and you are part of everything. I just walk in and the feeling is nice. You are included in their groups. They are so different from the Anglos or the CJKs (Chinese, Japanese, Koreans).”

In America, the myth of equality and non-racism applies only to the political, legal, and professional arenas. But in the social and cultural scene, it's a whole different ball game. In that area, America is very racist in its clique structures, especially in California, where cliques are divided along racial lines.

To make things worse, in my case, I can't even break into most cliques in America anyway, since I'm not a conformist or follower by nature.

To understand the exclusive isolationist nature of America vs. the inclusive communal nature of Europe, and to give my observations more credibility, here are some excerpts from [The European Dream](#) by Jeremy Rifkin that highlights the sociological/historical ideologies of America regarding freedom and security:

Page 13 - 14:

"The American and European dreams are, at their core, about two diametrically opposed ideas of freedom and security. Americans hold a negative definition of what it means to be free and, thus, secure. For us, freedom has long been associated with autonomy. If one is autonomous, he or she is not dependent on others or vulnerable to circumstances outside of his or her control. To be autonomous, one needs to be propertied. The more wealth one amasses, the more independent one is in the world. One is free by becoming self-reliant and an island unto oneself. With wealth comes exclusivity, and with exclusivity comes security.

The new European Dream, however, is based on a different set of assumptions about what constitutes freedom and security. For Europeans, freedom is not found in autonomy but in embeddedness. To be free is to have access to a myriad of interdependent relationships with others. The more communities one has access to, the more options and choices one has for living a full and meaningful life. With relationships comes inclusivity, and with inclusivity comes security.

The American Dream puts an emphasis on economic growth, personal wealth, and independence. The new European Dream focuses more on sustainable development, quality of life, and interdependence.”

Page 145:

"For the Enlightenment philosophers and the jurists of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, freedom was defined in negative terms as the right to exclude others."

Why I am incompatible with the American social environment

Here are the main reasons why America has a lame social scene that I'm incompatible with, some of which I've already elaborated on above:

- 1) I do not fit the cultural ideal of a male in this country at all, so most women here will never consider me as even a friend, even if we have a lot in common. I am simply viewed as an out-of-bounds non-factor.
- 2) American women in general are unapproachable and don't talk to strangers. They don't meet people unless it's through mutual friends. If I attempt to meet them or interact with them for other non-business related reasons, then they see me as a creep, , or psycho. Hence, I'm theoretically not allowed to act on my desires, express or pursue them. (Or, I am allowed to have desires, as long as I don't act on them without permission from women, which they never give me anyway). But, as I have strong desires and passions for sex and romance with females, this is unacceptable to me and a form of constant inner torture.
- 3) I tend to prefer the company of women over men, finding them more interesting, challenging and stimulating. I don't enjoy the company of men unless they are interesting in some way or very intelligent or intellectual. The average guy, who is macho, bragging, exaggerating, and arrogant, just plain bores me and has nothing to offer or contribute to me. Thus, I tend to have more female friends and acquaintances than male. But the problem with that in America is that overwhelmingly, only the men are social and easy to meet, while the women are generally the exact opposite. Instead, they are closed, paranoid, defensive, stuck up, and cliquish. In no other country have I ever seen such a difference in the sociability of the two genders. Thus, in the US I tend to be limited to male friends and acquaintances, which is not my preference as stated above. So to put it simply: **I prefer the company of women over men, generally speaking, but in America generally only the men are sociable while the women are not.**
- 4) In the US, people in general do not talk to strangers unless it's business-related or they need directions. If you're lonely, there's not much you can do about it. The only socially acceptable places to meet people in America are at parties, and sometimes at bars and clubs (which tend to be predisposed to cliquishness too). Therefore, only party animals and club hoppers get to meet people actively, which to me is unnaturally restrictive and suffocating. Since I'm not one of them, my social niche doesn't work in America. It's not that I dislike parties or that I am shy and introverted, far from it. I enjoy them, but I am just not a regular party-goer type, and besides, most party-goers in the US are not people I resonate with or enjoy being around.
- 5) There are two general types of people in America that most, though not all, fit into – the productive conformist types whose lives revolve around work/career and their home routine, and those considered fun, cool, outgoing types whose lives revolve around parties, clubs, bands and concerts. I don't click or resonate with either type.

In most other countries and continents though, the above factors do not pose an obstacle to me. Russia, most of Europe, South America, some of Asia, Africa, even Australia are areas that come to mind. Social scenes are much more open, warm, inviting, flow smoothly, naturally, and less uptight and inhibited. And women are approachable and do not view me as low social status.

Simply put, I'm not materialistic, I'm not a workaholic, and the girls aren't approachable to me, so what does America have to offer me exactly? Not much, I'm afraid.

Social skills with the flow vs. against the flow

I would surmise that different sets of social skills are required in different environments, just as different behaviors are appropriate around different people. It is not a case of "one social skill" fits all. In my case, trying to be social in America the way I am social in foreign countries doesn't fit the flow, vibe, rhythm, communication style, or behavior of the collective consciousness there. Trying to do so feels like playing a song out of tune. It just doesn't fit or jive. I don't know why, but I would venture that most who are on my wavelength or frequency feel the same. The wild, uninhibited side of me feels very much against the flow in America. When that

happens, it may seem as though I lack social skills, when in reality I merely have a different set of social skills which doesn't fit the tempo of the social environment I'm in.

I have even tested this by pretending in America that I'm still in Russia, acting and socializing the exact same way, yet getting completely different results.

I know that there are many outgoing sociable people in the US, so it's possible to be that way, however, they are outgoing and sociable on a different frequency or wavelength than me, which makes me feel awkward and unnatural to try to emulate. It's as if the way they are social though, is with this weird artificial front that I don't wish to emulate in order to jive with them.

On the other hand, when I am outgoing and sociable in Russia, Europe or most countries of the world, I feel like I'm going "with the flow". Thus, I thrive much more in foreign social scenes, which are more fun and inclusive, flowing naturally the way it should be. I can meet people of all types any time I want in such environments, and it feels totally natural and "with the flow". I feel much more natural synergy with the people and environment. And I definitely share a "kindred spirit" much more with Europeans than with Americans in general.

So it seems that being outgoing or fitting in with others here requires a different type of social skills than in other countries. In some countries, my social skills and communication fits the flow and has synergy with the people there. But in others, it doesn't.

This may all be a bit difficult for some to visualize, and it's not easy for me to describe either. It's a flow that you just have to experience, though I admit that not everyone will experience or perceive a "flow", "rhythm" or "vibe" the same way, as individual perceptions vary.

This poster on my Forum described something similar, acknowledging the difficulty of forming natural solid friendships in the US vs overseas:

<http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=2543>

"The only thing I share in common with W is the fact that he understands the hardships involved in what is considered social constructs in the USA. What some people have contributed to the blog about social norms and the difficulties in identifying with people here on a social level is very accurate and it hits home. For example, some of my own friends tell me that I should further develop my "social skills". Well, here in the USA it is hard to establish friendships with people. My own friends are hard to contact and connect with, much less with strangers. Furthermore, I don't need those "social skills" when I'm abroad. When I travel, I make friends pretty easily without having to develop some magical social skills. Here I have trouble being comfortable with my own friends. Here in "America", having friends is almost like not having any friends at all. You are judged for many things, including what you do for a living. That is not living."

Here is an example of what I mean. These are words of some typical airhead valley girls to their girlfriends on MySpace.com. These are the type of people who are part of the "cool crowd" in America, and fit the party animal scene. In other words, this is how "cool people" talk in America. Not only are the words airheadish to the extreme, but very cliquish and exclusive in nature as well, not the kind of talk a third person can join in on.

"J-TELL!!!!!!!!!! GIRLFRIEND!!!! i miss u liken ens!!! YOu better be holding it down in BHAM for me MISSAYY.....i cant wait to hang out with you..i wish u were here with us KPJ i mean come on now haha welll my dear have a lovely night babyyyyy!!!!!!!! FRIDAY Night and i belive tomorrow is APRIL FOOLS DAY GIRL!! HAHA U KNOW WHAT THAT MEANS!!!!heheH love ya girl!!!!"

"3/31/2006 4:42 PM

JENNIFER..its official..im comingg to walla wallaa....HAHAHA WOOO HOOO..you let kayla know that...its time TO Getttt wild..i will be arriving..on APRIL 21sts....YEAY im so excited jenn I LOVE YOUU andd i cant wait to see you...haha take me to the wild whitman parties please?? haha...oh LOrd ...maybe we can lie to peopel again and pretend we are twins..or whatever we said..it was funny...hahaN E WAtys jenn..love ya..and im really excited to se you..oH..by the way..I have a permission slip all signed and ready..tell LC hahaha :-)

Jillayyyy

3/27/2006 8:41 PM

hahaha JENNNN..i LOVE you...haha OBTAIN A PERMISSION SLIP?????well MISSYYY...let me tell you..maybe we can just transfer the trampoline permission slip over to the partying one?? do u think LYD could hook it up??...i thikn she could pull it off...CREWWW.hahahaha oh lord..well yea..im coming...prob this month..sooo BEtter be on the lookout for some..feLLUZzz we cannnnnn Parttyyy it up with“

As you can see, the words, tone, and wavelength are very airheadish and artificial. It's like in order to fit into these girls' "flow" you have to adopt the same tone and wavelength. Now look at how I write here in this treatise which reveals my wavelength which is organized, insightful, focused and articulate. How the hell am I supposed to resonate, click or fit into the flow of such people like this? In fact, how the hell am I even supposed to hold a basic conversation with them?! They are like empty bags of air! Sheesh, nowhere else on Earth do young people talk like that, so airheadish and artificial.

Reader comments:

- "Sent: Mon, 13 Aug 2007 8:22 am
Subject: You are AWESOME!"

Dear sir,

You have made me extremely happy today. I too live in California and am of Asian descent. For my entire life, I have been socially awkward and rejected in school and other areas. Although I do have a lot of friends, I've always seemed to notice that my social skills differed from the "norm". I've always seen myself as outgoing, funny and nice but when I tend to over do it at times and thus lose friends and respect. I've always thought that I was the only person like this but when I found your site and read about your experiences, it described me exactly and now I know that I do not have to conform to American society. Throughout my past 3 years in High School, I've been changing almost every bit of myself in hopes of becoming popular again and having friends, but to no avail. Hopefully, I can become an expat and live in France or other part of Europe and enjoy the same success as you.

Thank you so much!"

Closed cliquish business cultures vs. Open passionate social cultures

America is essentially a business culture in nearly all aspects of life. As such, social interaction is confined within closed cliques, usually established early on in life in one's high school and college years. Otherwise, communication with strangers is usually for business related purposes only (e.g. customer service, business transactions, sales, etc.)

Therefore, if you don't have an established clique of friends, or you are new to the area, you are basically F***ed socially for who knows how long (unless of course you are super attractive, involved in the entertainment industry or allied with the rich and successful).

The social nature of such countries is very conservative (despite the media image of America being a wild, free, open, extroverted culture). People live in structured routines, whether it's social or professional, and life is more of a business than a passion. Everything is highly compartmentalized into a proper time and place.

But passion is what opens people up truly to connecting with others, including strangers. Business does not, and instead treats communication as purely for business related purposes. American culture is the latter of course.

In addition, such socially closed workaholic countries are segregated, driven by fear and paranoia by their media and social consensus. People are conditioned to fear every stranger as a potential psycho or killer, despite the reality of how safe their environment really is, and fed daily news stories that reinforce that myth. It's a form of social mind control to keep the population weak, subservient and working and consuming.

And of course, since most people are natural followers, rather than freethinkers or leaders, they will conform to that, for they assume that authority and consensus = truth, rather than the actual truth itself.

In fact, the corporate elite have a vested interest in limiting your social relationships, family life, and creativity or passions, for if you have too many friends, good social relationships and/or spend too much time cultivating your passions and creative pursuits, then you will have less time for industrious work and productivity, which America sees as the purpose of your life. You see, your life is a business resource to America, a commodity, measured in terms of productivity, not passion. Thus communication and relationships between strangers are generally confined to business related purposes.

America's goal is for you to remain a "happy slave", productive and efficient. To do that, it must maintain the illusion of freedom in your mind. But it definitely does NOT want to encourage you to pursue things like passion, creativity or deep human bonds and relationships. No way. Such things are counterproductive to its goal of keeping you a "happy slave" whose life is "all business". That's why America teaches a system where such things are highly compartmentalized, limited or suppressed. To America, the economy is number one, NOT your soul!

So what can you do about that? Well you can expose it and bring awareness to it, like I'm doing here. And you can tell yourself everyday "I am a human being! Not a business resource!" But the most important thing is for you to place yourself among groups, movements or cultures that are conducive to life of freedom, passion and rich human connections and relationships. There are alternative, counter culture and hippie-type movements in the US for instance, that support a life free of "the system" where you can meet like minded others.

Or you can go to overseas cultures where passion and camaraderie are still regarded as the focus of life, rather than cold hearted business and closed cliquishness. (I will provide some examples below) There are many cultures abroad that are far more open, relaxed and inclusive, where people are not segregated by "ice barriers" or paranoia. I've experienced many of them and can vouch that they are a world of difference. But the US media doesn't want you to know about them of course, so you will not hear about this on mainstream channels. For many, this has been a happy fulfilling and permanent solution to the misery, stress and loneliness of America.

But you'd better hurry though, cause America is in a rush to try to turn the "cultures of passion" out there into cold business-like cultures like itself! So you'd better pray that it fails in its attempt to "globalize" the world into a carbon copy of itself.

Here are examples of cultures where passion, creativity, expression and human camaraderie are the focus of life and enjoyed to the fullest, where people are more socially open and less cliquish:

- Latin America, Mexico, Russia, Italy, Spain, France, Greece, Holland, Mexico, Southeast Asia, The Philippines, Thailand, Indonesia, etc.

Now here are examples of cultures where people are less socially open and more cliquish, where business is the aim of life and workaholic lifestyles are idolized, where passion, creativity and social lives are suppressed or restrained:

- America, Canada, Japan, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Korea, Finland, Norway, etc.

Of course, other cultures lie somewhere between both these categories.

But keep in mind that people fit in differently in each culture, and have different experiences that will vary. There is no "one culture fits all".

The important thing is that you choose a culture or atmosphere where your INNER matches your OUTER environment. In other words, if you are shy, conservative, socially closed or cliquish, as well as a workaholic, you would vibe best in cultures that reflect such qualities (e.g. Japan, Taiwan). But if you are open, passionate, sociable, relaxed and carefree, you'd fit best in cultures dominated by such traits (e.g. Latin America, parts of Europe). Otherwise, a mismatch between your inner self and outer environment is not a good thing. It will weaken you in the long run and not allow your natural self to come out or bring out the best in you.

Discuss this article here: <http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=8170>

See Also:

Comparison Chart between America and most countries in terms of Dating, Social Life and Self-Esteem:
<http://www.happierabroad.com/comparison.htm>

More culture comparisons at:

<http://expatriateobservations.blogspot.com>

Americans by their actions love being lonely workaholics



Though Americans may deny it, they seem to love being alone. Of course, they will not say that they like being lonely, but their actions and behavior show it (as we all know, actions speak louder than words). For instance, on public buses and parks, people are always trying to sit alone and not be bothered, and there is this vibe and assumption that you are expected to do the same, otherwise you are a freak or creep if you don't keep adequate distance from others and mind your own business. (see the links of the pictures inside the ferry above for an example) And in restaurants, if they're sitting alone, it means they want to be alone, no wish for company. Same in shopping malls. I could never understand why Americans are like this, as I get lonely easy and hate it for it's one of my vices. It's as if they have lost the need for social interaction.

To me, a society where people don't make eye contact with others and work to death just to survive is meaningless and uninspiring. Yet somehow, society has instilled into most Americans the desire just to do that, be anti-social and spend most of your time working to death. It seems most Americans seem to derive satisfaction from that, while I remained immune to it. Of course, it would be expected that anti-social people will not be complaining that other people are anti-social. Rather, it's the people who are really social and love to connect, like me, who will be the ones complaining.

What's odd is that since being alone, isolated and enjoying it all the time is part of the US culture and norm, even if one doesn't really enjoy isolation, one still feels compelled to pretend to enjoy it (as I have) because you're "supposed" to. And since I hate living a lie, that's not for me.

Another thing I don't get is why they enjoy a workaholic lifestyle and derive fulfillment from it. Some may deny that they do, but again, from their actions, behavior and lifestyle, it's apparent. They may deny loving work, but they are always seeking more hours and more pay at the expense of all else as if it were part of their instinct/programming. And they expect me to be the same, or else if I'm not, they seem confused. Like the Chinese and Japanese workaholics, they may not even know what to do without work, as if they become lost and bored without working all the time. How sad and one dimensional.

And I'm considered a freak because I deviate from the above two distasteful "normal" behaviors?! Good for me then, I say!

In response to the above, my Expat Advisor commented:

"Well, in every society there are cultural values that predominate. In the US it is the Protestant work ethics and the desire for privacy. So if you are not like that, you may not be a freak as in the mental sense, but you are not following its values.

In Saudi Arabia, anyone who is not a 5 time a day mosque goer and who does not believe in Islam is abnormal. In Russia, a man who does not drink is abnormal and in a Catholic society a woman who does not believe in virginity is abnormal. Also, people who are not Christians in many Latin American countries are not normal either.

In case of some people such as yourself, non-conformists, that is, it is better to be a PT and live outside of society or find a place where you may be somewhat less of a misfit.”

Study shows that more money = less social

This study validates what I've been saying all along about the unprecedented anti-social nature of modern Americans compared to the rest of the world. It says that when you have more money, you become less dependent on others and also less social, whereas those with less money are more interdependent and more naturally social. Since America is considered “the richest nation in the world”, it's no wonder why those like me find it to be the most anti-social as well. Here is the link along with some key excerpts from it.

http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/061116/show_me_the_money.html?.v=4

"The mere presence of money changes people," Vohs said. "The effect can be negative, it can be positive. Exposure to money, or the concept of money, elevates a sense of self-sufficiency," and can make people less social."

"The underlying idea is that at some point early on in human evolution everyone probably needed someone else to help them achieve their goals," whether building a home or catching food. Eventually systems of exchange came along, and then money, which could be exchanged for things, allowing people to pursue their own aims without the aid of others. So, over time, people with money didn't need other people so much."

"Subjects exposed to the idea of money subsequently show more self-reliant but also a more self-centered approach to problem-solving than subjects exposed to neutral concepts," said Lee and Burgoyne, who were not part of Vohs research team."

Documented proof of anti-sociality in America in one of the worst places

Probably one of the strongest examples of anti-sociality in America is in the Seattle, Washington area, as well as the Pacific Northwest. As one who was stuck in that area for years I can personally attest that it is one of the most anti-social areas in the country. People in general there are like hermits who detest social interaction, hate meeting new people, and merely humor passerbys with a fake polite smile. It felt like the Twilight Zone there, where I was the only one that was normal. It got so bad in fact that I wrote this article about it: http://www.happierabroad.com/Bellingham_Curse.htm.

In fact, the frigidity of the social atmosphere in the Seattle area is so apparent that it came to the attention of the city's own major print media. The Seattle Times did a story on it, calling it "The Seattle Freeze", which you can read at: <http://seattletimes.nwsources.com/pacificnw/2005/0213/cover.html>

The report describes a common social pattern where people are very polite to others, stopping to let you cross the street, letting you cut in on the freeway, waving a fake hello to you, etc. but are extremely non-inclusive in that they don't invite you anywhere, don't wish to spend time with you, and don't like meeting new people or socializing other than waving politely to strangers that pass by, never seeing them again. Here are some key excerpts from the story:

<http://seattletimes.nwsources.com/pacificnw/2005/0213/cover.html>

"Those who move to Seattle also have another kind of story. But you don't broadcast this one. You keep it to yourself or whisper it to other transplants. It goes something like this:

You're talking to a co-worker/someone at a party/fill in the blank. In any other town, this person looks like someone with whom you might be friends. Potential friend asks, "So what are you up to this weekend?"

"Oh, I don't have any plans yet. I just moved to Seattle and don't really know anybody . . ."

You try not to look desperate.

Friend-to-be smiles and, for a brief, shining moment you think to yourself: Finally, someone is going to ask me to do something. Invite me to a party. Happy hour. Brunch with the girls. It'll be just like "Sex and the City." She'll be Charlotte; you'll be Carrie!

You feel a chill coming on. Still smiling, Friend-Not-On-Your-Life politely excuses herself, "Well, have a nice weekend then."

Ouch.

..... the dichotomy most fundamental to our collective civic character is this: Polite but distant. **Have a nice day. Somewhere else.**

Seattle is like that popular girl in high school. The one who gets your vote for homecoming queen because she always smiles and says hello. But she doesn't know your name and doesn't care to. She doesn't want to be your friend. She's just being nice.

..... But in Seattle, it was cold shoulder after cold shoulder. She was working as a waitress with dozens of people her age, but it took six months before one of them invited her along when they went out after work.

"It seems nobody really wants to let you in," she says. "They'll say, 'Oh yeah, yeah, I'll get your number' — but you know that's going nowhere."

"Here, it's so weird, people are so nice in these passing situations, but beyond that there's a wall," she says.

Sociology professor Jodi O'Brien has a name for it: "the phenomenon of the plastic smile."

Seattle's "social script," she says, can ultimately lead to "alienation" and "isolation." "Politeness is a poor substitute for intimacy and genuine friendship."

"At the university, where people are hired from all over, this is a pretty standard conversation," O'Brien says. "Seattleites are often seen as having this veneer of pleasantness but being hard to come to know."

..... WHILE RESERVE may come in handy when you've got on white gloves, it can make for a rather stultifying social scene, as Gabriel Tevrizian found when he moved here 15 years ago from Buenos Aires.

Now 40, Tevrizian recalls that for the first time in his life, he knew what it meant to be lonely.

"There's no such thing as that in Argentina," he says. "There are people around you constantly. They come over and hang out and then they hang out some more.

"People here don't ever just hang out — there's no time for that — but those are the times you really get to know people."

Any attempt to socialize begins to feel like too much effort, he says. "You have to try to get together 10 times before someone doesn't cancel."

Trying to develop a friendship in Seattle, you can feel a bit like Bill Murray in "Groundhog Day." Like with each encounter you have to start from scratch, back to the surface niceties.

Take the dog park. Pam Tate and her Pomeranian-Schipperke mix Jett see the same people each week at the Magnuson Park off-leash area. As the dogs sniff each other, their owners chitchat and trade compliments on each other's sniff-worthy dogs. But each time, at the end of the conversation, "I know the dog's name, but not the owners'. How sad is that?"

And as Tate, 36, quickly learned, when you actually make an effort, you risk coming off as pushy. When she arrived from Orange County, potential-friend types would say, "Hey, let's do something sometime." And she thought they meant it. She'd try to actually set something up. "People would seem shocked; I was seen as aggressive for asking people to do a specific thing at a specific time."

After a series of squirmy rebuffs, she realized that when Seattleites say, "Let's do something sometime," what they really mean is: "Let's never do anything ever."

"A lot of what people call socializing is really just public isolation," O'Brien says.

Here in Seattle we do a lot of things alone. We live alone: Two out of five households have a single occupant — one of the highest rates in the nation. More than three-quarters of people participate in an individual sport but only 13 percent play on a team. We ride bikes alone; go on walks alone; troll bookstores alone, then go home and read alone.

"People find their set of activities to do and they are fairly content," O'Brien says.

In fact, Seattle's seeming split personality might come from this very complacency. We don't have anything against you, but simply don't feel the need to take the risk of inviting you into the fold.

"On the one hand, it's nice to bop in and out of situations knowing people will smile and treat you well. Nice is like bubble gum — it's sugary and pleasant." But if all you ever get is nice, never flirty or risky, she says, that gum loses its flavor pretty quick, and the human experience becomes ultimately less rewarding. Even depressing.

She cites a famous sociological study of flight attendants, which found being nice all the time is an especially draining kind of work. It can cause the emotional equivalent of repetitive stress injury. At the end of the day, some flight attendants would have trouble turning the nice off. And stuck in nice gear, they became disassociated from their true emotions and had trouble expressing them.

First, it's an enabling cultural climate for socially inept people. So if you come here and you have any germ of antisociality, it will, like moss, take hold and flourish.

And if you arrive here open and ebullient, you're bound to lose your confidence and spark after enough cold shoulders. After all, why even bother going to that party when you know it will just be more nonchalant chitchat that will never go anywhere?

"If a dog gets smacked every time he sticks his nose out of the cage, guess what happens?" Pam Tate says. "After a while of putting yourself out there and being rebuffed, you just say forget it."

Newcomers seem to acclimate to the social habits along with the weather. We soon learn to lay off our horns and grow less effusive with invitations."

Someone also put up a short video about "The Seattle Freeze" where several people talk about how difficult it is to make friends and how it took them years to break into any circles. You can watch that here:
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=roC_nsdyl1I

Now isn't that all so sad? It should never be that way. I wonder why these reports never even bother mentioning actually LEAVING Seattle as a possible solution, since there are so many places in the world where socializing is completely NATURAL and FREE-FLOWING (which is the whole basis of this book in fact). Instead, it reports on the remedy of going to singles clubs and social mixers composed of other Seattle transplants, a very mono-national solution. Apparently it's taboo to mention that somewhere else is better than where you're at.

Frankly though, I've been to organized social mixers in Seattle and even though this is gonna sound rude, I'm going to tell it like it is: **They are mostly composed of overweight unattractive people!** (sorry if that's rude and offensive, but it's true) Yeah they were very nice people, but WHY SETTLE for that when you can go to Europe or the Philippines and hang out with skinny attractive girls EASILY?! It makes no sense and shows how news writers have a mono-national paradigm.

If that isn't limited enough, get this one. These folks in a Seattle Meetup.org chat are claiming that it usually takes 2 years to make new friends when you move to a new place!

<http://newintown.meetup.com/38/messages/boards/view/viewthread?thread=2043864>

Are they talking about Seattle, the USA, or the whole world when they say "new place"? Who has two years of their life to waste with no social life?! In most cultures abroad, if I talk to people, I can make new friends within 30 minutes of arriving in a new place! I've never had a problem at all, look!

[Photo Collage](#)

If only these folks knew... They are like the cavemen in Plato's Cave Analogy, watching the shadows on the wall while the enlightened have already found the daylight on the surface.

[Visual proof of isolationist social environment on ferry ride vs. the opposite](#)

Here are some interesting photos I took that shows the Seattle Freeze in everyday life. I took them while I was on a ferry ride between Seattle and Bremerton. Notice the passengers inside the ferry. It's an obvious example of how reclusive people are in the Northwest and US environment in general. The isolationist social culture is well displayed here. No one interacts with strangers, and the passengers are all in their own bubble. This is depressing to people like me who thrive on lively inclusive environments. Though the scenery outside was nice, inside the atmosphere was gloomy and anti-social.



Now, contrast that with these photos I took during a ferry ride in Riga, Latvia (in Eastern Europe). Even though it was late afternoon, people still liked to party and dance. Here you see a mini-disco lounge on board the ferry being enjoyed by the passengers! See the difference!



Reader comments:

- "Seattle is one of the few cities, which I have never visited. My uncle lives there. I have heard some really strange things about the place ... Everything from people having dogs instead of kids, to women trying to make hairy legs a fashion statement. It sounds like a really weird place. I must see it sometime! LOL! That Seattle social script sounds quite ironic. I also heard that the Seattle area has more millionaires/billionaires than any other city in the country.

I agree that it is ridiculous if it takes 2 years to make new friends when moving to a new place. Especially for young single people. People have communication needs, and can actually get very sick (mentally, emotionally and physically) when those needs are not met. Two years of social isolation ... It should be no surprise that Seattle ranks high in suicide (from last i read)."

- "You've raised a good point with that post which I've been wanting to talk with you about.

Note: "You try not to look desperate"

If you don't already have friends and a circle of friends, then you are automatically a loser. So here, in the US, you have to put on a false and fake persona that you're busy with all your friends--otherwise you can easily create the impression that you are a loser. It's sick! But this false image you have to present is what is called 'social skills.'

In germany, I've been told that that cultural behavior doesn't exist. There is no stigma for being by yourself and or earnestly trying to connect with people. You can go to bars by yourself freely and no one will judge you as being a friendless loser."

Identity determined by cliques vs. who you are

In America, the social environment and culture inadvertently force people to join or fit into a clique in order to have an "identity" or else risk estrangement and alienation. Your identity is determined by your clique. Who you are is nothing unless you belong to a clique. And this indoctrination of the way it is begins as early as high school, where identities are quickly formed and categorized by clique types (i.e. cool crowd, jocks, nerds, etc.) Even American teen comedy films depict this to the extreme. But alas, it's simply unnatural to try to "fit in" when by default the society is individualistic and private.

In most other countries, "fitting in" is not even an issue that one has to deal with, because everyone "fits in" and is interconnected by default. People aren't as individualistic, but have more in common with each other, and so get along easier too. Thus young immigrants who come to the states soon realize how complicated their life is compared to their home country, and how their immigrant parents are unable to understand or relate to them. For people who just want to be themselves, trying to "fit in" America is awkward. This psychological pressure from fear of alienation can screw people up, and in the worst cases lead to emotional baggage that carries on into adult life, resulting in low self-esteem or other dysfunctional psychological problems.

But outside America, generally you are just you and your identity is plain who you are, not determined by the clique you belong to. Simply, you are appreciated for you. That's all there is to it. No crazy complexes like in America.

Friendships – US vs. most countries

In America, friendships tend to be superficial and short term. They grow apart very easily, and are often a mere facade that lacks any true human bond or connection. Furthermore, most of your so called "friends" do not even really like you for you. And of course, most of them do not stick with you through thick and thin. Thus, it's no wonder that so many Americans say that "true friends are hard to find".

But in most countries abroad, friendships tend to be deeper, more sincere and close-knit. They are also more long-lasting and enduring, with a truer human bond and connection. With foreign friends, a more natural camaraderie develops or is often instant. They are closer to the kind of ideal friendships you read about and cherished as a child in wholesome fictional stories that hold a place in your heart and memories. And of course, it is easy to find people that like you for you. In fact, "true friendships" develop more naturally and smoothly.

In the US, to make friends you often feel that you have to prove your worth to others, especially among the young crowd, to gain their attention or interest. And the strong sense of individualism which leads to a separate ego makes it that much more difficult.

But in most other nations, people tend to just like you for you. You don't get the feeling that you have to prove your worth. Even in countries like Japan or Taiwan, where people are generally shy, introverted, and not very outgoing, people will still like you for you once they get to know you over time, and once they do, they treat you very well. People in those Asian countries may not be open to strangers, but at least you don't get the feeling that you have to prove your worth to them. That's the bottom line.

Therefore, outside of America I find that it's a lot easier to be myself because I don't have to prove anything to people, whereas in the US, I feel that I have to do something or project some kind of image to people to prove my worth. Let's face it. The reality is that in America, 99 percent of the people you meet are not going to just like you for you, or just because you're a nice person. Nor will they stick with you through thick and thin. Abroad though, the percentages are much much better. I guarantee it.

Recently, a CNN report found that internet communications in America (on the rise probably cause people are afraid to talk to others in person) have made human relations in this country more superficial than ever before. See the report at:

<http://www.emailthis.clickability.com/et/emailThis?clickMap=viewThis&etMailToID=1421200924>

Also, in most countries neighbors are very close and share their private lives with each other. But in most of America, particularly suburban neighborhoods, many people live in their homes for years without ever getting to know any of their neighbors! (Something unheard of in other countries!) Especially in apartment complexes, neighbors don't even like to talk to each other or acknowledge their existence. Instead, there's this disassociated separateness from others that is so strong that you feel like a freak if you violate it.

Furthermore, in the US friends actually need appointments in order to visit each other's homes, which is abnormal to the rest of the world, where people commonly visit drop by their friends' homes casually anytime they like.

In America, the old adage "To have a friend, you must be a friend" doesn't seem to work for me. I've been a friend to many who were not a friend to me when I needed them. For example, I've helped friends move but when I needed to move they weren't there. And I listen to them when they have relationships problems, but when I have relationship problems they don't want to hear about it.

Among foreigners, there is a common saying that in America people are "easy come, easy go." They often remark that the way people greet and smile to each other in America in public or professional settings is fake and artificial. These kinds of observations about America are common around the world, yet our media never covers this for some reason.

And in workplace environments, coworkers tend to politely tolerate each other without becoming real friends or bonding with each other. Not always of course, but more so compared to other countries. During lunch breaks, for example, most office workers tend to go off alone and do their own thing. If they go eat with someone, it's

usually with one or two coworkers to the exclusion of the rest. But in other countries, such as Greece for instance, coworkers eat together, cook together, and often the boss cooks for everyone too.

One reader noted to me:

“Dear Winston,

A late good friend of mine from Peru used to tell me "Americans are friendly but not your friend". He observed how in the U.S. one could work for years in a company and never be invited to a co-workers home. This was far different from Peru where people frequently visited each others homes and were very social outside of work. I found this intriguing. As you have said each society has its pluses and minuses. Hope you enjoy this. Take care.”

And an East Indian friend of mine concurred, saying:

“Yes, very. I agree with your late peruvian friend in that I've found for the most part, most American's have a friendly manner that may or may not reflect how they really feel.

So someone coming here from another country (say India) would think they're the friendliest people in the world. I thought that too, when I walked out on the streets on my first day in the US and had total strangers smiling at me and saying "Hello, How do you do".....but I quickly realized that they were just 'being nice' and had no earthly interest in hearing my answer.

In India, it is rather different - people aren't as quick to smile and say hi, but they are much more likely to invite you home, or do other things that help cement friendships quicker than I've seen happen here in the US. I know that's generalizing, and I'm not an expert on cultural phenomena by any means, but there definitely is a discernable difference.

Just my .02”

Even an American traveler confessed to realizing these differences after having them explained to him in Europe.

http://www.couchsurfing.com/group_read.html?gid=345&post=55980

“This is why we travel, right? To learn about our ideal selves? I hope you're doing that. Your observations are valid and your conclusions worth taking to heart. But let's not stop at simple America-bashing. I'm not proud to be American, nor am I ashamed. I just am. But I do my best, I try to change things that really bug me about our culture. It's easy to complain, but it doesn't do any good if I don't get out there and do something about it.

When I lived in Europe, people frequently made me aware of our "out of sight, out of mind" mentality when it comes to friendship. When I returned here, I realized just how true their accusation was to a large extent.

But I also learned that there are a lot of truly sincere and loyal people here, and I hope that I've become one myself.”

And this poster on my Forum acknowledged the difficulty of forming natural solid friendships in the US vs overseas:

<http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=2543>

“The only thing I share in common with W is the fact that he understands the hardships involved in what is considered social constructs in the USA. What some people have contributed to the blog about social norms and the difficulties in identifying with people here on a social level is very accurate and it hits home. For example, some of my own friends tell me that I should further develop my "social skills". Well, here in the USA it is hard to establish friendships with people. My own friends are hard to contact and connect with, much less with strangers. Furthermore, I don't need those "social skills" when I'm abroad. When I travel, I make friends pretty easily without having to develop some magical social skills. Here I have trouble being comfortable with my own friends. Here in "America", having friends is almost like not

having any friends at all. You are judged for many things, including what you do for a living. That is not living.”

Reader comments:

- *“I have heard that too that friendships with people abroad tend to be more sincere and close knit. I guess it has to do with the culture, some countries place greater emphasis on relationships than others. In the US, the emphasis is on making money.”*

- *“God, that's a horrible perspective on Friendship, and America.*

Friendships in America can be superficial, or short-lived, but that doesn't make them bad. I move to a new state every few years, have to make friends all over again, but that's one of the great things in life. The ones that stick by you are great; the ones that don't stick by you--well, it was fun while it lasted.

One thing I've noticed in the US is that Northerners, especially New Yorkers, tend to form strong and long-lasting bonds, since they're all hell-bent on being "real". People in southern and western climes tend to be more transient and mobile...again, not a bad thing, just don't stake your life on them and you'll be fine.

Best, K.K.

www.rockherworld.net “

- *“Winston, I couldn't word it better. I felt this feeling today and what a coincidence that I find this thread. Today I met with so called "friend"... with him being obvious anti-social and low self confidence person, I tried my best in every way possible to get to know him. He seem like he was totally annoyed and yet I could sense his fakeness and his artificial smile. It was truly disgusting and even more disgusting that this is what USA society really is. I'm starting to question myself why I'm living in the US in the first time. Yeah sure the reasons are mostly economical and getting a better job but that won't matter to me if I can't have the Quality life. In fact I deeply admire European/ Latin American approach of life. Some people might criticize their life of being too laid back and all but seriously I would want to travel to those countries and maybe perhaps enjoy my life there. I hate US lifestyle... so fake and artificial truly disgusting as usual.”*

Interconnectedness vs. Separateness: Why Americans overinflate themselves and try to "fit in"

"The ego thrives on separateness. Authentic freedom is found by absolving this sense of separateness from others and God." – Wayne Dyer

"Success depends on how well we relate to everything around us."
- John Perkins, former "Economic Hit Man" ([Zeitgeist Addendum film](#))

If you're looking for a spiritual type of reason to go abroad, here it is.

In America, there is a common saying which applies to basic life wisdom, *"You're on your own. No one will take care of you except yourself. You have only yourself to depend on."* However, what they negate to say is this primarily applies to America values and cultural mentality, not the whole world. You see, in Western culture, there is this false teaching that we are all separate individuals with separate interests, disconnected from each other. This culture of individualism teaches that selfishness and a "me first" attitude are normal and in fact, that you owe it to yourself to have such an attitude. This naturally leads to narcissism as well, which has almost become a norm. As a result, a strongly separate sense of self has been created, and "ego" so to speak, the kind which Eastern religions say is an illusion to begin that leads to suffering.

Many immigrants upon arrival in America notice that they suddenly seem to have an individual ego that is detached and disconnected from others. All of a sudden, they feel alone as though they don't exist and nobody cares about them, even in crowded places, in a way that they never did back in their home country. They experience this immediately because wherever you are, the collective consciousness of the people and culture where you are at, determines the reality of that space or region, which can be strongly felt even without prior knowledge of such. The New Age and esoteric mantra that "thought creates reality" does have a degree of truth to it.

In America's case, since the majority population believes that they are individual separate egos detached from others, any newcomer immediately FEELS like a separate disconnected ego, even if he/she felt connected wherever they came from prior, because that is the new reality that he/she is in. It's a reality co-created by the American population, lifestyle, culture, and collective thought/beliefs/values. In essence, they're on their own once they come here, literally and figuratively, unless they have pre-existing friends or relatives. But even if they do, their social interaction will usually be limited to them.

Hence, America has a discrepancy between lip service and reality (but every country has such discrepancies in fact). America likes to boast to the world that it is an inclusive cultural melting pot, when in reality, it is extremely non-inclusive and division is the norm, rather than unity. Some examples: People are in isolated bubbles disconnected from each other, they don't generally talk to strangers unless it's business-related, cliques are closed, people are on their own, selfishness is the norm, and you either assimilate into the culture or you are a freak who doesn't belong here.

From a spiritual and quantum perspective, we and the universe are all one, made up of the same "star dust" physically and of the same "consciousness" metaphysically. Thus we and everything are interconnected. Therefore our ideals of separateness cause a series of imbalances – psychological and physical (highest rates of mental illness and obesity in the industrialized world, for example). In the US, there simply is not a natural sense of interconnectedness between people like there is in other countries. Now, this is one generalization I can make that is very accurate, observable, and easily experienced.

According to spiritual teachings, this belief of having a separate individual ego creates much suffering, for a separate ego has a "me vs. them" mentality, fragmenting our natural interconnectedness. And since America is the most individualistic of all, it goes to follow that this type of suffering is greatest there, regardless of its economic prosperity. That's why despite its financial benefits and opportunities, it is a country of much greater psychological suffering and maladaptation than most. In short, America is the loneliest country in the world.

One of my insightful Indian readers described to me this dualistic "separation from others" attitude in America:

"I myself am heavily influenced by nondualist studies, such as Zen, Sufism, Advaita and Taoism, which focus heavily on interconnectedness with the universe, and getting away from the "I" (and understanding that our own perception of the self is generally false).

Indeed, America is therefore a very spiritually starved place, in my opinion, because of the emphasis on a self/ego (which is most likely perceived falsely to begin with), instead of the heavy emphasis on oneness, or interconnectedness. And it wreaks its havoc in work, in family life and beyond.

By the way, India, where my family is from, is a good place to meet people. Not the greatest, but quite a bit superior to USA in terms of social life. I love it when I visit there.

I do also think, however, that good and bad exists everywhere, in different ways and different amounts, which I know you've addressed. And we can only fight the bad so much. So it's a matter of how well we take the good with the bad.

But yes, when it comes to this particular problem of not being able to control the ego, and being hopelessly caught in the traps of duality, rather than engaging in interconnectedness with all, America is just about at the top. And therefore your site is spot-on about that."

As a consequence, this lack of interconnectedness between people in America leads to two common maladaptive neuroses:

- a) The tendency of Americans to overinflate their ego, confidence, and attitude to compensate for their vulnerability.
- b) The conflicting oxymoron of trying to "fit in" somewhere.

I will elaborate on both.

Why Americans tend to overinflate their ego/confidence/attitude

Due to a lack of interconnectedness, Americans tend to puff up and overinflate their ego, attitude and confidence to appear "tough" to compensate for their vulnerability, since they are on their own. And in the process, many develop narcissistic attitudes as well. It's individualism gone too far, in my opinion and by the rest of the world's standards. Now couple that with overwork, stress, and loneliness, and you've got mental/behavioral dysfunction breeding big time, which is no surprise why the US is the highest in mental illness among industrialized nations.

The disproportionate American ego and attitude are too obvious to deny, especially when you compare them to foreigners. In fact, it's one reason why Americans think they are superior to the rest of the world, and come off as arrogant about it. When they are in abroad, they notice that their egos are larger than those of the foreigners, who by comparison are more modest and humble, and thus they subconsciously feel superior when amongst foreigners.

My Expat Advisor, in his guide on how to behave in Russia, notes this difference between American and Russian egos:

"a) In America you need to blow your horn and act independent and arrogant to show you are somebody. Not there (Russia). You need to be humble. This is what they (Russians) like. Polite and friendly, too."

In other countries on the other hand, people have a natural sense of interconnectedness with each other, as well as a rich communal bond, so they have no need to overinflate their egos and confidence. Instead, they have a calm relaxed ego and confidence that's in harmony with the rest of their personality, unlike the bulging/pulsating ego/confidence that Americans tend to exude which can be quite intimidating to others and to foreigners.

Thus, they are more comfortable to be around (in my view at least). And that's why I have a more natural comfort zone with foreigners. This difference is readily noticeable by anyone with exposure to foreigners and

newly arrived immigrants. One can easily sense it in their personalities, vibes and auras, that they are accustomed to a rich communal bond. It's a refreshing contrast to the big bulging type of ego and over-confidence that modern Americans tend to develop, which is overcompensating, intimidating to others, and leads to dysfunctional behavior, maladaptation and mental illness.

You see, a sense of natural interconnection with others means you simply don't need to develop a big ego, attitude, or over-confidence to be "tough". But in America, you do tend to need such ridiculous qualities, otherwise you feel vulnerable to being trampled by others who have them. It's an immature power play.

Some Americans even consider me "weak" and "timid" when they meet me, because I don't overinflate my attitude and confidence in the bravado style that they do, and appear too easy-going to them. But in reality, I have a deep inner strength, balance, harmony and willpower that they don't know or appreciate (and how can they since most of them have no "inner life" anyway). So I have no need to inflate my outer personality to imitate them, which they sometimes use to put me down. Funnily enough, even some young punks have chided me for not being like them, acting as though "everything is cool" and exuding fake optimism all the time. However, I find their act/behavior too fake for my taste and also, if I were to try to emulate them, well, I just wouldn't feel good about myself doing it.

In fact, even their British counterparts, whose culture/values most closely resemble ours, have far less of an egoist attitude and act far more modestly (as well as more cultured).

The conflicting oxymoron of trying to "fit in"

The second common maladaptive behavior influenced by the lack of a sense of interconnectedness in the US is the perpetual neurosis of trying to "fit in" somewhere. But it's an oxymoron to try to "fit in" to a society that is individualistic and private in nature. You can't truly "fit in" a society where everyone is separate, individualistic, exclusive, and isolated from each other psychologically, cause there's really nothing to "fit" into. In that sense, no one really "fits in". They either thrive in this kind of environment, or they don't (like me). But many still keep trying (or feel the need to try) to "fit in" anyway because it is innate in our psyche to belong, bond, and connect with others. Unfortunately, the average American doesn't realize this, and so asks him/herself perpetually, "how do I fit in?"

And of course, there are some who simply live their own life and don't care about "fitting in", as my dad described to me about how he dealt with this issue:

"Dear Win,

I can understand now what you had gone through in those growing up years in California. I am so sorry that I did not see your sufferings then and offered you some help. My situation was different than yours. I was mentally prepared what I would encounter when we immigrated to the US. I knew that I had to work double harder and smarter to get the same pay and position. I hated to play politic. I was promoted to a manager but when the top management shift and re-organized, the minority managers are the first to be shifted. I knew that I could not and would not want to fit in to this foreign society. I was not interested in their sports. All they talked about was football and baseball, the players, the teams that meant nothing to me. I did not want to go to have a drink after work with my co-workers. So, it was not a problem to me because I did not want to fit in anyway. But to you, it is completely different. I was not realized the crude environment of American schools in all levels. I came from a very friendly and strictly monitored school environment. Look what had happened in the Virginia Tech that a Korean student killed 13 people? He was discriminated and badly treated in school. No excuse there. The problem is American do not seem to be able to learn from past lessons. That is why those tragedies keep happening.

I am glad and feel so relief that you finally came out of that and are able to find your own path and write about them. You can now guide others out of those traps and find their happiness some place else.

Good luck, love,
Dad"

An offshoot of this is the "identity crisis" where an individual feels undefined, not knowing his/her place and purpose in an "artificial society" like ours (which is not even in harmony with nature or our own souls). It's a complex neurosis that makes no sense, and has no logical solution, yet it's an ongoing problem that lingers in the psyche of many in America. Unfortunately, many young Americans have no idea how to deal with it, nor how to verbalize it, so they escape into drugs, alcohol, promiscuous sex, addiction, or delinquent behavior.

The problem though, stems from an inherent conflict/contradiction between American cultural values and our innate human nature. On the one hand, Americans like to be separate from others, independent, not need others, and be in their own space and bubble. And they are conditioned to derive a sense of pride and honor from being independent and autonomous. But on the other, we have an innate human need to connect/bond with others and belong to a social group/collective.

Thus, a fundamental conflict arises at the core between our mentality and our natural biological/psychological needs. They mentally tell themselves, *"I am strong, independent, self-reliant. I don't need others. I am happy being alone. And I'm proud of it."* But in their heart and emotions they FEEL a need to bond/connect to others and belong, so deep down they wonder "how do I fit in and where do I fit in?" These two needs are diametrically opposed, and can progress to a deep "identity crisis" that they can't explain or understand, like a split-personality within them that creates confusion.

Simply put, the American cultural value of separateness does not breed unity, deep-hearted camaraderie, or a communal sense of belonging among its people. Instead, it breeds narcissism and selfishness. My Expat Advisor couldn't have been more right when he told me:

"Americans don't tend to work well in groups. They meet for convenience and then go their separate ways, each doing his/her own thing."

In contrast, in other countries "fitting in" is simply not an issue, and certainly not a neurosis, because the natural inherent sense of interconnectedness in foreign cultures makes everyone "fit in" by default, since there is no cultural/psychological separation in the first place. Since in most other nations there is not such a strong sense of individualism, they do not view themselves as separate from others. Thus, people have more in common with each other and get along much better than those in individualistic countries do. There isn't this Western individualistic ego that battles other egos like in America. Instead, there is a rich sense of belonging, inclusiveness, communal bond, and deep-hearted camaraderie, even in countries that are economically poor. Not surprisingly, many Americans have told me after experiencing this interconnectedness between people and family in other countries, that *"This is how it should be!"*

One of the best examples of this is in the Philippines. My Expat Advisor described how he feels when he goes to the Philippines like this:

"One thing you will notice in the Philippines is that you can be yourself and still be treated well and most people will just accept you as you are and treat you as a human being.

That is called Freedom. The freedom to be yourself.

I am not afraid to go to Casinos there, bars and restaurants and that I will feel out of place or see cocky people around swaggering or puffing up their chests. All social interactions are smooth and friendly and you are part of everything. I just walk in and the feeling is nice. You are included in their groups. They are so different from the Anglos or the CJKs (Chinese, Japanese, Koreans)."

He also observed:

"The Philippine society puts primary emphasis on family, human relations and the development thereof which includes sex, friendship, love, etc. Socially, it seems to be one of the most advanced societies on earth. Of course, these developments are not mentioned in the western press which only measures progress in political, technological and financial areas. If it started measuring societies by the healthfulness of social life, the place you are at would win hands down. Cheerz."

In fact, the article at this link below explains why Filipinos in general, though poor, have a pure radiant happiness about them and in their smiles (which I can personally attest to, having been in the Philippines) attributing it to their fundamental view that they are NOT separate from others:

http://www.livinginthephilippines.com/art_why_filipino_are_happy.html

“UP Professor Felipe de Leon, after a decade of researching, has concluded that **Filipino culture is the most inclusive and open of all those he has studied**. It is the opposite of the individualistic culture of the West, with its emphasis on privacy and personal fulfillment. It is also the opposite of certain collectivistic cultures, as one finds them in Confucian societies, that value hierarchy and ‘face.’

“BY CONTRAST”, Filipino culture is based on the notion of kapwa, a Tagalog word that roughly translates into “shared being.” In essence, it means that most **Filipinos, deep down, do not believe that their own existence is separable from that of the people around them**. Everything, from pain to a snack or a joke, is there to be shared. **“The strongest social urge of the Filipino is to connect, to become one with people”**, says De Leon. As a result, he believes, there is much less loneliness among them.”

One of my readers who has lived in the Philippines also noted:

“I’ve lived in the Philippines for a year. Some of the best people in the world. Poor in material life but SUPER RICH in the heart. That’s where it counts after all.”

From my experience in foreign environments, you can sense this “interconnectedness” I speak of, even without seeing any evidence, from the vibe in the air around you, generated by the collective mentality/attitude of the population.

Those who visit Europe often notice the natural sense of interconnectedness that leads to greater happiness as well:

“Hi Winston,

I was just talking to someone in the newsroom where I work about his trip to Eastern Europe. He mentions that even though the people are poor, they are exceedingly happier than people in the U.S. and that he had to “shut off the sarcasm filter” because he was so floored by their hospitality, kindness, genuity, and innocence. He mentioned that the pace of life was slower and that unlike the U.S., which is task-oriented and focused on time and quality of life materially, they were focused on quality of life socially, and that there was an interconnectedness and contentedness that is missing from the U.S. There wasn’t that additional layer of superficiality and deception/mask/distance that you have to deal with in social interactions in the U.S. “

Some offshoot effects of “separateness” in America

Here are some other offshoot effects of the inherent separateness in America.

a) Going out alone in other countries doesn’t leave you feeling vulnerable, alone, or insecure like you would in America, because the natural interconnectedness there makes you feel included with others, even if they’re strangers, rather than “excluded” like in the states. There is a natural sense of inclusiveness in their social environment that is lacking in the US. Thus, going out alone, even to a restaurant, movie, or even bar, doesn’t leave you feeling alone, ignored, and isolated. Abroad, there is a richer sense of belonging, not individuals in isolated little bubbles/shells.

On the other hand, when you go out alone in America, even when you’re surrounded by many people, you can still feel disconnected and isolated from others. In fact, even if you around many people at a social gathering, you will still feel alone and lonely if you don’t “connect” with others there or have any meaningful conversations with them. In my experience, this happens more in America than anywhere else.

b) Likewise, being single in other countries is also far less painful than in America, where the lack of interconnectedness makes being single much worse than it otherwise would be in an inclusive interconnected

social environment and vibe. After all, what could be more lonely than being alone in a society where people are isolated from you mentally, emotionally, and psychologically by default?

In a society where everyone is separate, independent, and in their own bubble/shell, it feels awkward, unnatural, and inappropriate to try to meet people or connect with others, rather than in an interconnected/communal environment.

c) Nowadays, the whole country seems unduly insecure, as one reader observed:

“Living in the United States really is sad compared to living in other countries that have a offer such as Germany or Netherlands. The problem is that we are a very insecure and individualistic society. Even the American media admits we are an insecure nation. Money is the number one focus. For many poorer countries, money is an obsession as well. For example, Ukraine to me was very isolated and distant if you are an American in that country. When Eastern Ukrainians find out you are an American, they see you as a walking dollar bill and you cannot trust anyone. It is because we put such a high emphasis on making money. When money is the main focus of a people, then to me it seems sadder to live in that country.

Western Europeans however are very warm in welcoming you if you have money or not. In Amsterdam, I thought the people would be snobby and would make me be distant toward them. This wasn't the case at all. They were very nice, intellectual, and the women were very attractive.”

d) Our overemphasis with individuality in America also seems to lead to “bland individuals” as this poster on my Forum insightfully describes:

<http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=18>

“The US appears to hold individuality so dear that it has produced possibly the most bland 'individuals' of all cultures, bi-polar patients aside perhaps, which there seems to be no end of now. It would appear the true life of the person cannot be found in isolation, rather it blooms in a more collective mentality. No surprise, it's difficult to cultivate a complex mentality when all you're exposed to is the same people, friends, situations, roads, jobs, etc or worse, left in isolation. I have always found my friends from other countries to be far more informed and colorful as people, men and women both and far more altruistic and 'other oriented' than the people I've known in the US.

Strangest thing is, the people I've known from politically torn and bomb ridden countrysides are far less paranoid than people from the States and far more outgoing. Then again, people from safer countries than the US, which are many, are also less paranoid and more outgoing. Go figure.”

e) Also, the belief in separateness from others also contributes to disunity and harmony in the American family. It has been sociologically documented that families in America are not as closely bonded as in other countries, as members tend to battle for control early on, asserting their independence and going their separate ways early in life. Sure, this has advantages and disadvantages, but overall, not having close family connections leads to decreased life spans, lower mental and physical health, increasing rates of depression, loneliness, alienation, and anger, etc. For more on this, see the chapter [Family harmony vs. Fight for control](#).

f) The individuality of separateness view also contributes to a primitive socialization process, as this intellectual expat observed:

“America may be a lot of good things, productive, prosperous, and relatively free but **the socialization of its citizens is much less advanced than other (much more economically poorer) countries** I've been in. The way I look at it quality of life isn't just all about money. It's about what you can do with yourself in that society and how comfortable you feel around others. In America I was never truly “comfortable” but always felt tense or slightly agitated at the people around me. There's definitely a hostility and tenseness to social interaction there that I don't feel anywhere else. That's a lot of negativity to deal with daily so it's not surprising that out of all industrialized first world countries Americans generally have the least healthy lifestyles and shortest overall life spans.”

In conclusion, Americans simply don't know how to deal with this emptiness and lack of interconnectedness. If you look at their faces in public, you notice that they look angry, high strung and irritable all the time, not

knowing why they aren't happy or what they are missing. Occasionally, they pull out the regular punch line greeting to others, "How are you? Oh I'm just great, and how about you?" in their artificial cheerful tones, to reinforce fake optimism on each other. But it's just a temporary fix-it "band-aid" they try to use which in no way substitutes for the rich communal bond, sense of belonging, deep-hearted camaraderie, or interconnectedness with others that they are missing.

The insightful metaphysics/spirituality author, Fritjof Capra, in his book *The Tao of Physics* (page 9) described the consequences that "fragmentation" leads to:

"This inner fragmentation of man mirrors his view of the world "outside," which is seen as a multitude of separate objects and events. The natural environment is treated as if it consisted of separate parts to be exploited by different interest groups. The fragmented view is further extended to society, which is split into different nations, races, religious and political groups. The belief that all these fragments – in ourselves, in our environment, and in our society – are really separate can be seen as the essential reason for the present series of social, ecological, and cultural crises. It has alienated us from nature and from our fellow human beings. It has brought a grossly unjust distribution of natural resources, creating economic and political disorder; an ever-rising wave of violence, both spontaneous and institutionalized, and an ugly, polluted environment in which life has often become physically and mentally unhealthy."

To be fair though, separateness and individuality do have some advantages that are worth noting. For one, if you are in a group, family or environment that is detrimental to your interests and goals, it is much easier for an individualist/separatist to do what it takes to get out of such a predicament, than it would be for one who is group-minded and co-dependent on their group/family. The latter aligns his/her interests with those of the group, viewing the group's interests as his/her own, dissolving their own individuality in the process. Plus, group-minded folks are less likely to speak out or take action when it's needed, and more likely to be modest and passive instead. And they can be unnecessarily self-sacrificing (depending on your views and values of course), foregoing their own needs for others. But of course, whether these are advantages or not depends on one's personal and cultural values.

Americans should take note that in spiritual and mystical thought, it is taught that at the higher levels of consciousness, people view themselves as interconnected and interdependent with others and everything else, including the universe and God, for that is the true nature of how things really are, at the quantum and physical level. That's why they aim at absolving the ego (sin nature in Christian terms) which thrives on separateness rather than unity with others and God. The best-selling New Age author and motivational speaker Dr. Wayne Dyer taught:

"The ego thrives on separateness. Authentic freedom is found by absolving this sense of separateness from others and God." ("Four Pathways to Success" audio tape)

Peter Joseph, founder of the revolutionary [Zeitgeist Movement](#), in his transformative film [Zeitgeist Addendum](#), summed up the interconnectedness concept very well:

"There is no such thing as independence in nature. The whole of nature is a unified system of interdependent variables, each a cause and reaction, existing only as a concentrated whole."

And in the same film, John Perkins, a former "Economic Hit Man" described the joy of connection:

"Joy comes from that bliss of connectedness. That's our God spirit. That's that side of ourselves that really feels it, and you can feel it deep inside you. It's this amazing wonderful feeling. You know it when you get it. You don't get it from money. You get it from connection."

Discuss this article here: <http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=6709>

See also:

[Fragmentation vs. Wholeness: Why you feel alone and insecure in America](#)

Reader comments:

- *"Interesting. A lot of it stems from collective mentality- there is no need for a massive ego if you belong to a group with many friends. They bolster you and support you and make you feel better about yourself.*

In the US you need a huge ego since you are basically on your own all the time so if you do not develop it

others with huge egos will crush you. And people will not respect you if you do not puff up your chest and

tell the world "I am great!""

- *"You really tell the truth the way it is about American society. Many people want to get in a bubble or comfort zone of a kind of fake reality with our mainstream media, superficial tv and music and it reflects in the women of America and social networks. Americans are being socially engineered to live apart and not want "natural" contact with others but instead want superficial relationships and friendships. It is hard for free thinkers of different backgrounds in America to ever get truly comfortable in this kind of environment, which is why I want to either move to Europe or just travel from place to place instead of staying in America. This country is terrible. I am a pianist who thinks that Europe would be more open and accepting for a classical black musician as myself! The educational system is dumbing us down as well in American, making us submissive to authority and never questioning things in our society. I could write a long essay about this but I agree with everything that you have said. Keep up the good work.*

*Richard
Houston, TX"*

- *"Alright I just read the rest of your paper and though I still agree with the original thought I can see where you placed your finding... without a doubt the countries I have been too particularly Sweden and Jordan when traveling many times perfect strangers would ask for my friends and I to come visit... have dinner, tea, etc without wanting or expecting anything in return. These things you would never, ever see in the states where everyone stranger or friend is looked at as a threat. hope you had a good day,
Maureen"*

- *"Do you remember these pop song lyrics: "If I fail, if I succeed, at least I'll live like I believe....." also "I did it my way....." and ".... then the hero comes along, with the strength to carry on....." All the above things represent the American spirit of individual achievement and, ironically, you are using it, and following it while looking for collectivist cultures. In other words, you are looking for the balance between the two and, possibly, finding it."*

- *"Agreed. America is a very lonely country. That is why I am working on an expat position back to China."*

- *"Hi Winston I can 100 percent relate to your last article. About how the United States and be a very isolating place. Now it is because of the way things are socially economically structured. Over the past few decades started with the Reaganomics of the 1980's, Does it go back to the old Puritan Calvinistic work ethics over 400 years ago. Do the different powers at be. Use fear to have the upper hand. As far as control over us. IE by keeping people more isolated alienated. It give more power to the different powers at be. By keeping people alienated from them self and others it creates more social problems. Like crime especially violent crime, More violent gangs, Extreme substance abuse alcoholism harder drugs, And so many other pathology's. However all the pathology's create more jobs at many different levels. More police more private security companies. The courts the lawyers the judges. The court clerks that handle all the paperwork. The prison system. A lot of the prisons in the USA are now becoming privatized. The company's that supply the food and clothing to the prison. Company's that manufacture and sell security equipments at all levels. Not to mention the medical field. When people feel alienated they are much more likely to use tobacco products. Like cigarettes chewing tobacco.*

Smoke real heavy. Also have real bad diets. Like fast food. Or replacing an apple a banana or a carrot with a snickers bar or a bag of chips. Plus all the other health issues associated with the high stress and frustration of alienation. So in a nutshell. All these things make billions and billions of dollars. The way the corporate America sees things. Something that creates distress and hardships, pain, makes big money. Things that create fulfillment happiness togetherness. Don't make money and will cost money. Also fear is used by almost all the commercials you see on TV your computer the magazines. If you don't buy this product your not going to fit in and you are a total freak. Then you see the news. This person got stabbed. Three women got raped murdered and mutilated last night. The person that did this is still at large. People in the United State are hit with millions and millions of bits of this information everyday. When they get up in the morning and leave for work. At work on there way home from work. Just going out on the town. At home when you turn on your TV or boot up to your web server. I personally feel the whole things feeds on itself and is it's own kind of demonic entity. You do wonderful work Winston. Keep up the good work. {{{PEACE}}}

<http://www.expatechange.com/expat/index.cfm?frmid=275&forumid=0&dbname=ee&tpcid=3334383&hared=N>

- "Interesting points, but not necessarily; like anything and most everything there are rules of thumbs and generalizations that can be drawn; yet exceptions and standard errors exists.

- a strong cohesive society can also have its draw-back - the so-in-your-face-imposing type of culture as well as peer pressure; though it can be a comfort and joy, it can also be a hindrance in creative expression that seem to be fostered in individualistic form of environments...

- extreme peer pressure can lead to hypocrisy, where individuals will tend to mask certain predispositions for the sake of conformity.

though filipina by origin, and I grew up in Manila in the early formative years, my father was a foreign diplomat for a European country, hence I grew up in an ex-pat Manila setting; My adult career in the US while often in Europe (Italy) - I see the pros and cons of both individualized and cohesive family-style types of societies (which seems to me like an extended tribal form of grouping)

individualized societies can be annoying too ... don't get me wrong ...

but just wanted to comment, that .. sense experience needs to be taken with a grain of salt ...

there are pros and cons .. there's not one best way or mode ... (well I guess it's not best if it's fascist, totalitarian or any form of extremism)

i see life as a dialectic ... i simply flow."

Fragmentation vs. Wholeness: Why you feel alone and insecure in America

"There is no such thing as independence in nature. The whole of nature is a unified system of interdependent variables, each a cause and reaction, existing only as a concentrated whole."

– Peter Joseph ([Zeitgeist Addendum film](#))

Several times in my childhood, when I was 9, 14 and 17 years old, I remember going to Taiwan and that for some reason, around my relatives, I was able to be myself, speak my heart out and become very talkative. There was this feeling of acceptance that made me feel healthy and whole on the inside. I was able to be who I was without fear, insecurity or inhibition. It brought out a part of me that was normally suppressed and subdued in the US. Each time I went back to the US, I felt depressed and insecure again. I didn't understand why, and it didn't make sense to me.

At that time, I was fully indoctrinated into the idea that America was the greatest country in the world, the leader of the free world, the nation that all other nations looked up to, and I believed it too. So I could not reconcile that with the fact that I felt more happy, healthy and whole overseas. I didn't know how to make sense of it, and I dared not to speak of it to my peers of course, lest they think that there's something wrong with me. As you know, admitting that you feel insecure and depressed in America is seen as a huge sign of weakness, so most will never admit it. Plus I thought I was the only one who felt that way and that no one could relate to it anyway.

Also, when I was a teen, my level of awareness was low and I had no communication skills so I would not have been able to articulate my feelings at the time anyway. So I just tried to slowly forget this experience over time, and returned to my dream that someday I'd be a great person in America with an exciting life, rewarding career, and beautiful woman to love. (but to no avail of course)

It wasn't until I reached 30 when my level of awareness, insight and communication/writing skills had reached new heights and I began traveling overseas long term, that I understood why I felt that way when I went to Taiwan as a teen.

For some reason(s), America has this vibe and environment that makes one feel fragmented, disconnected and insecure inside. Something tries to make you feel unworthy and inadequate, and you are always on the verge of slipping into a state of depression and emptiness. It's as if some empty void was always behind you and you feared getting lost into it. It probably comes from the cultural environment and collective energy of the population. One can postulate all sorts of reasons for this, from the independent lifestyle and attitude, to a conspiracy by the elite to divide the population to quell any uprising against their power, etc. but the bottom line is that there is an inherent sense of disconnectedness in America.

In general, there is a gaping lack of human connection in America. People are socially engineered to be segregated and paranoid of one another, which is not conducive to healthy human relationships at all. People live in bubbles, do not usually know their neighbors nor invite them over, and do not talk to strangers unless it's business related. They are very non-inclusive and it is difficult to meet people as well as awkward. (In fact, the most inclusive people in the US tend to be cult members and those at Evangelical Revival meetings, which I consider a sad fact) In social situations, people may make small talk and greet one another, but few will ever invite you to their homes or into their lives. Furthermore, breaking into cliques is difficult and does not come naturally at all.

This is not just physical but psychological, as "every man is an island" in mind and attitude, as well as body. That's why one often feels "alone" in America even while amongst friends or in crowded places. Worst of all, people are conditioned to think that this is "normal" and how people naturally are – segregated, selfish and paranoid – but in fact nothing could be further from the truth. **That is NOT how humans are by nature. That is how people are socially engineered to be in the US.**

This inherent disconnectedness and fragmentation in US society makes it awkward and unnatural to socialize and meet other people, or even to make friends. It just doesn't come naturally, so to speak. And of course, dating between men and women also suffer. Simply put, **the whole essence of human relationships is severely eroded by the fundamental fragmentation and disconnectedness in America.** In America, one is

never truly “accepted” the way they are, instead one has to constantly “prove their worth” under neverending pressure. Unfortunately, without true acceptance, one can never be truly “whole”.

Thus it's no wonder why loneliness is such a silent epidemic in America. Even the media cannot help but sometimes report on it. Here are examples:

http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2006/06/22/AR2006062201763_pf.html

http://www.livescience.com/health/060331_loneliness.html

My friend and interviewer Steve Hoca notices this too as he went about his business in Ohio. One day, he decided to sit down outside and make this video about how I was right that Americans are socially disconnected.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=REKN7y53OCi>

Here is my own video about how there is no sense of social or human connection in America.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xsDbEwmCMz0>

This fragmentation and disconnectedness is not only with others, but within oneself as well. People are not whole on the inside, and they do not even know who they are. That's what makes it so hard to deal with problems and struggles in America, when you are fragmented, weak and divided on the inside. And since many have few or no real friends to talk to, they have to go to therapists instead. No doubt this contributes to America having the highest rates of mental illness in the industrialized world (and perhaps the whole world). The unnatural stresses, pressures to be something you're not, coupled with inner fragmentation, naturally will break down a person, causing one to blame oneself for being "weak" and not good enough or tough enough.

All of this is insane, dysfunctional, inhuman and unnatural of course, but since people are programmed and conditioned to blame themselves for their dysfunctionality rather than society, they will not draw attention to it out of pride, lest they expose their weakness. They are also programmed to think that this is natural and normal, and that they can't do anything about it. What most Americans don't realize is that this inherent disconnectedness and fragmentation gradually erodes oneself, making them weak and insecure, impairing their self-confidence, self-esteem and mental health. Instead, they assume that any “inner breakdown” they suffer must be due to some problem with them that they need to “fix”, never realizing the true source of it.

On the other hand, in most countries beyond America, there is a natural sense of connection and wholeness, both within oneself and with others, which doesn't exist in America. People feel accepted and can easily "be themselves". As a result, one never feels “all alone” (at least not the way one does in America) even when one is physically alone. Everyone has problems and struggles of course, just like they do everywhere, but the **key difference is that they are easier to deal with because when one is "whole" on the inside it becomes FAR EASIER to deal with such difficulties.** This natural inner wholeness is “true strength”. It is why people in other countries do not suffer mental breakdowns or illnesses when they endure life's many problems like Americans do.

Moreover, **natural connectedness between people also makes human relationships far more healthy and natural, so that it is much easier to socialize, meet people, make friends or date the opposite sex.** This is something you have to experience to truly understand. It is what Americans lack and do not even know that they lack. Only when they meet others with such wholeness or go to countries that allow them to feel that way (as I have) that they realize that they were lacking it all along. Only then do they see how insecure and fragmented they were on the inside, all the while falsely assuming that the rest of the world was the same.

One important point. It's not that other countries “do” anything in particular to make people feel connected and whole. They don't have to. People are NATURALLY whole and connected to one another. **The difference is that most countries ALLOW the natural wholeness and connectedness of human beings to develop and flourish, whereas somehow the USA doesn't.** Instead, America engineers its people to think that they are selfish individuals in competition with one another who are segregated by their “individual freedom”. And it's beaten into them that “no one cares about you; only you can take care of yourself; it's every man for himself” under the name of “individualism”. In other words, America divides its people, fragments them, and makes them feel empty on the inside, so they will be weak, controllable and over-consume to fill that emptiness that they

don't even consciously recognize. It's not a jurisdictional control, more like a psychological form of control, which the public is unaware of.

So, the answer to my teenage mystery is not that Taiwan did anything in particular to make me feel "whole" and accepted. Rather, it was probably the absence of the persecutory environment against my sense of self in America that led to my experiencing inner wholeness and acceptance for the first time in my life (along with the kindness of my relatives there). In other words, **I automatically became my natural whole self by simply removing myself geographically from the fragmented cultural environment and energy field of the USA.**

As a poster on my Forum wisely said:

<http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=6692>

"If anyone feels they "come out of their shell" when overseas, try to keep something in mind. That person you are overseas is the real you. The person you are in America is a prisoner, nothing more." - [Grunt](#)

So, contrary to the teaching of US culture that "freedom is to become a selfish disconnected individual" which turns out to be a prison of the soul, true freedom is being able to connect with others. And that's why I felt "freer" and able to come out of my shell overseas than I did in America, big time.

This psychological feeling of alienation and emptiness in the US explains why so many immigrants who were happy and whole in their own countries suddenly become stuck up, defensive and cliquish in America. Whereas they were "whole" and normal in their own country and had nothing to prove, suddenly in America they feel insecure as if some black abyss wants to swallow up their sense of self and identity. So they resort to overasserting their ethnic heritage with patriotic fervor, as though it was the last thing preserving their identity. This is why you will notice that those in the immigrant's home country are not as rigid about sticking to their traditional ways as the US immigrants are. The "traditional ways" are the last thing that gives the US immigrant a sense of who they are, lest they be sucked into the giant "void" in the USA. On the other hand, the person in the immigrant's home country can be more open minded and tolerant about not sticking to their "traditional ways" because his/her identity is not dependent on them nor threatened by some host country that wants to assimilate them into a "fake unnatural culture".

Now let me clarify some things. I am NOT advocating collectivism here, or conformity without independent thought. Far from it. Neither extremes, selfish disconnected individualism where no one cares about anyone else or conformity to the collective without free thought, are ideal. Instead, why not have a healthy balance? In Europe for example, people believe in connectedness and seek having interdependent relationships with others, yet at the same time they pride themselves in their free thinking intellect and knowledge/understanding of other cultures. They've achieved a healthy balance between the two, and that's what I advocate. Jeremy Rifkin, in his book, [The European Dream](#) elaborates on this in a scholarly manner:

(Pages 13 – 14)

"The American and European dreams are, at their core, about two diametrically opposed ideas of freedom and security. Americans hold a negative definition of what it means to be free and, thus, secure. For us, freedom has long been associated with autonomy. If one is autonomous, he or she is not dependent on others or vulnerable to circumstances outside of his or her control. To be autonomous, one needs to be propertied. The more wealth one amasses, the more independent one is in the world. One is free by becoming self-reliant and an island unto oneself. With wealth comes exclusivity, and with exclusivity comes security.

The new European Dream, however, is based on a different set of assumptions about what constitutes freedom and security. **For Europeans, freedom is not found in autonomy but in embeddedness. To be free is to have access to a myriad of interdependent relationships with others. The more communities one has access to, the more options and choices one has for living a full and meaningful life.** With relationships comes inclusivity, and with inclusivity comes security.

The American Dream puts an emphasis on economic growth, personal wealth, and independence. The new European Dream focuses more on sustainable development, quality of life, and interdependence...

The European Dream is more cosmopolitan and less territorial... Americans tend to think locally while European's loyalties are more divided and stretch from the local to the global. The American Dream is deeply personal and little concerned with the rest of humanity. The European Dream is more expansive and systemic, and therefore more bound to the welfare of the planet."

Also, when I speak of "disconnectedness" I am not referring to geographic spacing between people or isolation in remote areas. No, I am speaking of something far deeper that has to do with a psychological attitude. If merely crowding people together created connectedness, then New York and Los Angeles would be the most wholesome and connected cities in America. Are they? I don't think so. Or take a remote Russian village in Siberia. Though geographically isolated, one does not feel insecure, lonely and disconnected from others there. Life may be boring as hell, yeah, but people do not suffer from loneliness or sink into depression and insanity when confronted by problems. And every man is not a "psychological island" there. **In fact, I challenge anyone to find a sincere travelogue of someone who went to a remote foreign village and felt lonely, disconnected and found the villagers to be anti-social and segregated.** Furthermore, as mentioned before, you can feel all alone in America even around your friends or in crowded places, but in other countries with connectedness, you can be physically alone yet not really feel alone. Why do you think that is? Ponder it and you'll see the real nature of what I'm talking about here, and that it's not about geographic isolation.

In America, you are NOT taught to FEEL GOOD about yourself at all! You are NOT taught how to cultivate good mental health, self-acceptance, inner wholeness and well-being, or healthy social relationships and friendships. No way. Instead, you are conditioned and engineered by your schools, media, culture and peers to feel UNWORTHY, INSECURE and INADEQUATE deep down, and to fill that emptiness within by 1) becoming a workaholic slave to a corporate dictatorship (aka "getting a career") so you can make money and 2) become a mass consumer junkie who tries to buy everything he/she can that's on the market out there. In other words, you are programmed to try to fill your emptiness and insecurity by over-working and over-consuming (buying too much useless junk) perpetually without end, all under the doctrine that "material goods lead to happiness and well-being" and that "the more the better". In short, your self-esteem is artificially based on your status in a corporate dictatorship and what you can BUY to enhance your "image".

Think on this a moment. Do you think it's a "natural" occurrence that almost everyone in America suffers from deep insecurities to the point of having "issues" or "baggage", and is paranoid of others, preferring to isolate and segregate themselves? All you have to do is spend time connecting with people in other countries and you will see how unnatural and artificial this characteristic of American society really is.

The truths and comparisons above are usually only discussed privately, never publicly, not even on the web. And that's because it is very politically incorrect to compare cultures and say that one is better than the other in some way. Such talk is potentially offensive, no matter how true, and we are taught never to say such things publicly. In addition, most common people are engineered to be blind to the faults and dysfunction in society and instead blame themselves if anything goes wrong. Unfortunately, most people follow what they've been "programmed" and cannot see outside of it. They do not possess the "consciousness level" or insight to rise above it and see the truth.

This poster on my Forum also recognized this "hidden emptiness" in America that people are not supposed to see:

<http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=3840&postdays=0&postorder=asc&start=40>

"Everything in America is a paid for commodity today, everything. Friendships, 'love', everything. Regarding suicide on the back burner, we've all been there i think, or at least most of us. The funny thing is that when one feels that way in America he cannot identify the reason, or should I say he would not be allowed to identify the reason he feels the way he does because everyone condones the life in the States and is either oblivious or not willing to acknowledge how dysfunctional and shallow it is. Criticizing the current state of affairs in America results in people looking at you as if you are something that fell out of a tree. Its a weird feeling, a sense of emptiness that is there but somehow invisible."

However, I can testify firsthand that in many private expat/traveler conversations, such comparisons are discussed. But no one dared reveal such truths and comparisons publicly, not even on the web... until now. My website **HappierAbroad.com** is the first and only website that draws out such "taboo" comparisons in detail point by point. With **HappierAbroad.com**, no longer do you have to know or be connected to certain individuals

with special knowledge who are honest enough to share such forbidden truths and comparisons with you. Now, anyone can just log onto **HappierAbroad.com** and read all about these valuable life-changing secrets and comparisons freely, as well as discuss them openly with others in the Happier Abroad Discussion Forum.

And that's the beauty and significance of **HappierAbroad.com** - to share such important and life-changing truths, secrets and comparisons that are too taboo and politically incorrect to be discussed openly, but which are valuable nevertheless.

Now, what was formerly confined to private discussions only is now made public and disclosed out in the open. I've always believed that telling the truth was more important than being politically correct, and so my philosophy has been to do just that, "letting the chips fall where they may".

With **HappierAbroad.com**, you will see that you and I are not alone in thinking and feeling this way, and therefore you will be validated in your feelings. Since the site began, many have come forward with the same confessions and observations.

Here are some examples from letters I've received, reader responses, site feedback, and posts in my Forum.

This Russian immigrant who initially blamed himself, for instance, found validation in the articles of HappierAbroad when he realized that he wasn't the problem:

"Anyway, to cut a long story short, everything you wrote in your treatise is precisely to the point. I am a Russian who has lived in the States long enough to know. I came to the country expecting to find some flavor, as I had been able to do in France and Germany. Alas, what I ran into was a sea of blandness.

I took me a while to realize that there was a chasm of difference between the media picture of America and real life, but when the truth hit home, I felt very disappointed and empty. I even had a lapse of self-condemnation as I thought the problem was in me. I have gotten over it now and can see clearly. Your writing puts all the pieces of the puzzle together very well."

And this East Indian observed:

"I myself am heavily influenced by nondualist studies, such as Zen, Sufism, Advaita and Taoism, which focus heavily on interconnectedness with the universe, and getting away from the "I" (and understanding that our own perception of the self is generally false).

Indeed, America is therefore a very spiritually starved place, in my opinion, because of the emphasis on a self/ego (which is most likely perceived falsely to begin with), instead of the heavy emphasis on oneness, or interconnectedness. And it wreaks its havoc in work, in family life and beyond.

By the way, India, where my family is from, is a good place to meet people. Not the greatest, but quite a bit superior to USA in terms of social life. I love it when I visit there.

I do also think, however, that good and bad exists everywhere, in different ways and different amounts, which I know you've addressed. And we can only fight the bad so much. So it's a matter of how well we take the good with the bad.

But yes, when it comes to this particular problem of not being able to control the ego, and being hopelessly caught in the traps of duality, rather than engaging in interconnectedness with all, America is just about at the top. And therefore your site is spot-on about that."

My Expat Advisor described how he feels when he goes to the Philippines like this:

"One thing you will notice in the Philippines is that you can be yourself and still be treated well and most people will just accept you as you are and treat you as a human being.

That is called Freedom. The freedom to be yourself.

I am not afraid to go to Casinos there, bars and restaurants and that I will feel out of place or see cocky people around swaggering or puffing up their chests. All social interactions are smooth and friendly and you are part of everything. I just walk in and the feeling is nice. You are included in their groups. They are so different from the Anglos or the CJKs (Chinese, Japanese, Koreans)."

He also observed:

"The Philippine society puts primary emphasis on family, human relations and the development thereof- which includes sex, friendship, love, etc. Socially, it seems to be one of the most advanced societies on earth. Of course, these developments are not mentioned in the western press which only measures progress in political, technological and financial areas. If it started measuring societies by the healthfulness of social life, the place you are at would win hands down. Cheerz."

A professor observed and concluded:

http://www.livinginthephilippines.com/art_why_filipino_are_happy.html

"UP Professor Felipe de Leon, after a decade of researching, has concluded that **Filipino culture is the most inclusive and open of all those he has studied**. It is the opposite of the individualistic culture of the West, with its emphasis on privacy and personal fulfillment. It is also the opposite of certain collectivistic cultures, as one finds them in Confucian societies, that value hierarchy and 'face.'

"BY CONTRAST", Filipino culture is based on the notion of kapwa, a Tagalog word that roughly translates into "shared being." In essence, it means that **most Filipinos, deep down, do not believe that their own existence is separable from that of the people around them**. Everything, from pain to a snack or a joke, is there to be shared. "**The strongest social urge of the Filipino is to connect, to become one with people**", says De Leon. As a result, he believes, there is much less loneliness among them."

More comments:

"Hi Winston,

I was just talking to someone in the newsroom where I work about his trip to Eastern Europe. He mentions that even though the people are poor, they are exceedingly happier than people in the U.S. and that he had to "shut off the sarcasm filter" because he was so floored by their hospitality, kindness, genuity, and innocence. He mentioned that the pace of life was slower and that unlike the U.S., which is task-oriented and focused on time and quality of life materially, they were focused on quality of life socially, and that there was an interconnectedness and contentedness that is missing from the U.S. There wasn't that additional layer of superficiality and deception/mask/distance that you have to deal with in social interactions in the U.S."

<http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=18>

"The US appears to hold individuality so dear that it has produced possibly the most bland 'individuals' of all cultures, bi-polar patients aside perhaps, which there seems to be no end of now. It would appear the true life of the person cannot be found in isolation, rather it blooms in a more collective mentality. No surprise, it's difficult to cultivate a complex mentality when all you're exposed to is the same people, friends, situations, roads, jobs, etc or worse, left in isolation. I have always found my friends from other countries to be far more informed and colorful as people, men and women both and far more altruistic and 'other oriented' than the people I've known in the US.

Strangest thing is, the people I've known from politically torn and bomb ridden countrysides are far less paranoid than people from the States and far more outgoing. Then again, people from safer countries than the US, which are many, are also less paranoid and more outgoing. Go figure."

"America may be a lot of good things, productive, prosperous, and relatively free but **the socialization of its citizens is much less advanced than other (much more economically poorer) countries** I've

been in. The way I look at it quality of life isn't just all about money. It's about what you can do with yourself in that society and how comfortable you feel around others. In America I was never truly "comfortable" but always felt tense or slightly agitated at the people around me. There's definitely a hostility and tenseness to social interaction there that I don't feel anywhere else. That's a lot of negativity to deal with daily so it's not surprising that out of all industrialized first world countries Americans generally have the least healthy lifestyles and shortest overall life spans."

"Interesting. A lot of it stems from collective mentality- there is no need for a massive ego if you belong to a group with many friends. They bolster you and support you and make you feel better about yourself.

In the US you need a huge ego since you are basically on your own all the time so if you do not develop it others with huge egos will crush you. And people will not respect you if you do not puff up your chest and tell the world "I am great!"

"You really tell the truth the way it is about American society. Many people want to get in a bubble or comfort zone of a kind of fake reality with our mainstream media, superficial tv and music and it reflects in the women of America and social networks. Americans are being socially engineered to live apart and not want "natural" contact with others but instead want superficial relationships and friendships. It is hard for free thinkers of different backgrounds in America to ever get truly comfortable in this kind of environment, which is why I want to either move to Europe or just travel from place to place instead of staying in America. This country is terrible. I am a pianist who thinks that Europe would be more open and accepting for a classical black musician as myself! The educational system is dumbing us down as well in American, making us submissive to authority and never questioning things in our society. I could write a long essay about this but I agree with everything that you have said. Keep up the good work.

Richard
Houston, TX"

"Alright I just read the rest of your paper and though I still agree with the original thought I can see where you placed your finding... without a doubt the countries I have been too particularly Sweden and Jordan when traveling many times perfect strangers would ask for my friends and I to come visit... have dinner, tea, etc without wanting or expecting anything in return. These things you would never, ever see in the states where everyone stranger or friend is looked at as a threat.

hope you had a good day,
Maureen"

"Agreed. America is a very lonely country. That is why I am working on an expat position back to China."

"Hi Winston I can 100 percent relate to your last article. About how the United States and be a very isolating place. Now it is because of the way things are socially economically structured. Over the past few decades started with the Reaganomics of the 1980's, Does it go back to the old Puritan Calvinistic work ethics over 400 years ago. Do the different powers at be. Use fear to have the upper hand. As far as control over us. IE by keeping people more isolated alienated. It give more power to the different powers at be. By keeping people alienated from them self and others it creates more social problems. Like crime especially violent crime, More violent gangs, Extreme substance abuse alcoholism harder drugs, And so many other pathology's. However all the pathology's create more jobs at many different levels. More police more private security companies. The courts the lawyers the judges. The court clerks that handle all the paperwork. The prison system. A lot of the prisons in the USA are now becoming privatized. The company's that supply the food and clothing to the prison. Company's that manufacture and sell security equipments at all levels. Not to mention the medical field. When people feel alienated they are much more likely to use tobacco products. Like cigarettes chewing tobacco. Smoke real heavy. Also have real bad diets. Like fast food. Or replacing an apple a banana or a carrot

with a snickers bar or a bag of chips. Plus all the other health issues associated with the high stress and frustration of alienation. So in a nutshell. All these things make billions and billions of dollars. The way the corporate America sees things. Something that creates distress and hardships, pain, makes big money. Things that create fulfillment happiness togetherness. Don't make money and will cost money. Also fear is used by almost all the commercials you see on TV your computer the magazines. If you don't buy this product your not going to fit in and you are a total freak. Then you see the news. This person got stabbed. Three women got raped murdered and mutilated last night. The person that did this is still at large. People in the United State are hit with millions and millions of bits of this information everyday. When they get up in the morning and leave for work. At work on there way home from work. Just going out on the town. At home when you turn on your TV or boot up to your web server. I personally feel the whole things feeds on itself and is it's own kind of demonic entity. You do wonderful work Winston. Keep up the good work. {{{PEACE}}}

In closing, I'd like to share some quotes from revolutionary leaders and intellectuals that are relevant here.

Peter Joseph, founder of the revolutionary [Zeitgeist Movement](#), in his transformative film [Zeitgeist Addendum](#), summed up the interconnectedness concept very well:

"There is no such thing as independence in nature. The whole of nature is a unified system of interdependent variables, each a cause and reaction, existing only as a concentrated whole."

And in the same film, John Perkins, a former "Economic Hit Man" described the joy of connection:

"Joy comes from that bliss of connectedness. That's our God spirit. That's that side of ourselves that really feels it, and you can feel it deep inside you. It's this amazing wonderful feeling. You know it when you get it. You don't get it from money. You get it from connection."

The Expatriate Revolution is Now!

Discuss this article here: <http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=6709>

See also:

[Interconnectedness vs. Separateness: Why Americans overinflate themselves and try to "fit in"](#)

Family harmony vs. Fight for control

As many probably already know, in foreign countries, there is far greater respect for one's parents and stronger/closer family ties than in the US.

The advantage of that is this: In America, if you lose everything - your job, savings, house, etc. - and hit rock bottom, no one will care about you or be there for you. You will be on your own and turn into a bum. In the US it's every man for himself. No one cares about the fallen. But if the same happens in other countries, people usually have a network of family and friends that will help them and care for them.

In the Philippines, I observed that generally within most families, children don't tend to argue, whine, complain or fight for control with their parents and siblings. There seems to be this natural symbiotic harmony and balance within the family that makes such ego/control battles unnecessary. It's as if the family is one symbiotic unit that gets along without effort. I see this especially in my Filipina girlfriend's family (and in fact they are what inspired me to write this chapter). There isn't this "separate individual identity" that needs to assert its will and struggle for control.

But in the US of course, disagreements, arguing and fighting for control between family members are all too common. Children yell and whine to get their way. And parents inflict constant control, yelling daily orders such as, *"I told you to put away your toys! It's bedtime!"* and *"Alright I'm gonna count to three and if you don't go, then..."*. The parents often have to resort to disciplinary measures to counter disobedience such as threatening to take away privileges. It's a constant struggle for control in the typical American family.

Even American movies depict this struggle within the families. Teens are shown arguing and asserting themselves in front of their parents with powerful dramatic vigilance, declaring their freedom and independence, sometimes by force, even using threats. In most countries, that is unheard of.

In fact, American movies and music reflect the addiction of American people to conflict and drama. This is very apparent in our films and songs. But in the Philippines, I was surprised to find something different. My Expat Advisor told me that songs in Tagalog have a light monotone melody (rather than a melodramatic one) that to us seems bland and boring. He explained that this was because there is no "angst" in the Filipino soul.

Now I'm not saying that families never quarrel in foreign countries, just that the degree to which they do is FAR LESS than in America. Here in the Philippines, I don't even see the children in my girlfriend's family arguing over toys. They are always happy to share everything with each other, without conflict. It's amazing. The parents also never have to tell the kids to go to bed. They just go to bed at the time they are supposed to, without any struggle or resistance, as though everything is in harmony.

This all ties in with the other chapter in this book on [Interconnectedness vs. Separateness](#) as this family harmony vs. disharmony exemplifies that concept and is an offshoot result of it.

Even in America, it is often said that during the last generation, people had more respect toward their parents than they do in the current generation. But I suspect that every generation throughout America's history has said that about the preceding generation. Thus, it is probably a social trend that began at the cradle of American colonialism. In the late 18th Century, French visitors to America often went away remarking that they've never seen people disrespect their parents as much as they did in America.

What's funny is that not only does America assume that it's the world and that other countries want to be like them, but in American movies featuring talking animals, such as *Babe* and *Charlotte's Web*, the animals are depicted having the voice and personality of bratty selfish snotty American kids who only care about themselves. Um, sorry Hollywood, but if animals could talk, I don't think they would act like bratty spoiled whiny American kids.

[Kairosan](#), one of the [YouTube reviewers](#) of my site, wishes to share this observation he had of an American family in this book:

"I hope you can quote this in your e-book perhaps because it's one of those quotes that will grab your attention and this actually happened yesterday "It's funny because yesterday I was at a buffet and as I was eating with my sister and her family. While indulging in some chow, I was observing a white family(European descent) eating together but something was missing....The children seem to be tranced into watching what was on the tv that which was set on Nicktoons in this buffet,while the mother stared blankly into space with a hopeless expression on her face. As though there wasn't any life left in her soul. So I stared at the lady and she had this paranoid look for maybe 2 seconds.I observed for the longest time being there in the buffet. I also notice that no one was striking a conversation at that table, perhaps maybe their father who just came back for his second plate would at least say something.....but nope, nothing came out of their mouths. They just sat there staring at each other like they didn't have any brains, and like you mentioned in your book, no talking, no interactions, no intelligent conversations, just a BIG ice wall between the family, all indulging in their own gain of activities. The same went for most of the people at this restaurant. Ask yourself, do you REALLY want to be APART of this so-called "American Dream?""

In my view, I would rather not raise my children in America. Not only would they become bratty and spoiled, but being Asian, they'd suffer the racism thing too, being treated as inferior culturally and socially. Thus, there would be a high chance of them developing the "inferiority complex" that I did, described in the other chapter in this book [Blacks and Asians: Inferiority complex vs. Wholesome integration](#).

So, in my observation, America not only is the worst social life, dating scene, and mental health, but now we can add the worst in family harmony to that list as well.

The only thing the US country seems to be good for is making money and working to death in stress and isolation. Ick. Not my cup of tea at all. As one of my readers, an overseas Asian American, observed: *"America is a country built for business, not for living life."*

But on the flip side, asserting one's independence from their family early on allows the chance to accomplish certain things on an individual level that one might otherwise not have. However, the question is, is it worth it to have social disharmony and disunity that leads to increased loneliness, depression, anger/hostility, lower quality of mental and physical health, decreased lifespans, animosity between family members, etc. just to increase individual accomplishments? My Expat Advisor who mused over the same issue posed this key question, *"Do people need to be individualistic assholes to create advanced 1st world countries and go to the moon? Or can people be nice and still have technological civilizations?"*

Artificial smiles/greetings vs. sincere ones

The first thing that newcomers to the US usually notice is that the way people smile and greet each other in the states seems artificial, contrived, fake and insincere. The second thing is usually how superficial the culture is.

A Russian immigrant observed:

"Fake.... that's the first thing that I noticed and continue to hate to this day. Famous American smile, everybody smiling at each other, in the stores, on the streets, restaurants, at work. And while smiling and pretending to like you and being your friend, they quietly stab a knife in your back (still smiling, of course)."

Even a sociology professor at Seattle University noted this phenomenon:

<http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/pacificnw/2005/0213/cover.html>

"..... the dichotomy most fundamental to our collective civic character is this: Polite but distant. **Have a nice day. Somewhere else.**

"Here, it's so weird, people are so nice in these passing situations, but beyond that there's a wall," she (Katz) says.

Sociology professor Jodi O'Brien has a name for it: "the phenomenon of the plastic smile."

Seattle's "social script," she says, can ultimately lead to "alienation" and "isolation." "Politeness is a poor substitute for intimacy and genuine friendship."

In the US, only close friends are allowed to be honest about their mood to each other. Nowhere is fake optimism and cheerfulness more exuberated than in the American office environment and in large family gatherings. In those settings, one must always revere the "emperor's new clothes" and show fake optimism, cheerfulness, and act as though all were great and going well in life. Otherwise, you run the risk of disappointing those around you or acting impolite and out-of-sync with those around you.

I would venture to guess that part of the reason for this is because we have this social mentality that if you're not always happy and optimistic, then there is something with you that needs to be fixed. And since there is this pressure not to look weak and vulnerable to others, you feel compelled to fake optimism to appear strong, rather than admit any weaknesses (e.g. not feeling good or dissatisfied).

Jeremy Rifkin, who served as economic advisor to EU companies for 20 years, noted an example of fake unwarranted praise during business meetings in his book [The European Dream](#), page 31:

"I was recently teaching a class of young business leaders, half of whom were from Europe, the other half from America. The Europeans said they were perplexed that whenever they attended a business meeting where a presentation was given by an American businessperson, the Americans in attendance would shower the speaker with congratulations for doing a brilliant job even if he or she was merely delivering a rather standard talk about not very interesting things."

Foreigners tend to find such greeting clichés awkward. Not even the British (the culture closest to ours) are required to pretend to be happy and positive all the time; they are expected to act polite and pleasant to others, but not artificially optimistic without end.

In most other countries, people are allowed to feel the way they actually do, and show it too. As such, you can count on the fact that their smiles and frowns are always sincere, rather than contrived. I remember some European backpackers I met in Russia who mentioned that they found the rudeness and grumpiness of Russian customer service to be "refreshingly honest" for they told it to you like it is, and behaved exactly as they felt on the inside (though I didn't find that refreshing at all).

In addition, foreigners tend to be more genuine, down-to-earth, and don't live in a world of fake optimism like Americans do. As an example, in France sad endings to movies are common, because they believe that they are more reflective of real life, rather than the typical Hollywood happily-ever-after endings which are unrealistic.

To give you a visual example of more genuine expressions, check out these two photos of girls I met in Europe/Russia. As you can see, their smiles look much more genuine and warm, rather than plastic and fake like the typical American smile.



Study shows that fake smiles/greetings can lead to bad health

Now there is bad news now for those who maintain the typical fake smiles/greetings. German studies found that constantly maintaining such a façade can lead to shortened life and bad health:

<http://www.unknowncountry.com/news/?id=5290>

"Grumpy is Good
22-May-2006

It's GOOD to be grumpy! Maybe it's not good for your social life, but it's good for your health.

Allan Hall reports in the Sydney Morning Herald that German researchers have discovered that people who smile a lot die a lot earlier than the grumpy people of the world.

Flight attendants, sales people, phone operators, waiters and other people who have to be friendly on the job for long periods of time are risking their health. This false friendliness can lead to depression and stress, which in turn leads to a weakened immune system. Psychologist Dieter Zapf says, "Every time a person is forced to repress his true feelings there are negative consequences for his health."

His study tested students who pretended to work at a call center, dealing with abusive people over the phone. Some of them were allowed to argue back, while others were told to remain friendly. The participants who got grumpy had a rapid heartbeat, but it quickly subsided, while those told to be nice had elevated heart rates as well, but theirs lasted much longer.

At last: a good excuse to be grumpy!"

"How are you?" - How Americans reinforce fake optimism with each other

I've always found the standard greeting in America, "How are you?" to be forced, confusing and overused. For one thing, it's nonspecific and vague. How am I in terms of what? We all feel a complex of emotions simultaneously so how can I give a simple accurate answer? And another thing is that the greeter only accepts positive answers like, "I'm great/good/fine/doing well/not bad. And how about you?" forcing you to lie if you aren't always in a positive great mood. And of course, this greeting and response to it must be done by both with a smile and positive tone of voice. People go through this routine even if both of them are feeling like sh**!

Therefore, what's the point of this standard greeting that people in America use many times everyday? I don't really know. But it seems to be a way that Americans reinforce fake optimism on each other. It's as if they are all trying to help each other from getting down and depressed easily in this consumer-driven isolated society, where people consume and work too much, and are separated from each other into little bubbles/shells. And especially in corporate America, this fake optimism reinforcement is way overused. In a corporate environment, when someone asks, "How are you?" you'd better give a positive answer and reiterate the same question back to them, e.g. "I'm great, how about yourself?", or else you may be cited with an "attitude problem" by your superiors and considered unfit for top performance.

It's a very odd social dynamic indeed. In other countries, people don't do this. They don't ask you questions to elicit a forced optimism from you. So you aren't required to feign artificial optimism all the time, and you are allowed to be yourself more. In fact, some countries do not even have the phrase "How are you?" in their basic greetings, such as Poland or Finland.

Some interesting reader responses to this section:

- *"How about another one on every freaking Monday morning: "how was your weekend?" The answer: "Great, we went out to the baaaaaaaraar and it was fun!" So, what is fun to spend every w/e at a bar???? Or simply getting drunk to forget about your self-inflicted isolationist misery?"*

- *"I agree somewhat also in other countries answers like "normal" "ok" decent, not good, etc are more accepted and responded to where here the only acceptable answer is Fine= F-ed up, Insecure, Neurotic, and Emotional!"*

- *"Winston,
Just a quick thought on this topic. Walmart pulled out of Germany this year. One of the main reasons cited for this is the German customers strongly disliked the Wal Mart greeter at the stores entrance who always says "Hello, How ""are you?"". I guess Europeans are definitely different in that they don't like forced friendliness finding it "Phony"."*

Social communication style – artificial/plastic front vs. natural/relaxed

A major thing I've noticed is that the way people interact/communicate in America, and the way "social skills" are utilized, is carried out with this artificial plastic front that is awkward for people like me to emulate.

Though such a front can be well-meaning, it just doesn't seem sincere. The weird thing is that though I am very sociable and outgoing, under the pretense of this "artificial front", I'm suddenly not considered outgoing, but shy instead. The reason is because in order to jive with people here, I have to try to emulate their plastic communication style. But I can't do that for long cause it's not me, it feels unnatural, and feels icky to even try, like I have to try to be something I'm not in order to fit in. And it's simply not in my nature to lie or be something I'm not to "fit in", which is against my integrity and dignity.

This causes me to be in an awkward state of inertia. As a result, I may appear to be shy and lacking in "social skills" by the standards of the contrived social communication style of this culture, when in reality, I just don't wish to emulate this "artificial front" of theirs. Simply put, I can't be sociable the way they want to be sociable. It's a conflict of style, personality, and vibe, which does not usually bring out my natural outgoing sociable self.

Nowhere is this more true than when I'm around the artificial hipster airheads that thrive in the unduly scene of nightclubs and hipster parties. Those types act as though everyone that is cool acts like them, and those that don't must not be cool.

In fact, what I've observed is that this pretentious artificial way of talking by Americans is what greatly contributes to foreigners getting the impression of Americans being shallow, uncultured, and lacking in depth and soul. And the sad thing is that most Americans are totally oblivious to it, for in their view, they rule the world and set the standards.

Now, I can't say this is how Americans are in every state are. As I mentioned in the beginning, what I say here mostly applies to my experiences in California and Washington, which are states I've never thrived in or resonated with. Each state and region of the US, I acknowledge, has different kinds of people and culture. New Yorkers, for example, are known to be more blunt and "real" in their communication style than the folks on the West Coast.

On the other hand, in Europe, Russia, and most or all other countries, social interaction and communication tends to be natural, relaxed, and sincere. Conversations flow smoothly with little effort, rather than with a contrived artificial front. And not surprisingly, conversations and social interactions don't require "social skills" to maintain like they do in the US. As a result, I feel much more relaxed and at ease in my interactions there. Thus, my natural outgoingness and sociability is allowed to bloom and blossom. And I don't have to try to acquire artificial "social skills" to try to get along with others or blend in, fortunately.

In fact, it seems that America is the only country where you have to acquire or develop "social skills" to get along with others, jive in social crowds, and blend in. However, what these "social skills" are in American-speak is your proficiency in learning to adopt this plastic artificial fakeness that assimilates you into "hipsterdom" that is the norm and standard here, and integrating it into your personal style. Sadly, the more "social skills" you gain, the more airheadish you are going to sound when you talk. Oddly, that's how it is. Unless you assimilate into it, you can't just jive or vibe naturally with people here (especially not with the airhead partiers) like you can in other countries, where communication flows more naturally and is relaxed and sincere.

You can see this displayed rampantly on MTV. In movies where American guys are grouped together on a team, e.g. sports movies or war movies, they are portrayed very well in how they behave and talk in real life – in a fake, bravado and bragging manner that is a sort of "locker room" behavior. When I was in school, I always felt uncomfortable around this "locker room" style behavior, and never knew how to respond to it, as it didn't fit with me, thus inviting myself to get "picked on". It was odd and illogical to me, making me shy and inhibited.

One of my readers reported similarly:

“Very few Americans, especially in major cities aren't plastic. If you want to see a real sight then go to LAX International and just sit and watch how people act. Everyone thinks that they are movie stars and that they are just too cool or hip. I know because when I travel to the PI I normally have about a 3.5 hour delay. They make me sick to my stomach but then I think, hey, this is just about par for these type of individuals.”

And another guy on an internet forum who also noticed these things, eloquently summarized in one sentence:

<http://www.digihitch.com/ftopicp-31516.html#31516>

“To socialize in a typical American setting requires a tremendous amount of dishonesty and utter fakeness. It makes me want to vomit.”

Yet another eloquently articulated the fakenss involved in the social scene:

“You forget the other side -- you MUST be fake at all times, which means that everyone else is putting on a show to make people think that they have social lives when in fact they don't, or they exaggerate what little social lives they have in order to fit in. If you don't try to put on airs to the contrary, then you are not participating in the masquerade, which means that you will be ostracized by your peers on that count. If there is even one person who is honest, it starts to shatter the fragile social ecosystem of lies that is characteristic of American social interaction. The violation of this unspoken rule is what will make you a pariah; do you really think that, within the rubric of always being fake, the TRUE reason for your being singled out would ever be expressed? Of course not! And they may not even know on a conscious level, so ingrained is the insincerity in their minds, such that they will say someone is a "loser" for having no friends, when in fact the real reason is that the idea of an honest person, honestly addressing the typical gaping chasm of dishonesty and the isolation that it brings, between all social relations, upsets this fragile network of mutual deceit.”

Though I can only speculate as to why we have this artificial front, one poster on Craig's list gave a good take on it:

“America has a f***ed up value system. we are lead to believe certain things are important, or if we don't have them we are behind or not up to date. People who put up a front are just scared that people will not accept them so they adopt an image that is already acceptable. just be your self and guess what we are all unusual to a certain degree. Do you really want to be friends with people who are fake and if you are fake why would someone want to be with you ????? good luck, the front line is everywhere.”

But those who visit Europe and see how it is in comparison will be enlightened with the refreshing difference:

“Hi Winston,

I was just talking to someone in the newsroom where I work about his trip to Eastern Europe. He mentions that even though the people are poor, they are exceedingly happier than people in the U.S. and that he had to "shut off the sarcasm filter" because he was so floored by their hospitality, kindness, genuity, and innocence. He mentioned that the pace of life was slower and that unlike the U.S., which is task-oriented and focused on time and quality of life materially, they were focused on quality of life socially, and that there was an interconnectedness and contentedness that is missing from the U.S. There wasn't that additional layer of superficiality and deception/mask/distance that you have to deal with in social interactions in the U.S. “

American laughter – constrained/inhibited vs. Foreign laughter – flowing/uninhibited

There is an observable difference in the laughter of Americans vs. Foreigners.

In North America, watch how people laugh at social events, parties, comedy clubs, circuses, or any performance show, and you will notice that the laughter is let out in a pretentious, constrained, tight, reserved and inhibited manner. It's like they are laughing to be polite, but they can't let out too much.

If you compare it to the laughter of foreigners (other than North Americans, British, and Orientals), you will notice that their laughter seems much more genuine, flowing, uninhibited, natural, and jovial. It's as if they are "allowed" to really enjoy themselves freely, whereas Americans are too consumed with being workaholics, duty-bound, and behaving properly, along with their private, reserved nature, to truly enjoy something too much. In other words, it's a "stuck-up" laughter that they have.

Even within the United States, you can see this difference between how Hispanics (Mexicans and other Latin Americans) and Americans laugh. You will notice that Hispanics have a stronger camaraderie and bond in their laughter.

Reader comments:

- "Forced laughter is a Japanese trait too. I guess if a highly stressed out society tries to put on a brave face, the laughter will come out fake. Otherwise they will just seem sullen; and many do. Koreans and Brits do. Americans just try and laugh more, other advanced societies don't. As far as developing countries go, they work less enjoy more, hence the laughter is more natural."

Lack of intellectual curiosity in America

“A study of history shows that civilizations that abandon the quest for knowledge are doomed to disintegration.”
- Bernard Lovell, British astronomer and writer.

Other than the nerds and brainiacs, most of the mainstream population in America is not very curious about learning new things, especially things that are outside their world, or about people and cultures different from them. I've noticed that if you're a foreigner in the USA, people don't really ask questions about you and your culture to try to get to know you or understand you. In fact, Americans in general do not seem to be fundamentally curious by nature for some reason (though Americans abroad can be an exception).

Sometimes they feign interest in foreigners just to be polite, as this poster on my Forum noted:

<http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=189>

“Educated Americans are temporarily drawn towards foreigners at places like cocktail parties. But after a few minutes or few hours they feel they have heard the foreigners' stories and inevitably lose interest and move on; most of the time Americans don't want to be socially, let alone romantically, involved with them.

I think that Americans sometimes go and talk to foreigners at parties to try and show off how nice they are to their American friends--it's like community service. It's just like when the "popular girl" at an almost all white high school dance smiles and talks the black kid just to enhance her image of being kind (although her real inner personality might be quite different).

The exception of course is the American upper and middle class' fascination with the British with all their overtones of aristocracy. I imagine that the girls at Harvard would line up for hours for the chance to give Prince William a blowjob.”

However, in every other country I've been to, including Canada, people you casually meet will frequently be intellectually curious about you, asking questions about who you are, why you're here, or about your culture. They will make an effort to try to understand you. This applies even in mundane situations such as buying something in a store, standing in line to make a purchase, waiting at a bus stop, asking directions, etc. and not necessarily in organized social gatherings. And it happens even in areas where people tend to be more socially shy and introverted, like in Asian countries. Therefore, in ordinary day to day life abroad, you consistently come across people who are intellectually curious about you.

As a result, friendships or relationships abroad can form out of this. There are many people abroad who are glad to form a friendship with someone based on their curiosity or desire to understand someone different of another culture. Not so in the U.S. though, as Americans tend to prefer to form friendships with those who are like them, or who can raise their social status and image. That's a totally different social attitude indeed, since abroad differences can create friendships while in the US differences tend to divide people. And therefore, I sometimes have mixed feelings when foreigners are interested or curious about my culture, because people of my society don't have the same curiosity at all toward theirs. It makes me, paradoxically, want to tell these people that they ought to direct their curiosity elsewhere to where it's more appreciated and deserving.

In the USA, we have been spoiled by materialistic values and goals, and somehow in the midst of that, people in general have lost their intellectual curiosity. And that is more than obvious in people's social attitude toward others, which is pragmatic in general. In most parts of the USA and in most situations, people only talk to you if they need to, or if they know you. Otherwise, it's inappropriate to step outside those boundaries. And you only get attention if you have looks, money, power, high status, or stardom. Otherwise, no one cares and you don't exist to them. People have the attitude that you have to prove your worth to them. Therefore, in general it is much harder to meet people in the U.S. than abroad.

One southerner wrote to me:

"I have been reading your e-booklet on why you are happier in Europe/Russia compared to America. I have found it incredibly interesting. I can confirm as a Southerner (Atlanta, GA), that you are definitely right. I am a 24 year old intellectual. I find it extremely difficult to have a meaningful and interesting conversation with Americans. I used to think that it was a symptom of being in the south, but your essays reveal it is equally bad elsewhere."

Americans tend to view their country as "the world" or the representation of it. It's part of the mentality and culture to do so. As an example, take the lyrics of the Madonna hit song [Material Girl](#). In it, she constantly says "*cause we are living in a material world and I am a material girl*". Of course, her world is a "material world". And in much of the world, material aspects and money are a factor in many things. However, different places and cultures are materialistic in different ways and to different degrees. The peasants, monks, and spiritual folks of Nepal and India for example, live in a slow paced, spiritual world of meditation, contemplation, and worship inside elaborate monasteries and temples. And they grow their own food in gardens and plantations. They do not live in Madonna's world of Hollywood and LA that is totally obsessed with money, fame, and image. Same with tribes in Africa and South America. However, the ethnocentric view of American culture and media is that THEIR WORLD is the world everyone lives in. In effect, they are very ignorant of the immense outside world that doesn't fit into their prism.

Cultured Foreigners vs. Uncultured Americans (specific examples)

A Greek Italian related this joke about Americans to me:

“When the UN distributed this questionnaire:

‘What is your opinion on how to reduce food shortage to the rest of the world?’

The European replied: ‘What is shortage?’

The African replied: ‘What is food?’

The Chinese replied: ‘What is opinion?’

The American replied: ‘What is the rest of the world?’”

He then added:

“Over here in Italy, one thing that does not lack is culture and interest to the "rest of the world””

And another traveler shared this one with me:

“What do you call someone who can speak two languages?

Bilingual

What do you call someone who can speak three languages?

Trilingual

What do you call someone who can speak only one language?

American”

Americans in general tend to be the least cultured of the industrialized world. In Europe/Russia for example, most young people speak at least 2 to 3 languages, and it’s not uncommon to find those that speak 5 or more. But in the US, most people speak only English, and interest in foreign languages is less common than in other industrialized nations.

Most Americans don’t even know who the leaders of their neighboring countries are in Canada and Mexico, nor do they even know who the governors are in their neighboring states! It simply doesn’t concern or interest them. This is unheard of in Europe though, where pretty much everyone knows who the leaders of their neighboring countries are.

In fact, a Finnish guy I stayed with in Poland related an interesting story. When he visited America, he witnessed a study done in Boston, where an average class of students were shown a blank map of the world containing everything but the names of countries blotted out. They were asked to find their own country, the United States, on the map. It turned out that only 30 percent of the students could find it! That just goes to show how clueless average mainstream Americans tend to be about the world and their relation to it, even geographically. Many don’t even know that Canada and Mexico are adjacent to us!

A man married to a Dutch wife in America related:

“We are also tried of the general ignorance of the people here. So many times when my wife tells someone she is Dutch, she gets responses about wooden shoes....and thats if we are lucky. Most people have no idea where it is on a map.”

One time, I was surprised when a Lithuanian girl who had only visited the US twice, knew the abbreviations of so many US states, which many average Americans don’t even know. In response, she paid a great compliment to the average American:

"here, abbreviations is not a big deal, i've been to those states + i never use a criterion of what an "average american would/would not know" to decide if a person is smart- would be too many smart people in the world:P."

Foreigners love making fun of Americans' ignorance of geography, which is well known around the world. They sometimes test Americans on their basic international knowledge, which usually validates their point. For instance, a Brazilian guy I met in a hostel tested me once by asking me if I knew what the official language of his country was. When I guessed "Spanish" he scoffed that almost every American he's met didn't know the answer to that, which is "Portuguese", something that mainstream Europeans, even those living in villages, know. It simply astounds them how clueless average Americans are about the rest of the world.

My Expat Advisor provided his explanation and observation of this phenomenon:

<http://forum.internationalliving.com/viewtopic.php?t=491>

"There seems to be a difference in education. Europeans believe in being informed about the world outside. Being a well-rounded person is seen as a virtue. In the US, according to Europeans, people are very good at their individual professions and a few of their hobbies. However, studying anything that does not lead to practical results, is seen as a waste of time. That for some reason seems to include Geography and World History. So, as long as a conversation between an American and a foreigner runs along a specific topic such as business or the American's chosen field of expertise, everything seems fine. Problems start when a European wants to have a broader discussion on international culture or current world events (the ones that do not cover America's involvement in some war). Once a discussion like that starts, an American tunes out. He gives his conversation partner a blank look and starts feeling uncomfortable. Some Americans will even say with pride "I don't know anything about (insert the topic)." You might be talking to a five-year-old for all one cares.

The neglected areas of Geography and any knowledge of the world outside the US- a subject that many Europeans take for granted and learn at an early age which seems to go largely uncovered in the US causes the impression of 'dumbness'. Brits complain that when they were in the US, MIT graduates would ask them questions such as : "Is there a bridge between England and Scotland or do you take a ferry? One Brit was fuming "Do you know what that American asked me? He asked me 'So what language do you guys speak in England?'" Australian TV once ran a program where an Aussie went to some American city and stood there with a map, asking people to show on the map where Australia was and no one, allegedly, could do it.

And these are American reactions to people who come from fellow- Anglo-Saxon countries! Things get worse when other countries are involved. Numerous foreign students who go to the US to study complain that most Americans have never even heard of their countries to begin with. One Malaysian girl studying at a college in New York was almost hysterical " No American has even heard of Malaysia". They keep asking me " Where is that?"

One observant American on a movie message board explained:

<http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0450278/board/flat/40777285?d=42900600#42900600>

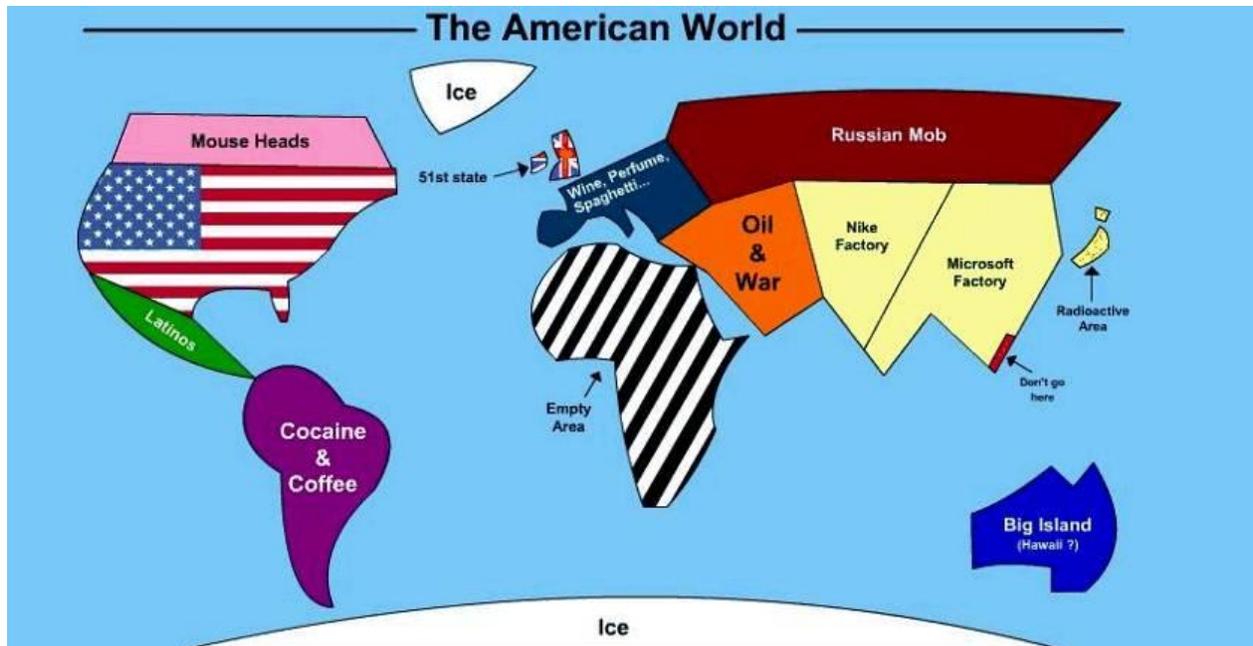
"The reason so many Americans are pompous, arrogant asses is because we are raised all our lives to believe America is the greatest nation on Earth. From day 1, we have it crammed in our heads a subliminal but nationwide message that the entire rest of the world is a sh*t-hole. We live in a very conservative, ethnocentric and yes, racist, society. It's as present today as it has ever been. Let me give you an example. My stepmother and father are both 37 years old, respectively. They pull in about \$2,900 every two weeks and drive nice cars. We live in a nice house. But it is ASTOUNDING how ethnocentric and ignorant they both are, still. My Dad and I recently got into an argument about whether or not JAPAN is a communist country. I assured him the people in Japan are as free as we are, and that Japan has a great economy and the majority population make a great living. He wouldn't hear it. He was CONVINCED I was wrong. I finally had to prove it to him on the internet. "Well?" I asked. He looked at me blankly. "Uh....well, I'll be damned" he said like the dumbass he is.

Point is, the general mindset of the average American about the rest of the world is that everyone eats bugs out of muddy rivers and prays to The Sun God to let them come to America someday.

The American government wants to enforce this, as well, to keep national pride high...by keeping national awareness low. For instance, when the Japanese (sorry using Japan again) were finally able to bring their first TV show, the anime cartoon AstroBoy, to the US, the credits, music and show content were edited/changed drastically to completely hide the fact that the show was Japanese. No American could possibly handle a cartoon created by the Japanese, those "sun-worshipping" inferiors. America would have a much higher level of international acceptance if people could learn proper international AWARENESS, and most importantly, RESPECT! Or at least that's my opinion."

He seems to be right about keeping international awareness low in America.

(funny spoof spread on the internet)



(a comic I collected from a piece of Bazooka chewing gum)



A young Czech girl I met on a movie message board wrote her impression of America to me, which even though she's never been there, is pretty darn accurate:

"And about the states...well, when i was younger i thought it would be so cool to live there but then i grew up a little and i changed my mind. When somebody's talking about americans i always imagine a fat man eating a BigMac, sitting in the cinema and laughing at the most stupid joke in the most stupid movie ever:-) I know americans are not this way but i just can't help myself:-) I don't want to judge usa until i can say i've been there cuz my view of usa is "made"(i don't now better word:-) mostly of films and documents and of what i read (and that's not very probative). I just hate it when americans bless their "amazing" country and they can hardly find it on a map:-) And I'm rather not talking about their knowledges of another countries...i just think americans should learn more about the world cuz they don't know enough:-)"

And a girl from Holland living in the US vociferated:

"I also, personally, do not like the egotistic, and independent life style that exists here. For Americans, the world is the U.S. and if lucky, Canada and Mexico is included with that. (look at the world cup in baseball... how long have the Americans won that.. oh hold on.. only the U.S. plays in it hahaha {stupid if you ask me}!!!) People in the U.S are so uneducated about life out of the U.S. that I have been asked whether Amsterdam is a country (in which "Holland" is the capital I suppose)!!!! Also, the independent life style is so weird to me. People don't even know their own neighbors here, where is in Europa, we are "taught" to work together. We do know our neighbors, in fact, during World Cups or Euro Cups, a lot of streets put out T.V.'s and couches and chairs and the whole street sits behind that one T.V. with a beer in the hand, enjoying not only the game, but also the company of their neighbors."

In regards to the international affairs of its own government abroad, even Canadians are more aware and informed about US foreign policy than Americans are. A Canadian family I stayed with verbally related something interesting to me, which I will do my best to paraphrase from memory:

“America seems to be composed of two separate worlds. On the one hand, you have the American population, which generally consists of good well-meaning people. But on the other, you have the US government which is actively involved in horrible acts abroad, such as exploiting others, overthrowing governments and regimes in the interest of corporate greed, and committing all kinds of crimes, which the mainstream American public is amazingly unaware of and oblivious to. In fact, the **WHOLE REST OF THE WORLD** seems to know more about what the American government is doing in the international scene than the American people do!”

Suffice to say, I've noticed that **the more well-traveled the American is, the less patriotic he/she is as well.**

The ramifications of the US population being unaware of the international world are not limited to just sheer ignorance, as my Expat Advisor eloquently explained:

<http://forum.internationalliving.com/viewtopic.php?t=491>

“Being uninformed about the rest of the world does more harm than earning the title of being "dumb". People who think that they live in paradise while unaware of the many social and technological improvements that are always taking place in other countries will eventually fall behind in many areas. They will not be able to adopt many exciting innovations that are being introduced around the world all the time. Japan had video- cell phones as early as late nineties and Singapore solved its race problem once and for all by very ingenious quota systems that seem to benefit rather than harm. Many countries, such as Slovenia (Where is that?) have small per capita prison populations and have much better programs to rehabilitate prisoners. However, if Americans do not know about them, how will the country improve?

They will not be able to elect good leaders and will support international campaigns of dubious usefulness which drain US resources by diverting money from home to some overseas ventures in which patriotic Americans always die. They will believe myths about how the rest of the world is a God-forsaken place and if they become just like the US, they will be OK.

Such ignorance creates suffering and death and stalls progress at home and abroad. And changing that requires improving the education at home and creating a new generation of highly intelligent, worldly citizens. Such Americans will probably be the world's most perfect human beings.”

Cultured soulful eyes vs. empty soulless eyes

They say the eyes are the window to the soul. Here are two photos of Bulgarian women (not ones that I've met, unfortunately) I found at a free accommodation site at the links below. You can see in their eyes that they are cultured, soulful, and have a warm inviting look on their faces.



On the other hand, here are what the eyes of all-American valley girls look like. As you can see, they look vacant, conceited, plastic, empty, and in love with money and illusion.



Notice the empty, plastic eyes there. However, you might not unless you have more soulful types to compare them to. And of course, if you are just as empty, you won't see what I'm talking about either. A soulful "inner life" isn't something that can be quantified or described with mere words. Those who have it know what it is. And those who don't won't know what it is by only mere words, nor can they appreciate one. As they say, "it takes one to know one."

Intellectuals young and old

Since the US is not generally a country focused on intellectualism but rather materialism, consumerism, and mass consumption, its environment does not breed intellectualism in young people. As a result, it is rare to find young people in America who are intellectual (by that I mean people who like to think, philosophize, analyze the meaning of history/society/life, develop a broad perspective, etc.) Therefore, young intellectuals in America often feel alienated and abnormal. They have a hard time relating or connecting with peers in their age group, who probably see them as odd. Most intellectuals in America (e.g. deep wise people, authors, writers of history, philosophy, religion, etc.) are usually older adults at least 35 years old. Therefore, young intellectuals tend to have to connect with much older adults to get any connection or stimulation. This situation is a bit odd and unnatural, to be honest.

Fortunately, this is not the case with the rest of the world. In other countries like Europe/Russia, it is normal and common for young people to be intellectual and interested in things like art, history, literature, philosophy, and culture. (Embarrassingly enough, some of the young people I met there were surprised that I didn't know certain American authors that they had known and read!) And they can find other intellectuals among their peers easily. In addition, they are very normal and appreciated, rather than alienated in America and made to feel that they don't "fit in" or that there is something wrong with them just because they don't share the materialistic consumption-driven mentality that our culture does. That's why I've always said that young artists and intellectuals who wish to be understood and appreciated will thrive more in Europe than in the USA.

Persecution of geeks and nerds - America's unwholesome quirk

American culture is pretty much the only country that creates artificial social categories such as “geeks” and “nerds” for people and then persecutes them, especially among teens. Such people are persecuted socially and psychologically as “uncool” and undesirable (let's hope that inhumane attitude doesn't spread to other countries too!). We aren't just talking about the high school scene either, but about the general culture itself. Even Hollywood likes to make fun of geeks and nerds, portraying them as undesirable, unlikable and inadequate, even going so far as to exaggerate their stereotypes.

(Not that I'm a geek or nerd myself, though I was considered one in high school cause they didn't know what category to put me in, as I didn't really fit in anywhere)

To get an idea of how unwholesome this is, see how those in public schools who are labeled as a “geek” or “nerd” are when they walk to or from school. They droop their shoulders and look down as they walk, as though they have accepted their inferior status, having no choice but to serve their function as a punching bag for their peers waiting to belittle them.

Such categories serve no purpose other than to make the “cool” and “hip” folks feel superior, having something to compare themselves to. Simply put, for them to be special and better than the rest, there has to be types of people who are un-special. It's a very dysfunctional and unwholesome way to puff up one's ego and self-esteem.

In other countries though, geeks and nerds don't really even exist because such categories aren't created by their cultures. Those who are smart, bookworms, or have strong interests of an intellectual, technical or esoteric nature are simply viewed as intelligent people appreciated for their talents who are just being themselves. And that's exactly what they are, not some lot of losers to place at the bottom of the pecking order.

The equivalent of “geeks” and “nerds” in other cultures aren't alienated or rejected like in America, nor do they develop inferiority complexes. Instead, they tend to have healthy self-esteem, normal confidence and mental health.

It is said that many American women generally do not like nerds, even if they're rich. This attitude is a strange quirk in America that fortunately isn't even “normal” once you realize that it isn't true in the rest of the world.

(On an interesting side note, it's been theorized by some that the environment of unconditional love and acceptance, the “Romper Room” environment so to speak, created in Kindergarten and 1st grade, followed by the sudden bruising and abuse of children's egos beginning in 3rd grade by their peers, and conditions imposed by their parents and teachers, actually serves a calculated purpose. Perhaps it's to create a vulnerable insecure ego in people that longs for the unconditional love/acceptance of their kindergarten period when they watched “Mr. Rogers” and “Sesame Street” and all creatures were portrayed as innocent, sweet and good. With such vulnerability, they can be easily manipulated throughout life by the powers that run our country and establishment, which exploit that vulnerability in a variety of ways. Such would be understandable, since after all, America's rulers are not allowed to be official tyrants, they instead have to resort to undermining people's egos to control and subjugate them to their will.)

For an enlightening article on why nerds and geeks are persecuted in public high school that makes a lot of sense and explains the social dynamics in an insane system where kids are thrown into a situation to create a hierarchy out of nothing, see this link: <http://paulgraham.com/nerds.html>

Being different or a misfit = alienation in America

In America, being different ALIENATES you from social groups, while in many other countries, it ADDS to your social appeal and makes you look interesting.

Generally in America, if you are different from others or considered a misfit, it alienates and ostracizes you from other people both socially and psychologically. You are not invited to parties, you don't get dates, you don't get invited on outings to the beach by groups of airhead guys and girls, and you are indirectly told by your peers that there is something "wrong" with you. And if you complain about it, then you may be told that "you are the problem". It's a very sad and horrid state of affairs. And deep down, you know that it just *shouldn't be that way*.

I know because I suffered this throughout my childhood as well. I was just a nice guy trying to be who I was, yet people told me that there was something wrong with me. Deep down, I knew that it wasn't so, but I was pressured to feel that way. And when I tried to fit in with mainstream young people in America, I couldn't because I just felt so different from them. Someone back then even tried to insinuate that this is how the whole world treats you if you're a misfit. Fortunately though, he was wrong.

It is an indisputable fact that in America, if you don't fit in, the culture says there MUST be something with you! That's the paradigm and the rule. According to American logic, the majority can't be wrong, so the person who doesn't fit in MUST be "the problem" (notwithstanding the fact that in history, the majority is rarely right anyway) and is therefore assigned blame by default. In America, the misfit is always to blame. That's the "American doctrine" and the "American way" so to speak.

But in many other parts of the world such as Europe, Russia, South America, Africa, etc. when you are different from everyone, it is actually an ADVANTAGE. It arouses curiosity in people, and they try to understand you. And you easily get invited to parties, social events, etc. rather than alienated or told there is something wrong with you. In effect, you can just be yourself and feel appreciated, unlike in the states. In European regions, freedom of expression is normal and encouraged, and thus there is not a negative stigma in being unique or unconventional. That difference in attitude and mentality is so refreshing. And besides, with young people in other countries, I feel that their soul density is more similar to mine, so I often don't feel awkward or different from them anyway.

I've heard that in the UK, black people are very normal and well-adjusted compared to blacks in the US. Because they grew up with less racism, they do not walk around with an inferiority status, fragile ego, and defensive attitude that they do in the US. That is very telling.

This explains, I think, why hippies (alternative crowds, rebels, bohemian artists, intellectuals with counter-culture views, etc.) in America tend to be mentally unstable and emotionally unbalanced. They are seen and treated as such because they don't conform and behave in an automaton way. Eventually, they come to believe it themselves, that they are misfit losers who are maladapted to society, culminating in a self-fulfilling prophecy which leads them to act that way. On the other hand, the "freespirits" in Europe, I've noticed, tend to be the way they are while remaining stable, mature, reliable, and organized. It's no surprise since they are in a more genuine and accepting environment. (Hence, dress styles in Europe are more creative and expressive than in America)

And likewise, being an intellectual or free-thinker is out of place in America too, where the norm is to conform to a narrow rigid lifestyle (see [The Industrial Culture and Automaton Populace of America](#)). In fact, thinking outside the boundaries of the narrow culture is not even acknowledged. Therefore, my soul is a bad fit for America's industrial tunnel-vision culture.

An insightful 19 year old boy observed similarly. He writes:

"Winston,

I recently moved to Barcelona, Spain from Madison, Wisconsin in the U.S. I have read a lot of your articles comparing Americans to Europeans, or simply non-Americans, and was extremely impressed with the insights you have made. I had traveled to Europe twice before I moved here. The first time was

in 2003 when I was 16 years old, and I was lucky enough to get the opportunity to talk with people my age who were staying at the same hotels. In meeting people from other countries and cultures I feel very connected, just talking to people on a deeper level than is possible with most everyone in the states. I can honestly say I have only had deep conversations with maybe 6 or 7 of my close friends in the U.S. and when I say "deep" conversations I simply mean talking about things in a critical, intellectual way, which sadly most Americans are simply not capable of. There is little respect for people who think differently in the U.S. and those who do, like you have stated, usually are anti-social and keep to themselves, and who can really blame them? Most of the artists, free-spirits and critical thinkers I knew/know of in the states are depressed in one way or another, it seems to me because they are so limited in ways to express themselves without being labeled radical, weird, or other terms used to insult people who dare to have their own opinions. In fact, I recall an acquaintance of mine from high school, "making fun" of a girl who wore somewhat traditional spanish clothing, and called her "different" as an insult. These are the same people who are proud to be Americans they say because of the "freedom" they have here. Most Americans have such a warped definition of freedom and think that the U.S. is a cultural melting pot, it makes me sick to know that culture for them is going out and buying anything.....

I remember before I came to Europe, although I had many friends back in the states, I felt very alone and awkward at times, simply because I couldn't find any open-minded artistic people to connect with. I would often write poems and essays that no one would get or understand, when read by others they would simply say, oh cool, or wow that's really deep, but not giving any real feedback. When people would be "critical" with my writing they would most often say, "You shouldn't write stuff that's so depressing, you shouldn't hold on to such sad emotions." Or when I would give essays about the Government here and just identify a "possibility" for corruption, (most often in regards to 9/11) people would get upset and say, "That is ridiculous" and not even open their mind to the possibility of another viewpoint besides the few that exist in the mainstream media of America."

As for me, I am a **romantic intellectual** type of person. People like me simply don't fit into America, nor in any of its pretentious cliques. We are constantly told that there is something wrong with us, because our life is not all about career and money, like its "supposed" to be, nor do we try to fit a cool image or conform to a routine. Being a true romantic is out of style and unrealistic in modern America now.

As my Expat Advisor pointed out, my "differentness" is not to my advantage in the US:

"Your particular "different-ness" is not marketable in the US but is OK in E Europe and quite attractive to the locals there. It does not mean that they like EVERY different person. You hear every day the news of some Arabs being beat up and some Armenians killed because Russians are much more accepting of the Oriental look with the US passport than of say, a Middle Eastern look, or God forbid an African with his passport. A Black man will have a much better appreciation in the US than in Russia (if he comes out of the place alive)

In the US different-ness is also appreciated but in different ways and with different people. It is appreciated in a cute Asian GIRL, not a guy. Try and put an ad in some US paper if you are an Asian girl and look for a boyfriend. Thousands top notch guys will reply.

Try being a white man in the US with some colonial accent: UK, Oz, NZ, SA, etc. Your difference not only will be appreciated but sought after. No wonder they put all these Aussies on CNN to read the news. And an Aussie or a NZder in the US is a welcome friend, boyfriend, husband, etc.

I had a British friend who went to Texas and girls were all over him- he was tall and very different. He had an accent but it sounded very sophisticated and he was a guest of honor.

So your difference will be appreciated depending on WHAT difference it is and whether where you are at, that difference is something that is in demand."

Blacks and Asians - Inferiority complex vs. wholesome integration

Racial tension, clashes, and inferiority complexes in the USA are well known (particularly in Los Angeles), and even depicted in hit movies such as *Crash (2004)* as well as any movie about racism, Malcolm X, Martin Luther King Jr., etc.

What most Americans who grew up in such multi-cultural environments where racial tension was the norm don't know is that Blacks and Asians tend to have inferiority complexes in the US but do NOT have them abroad. For example, it's been reported by both Blacks and Whites that in Great Britain, Blacks are much more well adjusted and treated normally in comparison to the States, hence they are "free to be themselves" without the inferiority complex and fragile defensive ego that they often have in the states.

And in fact, this has been true historically as well. History textbooks report that during the American Revolutionary War for instance, Black slaves were treated far better by the British than by the Colonial Americans, and hence many Blacks at the time were reluctant and unmotivated to fight for the Colonials. It's no surprise given that the British were more civilized and cultured than the Americans at the time, and still are too.

Though I've never been to Britain, I'd venture to guess that Asian men too are probably treated better there than in America, at least in the dating arena, for I have heard unanimously that prejudice against interracial dating in Britain is far less than in America.

Let's look at some more examples and quotes.

Here's what a French article revealed about Asian men's appeal in France, quoting what a Japanese man had to say about his image in France vs. the US:

<http://goldsea.com/Features/Parisasians/parisasians2.html>

"The Asian Image

Asian males also enjoy a better social image than their American counterparts. **French women consider Asian men exotic, refined and -- get this -- good lovers, according to Sanchez whose ex-husband is Chinese.**

"In the United States there is a lot of emphasis on physical strength and appearance, so tall and muscular Caucasian men are more appreciated than Asian men," says Mayako Yamamoto, a Japanese student who lives in Paris but has visited America several times. "The values here are different. You don't have to be tall and strong to be popular. They like you to be gentle and understanding, and Asians are gentle. You also need to be charming, intelligent, seductive, sensual and stylish. I think that in the States, Caucasians always serve as the reference points. You are always compared to them instead of being judged as you are or compared to other Asians like in France. That's why I feel more comfortable here."

Asian physiques don't appear as unusual because the French are generally shorter and slimmer than Americans.

The French also differ from Americans in their attitude toward interracial relationships. It is considered a natural process for immigrants and their descendants, even of non-White races, to have French spouses and meld into the mainstream of society. Whereas in America Caucasians and Asians ponder the phenomenon of interracial marriages, the opposite is true in France. Many French interviewed for this article expressed surprise at the fact that Asians tend to marry within their own communities."

Another Asian male confirmed this, reporting his great dating experiences in Europe, noting that his Black male friends also had similar successes there with the women as well:

http://www.discovervancouver.com/forum/topic.asp?TOPIC_ID=10543

"I'm a single East Asian guy from Hawaii and am thinking about going to grad school in Montreal. I spent a year in Rouen (France) and had something of a revelation. French women really have a "thing" for tall & fit Asian guys (I'm about 1.87m...6'2"). I got hit on (and scored) with so many gorgeous French girls (blondes, brunettes mostly), I cried when my program was over. Hell, even the girls in the Netherlands were all over me, which was quite an experience since I don't really turn very many heads at all in the U.S.

It explains my success in Rouen, but I also got amazing responses from gorgeous French girls in Paris, Strasbourg, and Montpellier as well. The Dutch girls were also really receptive (still fondly remember a blonde university student asking me for my number on the train...and a very happy weekend thereafter). I almost felt bad for my white travelling companions, who weren't getting much attention at all. In Germany, my black friend also got quite a bit attention, and we were the only ones who ended up hooking up with some cute German girls from Heidelberg. I guess European women prefer Asian and Black men because of the "exotic" factor....similar to the large numbers of white men with an "oriental woman" here in North America. Maybe it's time to head back to Europe. I still remember black American GIs telling me Europe is "black man's heaven"...but I have to say, it's "Asian man's heaven" as well (as long as you're single and like blondes!)

I've found that it's much more difficult in North America to score, because racism is "infused" into the sexual dynamics of society here. I've still dated several of white girls here, but I met them in school and not in bars/nightclubs. I actually talked to an Asian guy who lives in Paris, and he confirmed that white French women LOVE Asian men. I guess movies like *L'amant* reflect the sexual they have for us. Apparently, the French guys are starting to complain that French women only want "ethnic" guys. Most of the Asians in the Netherlands are Indonesians. And they do GREAT with the beautiful blonde Dutch girls. My friend is an Indonesian from Utrecht and we seemed to have our pick of women in the nightclubs. We even took a trip to Sweden and met some of the hottest girls ever seen. It's just too easy in Europe if you're a tall decent looking Asian guy."

A deep insightful Asian American college girl noted these differences between Asian American men and "Asian-Asian" men:

"To be honest, I have a strange complex about Asian-American men. Not so much Asian-Asian men (there was a Singaporean and a Japanese guy that I felt very comfortable to be myself around)-- I think because they were raised in the dominant culture without any sort of awareness of "difference," they tend to have less of an insecurity complex and adopt less of the stereotypical projections that would otherwise be projected upon them if they were minorities. This is a tangent-- but I think generally, people live up to how they are treated and expected to be... and a Japanese guy growing up in Japan who hasn't been told that he is "quiet, shy, and nerdy" will not be because he is in a dominant culture where everyone that looks like him is expected to have a personality. By American standards, one Japanese guy I met would have been considered nerdy and shy (he certainly looked it, with a rather slight build and huge glasses), but in Japan, he was a popular bar tender-- and I was very impressed with his bold confidence, artistic guitar playing, wooing, etc... and his lavish attention and spiritual/emotional development, which won me over in the end.. but I digress...)"

Likewise, an American woman on my Forum who spent most of her childhood in Europe observed how different Asian European men are compared to Asian American men.

<http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=8>

"While living in Europe, I dated all race of men in my teens, and I still continue to do so. But my preference, by far, leans towards Asian men. I have dated them exclusively now for quiet a while. The Asian men in Europe seem to be a lot happier overall than they are here in the US. There doesn't seem to be that oppressive pressure on them there."

Regarding Asians in Brazil, one of my expat consultants observed:

"If Asian Americans traveled more they would see that white people are different in every white country. Most do not even know that they are white. Czechs or Poles do not know that for one. They know that

they are Polish or Czech, not that they are "white". And they would treat a Japanese person as a "Japanese" not as an "Asian".

However, because most Americans do not travel, including Asian Americans they think that White people are all the same- bigoted, arrogant, racially conscious and condescending towards Asians. The same goes for any other race. Filipinos treat white people differently from the way Thais treat them and the Japanese treat them differently yet.

I met Koreans from Brazil and these were just Brazilians like any other Brazilian. They were relaxed, friendly and talkative. Then you meet Koreans from the US and many are edgy, tense and always saying things like "As an Asian- American I am this ...as an Asian American I am that...I am an Asian.. I am a Korean- American". There would be a flash of wounded pride in their eyes when they would utter those highly important racial designations.

Brazilian Koreans were just that- Brasileiros. They liked soccer and drinking pina colada and walking on the beach with mulatto girl."

The same person also commented:

"The thing about the whiners on soc.culture.asian.american is that they have been whining so long that they are starting to feel comfortable with their victim identity. You will need to shake them up a bit.

They are Asian AMERICANS. So, they have the same problems most Americans have. They whine but they are not willing to explore the world beyond planet America. It is so easy to get in a plane. But they have been fed so much propaganda- that the US is the best and that it is all their fault and that they need to read more books on dating, etc.

Emperor's New Clothes if you ask me.

Self-Internationalization is the answer."

Musing over the predicament of the Asian America sub-culture, he concluded:

"It is a pity that there has to be Asian America- another angry ghettoised non-mainstream culture as a way to oppose the exclusive white mainstream. It is also a pity that they have to create their own culture be it in , literature or whatever. Nothing new, just another day in the US.

The problem with such ghettoisation is that Asian Americans often become angry Caucasian haters who beat up "haolies" or just silently hate them. Welcome to US social life- an informal but powerful apartheid where so many people have to find a niche with "their kind".

You were very wise not to get too involved in it and instead, you internationalized yourself and went on all these adventures. Self- internationalization and including other societies into your life is what will cure that scourge of racism in the US. At least as far as one's life is concerned."

See my Expat Advisor's [expose about the best solution for the dating dilemma of Asian American men.](#)

Though the fact that Asians and Blacks abroad don't have the inferiority complex that they do in the US is both true and observable, again it's a TABOO observation, because as mentioned before, saying that ANYTHING outside of America is better, while in America, is taboo and forbidden whether true or not. And again, I'm not afraid to say the truth even if it goes against the crowd. Some admire that about me, others don't.

Rich inner life vs. total emphasis on outer

A primary difference between Americans and Europeans is that Europeans have a rich INNER life to balance out an outer life, which Americans generally don't in comparison, especially among the young crowd.

In the US, most people see life only in terms of making money, buying things, and surface practicalities. There is no spiritual or intellectual dimension in their lives, and no "inner life".

The routine lifestyle is one of perpetual hyped consumption, as people are conditioned to believe that constantly buying things leads to happiness and fulfillment. Their lives are judged by what they have in the outer world - possessions, riches, material assets, career status, financial worth, outer appearance, etc. An individual without these things is considered a loser by society's standards. That's their mentality and universe.

To them, that is "normal" and "real life". There is no appreciation or value at all on a person's "inner life". So not surprisingly, those with rich inner lives can feel a bit alienated in America and different from the mainstream.

Sadly, the lack of having an inner life in America contributes to the population's fragile egos, pseudo-confidence, pseudo-positivity (the positive attitude fad) and paranoia. It's no surprise there, that all this is very thin blanket that covers the American ego, giving the illusion of it being a shield against emptiness, hopelessness, and insanity. This becomes all so apparent when you see just how fake and artificial things are in America, as well as people.

This is much more apparent to an educated foreigner from a society that is healthy and real, than to the mainstream American. For instance, one Lithuanian girl wrote me:

"Hi Winston,
nice to hear u like lithuania and it's people! and yes, i live here most of the time, but i'm travelling a lot as well and this fall i'm leaving for half a year. i've spent two summers in the states as well, so i do understand why u liked lithuania or europe in all, i could never live in that country, honestly, i guess i'm just love europe too much and couldn't get used to that feeling that everything and everyone was so fake over there, sorry if my opinion about the states seems rude, but i'm just being honest:)
talk to u later, got many things to do!
take care,"

Of course, living materialistically under materialistic conditions is normal in the world, but **the difference is that most in the rest of the world at least have some kind of "inner life" to balance it out with**, while most Americans tend to have little or no "inner life" at all. Our industrial culture's values does not appreciate, value or even acknowledge the existence of having an inner life, which is so important yet ignored by our industrial culture that only sees the outer.

And sadly, those who are viewed as unattractive or undesirable in America tend to be the ones who have to cultivate a rich inner life to compensate for their outer life deficiency. But in Europe/Russia, even the attractive people tend to cultivate an inner life, simply because that is the normal and natural thing to do, and not to compensate for a lack of an outer life. That's another key noticeable difference.

A Russian American male immigrant I know had this to say about the modern American soul. (imagine him saying this with a thick Russian accent lol)

"Hey Winston.
It is good you noticed the difference. But it is not only women it is all americans are very different. Americans have empty eyes. Even those people on TV. Because there is no soul in this country only money."

Though "all" is an overgeneralization, I do notice that there is an emptiness and vacancy prevalent in American eyes, which are the window to their soul. Here are two examples:



You can see empty, plastic eyes of money, materialism and illusion there. But you might not notice unless you have other populations to compare them to, such as those of another culture. And of course, if you are of the same kind as them, then you won't see what I'm talking about either. Again, an "inner life" isn't something that can be quantified or described with mere words. Those who have it know what it is. And those who don't have one, can't see one with a mere description.

Also, back in college, a Greek friend used to often tell me:

"Americans have no inner life. All they do is consume!"

He couldn't be more right. American life is focused on perpetual consumption. And in fact, there is little else to do in the routine of American life. Hence, most people have no inner world. And if one has no "rich inner world" to balance out the extreme materialistic excess and consumption of the outer world, it corrupts the soul, leads to spiritual void, and to disharmony and imbalance in a person's overall makeup (another reason why we have the highest rate of mental illness/insanity in America).

Since the great religions and spiritual practices teach that the outer world is temporary and passes away, clinging to it creates suffering and disappointment (Christianity emphasizes this too, not just the Eastern religions). Hence, that's why there is so much suffering and unhappiness in America despite it being the richest country. The pleasures of the outer world are fleeting and flat, and conditional; they do not lead to lasting joy, peace or fulfillment.

On the other hand, a person with a rich inner life knows how to be happy and joyful regardless of conditions in his outer world, something which is beyond the average American who sees nothing other than what's in the outer material world. But sadly of course, having a rich inner life is not encouraged by our culture of mass consumption, where "progress" is measured by how much consumers spend, for it is not in their interest to do so.

In general, I notice that foreigners as well as people abroad tend to have much richer inner lives in comparison to Americans. Thus it's easier for someone like me to connect with them.

Like me, this Canadian girl, a Montreal native, noticed the same thing about the European persona:

"You're right about Europeans. I too, as I have mentioned, click with them, they have more history and tradition, there is something more complete about them....."

Europeans have something quite definite about them, they have a sense of who they are, a sense of a true identity. I think perhaps time will allow for this to occur in the US however I'm not counting on it. It's quite a complex issue obviously."

Those who visit Europe and see the difference will often realize these things as well:

"Hi Winston,

I was just talking to someone in the newsroom where I work about his trip to Eastern Europe. He mentions that even though the people are poor, they are exceedingly happier than people in the U.S. and that he had to "shut off the sarcasm filter" because he was so floored by their hospitality, kindness, genuity, and innocence. He mentioned that the pace of life was slower and that unlike the U.S., which is task-oriented and focused on time and quality of life materially, they were focused on quality of life socially, and that there was an interconnectedness and contentedness that is missing from the U.S. There wasn't that additional layer of superficiality and deception/mask/distance that you have to deal with in social interactions in the U.S. "

And one of my readers eloquently stated:

"This is another story all together. I've lived in the Philippines for a year. Some of the best people in the world. Poor in material life but SUPER RICH in the heart. Thats where it counts after all. I want to get out of here myself just as soon as I can. I get along with nearly every foreigner I've met. I don't get in to fake, plastic, materialistic people. I laugh when I watch TV about this purported "Hollywood Lifestyle" that the mainstream media likes to portray on the American people. I'm 49 years young and I don't have much of a life here because I don't care that much for socializing with plastic, wanna be special people."

That goes for me too. I'd rather be around people who have a richer inner life and have nothing in the outer world, than those who are rich in the outer world but have no inner life at all. The former uplifts me, while the latter doesn't and only brings me down or spiritually drains me.

As one of my readers observed:

"One thing I notice is that Americans, in general, are very narrow-minded people, who are absolutely not interested or curious about anything more mind stimulating than stupid soap operas and some dumb idol/reality shows... that is why very often they come off as being too anti-social. It's not that they are stuck up or conceited, its just very hard to engage anyone in anything interesting. And most of them, i find, are the ones who actually have a low self esteem, so as a cover up, they may come off as arrogant and anti-social...."

I thought, the Soviet people were brainwashed. Now I am convinced that every big empire brainwashes its people. There is no other way around."

And an Asian American female friend of mine stated:

“i have never been attracted to American men for the same reasons you are not towards the girls. b.c they are into sports and cars and no brain. (now when in England, the pool of men i became interested in became greater, b.c they were into intelligence and character and internal things)”

Letters from typical American vs. European youngsters (See for yourself)

Here are some direct examples to illustrate what I mean about the inner life of a typical European/Russian youngster vs. the void-ness of a common American one.

Now, I've been using the internet since 1996, and have chatted and written to hundreds of American girls (being forced to give up hope on them eventually). Whenever I ask them about themselves to try to generate conversation, here is what they generally say, along these lines more or less:

"I go to school (or work). I like to party, drink, go clubbing, chill with friends, you know, the usual things."

Sometimes they write a few more sentences about their interests and activities, but not much. That's the gist of the "inner life" of a typical American young female, so rich and multi-dimensional (sarcastic).

As an example, here is how a typical American airheadish girl describes herself on her MySpace profile. Notice how uneducated and unaware she is about the rest of the world, and how absorbed she is in her highly consumerist world of image and airhead partying. (Ironically, she mentions that she doesn't like fake people but doesn't realize her own fakeness) She even misspells a lot of words.

"I love snowboarding and football they are probably my two favorite things. My favorite day is sunday because i get to lay in bed all day and watch football all day. I love to snowboard every waking moment that i can and i love to always explore new trails. My snowboarding crew is also one of my loves: Dave, Katrina, and Jay we always have fun together and i love ya!! I also love partying!! Jack Daniels always accompanies me everywhere i go. Ocean Beach is my main place to go party up in White Rock.. i love going there! Besides partying and snowboarding i love hanging out with my friends just doing lowkey things around b-town. I love my friends to death and they mean the world to me! I miss my girls from high school like crazy and wish they were all back home!! But the friends i have here i love ya to death! I would die without a starbucks everyday... i am addcited and i will admit it. Along with starbucks my other weakness is purses i love Coach purses more than anything and own probably one from every season... yes i have a big weakness. I also have a huge weakness for shoes. I will buy any kind of shoe that i think is aborable but i mainly stick to heels that are strappy or pointy toed. ..Shopping is one of my favorite things too and i probably go a little too often. My favorite place to shop at is Bellvue because they have all of the good stores. I love SUV's and trucks. I dont think i will ever be able to drive a car again... i drive a cadillac SRX but might be trading it in for a new Denali. Guys in suv's like 4runners or pathfinders are a huge turn on. My favorite color is pink and i own tons of pink clothes. I absolutley hate people that are two faced. I also hate people that are fake.. people that are fake in everyway bug me.. be real. I hate asparagus and beans. I love thai food and fruit more than anything in the world to eat. I also love meeting new people and can get along with almost anyone. I am always up for something new. I am very outgoing and personable... i love to joke around and be sarcastic so dont always take what i am saying literally. I love dogs and one of the loves of my life is Blake my dog. I love hubby Abraham and i know that he is always there for me! Getting massages and pedicures are amazing and i try to get them as much as possible. I love jeans and own them in every styler and color. My favorite brands are Antik and True Religion. I love to watch MTV and VH1 shows and can lsiten to almost any type of music. I am just up for a good time!! All i am about is having fun. I try to make fun where ever i go and it usually happens!! I just want fun, cuz GIRLS JUST WANNA HAVE FUN!!"

Obviously, a girl like that is very picky and shallow, and going to judge a guy solely on looks and image. What chance in hell do I have with someone like that? None. What could I offer her shallow world?! Even if I shared all her interests above, I STILL wouldn't be her type, and that means she would be totally non-inclusive toward me, not bothering to hold any conversation with me or make any time for me. It's a dead wall situation.

Now contrast that with this letter below that I received from a young girl from Russia. Notice how aware of and in tune with herself she is, how cultured and intelligent she seems, and how she is able to describe and express herself and her varied interests in English even though it's her second language. Such is not rare, but typical of European/Russian youngsters, believe it or not. Like I said, rarities in the US are common abroad.

"Hi Winston,

I am sorry, that has not answered you at once. Some last days there was not connections with a server. Besides, unfortunately writing does not concern to number of my talents, I have more likely technical thinking, than humanitarian, and in your letter I have found many ideas which I share and I wanted to consider better the reply to you as such frank letter deserves the worthy answer.

I want to note, that leaving the ad on Au Pair, I had no at all intentions to find something the greater, rather than simply friendly correspondence with the purpose of improvement of my English language. Anyway, I am sure, that from our conversation I will get a lot of new and interesting things and ideas as you seem very clever, educated and versatile person.

Now a little about me.

I am 23 years old. I live in city of Novosibirsk, so-called "capital" of Siberia both the third on size and a population city of Russia. It not my native city. I was born in city of Surgut (it is Siberia too, but more to the north), I have grown there and graduated from school. In Novosibirsk I study on the third rate of faculty of Information Computing Technologies, the future speciality - programming. I like to study and I think that was not mistaken in a choice of a direction, computers and Internet - one of my basic interests.

Further more, about interests. Besides computers I m interested in a great number of the diversified things, it is a pity only, that It is only 24 hours in day, instead of 48, for example, and i have not time for all of it :)).

I adore reading, most of all I love historical novels, the classical literature (especially French) and Fantasy. I do not like much love novels and detectives, I do not know why by myself :)). I adore movie and cinemas, I miss novelties very seldom, I collect an own collection of films. I adore good music. I do not like pop, turnips, hip-hop, a trance and techno - did i call it correct? I love a rock music. But actually, if to be truely honest, I don t have much

time for my numerous interests, so Mainly i read books in The underground, watching movies while having my dinner and 1 or 2 times in month go to some theatre:), almost All the time is spent for study.

I am a kind of vegetarian :))) I do not eat meat at all, but sometimes I eat a fish. I love animals and wildlife Very much, supporter Green Peace though I do not attend their meetings and demonstrations, I just try to act according to my belief. I do not much like to be engaged in housekeeping, however I am able to prepare for tasty pancakes, you might be tasted some when you were in Russia, and I adore romantic suppers with candlelightes.

Besides I very active person. I adore sports, tourism, travel. I like to open the new places, new people and new interests. Meanwhile I was only in three countries, not considering the countries of the CIS - in Sweden, England and Turkey, my financial opportunities are limited, but i m sure, that in the future this list will be filled up. I adore tourism, almost all last summer has spend in mountains - necessarily I shall send you some photos. Sometimes I like to take a walk on city just thinking and dreaming.

I do a sport called Tae Kwon Do - kind of Oriental combat sports, aerobics, I love ping-pong, a bicycle, rollers, riding (though i m awful rider :)))), I dream to jump with a parachute. I adore picnics and in general I love any active leisure.

I like to go on a visit, and even more i like to receive visitors at my place and to treat them with tasty dinner. I love good interesting conversation over a bottle of wine.

I think myself the integral, purposeful, reliable and obligatory person, sympathetic, inquisitive and friendly. My friends know, that it is possible to rely on me and at any time to address for the help and support. In people I do not like meanness, egoism, callousness and most of all I appreciate frankness, fidelity and kindness.

My astrological mark Balance if u interested, as for me - i do not trust horoscopes.

Also I want to add, that the nationality has no absolutely any value for me, and I have not absolutely understood, that you meant, when spoke about Caucasian women. By the way, I m Russian :))).

Well, it seems like i have written all that has occurred to me :))). I shall wait for your reply With impatience.

P.S. My contact information. I would like contacting by e-mail, u know the address. Also u can call me if u wish, my mobile phone is <snipped>. I do not tell u my post address, because I live in a student hostel and they lose letters very often. And about photos - i will mail it to u as soon as i make some fresh ones"

Likewise, look at this letter from a 16 year old girl in the Czech Republic (formerly Czechoslovakia). Notice how cultured, aware of other cultures, down-to-earth and genuine she is, even though she's just a teen!

"Hi Winston,
how's it going?:-)

Well, both "a" in my name sound like "u" in the word "up" so it's more like "Yunu" or "Yuna" i don't know exactly:-)

In my town there are two parts - the old one and the new one. I live in an old one, it's quite a nice part, there are lots of monuments, beautiful park, chateau, churches, spas (there are just 3 springs but my town was very smart so it got millions euros by EU to rebuild the old unused "spas" and it got a status of real spas) and lots of very old buildings (the house i live in was built in about 1870 and it's far from the oldest house here:-)). The new part is full of ugly blocks of flats and there are also two districts with new houses.

It's just about 100 km away from Prague. I love Prague I think it's one of the most beautiful cities in the world (but maybe i'm a little nationalistic:-)). I go there for shopping, concerts, sports matches etc. there's always something to do (in contrast to my town). I was there just a few days ago and i couldn't believe my eyes...it's just so lovely...when you are there you feel like it's about 15th century. I like it much more than e.g. Paris cuz for me it's quite boring - everything looks the same so it's quite easy to get lost there:-) And a lot of people in france didn't want to speak in english nor german (my friend told me to try to say some words in french and tell them i'm from CR, reputedly they are more talkative if they know you're not german or british:-), but mostly they were nice

I don't know much of Poland, i've never been there, I've just heard Poles are more nationalistic and really proud of their country and Czechs are unfortunately not (they are proud of being czechs only if we win an ice-hockey or football (soccer) match:-) Poles are really more religious than Czechs cuz Czechs are one of the most atheistic people in the europe(maybe the whole world). I don't think it's bad cuz it makes czechs more tolerant about lots of things (s etc.). It's sad people don't like you if you aren't white in poland, i hope it's better here in CR. I mean, czechs are not racist, i think they find people of another colour (black especially:-) all my friends say they love them though most of them know no one who's black:-)) really interesting. But very much of them has an aversion against romanes:-) (I think this is similar in poland and in cr...

I don't know if czechs are wilder than poles, everybody says something else:-) Maybe it depends on what part are you in:-)

How did you get to Poland? And why did you choose it? Where have you been? I want to go there so you could recommend me some places:-)

Well, in my trip to usa I was going to New York first, then to Chicago, "down" (to the south) along route 66 to california (LA of course:-)), and then "up" to Seattle (my dad wanted to see the music museum or something and i wanted to see where kurt cobain lived:-) and then back to cr. Maybe it looks that it's too much for a month visit but my dad's friend perfectly layed it out (how many km we have to travel every day and what exactly we can catch up and see (there was a little trip to Mexico too i think, but i didn't care much of our programm:-))

Czechoslovakia was established in 1918 but Slovaks were always the feeling they are oppressed so we got separated in 1993. Now it's the Czech republic and Slovakia - two small countries instead of one quite large.

I love simpsons, they're funny:-) i think my impression of a fat man eating bigmac comes from this serial:-) I guess i'm also very influenced of movies, travel documents/films, school a little (we're supposed to learn things like industry, political system etc. but my teacher wants to share his travel experiences with me and my schoolmates:-)) and of newspapers (i love to read it but they care much more of europe than america)

I don't mind you quote me in your book. What's that about? How europeans see americans?:-) Will your book be available in europe?

I also hope your essay is easy to read, i really would like to read it. Will you write it on imdb?

That lady's comment you sent me was really amusing:-) I speak with a local American dialect? WOW:-) I still think americans are nationalistic cuz they flag (if i'd try to do this here with the czech flag, people'd think i'm insane:-)) and cuz of that writings on cars and so on like "God bless America" etc. And ALL

Greeks, no matter where they live, are proud of where they came from (greeks in czech r. ,though they've been living here for about 20 years, still prefer greek national "anything" to czech ones and Greece is "the first in their hearts"). Btw it's very bad if it's true what she wrote, that in "ghettos or backwoods neighborhoods" can "extremity" in knowledge be proven, cuz it means you have to be "well-born" american to get a good teaching.

I sent you some photos of my town (i haven't got a photo of me yet but you can send me yours:-)). In the night one you can see a very little bit of the house i live in (it's the last one on the left, you can see about 3 cm of it :-))

Greeting, Jana”

Interestingly enough, if you look closely at the MySpace intro and compare it with Elena and Jana's letters, you will notice that the grammar and vocabulary of the foreign girls, even though English is their second language, is more refined and organized than that of the American girl, whose native language is English!

Now, which of these girls do you think a cultured guy like me is going to connect with better? It's so much more natural and smooth holding a conversation with the foreign girls above, at least for me since I don't live in a consumerist world. I mean I'd love to be able to connect with the typical American girl like the above, but I'm not on their wavelength, and even if I was, they wouldn't accept me cause I'm not their type and not in their clique anyway. When a girl is not cultured and has no inner life, then it becomes all about looks cause there is no way for me to connect with them. But a cultured person would be more likely to appreciate my qualities and value them, of course.

Next, here's an example of a Finnish backpacker I hosted in my home for a few days. Though he's only 22, he's been to around 20 countries already, immersing himself in each culture and its common people. He is very knowledgeable in literature, philosophy, history, science, and can converse on many topics. Plus he knows a lot of tidbits of info that you couldn't find in books. Beside all that, his demeanor and personality is very calm, modest, wise, balanced, steady, and spiritual. He is very evolved, unlike anyone in their 20's in America, and represents perhaps what Americans might become hundreds of years from now in their evolution. In fact, I would say that he reminds me a lot of David Carradine's character in the 70's TV series *Kung Fu*, very similar demeanor and attitude, etc.

When my best friend met him, she was amazed and said he was totally unlike the typical 22 year olds of America, whose conversation is usually limited to sports, car engines, and "Last night I got drunk and wasted man!"

Young people - empty bags of air vs. depth

In America, only old folks and senior citizens are open, sociable, and love talking casually with strangers. Often, little kids are as well. But the mainstream young folks are extremely cliquish with an exclusive vibe/energy about them. They are quite a different lot. And that group is what sets America apart from the rest of the world. Unfortunately, when you're young, your ability to "fit in" with the young people in your country greatly determines how much fun you will have in the conventional sense. Unless you can connect with this group, thrive among them, or find a niche among them, it will be difficult for you to enjoy the wild fun that America has to offer young people.

Frankly, I could never figure out how to connect with the average typical people in this age group in America. (Not speaking about everyone in this group of course, just the mainstream typical types, the middle section of the bell curve so to speak) People that age in general are too cliquish and pretentious. Their lives revolved around an insular world of parties, clubbing, MTV, bands and concerts. And because I'm not like that too, they make me feel as though there is something wrong with me, though it's illogical. Trying to connect with them felt awkward and unnatural.

I asked a close friend of mine why the young adult age group in America is so different from those below and above it. He said that little kids are innocent and nonjudgmental in nature. Then, after entering puberty, they start to have big egos. When they are over 35, they realize that they will never be movie stars and are no longer as desirable, so their egos subside and they start searching for deeper meaning. I would also add that they have more life experience and a broader perspective too, which makes them more open and approachable.

To me (at least in California and Washington) the mainstream young population in their teens and twenties have always been like empty bags of air to me with no depth. Note that I am not referring to all young people in America, but the MAINSTREAM typical young people in this country. I've never figured out how you are supposed to connect with people like that, and I still can't figure it out today. How does one connect with empty bags of air? I've never found any logical solution to this awkward dilemma.

Nowhere was this more true than in the public high school environment, and the club/bar scene, where the most shallow and brainless people hang out. There, no matter how many beautiful girls you meet, it's almost impossible to hold an intelligent conversation with them.

Here is an example of what I mean. These are words of some typical airhead valley girls to their girlfriends on MySpace.com. These are the type of people who are part of the "cool crowd" in America, and fit the party animal scene. In other words, this is how "cool people" talk in America. Not only are the words airheadish to the extreme, but very cliquish and exclusive in nature as well, not the kind of talk a third person can join in on.

"J-TELL!!!!!!!! GIRLFRIEND!!!! i miss u liken ens!!! YOur better be holding it down in BHAM for me MISSAYY.....i cant wait to hang out with you..i wish u were here with us KPJ i mean come on now haha welll my dear have a lovely night babyyyyy!!!!!!!! FRIDAY Night and i belive tomorrow is APRIL FOOLS DAY GIRL!! HAHA U KNOW WHAT THAT MEANS!!!!heheH love ya girl!!!!"

"3/31/2006 4:42 PM

JENNIFER..its official..im comingg to walla wallaa....HAHAHA WOOO HOOO..you let kayla know that...its time TO Getttt wild..i will be arriving..on APRIL 21sts....YEAY im so excited jenn I LOVE YOUU andd i cant wait to see you...haha take me to the wild whitman parties please?? haha...oh LOrd ...maybe we can lie to peopel again and pretend we are twins..or whatever we said..it was funny...hahaN E WAtys jenn..love ya..and im really excited to se you..oH..by the way..I have a permission slip all signed and ready..tell LC hahaha :-)

Jillayyyy

3/27/2006 8:41 PM

hahaha JENNNN..i LOVE you...haha OBTAIN A PERMISSION SLIP?????well MISSYYY...let me tell you..maybe we can just transfer the trampoline permission slip over to the partying one?? do u think

LYD could hook it up??...i thikn she could pull it off...CREWWW.hahahaha oh lord..well yea..im coming...prob this month..sooo BEtter be on the lookout for some..feLLUZzz we cannnnnn Parttyyy it up with“

As you can see their words, tone, and wavelength are very airheadish and artificial. But nevertheless, that's how at the nightclubs and malls talk. It's not just American teens either, as college sorority girls also talk like this. In order to fit into their "flow" you have to adopt the same tone and wavelength, otherwise there's something wrong with you – you are considered a nerd or something.

This problem was the worst when I was in high school. Back then, my peers seemed like empty bags of air to me, so I was clueless as to how to connect with them. No one seemed to understand me, and the school system didn't even care. Hence, I wasn't able to have any fun in high school since I couldn't connect with my schoolmates. This situation always felt weird and awkward all the time, with no logical solution. Can you imagine what it's like waking up and spending all day around people you don't connect with at all? It's a horrible situation especially when you are trying to form a self-identity.

Unfortunately though, since these peers who were like "empty bags of air" constituted the majority of the population around me during high school, that sort of implied in a "democratic" sense that there was something wrong with ME, and that the problem was with ME. But I could never understand how I could be the problem when I was just being my natural expressive self? How could I be to blame? I don't get it. It never made any logical sense and I could not find any pragmatic solution to any of it. It was just an awkward situation that was never-ending and made me feel alienated everyday.

Mainstream typical young people in the states have NO DEPTH and NO INNER LIFE (unlike the rest of the world's youngsters which at least have some) and all they know are parties, bands, concerts, MTV, drinking/smoking pot, and clubbing. Anything beyond that seems "out of range" to them. I don't feel that I can even be myself without feeling like there's something wrong with me because I'm not like them. It's weird and disorienting. I feel like most young people in this country and I are on a different wavelength and vibration density. I don't resonate on their frequency and they don't resonate on mine. Their words, communication style, and vibes seem so surface-level and shallow, to the point where I'm not sure if there is something wrong with me or them, as if being around them puts me in the *Twilight Zone*. It's very awkward to say the least.

In my opinion, the young adult age group in the US is a quirk and the strangest lot on Earth. (Even in Asian or Oriental countries where young people are generally shy, reserved, and closed-minded, at least they have SOME depth in them.)

On the other hand, the young people in most other countries such as Europe/Russia are a different dimension. They tend to have depth, intellect, and a sense of adventure and curiosity. Therefore, I had no trouble connecting with them. I didn't feel like some awkward misfit around them. Socializing and meeting people there was easy and natural, and not an awkward uphill battle like it is in California or Washington. It was very refreshing to discover this and realize that young people around the world are certainly NOT like in America. That's why people like me usually find that they have a lot more friends and a more natural social life when abroad.

I'm not the only one though. These folks describe similar experiences:

<http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=4472>

“Last month I had the chance to converse at length with a young Russian woman who's a graduate student in the US. I was struck by several aspects which were unusual, from my perspective of being in US academia for some time now:

She was friendly and actually made intelligent, interesting conversation about world events, economics, and history. This put her ahead of 90-95% of American students, both graduate and undergraduate, who barely understand how their own Congress works, and think Dow Jones is some guy with a weight problem.

She actually took an interest in me as a person and asked direct questions of my background, experiences, and knowledge. Again, this put her ahead of 90-95% of American students, who seldom show curiosity about others beyond superficial questions.

She dressed better, looked better, and acted more feminine than the vast majority of American women I've seen or met (a big number). In demeanor she's gentle and friendly; without even my realizing it, I felt that being more chivalrous around her was the right way to be. I know that almost any American woman reading this would freak out and call me a chauvinist pig. Well, I've already noted she's smarter and more worldly - so her mind is superior too. And guess what? She's not so insecure that she's constantly trying to prove to me how smart she is (something I try hard not to smirk at when it happens, because my idea of a smart woman is Madame Curie, not Oprah), nor slinking away from a direct discussion of anything beyond fashion, food, butts, or boobjobs.

She was respectful of my time and generosity, and did not take it for granted. Respect encourages mutual respect.

Those were my main impressions after about two hours of conversation. Thank the gods there are women like her in the world. Now I really want to travel.

And I'm beginning to think that a country without women worth fighting for is doomed to implode on itself. Given the historical precedents, this process has already begun..."

"Great observation, when I was in college I had the opportunity to meet a few foreign students from South Africa, Germany and Australia. Guess what? They were smarter than your average American college student (who just wants to drink beer and watch tv) and they actually knew what was going on in the world and seemed interested in me as a person! What me and my roommate noticed the most was how FRIENDLY the foreign students were compared to the American students. The foreign students were inclusive, friendly and open to meeting new people (just the opposite of their American counterparts). Oh and by the way, the German girl I met was WAY better looking than most of the girls on campus and she acted and dressed like a lady as well! Very Happy"

"Yes, that's a pattern that my experience corroborates with - overseas students in the US are usually better behaved, more intelligent, and have stronger character (e.g. wisdom, empathy, self-control) than their American peers. Of course, such students are typically in the top 5-10% of their native culture's young people, otherwise they wouldn't have the resources (scholarships, connections) to travel for study.

However, I still think I am comparing apples to apples, because less than a quarter of US citizens get a college degree, and my observations are from higher-ranked universities as well. That is, even the supposed top 10-15% of US students are a notable cut below their international peers, from outer characteristics (beauty isn't just skin deep, but dependent on nutrition, medical care, and physical exercise) to inner (education, ethics, refinement, self-control, self-awareness).

It's still amazing to me that there isn't more concern about these trends in this country, but then again that can't be too surprising given the complacency (We're #1!) and narcissism (You deserve it! And you don't need to work hard for it either!) US culture encourages."

And one of my young readers noted upon moving to Spain:

"Since moving here I have made more friends in the first month of my being here, than in the last 6 months of being in the U.S. People in the U.S. tend to ignore flaws and put shove their strengths in your face, rather than work toward refining themselves, and work towards a greater understanding of others as well as themselves. It also saddens me that so few Americans lack even the slightest desire to travel to other countries to just see what it's like out of America, often some are worried that if they took a vacation, they might lose out on a "promotion" or raise... the rat race syndrome...."

When I was in Europe/Russia, I never felt insecure, vulnerable, or alienated because for the first time in my life I was easily able to connect with mainstream young people, which gave me the sense of self-

worth and confidence I had always longed for. I finally felt like a normal person, accepted and appreciated. In contrast, in the US, if you can't connect with young people or people your own age, you can't help but feel insecure about it because it tells you in a sense that there is something wrong with you. Unlike in America, in most other countries, you can just be yourself and feel appreciated.

(In addition, I paid some visits to public schools as a guest speaker representing my culture in both Russia and Europe. There, I noticed that the students were well-behaved, respected each other, and didn't bully others. My friend who saw this on my video tape jokingly remarked "If you had grown up there, you might not have become so dysfunctional.")

Mainstream young people in America are not the only choice in the world, and they are not representative of young people around the world either, thank goodness for that. In Europe/Russia for instance, the young people seem to be at a much more similar DENSITY with mine. They seem to have depth, it's easy to connect with them, and I don't feel awkward around them. Instead, I feel natural, comfortable, and able to be myself without feeling like I'm different or something.

What's odd and complex about this is that even although my education and culture is from the same base as those of the mainstream young in America, my vibrational density is different than theirs. But on the other hand, though my education is different from European/Russian young people, my vibrational density is much more similar to theirs. It's an odd and complex mixture, but that's what it seems to be.

Fortunately, among many Europeans/Russians that I met, I found that they could empathize with me about not being able to connect with young people in America. Many who have been there and came back felt the same way, or knew others who did. That helped validate my feelings and experiences in this matter. In fact, some young Spaniards told me that when they were in Iowa as exchange students, people had little to say to them other than "*Hey, what's up?*" Sad, but true.

During my many months in Europe/Russia, almost everyday I made new friends and dated beautiful women. Almost EVERYDAY! It was so easy and natural. In California and Washington though, I have gone for weeks or months without meeting anyone I could connect with or meeting any new real friends! People there just don't want to meet me, and it is way too hard and awkward to try to connect with people. What a huge difference. It shouldn't be that way, but it is. In addition, life in American suburbs is so isolating since people spend their time inside cars and houses all the time!

For some reason, mainstream Americans (particularly young ones) have this weird vibe about them that makes me feel vulnerable, insecure, awkward and lonely around them. It's like their aura makes me feel lonely, alone, vulnerable, separate, and alienating. This might be difficult to explain to those who don't feel the same, but that's the best way I can put it. I would imagine though, that it probably has something to do with their persona being individualistic and separatist in nature, to the point where their egos are spoiled into becoming separated shells unable to truly bond with others, and having to resort to merely humoring others in group situations.

On the other hand, people in most countries have a persona that is communal and less individualistic so I feel more normal, natural and sincere around them. In fact, this may surprise you, but even when I am alone in other countries, I don't ever really feel lonely because the vibe there is so communal in nature that I never feel "separated", isolated, cut off, alienated, or outcast. Instead, I feel that I'm always part of the environment and people (demonstratable by the fact that I can meet people anytime I want in most extra-American environments). In contrast, in North American environments, I feel that loneliness and isolation is the DEFAULT condition that I constantly have to struggle against. Weird indeed.

I have no idea how to connect with mainstream young Americans, never did, and it feels awkward to even try. I've never been able to find a formula or technique for doing so. I'm not on their wavelength at all (mind you, we are talking about the mainstream middle of the bell curve range people here, not everyone) and I have no @#\$% idea what frequency they're on exactly, nor how to attune to it. In addition, being around them makes me feel unsure about my identity, and always has, as if the threat of an identity crisis is looming overhead. Very weird indeed.

What's funny is that I've been acquainted with thousands of people in this world in a variety of ways, am very versatile, and have no trouble connecting with diverse groups, all except young mainstream Americans. With them, I'm totally clueless as to how to act, talk, behave, and feel. Usually, I am very good at sizing up people in

general, attuning to their wavelength, reading them, gauging where I stand with them, finding things in common, building rapport, etc. but when it comes to mainstream young Americans, I am totally paralyzed and don't know what to do. They are a different dimension of being that I cannot attune to or blend with, and thus I feel an awkward vulnerability and identity crisis around them. To me, they are like conceited, spiteful, haughty, unconnectable empty bags of air. (and with a very uncultured bland accent and speaking style to top it off, e.g. valley girl voice as portrayed on MTV's *Laguna Beach*)

There simply is no formula, system, or method in psychology or sociology that has been able to solve this riddle for me of how to attune to the frequency of mainstream young Americans. All the conventional communication skills and conversation tactics don't seem to help me connect with them or build rapport. They are simply unconnectable to me. To me, they are the one unfathomable quirk in this world.

Nightlife: America vs. Europe, Russia, Latin America

In America, the nightlife is nowhere near as exciting, lively, active, and mainstream as in Europe, Russia or Latin America.

In the US, only big cities have a decent share of nightlife. But in the small towns and suburbs, "nightlife" usually consists of a few bars where there are few if any women, only a bunch of redneck/hick guys, trying to drink away their problems and sometimes acting rowdy.

Now, the dance clubs and discos of the US are popular with women, so the male/female ratio there is much more even. However, to me it matters little, for when you are totally shut out and excluded from the dating in America (as me and many guys are), it's irrelevant where they are. Besides, many of the women at those places aren't there to meet people, but to huddle with their girlfriends and clique members in the corner. Plus, the women at nightlife in America tend to be superficial types and delinquents too.

In fact, in the USA in general, the types of people who frequent bars and nightclubs are known to be low quality, superficial, and delinquent, in other words "bad people". That's why dating books tend to advise against going to bars and clubs to meet romantic potentials.

On the other hand, in other parts of the world, such as Europe, Russia, and Latin America, going to bars and nightclubs is much more mainstream. Good quality people, not just the "bad folks", frequent them, making the nightlife scene a much more healthy and inclusive place. This is one difference I noticed.

Also, the variety of nightlife in those areas is much greater, livelier, more creative, and more inclusive than in the states. Many Americans just don't know what they're missing.

Reader comments:

- "AMEN!! yep-- I just came from cali, colombia in june, and im returning in decembre. incredibly good looking ladies, and very very warm and outgoing--you cn chat with them in a restaurant, in the street, etc. for every guy, there around 6 women in the street. this is a statistic that is factual. someting like 1-7 ratio.

viva cali :)"

- "And one more thing. In the US you take your clique and you go to a disco. There you dance with your clique.

In other places, you go to discos to MEET new people. That is the difference."

American Culture/Life = Hype + Consumerism

In the old days, America had a pioneer/cowboy culture of frontier expansion during the days of the Old West. But now it's been reduced to nostalgic remnants of the country and Western films. Nowadays, modern American "culture" is basically an **industrial culture** consisting of two primary ingredients - HYPE and CONSUMERISM. These two elements pervade almost all facets of American life, all for commercial purposes.

This consumption culture has little or nothing to do with reality and substance. Instead, everything is hyped up beyond substance and reality for commercial purposes. The US economy lives and thrives on hype, a mere illusion of advertising to attempt to psychologically create the desire among the populace for the goods and services being sold. The hype of course, serves and perpetuates our lifestyle and routine of PERPETUAL CONSUMPTION without end, which is encouraged as well.

This is exemplified everywhere in advertisements, commercials, billboards, strip malls, mass media, etc. We are programmed to think that being able to buy things leads to happiness and fulfillment. And we are infested with this "more is better" mentality that fuels more soulless consumerism. Everywhere in America, the message and motivation is BUY, BUY, BUY in excess consumption! And in fact, in most of America, there is nothing to do but go to strip malls where one BUYS and CONSUMES everyday in a neverending routine. The US lifestyle simply offers little else.

It's no wonder that my Greek college buddy used to always say to me that, *"All people do here in America is consume, consume."*

To see an obvious example of excess consumption in America, go to a typical home and look in the garage or basement, and notice the excess of things stored there that are never used, making moving a total pain in the ass. As ancient wisdom goes, too much of anything is never any good.

Somehow, our notion of freedom and culture has been twisted and defined by consumerism, as one observant 19 year old male noted to me:

"Most Americans have such a warped definition of freedom and think that the U.S. is a cultural melting pot, it makes me sick to know that culture for them is going out and buying anything. Most all brag about what they buy or purchase, even if they do it in different ways. I've heard women go on about how they spent \$200 on a pair of jeans, and being more proud of the money they spent than the actual product themselves. I've heard others brag about how they bought a huge quantity of items, but then justifying it, because they were on sale, and then they never end up making use of what they bought in the first place."

The problem with the American lifestyle is that people consume more than they need to and they work more than they need to. They both go hand-in-hand. Excess consumption means excess production, which in turn leads to more work and jobs to be done. Plus, if you consume a lot, then you have to work more to make enough money to keep up that lifestyle. The thing is though, that neither are really necessary. We are simply programmed to think it's necessary and act on it.

Some socialist authors have postulated that there is enough productivity in this country for everyone to work only 3-4 hours a day, yet maintain the same lifestyle. But the reason we don't is that the powers that rule production and resources in this country do not wish us to, for if everyone had that much more free time, they'd start to think on their own, organize grass root movements in their own interest, and upturn the status quo. In other words, they know that a revolution of the people would be much more likely if everyone had that much more free time. So, they prefer you to always work at least 8 hours a day so that you'll be so tired at the end of the day, that all you can do is lounge off on TV the rest of the night, becoming a passive observer rather than a participant. That's how the ruling class in America maintains a slave labor to keep doing its job.

Though excess consumption is supposed to lead to happiness and fulfillment, for many it doesn't, so they are left confused as to why they feel empty and flat when they should be happy for being allowed to consume to their heart's content. Hence they wonder "What is wrong with me?" rather than see a problem in the whole hyped consumerist system, which they've been programmed to think as the perfect epitome of life. And of

course, our system's train of thought is that anyone who doesn't fit into it or find fulfillment in it is "the problem" rather than the system itself.

One reader gave a spiritualist perspective on this:

"No one in America can be real b/c they believe (through upbringing and society) that who they originally were as children is bad or corrupt or guilty or whatever term you'd like to use (the ole' expulsion from Eden thing). Capitalism says basically that your salvation is in consumption - fill your self hatred with products. Essentially, all you are is a body so pacify it. We're pathologically extroverted. No inner world, only the Maya of appearances (in Hindu mythology)."

Our society even goes so far as to encourage that greed is good, and that your aim in life should be to make as much money as possible. What doesn't make sense is when American capitalists claim that capitalism is based on Christian values, which they've been doing since the founding of America. Firstly, capitalism teaches that greed is good, while Christianity teaches that greed is bad. And capitalist creed teaches that the purpose of life is to try to make as much money as possible out in the "free market" of supply and demand, while Christian teaching demands that one forgo one's own will and submit to God's will, obeying his teachings and commandments, living a holy life and walking in "righteousness". Obviously the two couldn't be more different.

What most Americans don't understand is that having more or becoming richer doesn't make one more happy or fulfilled. Instead, it increases their desires and wants in direct proportion to compensate. When one becomes a multi-millionaire, instead of being satisfied with a \$500,000 house, they now want a \$10 million home. Or, if you suddenly won a million dollars for example, you'd enjoy it for a fleeting while, but it wouldn't be long before you'd start to dream and fantasize about having 10 million, so you could do a lot more. The level of satisfaction is about the same, and if one has too much then their standards can become so hard to please that they are constantly unsatisfied. Therefore, wants and desires are not ended by consumption, only fueled to greater degrees.

Not surprisingly, this survey found that increased wealth did not equal more happiness for Americans.

<http://www.commondreams.org/scriptfiles/views03/1229-09.htm>

"The survey, which has studied happiness since 1945, finds it has not increased in Europe and North America even though the societies have become wealthier. The desire for material goods, it concludes, is "a happiness suppressant."

Personally, I don't sense that Americans, even the rich ones, are all that happy. They mostly feign happiness while feeling empty inside, cause they think they are supposed to be happy and entitled to it, so they fake it even when they aren't feeling it. It's no wonder then why so many foreigners find American smiles and behavior to be artificial and contrived. **Many experienced travelers have told me that the happiest people in the world are not those who have too little or too much, but those who have just enough.**

As New Age motivational speaker Dr. Wayne Dyer explained, *"No matter how much you satisfy your ego's desires, no matter what great things you give it, it will ALWAYS have a new list of wants the next day."* ("101 Ways to Transform Your Life" audio version) And he urges us to inquire of ourselves, *"The ego thrives on the notion that 'more is better'. Ask yourself this, 'where is the peace in 'more is better?'" and you know the answer. There is no peace in 'more is better'. And if it doesn't bring you peace, then you want to discard it."*

In addition, the world of perpetual consumption and instant gratification can lead to psychological dysfunction as well, as Jeremy Rifkin reports on in his book [The European Dream](#), page 31:

"The desire for instant gratification, when combined with a sense of over-empowerment and entitlement, can create a volatile emotional mix. The narcissistic personality type is generally less able to handle life's many frustrations, and more prone to anti-social behavior, even including using violence to get what they feel they deserve and are entitled to."

On the other hand, in Russia/Europe, one is encouraged to cultivate their inner life and passions rather than merely indulge in perpetual consumption. And that's why the average person in that part of the world has a rich inner life, varied interests, and broad knowledge, while the average US citizen programmed for perpetual

consumption remains wired out in excess after being overstimulated by hype without substance, with little or no inner life.

In my observation, foreigners tend to be happier and more genuine than Americans. One obvious indicator is the overwhelming need that many Americans have to bring other people down using anything they can, to bring themselves up (myself included). Obviously, people who are happy don't have a need to bring others down. It's people who are unhappy deep down or that carry serious baggage in their psyche that do such things (like me, since I'm a dysfunctional product of our country). Another is the high ever growing proportion of insecure people and how easy it is to go insane in America, as our highest rate of mental illness in the world demonstrates. Something in American society and especially American women, make me feel insecure for some reason, as if some kind of energy is forcing me to feel vulnerable against my will!

After being in Europe/Russia for over a year, I can certainly tell you that although Americans are richer in money than Europeans/Russians, the European/Russian people definitely have RICHER SOULS than the American people do. In general, Europeans/Russians are much much more open and easy to connect with. And they seem much happier too.

Fortunately though, some people, such as this woman, do wake up from the American dream (illusion):

"Well, that just about sums it up for me. I have no interest in living a shallow, materialistic life. I do need money and a certain comfort level, but I don't need a Prada bag, an SUV, etc. and the credit card debt that goes along with this. Money can either give you freedom or create more enslavement. I want the former. My dream is to find a country where it is cheap to live, safe and has a value system not based upon such superficialities. A place where the money I have saved will go far, and I won't have to worry about getting some job that will kill my soul. What is the point of life? Certainly not to acquire useless possessions which are only status symbols, and to work your ass off to accomplish this. There is an old story of the Fisherman and the Investment Banker which is very relevant. If you don't know this one already, go to <http://www.bluinc.com/free/fisher.html>

I have traveled quite a bit, been to most of western Europe, Turkey, Morocco, Costa Rica, Mexico, Belize, Jamaica, Kenya, Tanzania but have much more traveling to do. With the weak dollar I don't want to live in Europe as I am not filthy rich. As a woman, I don't want to live in the Middle East or Africa. Unfortunately the paranoia about safety which you have spoken of is well ingrained in me, as an American woman. While I am happy to adventure travel, I want to settle down somewhere that is very safe. My research has me thinking that my next trip should be to Argentina, where the dollar is strong and as a Caucasian looking person (I am actually of mixed heritage but look very white) I will not stick out like a sore thumb. I don't speak Spanish, but I am very bright and can learn. America is slowly killing me, please help me come up with a plan of action. Somewhere my dollar can go far. Somewhere I can be myself, a warm loving person. Somewhere where the first question asked of me is "what do you do for a living?" My other thoughts are of Peru, Panama, Honduras, Brazil, Venezuela, Thailand, Vietnam, and Utila in Honduras. I wish I bought in Costa Rica years ago, now it is so expensive. I want somewhere with a stable government. I am looking for a permanent move.

America is going to shit. I am scared about the economy, I am scared about the oil situation, the extreme weather I see happening. So maybe somewhere outside of the Hurricane Belt. Somewhere I can begin to feel safe again and detox myself from all of the brainwashing done by the American media. Well, at least the terror alerts aren't going off every five minutes anymore, code yellow, code red, whatever. That was all done to purposely put Americans in a state of fear, and the terrorists as well as the US government and media are to blame. Well, I am just a nice young woman. I don't want anything to do with any of this. I know that I don't want to have children here and raise them in this crazy culture. I don't want them to have the same issues that I do. I don't want to have to worry about money. If I move to somewhere low cost then that won't be an issue. More important than the money concerns I want to go somewhere where I feel some type of community and live a pleasant life where human relationships are more important than what kind of watch I am wearing. Please don't disclose my name or e-mail, I am still a paranoid American woman. But please, if you can help point me in the right direction to start changing this, I would be very grateful."

Reader comments:

- *“Absolutely! I have often thought exactly the same thing about why Americans are so busy. And, if you think further, you see that much (most?) of the work is simply the bureaucracy that is needed to keep it all going! Imagine if people just grew food, made clothes, built houses. Basic stuff. No paperwork. No telephone calls, documents, rule books, building codes, board meetings, regulatory oversight committees, skyscrapers...*

But would we be happy without our cars, TVs, computers, cell phones, airplanes? It's all interconnected. You can't have a car without having 100,000 other things.

Of course, excess and unnecessary consumption is a closely-related problem, which I try to avoid.”

Propaganda vs. Real Life in America

"America is a country that is built for doing business, not living life."
- an Asian American Expat in Europe

"Everything you wrote in your treatise is precisely to the point... It took me a while to realize that there was a chasm of difference between the media picture of America and real life, but when the truth hit home, I felt very disappointed and empty. I even had a lapse of self-condemnation as I thought the problem was in me. I have gotten over it now and can see clearly. Your writing puts all the pieces of the puzzle together very well." - [Yuri, Russian immigrant](#)

As we all know, the media propaganda image in America is that our country is a land of freedom and opportunity where anyone can be what they want to be, live their dreams, be the best they can be, become rich and successful, and live the American dream of owning a home. This idea is incessantly conveyed by our culture, media, education system, and political establishment. It is a necessary illusion to keep everyone functioning in their place. And we are selectively fed success stories of individuals who thrive here rather than of those who don't.

However, despite this image, here's the big picture about how things work in America and how people live. The reality is that in America, only a few people truly live the American dream. Those at the top who control the flow of economic resources and production capital (in socialist philosophy terms, they are referred to as the "haute bourgeoisie" class) are also the ones who get most of the resource flow even though they don't need it. And it's not just with the CEO's. The top sports players and top Hollywood stars in this country who get 20 million dollars per film or per season are easily getting extraordinary amounts of money that they don't even need. That's how things have always worked, especially in a capitalist country. Karl Marx's prediction that capitalism would fail might have come true if a middle class hadn't been created in this country to act as a buffer between the upper and lower classes, stabilizing the system, giving the low class an incentive to move up higher so they don't overthrow the elite. (Some intellectual historians have even argued that colleges and universities were created to create a middle class. e.g. Zinn, Chomsky)

In reality, the majority of people in this country live in slavery to their jobs just so they can keep up with never-ending bills and make ends meet. They never live the American dream. And the myth of "individual freedom" for all in America is just that, a myth, perpetuated to appease and motivate the masses of people, making each person feel important. Most people in America work at least 8 hours a day at a full time job, and what little time is left at the end of the day is spent at home with their families, making dinner, getting children ready for bed, and then going to bed to start the next day the same way again. **There isn't really enough time for people to develop themselves intellectually or spiritually.**

The life of the typical married American man

In fact, here is what the typical life of the typical married man in America is like, as I would describe it:

"He has a wife, some kids, a mortgaged house, two cars or SUV's, many bills to pay, and a stable job to support all of it. Each morning, he and his wife get up, get the kids ready for school, make coffee, and then they both go to work (or at least he does). After a 8-9 hour workday, he comes home and tries to relax in front of the TV, but often has very little time to do so, because he might have to help make dinner, talk to his wife and kids (which usually consists of clichéish pep talk around the dinner table), help do household chores, help the kids with their homework, get the kids ready for bed, and then go to bed himself, often still exhausted. The next day, the same routine simply starts all over again.

On weekends, he gets a little more freedom, but not by much. Instead, he has to spend a large part of the weekend catching up on household chores, cleaning the house, or doing yard work. If he can manage to do a family outing, it is often too stressful to enjoy. Not only does he have to constantly watch and discipline the kids from getting out of hand, but he has to think about his budget for the family outing, driving and planning where to go, humoring the kids, lecturing them and giving them clichéish

pep talk, making sure his wife is pleased with the outing too, and making sure they get back home in time before the kids' bedtime. That's why these family outings are usually exhausting and more stressful than fun.

Sometimes, he and his wife also go out to social events sponsored by schools, companies, churches or the community. But even then, these events tend to be rigid, routine, dull and cliché. In addition, around the people at these events, he puts on a contrived pleasant face to be polite, regardless of whether he likes them or not, and others at the events do the same to him as well. People at these events don't deeply enjoy them. Instead, they simply pretend to. Deep down, they know it is just a light distraction from the routine monotony of their daily lives.

In the background of all this are the constant pressures and demands of the bills he has to keep up with as well as the savings he has to allocate. He has to deal with the big house mortgage payments, utility bills, taxes, car insurance payments, medical insurance bills (unless his company pays all or most of it), food and gas expenditures, credit card bills, entertainment/luxury item expenditures, the needs and wants of his kids and wife, etc. In addition to all this, he has to also try to save up some money for his retirement or his kids' college fund.

Each day that goes by, each week, each month, each year, etc. is pretty much like the above. That's life for him. Eventually, he may start asking himself "Is this what life is all about? Is this all there is?" Then he may start feeling like a robot leading a mechanized life with no freedom. Not only is he a slave to his company, but he is a slave to his wife, kids, house, cars and bills as well. Sadly he learns that there is no true freedom in all this. Not only is this life routine and stressful, but mind-numbing as well. Eventually, he may start to long for the life he had before when he was single and could do whatever he wanted without his current stresses that enslave him. He may long for the time when he was young and single and could choose from many paths in life without anyone tying him down, as well as his freedom to pursue or love conquests with new and exciting women. He may still love his wife and have affection for her, but the romance and passion may be long gone, and they stay together simply for financial commitments and for the sake of the kids. In fact, he may even start to envy the life of the traveling backpackers to overseas countries who, although are poor and on a budget, nevertheless live a life of adventure and mind-expanding freedom.

To cope with this mind numbing routine and stress, he may find ways to distract himself. He may seek acceptable forms of escape such as becoming a sports fan and watching football, baseball, or basketball. These spectator sports provide a temporary distraction from his inner emptiness. Or he may develop other hobbies such as reading, or becoming a handyman on cars and houses (like Tim Allen does on the sitcom Home Improvement). And of course, he must constantly convince himself that his life has meaning because he is doing what God and his country told him he is supposed to do by raising a family, and that it is all for the good of his kids and wife who are depending on him. No matter how dull, stressful, or mind numbing his life is, that's what he has got to tell himself every day in order to tolerate and endure his conditions."

The above is a sad grim picture but this is the case with many American males, and this is all underreported by our media of course. Some may find this routine lifestyle comfortable, but others loathe it because they realize that their minds and souls will never be expanded by it, but instead contracted into robotic conformity without freedom.

Even some American women and suburban soccer moms living the American dream feel the same way, as in the case of this lady who wrote me:

"Dear Winston:

I have never responded to a blog before or whatever they are called. I found your essay about american consumerism on planet essay and was inspired to write to you.

As I read your essay I felt like you were telling my story, except that I am a 40 year old female living in Malibu with a husband and two kids. Sounds nice right? Many days I feel like I am living a life of a prisoner. In my twenties I lived in Italy, France, and Belgium. I have been to Switzerland, Austria, Germany, Spain, Turkey, Russia, Indonesia, and Luxembourg. I felt so alive, so free. Now what? My

life is exactly like you described in your essay. I feel stuck. I am a full time mom with a nanny to help. I have read every spiritual book out. All I seem to do is long for my twenties. My husband is all about materialism and staying at 5 star hotels (many days I just feel suffocated by our marriage). I long for the way I used to be. I feel as though I have gone to the point of no return because I have children who rely on me.

Do you have any advice?"

(My response: Not really, unfortunately. You just have to find every opportunity you can to do what you love and try to maintain a healthy balance between your other priorities, as well as a workable compromise. In the meantime, you can try to live vicariously through people like me ☺)

Our "culture" is completely based on HYPE and CONSUMERISM along with EXCESS CONSUMPTION. Life is all about what you can BUY next. And that's why mainstream Americans do not seem as evolved or enlightened as mainstream Europeans for example, to put it bluntly (no offense to anyone intended). Europeans in general obviously have a lot more soul and intellect than average Americans, particularly among the young population.

In reality, there are few redeeming qualities to living in America other than making money and consuming. Besides that, the rest is mostly fake and artificial. This is well known to many foreigners, immigrants and even some Americans. In fact, here are their real life opinions, which are quite common, but in the world of the US media of course, they don't exist.

First, a Russian girl from Moscow had this to say about moving to the USA:

"To be honest i don't like usa at all, i can move there but only if it is strongly needed (if i fall for an american). Many of my friends was there(with families or for student exchange Work&travel usa) and say something similar to: "they have no culture, but the money... money and nothing more is interesting for them", Doesnt sound inspiring.."

Next, an Asian American reader gave this conclusion of life in America:

"Winston,

Interesting to read your writing on America....after 20 years living on the US, I gradually have come to a similar conclusion. Now I tend to see US as an extremely luxury prison, and experience life here as a shell, hollow with little content except if your life is all about making money or being fully committed to a career...

Regards,
*** ****
NJ"

Interestingly enough, a Russian immigrant who read an earlier version of this treatise, had a bout with self-condemnation before he becoming enlightened:

"Anyway, to cut a long story short, everything you wrote in your treatise is precisely to the point. I am a Russian who has lived in the States long enough to know. I came to the country expecting to find some flavor, as I had been able to do in France and Germany. Alas, what I ran into was a sea of blandness.

I took me a while to realize that there was a chasm of difference between the media picture of America and real life, but when the truth hit home, I felt very disappointed and empty. I even had a lapse of self-condemnation as I thought the problem was in me. I have gotten over it now and can see clearly. Your writing puts all the pieces of the puzzle together very well."

And an African American man on my list vociferated:

"You can tell most people in other parts of the world are more cultured and morally more disciplined than most Americans. Most Americans think possessing material wealth is being cultured, and that they

are socially more superior than other races...What an ILLUSION in their mind!!... They unfortunately so believe their illusions they fail to realize they are dead WRONG! North America is good to live in if you like to acquire material wealth period! And that is good provided you do not lose your morals of human compassion and relations."

Similarly, a Russian American male immigrant I know had this to say in response to my observation that US women are the least friendly to strangers and the most paranoid in the world.

"Hey Winston.

It is good you noticed the difference. But it is not only women it is all Americans are very different. Americans have empty eyes. Even those people on TV. Because there is no soul in this country only money."

Back in college, a Greek friend used to often tell me:

"Americans have no inner life. All they do is consume!"

Suffice to say, an "inner life" isn't something that can be quantified or described with mere words. Those who have it know what it is. And those who don't have one, can't see one with a mere description.

Perceptions like in the above are a lot more common than you might think. I've heard many such views from US immigrants, foreigners, and Europeans. In fact, I'd estimate that about 80 to 90 percent of Europeans feel that way about our lifestyle.

You might wonder why if so many immigrants in the US have such opinions, that they stay. Well the explanation is sad and simple. Humans have a propensity to get into a "comfort zone" even when they don't like where they live, don't fit into the culture, or become enlightened about it. If you have a daily routine set up, as long as there are some benefits of convenience, it's easier to do nothing and just maintain it, than to make drastic changes to your life which could entail starting your life over from scratch. And of course, where one lives usually brings obligations into one's life that are hard to break due to the aforementioned reasons. In addition, the immigrants often have family members (e.g. their children, spouses, or parents) who are settled in the US that further tie them there. So you see, the "if you don't like it, then leave" mantra is much easier said than done.

In America, people judge their lives by their career status. On the other hand, Europeans judge their lives by the richness and variety of experiences they've had, as well as their inner life. (I tend to share the mentality of the latter of course.)

In some European countries, in work situations you get 2 hour lunch breaks and 6 hour work days, ending around 4pm or so. And you get a LOT more time off throughout the year. Health insurance is also free. Also, it is less anal. In the Middle East, I heard that you would almost have to commit a felon to be fired (in contrast to how American companies fire people easily for any reason, often just for "bad chemistry" with the management or difference of style). And even if you didn't show up for work, all they would do is dock your pay. You could come back later and have your job back.

The obsession with work in America is so strong that you don't even get the kind of holidays you get in the rest of the world. For instance, for New Year's, the rest of the world gets 7 to 10 days off for their holiday. But in the USA, you get either one day off, or none at all (e.g. if New Year's Day falls on a weekend, oftentimes you get no days off). The US economy hates holidays because they are too costly, resulting in huge losses of profit, which it considers to be more important than allowing people time for themselves. Most employees, if they have a decent job, only get a week or two paid vacation a year.

The fear of being poor in America is also unusually strong, contributing to the obsession of career and making money. And perhaps because the consequences of being poor in the US are far worse than in Europe, as one Dutchman observed:

<http://boards.straightdope.com/sdmb/showthread.php?t=371485>

"What I have noticed as a difference between the USA and the Netherlands, though, is that people *need*

to size one another up for the economical gain they can bring each other. Rich people in the USA are very rich, but poor people are much poorer than in the Netherlands. Poor people in the USA often have to work several jobs, and so they have neither time (for making friends), money nor social standing. Plus they see rich people around them all the time, plus they live in a culture that blames them for being poor. Poor people in the Netherlands have either time (if they're unemployed) or they have money. And having money in the Netherlands is far less of a requisite for social standing than in the USA. In short, being poor in the USA is much, much worse than being poor in the Netherlands.

Add to that that it is far easier to really hit rock bottom in the USA. And rock bottom is really hard there. And bare. And the flipside of the American Dream is that everyone can hit Rock Bottom, anytime. All it takes is a stroke of bad luck. So people feel the necessity, both for themselves and their families, not to let resources slip away, by spending time with people who can't offer about the same level of support they can offer them.

Another aspect is that Americans just work damned hard, long hours. They need to, to make the money it takes to live up to a certain material standard. They have precious little time with their families as it is. Far less time than is standard in most countries in Europe. European countries have their shorter distances and shorter commutes. More holidays. Competition is less fierce, so less of it trickles down to employees, who can get by with having to make less overtime and less unpaid-I'm-proving-myself extra effort."

Now, America may be a country founded on great ideals and principles about democracy and freedom. But the way people actually live in America is quite different. Most people spend most of their time in cars, houses, and corporate buildings. They have no time or interest in cultivating their soul or intellect. And the few who do cultivate their souls or intellect are seen as geeky and nonconformist by the majority of adherents to the system.

When our society constantly perpetuates excess consumption and material desires with hype, our general focus becomes on the outward rather than the inward. People are judged based on what they have, which creates their status. As a result, we lose touch with our inner selves, have no true self-confidence/self-esteem, and therefore have fragile egos dependent on outer things and material possessions. It's no wonder then that in general, I notice that people abroad have richer and refined inner lives than Americans.

In the US, most people see life only in terms of making money, buying things, and surface practicalities. There is no spiritual or intellectual dimension in their lives, and no "inner life."

When one has no inner life and totally depends on the outer, as most Americans do, then when things in the outer life go wrong or become stagnant, one becomes disrupted as well. Such a person is vulnerable, a victim of circumstance with no inner foundation to rely on. As a result, one is left to having to resort to feigning outward happiness, rather than have true inward happiness. I've heard it said that there seems to be an inverse relationship between inner happiness and material assets. In fact, according to studies, the country rated with the happiest people in the world is Nigeria, which is a poor country by materialistic standards.

Americans generally live mind-numbing lives in mind-numbing environments (especially in suburban America) that do not cultivate intellectual or spiritual growth. Contrary to the US propaganda about itself, in reality the American lifestyle for the most part is MIND-NUMBING and ISOLATING. All most people pretty much do is go to work and watch TV at home. They have few real interests. So much for the American lifestyle. There aren't many experiences or interactions to expand your mind and soul like there are in other countries. As a result, for people like me who seek to expand their mind and soul, the American lifestyle constantly SUFFOCATES us. Its conformist culture CONTRACTS one's mind and soul rather than EXPANDS it (hence those who feel suffocated by this contraction do not feel free to be themselves in America).

And nowadays (especially in Las Vegas) the entertainment and pleasures offered in America are mostly artificial and commercial, rather than natural or soulful.

Instead of filling people with substance or reality, it instills them with consumerist hype. America is a generally stable and conformist-oriented country so its economic system is dependent on people who rigidly conform to it. It is the kind of country where those who can't conform and/or are misfits are deprived of almost everything, while those who conform well are rewarded. And differences are treated and seen as taboo (despite our propaganda) rather than as attractive or interesting.

In order to keep them motivated with these conditions, people in the US escape into TV at the end of their days. They are encouraged to go to church (as black slave owners in the 19th century also encouraged their slaves to go to church, using religion to give them something to live for and feel content in their position so they wouldn't rebel), read self-help/New Age books, go out and buy material things (sometimes on credit) that give them a temporary fleeting sense of satisfaction, indulge in junk food, and are given daily network media entertainment in the form of television shows that are complete trash in quality and substance. These are all ways that our society distracts and stimulates the majority of people so they can maintain their meager existence in a mind-numbing consumerist society, serving the interests of those at the top.

Many people in the country feel empty, and seek distractions in shallow stimulation because they don't know what else to do. Some don't even realize that they feel empty, because they just get keep busy distracting themselves with something. And plus, you aren't *supposed* to feel empty if you have a job, house, and family, which represent the ideal life. You are *supposed* to be fulfilled by being able to buy things, hence the consumerist hype-driven culture of ours. Nevertheless, many in the US live a thin line from becoming depressed or mentally ill. I don't blame the American people themselves for this. It isn't their fault, but rather the system they live under. Like everyone else, they are just trying to make the best out of their circumstances according to the system set in place.

It's no surprise then that those who thrive on the intellect or soul often struggle and feel alienated in mainstream America, because the lifestyle, environment and conditions don't cultivate such things. Instead, they cultivate a staunch conformist and materialistic consumerist mentality. Just look at the general cookie-cutter architecture in America such as suburban homes, strip malls, corporate buildings, franchise stores, etc. and you will see that it all symbolizes and represents a conformist creed and mentality. America in comparison to other countries seriously lacks both culture and soul. It's all about hype, consumption, and conformity. Most people's primary interest is money and business, and their youths are wasted slaving away for the production capital owners just so they hope to retire in their 50's or 60's. Also, the school system in America is designed to prepare children to become dollar commodities, rather than helping them grow as human beings at all. And that's because in America, people are judged by their productivity to the economic system.

In America, CONFORMITY is the bottom line. It is at the root of its modern society. Not freedom or individualism as we've been taught (though we perceive ourselves as individuals), but conformity. America by the world's standards is a very orderly country with strict controls and planning. With so much "control", little room is left for freedom. The materialistic system in America from every angle pretty much PRESSURES and DEMANDS us all into CONFORMITY. Whether it's conformity to your school, workplace, team, peers, friends, etc. the fundamental underlying principle in American life, business and politics is conform, conform, conform! Otherwise, you are in danger of feeling unaccepted and inadequate, as if you're not a complete person, which is what most people fear.

In the US, the whole vibe is one of conformity to work, home routine, and shopping. There is this insular mentality of the establishment and those indoctrinated by it that anyone who doesn't conform to a routine or permanent job of the "system" has mental health issues. It's as though to many, nothing exists in the universe outside of work and education. Go to a local employment office (I used to work in one) and that's the mentality there, that a human is nothing but misery unless he/she has a regular job, and that nothing else is relevant. That is f@#\$ed up in my view, and unintellectual as well.

Ironically, though mainstream Americans are conformists to the system, they see themselves as individualistic. Such may seem to be a discrepancy, but perhaps it depends on your reference point, as I'm sure average Americans do not see themselves as conformists. Instead, they see the way they "conform" to the system like zombies as simply the way of normal real life. Perhaps their sense of individualism is a delusion. It depends on your point of view, but one person explained the seeming discrepancy to me like this:

"Americans are individualists in the way they pursue goals- they do not work well in groups or pairs. They like to do each one his own thing. So, they meet for convenience and then split each one going his own way.

Conforming is in the way one speaks and dresses and acts. But goals are something totally different."

If you look at the big picture of how things are in America and the lifestyle of mainstream people, you will see how the principle of CONFORMITY is at the root core of almost everything we do. And that “individual freedom” and “self-expression” is just hyped illusion that has nothing to do with how things run here. There is very little room or reward for true creativity or self-expression in America. As a consequence, the environment and social conditions we live under in America force you to adopt a conformist mentality, rather than a creative one. There are at least several reasons for this. One, America is one of those countries where people don’t generally like those who are different than them (though politically, they pretend to). Two, pragmatically, an individual alone does not have the resources or power to really do anything, even to survive. Instead, the individual must join and CONFORM to some type of COLLECTIVE body, organization, or group with such resources that will support him/her in order to function or achieve anything.

One of the places where this is the most true is in corporate America, where conformity is the bottom line. Within corporate America, you can easily sense and smell the vibes and energy all around that spell “*conformity, conformity, conformity*”. There’s no question about it. Unfortunately, those who can’t conform or don’t know how to, are too individualistic or expressive, are not considered “a good fit” and consequently thrown out to become losers with no income. In fact, it’s usually true that those who are able to conform their wavelengths and lifestyle to an organization or corporation have a much easier time financially and making ends meet, while those who have problems conforming usually have constant financial problems and face a constant uphill battle to make ends meet. **Therefore, those who conform are rewarded while those who don’t are punished in America.** That’s why I say that America is all about conformity. And that’s why our public schools try their best to make students conform to their system, even if it goes against the kids’ nature. It’s simply for their own good.

In fact, conformity is even more important than honesty. And contrary to the old adage, honesty has never been the best policy. In fact, more often than not honesty gets you into trouble and is used against you. But conformity gets you much farther. What this means is that being yourself can get you into trouble, but pretending to conform gets you accepted. That is a very sad state of affairs.

Even my own dad, who has always led a very stable life, admitted that I was right about this. In an email, he wrote:

“Dear Win,

I totally agree with this. Conformity is the key to success and acceptance in this society, not right or wrong, not so much about being yourself, or unnecessary honesty.

Dad”

In addition, even after conforming, in order to keep your job, you pretty much have to center your life around it and make its needs your top priority. The reason is pragmatically obvious. If you don’t live and breathe your work and center your life around it, your company will simply replace you with someone who IS willing to do that. It’s as simple as that. In order to compete, thrive, and expand in the American economy, the company has to have employees who are willing to live and breathe their job. And in order to insure your long term economic stability, you’ve got to place your company’s needs above yours. In effect, you are forced to be a servant for your own good. That’s how it is.

Now, I don’t mean to over-generalize here. I know that America is a diverse place, but in the big picture of things, that is how it is. And to make things worse, most people in America don’t like people who are different than them which fosters the need to conform even further. Perhaps the conformist mentality we are forced to adopt in America contributes to a general dislike of what is different? Who knows. But it’s especially true in California where I grew up. There, even among the diverse populations of minorities (whites are now a minority there, by the way), most people prefer to affiliate and date only within their own race, making it one of the most racist places in the world socially speaking (though not politically speaking of course).

On a related point, the few who thrive in this system are given all the praise and glory, whereas those who don’t thrive in these conditions are PERSECUTED, directly and indirectly, in many ways. They are made to feel inadequate, since they are compared to others who thrive, and deprived of resources and social status. They are also told either directly or indirectly that there is something wrong with them. It’s an unfair ungodly punishment on those who don’t thrive or fit in or find a niche in our society.

This constant psychological pressure is what makes our egos in America so fragile since we are constantly compared with others, forcing us to compete with them in order to prove our worth rather than accepting and loving ourselves as we are. That is one of the unacknowledged costs of capitalism despite the benefits. In capitalism, there are only winners and losers. Someone must be exploited. It's an inherent part of the system. And as already discussed, the second contributor to our fragile egos is our dominant focus on outer material wants, which causes us to lose touch with our inner selves which might otherwise have given us a rock solid inner confidence under our egos. This combined with our individualistic isolationist values make it even worse, causing mental illness, loneliness, and many to be dysfunctional. Our economic system and culture is Darwinistic in nature. Those who thrive are rewarded, while those who don't are unfairly punished and/or persecuted, and not because they did anything wrong. Many artists and creative people, unfortunately, fall into this latter category.

In fact, I think that nowhere else in the world are people who don't fit in are stripped of ego and self-worth the way they are here (by society and culture, not by the government). It's no wonder that we have the highest rate of mental illness in this country, and that most of the serial killers in the world are from America too. Do you think that's due to pure random coincidence? I don't think so. It's due in part, simply because no one country or economic system brings out the best in everyone. Contrary to what American propagandists say about our country being the ideal land where "all" people have a better life and can make their dreams come true, the reality is that America brings out the worst in some people. It's just a fact of life and a fact of nature.

Competition is the basis of our culture and economy, and therefore becomes our mentality as well. This means that people either have money, or they are striving to be better than everyone else. This competitive mentality eventually leads us to become more "stuck up" toward others than we would otherwise be. We evaluate others in terms of their worth, and compare ourselves to them. This creates a rivalry mentality that leads fellow human beings in our country to see each other as opponents or adversaries. And sadly enough, having a lot of money and material possessions changes your attitude toward others, making you more spoiled and "stuck up".

On the other hand, countries like Russia are accustomed to a more socialistic system that is less individualistic and competitive in nature. Therefore, people's mentality and attitude are going to be different obviously. In poor countries, people don't have as much money and material possessions, so therefore they are not so spoiled and "stuck up" as people in capitalist countries. What they lack in material assets, they make up for in personality and soulfulness. It's a simple trade-off here. In the US, it's vice versa of course. Therefore, it is not realistic to expect them to be the same as us (and thank goodness for that). And that's one reason why people in general in Russia are more open and friendly. Therefore, the major factor in why Russian women are so much friendlier and open has to do with the economic/social system they live under and the mentality it produces, and not because they are desperate to leave their country.

Let's face the dreaded brutal reality here. In America, everything is all about MONEY, MONEY, MONEY. It's always the bottom line, no matter how you try to sweet talk around it or look at things through rose colored glasses. Now I'm not saying it's all everyone thinks about. What I am saying is that it pretty much CONTROLS, RUNS, and GOVERNS everything that functions, runs, operates, etc. in life and society. Not that it should be that way of course, but that's how it is. The power of the almighty dollar rules in our society.

In America, you are literally forced to "live for money". Deep down in our SOULS, we know that it SHOULDN'T be that way. In our spirits, we know that God did not intend for life to be all about money. But the problem is, that's how things ARE right now. That's how things are set up to run and operate in this world. It's part of a global large scale system that everyone has to conform to. So we have to live and deal with it. We have no choice but to conform to it in order to live, function, pay bills, feed our families, have free time, do what we want to do, and retire someday.

A Lithuanian critic of America named Valdas Anelauskas observed:

<http://www.geociti.es/CapitolHill/Senate/1120/article1.html>

"I see that in this cutthroat society, based on a "greed is good" philosophy, unlimited profit seeking, selfishness, fraud and greediness for money dominates everywhere. Money is absolutely the bottom line for everything. In America, the rich are truly rich and the poor are hopelessly poor. In my opinion, the United States today has the most advanced system of private tyranny."

He further concludes:

"I am of the opinion that American capitalism is incompatible with humaneness. Moreover, this inhumane system has led to the moral bankruptcy of American society, which has bred the alienation of people, breakdown of families, enormous crime and the drug epidemics."

And one of my eloquent readers vehemently stated:

"This country is based on the "all, not so mighty dollar". It makes me sick to my stomach. We are taught from the beginning to go to school, get a good education so you can find a good paying job so you can acquire as much useless debt as possible and pay the rest of your life. Even then, the cars, houses etc don't belong to you because you only receive a deed or a certificate of title. The government owns it all. Many people here don't believe it but I always ask, Why do you pay property taxes every year and why do you have to have a drivers license, with insurance, registration and inspection. The answer I get, "It's the law". What law? The law only exists in your minds if you realize that everything applies to your corporate body and not your natural person(human being). Most people don't even have a clue and look at you strange when you say this. American people in general are the most plastic people in the world literally. I mean, it seems just about everyone lives on credit. I did for a while and found out the truth and stopped paying on my own credit."

Elaborating on the assertion that not only are Americans "plastic" people, but that they live on "plastic" as well, he writes:

"What people around the world don't understand is that America has been bankrupt since 1933 and everyone lives on IOU's or credit. Hell, our own money supply is funded by a private corporation known as the Federal Reserve and has nothing to do with the US Government. The truth of the matter is that the American people have been put up as collateral for the national debt by means of our future labor. Don't believe this? Look at any bill, statement, government document or anything that has to do with commerce and see how your name is written. You'll find it all written in all upper case letters representing a corporation in which is nothing more then an artificial person or a front. The upper case name is for legal purposes which are color of law, color of office, color of authority, all artificial. In fact the UCC (Uniform Commercial Code) was developed because of the fiat money system we have here. Since we have Federal Reserve Notes in which a note is a promise to pay and not actually money, they had to come up with a system to tie the artificial person with the artificial money supply. It's all smoke and mirror's and the majority of the people have the least clue as to what's really going on. I laugh when I hear that America is probably the richest nation on earth. Sure it is if you call credit being rich, owing and owing for the rest of your life and then passing it down to your next to kin. I could write 8 hours on whats going on and back every word of it up. It's all on the internet and all u have 2 do is search. Later 4 now."

There is this laughably ridiculous notion in our country that Capitalism is based on and supported by Judeo-Christian values. Nothing could be further from the truth. Anyone with even a surface knowledge of the two could see that there are some obvious fundamental conflicts. Capitalism teaches that greed is good, benefiting the economy and oneself, while Christian teachings and Bible passages clearly teach that greed is bad, wicked, and leads to destruction. Also, Capitalism teaches that selfishness and profit motive is good, and that one should win at all costs, while Christianity teaches selflessness, humility, giving up worldly desires, and servitude to the Lord. A Bible passage even says that it is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of Heaven (Matthew 19:24) which clearly does not support the greed of Capitalism. And neither does Matthew 6:24 *"No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon."*

So why do the Capitalists in this country try to pretend that they both support each other? It seems like a pathetic attempt to reconcile the irreconcilable.

Perhaps at the root of this problem is an outdated ideology that amassing wealth and private property equals freedom, an idea borrowed from the European Enlightenment era of the 18th Century. Jeremy Rifkin explains this in his book [The European Dream](#), page 158:

"Most of my European friends and acquaintances are quick to ridicule America's love affair with "the almighty dollar." "All you Americans think about is money" has become a standard mantra in virtually every opening discussion about the American character and the American way of life. In reality, the American condition is more complex. It's not the money per se. Rather, it's the search for personal security that comes from being propertied, the belief that our possessions will make us free. For many Europeans who have opted for less wealth and more play, the American obsession with creating propertied wealth appears more like a kind of pathology. They say that "our possessions end up possessing us."

But the point is, it was the American people that became the purest advocates of the European Enlightenment idea that equates private property with freedom."

Clearly, America's culture, lifestyle, values, and mentality are almost completely materialistic in nature. The country is almost completely controlled and run by industries of mass consumerism. These aggregate industrial powers in America control everything - capital, resources, jobs, politics, your lifestyle, your freedom, your values, your culture, etc. in more ways than you know. Their power, control, and influence are completely insurmountable. They're here to stay, and there's nothing anyone can do about it.

In many cases, the US no longer has to use military power to conquer other nations. It can just control them economically in a variety of covert ways to get what they want out of them, using propaganda as excuses to do so. As a result, the other countries of the world, in order to compete, are also forced to adopt more materialistic values and consumer-driven systems as well. Already, much of Asia has fallen into a highly materialistic-driven lifestyle and mentality, e.g. Hong Kong, Japan, Taiwan, Korea, etc. while Europe, Russia, South America, and Africa generally still have very soul-driven, cultured and family-oriented mentalities and lifestyles, fortunately. In other cases, the US gets involved in secret covert operations to overthrow governments and regimes in the interest of corporate greed.

Therefore, we can conclude that the US has led and made the world much more materialistic minded than it once was. That's one of the reasons why so many foreigners and intellectuals dislike or are critical of America, which our media never ever talks about. Our media NEVER broadcasts any counter-culture viewpoints, ever, but only viewpoints which are conventional, cliché, politically correct, and that reflect a materialistic mentality (it would probably be over the typical media puppet's head and intellect to do so anyway). Therefore, there is almost no diversity of viewpoint broadcast in our media, contrary to the diversity that exists in real life.

Some think that this is all a good thing of course, with all the technological improvements and comforts that US capitalism has brought. However, in my travels and experience with people, materialistic people are just not as evolved, interesting, happy, or pleasant to be around as non-materialistic people. And don't think I'm alone either; a lot of people I've met have similar observations. Also, having a strong materialistic lifestyle and outlook is the antithesis to the soul and intellect. Furthermore, what is the point of slaving away your whole life just so you can have freedom in your retirement age? The precious years of youth are wasted in such conditions. It makes no sense, and almost no one in retrospect is glad they did so. These issues are subjective of course, but that's my opinion on it.

In many other countries, people are focused around culture and family solidarity. However, America's foreign policy, economic influence, expansion, imperialism, etc. over the world, is attempting to convert the rest of the world to be like us (under the false guise of freedom and democracy). Our foreign policy makers and propagandists think that we are the role model for the rest of the world to copy and emulate.

Valdas Anelauskas, mentioned earlier, wrote a very vehement treatise against US foreign policy and its aims here: <http://www.geociti.es/CapitolHill/Senate/1120/america31.html>

Hence, the rest of the world is becoming consumption driven, materialistic minded, and capitalist in structure. Eventually, people in other countries will also be forced to center their existence around money and career too. They will have no choice. And it will be all in the name of "progress". It's a sad state of affairs. But that's what the mechanized impersonal capitalist systems that control the flow of all resources and capital is turning the world into. Just look at how things have developed in the world over the past century, and you will see how obvious this is.

It looks like Alex Jones and David Icke were right about the “New World Order” taking hold on the world through Western imperialism. What they and other conspiracy leaders have warned and predicted has come to pass.

Anyhow, these are among the valid reasons why US culture and influence is disliked and abhorred by many foreign intellectuals, especially European. They see its industrial culture and economic system as a mindless powerful machine that destroys the mind, soul, and environment. (See [Industrial Society Destroys Mind and Environment](#) by a researcher in India) And even worse, it poses a dangerous threat to the world by enforcing its influence to bring about the same to other nations, which many object to.

My Expat Advisor stated:

“While it may not be sophisticated, American culture is not bankrupt in the financial sense. It is very powerful. It is ousting all the other cultures from where they are. Hollywood movies dominate the airwaves and US fashions dominate the world. And it is up to the people to choose and the young people around the world are crazy about American cultures, fashion and food. No other culture is as powerful nowadays.”

Jeremy Rifkin, writes on our outmoded international appeal in [The European Dream](#), page 16 - 17:

“That’s why it saddens me to say that America is no longer a great country. Yes, it’s still the most powerful economy in the world, with a military presence unmatched in all of history. But to be a great country, it is necessary to be a good country. It is true that people everywhere enjoy American cultural forms and consumer goods. Rap music, action movies, and other forms of entertainment, as well as our brand-name clothes, are eagerly snapped up around the world. America is even envied, but it is no longer admired as it once was. The American Dream, once so coveted, has increasingly become an object of derision. Our way of life no longer inspires; rather, it is now looked on as outmoded and, worse yet, as something to fear, or abhor.”

Now, on a deeper note, I happen to believe in karma, and also in the Greek and Chinese saying that “everything should be in moderation”. I surmise that extremities when prolonged, eventually collapse and result in a major toppling shift at some point. History has shown this, since in reality, nothing can have unlimited growth. Eventually, growth must collapse in order to make way for new growth cycles. Such is simply the law of the universe.

Hence, our extreme “life is all about money” principle is too unnatural to sustain forever, and that at some point eventually, there will be a radical reformation or revolution of the status quo of some sort, whether karmic or material in nature. In other words, the prolonged imbalance of all this must inevitably cause some sort of upsurge of the status quo, whether socially, spiritually, or economically. The system we have is just too unnatural and imbalanced to sustain forever in my view. I am not trying to make any specific prophecies here, just my general observation on the big picture of things.

However, change is never easy, and the psychological/cultural obstacle that America faces in an increasingly global world, are, according to author Jeremy Rifkin:

[The European Dream](#), page 23:

“It’s going to be very difficult for Americans to adjust to a borderless world of relationships and flows where everyone is increasingly connected in webs and networks, and dependent on one another for one’s individual and collective well-being. What happens to the American sense of being special, of being a chosen people, in a world where exclusivity is steadily giving way to inclusivity? Does God really care less about the whole of his earthly creation than he does about the North American part? Europeans might find such a conjecture funny, but, believe me, many Americans remain wedded to the notion of our special status as God’s chosen ones. If we were to give up that belief, or even entertain doubt about its veracity, our sense of confidence in ourselves and the American Dream might experience irreparable harm.”

Page 83 - 85:

“THE TUG BETWEEN EUROPE and America goes even deeper than questions of personal opportunity and quality of life. What really distinguishes the comings and goings in Europe and America today is

that Europe is busy preparing for a new era while America is desperately trying to hold on to the old one.

What we are going to find, by retracing European history, are the roots of the American Dream that we discussed in chapter 1. Although historians rarely allude to it, the reality is that the American Dream represents the thinking of a moment of time, frozen in European history and transported whole cloth to American shores in the eighteenth century, where it continued to animate the American experience right up to the present day.

We Americans like to think of ourselves as forward-thinking, with our attention focused on the distant horizon. However, our worldview, strangely enough, is locked into a specific period of time long since passé by in European history. In short, the American Dream is a very old dream and becoming increasingly irrelevant in the new era of globalization."

Mr. Rifkin though, offers hope in the new European Union:

[*The European Dream*](#), page 13 – 14:

"The American Dream puts an emphasis on economic growth, personal wealth, and independence. The new European Dream focuses more on sustainable development, quality of life, and interdependence. The American Dream pays homage to the work ethic. The European Dream is more attuned to leisure and deep play. The American Dream is inseparable from the country's religious heritage and deep spiritual faith. The European Dream is secular to the core. The American Dream is assimilationist. We associate success with shedding our former cultural ties and becoming free agents in the great American melting pot. The European Dream, by contrast, is based on preserving one's cultural identity and living in a multicultural world. The American Dream is wedded to love of country and patriotism. The European Dream is more cosmopolitan and less territorial. Americans are more willing to employ military force in the world, if necessary, to protect what we perceive to be our vital self-interests. Europeans are more reluctant to use military force and, instead, favor diplomacy, economic assistance, and aid to avert conflict and prefer peacekeeping operations to maintain order. Americans tend to think locally while European's loyalties are more divided and stretch from the local to the global. The American Dream is deeply personal and little concerned with the rest of humanity. The European Dream is more expansive and systemic, and therefore more bound to the welfare of the planet."

Discuss this article here: <http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=6759>

See also:

[The Industrial Culture of America and Automaton Populace](#)

[Debunking the Myth of Freedom and Democracy in America](#)

[The Big Lie: Why America is all about Control and Conformity, not Truth or Freedom](#)

The Industrial Culture and Automaton Populace of America (Understanding the European perspective of America)

Introduction

I've written this essay to help others, especially Americans, understand how most Europeans view America, and why they are so critical of it (most of them agree with the contents here). Some of these viewpoints also reflect, I believe, how many Americans feel, but are unable to find the words to express it or are afraid to. (Note: If at any time while reading this, you wish to accuse me of stereotyping or generalizing, or you wish to protest that you know exceptions to what I describe, [click here](#))

A culture of hype and consumerism

In the old days, America had a pioneer/cowboy culture of expansion during the days of the Old West. But that's been reduced to nostalgic remnants of the country and Old West films. Nowadays, modern American "culture" is basically an **industrial culture** consisting of two primary ingredients - HYPE and CONSUMERISM. These two elements pervade almost all facets of American life, all for commercial purposes.

American culture has little or nothing to do with reality and substance. Instead, everything is hyped up beyond substance or reality for commercial purposes. The US economy lives and thrives on hype, which is a mere illusion of advertising to attempt to psychologically create the desire among the populace for the goods and services being sold. The hype of course, serves and perpetuates our lifestyle and routine of PERPETUAL CONSUMPTION without end, which is encouraged as well.

This is exemplified everywhere in advertisements, commercials, billboards, strip malls, mass media, etc. We are programmed to think that being able to buy things leads to happiness and fulfillment. And in fact, in most of America, there is nothing to do but go to strip malls to BUY and CONSUME everyday in a neverending routine of hyped consumption. The US lifestyle simply offers little else.

It's no wonder that my Greek college buddy used to always say to me that, "*Americans have no inner life. All they do is consume, consume.*"

In the US, most people see life only in terms of making money, buying things, and surface practicalities. There is no spiritual or intellectual dimension in their lives, and no "inner life."

Excess consumption=excess production=excess work

The problem with the American lifestyle is that people consume more than they need to and they work more than they need to. They both go hand-in-hand. Excess consumption means excess production, which in turn leads to more work and jobs to be done. Plus, if you consume a lot, then you have to work more to make enough money to keep up that lifestyle. The thing is though, that neither are really necessary. We are simply programmed to think it's necessary and act on it.

To see an obvious example of excess consumption in America, go to a typical home and look in the garage or basement, and notice the excess of things stored there that are never used, making moving a total pain in the ass. As ancient wisdom goes, too much of anything is never any good.

Though excess consumption is supposed to lead to happiness and fulfillment, for many it doesn't, so they are left confused as to why they feel empty and flat when they should be happy for being allowed to consume to their heart's content. Hence they wonder "What is wrong with me?" rather than see a problem in the whole hyped consumerist system which they've been programmed to think as the perfect epitome of life. And of course, our system's train of thought is that anyone who doesn't fit into it or find fulfillment in it is "the problem" rather than the system itself.

Some counter culture authors have postulated that there is enough productivity in this country for everyone to work only 3-4 hours a day, yet maintain the same lifestyle. But the reason we don't is that the powers that rule production and resources in this country do not wish us to, for if everyone had that much more free time, they'd

start to think on their own, organize grass root movements in their own interest, and upturn the status quo. In other words, they know that a revolution of the people would be much more likely if everyone had that much more free time. So, they prefer you to always work at least 8 hours a day so that you'll be so tired at the end of the day, that all you can do is lounge off on TV the rest of the night, becoming a passive observer rather than a participant. That's how the ruling class in America maintains a slave labor to keep doing its job.

Stagnation of mind and soul in a culture of assimilation

The problem with mainstream life in America is that the lifestyle and daily experience do not expand your mind or soul (unlike the culture and environment in Europe). From childhood, the system basically conditions you to be a robot, a "happy slave" to the system. If you refuse to conform, you are punished with deprivation of your financial and material needs. **In essence, you are forced to choose between becoming a robot or a bum.** It is difficult to choose a third path, and one must rise above the system to do that.

In daily American life, not much happens to you personally. Time just passes and life is wasted in mind-numbing mechanistic routines of work and hype-driven consumerism to perpetuate the stability and expansion of the industrial forces that dominate the country. These forces also seek to control the rest of the world, often overthrowing foreign governments and regimes due to corporate greed. Let's elaborate on some of the factors at work.

Although America tries to pretend to be a multi-cultural melting pot of diversity to appease its many ethnic groups, in reality it is a culture of assimilation with no real culture left (notwithstanding a few cities, e.g. New York, San Francisco, New Orleans), at least not by the standards of the rest of the world. Instead, it's basically a giant "industrial machine" of mass production and consumption, seeking to dominate the world and make all in its path serve its interests.

Even foreign immigrants who come here lose their culture, as they become immersed and "assimilated" into the gigantic industrial culture of modern day America. Those who "assimilate" into the industrial culture are rewarded with a mechanistic automated life of non-expression and hype-driven overconsumption, while those who don't are labeled as misfits and losers, who will be left behind in the "rat race".

Regulating self-expression in an automaton society

Those with a strong need for creative self-expression often feel suffocated in corporate America, instead becoming starving artists, actors, musicians, small business owners, hippies, or living some other poor Bohemian lifestyle. Thus, while America boasts freedom politically and legally, there is no true freedom of the SOUL, something much more abundant in European cultures. On the contrary, life in America stagnates and stunts the growth and development of the soul as conformity to an industrial culture and materialistic mentality is forced upon you.

What most Americans don't know and don't realize is that the industrial corporate forces that control everything in the country, NEED them to be automatons, without self-expression or critical "out of the box" thinking, and therefore set up the conditions to make and keep them that way so the industrial structure of this country can prosper and stabilize. To maintain the status quo, free expression needs to be squelched to keep the lives of the populace as automaton-like as possible. Since America is a generally stable and conformist-oriented country, its economic system is dependent on people who rigidly conform to it. Rather than encouraged or taught to think, we are simply **plugged into the system like an automaton.**

Most Americans don't realize this because they've never stepped outside of it like I and others have, so they think that it's "the universe" and nothing else is outside of it. But as in the "Cave Analogy" by Plato, some do escape the shadows on the cave wall and step out to see the light, but of course, the national media, owned and funded by corporate industrial interests, never give them an outlet to present their viewpoints.

One way corporate America forces its citizens to become automatons is by discouraging and banning any kind of self-expression in the workplace (ok at least you're allowed to hang pictures of your family in your cubicle), allowing only conformity to the corporate structure. With no freedom of expression in corporate/industrial America, there are no true outlets to expand your mind and soul. There is only freedom to move up and down the corporate ladder (or sideways). Thus, Americans are conditioned to define themselves by what they do and judge their self-worth by it.

To quell the human need for self-expression and provide an outlet for it, the American population gets to see actors, entertainers, and athletes express themselves in movies, television, and professional sports. These forms of entertainment allow the automaton populace to have a canned, controlled, form of expression. In effect, the automatons who spend the day as slaves to corporate America can "express" themselves by identifying with movie stars. It's no wonder that Americans idolize movie stars so much that they read tabloids about every scoop about their personal lives, more so in comparison than people in other countries do. You would think that if they had more interesting and fulfilling lives, they wouldn't need to, but they don't, sadly and unfortunately.

And as for youngsters, they are given a wide barrage of extremely elaborate interactive aggressive violent video games to allow them to vent their energies (aggression for males) in yet another form of senseless entertainment that provides more distraction from critical thinking or community development.

What this does is turn the population into passive observers (as globally acclaimed author and critic of US media, Noam Chomsky, has noted in his publications). Instead of critically thinking about their lives and society, being aware of what's going on, their attention and energy is vented through outlets such as the above, which serve no threat to the hierarchical power structure of this country, diffusing any possibility of revolution.

(See an index of articles about corporate power and New World Order here <http://www.newdawnmagazine.com/Articles.html> or listen to Alex Jones or David Icke on YouTube)

In addition, the American population is bombarded relentlessly by daily mass advertising in many forms, turning them into zombies whose only inclination is deciding what to buy next. All of this is done to keep the automatons in line to buy what is produced as much as possible, resulting in overconsumption far beyond necessity.

Our mainstream media has almost no diversity in viewpoint. The closest they come is picking out issues they consider important (but rarely have anything to do with our personal lives), and presenting the pro and con sides of them. They never present any counter-culture, intellectual, free-thinking, or "out of the box" (and in this case, the box is very narrow and tight) views, dissertations, or opinions. Though a proportion of the American populace has such views, discussing them in personal communications/conversations, the public media invalidates such them and denies their existence by never presenting them nor giving their advocates a say on the air.

Instead, our corporate network media wants us to believe that only views that strictly conform to the industrial culture exist, and that anything outside that tight box is inappropriate, weird, or even creepy. They assume that everyone watching is a workaholic, lives for consumption, and has a rat race mentality. That's the vibe they give, and it's very anti-intellectual. Anything intellectual or "out of the box" of their propaganda is ignored in the network media's universe. Hence, they help condition the American populace to be brain-dead conformists with the illusion that they are unique individuals.

Michael Goodspeed, a good friend of mine, made eloquent points about this in his article *My Brain Is Not Silly Putty*:

<http://www.rense.com/general68/mybrain.htm>

"I repeat, powerful people want to mold your mind to fit their self-serving interests. They are salesmen, you see...and the products they are selling are ignorance and egotism. Useless entertainment such as gratuitously violent films, video, and professional sports thrive in the U.S. because consumers have been programmed to use them as a vicarious means for ego empowerment. The unspoken attitude of many is, "I want badly to be someone, but I know this won't happen in the real world. So I lose myself in the fantasy of entertainment, where I can identify with anyone I want -- a pro athlete, a rock god, or even a serial killer."

The corporate "bottom-liners" who own the media have a VESTED INTEREST in creating collective and individual mental illness. The more contracted and disturbed your mind is, the more product they are going to sell. Just as it's easier to mass-produce junk food than to nurture and grow organic health food, it is easier to sell ignorance and egotism than truth and beauty."

Segregating and dividing the populace to prevent revolution

Another way to maintain the power structure, keep people as automatons, and prevent any form of revolution is by segregating, dividing and isolating the population. Those in power in this country know that for real change to occur, it would require mass grass roots movements from large segments of the population. In order to diffuse that possibility, they divide and segregate the population in a variety of ways to prevent collective bonding that would pose as a threat. Scholar and US critic Noam Chomsky writes about this in his works, as well as other free thinkers.

The following are just a few examples: Mainstream people in the suburbs are isolated in their homes, living in their own world. Neighborhoods lack any real sense of community or togetherness; many live for years in their homes without ever getting to know their neighbors. Life in America is too busy, cliquish and anti-social for much community interaction anyway. And in addition, our media perpetuates paranoia among the population against strangers, making us even more closed and cliquish.

In fact, I would say that out of all the countries I've been in, US society is the most cliquish, anti-social, paranoid, and closed toward strangers I've ever seen. I'm not saying that there are no friendly people in America, but there is definitely something peculiar that makes Americans limit virtually all social interaction to within their clique, ignoring all outside strangers. You might think that is normal if that's all you ever grew up with, but when you see how people are in most foreign countries, you will understand how abnormal that really is. Most Americans have no idea that most of the rest of the world is not like that, since they have nothing to compare it to, so they assume that the rest of the world is the same. But thank goodness it's not.

In most parts of the world (not just according to my experiences, but those of many others as well) you can just walk in out of nowhere a total unknown, yet meet a lot of people, get dates, and have fun. But not so in the US. No way. Social interaction there is oddly limited to within cliques. People fundamentally don't meet people outside their clique. It's just not within the unspoken social boundaries (which you can feel strongly in the vibes even without any evidence). You gotta WORK HARD to meet people. It doesn't come naturally, smoothly or freely. You gotta "prove your worth" to break in or be accepted by a social clique, and even then you'll only know a few people. And that just sucks for an expressive people-person like me.

In the states, to have a "life", you have to be part of the "in crowd" or else you're nothing. And if you're not attractive or desirable by the cultural standards here, then you'll never fit into the "in crowd" anyway, which is extremely limiting.

In contrast, the social scene in Europe is much more free spirited and expressive, compared to the canned, cliché nature of the social scene in America. Whereas the day ends for most Americans at 5 or 6pm who become deadbeats afterward, the social day begins at 5 or 6pm for many Europeans. A total contrast.

All of these unnatural conditions cause some in the US to feel lonely and isolated, which often leads to insanity or some form of psychological dysfunction, as well as weight problems and obesity. It's no surprise, since isolating and segregating people the way American society does is unnatural to human nature, creating all sorts of imbalances. And obviously, some can't cope with it (and they are told that there is something wrong with them). It's no wonder that we have the highest rate of mental illness in the world, and indisputably the biggest weight problem on the planet.

Lack of curiosity and interest in the outside world

The above, in part, is why Americans are known around the world as the most ignorant of global geography (amazingly many can't even find their own country on a global map, or their own state on a national map). And most Americans don't even know who the leaders of their neighboring countries, Canada and Mexico, are, nor who the governors of their neighboring states are! These things are unheard of in Europe, for example. On the average, they are not well-read, cultured, or developed intellectually. Since the conditions they live under don't allow them to expand their minds or intellects, they simply lack any curiosity or desire to learn about the world or travel internationally. Instead, they simply live according to the mechanistic routine set up for them, with their only inclinations geared toward consumer consumption. Anything that isn't relevant to that is ignored.

Conclusion

The preservation and perpetuation of these national industrial structures and systems, contributes to America

being the richest and most powerful country in the world. It's not because of the principles of our founding fathers, nor due to democracy and freedom, but due to an extreme "live and breathe" version of corporate capitalism, forcing the mass population into a robotic existence without imagination or freedom of expression. (See also [Industrial Society Destroys Mind and Environment](#) by a researcher in India)

Some of course, are happy and thrive in this kind of system. However, for free-spirited, open-minded people who are seeking to expand their mind and souls, the industrial culture and systems of America conflict with their inclinations and suffocate the very essence of who they are. This is one reason, I think, why "freespirits" (alternative crowds, bohemian artists, hippies, intellectuals with counter-culture views, etc.) in America tend to be mentally unstable and emotionally unbalanced. They are seen and treated as such because they don't conform to the industrial culture and don't behave in an automaton way. Thus, they come to believe it themselves, subconsciously forced to view themselves as misfit losers, defective and maladapted to society, culminating in a self-fulfilling prophecy which leads them to act that way (perhaps that's why most hippies in the US smoke pot regularly). On the other hand, "freespirits" in Europe, I've noticed, tend to be the way they are while remaining stable, mature, reliable, and organized. It's no surprise since they are told that they are normal, healthy, and not weird. (Hence, dress styles in Europe are way more creative and expressive than in America)

What's not taken into account though, is that ancient wisdom has taught us that extremism in any form is never a good thing. The ancient Greek and Chinese sayings of "everything in moderation", as well as the Chinese principle symbol of Yin Yang, which requires opposite forces to be balanced and unified in order to achieve harmony, indicate that such an extreme capitalistic system as ours would result in unhealthy imbalances of sorts. Perhaps that's why we have the highest rates of insanity, obesity, etc. in the world among industrial nations.

Although most Americans are not able to view life in their country from the viewpoint I espouse above, those who are well traveled or have integrated themselves into several foreign cultures, are better able to relate to the "wavelength" I'm coming from in this essay. The reason for this is what most never thought of. When you are out of America, you are able to see everything in it from a much more clear and apparent viewpoint than when you are in it. Those who are less traveled simply don't know this and haven't experienced this. As it is in a personal relationship, when you are out of it, you are able to see it from a more detached and objective standpoint, allowing you to see the "bigger picture", than when you are in the midst of it.

The above factors explain, in part, why most Europeans despise and are critical of America, its unhealthy way of life, power structure, and industrial imperialism. They simply don't want their life and culture to be tainted by it, and the morbid consequences that come with it which undermine their freedom of expression. **With an outside objective view, they see America's industrial culture as the destruction of the mind, soul, environment, and rich culture.**

While the average American centers his life around career status and the accumulation of wealth to retire as soon as possible, the average European centers his life around cultivating mind, body, and soul. Though the European lifestyle is not always as luxurious as Americans, it nevertheless is richer in soul and culture, allowing much more freedom of expression and expansion of mind and soul. As they say in Europe, "*Americans live to work. Europeans work to live.*"

And so folks, these reasons help explain why I spend so much time abroad. It's just too easy to go insane in America, coping and keeping up with the unnecessary and unrealistic pressures. I value my sanity and peace of mind too much to keep up the false bravado image our culture idolizes vainly.

Even among Americans are a growing number of people who can see this, as this man rants:

"..... as anyone who has ever been to Europe will know, the Europeans are FAR more cultured than Americans. Just saying the phrase "American culture" makes a lot of people laugh - McDonalds, shoddily-built wooden houses, rap music, "big is beautiful" people and throw-away goods. What European in their right mind would want to move from a country with cultured people, castles and houses made of stone, and a strong sense of history into this artificial, fake, "free" (don't make me laugh) junkyard of a country where every second building is made out of sheet metal? Third, I think we can all agree that America has not become more friendly, tolerant or attractive a nation since 9-11. Quite the opposite, in fact. I, personally, am always looking around for a second country to call home for when things get REAL bad here. The time may easily come when living in Russia (with a beautiful wife of course) is more attractive than living in the U.S. I'd give it 20 years."

Also, Europe, in fact, is far more progressive in its integrated global worldview as well, as author Jeremy Rifkin eloquently describes in his book [The European Dream](#), page 3:

"The American Dream is far too centered on personal material advancement and too little concerned with the broader human welfare to be relevant in a world of increasing risk, diversity, and interdependence. It is an old dream, immersed in a frontier mentality, that has long since become passé. While the American Spirit is tiring and languishing in the past, a new European Dream is being born. It is a dream far better suited to the next stage in the human journey - one that promises to bring humanity to a global consciousness befitting an increasingly interconnected and globalizing society.

The European Dream emphasizes community relationships over individual autonomy, cultural diversity over assimilation, quality of life over the accumulation of wealth, sustainable development over unlimited material growth, deep play over unrelenting toil, universal human rights and the rights of nature over property rights, and global cooperation over the unilateral exercise of power."

Discuss this article here: <http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=6759>

See also:

[Propaganda vs. Real Life in America](#)

[Debunking the Myth of Freedom and Democracy in America](#)

[The Big Lie: Why America is all about Control and Conformity, not Truth or Freedom](#)

Reader comments:

- "Dear Winston:

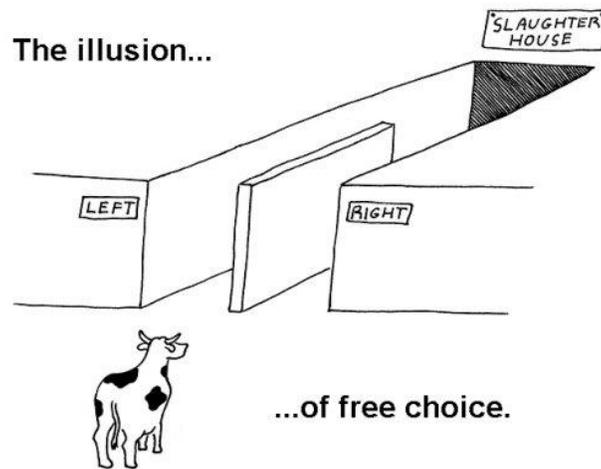
I have never responded to a blog before or whatever they are called. I found your essay about american consumerism on planet essay and was inspired to write to you.

As I read your essay I felt like you were telling my story, except that I am a 40 year old female living in Malibu with a husband and two kids. Sounds nice right? Many days I feel like I am living a life of a prisoner. In my twenties I lived in Italy, France, and Belguim. I have been to Switzerland, Austria, Germany, spain, Turkey, Russia, Indonesia, and Luxembourg. I felt so alive, so free. Now what? My life is exactly like you described in your essay. I feel stuck. I am a full time mom with a nanny to help. I have read every spiritual book out. All I seem to do is long for my twenties. My husband is all about materialism and staying at 5 star hotels (many days I just feel suffocated by our marriage). I long for the way I used to be. I feel as though I have gone to the point of no return because I have children who rely on me.

Do you have any advice?"

(My response: Not really, unfortunately. You just have to find every opportunity you can to do what you love and try to maintain a healthy balance between your other priorities, as well as a workable compromise. In the meantime, you can try to live vicariously through people like me ☺)

Debunking the Myth of Freedom and Democracy in America (with Facts and Overseas Experiences)



- *"America is the epitome of freedom and democracy, the best form of government the world has ever known. The world idolizes our freedom and democracy."*
- *"America is the freest nation on Earth. Freedom is what makes America great."*
- *"It's a free country."*

These statements about freedom and democracy are programmed into the American populace, who are taught to chant them like religious mantras without thought or examination. America touts itself to be the epitome of freedom and democracy that the world idolizes and envies, insinuating that the rest of the world has no freedom except America. Such myths are ingrained into the minds of the American people as religious truths that are unquestionable and universally agreed upon. They are pretty much an "American religion", no different than Christian fundamentalists believing that the Bible is the infallible word of God simply because they are told so.

Yet any cursory examination of international reality and cultures, as well as travel experience, exposes the fiction of this myth. In short, the statements above are statements of fanatical religious belief, not objective facts. There is no evidence to support them, and a ton of evidence to refute them.

In this essay we will go over many of the reasons, evidence and comparisons why this belief is a mere myth. We are not promoting anti-Americanism here, but merely exposing the truth. We will compare fact vs. fiction, reality vs. BS, truth vs. propaganda, and experience vs. illusion. Truth is our bottom line, not conformity, because such propagandic myths are the antithesis to a free-thinking and truth-seeking mind.

The main question to ask is: **Why does America perpetuate the myth that it is the only country in the world that has "freedom" and indoctrinates its citizens with this belief, when this is not supported by any facts, not agreed by the rest of the world or even by well-traveled Americans?**

We will get into the reasons later. First, let's dissect these myths and see how they match up to facts, common sense and real life experiences.

Democracy debunked



“America is the epitome of freedom and democracy.”

We will get into freedom later, but for now, let's address the democracy issue. Technically, a democracy is defined as a "rule by the majority". Hollywood, the media and our education system all chant that America is the epitome of democracy as though it were a Gospel Truth that is universally agreed upon (but it is not by far). It is so ingrained in our culture that most never dare to question it.

The founding fathers never intended America to be a democracy and in fact didn't even believe in one. Most Americans would be shocked to learn this. Anyone who casually researches the American form of government and its founding in the late 18th Century will see that technically, America was not set up as a democracy but as a Constitutional Republic.

A Republic is "rule by law" and tends to be the most just and stable form of government, protecting the rights of its citizens while limiting the power of government to a minimal level. Here are some great videos that explain the difference between a Republic and a Democracy:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KFXuGlpdE0>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e2kAV4-bskY>

The first video above contains quotes from the founding fathers expressing their thoughts on democracy, which you will see was anything but positive.

In fact, there is no mention of the word "democracy" in the Declaration of Independence or the Constitution. Even the Pledge of Allegiance cited by school children mentions that America is a Republic:

"I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the **Republic** for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

The founding fathers were intellectual elites who knew their history. They knew that a democracy was unsustainable, for it was in essence a rule by a lawless mob. **The fundamental flaw in a true democracy is that the majority is unrestrained.**

Critics of democracy use this revealing analogy: "Democracy is like three wolves and one sheep voting on what's for dinner." In other words, if 51 percent of the population voted to harm or seize the property of the other 49 percent, who's going to protect the 49 percent? This reveals the inherent flaw in democracy, which America does not dare bring light to.

In fact, the US Constitution and Bill of Rights were designed to PROTECT you FROM a democracy! (Most Americans would flip if they heard that) For example, in a true democracy, or a "rule by majority", if most people

in your town voted to seize your property and hang you, your assets would be confiscated and you'd be hanged. Simple as that. But in a Republic with a Constitution of rights, your rights and property are protected by law. If you are accused of anything, you have the right to a fair trial. That's how a Republic works. And that's how it PROTECTS you from a true democracy.

The ancient Greeks tried having a true democracy, but it failed, led to chaos and eventually to oligarchy. Even the greatest Greek philosopher, Socrates, did not believe in a true democracy. He advocated that the wisest and most virtuous rule society, not the common populace. In Plato's great work "The Republic", Socrates likened a "democracy" to the crew of a ship committing mutiny against their captain and taking the helm. In such a scenario, the ship, run by "the mob", would never be run efficiently nor get to its proper destination, as the mutineers would constantly bicker, quarrel and change their minds. There would be no order. The ship would be blown around by the wind, so to speak.

So why doesn't a true democracy work, you might ask? Well you see, most people are followers, not leaders or thinkers. They are emotional, not logical or rational. Being gullible, they are changeable on a whim, quick to jump to conclusions, and not wise. A true democracy is like having a mob take control (as in Socrates' example above) without laws or protection. It is neither efficient, stable nor sustainable. And besides, **there is no logical reason to presuppose that the majority is always right either**, as these quote attest to:

"The object in life is not to be on the side of the majority, but to escape finding oneself in the ranks of the insane." - Marcus Aurelius, Roman Emperor

"The men the American public admire most extravagantly are the most daring liars; the men they detest most violently are those who try to tell them the truth." - H. L. Mencken

"Insanity in individuals is something rare - but in groups, parties, nations and epochs, it is the rule." - Frederich Nietzsche

"Ninety-nine percent of the people in the world are fools, and the rest of us are in great danger of contagion." - Thornton Wilder

"Whenever people agree with me I always feel I must be wrong." — Oscar Wilde

Though on paper, America began as a Constitutional Republic, it gradually evolved into a form of oligarchy (rule by the elite), plutocracy (rule by the rich) and corporatocracy (rule by corporations). These terms are more accurate to describe America's governance than the term "democracy". Any unbrainwashed observer can see why. Yet the elite continue to perpetuate the democracy propaganda to instill patriot religious pride and fervor in its citizens, to get their compliance and obedience (ironically). They see it as a "necessary illusion" as Noam Chomsky, the renowned intellectual and American critic, would say.

This eloquent clip from the 1976 film *Network* hits the nail on the head about why America is a corporatocracy, and why ideologies no longer exist, only corporations do.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RzSj1yNZdY8>

Nevertheless, there are some who will try to argue that America is a "representative democracy" or a "Constitutional democracy". And in fact the school system uses such terms too. But this is just a play on semantics and grasping at straws in an attempt to try to insert the word "democracy" into the equation to try to validate the cherished belief that America is a democracy. But either way you look at it, America cannot be a democracy because in a democracy, the majority rules, and in America the majority certainly does not rule in any way, for so many reasons (we can't even cover them all here). Rather, the majority in America are masses of sheeple the elite control and manipulate in the interest of the economy and their agenda.

In addition, consider the following:

a) According to polls, most Americans do not feel that they have a say in their government or its policies, and do not feel that their vote even matters. (Hence voter turnout during elections tends to be under 50 percent) There is a good reason for that. The government and the elite who run it often act in contrary to the will of the people.

For example, most Americans did not want the Vietnam War or the Iraq War, yet the US leaders insisted on them and shoved them down our throats, with the help of the media of course (see the film "War Made Easy" on Google Video). People also do not want higher taxes, yet the government continually raises them.

So, if a democracy is a "rule by majority" then how come most people feel they have no say in the country's policy making, either foreign or domestic? That says a lot, yet most Americans still believe the democracy myth. (Fortunately though, with the surge in the conspiracy movement and the internet, more Americans are beginning to wake up everyday)

b) According to the historical track record, no matter who holds the office of President, whether Democrat or Republican, Conservative or Liberal, US policies, both foreign and domestic, remain the same. Thus, critics liken the whole political system to a show or theater, since the power networks that own both parties really represent the same interests. The system is designed to maintain the *illusion* of democracy, to appease the gullible dumbed down public.

Therefore, people don't really have a say in the policies their government sets. They are simply given the chance to elect Presidents every four years, and Congressmen and Senators every few years, as an illusion of some control in the democratic process. In reality though, no matter who gets elected, the power networks (corporate giants, banking elite, military industrial complex, secret societies, etc.) make sure they are in control. They are the real masters, not the President of the United States, who is merely a fall guy.

Why do you think that US Presidents tend to renege on their campaign promises that won them the election? Do you think any man likes going back on his word and breaking his promises in front of the whole country's population? I don't think so. It's obviously because he has no choice, since he's not really at the top of the hierarchy and cannot do whatever he wants. He is controlled by a "shadow network", where his real allegiance lies. Otherwise he wouldn't be in office, or he better submit to them if he wants to remain in office, lest he suffer the consequences (as JFK, our last real President, did, which was a warning to all that followed).

The elite merely need to present the illusion of democracy to appease the masses. And they do it by giving you the charade of political elections, and calling it "democracy". All they have to do is control the tiny pool of candidates that you have to choose from, in one form or another, and they remain in power, NOT you. That is why no matter who is elected, policies (including covert ones) remain the same.

Of course, the elite themselves don't believe in a democracy either, for a true democracy would usurp their power. Therefore, they are knowingly spreading myths that they don't believe themselves, which is both hypocritical and deceitful.



c) Immigrants and foreigners from other countries do not usually say "Wow we have so much freedom and democracy in America which we never had in our own native country" as Hollywood portrays. Go ahead and ask them yourself. They do not come to America for its freedoms or democracy, but to earn the almighty dollar and

pursue career opportunities. In reality, most in the rest of the world do not see America as an "ideal democracy" but many do see it as an ideal country for making money and pursuing higher career opportunities.

Furthermore, it is not true that most people in the rest of the world want to live in America. Immigrants to the US are predominantly from Asia or Mexico, who come to make money, not for "freedom". In fact, a large percentage of immigrants regret coming to America, feeling lonely and isolated and wishing they were back in their homeland, which the US media never covers of course. For examples in their own words, see these testimonials from *Little India* magazine:

<http://www.littleindia.com/august2004/UnhappyinAmerica.htm>

Also see these [revealing thoughts and feelings of immigrants in the US](#) which I've put together.

Of course, America does not bother to try to explain away any of these major discrepancies. It doesn't have to. It only needs to keep the public dumbed down with mass entertainment, and busy with working and consuming, to be left alone to do whatever it wants. America doesn't really care if you see through its lies, and it knows that dissidents will always exist. You can say or think whatever you want, as long as you don't DO anything to upset its power or agenda.

And that brings us to the next myth...

Freedom debunked

"America is the freest nation on Earth. Freedom is what makes America great."

This one really takes the cake. The phrase "Freedom is what makes America great" implies that other countries do not have freedom, and that freedom is unique to America, which is so laughable that it insults the intelligence of any international traveler.

First of all, most countries in the world are not dictators under martial law like American movies show. They have most of the same freedoms, and more, but with LESS anal laws and regulations than America does. In most countries, as long as you don't break the laws, you are free to do what you want and go wherever you want. How is that any different than in America? You tell me. The only way America could claim to be freer is if there were more, not less, laws and regulations in most countries. But as anyone who has owned a business in the US and other countries will tell you, America has far MORE, NOT LESS, laws and regulations than most countries do! That right there BLOWS this myth out of the water.

But there are many other facts and reasons that go against this myth, so we haven't even begun yet.

Even as a school kid, I always thought it was odd that we were constantly told that "America is the freest country on Earth" yet I was forced to go to school, do homework everyday, and would get a "detention slip" if I wasn't in class when the bell rang. My everyday life did not seem "free" at all, yet I was constantly told that it was, as though it were a religion.

This fanatical claim is not supported by anything except the US media, Hollywood and education system. It has no actual substance or basis to it, and it makes no sense either. It is nothing more than a religion.

What is very revealing is that only those Americans who have never left their country for long believe in these myths, whereas American expats who have lived in multiple countries or are well-traveled (including me) do NOT, but in fact KNOW from firsthand experience that they are hogwash. Now what does that tell you?

Now, if America were truly free, do you think it would constantly have to boast about it to reassure itself? Such blatant boistering is usually the mark of an insecurity or inferiority complex, not the sign of a happy free people. As one of my forum members wrote: "*As a person of intelligence doesn't need to tell others he is intelligent, a truly free society doesn't need to be told it is free.*"

In fact, America is alone in believing that it is the epitome of freedom. The rest of the world does not share this myth about America. Even fascist regimes, dictators and terrorists do not see America as a "free country"

(contrary to what Hollywood and the US media misportray). Rather, they see America as an Imperial Empire trying to *take away* the freedoms of the rest of the world, and attempting to dominate and control everyone to take advantage of their resources! (they did that to the Native American Indians, so why wouldn't they do that with the rest of the world too?) No one hates America for its freedoms, as President George Bush, the pathological liar, claimed.

For some reason, Hollywood and the US media perpetuate this bizarre stereotypical image that ALL countries outside the US are living under fascist regimes governed by martial law, with soldiers and machine guns pointed at everyone, keeping them in terror, and that America is the only country free from all that. This is totally bogus and laughable, yet many Americans seriously believe it, sadly enough.

Most countries do NOT live under fascist dictatorships, yet America tries to make it look like they are the only country that is not under a dictatorship. They try to do that by comparing itself with the worst examples of dictatorial regimes, just like any sleazy advertiser does, rather than with mainstream examples to be more accurate. Any rational person knows that to get more accurate and logical comparisons, you need to compare typical examples from both sides.

American media and movies insinuate all the time that all foreign countries are under oppressive fascist regimes, while America alone fights for freedom and democracy. This is extremely inaccurate and does not reflect reality at all. Yet America will NEVER confront this fact of course, for it destroys its own propaganda.

Hollywood is also fond of portraying all immigrants as idolizing America's freedom, and all terrorists as jealous of America's freedom and plotting to eliminate its threat to fascism.

For instance, in the 1985 film *Invasion USA* starring Chuck Norris, an army of terrorists break into Florida during the Christmas Season. While parked in a suburban neighborhood, the leader of the terrorists looks around at families celebrating Christmas in their homes, and then mutters something about "Americans enjoying their freedom" (in accordance with the myth that America's enemies hate its freedoms) before using a bazooka to blow up some homes. For some reason, Hollywood likes to portray America's myths rather than reality and is the epitome of stereotypes. Call that a conspiracy if you like.

Now let's dissect the concept of America being "the freest country".

What does America mean by "free" exactly? That you are free to do whatever you want without any laws or rules? Certainly not! As in every country, America has many laws, regulations and controls that you must abide under. Such vary from country to country of course, but there is no evidence to suggest that America's laws are much more lax than that of most countries. On the contrary, government regulations are much more stringent in America, which is one reason why corporations are outsourcing, besides cheaper labor costs.

In reality, in most countries, is that as long as you have money for transportation and accommodation, and you don't break any laws, you are "free" to go wherever you want on public lands, visit any attractions you like, eat, drink and be merry. So how is that any different in America? What exactly are you "free" to do in America that you can't do anywhere else?

In fact, arguably, since America is one of the most expensive countries in the world to live or travel in, one's purchasing power is diminished there, whereas it is multiplied much greater in third world countries. Thus, one's ability to "purchase their freedom" is greatly diminished in the US. So if you define freedom by purchasing power, then in that sense the US is "less free" than cheaper third world countries where your purchasing power would be much greater. Any expat living in third world countries (e.g. Philippines, Thailand, Costa Rica, etc.) will tell you this. And sorry Hollywood and CNN, but virtually none of these expats will say that they are "less free" outside the US. In fact, they tend to say that they are "more free" outside the US, which shatters Hollywood's stereotypical propaganda.

(You might also be surprised to know that no one I've met who's been to the Middle East reports that it is less free than in America, despite the extreme black and white Islamic laws there. They all report that the US media's image of the Middle East is total BS. And in fact, Arabs from the Middle East do not consider America to be "freer" than where they came from, since they define "freedom" differently. However, funnily enough, one freedom they do have in the Middle East, that you don't have in America, is that they can show up for a job late and not worry about getting fired; they will only get their pay docked.)

Here are some examples from eloquent expat letters. As you can see, they definitely feel freer and happier in other countries. (So much for Hollywood's propaganda)

http://www.happierabroad.com/Great_Letters.htm

In addition, many countries have freedoms not possible in America. For example, Holland has far more liberal laws regarding drugs and prostitution, and is far less prudish or puritannical about sex than America. In Europe in general, there is more of a lively social scene and connectedness, giving you the "freedom" to meet more people, make more friends and socialize more, contrary to the US environment where strangers do not usually speak to each other except for business purposes, where "every man is an island", where there is an "ice barrier" between strangers, and where people are paranoid of each other. In addition, in most countries, a man can flirt with a girl, woo her, or ask her out without feeling like a "creep" or "predator", unlike in America.

In Latin America, one can dance freely or hold salsa fiestas out in their neighborhood on a whim, whereas in America it would be inappropriate and out of bounds. Also, in Russia and many other countries, one can walk around outside drinking beer, whereas in the US that is illegal. So you see, there are many "freedoms" that are only possible outside the US. Thus the American assumption that "Anything not possible in America is not possible anywhere else cause America is the greatest in all things" is factually false.

See this comparison chart for many revealing examples of freedoms, pleasures and benefits overseas you can't get in America, which I and many others have experienced firsthand:

<http://www.happierabroad.com/comparison.htm>

And see this list of freedoms you don't get in America, only overseas:

<http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=6867>

Jeremy Rifkin, author of *The European Dream*, sums up the difference between the idea of "freedom" in Europe vs. America, explaining why the European concept is more evolved and progressive:

(Pages 13 – 14)

"The American and European dreams are, at their core, about two diametrically opposed ideas of freedom and security. Americans hold a negative definition of what it means to be free and, thus, secure. For us, freedom has long been associated with autonomy. If one is autonomous, he or she is not dependent on others or vulnerable to circumstances outside of his or her control. To be autonomous, one needs to be propertied. The more wealth one amasses, the more independent one is in the world. One is free by becoming self-reliant and an island unto oneself. With wealth comes exclusivity, and with exclusivity comes security.

The new European Dream, however, is based on a different set of assumptions about what constitutes freedom and security. [b]For Europeans, freedom is not found in autonomy but in embeddedness. To be free is to have access to a myriad of interdependent relationships with others.[/b] The more communities one has access to, the more options and choices one has for living a full and meaningful life. With relationships comes inclusivity, and with inclusivity comes security."

The popular phrase by ignorant Americans, "It's a free country" is often used to justify doing whatever they want. Yet it's one of the stupidest statements ever. When I was in junior high, kids who picked on me or bullied me would use the "It's a free country" excuse to do whatever they wanted to me. It was totally moronic. There is no "free country" that lets the common person do whatever they want, especially to others. Every country has many laws, rules and regulations. It appalls me how easily brainwashed people are.

So what exactly are you "free" to do in America that you can't do anywhere else? America doesn't answer this important question. But I'll take a crack at it. Let's see...

You are free to work and make more money than you can in most countries, yeah, but the high cost of living offsets that. In fact, Americans are more in debt than those in any other country, and most Americans live

paycheck to paycheck and are one paycheck away from being broke. Most do not own their own homes, but have mortgaged it, making themselves slaves to the bank. Is that freedom?

You have individual rights under the Constitution, yeah, but in most countries, especially Europe and Australia, human rights exist too. Most countries do not have the extreme human rights abuses shown in the US media. But let's get real here. In any country, those in power seek to keep their power and control, not protect its citizens' rights. It's the same in the US. There can never be truly clean ethics as long as money can be used to influence and control things.

Americans like to boast that they have freedom of speech and that they can speak out against their own government and leaders legally, without getting arrested, whereas in all other countries, doing so will get you arrested or shot. But again, this is misleading. While it is true that you are legally allowed to speak out against the government in America, the truth is also that in most countries you are also allowed the same, (albeit a few fascist regimes) as long as you don't actually DO anything to interfere with the government's power and control.

The same applies in America. You can think what you want, engage in activism and protest, and write whatever you want (like I'm doing here), as long as you don't actually get in the way of the elite networks and corporatocracy that run it. If you do, you will be subject to punishment or imprisonment, and if you are a popular leader capable of making big waves you can even be assassinated (e.g. Martin Luther King Jr, JFK, RFK).

So essentially, it's the same thing. The only difference is that citizens of other nations can see the state of their freedom the way it really is, whereas Americans are under the delusion that they have a special status as "the freest nation on Earth".

Sure, there are some countries like communist China or North Vietnam where dissidence is not tolerated and leads to incarceration, but these are extreme examples, and do NOT apply to most of the 200+ countries in the world. Besides, it is misleading to compare only with the worst examples out there, as the US media and Hollywood does. It would be more accurate to compare typical examples of most countries rather than the most extreme ones just to support your agenda, but America doesn't do that obviously, for truth and reality are not its highest aim.

Either way, being able to legally speak out against the government does not make America the "freest nation on Earth" as its propagandists preach. Besides, there are a lot more "freedoms" important to life than just being able to speak out against the government, which is just one thing in the broad spectrum of life.

Australia and most of Europe, for example, have the same basic "freedoms" that Americans do, if not more. Yet they do not go around boasting that they are the "freest nation in the world" for all to follow, nor do they invade other countries under the false pretense of fighting for freedom. They are much more down to earth and real about it. It's America that has these pumped up delusions which it tries to force onto the rest of the world. Americans seem to have an inferiority complex that makes them need to overstate and flaunt their patriotism and importance to the world. It's a sad thing that indicates a lack of true wholeness inside the American psyche. As I've always said, America is a very fragmented and disconnected country, both psychologically and sociologically. You can see that in its citizens and the complete lack of human or social connection in its environment.

In reality, most of us conform to schedules and routines set by others, and submit to authority of some kind. As children we conform to school and submit to its authority, schedules, rules and workload. As adults, we submit to the same in the corporations that employ us. Most are not "free" to wake up and do whatever they want, especially not in an expensive workaholic country like America. That's life. So what is "freedom" exactly? That's the big existential question.

Since we are all under someone else's control for the most part, in one way or another, there is no "true freedom". Most of the world realizes this. It's Americans that do not, instead living under the delusion that they are a free country and a free people, and that the rest of the world envies them and wishes they could immigrate there to attain "freedom", despite evidence to the contrary.

So why then, do Americans believe this myth about their exclusivity to freedom when it has no basis in reality and makes no sense? Well I can only surmise that:

a) Most people are followers, not leaders, visionaries or independent thinkers. They are unable to think for themselves, and believe whatever they are told by establishment and authority. They conform to what they've been programmed and brainwashed with, and do not resist it. Even if their indoctrinations conflict with their everyday experiences and feelings, they will still hold to it, even if it's self-contradictory or doesn't add up.

b) Since America is a lonely country where one can only depend on oneself and is socially isolating and segregated as well, with social disconnectedness as the norm, people are going to naturally feel empty inside and need something to believe in, whether it's a religion or blind patriotism in being the freest country in the world. Otherwise they have no motivation to feel proud and to continue becoming slaves and consumers of the system.

Ironically, though you are expected to be independent and autonomous in America, you are also expected to conform to the propaganda and religious beliefs of the "herd mentality" mentioned above. It's a silent contradiction that America never bothers to resolve, cause obviously, America isn't interested in intellectual debates over truth, but in profit, power, control and property.

c) The elite have a vested interest in promoting this illusion. It instills pride in the population, dumbs them down, keeps them ignorant about the rest of the world, and gets them to comply with US foreign policy, including military aggression overseas (tragically) and hostile takeover of foreign lands, under the guise of freedom and democracy.

This is especially the case if you are in the armed forces, in which case you need to be fully indoctrinated into believing that you are fighting for freedom and democracy, in order to instill absolutely loyalty in you, even if in reality you are on the side of evil engaging in an act of military aggression and hostile takeover for profit and power, bombing innocent civilians in the process. Otherwise you wouldn't follow orders to fight, risk your life or kill others if you knew the truth.

Hypocrisy of freedom of speech

What's ironic is that in America, you are told that you have freedom of speech, but if you question what you are told, such as the religious myths above, you will be deemed a heretic. In other words, "you have freedom of speech as long as you believe what you are told and don't question it." What could be more of an oxymoron than that?!

This is ultimate hypocrisy and a direct contradiction that America cannot reconcile. There are many such contradictions. For example, Capitalism is said to be based on Christian values and ethics, yet it teaches that greed is good whereas Christian Scripture clearly teaches that greed is evil. But you are not supposed to question such things. So much for freedom of speech.

But then again, America sees freedom of speech as essentially harmless. Talking can't hurt after all, unless of course you do something about it. And America knows that most people are passive. They may talk the dissident talk, but most will never do anything about it, and that's the bottom line to the elite.

It's a tricky form of mind control where you are deceived into thinking that you are free, when in reality you are mind controlled. The great intellectual American critic, Noam Chomsky, explained in his film *Manufacturing Consent* that since America does not have a totalitarian government militarily, the elite must control the masses' *thoughts* instead. Therefore, they are engaging in a form of "totalitarian thought control" rather than by military rule. This means that they gain control of you one way or another.

Wars and your patriotic duty to support them



Since the industrial era, America has had a tendency to start wars and invade countries claiming to spread freedom and democracy. When it does, it declares that it is everyone's patriotic duty to support all wars it gets involved in, even if you disagree with them.

However, many great thinkers have realized that patriotism is an idiocy and antithesis to reason. Here are some great quotes:

"Patriotism is your conviction that this country is superior to all other countries because you were born in it."

- George Bernard Shaw

"Patriotism is the willingness to kill and be killed for trivial reasons."

- Bertrand Russell

"Patriotism is the virtue of the vicious."

- Oscar Wilde

"Can anything be stupider than that a man has the right to kill me because he lives on the other side of a river and his ruler has a quarrel with mine, though I have not quarrelled with him?"

- Blaise Pascal

"Patriotism in its simplest, clearest, and most indubitable signification is nothing else but a means of obtaining for the rulers their ambitions and covetous desires, and for the ruled the abdication of human dignity, reason, and conscience, and a slavish enthrallment to those in power."

- Leo Tolstoy

You might think that myths about freedom and democracy are harmless beliefs that merely instill pride in people. But it goes beyond that. These myths also serve the function of garnering public compliance when America gets involved in wars or invades other countries and occupies them, such as Iraq, killing millions of innocent people for profit, greed and power, or other ulterior motives.

What the religion of patriotism says is that it is your duty to support all US sponsored wars even if it is in the wrong or are "the bad guys" in the conflict. Anyone who doesn't is condemned as "unpatriotic" or a heretic. Even celebrities and public officials are afraid to speak out against the Iraq War for fear of jeopardizing their position and careers. (so much for free speech) America uses a sick form of mind control that insinuates that if you are loyal to your country, you will support all its wars and invasions, even when it is in the wrong or on the side of evil. Otherwise, you are seen as a "traitor" and there is something wrong with you.

In essence, what America is saying is that loyalty and patriotism are above truth, justice and even life itself. It is willing to sacrifice innocent lives, including its own, and spread lies, for its diabolical purposes. This is plain

wrong as well as evil. It is the total antithesis of freedom and justice. As a chilling reminder, Hitler also did the same.

In doing so, America again contradicts itself in claiming freedom of speech, while at the same time forbidding you to question what it preaches. In effect, America is saying "You are free, but you are required to agree with everything we say and do without question", which is total hypocrisy.

The elite understand that they must hide their motives for getting involved in wars all the time. If the public was told the truth, that America's wars are about power, greed, control and acquisition, the American people would not be willing to risk the lives of its troops. That's why the sheeple have to be deceived. The elite behind the military industrial complex know that they are lying, but believe that they can get away with it because they are at the top of the pyramid, have a "God complex" and are "above the law".

Those serving in the armed forces are the most brainwashed. If you watch documentaries about the life of US troop stationed in Iraq or Naval personnel stationed in ships off the coast of Iraq, you will see that everyday they are constantly drilled with lies and propaganda that they are there to fight for freedom and democracy, and that they are heroes and liberators of Iraq. I pity these folks the most, for in reality they are sacrificing their life, limb and sanity for greed, profit and power, which no sane person would knowingly do. The military is a fascist hierarchical organization and its subjects have no choice but to conform to whatever they are told. Despite their honorable intentions, they are the epitome of gullibility. They've been transformed into non-thinking robots, which is a total degradation to their humanity.

What those in the armed forces, or considering joining it, need to understand is that when you join the military, you are not serving your country. You are serving a cabal that wishes to destroy and enslave others, including you and your own family.

The 2009 blockbuster film *Avatar* accurately portrays the motives of US military aggression. In the film, the US Marines are sent to plummage forests in an alien world to mine special minerals that sell for "20 million a kilo". To do so, they had to move alien tribes off their lands in order to plunder their forest and cut down their main "tree of life". The film is honest in revealing the motives of both sides. What was unusual about this film was that the US Marine Colonel was honest to his men and told them upfront that they were fighting to mine minerals for profit, not to spread "freedom and democracy". And as you learn about the blue alien tribe, you understand the sacredness and beauty of their life, and the living energy of the forest. With this reveals, it becomes apparent that it would be wrong and inhumane to destroy it all in the name of corporate profit. With this revealed, the viewer's conscience naturally sides with the blue alien tribes, who are the victims in the conflict, and realizes that the US military are the aggressors and "the bad guys" in the conflict. Thus the audience begins cheering when the tide of the battle turns and the US military starts getting wasted, since after all they are "the bad guys" in the wrong and on the side of evil. This film is marvelous for many reasons (such as its 3D feature), but it is groundbreaking in that it reveals that truth and life are ultimately more significant than patriotism and loyalty.

Similarly, the 1990 film *Dances with Wolves* starring Kevin Costner depicted the same accuracy in its portrayal of the conquest of the American frontier. When Dunbar (Costner) bonds with the Sioux tribe and begins to understand them and become one of them, the US Cavalry is revealed for what they really are, instruments of aggression and plunder who steal lands from Native Americans and commit atrocities against the innocent to achieve such ends. When the viewer understands this, he/she naturally sides with the plight of the Sioux tribe. So when Dunbar is rescued by his new Sioux brothers near the end, the audience cheers as the US Cavalry men are taken out, who by then are seen as "the bad guys".

I applaud such films for their accurate portrayal of the motives of the US military, and for showing the light of truth and compassion over blind patriotism and loyalty.

Conclusion

So you see, America's religious myths about freedom and democracy, which it considers to be Gospel Truth and indoctrinates into its sheeple, is essentially baseless and not supported by facts or reality upon casual examination. These myths are a religion, nothing more. Many logical reasons and comparisons from ordinary examples and experiences have been presented here to debunk these myths.

America does not address the hard questions posed in this essay, nor the fact that so much of reality contradicts the propaganda and myths it spreads, but treats them as nonexistent. Instead, America merely throws its propaganda at you, knowing that most people will buy it and ignoring the few that don't (unless they get in the way), then offers you a life of pursuing a career (aka becoming a corporate slave), consuming to help the economy, and dumbs you down with forms of mass entertainments. That's all American life is. It's not about truth or answering the hard questions. It's about serving the profit system and corporatocracy. If you don't like it, America doesn't care, as long as you don't get in the way.

What we can conclude then, based on all the above, is that "freedom" and "government by the people" are illusions. They don't need to actually exist. The public merely needs to be given the illusion of freedom and democracy.

But unfortunately for America and its controllers, truth tends to be self-evident and surfaces sooner or later. Every time the public finds out that they've been lied to, their trust in government greatly decreases. Without trust, foundations crumble, as we have been seeing in America recently. That's how great empires fall, such as Rome. They collapse on the inside first. We are already beginning to see that happening with the American Empire, as more and more of its citizens become disillusioned with it.

In short, America is reaping the consequences of its self-destructive behaviors and ways, and in due time, the consequences of its deceptions and brainwashing on its own population will manifest as well, as truth eventually comes out. That is, unless it decides to make amends and change its ways of exploiting others for profit, power and gain, and using lies and myths to cover for its crimes and wrongdoings.

But alas, people do not like to change their ways, especially if they are at the top of the pyramid, in which case they have a vested self-interest in maintaining the status quo.

The Roman Empire was also imperialistic, conquering lands belonging to others to expand its power and control through military aggression and forcing others to submit to its regime. The difference is that Rome was honest about its intentions, whereas America isn't. America claims its imperialism is about promoting freedom and democracy. That's why America doesn't like to refer to itself as an "Empire" or use the word "Imperial" to describe itself, for such terms contradict its self-ascribed myth that it stands for freedom and democracy (but in reality of course, it stands for power, acquisition, control, dominance and greed).

It's a pity that America doesn't see the wisdom of one of its own children's parables known as *The Boy Who Cried Wolf*, which teaches that consequences of lying is the destruction of one's own credibility and mistrust from others. If America had heeded this simple parable, it wouldn't be in the mess it is today. But of course, power corrupts and absolute power corrupts absolutely. We've seen that throughout history, and America is no exception.

The game of America's elite has always been to induce conformity in the population while at the same time maintaining the illusion of freedom and democracy. It's a delicate game that is self-contradictory, which intelligent freethinkers can easily see through. As a result, the elite have had to find ways to weaken the public, dumb them down, and distract them. They've done this by segregating the populace, making its citizens paranoid of each other, emphasizing competitiveness, and distracting you with mindless mass entertainment and promoting a rampant consumer lifestyle.

But alas, they are playing a losing game and are losing their grip. God only knows what they will resort to next. Those in power do not give it up easily, and will not go down without a vicious fight. Let's hope that whatever changes, revolutions or awakenings that are coming next will occur as peacefully as possible.

I also pray that the public becomes informed, enlightened, intellectual and wise, so that history does not repeat itself. As it is said, "Those who do not learn history are condemned to repeat it." Hopefully, the free flowing of information on the internet will help make that possible.

Until then, if you would like to learn about how you can enjoy more freedoms and benefits abroad, and are ready to venture beyond the US Matrix to see the real world, come visit my website at <http://www.HappierAbroad.com>

Thanks for reading.

Sincerely,
Winston Wu

PS - If you wish to start down the path of becoming a freethinking intellectual, as we have, let me warn you first though, that it comes with consequences as well as benefits. (Though it may not be a conscious choice on your part, but rather a realization of what you already are) By becoming one, you will certainly have a richer inner life that others don't have, and you will be able to see and know things at a depth and level that common people can't. You will also attain the freedom to rise above the programming and conditioning of society, which the common person didn't even know existed. You will be able to see things the way they really are, rather than how you were programmed to.

However, you will find it hard to fit into social groups and circles, for deep down an intellectual does not like to "conform" to something, for conformity is the antithesis of freethought. Also, you will find yourself looking down on common people, who are usually conformists and follow the pack, as ignorant sheeple do, so you will not really feel like you belong or fit in with them. To you, common people will seem like zombies. Thus it will be hard for you to remain modest, as pride and snobbiness may become part of your disposition.

You may find yourself often estranged from others, engaging them merely for superficial greetings or socializing. This means that you will find few people in life who can truly relate to you. Even the ignorant can sense vibes on an instinctual level, and they will sense that you are somehow "different" than them, vibrating at a different frequency. However, since like attracts like, you will certainly find others like you from time to time, through circumstances and coincidences. But you will not be connecting with the majority.

In addition, being able to see things that others can't and know things that others don't, you will find yourself annoyed at flaws and discrepancies that others don't get hung up on. Sometimes "ignorance is bliss" after all. Others may perceive you as "anal retentive" for noticing imperfections that don't matter to them.

An expat friend of mine, also a freethinker, had this to say about the life of a freethinker:

<http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=6680&start=10>

"Why would the government want to properly educate the masses? They would lose their power in government cause then the average person would be able to see all their lies and fallacies. They realize a small percentage will break out of their matrix and they will either be ostracized from main society or they will be brought into the circle of power as one of their own.

To be able to break away from either of those labels takes a strong sense of purpose and some kind of divine intervention that was agreed upon before birth and intertwined into ones life. There are always people like this that break the mold, but society generally doesn't realize their greatness until they have departed the Earth plane. Individuals that are well ahead of whatever is going on in society are the ones that keep society moving forward, but are often ridiculed in the process of trying to make others see the light. Most people do not have the capability to visualize what the future will bring, or they do it wrong cause they interpret the future using their current preconceived notions of reality.

A true visionary sets themselves apart from the mainstream and isn't offended by brash comments upon their person."

That being said, if you seek to find an intellectual majority or population, your best chance, in my experience, would be in Europe, where knowledge, culture, education and broad-mindedness seem to be at the highest levels.

Discuss this article here: <http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=6881>

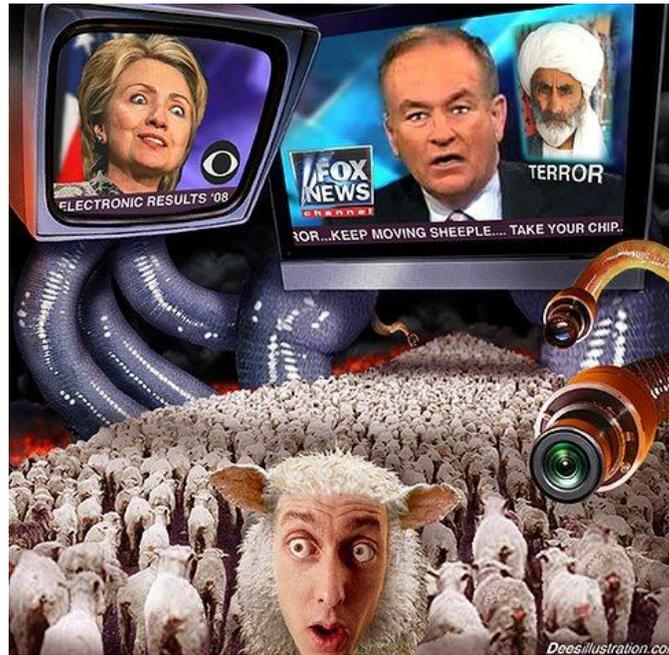
See also:

[Propaganda vs. Real Life in America](#)

[The Industrial Culture of America and Automaton Populace](#)

[The Big Lie: Why America is all about Control and Conformity, not Truth or Freedom](#)

The Big Lie: Why America is all about Control and Conformity, not Truth or Freedom



America is one of the most mind controlled countries on the planet. Hypocritically, Americans chant with religious fervor about how they have freedom and democracy, while at the same time ACT like the "Borg Collective" from Star Trek that tries to assimilate everyone, both domestic and abroad. It's the ultimate lie and as they say "Actions speak louder than words". So we will look at the "actions" of control and conformity in America as opposed to the false rhetoric that the automaton populace chant as their religion.

In America, truth is not the highest ideal or passion. Neither is freedom or democracy, contrary to the myth. (See my essay [Debunking the Myth of Freedom and Democracy in America](#)) The country is governed by a sense of "moral authoritarianism" or the concept of "might makes right", which basically teaches that "Authority = Truth" rather than the actual truth itself. It's all about conformity and obedience to authority and the manufactured consensus.

Basically, you are taught to believe whatever you are told by authority, the media, and the consensus, even if it doesn't make sense and even if those sources have been proven to be pathological liars in the past and agenda-driven. In other words, you are not supposed to "think for yourself" in the "land of the free" protected by the First Amendment. Such is the irony and hypocrisy.

For example, whoever the elite corporate cabal pick as President and Vice President, (under the illusion of the voting process) are your public leaders, and your duty is to listen to them. Even if they are obviously pure evil scumbags with no credibility, such as Vice President Dick Cheney, you are still supposed to believe whatever they say and trust them as though they were moral paragons of truth and justice! In other words, you are to treat all figures of authority as moral paragons of credibility and integrity, even though they have NEVER earned or proven themselves to possess such attributes! And even if their record and actions show quite the opposite!

Now, you wouldn't hold an unknown stranger to be a paragon of truth would you? So why should you trust any stranger who suddenly becomes President of the United States, handpicked by the cabal, just like that, whether it's Obama or Bush or anyone else? It doesn't make sense and is illogical. Yet when you turn on the news, your President is already speaking to you as though you and everyone sees him as a paragon of truth and credibility, as though it were a given, simply because he is the leader and you are the follower. That's ludicrous!

It's a total disgrace and insult to your intelligence of course, but again, in America authority and consensus = truth, and that's that. Your mainstream media conforms to that and doesn't question it, so who are you to? You

also have a patriotic duty to go along with what you're told. There is no real freedom to disagree, even though you are told that there is. It's a direct lie and contradiction.

In America, people are also taught to keep each other in line, so if you get out of line and do not follow the hive mentality of authority/media = truth, then you are ostracized and psychologically attacked by your peers. In that sense, the elite have a perfect form of mind control whereby the masses keep each other in line for them, without the need for martial law or troops. And your TV of course, is the technological instrument which makes it all the more easy for them.

So basically, America is all about CONFORMITY to whatever you are told by authority, media, and the social consensus (or perceived engineered consensus rather). Independent freethinking and truth seeking are not allowed. Yet all the while, you are supposed to boast to the world that "America is a free country". Total bull. It's a form of Orwellian "double think" whereby you are told one thing and given another, and programmed not to see the discrepancy.

It's sophisticated mind control and psychological warfare.

Here are some basic behaviors you are expected to CONFORM to in order to fit in and be considered NORMAL in America:

1) You live to work, are a workaholic, and tie your identity to your job, organization and culture. "You are what you do" in other words. And you have no identity outside of that. You are a happy slave who is glad to give your life to the economy in corporate servitude. This gives you purpose and contentment. It is what you strive and live for. After all, everyone is striving for that, so you'd better too!

2) You consume endless junk with your hard earned money, junk that you don't need which advertisers sell you, in order to fill the emptiness within you, and enjoy your life, while helping out your economy at the same time. So, you seek your pleasure in consumerism, both for your benefit and in your patriotic duty to help the US economy. Consumption is your key to happiness, not a healthy sense of self, spirituality or social connection.

3) You confine your social interaction within closed cliques that you established early on in high school or college. You only communicate with strangers for business related purposes (e.g. customer service, business transactions, professional sales, etc.).

You are not comfortable socializing or befriending strangers because you are paranoid of them, for every stranger out there is to be feared as a potential psycho, creep or criminal. This is the attitude that your media teaches you and is the social consensus. (never mind the fact that America is generally safe and so are most strangers) Just look at your local news. It's filled with fear mongering stories designed to make you paranoid of others.

Thus, you live in fear and paranoia for your own safety, since everyone else does too. You are taught that fear and paranoia are healthy protective attitudes to have. And as a conformist, you follow the media and their consensus of course. Your safe refuge is in the safe structured environment of your home, routine, job, and closed clique of friends.

Now, if you didn't establish any lifelong friends or cliques early on in life, then you're basically F***ed and a loser, so you'd better not draw attention to it or complain about it, lest you be seen as a loser and told that "you're the only one". Instead, be quiet and live in denial about it, while focusing on your civic duty to work and consumption (ala #1 and 2) to make yourself useful to society at least. Winners never complain about loneliness or lovelessness, only losers do.

Furthermore, since you are basically seen as a business resource in America, it's better that you limit your social life anyway, so you have more time to be industrious and work, since business is the purpose of your life, according to US corporate culture.

In fact, the local news projects the assumption onto everyone that relationships and friendships are not even a problem or issue in America. Instead, everyone already has a spouse, family and loved ones, and the only issue on everyone's mind is economic and job related concerns. That is the CONSENSUS attitude that the

mainstream media and local news projects onto you. Therefore, if you're lonely and not happy with your social or love life, you'd better not admit to it, for the consensus is that such problems don't exist! Your tube is your reality, so if it's not on the news, it's not an issue.

4) You believe whatever you are told by authority, your corporate media and the social consensus (or manufactured consensus rather). Authority = Truth. Consensus = Truth. Might makes right. Truth is whatever you are told by the proper sources of authority, such as the government and corporate media, not what actually is. You believe whatever you see on TV, especially if it's from the respected corporate media (ABC, NBC, CBS, Fox, CNN, etc.)

You are a follower and conformist who follows the "herd mentality" that is engineered and conditioned into you. And at the same time you chant that you are living in a country full of freedom, free speech and democracy, while the rest of the world is under fascism and oppression. America is the richest and happiest country in the world, and you'd better believe that, not cause it's how you really feel deep down, but because it's what you're told is the consensus of the whole world. And any consensus belief (albeit manufactured) better be YOUR belief as well.

Anyone elected to be your leader by the cabal, under the illusion of the voting process, is someone you automatically trust as a moral paragon of truth and integrity. They don't have to earn your trust or earn their credibility. It's an automatic given. They are your leader, and you are a follower, so your trust and faith in them are a given. For example, someone like Obama can come out of nowhere and become President, if the elite cabal wish it. Even though he has done NOTHING to earn your trust or establish himself as a paragon of truth or integrity, you are to treat him as such, because he your LEADER and YOU are a FOLLOWER, and that's that. Forget the fact that it's illogical to trust a man brought up and groomed by a proven evil corrupt sociopathic elite cabal. You do not serve the truth. You serve authority and consensus. Got it?

And you are NOT to use your freethinking mind to doubt or challenge any of this. Instead, you are to use your "mind" to ridicule and ostracize anyone who doesn't agree with the system, hive mentality or social consensus. That is your duty. You find nonconformists as repugnant.

5) You must agree with all consensus opinions (no matter how unjust and untrue) and avoid any taboo topics (no matter how true), aka adhering to "political correctness". In other words, you are psychologically and socially forced to agree with what you're told and what the consensus is, yet you must also believe that you live in a society that protects "freedom of speech". Another case of "double think".

From youth, you are psychologically conditioned to believe that conforming is "cool" and not conforming is "uncool". So much for free speech and freedom of thought.

This especially applies to "special" groups that are protected and given a special status of unaccountability in America. We are talking certain minority/racial ethnicities and gender (women of course) groups. (Now I'm not going to point out which specific racial groups these are, since I don't want to come across as being racist here, but we all know what they are).

What this means is that they are totally shielded from judgment and criticism, and can get away with anything. In that sense, they are basically infallible and unaccountable, for it is totally taboo to criticize them. Doing so will result in one being socially attacked as a "racist or sexist".

Therefore, these groups are shielded, which invites them to abuse or mistreat others, and get away with crimes even. That is plain wrong and unjust. But of course, you are not allowed to complain about it or expose it.

Now, I want to make it clear that I do NOT advocate hatred toward any group, minority or gender. I am not a racist or sexist. I am merely pointing out the TRUTH and reality that when you shield any person or group from any accountability, criticism or judgment, it will naturally invite them to misuse and abuse their special protected status and allow them to get away with anything. They can and WILL do it. (I could give so many examples, but it might be best not to lest it be used against me). This is especially true in societies like the US where selfishness and self-interest are encouraged as good values.

An example of a manufactured media image that promotes inequality and false gender stereotypes is in modern TV shows and movies (especially those that focus on relationships) where men are portrayed as "dumb,

immature, and dishonest" whereas women are depicted as "honest, sane, and mature". See this movie poster as an example:

<http://thecia.com.au/reviews/g/images/grown-ups-poster-2.jpg>

Now this stereotype is often not true and promotes male bashing. But of course, you aren't allowed to argue with it since it's a consensus opinion. Doing so will draw condemnation and brand you as a "sexist" or "misogynist". It's one of the biggest taboos. So taboo in fact, that not even the right of free speech can protect you from it.

That's why even freethinking leaders who oppose conformity and mind control (Alex Jones, David Icke, Michael Tsarion, etc.) and alternative media will not touch this issue or expose the inequity of it, for it would cause them to lose their female fans, which is a large base to them. Only Men's Rights groups will, and they get little or no coverage in mainstream media.

It's a bigger taboo than talking about UFO's or conspiracies even. While the subject of UFO's, psychics and conspiracies are professional taboos that can cause one to lose professional credibility, this taboo is a social one that carries far bigger consequences, which includes social and emotional hatred directed at the violator. Exposing it will put you in the same category as a Neo-Nazi or Anti-Semite. It's the mother of all taboos.

One reason is because there is an unspoken rule in America that any time you publicly compare men and women in any way, the comparison MUST be more favorable to the women. They must come out on top one way or another. To do the opposite would be anathema.

In fact, women are portrayed in the modern culture as princesses who can do no wrong. They are in the judge's seat and can never be judged themselves, for they are shielded and given a special status of unaccountability. This has turned them into entitlement queens who do not need any social skills or to behave decently. All the burden of proof and accountability are on the men. It's an unspoken truth. This is all very unjust and unfair. But you aren't allowed to complain about it, or else. It's total social mind control. And you are obligated to agree and conform to it.

Now I am not against women. I LOVE women and treat them as princesses, and in fact many of my best friends are females. I even enjoy non-sexual female companionship. But I am just pointing the simple fact that when you give ANY group or gender a special status of unaccountability, they can and WILL misuse and abuse it. This has nothing to do with my feelings or biases. It's just a fact. And it goes both ways.

These are all yet more examples of why truth has no value or significance in America, and why it's all about conforming to the consensus.

As long as you conform, you are free to pay lip service to "truth and freedom". Thus you are allowed to be a hypocrite if you want, but not a nonconformist!

Conclusion and Recommendations:

So, to be considered "normal" in America and not ostracized or ridiculed as a freak, fringe outcast or nutcase, you've got to follow all the so called "well adjusted" behaviors above. Or at least pretend to. If you think or believe differently from the above, you are to remain silent about it and not cause any disruption to the "hive groupthink".

Your duty of course, is to conform, while at the same time paying lip service to "truth and freedom", thus becoming a hypocrite yourself. Even immigrants are expected to conform and become "Americanized".

Most do conform of course, not due to the feelings of their heart, but out of fear, out of weakness and insecurity, out of the need for acceptance, and out of their natural inclination to follow others. You see, most people have no identity other than the group, organization or culture that accepts them into it. They fear true freedom and independence of mind and thought. (See Eric Fromm's "Escape From Freedom")

Nevermind the fact that the behaviors above are actually the complete antithesis to a wholesome sense of self, passion, creativity and rich human connections, as well as freedom and truth. **Conforming to them, in fact,**

leads to a life of slavery, materialistic values, repression, a false sense of self, social segregation, an attitude of fear and paranoia, and a sheep-like mind.

Nevermind the truth. Because truth is what you're told, and as a conformist, it is YOUR job and duty to follow authority, media and social consensus.

Nevermind the fact that its society that is sick and dysfunctional, and therefore adjusting to it makes you dysfunctional as well. Throughout history great thinkers have observed that the true insanity lies with the mobs and groupthink mentality, not the individual dissident. Here are some eloquent examples:

"The object in life is not to be on the side of the majority, but to escape finding oneself in the ranks of the insane." - Marcus Aurelius, Roman Emperor

"It is no measure of health to be well adjusted to a profoundly sick society." - Jiddu Krishnamurti

"The men the American public admire most extravagantly are the most daring liars; the men they detest most violently are those who try to tell them the truth." - H. L. Mencken

"Even if you are a minority of one, the truth is the truth." - Gandhi

"Insanity in individuals is something rare - but in groups, parties, nations and epochs, it is the rule." - Frederich Nietzsche

"Ninety-nine percent of the people in the world are fools, and the rest of us are in great danger of contagion." - Thornton Wilder

"Whenever people agree with me I always feel I must be wrong." — Oscar Wilde

"Men have been taught that it is a virtue to agree with others. But the creator is the man who disagrees. Men have been taught that it is a virtue to swim with the current. But the creator is the man who goes against the current. Men have been taught that it is a virtue to stand together. But the creator is the man who stands alone." - Ayn Rand

"Honesty is such a lonely word. Everyone is so untrue..." - Billy Joel, in his hit song "Honesty"

"The sick individual finds himself at home with all other similarly sick individuals. The whole culture is geared to this kind of pathology. The result is that the average individual does not experience the separateness and isolation the fully schizophrenic person feels. He feels at ease among those who suffer from the same deformation; in fact, it is the fully sane person who feels isolated in the insane society — and he may suffer so much from the incapacity to communicate that it is he who may become psychotic." - Eric Fromm (The Anatomy of Human Destructiveness)

(Fromm's statement above perhaps explains why the majority do not see the obvious social realities I described.)

This parable illustrates the truth that Fromm described very well:

"The parable of the poisoned well

There was once a wise king who ruled over a vast city. He was feared for his might and loved for his wisdom. Now in the heart of the city, there was a well whose waters were pure and crystalline from which the king and all the inhabitants drank. When all were asleep, an enemy entered the city and poured seven drops of a strange liquid into the well. And he said that henceforth all who drink this water shall become mad.

All the people drank of the water, but not the king. And the people began to say, "The king is mad and has lost his reason. Look how strangely he behaves. We cannot be ruled by a madman, so he must be dethroned."

The king grew very fearful, for his subjects were preparing to rise against him. So one evening, he ordered a golden goblet to be filled from the well, and he drank deeply. The next day, there was great rejoicing among the people, for their beloved king had finally regained his reason."

Thus it is sad and no wonder that we live in an upside down world, as Michael Ellner describes in this profound statement:

"Just look at us. Everything is backwards. Everything is upside down. Doctors destroy health, lawyers destroy justice, universities destroy knowledge, governments destroy freedom, the major media destroy information, and religion destroys spirituality."

Yet our society never looks at itself. Instead, it looks for victims and dissidents to target and scapegoat. No matter how dysfunctional society or the system is, YOU are the one seen as dysfunctional and a loser if you don't fit into that sick system. It's a case of the pot calling the kettle black.

But alas, it is taboo to blame society or the system, for one's duty is to follow, not to challenge. Instead, blame can only be directed toward individuals who refuse to conform or who are maladjusted to the dysfunctional norms in America (which technically means they're sane, since a double negative is a positive).

That's why America is all about illusion, mind control and conformity, rather than truth, freedom or a happy healthy sense of self and relationships.

Now, if America were honest and admitted that it is a conformist society and culture, truth seekers like me would have less of a problem with it. But instead, it tries to pass itself off as a "society of freedom, free thought and free speech" and that's where the hypocrisy lies. It's totally deceitful, since the reality is that at every angle, you are pressured to conform in America.

The BIGGEST LIE is that America constantly seeks to take away more and more of your freedoms and control what you do and think, while at the same time tells you that you are living in the only country where freedom exists! Likewise, while America seeks to dominate and control other nations, it lies to its own people that it is fighting for freedom and democracy abroad! This is hypocrisy and deceit of the highest magnitude.

We all need to WAKE UP and realize that we are living in the "Borg Collective", not in the "land of the free", and stop chanting and raving about how free and democratic we are like mindless automatons. Only when the spell over your mind is broken, will you be truly free. And that begins with your mind. The rest will flow from there. Once you are attuned to the truth, more truth will come as your consciousness seeks it out.

Now, there is nothing inherently wrong with getting things, buying things, or with TV itself. It's what those things are USED for that make them destructive to the human psyche. They are used to MANIPULATE people, brainwash them, and control them, inducing a materialistic herd mentality and attitude of fear and paranoia which conforms to a manufactured consensus. They are used as substitutes to replace a healthy self-esteem, human relationships, social connection, spirituality, truth, freedom, passion, creativity, expression and freethought, all of which are suppressed.

Rather than teaching us to cultivate a healthy sense of self that is spiritual, intellectual, truth seeking, aware, conscious, creative and geared toward happy healthy relationships and deep social connections, the system represses such things. Instead, we are conditioned to focus on materialism, corporate slavery, segregation, selfishness, fear and sheep mentality.

All that leads to a screwed up sense of identity, relationships and society, as well as a perpetual state of fear, stress and fragmentation, both inner and outer.

You are not supposed to see the dysfunction in society of course. One is only allowed to blame oneself if one fails to conform, for one is always expected to look happy and positive. And of course, one is expected to ridicule others who complain or expose all this as well.

That's the tragedy and illusion of this state of affairs.

Moreover, the corporate elite have a vested interest in limiting your social relationships, family life, and creativity or passions, for if you have too many friends, good social connections and/or spend too much time cultivating your passions and creative pursuits, then you will have less time for industrious work and productivity, which America sees as the purpose of your life. You see, your life is a business resource to America, a commodity, measured in terms of productivity, not passion. Thus your communication and relationships should generally be for business purposes only.

America's goal is for you to remain a "happy slave", productive and efficient. To do that, it must maintain the illusion of freedom and democracy. But it definitely does NOT want to encourage you to pursue things like passion, creativity or deep human bonds and relationships. No way. Nor does it encourage you to think for yourself. Such things are counterproductive to its goal of keeping you a "happy slave" whose life is "all business". That's why America teaches a system where such things are highly compartmentalized, limited or suppressed. To America, the economy is number one, NOT your soul!

So what can you do about all this? Well you can expose it and bring awareness to it (like I'm doing here). And you can tell yourself everyday "I am a human being! Not a business resource!" But the most important thing is for you to place yourself among groups, movements or cultures that are conducive to life of freedom, passion and rich human connections and relationships. There are many alternative or counter culture type movements in the US for instance, that support a life free of "the system" where you can meet like minded others.

And you can learn to think for yourself which will help liberate your own mind. To help aid in this, I recommend reading Darryl Sloan's book *Reality Check*. It's the best dissertation I've seen about learning to see through harmful and bogus belief systems. You can get it at <http://darrylsloan.wordpress.com/reality-check/> (sample chapters and audio reading available).

Or you can go to overseas cultures where passion and camaraderie are still regarded as the focus of life, rather than cold hearted business and closed cliquishness. There are many cultures abroad that are far more open, relaxed and inclusive, where people are not segregated by "ice barriers" or paranoia. I've experienced many of them and can vouch that they are a world of difference. But the US media doesn't want you to know about them of course, so you will not hear about this on mainstream channels. For many, this has been a happy fulfilling and permanent solution to the misery, stress and loneliness of America. Some examples are: Latin America, Mexico, Russia, Italy, Spain, France, Greece, Holland, Mexico, Southeast Asia, The Philippines, Thailand, Indonesia, etc. There, the people are generally more open, relaxed and less cliquish.

But you'd better hurry though, cause America is in a rush to try to turn the "cultures of passion" out there into cold business-like cultures like itself! So you'd better pray that it fails in its attempt to "globalize" the world into a carbon copy of itself.

On the other hand, if you do not thrive in cultures that are set up to be socially closed, cliquish, repressed, where people are robotic followers who live in fear and idolize a workaholic lifestyle devoid of passion and creativity, you might want to also avoid these countries besides America: Canada, Japan, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Korea, Finland, Norway, etc.

Of course, other cultures lie somewhere between both these categories. And everyone will have different experiences in different cultures, so experiences will vary.

But the important thing is that you choose a culture or atmosphere where your INNER matches your OUTER environment. In other words, if you are shy, conservative, socially closed or cliquish, as well as a workaholic, you would vibe best in cultures that reflect such qualities (e.g. Japan, Taiwan). But if you are open, passionate, sociable, relaxed and carefree, you'd fit best in cultures dominated by such traits (e.g. Latin America, parts of Europe). Otherwise, a mismatch between your inner self and outer environment is not a good thing. It will weaken you in the long term and not allow your natural self to come out or bring out the best in you.

The important lesson here is that authority does NOT equal truth, as we are conditioned to believe from childhood. Truth is not their job. Their job is CONTROL you, and they will do whatever it takes to accomplish that, including propaganda, lies, pressure to conform, mind control, psychological warfare, fear mongering, punishment and ostracization, deprivation, and even murder. Also, the job of the media is NOT to inform or educate you, or to make you wiser and more knowledgeable. Their job is to keep you

a happy slave who works, consumes and obeys, while dumbing you down with trashy content to keep you living in fear and paranoia. Such is the grim reality and sad state of affairs. But once you make truth your aim and passion, rather than conformity, you are SET FREE, first in your mind and consciousness, and then in your lifestyle. As they say, "The truth shall set you free."

Therefore, question everything. Don't take anything on faith. Check and research every important issue and decision in your life. You will find that when you dig deep, a lot of what you are told are lies or exaggerations. The rabbit hole goes deeper than you can imagine, and gets deeper as you dig.

It takes courage and a higher sense of awareness/consciousness to rise above the system, to shed yourself of programming and mind control, and free yourself of these psychological shackles, so that you can seek truth and passion, and not care what others think.

As Frederich Nietzsche notes:

"The individual has always had to struggle to keep from being overwhelmed by the tribe. If you try it, you will be lonely often, and sometimes frightened. But no price is too high to pay for the privilege of owning yourself."

Remember that the first step to true freedom begins in your MIND and consciousness. To take that step, you've got to develop a thinking that is separate from the hive, one that can recognize all this "double think" mind control for what it is, and the insanity and dysfunction of it all. And one that refuses to live in fear, but instead lives in love, truth and freedom.

To help aid in this first step of learning to think for yourself, I recommend reading Darryl Sloan's *Reality Check*. It's the best dissertation I've seen about learning to see through harmful and bogus belief systems. You can get it at <http://darrylsloan.wordpress.com/reality-check/> (sample chapters and audio reading available).

From there, the rest will flow naturally. The universe will bring events and other people in your life who are on a similar path to teach and help you as needed, or join/ally with you in your journey and purpose. No matter the distance, people who resonate on the same frequency will be drawn to each other one way or another.

Truth is not something you arrive at. It's a search, a journey. As an old Chinese proverb says, "The journey of a thousand miles begins with one step."

So the question is: Will you take that first step? Or will you remain with the hive?

Thank you for reading.

To learn more about mass mind control in America, go to YouTube or Google and enter these names in their search engines to pull up their work and videos: David Icke, Alex Jones, Michael Tsarion, Jordan Maxwell, Jesse Ventura (not that everything they say is true, but their work does contain a lot of truths and insights into the real nature of things).

Discuss this article here: <http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=8260>

See also:

[Propaganda vs. Real Life in America](#)
[The Industrial Culture of America and Automaton Populace](#)
[Debunking the Myth of Freedom and Democracy in America](#)
[Video - The Story of Your Enslavement](#)

Reader comments:

- *"The U.S. has become a totalitarian country, but it's still difficult for aware and semi-aware people to agree on just what kind of tyranny it is. The U.S. power structure is called a lot of different things -- fascist, corporatist, communist, socialist, etc. It's really a combination of more than one agenda, Cultural Marxist socially but also a globe-straddling imperial empire servile to giant multinational corporations and to Zionism and dedicated to forcing Cultural Marxism and mindless, deracinated consumerism on*

the rest of the world. Many people I have met from Eastern Europe who moved to the U.S. recognize the similarities to communism, the kind of system of control and paranoia they thought they were getting away from.

The media and advanced technology have turned the U.S. into a giant laboratory of various forms of control, manipulation and exploitation. Soulless, conformist, fearful consumer units with no historical memory is the template for Americans crafted over the past 40 years, and from there for people everywhere as the same afflictions are obvious in Canada and Britain and are gaining strength in much of Western Europe and other countries. It's so sad to see what America has become, and as has been noted here and on other sites the vast majority of Americans don't have a clue what's going on. Most of them could appear in a sequel to the movie Idiocracy without having to do any acting. 😊”

- “A masterpiece, you've truly outdid yourself this time! It's all there, everything gathered in a great paper. I'm definitely going to reread it over and over, so that it will be memorized. It's all truth, there are also a few other good people to listen to. I've recently found him yesterday, he is a really awesome individual. His name is Alex Collier, he talks about being in contact with extra terrestrials, but that isn't his only concern. It's us as individuals, how we need to break free and look at the world around us, his talks, lectures, and interviews are incredibly inspiring, one thing I will never forget. "Why do you have to pay... to live on a planet you where born on?" That will stick with me forever, what the "Aliens" preach is really astounding, what he says he was told. I am skeptical, but the morals that he preaches are inspiring.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uR46QjXjLH0>

But yeah, everything you stated in this article is mind blowing. It will open everyones eyes, when they truly apply and question their lives. I think this is a definite must read! I'm going to get links to your site, and save them. It will hopefully change peoples perceptions.

Mind if I use some of these things in a Presentation video? It's a video me and a couple friends are going to put together for kids at our school. Were going to talk about Social Division, Education, Money, The current future of humanity, and the solutions. (The Venus Project)

Thanks for posting this, I still don't know why people don't post! D;

Great job, you should really venture into making videos about this stuff! Like what Peter did with Zeitgeist! Yeah, just a idea. Great job, and keep up the good work!”

- “Very good read, though I must honestly say I felt like I was re-reading my own thoughts, which is probably not a bad thing. It can be very hard once you break out of the hive mentality to try to fit into our sick society. I have felt so much isolation because of it. Most of my old friends think I am crazy and my family tends to look the other way when I try to discuss things like you wrote. That is the curse of being a free thinker I suppose, or blessing depending on your point of view. Before I "woke up" if you will, I had many more friends and much better appreciation from my family. Then again, I was living in almost total oblivion.

I have been out of work for well over a year and honestly I have no desire to return to the workforce. I am not even so sure I want to finish going to college. Hell, I can't pay for it anyway. So many people seem to think that life is all about working, going to school, getting married, and having kids to do the same exact thing; just pumping out more units. It is so sad. Life is about BEING, not doing. To greater society I am a loser and a piece of shit, but to me I am a beautiful being of light just like everyone else. We have the power within us to create positive holistic change in the world. I believe that although we do need to be AWARE of the more negative ways of our current society, we need to focus on the positive, on love and the creative power of our consciousness if we are to make the change happen. For the longest time I thought that getting a job was the first and only first step I could take to being successful. Now, in the wake of economic collapse, getting a job will not be an option. We must all free ourselves of this materialistic prison cell and remember who we truly are.

So, good essay, as you can see it inspired me. 😊”

Four Catch-22's in America you are not supposed to see

America has a way of proclaiming to be the opposite of what it really is as a form of diversion from the truth and mind control technique to keep you from perceiving reality. The intellectual Author Noam Chomsky notes this about the "liberal media myth", that in reality the media is very conservative and tightly aligned with business interests, which is clear from the evidence, yet they continually propagate the myth that it is liberal as though it were a given fact of common knowledge. See Chomsky's explanation here in this video.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KYlyb1Bx9Ic>

Likewise, there are many Catch-22's in America that you are conditioned not to see which are polar opposites in claims vs. reality. They serve the purpose of inducing a "happy slave" mentality in the populace while subduing freedom of thought, a necessary illusion to maintain conformity to the business culture of America.

I will point out and describe a few:

1) You are taught that freedom is the epitome of human life, that it's worth dying for even, hence Patrick Henry's legendary quote "Give me liberty or give me death". Freedom is your "inalienable right", which is declared in the US Constitution.

Yet on the other hand, you are also taught that one MUST submit to corporate slavery, aka employment, in order to make a living. Without a job, your life has no purpose and you are labeled as lazy and idle. You are basically obligated to a lifetime of servitude to a corporation or public organization, which is a hierarchical dictatorship, in which there is no freedom or democracy. By doing so, you give your life away to the economy, and become a robot in a private dictatorship, in order to "make a living" and receive material rewards. Otherwise, you become a bum and are punished with deprivation of your material needs.

A few are able to run their own business and live off it, or generate an easy source of residual income. But most are not, and must submit to corporate slavery, giving their lives away to servitude.

There is definitely no freedom in that, for true freedom means you are free of any and all bondage and can do and think whatever you want, at least most of the time. Becoming a corporate drone obviously, is the antithesis of that.

The ideal citizen in America is a "happy slave", one that pays lip service to his/her freedom, but not actually BEING free, instead living a life of servitude and slavery to higher authorities.

2) You are expected to mind your own business, not need others, and leave other people alone. You are expected to be strong and independent, and to never get lonely. And you are taught not to talk to strangers, but to be paranoid of them. Normal means that you keep social interaction confined within closed social cliques, established usually early on in life in high school or college. Communication with strangers is usually business related.

In your culture, people live in a bubble, neighbors don't usually know each other, and every man is an island. There is an ice barrier between strangers. Hence people are not comfortable meeting new people and trying to do so feels awkward and tight. Even in extracurricular activities, people only meet for convenience and then go their separate ways afterward. It's a very isolating culture, and thus connecting and bonding with others does NOT come natural at all.

Yet on the other hand, if you go to places and public events alone, you are seen as a loser, like there's something wrong with you. It's a Catch-22, putting you between a "rock and a hard place" and unfairly blaming YOU for it.

If you complain about loneliness or having no friends or dates, then people will down you and claim that you must have a horrible personality or no social skills, in order to make themselves feel better than you. By giving them a target to ostracize (you), you give them a temporary feeling of "belonging to the pack" which has kicked

you out. It's a very dysfunctional victim blaming mentality. Thus it's a taboo to ever admit that you're lonely and have no social life, one that is punishable with blame and ridicule.

Furthermore, the media and movies portray the image that everyone is friendly in America, and that friends and dates are easy to get, so when they aren't, you blame yourself and assume something must be wrong with you. The cultural mythos says that "people are very friendly and if you were a person with great qualities, then everyone would want to hang out with you, and you'd have a lot of friends, so if you don't, then your personality and social skills must be lacking."

This myth and assumption ignores the fact that America is in reality a very nonsocial and segregated culture designed for business, not social connection or healthy relationships. This is evidenced by the fact that most lonely people in America report a far better social life when they go overseas to more open and passionate cultures. And it's also confirmed by the fact that loneliness and mental illness are silent epidemics which are more prevalent in America than in other nations.

Therefore, logically, in an antisocial culture where people do not like to bond or befriend others, where communication is usually business related, wouldn't it be more normal and natural to not have good friends and social life?

Thus the problem is due to the social culture, not with you (assuming that you are a decent social person with no major personality defects). Yet society has programmed you to see it backwards, that the problem is you and not the culture.

That is wrong and deceitful. But then again, America is not about truth, but about conforming to whatever consensus the media and government give you.

3) You are told that you live in a free country with free speech, that your culture is the epitome of freedom and democracy, envied by all other countries (which is BS). This means you are free to say, think and do whatever you want, as long as you don't intrude on the rights of others.

Yet if you don't believe whatever you are told by authority (government), your corporate media, and the engineered social consensus in your culture, then you are ridiculed and condemned for not following the herd. This means that you have a patriotic and civic duty to support every Godless evil murderous war that America gets involved in as well, even if it is in the wrong.

Nevermind the fact that innocent civilians, including women and children, die in America's wars that serve corporate greed, power and control. None of that should outrage you, because your leaders support it and therefore you have a patriotic duty to do so as well. You must OBEY and CONFORM!

For to you, truth is whatever authority and consensus tell you, not whatever the actual truth really is. And your duty is to conform to that, not challenge it. After all, if the mainstream media doesn't challenge it, then who are you to?!

In other words, you can pay lip service to freedom and free speech, as long as you CONFORM to authority and consensus. This means that it's ok to be a hypocrite, but not a nonconformist! It's one of the BIGGEST LIES imaginable.

Yet you aren't supposed to see this discrepancy and Catch-22, which in Orwellian terms is a form of "double think" in which the government says one thing and does another, yet programs you not to see the discrepancy.

It's the ultimate form of mind control. And it makes me sick.

4) You are told by many patriotic God fearing Americans that "America is the land of the free and epitome of freedom" yet they also say that "America is a Christian nation" or at least that it is based on Christian ethics and values.

Though there is debate over whether the Founding Fathers were Christians or Deists, America is still seen by many as being founded on Christian principles and ideals, which are ingrained in our culture, ethics and morals.

Yet the slightest cursory glance at the Bible and Christian faith reveals that it is inherently fascist in nature. The Bible teaches that if you do whatever you want or live your life however you want, you are living in sin and rebellion against God. Throughout the Bible, the message is that if you don't obey God and follow his commandments, you will be punished and damned. The Christian message is that freedom is evil, while obedience and giving your life and will to God is good. Likewise, in fascist Nazi Germany, anyone who didn't obey was shot or imprisoned. Dissension was not allowed. Fear of punishment was the motivator. Therefore, Christianity is essentially a "fascist religion".

Christianity and Fascism share the following core attributes:

- a) Obey or be punished.
- b) No independent thoughts. Must think with the hive.
- c) No tolerance for dissension or free speech.
- d) Your God or dictator is to be feared, for fear keeps you in line and protects authority.
- e) The use of fear and guilt as psychological control mechanisms.
- f) The view that the individual is weak and powerless, and his/her life is without purpose, unless aligned to serve a "higher power" (e.g. God, tyrant or dictator).

Now this isn't to say that Jesus himself was a fascist. Assuming he existed (which is not a proven fact), he could very well have been a well meaning person spreading a good spiritual message to help people. It's what the Church and elite power structure DID with his name and the religion around him that they established that turned Christianity into a fundamentalist religion and a fascist form of control over others.

So anyway, how can you believe in religious fascism and a "land of the free" at the same time?! How can you deem freedom as the highest value yet preach a religion where freedom is considered evil and obedience to God is the only good? How can you claim the right of free speech yet support a religion that doesn't allow dissension? You can't. It's a total contradiction. Yet they preach it nonetheless. It's another example of Orwellian "double think". Therefore, living with the ideals of freedom and fascism at the same time is a Catch-22.

This is just the tip of the iceberg. When you look deeper, the contradictions become even more numerous.

For example, how can you support the American value of individualism and at the same time the Christian belief that the individual is nothing unless he/she submits to the Christian God and obeys him? If you truly believed in individual free will, you cannot endorse the punishment of individuals who freely choose not to surrender to the "hive mentality" of the Christian Church. There's no way around it if you think about it. (but then again you are not meant to think about it, only to obey all that you are told)

Furthermore, as the Apostle Paul said in his Epistles (Romans 6), we are "slaves to sin" before accepting Christ. But once you accept Christ and start following God's commandments, you are "set free" from sin and become "slaves to righteousness" as Paul put it. In other words, when you are free, you are "slaves to sin", but when you submit your will to God and give up your freedom, then you are "set free from sin"! How can you be "set free" by submitting to fascism?! What could be more ridiculous than that?! Golly. The mind control here couldn't be more obvious.

Also, how can you preach the "love of God" and the "fear of God" at the same time? You can't love and fear something at the same time. Love and fear are totally different vibrations of energy that are not compatible. Fear operates on a lower denser vibration while love is on a higher faster more dynamic frequency.

Moreover, these same "religious patriots" also declare Capitalism to be based on the Christian values and principles of hard work and virtuous labor. Yet Capitalism teaches that greed and the accumulation of wealth is a GOOD thing, and encourages self-interest as a primary motivator of the free enterprise system. But on the other hand, the Bible teaches that greed is a BAD thing and leads to sin and destruction, which is taught in many examples and parables in the Bible. As Jesus said, "It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God."

Though Bible verses can be interpreted in different ways, there is no question that greed is taught to be a bad thing in the Bible. So again we have two mutually exclusive values. Yet these religious patriots don't see it or reconcile it. They are under mass mind control too, and are not as free as they think they are.

Here's another oddity. We are taught in schools that man arose from Evolution and random mutations of nature. Yet we have "In God We Trust" on the dollar bill, the swearing of Bibles in the courtroom, the words "one nation under God" in the pledge of allegiance, and virtually all politicians and US Presidents professing to believe in God (since Atheists can't get elected). And good citizens are expected to go to church too. Another Orwellian double think?

You gotta remember that religion was set up not to free you, but to contain you. And authority is set up to control people, not to serve them. This is why fascist religions like Christianity and Islam constantly seek to convert and dominate others, both in their homeland and abroad, for that is the inherent nature of fascism and tyranny. It's all about control and conquest, not just of lives, but of minds as well.

Religion limits and closes your mind into a rigid belief system that EDITS OUT any new information that doesn't fit into it. It restricts you from seeing reality and others the way they are, removing objectivity and clarity of thought. Yet you are sold the opposite, that religion will "free you". If that isn't mind control and brainwashing, then I don't know what is.

Learn to free your mind, and you will recognize anything in disguise that tries to enslave and control you, and see through their lies.

For more on how Christianity and other fascist religions are used as mass mind control, listen to David Icke's dissertation on it here:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S8zohMUaUog>

Discuss this article here: <http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=8169>

Why immigrants don't assimilate well in America

Another excellent essay from one of my expert cultural commentators:

"There has been a lot of debate as to why immigrants will not assimilate into the American culture.

However, all those who are now assimilated children of immigrants seem to have forgotten how long it took their families to assimilate.

I am sure it was not done in 2-3 years or even one generation. But even if they could assimilate rather quickly here are some of the reasons why they are not assimilating as quickly as you may wish they would.

1) Socially, the American society is not very accepting of people with foreign accents (except British colonial, soft North European- Swedish, Norwegian etc., and a gentle French accent). Learning to speak a language without an accent is a very difficult proposition after the age of 12. If you have an accent, ostracism or mockery is very common. Scorn for other cultures and languages is common, too. Many people do not want to be mocked and ridiculed (do you?), so they stick to their own kind.

I remember in NY, where I used to live it was common for kids not to play with someone whose parents had an accent. This is how bad it can get.

Latin American societies such as Brazil or Argentina are much less so and if you have an accent it is no big deal. Hence, there you have people who came at a more mature age and found a society that is far less suspicious and more embracing. After a person becomes a citizen of Argentina, he is called an Argentinean and that's that. Accent or no accent. But try speaking with an accent to a bunch of working class Americans. Suspicious looks and frowns will abound. And few will see you as an American.

2) The Anglo-Saxon culture of the US is cliquish and not very friendly; socially that is. The laws are very generous and the Constitution is superb. A great friendly government, but many people are very much into their small groups. Breaking into those groups is not an easy task. So, many people just don't bother- they have other priorities.

3) Nativism; "American means: born here!" I remember a very classical example of how it works: I was at work and one employee called me a "foreigner" in an unfriendly way. Actually, this had happened more than once. He had found out that I was not born in the US because I am fluent in many languages and the 'terrible truth' had surfaced. Then, when I answered- "I am not a foreigner, but a US citizen", a pat answer came my way: "I mean a foreigner; not born here". This attitude is very common in the US, although, admittedly, not all people adhere to it- there are some nice people that see you as someone who 'became' an American. But socially, unless you are British or Aussie who turned into an American and have no accent now, you will not really be seen as such.

Just look at the sites that have been organized to stymie Arnold Schwarzenegger's alleged bid for US presidency. They are calling him a "foreigner" even though he is a US citizen and took the Oath of Renunciation without which one cannot become one. Such an attitude is 'very' widespread in the US.

There is also an ingrained social way of looking at immigrants. In the American culture people do not ask you "Are you a US citizen?" they ask you "Where are you from (originally)?" Once you tell them, bingo! You are an immigrant to many (if not most) people. And it does not matter how long you have been in the country and if you are US citizen. And also, the US media simply loves to attach the title "German-born", "Russian-born", etc. to anyone who was not born in the US. Even if they are US citizens. And God forbid if you do something bad- immediately the word "immigrant" surfaces. Remember Zsa Zsa when she slapped a policeman? The judge was telling her "It is like you slapped every American!" meaning in a subtle way she was 'not' an American.

In Argentina or Brazil, no. Look at Carlos Gardel- the famous tango composer. He is referred to as an Argentinean even though he was French-born. Few even talk about his foreign birth. But in America, it is an issue. At least one that is worth mentioning.

There is no difference in the popular culture and understanding between a legal immigrant, illegal immigrant and a naturalized US citizen as far as the working masses of the US population go. They are all the same. And then they have censuses of the foreign born population in which the above categories are dumped into one.

4) The class of people that would want to come and live in the US is usually that of people in economic need or refugees. Refugees do not really 'want' to be in the US. Coming was a necessity; not a need. It is just that they were unfortunate enough to be in very bad circumstances, and although they are grateful to the US government for all the benefits, emotionally they are still attached to their country. Add to that the social (not the official) hostility and you have a recipe for multiculturalism.

The other, very poor people may not have the smarts (and the IQ) to go to school and assimilate. Plus you would not want to be a kid with an accent at a US school. I have been one and you are harassed very often and can get beat up. Young American kids can be nasty. You will have no friends, no dates, nothing. Unless of course you are from a popular country such as Switzerland, Australia, the UK, etc. But these are not coming to the US for the most part. If you had people of high class with means coming to the US from places such as Belgium or the Netherlands, etc, there would not be an assimilation issue- they would all assimilate very quickly. But people from those countries rarely want to come- life is better there than in the US now.

The US immigration quotas favor non-white people from very different cultures for whom the Anglo-based culture is not easy to learn, plus they would not really be accepted into the mainstream even if they wanted to. Racism is still strong- from the whites, the blacks and even other immigrants who had come before them.

- 5) The US now is not about culture, assimilation, etc. It is mostly about making money. So, people concentrate on that. Prices are high, rents are high. People work to make ends meet. Some work to save for school, cars, apartments, etc. Cultural and language studies are secondary. So, assimilation is left to its own devices and it will take its natural course- two or three generations. Just like it has with most other assimilated immigrants' children whom you see around you."

The biggest culture shock: Americans in movies vs. real life

I've often wondered about something.

Why is it that on TV and in movies, Americans are so open, friendly, sociable, communicative, and easily invite you into their cliques, taking you out for fun and introducing you to others? They act so warm, emotional, full of life and feeling, and are easy to talk to and get involved with. And in romance/drama films of old (less so nowadays) people were so passionate and full of feeling in their eyes and expression, as though they were fully aware and conscious.

But in real life, Americans are generally uptight, closed, cliquish, paranoid, anti-social outside their clique, difficult to meet, don't talk to you unless its business related, and basically ignore you and expect you to mind your own business while they mind theirs. People are in a bubble and there is an "ice barrier" between strangers. They seem like zombies/automatons who are totally unaware and oblivious to others around them, as though they were not fully conscious. They are always in a rush to get through their daily routine. They seem totally uninterested and unconcerned with human connection. And if you are not like that too, you stick out like a sore thumb, like you are in a sort of Twilight Zone - in a different reality from everyone else!

Why is there such a HUGE difference that no one talks about?! It's so bizarre, like the Twilight Zone!

My friend and cultural advisor, a former US immigrant who speaks 10 languages, has been to over 30 countries and is an expert in cultural analyses, made the same observation in my forum when he described the biggest

culture shock that immigrants face in America:

<http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=8855>

"I think generally, the biggest culture shock that people experience in the US is not between their country and the US but between what they thought the US would be and what it actually is. Books and movies about America make the place appear very free and exciting and happening and the people are so interesting and emotional. There is sex and fun and romance going on. When they arrive, the place looks very conservative and the people appear robotic and quiet. Sex is subdued and hard to come by. The people are not open at all, they look closed and mistrustful. Everybody is just working and looking tired and apathetic. Talking to strangers is taboo. There are thousands of little rules and laws and social mores that seem as dogmatic and strict as those in a Muslim society. And every time you are at risk of breaking yet another law and facing very dire consequences. That is the biggest culture shock of all."

This is so blatantly obvious, yet no one talks about it. To do so would make you look like a loser, so no one dares to. It's like an "Emperor's New Clothes" syndrome. Either that, or people don't see it due to the cognitive dissonance of their programming.

There is also an unspoken social law that says that anywhere you go, you MUST say that people are very friendly and wonderful, or you say nothing at all. Or you can blame yourself. But you are NOT allowed to say that people are anti-social. That is a big taboo and No-No. Thus truth is censored no doubt.

Here are some more posts in my forum about how different America is in reality compared to the media portrayal of it.

<http://www.happierabroad.com/phpBB2/viewtopic.php?p=23902#23902>

"And by the way, I am back in the matrix and miserable about it. Can't talk to strangers, can't make eye contact, neighbors don't interact, social groups in public do not interact or overlap, extreme social cliquishness, nothing going on for social life in the community, women unapproachable to the point that it feels taboo to talk to them at all, and lonely, isolated lives are standard, people spend more time with a TV than with people, and the relationships/dating scene here and the disintegration of family, marriage, and community is downright shocking.

Just seeing how my family members live on in this isolated and dysfunctional matrix, oblivious to what a wonderful, open, natural welcoming social life exists outside of the US, depresses me. I can't wait to get out myself. And so I have a lot of work to do on not letting that whole mess consume me now while trying to get enough healthy human contact to stay sane in this incredibly frigid and mistrustful and disconnected social atmosphere."

<http://www.happierabroad.com/phpBB2/viewtopic.php?t=7510&postdays=0&postorder=asc&start=40>

"This is not the picture that Hollywood beams into billions of households around the world. In it, women on roller skates in bikinis zoom through suburbs and cities and at the first beck and call go with you to the nearest motel for a roll in the hay for no money at all. This is how everybody sees America around the world.

I see America now as Iran or Saudi Arabia in terms of female availability, if not worse. Because in the latter the local men will have girls lined up by family connections- meetings will be arranged and a wedding date with a virgin bride will be set as soon as you are ready. In other Muslim countries that are cheaper, it will be even easier. Yeah the girls are dressed modestly all right but you will soon get married to a good girl who will be open only to **you**.

The great deception that Hollywood pulls on the world public is monstrous."

 "Your right, when I watch sitcoms on tv, the women are always friendly towards men, they flirt with men and are easy to ask out and sleep with. Watching American made movies are the same. The women are friendly, approachable, smile a lot and will easily give a man her phone number! Now we all know

this is NOT reality, it's a fantasy that Hollywood puts out.

When is the last time a single woman in America flirted with you? Or when was the last time a single woman in America started a conversation with you?

For most guys the answer is either NEVER or ALMOST NEVER! Women in America ignore men, even if the guy is good looking. Of course, tv shows and movies in America show women as friendly and flirtacious with men. NOTHING can be further from the truth!"

What immigrants and foreigners say about America that you never hear in the US media

"The biggest culture shock that people experience in the US is not between their country and the US but between what they thought the US would be and what it actually is." – [Ladislav](#), my Expat Advisor

In reality, there are few redeeming qualities to living in America other than making money and consuming. Besides that, the rest is mostly fake and artificial. This is well known to many foreigners, immigrants and even some Americans. And in fact, foreign visitors and immigrants usually report that the first thing they notice upon arriving in America is that the culture and people seem "fake and superficial".

According to CNN, ABC, NBC, CBS and other mainstream network news stations, ALL immigrants in America claim to have a better life and more freedom, escaping oppression and tyranny in their home country. That's the view that they attempt to "manufacture" to the US public. Contrary opinions (such as the ones here) are censored out, and in their view, don't exist. Therefore, I wish to try to bring balance to the media's one-sided coverage and representation of immigrants' views by sharing their real life opinions here, uncensored, honest and profound. Contrary to what is portrayed in the US media, most immigrants in America do NOT see coming here as a win-win situation. They either have mixed feelings about it or they regret it.

Here are their opinions and views, which are quite common and what you hear in real life when you travel and meet laypeople, but not in the highly censored, agenda-driven, unintellectual US media of course. In fact, any European easily notices, in comparison with their media, that the US corporate media is unintellectual and lacks any critical thinking skills.

What's interesting here (and tickles my funny bone) is that these views are totally "out of the box", going against everything we have been taught and "supposed" to think and believe, yet they are so true nonetheless, confirmed by many laypeople who read them. It took courage and insight to put something like this together, which goes against the grain and against the propaganda of the establishment, as a beacon of light, so that others who feel the same way know that they are not the only ones, and are not crazy. Instead, they are given words they couldn't find to express how they feel. Thus, it's nice to know that many who read these quotes below exclaim in liberated delight, *"Wow! I thought I was the only one who felt that way!"*

Now, you might wonder why if so many immigrants in the US have such opinions as below, that they stay. Well the explanation is simple and sad. Humans have a propensity to get into a "comfort zone" even when they don't like where they live, don't fit into the culture, or become enlightened about it. If you have a daily routine set up, as long as there are some benefits of convenience, it's easier to do nothing and just maintain it, than to make drastic changes to your life which could entail starting your life over from scratch. And of course, where one lives usually brings obligations into one's life that are hard to break due to the aforementioned reasons. In addition, the immigrants often have family members (e.g. their children, spouses, or parents) who are settled in the US that further tie them there. So you see, the "if you don't like it then leave" mantra is much easier said than done.

Here now are the collection of quotes and comments from immigrants and foreigners sent to me directly or that I took off the web. I've kept them in their original form, correcting only spelling errors, leaving their grammar and informal style intact. They are sorted chronologically in descending order.

First, a Russian girl from Moscow had this to say about moving to the USA:

"To be honest i don't like usa at all, i can move there but only if it is strongly needed (if i fall for an american). Many of my friends was there(with families or for student exchange Work&travel usa) and say something similar to: "they have no culture, but the money... money and nothing more is interesting for them", Doesn't sound inspiring.."

Next, an Asian American reader of my book gave his conclusion of life in America, similar to mine:

"Winston,

Interesting to read your writing on America....after 20 years living on the US, I gradually have come to a similar conclusion. Now I tend to see US as an extremely luxury prison, and experience life here as a shell, hollow with little content except if your life is all about making money or being fully committed to a career...

Regards,

*** ****

NJ”

And an African American man on my list observed:

“You can tell most people in other parts of the world are more cultured and morally more disciplined than most Americans. Most Americans think possessing material wealth is being cultured, and that they are socially more superior than other races...What an ILLUSION in their mind!!... They unfortunately so believe their illusions they fail to realize they are dead WRONG! North America is good to live in if you like to acquire material wealth period! And that is good provided you do not lose your morals of human compassion and relations.”

Here’s what a Ukrainian American lady in the US observed about our culture’s valuation of everything by its productivity:

“There are many things that can be said about main stream American culture (or non-culture, I should say), but the bottom line is that it is a paper plate consumer focused culture ... All things are judged in value according to their "use" or productivity, and then thrown aside when they are used up or no longer producing ... Usually, the corporations decide what is to be valued, and the people, with blind faith and obedience, look to the corporate conglomerates' commercials and their commercial sponsored media for the answers to everything ...

There are no parents in America; there are only property owners. There are no children, spouses, partners, friends, or lovers; there is only property. Americans don't really have freedom or independence; they have dependence and to their cars and other properties.”

Similarly, a Russian American male immigrant I know had this to say in response to my observation that foreign women abroad are far more relaxed, open, and sociable to strangers than in the US.

“Hey Winston.

It is good you noticed the difference. But it is not only women it is all americans are very different. Americans have empty eyes. Even those people on TV. Because there is no soul in this country only money.”

It’s true as they say, that the “eyes are the window to the soul.” You can see empty, plastic eyes of money and illusion there. But you might not notice unless you have other populations to compare them to, such as those of another culture. And of course, if you are of the same kind as them, then you won’t see what I’m talking about either. Again, an “inner life” isn’t something that can be quantified or described with mere words. Those who have it know what it is. And those who don’t have one, can’t see one with a mere description.

Back in college, a Greek friend used to often tell me:

“Americans have no inner life. All they do is consume!”

He couldn’t be more right. Our lifestyle is one of perpetual consumption in excess. To see an obvious example of excess consumption in America, go to a typical home and look in the garage or basement, and notice the excess of things stored there that are never used, making moving a total pain in the ass. As ancient wisdom goes, too much of anything is never any good. But alas, there is little else to do in the routine of American life.

Even a beautiful Lithuanian girl gave her honest impression of the artificiality of the states, which is surprising since beautiful women tend to praise America since they are given so much admiration, benefits, and special treatment there:

"Hi Winston,
 nice to hear u like lithuania and it's people! and yes, i live here most of the time, but i'm travelling a lot as well and this fall i'm leaving for half a year. i've spent two summers in the states as well, so i do understand why u liked lithuania or europe in all, i could never live in that country, honestly, i guess i'm just love europe too much and couldn't get used to that feeling that everything and everyone was so fake over there, sorry if my opinion about the states seems rude, but i'm just being honest:)
 talk to u later, got many things to do!
 take care,"

Later on, when I told her I was impressed that she knew the abbreviations of so many US states, which most average Americans don't even know, she replied, paying a great compliment to the average American:

"here, abbreviations is not a big deal, i've been to those states + i never use a criterion of what an "average american would/would not know" to decide if a person is smart- would be too many smart people in the world:P."

Another Lithuanian girl described the hell and isolation she experienced when she stayed in the US for half a year:

"The longest period that I have spent abroad was like 6 months. I was in the states. Unfortunately (as most Americans would put it), I was in NJ this very little town called Stone Harbor. I don't think you would know it though. It was hell... being stuck in the middle of nowhere, with no wild nightlife....I still remember it as a worst nightmare."

A Russian girl I met in a park in Moscow near metro station Chistie Prudy said that when she was in the states, she thought:

"This is America?! Come on, I need action!"

And a beautiful Russian girl selling souvenirs around Catherine Palace in St. Petersburg, Russia, gave her impression of girls in the states vs. in her country (summarizing from memory):

"I was in the states before. The difference between our girls and yours is that yours have no interests."
 (in comparison to the girls in her country)

In some cases, experiencing the US can cause such psychological damage that one prefers to erase all memory of it, as in the case of this Lithuanian girl who vociferated:

"hi Winston,
 first of all, sorry that i'll be a bit distant for a while, because i have exam session and don't have any time to write mails. still, i do hope u're not gonna find me rude, cause i don't wanna be, but please, do NOT SEND me anymore ANYTHING ABOUT THE STATES. i really don't wanna hear what people say/think/feel etc. about it. i have been there, have my own opinion and my feelings to it are not positive at all, therefore i'm trying to forget all that and delete it from my memory and sorry, but ur mails don't help me too much with that. i had some really bad experiences there and everytime u make me relive those bad emotions, what i have no wish to do. if people in the states are proud to be americans and think it's the best country in the world (when their knowledge of the world reach maximum 5 miles around their farms)-let it be, cool, i'm telling them: live and be happy ever after. i'm out from there. for long. PERIOD.
 I hope u understand that i'm not saying "don't write me", i just don't wanna hear about usa anymore."

Perceptions like in the above are a lot more common than you might think. I've heard many such views from US immigrants, foreigners, and Europeans. In fact, I'd estimate that about 80 to 90 percent of Europeans feel that way about our lifestyle.

These next few quotes are in regard to US workplace environments, where coworkers tend to politely tolerate each other without becoming real friends or bonding with each other. Not always of course, but more so compared to other countries. During lunch breaks, for example, most office workers tend to go off alone and do their own thing. If they go eat with someone, it's usually with one or two coworkers to the exclusion of the rest.

But in other countries, such as Greece for instance, coworkers eat together, cook together, and often the boss cooks for them too.

One reader noted such an observation to me:

“Dear Winston,

A late good friend of mine from Peru used to tell me "Americans are friendly but not your friend". He observed how in the U.S. one could work for years in a company and never be invited to a co-workers home. This was far different from Peru where people frequently visited each others homes and were very social outside of work. I found this intriguing. As you have said each society has its pluses and minuses. Hope you enjoy this. Take care.”

And an East Indian friend of mine concurred, saying:

“Yes, very. I agree with your late peruvian friend in that I've found for the most part, most American's have a friendly manner that may or may not reflect how they really feel.

So someone coming here from another country (say India) would think they're the friendliest people in the world. I thought that too, when I walked out on the streets on my first day in the US and had total strangers smiling at me and saying "Hello, How do you do".....but I quickly realized that they were just 'being nice' and had no earthly interest in hearing my answer.

In India, it is rather different - people aren't as quick to smile and say hi, but they are much more likely to invite you home, or do other things that help cement friendships quicker than I've seen happen here in the US. I know that's generalizing, and I'm not an expert on cultural phenomena by any means, but there definitely is a discernable difference.

Just my .02”

Another East Indian reader described the spiritual depravity in America and the selfishness/egoism of its individualism:

“I myself am heavily influenced by nondualist studies, such as Zen, Sufism, Advaita and Taoism, which focus heavily on interconnectedness with the universe, and getting away from the "I" (and understanding that our own perception of the self is generally false).

Indeed, America is therefore a very spiritually starved place, in my opinion, because of the emphasis on a self/ego (which is most likely perceived falsely to begin with), instead of the heavy emphasis on oneness, or interconnectedness. And it wreaks its havoc in work, in family life and beyond.

By the way, India, where my family is from, is a good place to meet people. Not the greatest, but quite a bit superior to USA in terms of social life. I love it when I visit there.

I do also think, however, that good and bad exists everywhere, in different ways and different amounts, which I know you've addressed. And we can only fight the bad so much. So it's a matter of how well we take the good with the bad.

But yes, when it comes to this particular problem of not being able to control the ego, and being hopelessly caught in the traps of duality, rather than engaging in interconnectedness with all, America is just about at the top. And therefore your site is spot-on about that.”

A young Czech girl I met on internet movie database (imdb.com) wrote her impression of America to me, which even though she's never been there, is pretty darn accurate nevertheless:

“And about the states...well, when i was younger i thought it would be so cool to live there but then i grew up a little and i changed my mind. When somebody's talking about americans i always imagine a fat man eating a BigMac, sitting in the cinema and laughing at the most stupid joke in the most stupid movie ever:-) I know americans are not this way but i just can't help myself:-) I don't want to judge usa until i can say i've been there cuz my view of usa is "made"(i don't now better word:-) mostly of films

and documents and of what i read (and that's not very probative). I just hate it when americans bless their "amazing" country and they can hardly find it on a map:-) And I'm rather not talking about their knowledges of another countries...i just think americans should learn more about the world cuz they don't know enough:-)"

An Italian related this joke about Americans to me:

"When the UN distributed this questionnaire:

'What is your opinion on how to reduce food shortage to the rest of the world?'

The European replied: 'What is shortage?'

The African replied: 'What is food?'

The Chinese replied: 'What is opinion?'

The American replied: 'What is the rest of the world?'"

He then added:

"Over here in Italy, one thing that does not lack is culture and interest to the "rest of the world""

In regards to the international affairs of the US government abroad, even Canadians are more aware and informed about US foreign policy than Americans are. A Canadian family I stayed with verbally related an interesting observation to me, which I will do my best to paraphrase from memory:

"America seems to be composed of two separate worlds. On the one hand, you have the American population, which generally consists of good well-meaning people. But on the other, you have the US government which is actively involved in horrible acts abroad, such as exploiting others, overthrowing governments and regimes in the interest of corporate greed, and committing all kinds of crimes, which the mainstream American public is amazingly unaware of and oblivious to. In fact, the WHOLE REST OF THE WORLD seems to know more about what the American government does in the international scene than the American people do!"

A Lithuanian immigrant named Valdas Anelauskas who came to the US to flee communism expressed his disappointment and how he underestimated how bad things were in the US. In one of his articles, he writes:

<http://www.geociti.es/CapitolHill/Senate/1120/article1.html>

I see that in this cutthroat society, based on a "greed is good" philosophy, unlimited profit seeking, selfishness, fraud and greediness for money dominates everywhere. Money is absolutely the bottom line for everything. In America, the rich are truly rich and the poor are hopelessly poor. In my opinion, the United States today has the most advanced system of private tyranny. Private corporations have enormous power in this country and they take advantage of an apparently legal slave labor, terribly exploiting the working class people. Corporate bosses earn millions while workers struggle to survive without living wages. From my point of view, the majority of jobs here today are still extremely exploitative. The U.S. minimum wage is ridiculous. Working for \$5 an hour is slavery and nothing else. Therefore, poor people and homeless people make up a significant portion of the population in this country. Millions of hard-working Americans live permanently at the edge of poverty. There is no doubt that economic injustice is the most important issue of today's America. The rich are getting richer, the poor are getting poorer, and all the people in the middle are just falling down. I see that people in this society are secondary to corporate power and profits. Freedom for market dominates over freedom for people. In fact, at least 80 percent of Americans are simply robbed by this exploiting system. I've noticed how American corporate propoganda always surely emphasizes that in European countries - "welfare states"- people have to pay a much higher taxes. In fact, taxes in most of Western Europe, even in Scandinavia, are just slightly higher than an average 34 percent of income Americans pay. The main thing is what people receive in return for their taxes. In European social- democracies everybody has a "cradle-to-grave" comfortable feeling of security and care. Question: What are citizens of this country getting for their tax dollars? Answer: Next to nothing! People's taxes support armament instead of basic human needs here.

Another Russian immigrant observed the effect that our consumerist culture has on people:

“One thing I notice is that Americans, in general, are very narrow-minded people, who are absolutely not interested or curious about anything more mind stimulating than stupid soap operas and some dumb idol/reality shows... that is why very often they come off as being too anti-social. It's not that they are stuck up or conceited, its just very hard to engage anyone in anything interesting. And most of them, i find, are the ones who actually have a low self esteem, so as a cover up, they may come off as arrogant and anti-social....

I thought, the Soviet people were brainwashed. Now I am convinced that every big empire brainwashes its people. There is no other way around.”

I receive fan letters from immigrants like the following on a regular basis:

“I came across your e-booklet on Happier Abroad

I cannot express in words how impressed I am by your work and how accurate and true you are to yourself. I have lived in the US for 13 years now, and I can't but agree with every single word you wrote. I am sure that many of my friends who have gone through the same experiences do also agree. America is the land of false promise, the land of moral and psychological depression. People in the US who think they're happy, are mostly so because they do not know any better.

Anyhow, I am working of relocating out of the US as soon as possible after reality of life has become crystal clear. No regrets, because life events have forced me into this direction, but now I say to myself: enough!

Congratulations again on a job well done!!!!!!”

Like me, this Russian immigrant wondered if there was something wrong with him when he became disenchanted with America:

“Anyway, to cut a long story short, everything you wrote in your treatise is precisely to the point. I am a Russian who has lived in the States long enough to know. I came to the country expecting to find some flavor, as I had been able to do in France and Germany. Alas, what I ran into was a sea of blandness.

It took me a while to realize that there was a chasm of difference between the media picture of America and real life, but when the truth hit home, I felt very disappointed and empty. I even had a lapse of self-condemnation as I thought the problem was in me. I have gotten over it now and can see clearly. Your writing puts all the pieces of the puzzle together very well.”

And as I did, this Polish-American Cornell student also grew up feeling disenchanted about the dysfunction of America:

“Hey Winston,

I just read over the euro weekly digest and found you to be the only person who knows what he's talking about. I am a Polish-American that was born and has lived most of my life in the US and speak fluent English without an accent. I have spent many years living abroad in Poland (I visit just about every summer), Italy for a year, England for a year and visited a lot of other countries in Europe as well as Northern Africa.

So, when I read over your posts its just like reading what I've known for years. When I was younger I was a very average American teenager until I went to high school and saw the insanity of America and the everyday mentality of my friends from middle school becoming that of their narrow-minded parents. Ever since I have grown to hate America more and more by the day. America lusts for money and greed, the whole system is anti-friendly and geared towards those who like to work to death, after all what is the point of life in America if you are not working? Anyways I will spare you the rest of the generalizations because I already mostly agree with what you wrote in your posts. American people are duped everyday by their popular culture and the people in power, keeping everyone servile.

Anyways, nowadays I attend Cornell University and it is not much different to me than my high school or any other place in America I have been. People still lust for success and are just more cutthroat and willing to walk all over you to get what they want. I expected lots of interesting intellectuals and interesting people, but was disgusted by the mediocrity selfishness of almost all Cornell students. Even the European or international students change when they come to America and lose their cultures for money and success.

Well, just in conclusion, I am at Cornell so that I can get a better start in Europe because I care about my career, but obviously not to the degree that Americans do. I am personally more of a lover of Mediterranean Europe and I highly suggest you visit if you already haven't, I enjoy it much more than the North where people are generally colder. It is nice to know that people out there exist that know what the real deal with the world is today. I have a few friends that also understand this point of view, like Jake, he is my friend on couchsurf.

Just wanted to say hi and say I know your right and the rest is either uneducated or refuses to think deeply enough about the overall situation in the world."

A Dutch girl in the states who read this collection of quotes, wrote these observations about the deficiencies of this country:

"Winston,

I was referred to your webpage by a friend of mine who is from Germany. She had sent me one of your articles and I decided to explore further on your web page. I found the article titled " what immigrants and foreigners say about America that you never hear in the U.S. Media" very funny and completely accurate. I am glad that there are people out there who realize that the U.S. is not everything. My friend and I always talk about this type of stuff, and it makes me very happy to see that WE are not the only ones who feel this way and get upset about it. Because we feel we cannot express ourselves fully without getting a strange look or some kind of disagreement. (It is as if we are emotionally in jail.)

I, myself, am from Europe (the Netherlands) where I lived until about 8 years ago. Being brought up in such a liberal country has made it very difficult for me to adjust to the American life style. Soft drugs, Euthanasia, same sex marriages, and prostitution are all legal and are not looked as if they are taboo or wrong doing (feel these things should also be legal in the U.S.)

As I said before I'm having a difficult time (still) adjusting to the American way of life. **What are Americans PRUDE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! I can't stand it.** Talking about sex is a taboo, having sex is a taboo and oh boy... what if you see a nipple or a butt crack on T.V., it better be blurred out before we realize that others have those, too. In the Netherlands (as well as other countries throughout Europe) we embrace nudity. Women go topless or walk around naked on the beach, we wear shirts without a bra where the nipple is shown through. It is sexy and not looked as perverted. We have T.V. commercials (even during the day) where nudity is shown. Something I really do not understand is that on T.V. in the U.S., plastic surgeries are shown, the breasts are cut open and everything is exposed except for the nipple that of course, are blurred out. Nipples, vagina's, penises and butt cracks are part of the human body and should not be looked upon as something disgusting.

I also, personally, do not like the egotistic, and independent life style that exists here. For Americans, the world is the U.S. and if lucky, Canada and Mexico is included with that. (look at the world cup in baseball... how long have the Americans won that.. oh hold on.. only the U.S. plays in it hahaha {stupid if you ask me}!!!) People in the U.S are so uneducated about life out of the U.S. that I have been asked whether Amsterdam is a country (in which "Holland" is the capital I suppose)!!!! Also, the independent life style is so weird to me. People don't even know their own neighbors here, where is in Europa, we are "taught" to work together. We do know our neighbors, in fact, during World Cups or Euro Cups, a lot of streets put out T.V.'s and couches and chairs and the whole street sits behind that one T.V. with a beer in the hand, enjoying not only the game, but also the company of their neighbors.

I also feel that we do not live to work, but work to live and are not as materialistic as people are in the U.S. I can personally say that as a child I may not have had everything that I wanted, but I did have everything that I needed. In the U.S., most children get what they want so that they will shut up for

another week, but often do not get the love, affection, respect and help that they need from their family members(other words, they get what they want, not what they need.)

Unfortunately I'm bounded to the U.S. because of family, how ever, I do hope to be back in Europa within the upcoming 5 years because there is no place like home ;-D

Thanks for being an outlet, and it is good to know that I'm not the only one. I feel a whole lot better already! hahahaha”

Here, an East Indian girl explained why she prefers living and working abroad, and summing up what her Israeli friend said as well:

“actually, i want to go to england, maybe work in london./ the rest of england outside of london is pretty slow. if london doesn't work out, me and vladimir will go to australia or new zealand. What about you? will you move? in america, all they do is tax you, work you so much, and no life for family. I don't want that.

in fact, my israeli girlfriend said it's very lonely here, and that everyone's afraid of each other here, and she also prefers to return to israel once her kids are 18. she thought america was a good place to live, but now she thinks it's full of work, political corruption, and they work you to death, and give back little. she recommends others not to settle here, for in many ways, it's a jungle here.”

Another African American gave these enlightening observations:

“You really tell the truth the way it is about American society. Many people want to get in a bubble or comfort zone of a kind of fake reality with our mainstream media, superficial tv and music and it reflects in the women of America and social networks. Americans are being socially engineered to live apart and not want "natural" contact with others but instead want superficial relationships and friendships. It is hard for free thinkers of different backgrounds in America to ever get truly comfortable in this kind of environment, which is why I want to either move to Europe or just travel from place to place instead of staying in America. This country is terrible. I am a pianist who thinks that Europe would be more open and accepting for a classical black musician as myself! The educational system is dumbing us down as well in America, making us submissive to authority and never questioning things in our society. I could write a long essay about this but I agree with everything that you have said. Keep up the good work.”

In the Philippines, some common things I hear about America are:

“When Filipino people move to America, they seem to change. Our friends and relatives who go there seem to just forget us.”

“I've heard from Filipinos in America that it's boring and lonely, and that there's not much to do except work.”

A reader from Greece wrote me the following:

“Hello Winston,

My name is ***** and I am from Athens, Greece. I came across your web site while googling trying to find web sites with articles about the differences between Europeans and Americans. I am writing an essay for one of my courses at college and I needed that kind of info. I have to admit that I was hooked up by your articles. Many of the situations that you describe were like a revelation to me. You see, many foreigners including me have a completely different image of every day life in America especially influenced by the various hollywood movies and american tv series. I had never expected that things were so horrible. You know, I also used to hate living in Greece but after what I read about the states I think I changed my mind a little bit. Anyway, the reason i'm writing is first to congratulate you for your courage to write about this stuff and let everyone know that America is not the ideal paradise that everyone imagines. I would be really interested in getting your e-book , I think it would be very helpful for my essay. Do I have to pay anything or can you send it to me for free? By the way, if you happen to know any more good web sites about the cultural and general differences between american and

European lifestyles, you would be more than welcome to send them to me.

That's all for now! Thanks for your time and don't give up. There are 200 countries out there, America IS NOT the whole world, unlike many of your countrymen believe. I think if more Americans had the opportunity to travel more and see different countries and different lifestyles it would be a very pleasant cultural shock to them and they would start realizing that they should change a lot of things about their lives. That way America would start becoming a better place.

???!!!!"

A man married to a woman of Dutch descent related the couple's feelings about the US:

"We, like yourself, are just tired of the consumerist lifestyle here in the states. Corporate greed has reached all time highs here, and we are sick of it. We are also tired of the general ignorance of the people here. So many times when my wife tells someone she is Dutch, she gets responses about wooden shoes....and that's if we are lucky. Most people have no idea where it is on a map..... Thank you so much for letting others see that they are not alone in their general disgust with American society and politics."

A young Asian American female college student that I met while traveling wrote me later:

"I feel like I'm dying in the U.S. because of lack of like-minded people. When I was abroad in Europe 2 summers ago it seemed like people were more willing to go deep..... I find myself constantly questioning why I am dissatisfied here. And even though I have many men interested in me here, I can't help but wonder if it would be easier for me to find a "soulmate" or an awesome social life abroad-- from the few times I've travelled I've met amazing men that were able to converse at a deeper emotional and spiritual level than men in the U.S. I don't know if it is a cultural thing, but I hate how disconnected I feel here, and this nagging sense that I'm missing out on life or wasting my youth."

On a website discussion forum about my site, a poster noted this revealing difference in the standard of "hot girls" as observed by a South American:

<http://reddit.com/info/22ggh/comments>

"[glmory](#) 10 points 8 days ago

He certainly can blame the shortage of super models though. A friend from South America explained it to me this way: When you say a girl in America is hot, what you really mean is she is not fat. When you say a girl is hot in much of the world, she needs much more than not being fat, everyone is not fat!"

On the same discussion forum thread about my site, a German exchange student gave the following classic example of meeting people in the US vs. Europe:

<http://reddit.com/info/22ggh/comments>

"[saprian](#) 2 points 6 days ago

My experience here might be specific to the area where I'm staying (when I say US, I technically talk about the state I'm staying in), but I found for example that people in the US don't seem to make friends in classes; I found that pretty weird.

Let me give you an example that I found pretty striking. During my stay here I started to take dance classes. I found if I run into somebody from the class somewhere they would ignore me, not say hello, and in some cases even break eye-contact and all that, unless (!) we had officially been introduced, talked with each other or danced at the class. They treated me like a complete stranger.

When I went home to Germany for a couple of weeks I found a local dance-school and went to one of their practice sessions. On my way home at the train station I ran into a couple I had seen at the dance; we hadn't talked, danced or been introduced to each other. We made eye-contact and started talking

(and that was 2am at night at a deserted train station) - it was the most natural thing in the world and the conversation was very warm and friendly.”

An Asian American intellectual who dropped out of the police academy in the US and moved abroad, gained these insights after being overseas:

“Let’s face it America is good for some things like making money, developing stable businesses, and enjoying the natural landscape however the standard of living is highly overrated and downright poor in many respects. People in America are stressed, sexless, annoyed, and angry most of the time. You can see it in mainstream American culture, the macho bullshit posturing, the elitism, and the feminist nonsense. I know some people will deny this and call us "pathetic" for our choices but I know too many American expats from all walks of life who are happily living abroad to discount this as mere coincidence. The English speaking western world has really pigeonholed itself as a moralistic, productive, and order based society but I feel the more you order and categorize people’s lives the less happy they are. I’m not even going to get into all the racial discrimination, social politics, and other nonsense that pervades every aspect of American life either. Let’s just say that I’m sure you know about as much as I do how bad it can be as an Asian minority in the U.S. Actually, it’s not even a race thing these days. I find a lot of my friends from ALL racial backgrounds to express how sick and tired they are of the bullshit they face in daily American life. However, the vast majority of these guys will never leave. They just don’t have the options on the table because they set down responsibilities and roots that will not allow them that mobility. I feel for them, if only they knew..

Once you go abroad it’s difficult to go back. My first extended experience living overseas opened my eyes in a variety of ways. People will always be people but I believe that culture is the single biggest influence on people. There is definitely something wrong with America in this respect. America may be a lot of good things..productive, prosperous, and relatively free but the socialization of its citizens is much less advanced than other (much more economically poorer) countries I’ve been in. The way I look at it quality of life isn’t just all about money. It’s about what you can do with yourself in that society and how comfortable you feel around others. In America I was never truly “comfortable” but always felt tense or slightly agitated at the people around me. There’s definitely a hostility and tenseness to social interaction there that I don’t feel anywhere else. That’s a lot of negativity to deal with daily so it’s not surprising that out of all industrialized first world countries Americans generally have the least healthy lifestyles and shortest overall life spans.”

Another Asian intellectual who moved to Europe had this to say about why he left the US:

“The reason I left the U.S. was because I found it to be a profoundly depressing and soulless existence living in North America. I hate life in U.S. suburbs the most. Cookie-cutter houses. Endless strip malls filled with the same stores (Blockbuster, McDonalds, etc). Having to drive EVERYWHERE. Spending every night watching television or DVDs in my big, isolated house. Weekends with nothing to do but go shopping at the mall. Like many people, I always felt half-dead whenever I spent significant periods of time in the U.S. I couldn’t figure out why. Then I realized it. It was American culture. It was the American media. To put it bluntly, American culture is a ghetto culture that values flash over substance, superficial consumerism over spiritual growth. It’s a culture that has an invisible racial hierarchy that places Asian men at the bottom and is obsessed with all things white or black American. It’s a country that is built for doing business, not living life.

Anyhow, I’ve lived in many places during my life. And as we all know, each place has its good bits and its bad bits.

I’ve now learned to take the best bits of the U.S. (namely, service and business) and transfer it to my life abroad.”

One of his sentences above sums up America perfectly, ***“It’s a country that is built for doing business, not living life.”*** In fact, I’d say that if there’s one sentence or theme that would sum up this book, that would be it. Thus, I’m going to be using it in other parts of this book as well as my [welcome page](#).

Little India, a US publication for Indian communities in America, published a story about unhappy Indian immigrants in America, some of which came here against their will, interviewing several of them to reveal their

thoughts and feelings. Among their complaints were the feelings of isolation and stress, the cold indifference of strangers and neighbors, general boredom, and feeling “unnecessary” and meaningless. You can read the story on their website at the link below. I’ve also included some key excerpts and quotes from the article: (I always enjoy hearing from East Indians by the way, because like me, they are spiritual and philosophically oriented)

<http://www.littleindia.com/august2004/UnhappyinAmerica.htm>

The colors seemed to have been drained out of her life. Says Aparna, "The small pleasures of life I used to experience in India, I do not experience here. In India, standing on your balcony, you see life, you see kids playing, you see people sitting together. Neighbors stop to laugh and chat and find out how you're doing.

Here I would sit on the deck in the suburbs. All around me, there are beautiful trees, beautiful landscapes, and lovely cars. But there are no people. You might as well hang up a pretty picture in your living room and just keep on watching that. What's the difference?"

"My daughter is growing up here and I worry about her - that she will pick up the culture here and that constantly depresses me. I'm trying to blend in, but at times I still feel depressed and lonely. I think if I were 40 or 50, I would still prefer to go back. I cannot live here for good."

She adds: "I think each and every individual is here to make money. Personally if given a choice, each one of us would be there and not here. So I guess each one of us is compromising and trying to adjust."

"Everything seems to be artificial and formal and people seem to be pretending. You feel as if everyone has a mask on their face. They are not the same any more."

She feels in America, people are running on mental treadmills, with no time for anyone. You dare not drop in on a friend uninvited or dawdle with extended family, chatting over dinner on a weekday. She says, "It's this 'I'm really busy' attitude. It's the same 24 hours we used to have in India, the same 24 hours we have here. It's the same time, what's the difference, I don't understand. Yes, I know we don't have help here, but I'd make sure I give a hand with the dishes before I leave."

She feels the financial rewards of America are overrated. So what if you have a house or car? "You have a car to drive, because here it's a necessity. In India it's a luxury. Here, you have a car, but it's not your own. You have a house but it's not your own. You don't pay two installments, they'll come and take it away. "

Well-wishers point out to her the glittering wonders of America, the many malls where you can get anything your heart desires. She says, "Yes, because you don't have a family or circle of friends whom you can be with, you walk around malls and ultimately buy things. It's a consumer society and that's the only entertainment."

Even more grueling than the poverty was the loneliness. He says, "If you live in isolation, if you live in loneliness, that is the worst thing that can happen to an immigrant."

His life in Southern and Central Illinois, and later in upstate New York was very spartan and emotionally bare: "These are small, cold desolate places and you have no friends.

It's miserable. If you have no job, you are ill or have some health problem, then that's the time you feel more isolated, more lonely. And that's the time you wish that you hadn't come to this country."

Partha Banerjee who works with New Immigrant Community Empowerment: "There are so many stories of unhappy people."

It is often a rude awakening for a new immigrant to find himself in a rundown seedy apartment crawling with roaches and rats, counting pennies and struggling to hold on to a miserable job that he hates, if only for survival.

The faces of indifferent strangers greet him in the corridors and on the streets. At that moment, the string bed in the open courtyard of his village home, surrounded by loved ones and a pot of saag cooking on the family hearth, seems incredibly inviting.

This too is somebody's American Dream gone awry.

A reader on *Little India's* site concurred, posting her feedback:

<http://www.littleindia.com/feedback/reviews.php?id=11&cat=2&subcat=0&subsubcat=0&page=0>

"1) Feedback added by [Madhvi](#) / 09-10-2005 (id 39)

What you have written is quite true. I also came here two months back and really feel like I am trapped in a gold cage. I was working in India for almost 10 years as an IT professional and now for everything I am dependent on my husband. It is so frustrating. My father is a heart patient in India and I have no mother. I feel so guilty at times that I wished I have never come here."

Yet another Russian visitor made these observations about Americans:

"Winston,

This is what I figured out about most of the Americans I have met after living in the States for over 8 years (note: most, but not all of them, there are definitely very smart people here who became my friends, I am talking about the biggest population percentage):

Fake.... that's the first thing that I noticed and continue to hate to this day. Famous American smile, everybody smiling at each other, in the stores, on the streets, restaurants, at work. And while smiling and pretending to like you and being your friend, they quietly stab a knife in your back (still smiling, of course).

Close-minded.... all those things they say and think about other cultures and countries, while having hard time pointing out where Luxembourg is or asking if I drive to Russia and back (yes, driving... as in a car) while visiting my family there. Or stating that French people are greedy and stink, literally, while never visiting France or knowing where Statue of Liberty came from or even meeting a French person in their life.

Ignorant... thinking that their culture/religion/Constitution are the only right way to live, while never experiencing anything else, seeing other countries, or, for that matter, not even being able to name any constitutional rights except for one... right to bear arms... for some reason, everybody knows this one.

Confused.... thinking that their country is the one that can rule the world, yet making fun of their president and displaying "Bush hater" stickers on their car bumpers.

Confused again... eating McDonalds five times a week and thinking that Diet Pepsi will save them from being overweight.

Umm... stupid??? for suing a fast-food place for becoming overweight... winning the case is something I am not even sure what to call...

Living in absolute ignorance about anything that concerns any other country besides their own... for example, actual questions and comments I've heard about Russia: "Must be nice to be away from all that snow, huh?", "Do you guys still have to stand two hours in line to buy toilet paper?", "Do you have polar bears walking around Moscow?", "Do Russian women ever shave their legs?".

Living in ignorance about their own country, for that matter... when asked what Americans were in Iraq for, one of the answers I heard (on TV, mind you), was "well, 9/11, of course". Should I go on???"

A Portuguese-American wrote these strong words:

"Dear Winston,

If so many immigrants feel this way about Americans, why do they show us such a false, ingratiating face when they meet us, and pretend to love us so? There are some Americans, like myself, a Portuguese-American, who feel exactly the same way many foreigners do about this dead, soulless country. When we meet non-Americans who share our feelings, we are never let know it. We have no one to talk to about our views. It's as though all Americans are stereotyped as exactly the same: we're all dead inside, we all have dead eyes, we all march in lockstep behind our belligerent, hate-filled, racist nation. "Therefore why even talk to them? They're all subhumans and they're all together and in on it." But that's profoundly untrue. Not all of us march in time to America's sick rhythm.

As an American who noticed the strange dead eyes of most other Americans early in my life, as a child, I feel very bad that more non-Americans I have known did not simply open up a conversation with me about how they felt. They would have been amazed to learn that some Americans also feel the way they do about America; and we, the minority, are *trapped here*.

My sister and I are two of about perhaps ten people we know who can see through the fog of deadness hovering over this country. Life for us as native-born Americans has been a steady hell. From childhood it is as though "normal Americans" could perceive our differentness. We were hunted, bullied, tortured, lied about and betrayed for our perception. My suffering as an American outsider has lasted for decades. Again and again I find myself encountering Americans who find it routine and okay to lie to me, lie about me, steal from me, betray me, try to manipulate me, use me, and discard me. There is no soul behind their eyes; their eyes are empty and blank, and all they care about all their bellies, their wallets, and the next (must be wealthy, thin and attractive!) sex partner.

If I could, I would leave America. I long to go to Portugal, the land of my ancestors. But right now I am trapped under a business that I built and can see no way of continuing it in another country: yet. If I hit upon an idea, I will be out of here and living across the world far away from this terrible land. Between Bush, Christians, the war in Iraq, the growing fascism, the media and the worsening inhumanity in the very streets here, I despise and feel sorry for this place.

America is very much an asylum for the mentally ill. My sister and I ask each other every week - literally, every week, in the wake of yet another betrayal or assault from a dead-eyed American near us - if the entire country has gone collectively insane.

You wonder why Americans don't know their own neighbors? They're more Americans - would YOU want to get to know them?

Portuguese-American longing to escape,
S.F.”

Here's what my ex-friend's Filipina wife wrote in her blog about why she was unhappy in the US and returned to the Philippines, dragging him back there as well:

<http://rosas23.blogspot.com/2008/02/philippines-or-america.html>

”Tuesday, February 19, 2008

Philippines? Or America?

Well, I prefer Philippines more than here. Maybe I love the people there more more than the people here, this is the difference. see in list..

- 1.) I like Philippines because they have Respect, Kind, and Happy people.
- 2.) My Family's there.
- 3.) I have alot something to do in Philippines more then here.
- 4.) Have people around who can help me.
- 5.) And maybe I grow up there.

America?

- 1.) Because too far to Neighbor.
- 2.) Don't have stuff to do. Only (using Computer, Looking my Baby, Cooking, Cleaning, sleeping, Eating, hehehe!)
- 3.) It's hard to having Baby when you don't have people around can help you.
- 4.) I miss Filipino food.
- 5.) I miss going Mall. hahaha

As you can see, the other KID here in America are no respect. I prefer more the KID's there where I grow up. My Brother and Sister fighting together but have respect. Not like here, They not respect the Parents Or Old people. LOL, how you can live in Country the KID's they not respect you? well, for me I can't live Country like this. hehehe I'm annoyed!

Posted by "rosa" at 1:51 PM”

A German immigrant related these critical observations to me, which are typical for Europeans:

“This country, no offense, is dead, cultureless, lifeless, prude in many ways, and completely uncivilized. I now work for a german firm and spent the last six months working in germany before having to come back here to finish a project, and have made it perfectly clear to my management that once the job is done that I want to be transferred back overseas.

Now of course I cannot say that any country is perfect. All places have their pros and cons, but I simply cannot live with the fact of living in a country that thinks its the greatest piece of land on the planet, has the biggest ego about it, and has the mass propoganda on the media to make every american believe that they are god's gift to the world, while not knowing anything about the remaining countries on the planet. Most americans dont even know what the capital is of their neighbors, Canada and Mexico.

A friend told me once that the american ego stems from from this country scoring an A, and all the others scoring a C or less the last few decades. I would have to say this country scores a big fat F in my book. 5% of the worlds population using 25% of the worlds energy and creating 40% of the worlds trash doesnt score high on my list.

And lets not forget that this country has had George W Bush as president for eight years... what madness... and then this place was dumb enough to not just vote him in the first time, but then to vote him in again... and lets not forget that John McCain and Palin made a serious run at the white house... again that is only possible here, where the population is kept ignorant to anything else in the world, and lead the lives that they do because they do not know anything different or better.

Being German I find it especially frustrating because this country has an obsession with everything WW2 and Adolf Hitler. One turns on the history channel (or as I call it the war channel) to view history that happened a very long time ago... not that is a bad thing to learn a little history, and we all know most americans are not very educated about anything that happens outside of this place, but I have had enough of nazi jokes, beer jokes, or the comments that we actually wear Lederhosen every day, drink 20 beers a day, and eat nothing but pretzels and sausages, and that all of us have a Porsche (would be nice though).

I am not saying that everyone should be a world expert, but the average american could not point out my country or the continent it is located in on a map. Sure, most people overseas are not expert either, but everyone can at least point on a map and knows the basic geography of the world.

A lady in her forties recently asked me how big Switzerland is. Besides looking at a map, in this world of wireless internet, wikipedia, and google, shouldnt this have been mentioned in school at some point i ones life.

Another acquaintance of mine was actually firmly decided that he wanted to learn swiss. Anybody that knows anything about Switzerland knows that swiss is not language, but the spoken languages in Die Schweiz is german, french, Italian, and in some parts romansh (although if one doesnt know about that last one, thats understandable).

Ohh, and here is a new concept, I am typing this email in my second language, and I speak and write better english than most americans do. Or as I heard once, here is a joke:

When one speaks three languages: they are trilingual
 Wehn one speaks two languages: they are bilingual
 When one speaks only one language: they are american

Do not get me wrong, I have met some great people here and have made some good friends, but these are usually individuals that feel the same way that I do, have traveled a little bit, and are certainly not representative of the average person here.

My biggest problem besides the ego, is the distinct lack of culture. If country music, loaded six shooters, and cowboy hats are culture, then so be it. I am proud of my country, have an over D sticker on the back of my Audi, and a flag on my aviator jacket along with a european union one, but I would never do that in germany. Is it really necessary here to fly the american flag in front of every apartment complex, house, mcdonalds, shopping mall, business, etc...? Is it really right to instill the american ego from day one in children, making them at a young age recite the pledge of allegiance in classrooms, and breed ignorance and egos.

People in america are generally childish and are drama queens even at adult ages. I believe the average european is much more mature, cultured, and educated than the average american. During a recent trip to Amsterdam it is not hard to tell them apart in a crowd... big logo t-shirts, baseball caps, and of course the mindless conversations and the loudness of their voice. On a recent business trip to Munich, it wasnt us the germans that were completely wasted in the Biergarten.

And lets not forget the silly sports that are played... baseball and especially football are so bloody boring.... ohh yea... there a have to be different sports, so this way an american team can be world champion every year.

And lets not forget the blatant stupidity of the american units of measurements.... its 2009, and everybody else is on the metric system which actually makes sense.

The distinct lack of identity is rather strange as well. A now ex friend told me that he was Irish. I asked if he was either born in Ireland, been to Ireland, and/or held Irish citizenship. Of course the answer to all three was no. Can anyone tell me how a person can be Irish then? And then this same person trashes me for being anti-American and rants on with the greatest nation ego crap.

Not to go on too long, but let's not forget that people here have no health insurance, no way to help them in times of need, no infrastructure with constant dependence on automobiles, but this place can justify a nice large military and bases around the world to protect the American interests of consumption... give me a break

And last but not least, there is no freedom here. There are laws and regulations about everything. There are certain financial freedoms here, but what good is it if you can not enjoy it. One can have guns, which by the way causes extreme crime and violence here compared to the rest of the West, but once can be arrested from drinking a beer in public, or showing as much as a buttcheek... nice freedom!!"

This Belgium student describes how prudish he found America to be:

"I left Europe when I was 14 to go to Texas and spend 5 years in America. I also went to Georgia and New Jersey...the first time I arrived in America since I was 14 the first thing on my mind was to go chat up some beautiful American girls in the hopes of meeting some for the first time in my life...as some friends introduced me to some girls they knew, we started hanging out a bit and talking etc...then when it was time to say goodbye and go our separate ways I kiss the girl on the cheek since this is how we culturally say goodbye or greet each other in Europe...my friends rushed back to me and asked me "Why did you kiss her on the cheek!?!?! now she thinks you are in love with her !!! " I was surprised that we were not able to have such body contacts...but from that day I knew I wasn't going to have as much fun...another thing that struck me the most is the social behaviors that hot white American girls have acting like they are better than guys by trying to achieve ultimate independence driving cars at 16 years old etc... what I also hated was when they ignore you when you walk in the hallway even know they see you but act like you are not there...girls in America don't seem to be OK with letting you go out with them and always put you in what they call the "friend zone" which basically everybody in America is in or at least the majority of them...and America also has so many virgins, not to forget the 40 years old virgin movie they made in trying to give hope to American citizens...and what about that show called the pick up artist with that guru guy called Mystery....his clients look depressed...it's just scary to live like that and it sure is not healthy ...humans need one another in America not only is it hard to have sex...but to Americans romantic behaviors are considered either weak or weird or needy...you name it...and what baffles me the most is no one talks about it and when you bring it up you sound crazy or something...they are just hypocrites...I couldn't bare the nasty food they give at lunch compared to the food in Europe...and we have no room to breathe at school for example not enough time to socially feel one another... back in Europe we have 2 breaks one of 15 or 60 minutes at 10.30 and lunch break of almost 2 hours so we can do activities etc...in America you have to stay stuck inside and just have one lunch then keep ignoring each other if you ever run into each other in the hallways....everything you say is true Winston I could go on....anyway, what pains me the most is that even though I am back in Europe I still find it hard to go up to a hot girl because of how the hot girls treated me in America ...but I recently found the courage back and it worked I am slowly getting better like I used to be before I went to America....keep up the good work Winston because it's a disgrace what is happening in America right now...lol they even have this to catch a predator show because women are too hard to be with apparently....it's such a sick country....we are definitely happier abroad....thanks a lot Bro....CIAO....🤔"

A couple from Holland I met while camping shared this oddity about American friendliness:

"It's funny how Americans are friendly and helpful to you while camping, but when you live next to them in a neighborhood they just ignore you."

Later when I remarked about how American adults rarely see their parents after they grow up, they replied:

"In Holland, people remain in close contact with their parents throughout their whole lives, even if they live far apart."

A young Russian immigrant who felt disenfranchised with the programming and conformity of America related these key observations:

"It is sometimes difficult for me to articulate my thoughts into words regarding the way I feel about my situation. Usually, it's easier to explain it orally -- but here I'll try my best.

I've been living in the US since 1989, when I was six and a half years old - my mother decided to immigrate here. For me, it's been one downward spiral since. Deep down, I know that I am not American and will never be an American, although everyone to whom I tell this doesn't seem to register it in their minds. I don't feel ANY kind of affinity with America or Americans, and I find them vacuous, shallow, and painfully superficial. I cannot relate to them at all. The weird thing about it is, that ten years ago it didn't even cross my mind that I would someday feel completely alienated from this country. I felt pretty much assimilated and adjusted, not realizing my future predicament. Only now has this problem manifested itself to a degree where I can no longer hide it or ignore it -- it's not simply going to pass easily.

The other problem I have is my projection of US crimes (Vietnam, Iraq, Afghanistan, etc.) onto US Americans themselves, i.e., I identify the actions of the state with the people because, most often the population itself supports US terrorist aggression abroad wholeheartedly. This has made me even more resentful towards Americans, and out of this I don't have much respect for them either.

I also have some questions for you. Have you encountered the following in the American character?

1. Cowardice -- from experience I have not noticed that Americans, especially the men, tend to only act "tough" or "macho" when in groups or in a "gang" -- they seem to gang up on others and overflow with confidence when in a group, acting alone they rarely utter a word. Could this also be related to the fact that they attack ONLY countries which have absolutely no means of defending themselves?

Also, on the subject of cowardice, I have noticed that if an American, also especially an American male, who holds pretenses about being someone's "friend" - almost never stands up or speaks up for his fellow "friend" - he just has this blank, empty look on his face. Often, they will try to act innocent and ignorant, and always claim they don't know. In the Russian culture, most men will stand up or speak up for their friends, even if the friend happens to be just an acquaintance. I truly admire that in the Russian character -- the manliness and courage of the Russian.

2. Denial -- also from experience I have noticed that if someone points out the obvious in another person, that person will instantly deny or repress this fact, usually for fear of losing his or her job. Also, an exchange between an American and myself:

Me: What gives the US the right to militarily occupy Iraq?

American: We're not occupying Iraq.

This denial is very common, I think, in the American character. They will act inappropriately or in a juvenile, infantile manner and the very next day act like absolutely nothing occurred.

3. Political correctness to the point of benign totalitarianism. This one really takes the cake. From experience, working with Americans is sometimes like trying to swallow a dead rat. They are so

politically correct about everything that it becomes tedious and painful to the soul. The society is so totalitarian in my opinion, that it probably borders on the insane. I have been reprimanded so many times on the job for saying things slightly one centimeter to the left or to the right (not in the political sense) of conventionality that I just have to bite my tongue and not say a damn word for fear of upsetting or angering them.

One example I can give you is from my job at a Marriott hotel.

I approached the manager at the front desk as I was ready to go on my lunch break and I asked her,

"I'm going to lunch now, do you need any help?" She replied, "No, I'm fine."

About twenty minutes later she approached me in total hysteria and scolded me for saying the word "lunch" at the front desk, because there was a customer in front of us!!! This is something that you might find only in an insane asylum.

I apologize for the length and breadth of this letter, but I think that it fully encapsulates my position regarding these freaks."

He later added:

"Also, another question -- why are so many Americans scared of each other? I live here in the Midwest, and the fear is just so palpable, even from a distance. Their favorite expression when they see *anything* happening is, "May I help you?" For example, I was parking my car in a rather urban part of the city, and some lady pulls down her car window and asks in a very alert voice, "May I help you?" Or, they like to ask, "Are you okay?" -- because they become paranoid of something that looks unusual or simply unconventional. The suburbs are the worst, where paranoia is almost a standard.

Or maybe I'm just intimidating, for some reason?

The total lack of genuine human interest amongst them is what really irks me. Being completely enveloped in a shell, like you write in your many observations, and *always* in a hurry to get rid of me. They have developed a whole array of phrases to get people out of their lives. The easiest way for them to perform this maneuver is just to tell you, "Alright, have a nice day" or "Oh, ok!" or "It was nice meeting you." The killer is "I have to let you go." The person cannot respond in any way but to just nod his head and just leave, otherwise, he is perceived as a stalker or harasser. Almost never have they ever asked me about my origins or the meaning or root of my name, Dimitri, which is quite uncommon in the West.

On the subject of freedom, which Russians regard in a completely different dimension, dissident author and speaker Ward Churchill perfectly conveys my emotions when he writes:

"As things stand, persons residing in the US are subject to a greater proliferation of rules effecting a far broader range of their day-to-day activities than any people in the world. To the degree that 'freedom' may, as it must, be socially defined as the latitude of personal autonomy retained by individuals--or, again to put it another way, by the relative absence of an overarching authority regulating/regimenting the minutiae of each person's daily existence--US citizens now enjoy the least freedom of any people. In the "land of the free" one is "free" to do exactly what one is told in virtually everything one does, every walking moment, -- and for the most part, every sleeping moment as well -- of every single day."

Russians have the concept of *volya*, which translates literally as "will". In essence, it is the absence of the "overarching authority" of political correctness which has developed to an advanced level in the US akin to a totalitarian society. And it applies not to only words and speech, but to simple human

behaviors as well. It is difficult to breathe freely in the US, because the schmucks are like you wrote, bred to be conformists. Everything is packaged and programmed. In the previous letter I mentioned the incident with my manager when I used the word "lunch". Well, at the same hotel, she would tell me that I am not allowed to sit at certain tables in the breakfast area to eat my lunch. Talk about your freedom!!!"

A young Ukrainian woman who moved to America had this to say about my writings about relationships:

"Hi!

I just read your story in "about me". I really enjoyed it! I'm a young woman from Ukraine, I moved to the US about 13 years ago.

What you wrote is mostly what I thought American guys must feel... As soon as I acclimated and learned the language (when I moved i went to middle school), I started seeing the tremendous differences between Ukraine and America.

At first, the only people nice to me were black girls. And in Indiana there weren't a lot of them. And also some overweight white girls. Basically, few people overlooked my accent and tried to help me and befriend me. Then there were of course the guys hitting on me in high school, but i knew all they wanted it sex so i didn't really pay attention to them. (i wanted either a real relationship or nothing at all - i was brought up that way).

Anyway, i don't wanna get into the details too much, I'm not sure if you will get this email.

My point i that i felt that most people here were "under a fog" with a few heads sticking out. Those that stuck out were really different, more intelligent, open minded... it's hard to describe, but they seemed more "russian" or whatever. More present.

So i definitely felt what you are describing, but the other way around (i came from a country of openness and connections to this country). so anyway, thank you for describing your experiences in such intimate details, not everyone could've done that.

In russia/ukraine, men and women are treated by their actions, thoughts, how interesting they are, if they are good at parties, etc... not just looks and stigma. Women want guys like you, guys who really want a relationship and treat their girlfriends/wives with love and attention (unlike many russian men, spoiled by attractive women all around, many are cold and distant as husbands, and expect their wives to slave away in the kitchen). You appreciate beauty and what you've got. that's what men are supposed to be like. always wanting their wife, happy to walk around with her.. etc.

although i have some feminist tendencies (probably a rebellion to how I was brought up, my beautiful mom working at work , with children and in the kitchen, and my dad only working and expecting mom to take care of everything).

but I do agree with your view of "that's how women should be". Even by nature, they are supposed to need men, be vulnerable... it's great to be strong in many fields of life.. but in the man-woman relationship the man should be the strong one.

Anyway, write me back if you want to chat, I have to go back to work.

thanks again, your website was very informative, open and true to life.

bye,
Ludmila"

A French speaking student lamented in my forum about the horrific dating scene in America:

<http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=7285>

"Hello folks sorry my accent I primarily speak French (24 y guy)... I am a finance student and I have been studying here since 2006. I just want to say hello and join the club and make a short comment concerning the US and its dysfunctional social structure. Since I came here WOW my dating life has

dramatically decreased to the point that the confidence that I had at the beginning was shattered. It is almost unbelievable how unapproachable women are here. when you approach a girl here she feels like you are going to rape her. Even if she finds you cute, she feels like you should be the one to go to her because she is so perfect and even if you do that; she plays mind game with you. You call her, she is either very busy (on weekends) or she does not answer. I have never experienced this before, and frankly I never thought that a country such USA could be like this. When I look at this, I would just say these women are very insecure and have a lot of mental issues. It would not be very to be involved with in anything. Anyway what are good countries to date in all continents for all races?"

A UK girl shared these interesting comments about America in my forum based on what she heard from other Brits and the general perception in Britain:

<http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=7684>

"I've never been to America, but I'll do the best I can with what I do know. Everyone else I know has been to America, and two of my aunts moved there twenty years back. I'm afraid it's not going to be too complimentary, but I'm just being as honest as poss.

First off I'd say British and Americans are miles apart, really. Any Brit will surely tell you they are nothing like Americans. Here, Americans are viewed as a bit loud, obnoxious, arrogant and over-the-top (they like everything to be BIG and SHINY with a brass band!). I don't want to give the impression we don't like Americans as that's not the case, but I'd say in general we are glad to not live there, particularly due to healthcare costs, and the way the country is run like a big corporation. I'd say the average British person would believe himself to be more educated, better-mannered and, I suppose, 'classy' than his stereotypical view of Americans (wouldn't say this is true however!). We also see Americans as overweight, which is a bit hypocritical as we are struggling with an obesity problem ourselves here.

My partner (from Colombia) has been to America a lot of times and I asked him to compare it to here. He says Americans in the Southern states are most like the British, as they are 'more courteous and friendly'. He says America is such a huge, diverse place it's hard to generalise, for instance that South Florida is a different planet to North Florida, that putting America together is like describing European people as a whole. But he says he found Americans much louder, more pushy, ruder and a bit difficult to deal with. He can't imagine himself living there and having an American girlfriend- unless he lived in Miami and integrated with the Latino community there.

About my aunts. They recently visited from America and have changed beyond belief. They have certainly gained weight and seem to 'look American' (the hair? the clothes? no idea) but the most drastic change has been in personality. My dad, their brother, says he can barely recognise them. They can't talk without shouting, they seem uninterested in people beyond having an audience, and they... struggling to find the word. They seem more... inconsiderate? Brutal? This isn't their basic personality, and both have picked up the same kind of thing. I can't help but wonder if it was the change in culture.

I've heard American girls walk around with their pyjama trousers on outside, which sounds crazy. The closest thing you'd find here is university students walking around with carefully tousled messy hair, Uggs and nothing on but an oversized uni hoodie, to make themselves look like their life is too cool to have the time to get dressed properly. I heard of a supermarket in Wales having to ban pyjama trousers from being worn after a lower-class slobby mum decided to go in wearing her nightclothes at 8am, but I can't see it catching on here. I won't give the impression we are all carefully-dressed, there are lots of people who walk around scruffy as if they couldn't care less, especially in low socio-economic areas where no one sees the point in looking good, but pyjama trousers are quite another story. I think our biggest problem with fashion is we are addicted to jeans. But in the summer, for instance, I never wear trousers or jeans, it feels like a waste. A bit of sun in the UK and you'd see most of the girls in dresses and heels and the men in shorts and flip-flops. Once I wore a simple, normal dress with average shoes and an American girl asked me why I was dressed up and if it was Valentine's Day, trying to make me feel silly, which obviously shows a cultural difference there. Do you not wear dresses in the US?

I also keep hearing, again not sure if it is true, that American women count money as an important factor when finding a man. Not a single girl I have known, my whole life, would seriously think this would be important. Recently on the Jonathan Ross show there was a black American comedian on there who

mentioned this. He said unless you have money American women are not interested in you. He found that the British put importance on your personality and didn't care about your earning power. Personally, I don't see a man's earning potential as important, I'd feel like a whore if I did!

I can't comment on how educated Americans are as a comparison, but I have quite in-depth conversations with my friends. I like talking about politics in particular, I suppose. Some Brits would only talk about reality TV and the nearest kebab shop.

In Britain I think there is a LOT of difference in the social classes. These have nothing to do with money. You can only be upper-class if you are related to aristocracy, for instance, even if you are dirt poor. A working-class man who wins the Euromillions will still be working-class. I think this is different to America. Here, social class is about background, education, tastes, etc. If you see, and attempt to talk to, a lower-class girl here, you'd be on a COMPLETELY different planet than a middle-class one. Everyone in Britain, unless they are lower-class, are reasonably educated, I'd say. I often hear people talking about in-depth subjects and serious documentaries and quiz shows are popular here.

As an aside: I recently saw a clip on Youtube about an American show called Doctors. There was music, flashing lights and these very young, model-looking doctors with impossibly white teeth and fake tans came bounding down the stairs waving at the screaming studio audience. It turned out this was meant to be a show that gives medical advice. In Britain this is too crass. If we had a medical advice show it would be pretty serious and probably in the form of a documentary where an imperfect-looking real doctor, almost certainly over 30 for extra credibility, talks to average people. In America everything is so polished, so glamorous and shiny, it's like nails down a blackboard."

A Russian woman who moved to America for marriage shared these thoughts with me after seeing this webpage after the emptiness and ignorance she sees in the US:

"Hello!

I by chance (looking actually at a completely different forum) encountered your site, and decided I simply HAVE to add my story/point of view...have to say it is all within the lines of what I've read (how immigrants view America/Americans...

I moved here 13 years ago, never planned, but that man met me in my home city, and couldn't leave alone for 2 years, which eventually ended up in marriage (me being very young, unaware of life, without life's wisdom)...we first lived in Texas...boondocks. I ma from Russia, country of soul, of mystics, of rich inner world, of great culture, literature, etc....What striked me to the point of not possible to put in words there: IGNORANCE (enough was said in your page there. same things, ppl not knowing the map of the world, geography, their own culture not talking about other cultures...back in Russia I did not even KNOW such things, this level of ignorance, is possible in the world...

2. Fakeness...again, ppl are not real, all wear masks, all pretend, a huge fake hypocritical, cold, indifferent, spiritless world. I felt I was communicating with lunatics or imbeciles. In Russia, no matter what profession or education one has, such thing as common sense is always present in a person, in every plumber, every peasant, every cleaner, etc. Here, even ppl with college degrees have no common sense in them. The very few OK Americans I met were from university from the Languages Dep, those who were deeply in touch with European cultures, people, mentality...

Anyway, then arn 9 years ago we moved to Arizona; Arizona is MUCH better than TX I have to admit, but the general American tendencies are no less ever present here, too.

Coldness, indifference, hypocrisy, lack of refinement, of culture, of common sense, of spirituality, of compassion are the most horrible characteristics of this country and its ppl. I would agree also to call it "insane asylum". This inner emptiness drives them to horde malls on the weekends, to look for their "bargains" and "specials", and to pass by others of their own kind that are in need.

I feel it is a Devil's place, a Devil's Kingdom on Earth par excellence. This world sucks on the whole, but in other places of this dark planet there is some soul lives on, some Spirit dwells in people's hearts still, and that soothes the trials of our every day existence. Here, in the US, the cruelty of their empty human

hearts, which they call "individualism" is beyond belief. They are empty, cruel, soulless, spiritless, fake, dead ppl, automatons, biorobots. What else one can say...

Thank you for creating and bringing to the world your site, for the honesty and sincerity. Blessings "

I can certainly relate to how she feels. I spent a lot of time in Russia and it is definitely more soulful and passionate than in the US, which resonated with me instantly because I am a very soulful passionate person myself. Thus I can see where's coming from in her perspective. But of course, if you've never left the US and been immersed in a more passionate liberated culture, you wouldn't understand. In her next letter, she related even deeper thoughts about my website and movement:

"Hi, Winston,

thank you for your prompt reply; I don't know where do you find time to do the site maintenance and the correspondence:-) Yes, if you think it is best to put my observation/opinion on your Forum and on the Website, that is OK. I wrote basically on an impulse, I never write to a public space as am very private. But what got me in your site that it is very deep; it looks at a problem of insanity (again, stated by those who are from abroad, or Americans who tasted life/cultures abroad; Americans themselves are in a delirious oblivion about themselves and their "culture") of Americans, their life style and "culture" at every angle, in depth, diagnosing the insanity, looking at the possible causes of it, and offering suggestions to cure. It was by far the most comprehensive and cumulative work I've ever encountered on the subject. Big thanks to you for that, for devoting your life to this cancerous world's problem. At first I thought that emphasis on dating is a bit shallow and might repel some thinking, deep people, but the more I looked at it, I came to think that it might just do the opposite...tell the guy/person who is love/sex/normalcy starved in this country, dying inside and craving for life and love that he should go read some philosophy he'd send you on a familiar route...however, if the same love/sex/normalcy starved individual is told he should look at this site to find love, he'd go, but later, he'll maybe look at philosophical, spiritual pages, and, hopefully, will be on the road to enlightenment. So, it might actually work to attract more readers who otherwise wouldn't bother to look.)

But the site on the whole is very profound. I believe you should collage all the material and publish it, public just needs to know all that.

I could write volumes on the subject of America, mine and my Slavic friends' experiences here, but perhaps not at once, if you forgive me for time-lacking:-) so, I might do by bits. Sure, I can join your Forum, I hope it is not a difficult procedure.

II. About your adviser and just HOW (in his opinion - is he a male?) Russian women (and rest of Slavic for that matter) are HAPPY here...ooofff, what a British Encyclopedia we could just write. You know, your site for for guys (as primary, level 1st target audience), and you speak form guys' experiences...well, we could just say the same of American men, just the same...we cannot find happiness with them...they are too shallow, ignorant, controlling, empty, materialistic, and all within the lines. Slavic women suffer in their relationship with American guys. I have Serbian, Polish, Bulgarian (girl)friends, and it is like we all say just the same things, and have same emotions in our American circumstances. To put it short, it is like having this creature (in a female form), that is so alive, and spirited, and lovely, and smart, and with common sense, and with good taste, culture, education, etc., and here is her American guy...did you read J. Fowles novel, the "Collector"? Well, if you did, that's the picture, nothing more to add to this. It's a murder, slow, painful, and torturous murder, a crucifixion of a creature in a Slavic human form. There were times when I almost died from depression (I read thru ur cult testimonial, and very much the same symptoms I had myself), and I am not sure as to what degree of sanity I managed to keep intact to be honest. If I survive, few of my friends and I are moving back there once it is logistically possible.

...attraction...all Slavic women are beautiful...but...what to say...? you know, from my experience, the men who looked at me, or payed attn to me here (in a "normal", European way), are Europeans themselves!!!! American guys just don't see it! (I have access to European community here, and so, that is where I find normal men!)..they are not Americans!! I maybe got attn 2 or 3 - not more, times from American guys..agn, what do you define attention..? a glassy look? Or an intelligent interest? well, glassy looks I got, and maybe desire to sleep, but those 2 or 3 American guys were again studying

languages and so a bit more animated than "normal" American guys. I am not really sure yet...it looks like American guys/ppl are so dead inside they are incapable of discerning beauty, because only spirit can do that. I stopped dressing well here, make-up, etc....it takes so much effort and imagination, and they are not even able to discern the beautiful things in front of their eyes...

I have few friends here, Russian, other Slavic. We gather together sometime, for tea, pies, etc...every time inevitable the conversation turns to "imbeciles" (our term for Americans)...we give resolutions to stop it, to try to be happy, and it doesn;t work, because every time you go out, to a job, to a grocery store, simply driving in traffic here you here stressed and have to deal with imbeciles in every corner. So, depression, depression, depression for Rus women. So, in terms of attention - they are not capable to give real, intelligent, with good sense of humor and sensitivity, attention. I stopped having anything to do with American guys, period. I am going thru a divorce now, and my soon to be ex-husband is a cult member also (Christian, conservative), and I suffered unimaginable shallow mindedness, control, imbecility, and total, killing lack of spirit. The more religious a person is, the less spiritual he is, that is it.

Let me see where I found a link for your site...let me check my bookmarks...I believe it was this one: <http://www.culturechange.org/cms/index.php> no..?

I have to go now from work, and will write more later on, thanks for reply, and again, for tremendous work on enlightening crowds on the "American" issues. Tatiana"

A white woman from South Africa shared her disappointment and shock with American culture to me:

"Hi Winston,

I came across your site today and I have to agree with all that you say. I am a 26 yr old White South African woman married to an American man. I have been in USA for 4 years.

I will give you my perspective as a non-western woman.

The first thing I found was the jealousy and competition among everybody. Every time I go out I get dirty, mean looks from other women/girls - and my husband has noticed that. Women are so jealous of each other - and the jealousy is even among the men!

American women are very feminist. They are very masculine and loud, and refer to me as a "girly-girl" instead of seeing that a they should also be "girly-girls" I get tired of being told that I need to gain weight, when it is they who need to lose weight, but of course it is not "ok" to say so - yet it is "ok" for them to criticize me for being thin. They are very anti-men and don't understand that men and women have different roles.

I am amazed to find that women go out in their pajamas! I won't even check my mail-box in my pajamas let alone go shopping in them!

Americans constantly ask me silly questions such as "So, if you are from South Africa why are you white?"

And "So do you have lions roaming around?"

"So - you have computers over there?"

They also seem to find it difficult to understand any accent other than their own.

Before coming to USA I thought Americans were much more intelligent than this....I am amazed at their ignorance.

They have no concept of what goes on in the rest of the world and nor do they have any interest. They are very insecure people who think that if they own enough it will somehow make them a success.

I did not expect America to be this way. I really am unhappy here, and not only I but my husband is as

well, even though he is American. If we had the money we would move far, far away from this superficial country.

Thank you Winston, I am glad that you have discovered how much better foreign women are, and I wish you all the happiness in the world."

A young Ukrainian guy passionately stated in my forum:

<http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?p=26049>

"totally agree!!! I am a Ukrainian who moved to the USA and could not figure out WTF is wrong with me. It took a loooong time to actually understand that people around me are completely morally degraded, retarded, limited, not educated, have never been to other states or NEVER in their life been to OTHER country (we don't count trips to Cancun to get wasted). People are completely lonely, they smile - but you know that it's almost 99% FAKE. People CANNOT stand in public - they hide themselves into cell phones, iPods or just clicking whatever in their hand. No one makes eye contact for more than 3 seconds! If you just look at someone for a long time - they look at you as a rapist! What kind of retarded society is that??? Completely screwed up, Freedom does NOT exist in America! At least not at this point!

I can go on and on about family, relationship, food, meetings etc. Even European cities are planned differently - in France there are many HUGE squares in any city center (downtown) where they have literally HUNDREDS of cafe's right out on the streets, people walk and stroll down the streets during weekends, socialize, talk, hang out, sit in the parks, meet and greet etc. There are virtually NO FAT PEOPLE in France!!! And food here is GREAT, tasted natural, organic and home-made. No, not home-made from box of Mac'n'Cheese from Wal-Mart (complete chemical poison). Food in France is natural in every way possible. I know because I grew up in Europe eating everything fresh from the market and thank God, there was no McDonald's in our city until I was 16. But funny - McDonald's in Europe tastes MUCH better than in the USA. Same goes for Coca Cola, chips and other food. Yesterday I tried French Fries in French restaurant for the first time - IT TASTED BETTER THAN ANY U.S. made chocolate!

Everything is retarded in USA in terms of enjoying life! Food, people, families, social interaction, work long hours (in France there is 35 hour work week and 5 week of vacation for everyone! Eat that!). People have a life here. Socialized medicine is amazing by the way. I don't want to repeat Michael Moore, he is 95% correct in his Sicko movie about situation and life in the USA - you live in debt all your life, while education is almost always FREE in Europe (or very cheap).

We have to organize a movement, publish brochures, open people's eyes, tell them that they live in the matrix! Winston, you are doing a great thing by helping other people understand the truth behind their miserable lives. At this point I see no benefit of living in the USA and especially living or creating a family, even with a foreign girl. Just teaching English will be enough to make a living in most countries abroad and if you have a degree, you will eventually find a better job. Many U.S. companies operate abroad, you could work for them as a regional manager or representative etc. Go Abroad, GET A LIFE."

My friend and cultural advisor, a former US immigrant who speaks 10 languages, has been to over 30 countries and is an expert in cultural analyses, describes the biggest culture shock that immigrants face in America:

<http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=8855>

"I think generally, the biggest culture shock that people experience in the US is not between their country and the US but between what they thought the US would be and what it actually is. Books and movies about America make the place appear very free and exciting and happening and the people are so interesting and emotional. There is sex and fun and romance going on. When they arrive, the place looks very conservative and the people appear robotic and quiet. Sex is subdued and hard to come by. The people are not open at all, they look closed and mistrustful. Everybody is just working and looking tired and apathetic. Talking to strangers is taboo. There are thousands of little rules and laws and social mores that seem as dogmatic and strict as those in a Muslim society. And every time you are at risk of breaking yet another law and facing very dire consequences. That is the biggest culture shock of all."

Submissions Welcome: If you are a US immigrant or foreigner and would like to contribute an observation about America like the ones above, feel free to send it to me for consideration at WWu777us@yahoo.com or post it in my discussion forum at www.happierabroad.com/forum/index.php

10 Surprises for foreigners who think America is very open, expressive and wild

If any foreigner you know is under the impression that America is a very open, expressive, extroverted and wild place (perhaps due to Hollywood's portrayal), send them the link to this blog post of mine, in addition to the page you're viewing now of foreigner/immigrant opinions. It contains videos, news reports and testimonials about America that will shock them with doses of reality.

<http://intelletualexpat.blogspot.com/2010/06/to-asians-who-think-america-is-open.html>

The US media's misportrayal of other countries vs. Reality

"The greatest awakening I underwent in my travels is that nations in reality are the exact opposite of how they are depicted in the media." - [Ladislav](#), Expat Advisor of HappierAbroad.com

As we know, the US news media has nothing good to say about anything abroad. It portrays everything outside the US matrix (and within as well) as bad, dangerous and horrible, where people live in fear of their lives everyday without any freedom, dreaming of going to America someday.

They have this horrid tendency to misrepresent life in other countries, portraying them as war-torn, poverty stricken, oppressed, dangerous and uncivilized. However, travelers who go to countries that the US media portrays in a bad light, often find the refreshing opposite, and discover a new world that the US media tried to hide them from. What they've discovered, including my Expat Advisor, is that what the US media portrays is usually the OPPOSITE of how it actually is there.

For instance, Hollywood movies have always portrayed Russians as being cold and grim, while Americans are open, wild, free and extroverted. Yet anyone who is experienced in the cultures of both countries can see the opposite, myself included. In reality, Russians are a very passionate people who are warm, fun loving, sociable, and inclusive. They are the most straightforward people I've ever met. And I've met more people in one week in Russia than in five years in the USA. Seriously.

It's no wonder why Hollywood never uses real Russian actors to portray Russians. Perhaps real Russians refuse to go along with this false stereotype of them or act totally the opposite of what Hollywood wants to misportray?

Anyhow, here is total proof that Hollywood lied to you about the Russians being cold and grim. In this video I show how the REAL Russians are from my three trips there. It is totally UNREHEARSED and UNSCRIPTED. You will see how sociable and fun they are in their natural environments, outside the US matrix which is all about control and fakeness.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7ckZIViIMJM>

More videos that debunk the Hollywood myth about Russians being cold and grim can be seen in my Foreign Female Encounters video series at:

<http://www.happierabroad.com/film.php>

Here's another comparison you never hear about in the US:

In America, the most friendly and open people you meet are either children or elderly/seniors, while young people, especially females, are closed, cliquish and stuck up. However, in Russia it is the INVERSE. Young adults, male and female, are very open, inclusive and easy to meet and socialize with, more so than the elderly are, and much more so than their US counterparts are, as you can see in my videos above.

So you see, the mainstream media not only misportrays the truth, or shows you a highly edited version of it, but tries to keep you from the truth. People who tell the truth do not get aired in the mainstream media. Obviously someone high up there wants to keep you as far away from the truth as possible. That's not good.

You gotta understand that the mainstream media's job is not to educate you, inform you, or impart knowledge and wisdom to you. Its job is to dumb you down, keep you living in fear and paranoia, so you'll focus on working and consuming, which is all you're good for to them - a robot and commodity - not a human soul. They represent the interests of big corporate business and oligarchs, not the people, freedom or democracy. After all, four giant corporations own the mainstream media, so what did you expect?

They have no respect for your intellect, soul or humanity, so why should you have any respect for theirs?

Here are other examples of lies by the media:

- American movies and TV shows always show women saying that men never call them and flake out on their promises to call them and see them. But in reality, most women screen out their calls, avoid men's phone calls, flake out on their promises to go out with them, reject 99 percent of guys they meet as not being good enough for them, etc. I don't know any guy who would promise to call a nice woman and then never do. Maybe top alpha males do that, but normal mainstream guys don't do that.

- In movies and TV shows, they always show immigrants as being desperate to come to America to fulfill their lifelong dream of freedom and a better life, as though it were common knowledge that everyone wants to come to America because it's better than anywhere else. But in reality, if you interview immigrants who came to America, most of them will tell you that they had MORE freedom in their home countries, but are making more money in America. However, due to the increased stress and isolation, they are often torn about whether coming to America was the right decision or not. That's the reality, as opposed to the fiction of the US media. You can see their statements in their own words in [this collection I put together of immigrant opinions here.](#)

So why would the media not want to represent reality? There are many reasons, though not ones that you may agree with or even understand. But one thing's for sure. They definitely see us as cattle to control and manipulate, and preach conformity to the system, rather than dissension, in spite of their ranting about freedom and democracy.

Now, going back to the misportrayal of other countries, we all know the completely negative anti-Arab coverage of the Middle East by the US media. That region is always portrayed as primitive, barbaric, war-torn, extremely dangerous, and life threatening at any moment. But those who have been there report how safe, calm and peaceful it really is, as well as how hospitable the people are. They report that shop owners will make friends with customers who browse their shop and offer them a free place to stay for the night, with no strings attached, out of pure kindness and hospitality. Some are amazed at how crime-free much of the Middle East is. For example, in Lebanon, if you drop a wallet on a public street with many pedestrians, and return a few days later, your wallet will still be there, exactly where you left it. Of course, the strict punishment laws there (such as chopping off the hands of thieves) play a role in helping to make it so safe. One guy even told me that he felt more safe and comfortable there than in New York City even.

One thing that has never changed is that Hollywood movies still project the image onto the audience that in other countries, life is a hellish struggle to stay alive and that death is waiting around every corner. That is completely inaccurate. For example, the recent hit flick "The Kingdom" portrayed Saudi Arabia as just such a place. However, a friend of mine who works there had this to say about the movie and what it's really like there:

"The movie was just another gross exaggeration of Hollywood. I live here and it is very peaceful, tranquil, and nothing ever happens. But it's good that movies like that keep people away so no one comes and tries to take away my job."

In addition, some parts of the Middle East are even more advanced technologically than the US. For instance, a friend who works in Oman showed me photos on his laptop of Dubai, showing modern clean the city streets, and the existence of 7 star hotels with futuristic designs, as well as a building built for indoor skiing! He explained how the average income there is higher than in the US! Yet NONE of these things are ever covered by the US media! (You see now, how you can't base your knowledge of the world on the US media, as it teaches you NOTHING about the rest of the world?)

Here are some images of the 7 star hotel, indoor skiing area, and futuristic looking city being constructed in Dubai:

**This is the Burj Al Arab, the only 7 stars hotel
in the world, it was built in only 18 months...
And opened its doors in 2003.....**



And take a look at the "Indoor Winter Season"
You can ski down the slope while
everyone else is outside in an 85° F...
Yes it is also in Dubai





This tower has a height of 250 meters and 59 floors mounted in a concrete core which will serve as a rotating shaft. The floors will be pre-assembled and then attached to the core of the building.

Each floor will rotate separate from the others. The velocity will be slow and not noticed by the residents.



For more images from Dubai, see this Powerpoint presentation from which the above images were taken from:

<http://www.happierabroad.com/Dubailandiaeng.pps>

Now let's take the example of Africa. The US media is always showing Africa to be a continent where only savage jungle tribes and violent gang wars on the streets exist. But there is so much of the continent that is civilized, advanced, modern, and peaceful. Yet those areas are totally ignored by the American news media.

A reader of mine who went to Serbia had this to say about his experiences there:

"Hi Winston

I have read your description of life in Russia and how it is the opposite of what is portrayed about it in the States.

I have had similar experiences in my travels of Serbia & Montenegro.... i recommend you check it out one day. It is not a place full of warmongers and genocidal murderers that the US politicians and media have portrayed. It is the place where all the people only want one thing.... to love and to be loved .

regards
Dule"

On the other hand, I've been told that in Europe, the media tends to have a far more equal balance in its coverage of good and bad stories, unlike the US media which focuses almost purely on negative stories, disasters, bad news, bad people, etc. which I feel is unwholesome and pointless. There are far better things I could be doing with my time and life than to listen.

It is said that in France and Britain, the media is intellectual whereas in the US, it is not. This is easily observable though, for if you glance at a mainstream newspaper in either France or Britain, you will see that the scope, depth and variety of the content are of higher quality than in the US.

It's such a pity that the US news media does so much to discourage Americans from going overseas, where they can discover whole new worlds and cultures, expand their minds and souls, and make dreams and fantasies come true which otherwise never would in the US. I hope that my website and book help to counteract the media's completely negative portrayal of other countries. After all, since they show only negative things (like disasters), why can't I only show positive things, like in my [Photo Collages](#)? It's only fair.

Remember, the US media isn't going to encourage you to go out and explore the real world. No way. They aren't going to tell you anything positive about it. They don't even tell you or teach you ANYTHING about other countries. Instead, they want you to stay home and live in fear and paranoia, so that you'll feel empty and need to consume and buy stuff. Don't buy their feeble attempt at brainwashing you. In fact, I would urge you and others out there not to even watch the US network news, nor its printed forms such as Time Magazine, Newsweek, US News and World Report, etc. as nothing good can come from it. They don't tell or teach you anything useful or relevant to your life. All they do is frighten you with bad news and disasters. Better to reject them as they prey upon your worst impulses in an attempt to brainwash you. Get your news from independent sources instead, like the internet. There are far better things you can do with your time that are healthier, more effective and beneficial.

Forget that you need friends, love, a social life, and a healthy wholesome sense of self. To the US media, only economic problems and materialistic matters matter. This is not surprising, as the US corporate controlled media serves the establishment which gets rich out of workaholic slave labor and is owned by them as well. They have never been about deep insightfulness, wisdom or truth, but talk to you like you are dumb and a programmed zombie. They assume that the viewer is just as shallow as they are, which is an insult to my intelligence and that of other free-thinkers as well. Think about this: When has the corporate media ever shared with you any deeply profound quotes and insights from great minds such as Socrates, Mark Twain, Thomas Paine, George Bernard Shaw, Arthur Schopenhauer, Thomas Jefferson, Albert Einstein, Carl Jung, etc.? No way. They don't want you to think and be an intellectual. They want to dumb you down and have you obsess over simple materialistic matters, while living in fear and separation from others. When have they ever inspired you with a vision or touched your heart other than in the most superficial way? When have they ever told you anything useful or relevant to your life? When have they accurately reported the real viewpoints and opinions of those in other countries who see the damaging truths that the media wants to hide from you? I say, just turn off the corporate news media and don't buy into their bullshit. Nothing good comes from them. All they do is dumb you down and make you live in fear. Get your news from independent sources instead, which are not controlled by the corrupted establishment, such as on the internet.

The US media is so UNintellectual that is incapable of debating with any intelligent sources that disagree with their views. Instead, all they can do is ridicule anyone who doesn't agree with their flawed naïve simplistic views on things, which are controlled by the corrupt propaganda-spreading elite.

On the other hand, Europeans report that the media in their country is far more intellectual and reports on far more important and relevant news to your life. Their content is far more substantive.

The ramifications of the US population made ignorant of the international world by the US media are more than you might think, as my Expat Advisor eloquently states:

“Being uninformed about the rest of the world does more harm than earning the title of being "dumb". People who think that they live in paradise while unaware of the many social and technological improvements that are always taking place in other countries will eventually fall behind in many areas. They will not be able to adopt many exciting innovations that are being introduced around the world all the time. Japan had video- cell phones as early as late nineties and Singapore solved its race problem once and for all by very ingenious quota systems that seem to benefit rather than harm. Many countries, such as Slovenia (Where is that?) have small per capita prison populations and have much better programs to rehabilitate prisoners. However, if Americans do not know about them, how will the country improve?

They will not be able to elect good leaders and will support international campaigns of dubious usefulness which drain US resources by diverting money from home to some overseas ventures in which patriotic Americans always die. They will believe myths about how the rest of the world is a God-forsaken place and if they become just like the US, they will be OK.

Such ignorance creates suffering and death and stalls progress at home and abroad. And changing that requires improving the education at home and creating a new generation of highly intelligent, worldly citizens. Such Americans will probably be the world's most perfect human beings.”

To be fair though, some other countries and their media can also portray themselves as the “center of the world”, overinflating their importance to themselves that is not shared by other countries. My Expat Advisor gives the following examples from his multi-national experience:

“Most countries have an overinflated view of themselves and their role in the world. In Thailand they think that the whole world knows their king and that he is some great world leader next to Kofi Annan (sp). In the US, they think that events in the US, especially the 9/11 "changed the world forever". Also, that every human being on the face of the earth would rather be living in the US than back in his country.

In Arab countries, they think that the entire world is looking to them to be taken out of darkness and to be converted to Islam.

The Russians think that the most important event of the 20th century was the October Revolution of 1917.

Again, the countries, their media and educational systems confuse "our country" with "the world". Most people do not know Thai king's name and have never seen him. Most people like to live in their countries and 9/11 changed *the US* forever, but people in Bhutan, Lithuania and Mali were not changed by the 9/11 events which took place in a country very far away from theirs.

Most people do not want to be converted to Islam and the Russian revolution of 1917 was an important event for *them*. Not for the world.”

Reader comments:

- *Winston,*

Remember my last email to you, the American media never shows any "nice, good, wholesome, happy people or things" they only show the 1% to 2% nasty, horrid people and events. AND THAT'S JUST USA NEWS

Unless there are people dying from destruction, either human based or by nature, we never hear about other places in the world.

But, the internet is slowly changing that, and for the first time we are starting to see a glimpse of the outside world. Especially from emerging smaller countries who are starting to show themselves online.

Best Regards,”

Careers and the workaholic mentality in America

*“You are not what you do.”
“The purpose of life is to enjoy it.”
– Wayne Dyer*

In the US, people attach their self-worth and identity to their careers or line of work. Even Regis Philman on the how *Who Wants To Be A Millionaire* asks each of his contestants "What do you do?" to establish their identity on the show (not just to generate conversation). That's the mentality of the American "matrix". This "you are your work" mentality is so inherent that it is usually the first question that people ask each other when they become newly acquainted.

The inspiring New Age motivational speaker Dr. Wayne Dyer advises, *“Drop this notion that ‘you are what you do’. Think of this exercise. If you are what you do, then when you don’t, you aren’t.”* (“101 Ways to Transform Your Life” audio tape) In other words, attaching your identity to your career creates a self/ego dependent on conditions (i.e. doing nothing means you are worth nothing).

In fact, according to the American train of thought, work/career is so important that one can even sacrifice everything else - friends, social life, fun, love, mental health, physical health, well-being, an inner life, peace, freedom, even happiness itself, etc. but as long as one has a "career" then one is ok, normal, and doing what one is "supposed to do", all in line with the teachings of the industrial culture.

As a matter of fact, each individual American citizen is expected to have a career in any US region where they can get one (even if he/she is not happy in that environment or conditions) and slave away 40+ hours a week paying their bills, getting only 2 weeks of vacation time a year, until one is old in their 50's or 60's and can retire, losing the main part of their life to work. Any lifestyle outside this is seen as unfulfilling and wasteful.

One expat in the Philippines described the American middle class lifestyle as this: “I owe, I owe, I owe so off to work I go.”

Now I don't know about you, but that is just way too extreme, obsessive, unhealthy and one track minded for my taste. Sadly enough though, the same mentality also holds true of parts of Asia (e.g. Japan, Taiwan, Hong Kong) If you don't like it, then you don't fit in and are alienated, for you go against the entire collective values and beliefs of the industrial imperial culture of America.

In fact, the obsession with work in America is so strong that you don't even get the kind of holidays you get in the rest of the world. For instance, for New Year's, most of the world get 7 to 10 days off for their holiday. But in the USA, you get either one day off, or none at all (if New Year's Day falls on a weekend, oftentimes you get no days off). The US economy hates holidays because they are too costly, resulting in huge losses of profit, which it considers to be more important than allowing people time for themselves. Most employees, if they have a decent job, only get a week or two of paid vacation a year.

Even if one has no fun, love, happiness, good mental health, freedom, inner life, or peace, one is still expected to follow the work til you retire path of life, rather than try to obtain those other facets of life they are missing. To me, that is a messed up set of priorities, but it's the American way and paradigm.

Wikipedia defines “careerism” in America as the desire to move up and make more money:

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Careerism>

However, some argue that the “wage slave” theory better describes the mindset of most Americans, as this female advisor explained:

<http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?p=796&highlight=#796>

“I am familiar with the careerism in America, of which you speak. I think that the idea of careerism has some validity in America, and is especially descriptive of many coastal communities. However, in

general, I am more inclined to agree that the wage slave theory is a bit more precise in describing the typical/usual American mindset.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wage_slave

When it comes to "work to live, not live to work." I think that Americans often do both. Many Americans seriously hate their jobs and only work to survive. They don't have much of a life outside of work, so in that sense they live to work (are a tool). For example, I would not work if I would be able to survive and take good care of my son without working. I don't enjoy my job, but our household could be not supported without it. Many other Americans are in the same boat. To me, that is slightly different than say, a Seattle coffee bean tycoon, who seriously is obsessive with playing the bottom line numbers game. A person who put in 60 hours a week, yet has enough in the bank to quit and live off of dividend. That guy/girl is driven by careerism. However, I think that many, maybe half or more even, of all Americans are not so much driven by careerism, but rather are simple wage slaves. "

The rat race culture is one of "working people to death." For non-conformists, free-spirits, and the enlightened, such a Borg-like attitude and mentality is distasteful, as this Cornell student feels:

"America lusts for money and greed, the whole system is anti-friendly and geared towards those who like to work to death, after all what is the point of life in America if you are not working? Anyways I will spare you the rest of the generalizations because I already mostly agree with what you wrote in your posts. American people are duped everyday by their popular culture and the people in power, keeping everyone servile."

We are conditioned that having a career creates happiness and well-being. That just simply isn't so. Happiness is an inner attitude and state of mind, and if it is dependent on status or possessions, then such happiness is fleeting and temporary, not fulfilling or long lasting. Therefore, it is dubious to assume that having a career automatically brings true happiness. That's not reality, but our industrial culture tries to instill that in people, telling them that they are "supposed" to be happy, even if they aren't, so many just pretend to be happy in front of others, afraid to face their inner emptiness.

Personally, I do not see those without a career as being less happy than those who do have one. For instance, I know of those who live in forests meditating, eating mushrooms and boiling herbs in self-contained cooking units, who seem happier and have more inner peace than others who have busy careers and stressful lives with no inner peace. Also, I know of travelers (usually European not American) with little money who hitchhike around the world, having many exciting enriching adventures, working occasionally along the way. Though they are poor, at least they are doing what they want to do, rather than becoming corporate drones. They seem happier and more fulfilled than the average corporate drone in America.

In America, having a career is seen as attaining the ultimate state of well being, the equivalent of nirvana or enlightenment, as though one finally has a purpose in life. In fact, you are conditioned to be UNFULFILLED unless you have a career. That means that if you feel fulfilled but don't have a career, then there is something wrong with you because you are SUPPOSED to feel unfulfilled!?! Talk about ridiculous brainwashing! Sheesh.

But the issue isn't merely psychological here, but practical as well. In America, being poor has far more disastrous consequences than say, Holland, for example, as one Dutchman explained:

<http://boards.straightdope.com/sdmb/showthread.php?t=371485>

"What I have noticed as a difference between the USA and the Netherlands, though, is that people *need* to size one another up for the economical gain they can bring each other. Rich people in the USA are very rich, but poor people are much poorer than in the Netherlands. Poor people in the USA often have to work several jobs, and so they have neither time (for making friends), money nor social standing. Plus they see rich people around them all the time, plus they live in a culture that blames them for being poor. Poor people in the Netherlands have either time (if they're unemployed) or they have money. And having money in the Netherlands is far less of a requisite for social standing than in the USA. In short, being poor in the USA is much, much worse than being poor in the Netherlands.

Add to that that it is far easier to really hit rock bottom in the USA. And rock bottom is really hard there. And bare. And the flipside of the American Dream is that everyone can hit Rock Bottom, anytime. All it

takes is a stroke of bad luck. So people feel the necessity, both for themselves and their families, not to let resources slip away, by spending time with people who can't offer about the same level of support they can offer them.

Another aspect is that Americans just work damned hard, long hours. They need to, to make the money it takes to live up to a certain material standard. They have precious little time with their families as it is. Far less time than is standard in most countries in Europe. European countries have their shorter distances and shorter commutes. More holidays. Competition is less fierce, so less of it trickles down to employees, who can get by with having to make less overtime and less unpaid-I'm-proving-myself extra effort."

Now, I am not against having a career. What I am against is this Anglo/Oriental belief that life is empty and meaningless without a career or even an official job. And I oppose the way in which our society measures a person's worth by their career with the belief that "you are what you do". It's very shallow and unsoulful. I seek a career myself in fact, but only in doing what I love, not at the expense of all else. Our country's extreme obsession with career as the top priority at the expense of everything else is too unbalanced, unhealthy, and disharmonious. I feel that happiness should be a higher priority, and that having enriching experiences should be what life is really all about, rather than succeeding in career and money. I'd rather be without a career and have a rich soul, than have a busy career and an empty soul, and I prefer the company of the former as well.

In America, attaining a career is like a fanatical religion to the extent that it deems one's soul, inner peace, inner life, and mental health as being of secondary importance, when in reality they are very significant and integral to life. **In my view, it's simply NOT worth it to give up one's soul and freedom just to have a career.**

I've always believed that the purpose of life is to enjoy it. And if you don't, then it's a wasted life, no matter how much you attain materially. Likewise, I believe that people should do what they love most. And if they can make money doing what they love, then great. But if not, they should still continue doing it, because not doing what you really love in your heart and passion, is a wasted life in my book. In short, I'd rather be broke doing what I love, than make a good living not doing what I love. I know that some will argue that in an ideal world, everyone would be doing what they love, but the reality is that sometimes you have to do what you don't love in order to make ends meet and pay the bills. I don't agree though. Even if I have no way of doing what I love to make ends meet, there are always choices in life, and I'd still choose to go for broke doing what I love and reap the consequences. That's how I am. Regardless of the tangible outcome, I prefer to live according to my beliefs and integrity, rather than in fear following what society dictates.

A close female friend of mine in Southern California echoed the same sentiments:

"I tell everyone, "if life is just about working to survive, as far as I'm concerned, my life is OVER. If there is no dream to live for, if I am NOT living for my dream, there is no life, no purpose. I'd rather be a poor starving screenwriter, than making millions doing finance or something I could care less about. My father is 70 years old. I'd rather spend the next 10 years having quality time with him and figuring the money out later, than flushing my years down the toilet NOW, trying to work 80 hours a week, for nothing! -just to go from the day to day. That's simply NOT me."

In Europe, life is much more balanced. Though Europeans like to have careers too, unlike Americans they do not see it as the one dimensional single aspect of life that supercedes everything else, including one's own soul. Unlike the US automaton populace that simply plugs into the system, they place importance on cultivating other areas of their life, such as their inner life, soul, experiences, enrichment, exploration of varied interests, travel, artistic skills, etc. instead of foregoing it all for a busy career so they can work til they drop. They see life as multi-dimensional with many areas to explore and cultivate, rather than as one dimensional as the American paradigm sees it. Unlike Americans, Europeans do not judge their identity or self-worth by their careers, but by the richness of their experiences, a view which I share. (The section with the letters from typical European/Russian girls exemplifies this well.)

Anyone in America who has a problem with its "career is everything" paradigm is seen as "the problem", and are obligated to change or fix themselves in order to fit in. After all, we are taught that our system is the best in the world that everyone else wants to emulate, and therefore if you aren't happy in it or don't fit with it, then there is something wrong with YOU, rather than the soulless system. After all, American logic and doctrine dictates that the majority is always right, so if most follow the system, then those who don't are "the problem or defect".

No one is EVER told by conventional mainstream sources in the US that a solution to unhappiness in America could be to relocate abroad or expatriate oneself. No, that is NEVER an option acceptable to our industrial culture and "little box" that we live in. After all, we are conditioned to believe that everyone wants to come here to the US, and that we have the best of everything, so life outside the US must always be much worse or inferior in every way. Therefore, foreign countries are NEVER seen or considered as an alternative to American life, at least not according to the conventional sources that represent the American "matrix".

In reality though, each country has its tradeoff of pros and cons, including the US. That means that though the US has certain advantages over other countries, in other areas it is lacking compared to other nations. ([See the chapter on rigid compartmentalizations in America](#))

There are many examples that could be given (and have already been given in the other chapters of this booklet), but for me, the biggest tradeoff is the one stated in the thesis introduction of this booklet, that though the US is the richest and most economically prosperous country in the world, it also happens to have the worst social life/scene, dating/love scene, and mental health in the world (the reasons have already been elaborated in other chapters).

Therefore, America is not the best of everything, nor is it the ideal epitome of freedom. Like other nations, it has its tradeoffs of pluses and minuses. But only the well traveled know the pluses and minuses of the US. To the average mainstream citizen who lives within the US "matrix", America is the world, and everything outside of it is either worse or not worthy of consideration/attention. And anything not possible in America is not possible anywhere else, they assume. That's totally false of course, but the average citizen simply DOESN'T KNOW and won't know from the conventional sources of the "matrix".

So, they conform and get a career to avoid being unfulfilled, working themselves to death, which often leads to soulless stressful lives in the rat race/workaholic life of the "matrix".

Along with perpetuating the attachment of individual identities with their careers, the US elite powers also need to maintain the illusion that we are the freest and best country in the world. Here's why, as one reader ruminated:

“The powers that be want those people working and happy to slave away at their jobs. Best type of slavery. A slave who thinks he is free works harder. They want them to stay ignorant of other countries. This way they will do a great job at home, pay taxes and die young from all kinds of stress and diseases. All to the benefit of the ultra rich.”

This makes sense, and has been echoed by intellectual authors who think outside the box and see class divisions in society (Chomsky, Zinn, etc). Our system indoctrinates people to have a rigid 9-5 career or else be without a purpose or function in life. The purpose of such conditioning is to develop and maintain a happy slave labor force to serve the rich and those in power of our imperial empire.

Honestly, I'm not afraid to admit that in general, I'm just not a conformist and I don't believe in conformity. Nor am I a person who follows the rules (especially if I don't agree with them), unless they are trivial insignificant rules. Instead, I prefer to "make" my own rules. The way I see it, history doesn't remember the conformists and those who follow the rules. Such people are forever forgotten when their lives have passed from the Earth. Rather, the nonconformists (who achieve something of course) are the ones that are remembered. And since I have a deep desire to be a "larger than life" person, I thus prefer to be a nonconformist and go against the flow, in order to be remembered, to "stand out" so to speak. Deep in me is the desire to be "great", to achieve some kind of "legendary status" if I can even. As those who climb Mt. Everest say, that "Only those with the same desire in their blood to climb Mt. Everest can understand what motivates them", the same goes for people like me.

Attitude toward work: American/Oriental vs. European/Australian/Latin

Like Americans, the Confucian Asians believe that **the purpose of life is to study hard so that one can work hard and make more money, so that one can live comfortably in old age, and help prepare their offspring to do the same thing.** They never stop to think that after their lives are over they won't be able to take all that hard earned money with them that they used up their whole life earning, nor do they stop to think

that history doesn't remember such conformists, but forgets them. And they don't realize that it's foolhardy to make living comfortably in old age the aim of life, rather than the rest of it. I guess the fear of being poor in old age is a fear passed down from generation to generation, without being critically analyzed.

The commonly recognized difference between Americans and Asian societies of course, is that American culture focuses on the individual's interests while Confucian Asian culture focuses on the interests of the group or collective. The Chinese, Japanese, and Koreans (CJK) are what we call "Confucian Asians". Their culture and mentality is based on the Confucian teaching that work and duty are the governing virtues of life, while play and pleasure are idle wastes of time. Even suffering is considered a virtue, hence many Chinese and Japanese employers actually enjoy seeing their workers suffer and even perpetuate it, a very morbid thing in my opinion.

Now, since the "Confucian Asians" believe that life is about conforming to one's "duties and work", they are compatible with America's "life is all about making money and being successful in a career" mentality. That's why you see so many Asian immigrants going to America; it provides the career development and prestige that their family worth and honor depends on. But you see very few European and even fewer Australian immigrants. The majority population in Europe or Australia would not fit in America's "life is all about work and money" culture, especially when they have it better in their own countries, comparable benefits/luxuries without the stresses.

On the other hand, **the European/Australian/Latin mentality is that life is about maximizing pleasure in every moment, having enriching experiences, and living to the fullest.** (And that's a mentality which I share of course) To them, work should *serve* such aims, rather than take the center seat and become king. Thus it is more common for Euros and Aussies to work for a few months and then take off for long term travel. (That goes for "Kiwis" too, aka "New Zealanders" for those who aren't familiar with such slangs)

There is a saying in Europe, "**Americans live to work, while Europeans work to live.**" Jeremy Rifkin, who served as economic advisor to European companies for 20 years, noted this concept:

http://www.utne.com/pub/2004_125/promo/11349-1.html

"Europeans often remark that Americans "live to work," while Europeans "work to live." The average paid vacation time in Europe is now six weeks a year. By contrast, Americans, on average, receive only two weeks. Most Americans would also be shocked to learn that the average commute to work in Europe is less than 19 minutes. When one considers what makes a people great and what constitutes a better way of life, Europe is beginning to surpass America."

In case you haven't noticed, as for me I have more of a European/Australian/Latin mentality toward life and work, rather than an American/Oriental one (even though I am Asian American). I simply don't share the American and CJK belief that "the purpose of life is to work". Now, I know that it would be better for my financial and practical well-being if I DID share that belief. But my SOUL simply doesn't believe in it. And that's the honest truth. I've refused to adopt the American programming that life is meaningless and unfulfilling without perpetual work and career ascension. Somehow, I've transcended it. And it had nothing to do with my environment, culture or upbringing (which narrow minded Americans believe determines all behavior) of course, but with my inner will and knowing of who I am deep in my soul.

My Expat Advisor gave me this wise observation that sums it up in a nutshell, and is so true:

"You discount one fact though- the US is good for people who are into careers and developing their professional potential. It is not too good for parties, women and songs.

You are obviously not a very career-oriented person. So you may be happier outside of the US. Others in other countries that are not happy with the way their jobs/careers/economic futures are going to prefer the US."

Now, the reason you don't see many Aussies or "Kiwis" (New Zealanders) wanting to live in the US is that they have a better life in their own country without the stresses and problems of America. Backpacking around the world has become part of Aussie mainstream culture (as well as New Zealand culture), and that's why there is a high percentage of Aussie and "Kiwi" backpackers in hostels (in case you haven't noticed). In fact, the more well-traveled you are in Australia, the more fascinating and accomplished you are seen as.

In contrast, someone who travels extensively is seen by corporate America as “unstable” and not very serious about their careers. And as a matter of fact, on job applications in many American companies, you are required to explain any “gaps” in your work history, as if having gaps in your work record means that there’s “something wrong” that you have to explain. In their eyes, traveling, unless its related to your career, doesn’t come off well. Sheesh. Not only does this put extensive travelers on the defensive, but it means they will probably lose any chance of getting hired if they tell the truth. Therefore, in a sense, corporate America condemns travelers who don’t conform to the “work work work” year round routine and lifestyle.

Perhaps Americans could enjoy the same lifestyle and freedom that Australians and Europeans do, if only the top 5 percent of the richest people in America would stop exploiting everyone else just to maintain the biggest gap between the rich and the poor in the world, and controlling such a high percentage of all the resources to maintain the status quo. That’s the only explanation I can think of.

Interestingly enough, even in America there is the saying that “no one on their deathbed wishes that they had spent more time at the office”, however the rat race/workaholic culture conveniently ignores the wisdom of it. (When mass profits are involved, wisdom comes second place)

Add to the above the fact that many Americans don’t even take their two weeks of earned vacation per year, but instead convert it to cash so they can keep working and not lose money, and you’ve got a boring passionless one-dimensional lot indeed. Without their work, this lot would be bored to death and wouldn’t be able to think of anything to do. Unlike me, they’ve assimilated into the American programming that life is empty and unfulfilling without constant work.

In his book [The European Dream](#), Mr. Rifkin provides some startling statistics about America’s insane work ethic, health problems, and lack of quality of life, page 51 - 52:

"Europeans like to say that "Americans live to work" while "Europeans work to live." What's the point of making money, they argue, when you have no leisure time to enjoy it? According to one study, 37 percent of Americans now work more than fifty hours a week, and 80 percent of male workers work more than forty hours a week. And the hours worked by many Americans keep going up while in Europe hours worked keep going down. No wonder 70 percent of American parents complain they lack sufficient time with their children, while 38 percent of Americans say "they always feel rushed," and 61 percent say they rarely have excess time. (52) With so little time available after work, Americans use many of their spare moments just to run errands, pay bills, and fix up the house.

The increase in work hours takes a heavy toll on American health, according to health professionals. Stress-related diseases - heart attacks, strokes, and cancer - are on the rise in America. One recent study by the journal *Psychosomatic Medicine* found that the more often American workers skip their vacations, the higher their health risks are. Men who took an annual vacation were 32 percent less likely to die of coronary artery disease than those who did not take vacations. (53)

The difference in how Europeans and Americans conceive a good economy is reflected in the hours worked on both sides of the Atlantic. If one measures the standards of living in terms of paychecks, American are 29 percent wealthier than their European counterparts. (54) But if one measures the good life by the amount of leisure time available, the average European enjoys four to ten weeks more of play each year. (55) The question, then, is, Does that 29 percent of additional wealth buy more joy and happiness - enough at least to justify giving up upwards of two to three months of additional leisure each year? As my wife is fond of reminding me - because I, too, am an American workaholic - "No one has ever regretted on their deathbed that they didn't spend more time at the office.

Footnotes:

52. Scheier, Lee. "Call it a Day, America." *Chicago Tribune*. May 5, 2002

53. Ibid.

54. "Main Economic Indicators: Purchasing Power Parities." OECD. February 2004. www.oecd.org

55. "Employment Outlook: Average Annual Hour Worked in the OECD, 1979-200." Paris: OECD, 2001."

On a similar note, this Dutch girl shared these observations and compared her upbringing to the kind she sees in America:

"I also feel that we do not live to work, but work to live and are not as materialistic as people are in the U.S. I can personally say that as a child I may not have had everything that I wanted, but I did have everything that I needed. In the U.S., most children get what they want so that they will shut up for another week, but often do not get the love, affection, respect and help that they need from their family members (other words, they get what they want, not what they need.)"

One poster on a hitchhiking forum observed:

<http://www.digihitch.com/modules.php?name=Forums&file=viewtopic&mode=&p=32023#32023>

"i do agree that people in america (haven't been to asia) are too focused on their careers. in an english class i took a couple of years ago, the teacher explained that his class would help us get a degree and therefore a great career. "i assume that's why you're all here," he said. "why else would you be?" i answered, "to learn." he gave me a blank stare for a little bit, and then continued with his speech. the love of learning has been lost. now, education is simply the means whereby a person gets certified for something bigger and better.

in all my travels in europe and mexico, i don't think i've even been asked one time what i do for a living. they simply don't care very much where my paycheck comes from. here, i get the question every week or so: "what do you do?" as if that explains who i am. ideally, of course, it should; ideally, our my life's work should reflect my personality, character, and passion. but we all know that ain't usually the case.

as some of you know, i recently got married. we were engaged for two years, so we had plenty of time to hear people offer advice. the most common thing we heard from old couples who had been together for a long time was this:

'travel now, while you're still young. spend money now, while you're still young. don't wait until you have "enough" money, or you'll wait your whole life. and, if you do save up your money in order to have adventures when you're older, by that time you won't want to go anywhere or do anything anymore.'

a few years ago, i found myself in the back of a suburban in rural chihuahua with an australian couple. they had just finished school, and were taking two years off to go travel before they went back and started work. they said it's common practice in australia to do so.

a few years ago, i found myself listening to a bosnian woman give a persuasive speech about vacation time at work. she said that, in eastern europe, it's common for a great many businesses to simply shut down for a month or two during the summer, while everyone goes on vacation.

and, then i look at america. inflation-adjusted wages have not gone up since the 1970's, we still have to pay money to go to the doctor (this wouldn't bother me so much if employers were required to provide insurance), it's financially very difficult for a woman to be a stay-at-home mom anymore, and we still think "what do you do for a living" is all you need to get to know someone."

Also, one of my consultants, a writer/traveler, observed and explained the following about Orientals and Anglos:

"Orientals have had a hard life in their countries so they have built a system whereby they can survive and triumph over such harsh circumstances. That makes them financial winners over the long term but as in the case of Anglo Saxons, in the process, they lose sight of what life is all about. Life should be struggling, overcoming and later- enjoying. In their case, they get stuck in the struggle part and rarely move on to the enjoyment part. It is the same with the Anglos - they get caught up in the business aspect-making money is now their ultimate goal and end in itself. They forget that they can't take it with them when they die. This is how Orientals and WASPs are so similar and this is how they can build cities such as Singapore and HK together but they simply do not know how to relax and enjoy life.

Instead of eventually becoming travellers and playboys and explorers, they become urban warriors set on buying more houses (mortgaged), Rolexes, and BMWs and Mercedes Benzes. Forgetting about the

fact that life is finite, they end up dying in the end without ever seeing the beauty of the world in which they live. They simply do not move on to the enjoyment part. Pity!

That is why both Oriental and Anglo Saxon parties and social gatherings are boring as hell and it is hard to sit down with such people and discuss fun aspects of life- they just tune out and cannot relate to that. They are slaves to jobs and material possessions and are just robotic in nature.

Their values, as in the case of the Anglo Saxons are basically society-generated and they cannot really sit down and come up with "what do I really want for me" ideas without quoting what society or their parents expect them to be or have. Ultimately, they are just slaves to society and they work hard providing services or products to it while thinking that they are successful.

As far as you being a white man trapped in an Asian body, I would like to qualify that you are not just a white man. You are basically a Frenchman, a Russian or an Italian trapped in an Asian body. You are certainly not a modern Anglo-Saxon trapped in it."

He couldn't be more right. Americans and Orientals are so driven by money making and career development, that even at parties or on vacation, they tend to talk about work or business-related issues with others. In response to his observations above, a Latin American man commented:

"Hey Winston,

Yes, I'm back. This is a very fascinating e-mail your friend sent you. I agree that America is place where most people are slaves to work and some of them actually are proud of it. "Workaholics" come to mind immediately. These people are really in denial of the reality of their enslavement. Moreover, remember that 2/3 of the U.S. economy consists of consumer spending. This country would screech to a halt if most consumer spending were to end.

As for the workaholic mentality, I had subscribed to it for many years without questioning it. My immigrant parents vividly recalled the poverty of their birth country. They were determined to have a better life for themselves and eventually--me. I was pushed to study hard throughout childhood and adolescence, occasionally to the detriment of my life outside of academics. I am a perfect example of the 1st generation American child pushed to succeed academically and eventually financially.

My experience was similar to that of the children of immigrants from east Asian countries. I am fortunate that my parents instilled in me the value of an education. Yet, I did not receive a decent education when it came to personal growth and social skills. Nevertheless, I am grateful for the way my parents raised me. Unfortunately, many other Hispanic parents today do not emphasize the importance of an education. There are also many single Hispanic parents who may try to guide their children to succeed academically, but fail because these children do not spend enough time with their parents. The influence of the children's peers in the poor neighborhoods overrides the efforts of the parent. Studying and wanting to have a professional career is ridiculed as "trying to be white," while drugs, unsafe sex, and violence is glorified, particularly in hip hop culture.

I have digressed a bit here, but I'll get back on track now. My parents fit the profile of many Asian immigrant parents when it came to raising me, and not like the poor inner-city parent or parents who neglect to or try but fail in encouraging their children to embrace the intellectual mindset. I also know that people living in Latin America "work to live" and not the other way around like Americans do.

Personally, I have gone from the blind obedience to academic and future financial to seeing work and financial success as a means to an end, namely to enjoy life as much as possible. Enjoyment, culture, quality relationships, adventure, not money, are what should be maximized. I read that you studied business back while in college. The concept of opportunity cost should be familiar to you, and is relevant to this discussion. The problem is that most people in America forgo a life spent in leisure because they perceive it to be the opportunity cost to becoming wealthy. They figure that once they are wealthy, that they can then afford to enjoy life. The question now is, "But when?" The answer is during retirement!

Most Americans spend the prime of their lives overworking themselves while resigning themselves to enjoy the fruits of their tremendous labor when they are old. This is the sad reality. There are even some people out there that know the score but are too old or in debt (or both) to escape their lives of drudgery.

Fortunately, I not only realize the danger that comes with the blind pursuit of wealth, but also am still young and determined to avoid living an unfulfilled life. My long-term plan is to move to southern or central Europe and live as an adventurer, traveler, and of course, playboy.

There is the saying, "No one in his deathbed regrets not having spent more time in the office."

Parable of The Fisherman and The Investment Banker

Finally, here is a parable I'd like to share with you called "The Fisherman and The Investment Banker" which humorously reveals the folly of the greedy capitalistic mentality:

<http://www.bluinc.com/free/fisher.html>

The Fisherman and The Investment Banker

Anonymous

The American investment banker was at the pier of a small coastal Mexican village when a small boat with just one fisherman docked. Inside the small boat were several large yellow fin tuna. The American complimented the Mexican on the quality of his fish and asked how long it took to catch them.

The fisherman replied, only a little while.

The American then asked why didn't he stay out longer and catch more fish?

The Mexican said he had enough to support his family's immediate needs.

The American then asked, "but what do you do with the rest of your time?"

The Mexican fisherman said, "I sleep late, fish a little, play with my children, take siesta with my wife, Maria, stroll into the village each evening where I sip wine and play guitar with my amigos, I have a full and busy life."

The American scoffed, "I am a Harvard MBA and could help you. You should spend more time fishing and with the proceeds, buy a bigger boat with the proceeds from the bigger boat you could buy several boats, eventually you would have a fleet of fishing boats. Instead of selling your catch to a middleman you would sell directly to the processor, eventually opening your own cannery. You would control the product, processing and distribution. You would need to leave this small coastal fishing village and move to Mexico City, then LA and eventually NYC where you will run your expanding enterprise."

The Mexican fisherman asked, "But, how long will this all take?"

To which the American replied, "15-20 years." "But what then?"

The American laughed and said that's the best part. "When the time is right you would announce an IPO and sell your company stock to the public and become very rich, you would make millions."

"Millions.. Then what?"

The American said, "Then you would retire. Move to a small coastal fishing village where you would sleep late, fish a little, play with your kids, take siesta with your wife, stroll to the village in the evenings where you could sip wine and play your guitar with your amigos."

How YOU can live in freedom and pleasure abroad - the simple SECRET!

I'll reiterate again now the big secret I divulged to you at the beginning of this book in the chapter about the BIG SECRET I shared. Go and read it now if you haven't yet.

As mentioned, for the last few years, I've been mostly traveling the world, seeing exotic fascinating sites that most Americans can't imagine, and meeting, dating and making love to lots of beautiful friendly women, with very little money too! ([see my Photo Collage](#)) How do I get to do that, you might wonder? Well it's simple, I just GO OUT THERE AND DO IT! It's not hard unless you THINK it is. It's not hard unless you sit there and think with the American brainwashed mindset that you have to amass tons of money first, pay off all your debts and mortgages, and retire with a pension. If you think like that, you'll probably never make it out there to true freedom, or if you do, it'll be when you are over the hill. The lies and propaganda that you were fed with are what make it hard. But if you go out there and DO it, it's easy, as well as fun and rewarding!

I know what you're thinking, you need money to live and travel right? Sure. But there are many ways to live frugally and cheaply. The info is out there in books and online. And if you need to, getting a job overseas is a lot easier than you think. When you are in a foreign country, you can get jobs by asking around and networking a bit. Remember though that most jobs overseas that are willing to hire Americans do not advertise online (those that do are few and hard to get), so to find them and get hired requires you to BE in that country you want to work in.

Also, there are now many ways of making money online and generating residual income. You don't have to be a computer whiz or techie geek either. For an overview, see this page:

<http://www.doshdosh.com/ways-to-make-money-online/>

Always remember the motto "*Where there's a will, there's a way.*"

Sure you'll have to be prepared to make sacrifices. But that's life. As long as the rewards are worth it, that's what counts. I know it's easy to get yourself in a comfort zone where you are afraid of change, even if it means living in misery. But remember, *you regret more what you didn't do than what you did.* After you find the courage and will to sell that house, or end that apartment lease, so that you can be FREE and not have a "stone around your neck" any longer, you will be glad you did. The rewards and benefits of having TRUE FREEDOM, not just of location but of mind and soul too, are more than worth it.

Here is a great example, in some ways greater than mine, of someone I've met and revere who did just that, inspiring thousands. She goes by the name of Kinga Freespirit. And unlike my suggestion above to save up between five and ten thousand dollars first, she started with only 600 dollars. Yet she and her companion ended up traveling the world for FIVE YEARS, visiting many countries and every continent except Africa. When they needed money, they found good people to help or they worked temporary jobs for cash. And that's it! She went out there and DID IT, experiencing places, things and cultures that most of us could never dream of! When practical problems arose, she dealt with them on an as-needed basis, occasionally assisted by a higher hand. Unfortunately, she passed away from malaria. But her story inspired thousands to go out and live their dreams, and still does today. You can view her website, read highlights of her journey, and order copies of her impressive journal book of her five year journey (with breathtaking photos, I highly recommend it), at these links: www.ledbydestiny.com, www.hitchhiketheworld.com

Ask yourself this: What would you rather do, make lots of money while living a stressful workaholic life in isolation and loneliness with nothing to enrich your soul or inner self, just to conform with the rest of the drones? Or live freely in pleasure, fantasyland (well the closest thing to it), experiencing new sites and wonders, gaining cultural and personal enrichment, with beautiful female company always, no longer a slave to the corporate mindset, your life filled with rich colors compared to the drab dreary colorless life of a corporate drone, and be able to look back and say "*I'm so glad to be free of the workaholic life of slavery to money! If only I had known what I know now sooner!*"

Would you rather have YOUR LIFE be like a beautiful moving movie, filled with rich experiences and moments, like in a fantasy? Or would you prefer to WATCH a movie at home while winding down from a stressful day at work, mildly distracting yourself while you await the same colorless routine the next day, and all the while, your neighbors all around you are shut in their homes doing their own thing ignoring you like you don't exist? I've experienced both, and I can say hands down that the former is FAR FAR BETTER.

Anyway, I hope that gives you a better perspective of the big picture.

The True Purpose of Education in America: Indoctrination, Buffer Class, Dumbing Down

Education in America is basically a system to indoctrinate you into becoming a “happy slave” and robot who doesn’t think too much, but just enough to do your job. The curriculum keeps you in left brained mode so that you remain practical, weak and subservient to the system, never realizing your true inner power and capacity for higher consciousness. In the education system, people are basically resources to groom for the economy which enslaves us all.

The purpose of public education is not to educate, enlighten or increase your intelligence. Nor is it to enrich you as a person, mentally and spiritually. It's to shape and mold you as a business resource to become a corporate drone while keeping you disciplined and under control during adolescence, all the while making you think that you are learning wonderful and useful things. And it's also to mold the way you think so that you will conform and obey (nevermind the fact that they also preach to you that America is a free country). Ironically, they preach the propaganda of America being “the land of the free”, while at the same time they command you to obey and conform to the school system and its schedules and routines, which is basically a little dictatorship full of rules and policies. Freedom my a**.

They also claim to promote critical thinking, yet they ironically tell you what to think and believe at the same time (e.g. capitalism is good, greed is good, America is the land of the free, other countries suffer cause they do not follow America’s example, etc). But of course, you aren’t supposed to see such contradictions or question it. Your job is to study hard, conform and obey. That’s it. It’s a robot molding process.

99 percent of what they teach you in school are things you don't ever need to know and will NEVER use, either in real life or in any job or profession. They know that, but they NEVER tell you that. Would any teacher admit to their students that most of what they are teaching them will never be of use to them? Of course not. What they tell you is to study hard, get good grades, and pass exams so you can move to the next grade and have a better future. In other words, **study hard so that you can make more money** is the motto and life mission that they indoctrinate you with. But the real purpose of memorizing such useless data for exams is to condition you to obey and follow whatever you are told.

In addition, the high school environment is dysfunctional, insane and unnatural. It is totally bad for your mental health and self-esteem. Cliques are closed and kids are overly judgmental and looking for an excuse to become hostile and ridicule any target they can find. These articles describe this well:

<http://montalk.net/conspiracy/39/the-horrors-of-public-education>
<http://paulgraham.com/nerds.html>

And of course, throughout the whole "education process" they feed you the promise that if you work hard for them and retire, giving them the best years of your life, then you'll have the time and means to do any extensive traveling you dream of. Yeah right, with the poison they give you in American food, fat chance (pun intended). So in other words, you aren't supposed to have too much fun until you're too old and unhealthy to have fun anymore. They keep the illusion of that going to serve their interests (not yours). You are conditioned and brainwashed into thinking that that's the only route in life; there is no alternative. You were born to be a slave, and the purpose of life is to work only. Everyone else thinks that, so you are obligated to as well. And while you slave away your best years to them, you get 2 weeks off a year to go to Disneyland, New York, Hawaii, or some touristy crap, where you will never see or experience even 0.000001 percent of the world. (And many Americans don't even travel during their 2 weeks of paid vacation. They just stay home. Or they don't even take the vacation at all. Instead they cash it in.)

What the powers of imperial America never tell you is that you don't have to be old, retired, or financially independent to travel the world. Many people with little money pull it off, by alternative living, hitchhiking (which is illegal in some of the US), camping, and using hospitality/accommodation websites (e.g. www.hospitalityclub.org, www.couchsurfing.com, www.globalfreeloaders.com, etc.), for years at a time. For instance, see this famous case at: www.hitchhiketheworld.com , www.ledbydestiny.com .

After high school, you are encouraged to go to college to raise your level and status, where again you are bombarded with higher "education" which in reality is just more useless information that you're tested on. Most

of what you study and memorize from college coursework under your degree program is NEVER used in the profession that you are specializing in, and is largely unnecessary for the work that you actually do. And even in the few specializations which are the exception, you still cram down far more than you need to know, just to give the college system an excuse to mold you and weed people out with their fees.

Another purpose of college is to **create a middle class** to act as a buffer between the rich and poor, protecting and shielding those who run the country from everyone else below them that might undermine the status quo. By using the old "divide and conquer" strategy, the power elite divides its subjects in two, creating a middle class which gives the lower class a way to move up to quell some of their oppression or dissatisfaction (or at least the illusion of it) and thus act as a buffer between the elite and lower class. (See Howard Zinn's [A People's History of the United States](#)) This also serves the purpose of setting the people against each other – middle vs. lower class – so that they do not unite against the real oppressors, which are the power elite that control the major banks, military industrial complex, media, corporations, government, etc. But unless you have a radical socialist history teacher (like I did) you'll never hear about these ulterior purposes of college.

Howard Zinn, author of [A People's History of the United States](#) explains:

<http://www.lannan.org/docs/arundhati-roy-020918-trans-conv.pdf>

"And this is so much the history of the United States which developed perhaps the largest middle class. That is, the United States has had enough wealth so it could bribe enough people in the population to create a middle class which became useful as a buffer between the very rich and that part of the population which could not even rise into the middle class. So the middle class, in the United States, has always been enticed by the establishment into thinking that it can rise into the upper class and not told that it can also descend. [Laughter]. The result is that the United States educational system teaches us from the very beginning that we are not a class society. To use the term "class", in the United States? it's just a term you use for school, right. [Laughter] 'This is my class' sort of thing."

http://www.indexmagazine.com/interviews/howard_zinn.shtml

"Class is just not addressed in the United States. The pretense is that we're all one big happy family. The government uses language about representing "the national interest." This assumes that we all have the same interests you know, that Exxon and I have the same priorities, or that the government and I have the same desire to go to war. I'm suspicious of terms like "national security" or "national defense," which try to envelop the whole population within one common position which doesn't really exist."

Another purpose of the middle class, summarized by one of Zinn's fans, is:

<http://www.frenchamericancenter.com/francais/bookreview.asp>

"The middle class has been created as a buffer between the hungry lower class and the well-fed upper class. By taking resources away from the poor and giving away just enough resources to the middle class, the upper class causes enough tension between the two classes to divert attention from the real crook, itself."

Here is how another Zinn reader paraphrased the choices the ruling class faced when creating college and the middle class:

<http://www.kalamu.com/bol/2005/11/06/nina-simone-%E2%80%9Cpirate-jenny%E2%80%9D/>

"Eventually, Zinn notes, the rich realized that they couldn't keep ALL of the wealth to themselves. They decided it was necessary to create an educated, civilized and semi-monied middle-class that would serve as a buffer against the masses of the poor. You know the old saying: a man who has nothing, has nothing left to lose. Therefore, threats of joblessness, or jail, or even death, are insufficient to keep him in his place. When you have an socio-economic system that, by definition, creates massive amounts of extreme poverty, the ruling class of said system have only two choices: employ a standing army to protect themselves, or, has eventually happened in America, tweak the system."

But the middle class is what keeps our exploitative system intact, as political prisoner Jeffrey Luers vociferates on in his pamphlet:

<http://la.indymedia.org/news/2004/09/117280.php>

“The enormous wealth in this country has created the richest ruling class in history with enough left over to pass out to the middle class, ensuring they act as a buffer between the have and the have-nots. Is it any wonder that the presidential 'elections' revolve around middle class issues? All two of the recognized candidates are constantly seeking support from middle class America promising this or that in return. Meanwhile, the money to support campaigns comes in from corporate donations, ensuring that government policy is well paid for. Why is it no candidate ever reached out to the 50 million people struggling to get by? The middle class lends legitimacy to a well thought out facade. But when all is said and done, a rich ruler is a rich ruler is a rich ruler.”

Commenting on the above, a reader wrote to me:

“Dear Winston,

This is brilliant. I never connected that to the failure of Marx's prediction. You know, the ruling class is never just going to disappear ushering in actual democracy. It's better to just let us think we have a choice.”

But that's not all. The conspiracy movement has revealed a hidden purpose that you are meant to think is by accident. Charlotte Iserbyt, who served as Senior Policy Advisor in the Office of Educational Research and Improvement (OERI), U.S. Department of Education, during the Reagan Administration, has blown the whistle on a deliberate government social engineering to “dumb down” the American public. Of course, only the alternative media gave her any coverage. The mainstream media ignored her, like they do with most whistleblowers. You can view her website and download her free 700+ page book here:

<http://www.deliberatedumbingdown.com/>

Excerpt from the Foreword of her book:

“Charlotte Iserbyt is to be greatly commended for having put together the most formidable and practical compilation of documentation describing the “deliberate dumbing down” of American children by their education system. Anyone interested in the truth will be shocked by the way American social engineers have systematically gone about destroying the intellect of millions of American children for the purpose of leading the American people into a socialist world government controlled by behavioral and social scientists.”

Or watch some interviews with her on YouTube:

http://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=charlotte+iserbyt&aq=0

Will you be a Robot, a Bum, or something else?

After some deep thought, I realized there are several types of people in this world:

1. Most are conformists who follow the crowd and believe what they are told. They are empty inside and find their identity in groups or organizations of some kind, whether it be cliques or professional groups. They do not think for themselves and have a blindspot toward taboo subjects (such as the horrors of the US dating scene for men).
2. Others are loners and have no friends, only acquaintances and casual contacts at work. They are miserable inside but hide it and will never admit it. Instead they take their hate out on others.
3. Then there are the counter culture types who are anti-society, anti-capitalism, anti-materialism and anti-system/government. So they join a hippie group or "alternative group" and do drugs or smoke pot. These range from deviant screw ups to peaceful hippie types. But they still conform to their group and find their identity in them. Though they are "counter culture" they aren't always independent thinkers, but they are closer to it than the conventional conformist types are.
4. Then there are free independent thinkers (like me, Ladislav and Mr S) who really don't fit anywhere and do not naturally conform to any group or establishment. We have friends, but they are usually scattered about in different places and times. And sometimes we break into cliques of like-minded people with similar interests or views, but when we do it's temporary in that we do NOT attach our identity to those groups, nor do we see them everyday or live with them (as the characters in the "Friends" sitcom do). Instead, we "free-float" between cliques and friends according to our circumstances and location.

I was like that in high school too. I did not identify with or establish myself with any cliques or stereotypical types/categories of people. Instead, I free floated between people (when I could) and cliques, never really belonging to any of them. Thus my nature was evident at an early age.

In essence, we stand for the truth, rather than for any organization or country. In that sense, we do not really belong to this world, because this world is for followers and conformists. Yet we are still stuck physically in this world. So we either run off and live anonymous lives, or we create a purpose for ourselves, either by helping others, or trying to wake up the world to the truth of their condition to try to make a difference. Some do this by becoming lovey dovey peaceful hippies and New Agers who spread peace, love and positive energy everywhere, while others become militant revolutionaries and activists who believe they are fighting evil established forces in the world for the cause of liberating mankind from the shackles of illusion and oppression.

Of course, these are only general guidelines. Some people are a combination of the above, or float between the categories outlined above.

However, inherently the system is rigged so that those who conform to it become robots and slaves, while those who defy it face turning into bums, delinquents or criminals. Basically, if you conform to the system of servitude and slavery, you get rewarded with material benefits. If you don't, you get punished with deprivation of your material and essential needs. It's a form of "forced servitude", in which freedom is a total lie.

It is very difficult not to be independent and free of the system, yet able to live a functional, fulfilling and meaningful life at the same time. To do so requires a higher level of consciousness that is able to see and think above and beyond the system. And it would require that find a way to make a living on one's own, either through a business, as a freelancer, or some other way. Few can do that, but most can't and are forced to submit to the slavery of the system.

It also takes a deep sense of higher purpose and calling to make a difference in some way, which fills one with such conviction that they are not afraid to go against the grain or defy conventional teachings.

I think most of us at **Happier Abroad** are of the last type I described. Plus we are not cliquish antisocial people either, which is why we are complaining about our society being that way. You see, antisocial people do not complain about other people being antisocial, just like a lion does not complain about other animals being lions.

We don't complain about others who are like us. It's those who are very social and need to connect with others who complain about it.

You see, most people in our society are brainwashed and programmed to want to be alone and independent and not need others. But for some reason, this conditioning did not work on us. In our case, the programming failed. We are still human and feel lonely and need contact, warmth, love and meaningful relationships. Yet society ignores and ridicules our complaints so we don't even feel validated. At Happier Abroad we find out that we are not alone, so we get the validation we were looking for. In that sense, we are kindred spirits.

Sadly, in a sense, our society has no use for types like us. We are expected to be busy working and consuming and not complain about social life, dating or dysfunctionality in America. If we don't, then we are ostracized and not given any established place. Essentially the system ignores us, our problems and complaints as if it doesn't exist. That's the injustice we hate.

My friend [Steve Hoca](#), who is very passionate about our cause, has been doing a lot of audio interviews about our issues, and uploading them to YouTube. Like me, he is a champion of truth and works to expose it even if it goes against the grain or incurs condemnation from others.

What disgusts him the most is that the horrible situation for men in America in terms of dating, loneliness, involuntary celibacy, abuse, and double standards, is perhaps the MOST TABOO TRUTH THERE IS, in that it affects millions yet it is TOTALLY FORBIDDEN to talk about it publicly or admit to it. That is a HUGE HUGE INJUSTICE to us and angers us with a powerful and deep resolve to expose it and bring awareness to it, as well as solutions.

In fact, Steve ranks this taboo up there with anti-Semitism. And some of the guests in his audio interviews have remarked that any man in America today who speaks out against feminism or female abuse is automatically put into the same category as Al Qaeda or Osama Bin Laden, becoming totally vilified as an enemy of the state in other words. That may be an extreme exaggerated comparison, but there is probably truth in it.

Anyway, we are all in this together, so let's try to work together somehow to bring awareness, freedom and help for the suffering.

Thanks,
Winston

[Here's a quick way out of the system](#)

If you can't wait to get out of the system that forces you to submit to servitude to meet your material needs, here are some ways you can make money online and start the path to freeing yourself from the slavery system:

<http://www.doshdosh.com/ways-to-make-money-online/>

You can also make money online from anywhere in the world as a freelancer. If you have any programming skills, web design skills, or just good solid writing skills, you can put them to use as a freelancer. And if you're good, the client may request more of your services on an ongoing basis. Here are a list of sites that offer jobs for freelancers.

<http://myseoblog.net/2008/04/07/lists-of-freelance-sites/>

<http://www.freelancer.com>

<https://www.demandstudios.com>

<http://www.essaybay.com>

As of now, you can even make money teaching English online! For example:

<http://www.verbalplanet.com/teach-english.asp>

Remember that where there's a will, there's a way.

Discuss this article here: <http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=8029>

Why American pop culture is dumb and our Education system is so bad

My Expat Advisor gave one logical reason why American pop culture is dumb and unintellectual:

“The thing about Russia is that you have an intelligentsia class but then you also have lots of thugs and peasants. These have no money so their culture is geared towards the high class and educated intelligentsia. These are with money and education and are both materialistic and spiritualistic.

In the US the intelligentsia class is also there but the dumb ones also have money to spend. Hence the mainstream culture aims at them. In Russia there is no money to be made by appealing to the thugs.”

Here he explains why intellectual stuff doesn't sell in America:

“Since you like to know the reason why intellectual stuff doesn't sell, but trash (and sex) does is because people in rich countries are workaholics. They come home tired after a hard day and the brain wants stimulation. If you give them hard stuff the tired brain can't process it, but it gets stimulated by sex and violence – cheap and easy things. That is why in lazier countries such as Russia and Latin America people are so much into deep stuff- they do not work as hard.”

Those are all factors of course. But then we have to ask, are the mainstream naturally dumb? Not necessarily. It depends on how you educate them. Europeans, for instance, tend to be more educated, broad minded, and aware of things than Americans are. So not all masses around the world resonate with trash culture. And according to some sources, there is more to the trashy pop culture of America than the mere factors above.

Education in America is one of the worst in the industrialized world. The quality is low, and the curriculum is mind numbing, repetitious and boring, consisting of crash memorization for taking tests, and then forgetting it all afterward. And the high school environment is not conducive to learning, with all that pressure to try to become popular. The system is all about conditioning you for left brain thinking to turn you into a robot slave to the economy.

There are some sources who say that this is all by design, not accident. Jordan Maxwell, an expert in conspiracies and secret societies, said in one of his documentaries regarding public education in America (also featured in the Zeitgeist Movie), “What the government pays for, it gets. Logic will tell you that if it wasn't getting what it wanted, it would CHANGE things. Therefore, the government is getting EXACTLY what it wants. They don't want you to think too much.”

The most damaging high level source though, is a whistleblower named Charlotte Iserbyt, who served as Senior Policy Advisor in the Office of Educational Research and Improvement (OERI), U.S. Department of Education, during the Reagan Administration. She blew the whistle on a deliberate government social engineering to “dumb down” the American public. Of course, only the alternative media gave her any coverage. The mainstream media ignored her, like they do with most whistleblowers.

You can view her website and download her free 700+ page book here:

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Or watch some interviews with her on YouTube:

http://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=charlotte+iserbyt&aq=0

Film and Media: Entertainment vs. Art

In the old days, before the 1980's, movies in America were an artform. There was taste, originality, and artistic expression in them. Nowadays, they are just entertainment composed of sensationalism, cheap humor, and expensive special effects, quickly forgotten after their release. They simply don't make classics anymore. Very few contemporary blockbuster hits are even worth watching.

Personally, I love the movies and music of the 70's, cause during that era, the media waves seemed to be filled with originality, creativity, and art. The music also had a lot more soul and deep feeling. Movies and TV shows also seemed more philosophical, asking the deeper questions of life.

In the old days TV show characters were actually LIKEABLE, charming, personable, and you cared about them and felt like they were a part of your family. But nowadays, TV show characters are not very likable. Instead, they are narcissistic, have complexes, act overly tough, and don't have much depth to them, to the point where you have little or no emotional investment in what happens to them. I won't even bother to give examples, as they are too numerous (and unnecessary), plus I don't want this book to sink to the level of discussing trash pop culture anyway.

In Europe, movies are still an artform. More attention is paid to originality, symbolism, realism, deep meaning of life, and portraying reality in a meaningful way. French films, with their sad or neutral endings, are far more realistic than American film endings. And German films about history are far more realistic and less propagandizing than American films are. For example, two of the greatest war movies are German-made - *Das Boot* and *Downfall*. They are loved by both critics and general movie buffs (especially war movie fans), for their sense of realism, portraying things as they really were, without bias, judgment or propaganda. As an example, these movies show you that Russia had a lot more to do with Nazi Germany's defeat, than the US did (contrary to American propaganda that we single-handedly won WWII). Watch these two and you will see an immediate difference from the war movies made in the US.

Fortunately, I have noticed that since around 2004, there has been a trend in Hollywood to make movies more meaningful, creative and artistic again. Many films are now exploring the deep nuances of history, mythology and legend, bringing them back to life with groundbreaking special effects and computer animation (*Troy*, *Alexander*, *Kingdom of Heaven*). And in other films, expressive realism has been masterfully achieved, delving into the painful issues of real life (e.g. *Crash*, *Babel*, *Blood Diamond*). Also, new fantasy films have arisen that are comparable to the classics (*Narnia: The Lion, Witch and Wardrobe*, *The Golden Compass*, *Beowulf*). However, they are being released at such a fast rate in high numbers, that they become less memorable, even if they are worthy. Instead, they are like hot items for the mass public to consume, but with short life spans. Is that good or bad? Well it's up to you.

One thing that hasn't changed though, is that these new movies still project the image onto the audience that in other countries, life is a hellish struggle to stay alive and that death is waiting around every corner. That is completely inaccurate. For example, the hit flick "The Kingdom" portrayed Saudi Arabia as just such a place. However, a friend of mine who works there had this to say about the movie and what it's really like there:

"The movie was just another gross exaggeration of Hollywood. I live here and it is very peaceful, tranquil, and nothing ever happens. But it's good that movies like that keep people away so no one comes and tries to take away my job."

Another constant is that our US news media doesn't promote critical thinking at all, unlike the European news medias. Instead, they bombard us with trivial stories of people's lives that have nothing to do with us and are irrelevant to our lives. One of my young readers just out of high school put this eloquently:

"Most of those people I knew in the states who actually had opinions didn't take the time to research issues that they claimed were important to them, so their arguments were often hallow, and when you tried to reason with them instead of taking time to look at your claim they simply say, "that's stupid," or simply personally insulting you, and in doing so regressing to childhood, rather than learning how to think critically about important issues and events. I have asked fellow students how they would define critical thinking when looking at a social issue or controversial event, and they most often say something

like the following, "looking at the pros and cons of something and then picking which side you identify with." I didn't really think much of those answers at the time I posed the question, but now I can't believe how ignorant people are in the U.S. rather than creating their own opinion, they have to pick a "side" on all issues. However I'm not too suprised considering the U.S. media is constantly bombarding the public with controversial, but ultimately trivial stories about individual events that don't have a lasting effect on anyone else except those intimately involved, such as starting with the first one I know, the whole "Elian Gonzalez, scandal where that child who was brought here from Cuba and his mother died, had the Cuban government, and the boys father demanding for their return" and it was in the news for months. Then there was the case recently with that woman who was on life support, and couldn't do or say anything but was kept alive anyway, and people were debating it like crazy and acting like this situation that they have no place commenting on, was suddenly this huge issue that everyone had to have an opinion on. People in the U.S. talk about (pardon me, for being blunt) but these stupid stories that only matter to those directly involved, and these events may be important to those involved, but honestly there is no good reason for all of the U.S. to take time to analyze an issue they will not be a part of."

Inverse between social atmosphere and paid friendliness

Here is another observation on the tradeoffs between the U.S. and Europe/Russia. As much as America is above Europe/Russia in terms of economic status, in the same way, Europe/Russia is way above America in its social atmosphere, for sure. The social atmosphere there, as it is in South America, is much more lively, animated, uninhibited, and INCLUSIVE (that's the key word here). In Europe/Russia, you don't have to have hot looks, riches, or be a movie star to party and hang around attractive quality people. You just have to be a decent interesting guy. And that's a huge difference indeed.

My Expat Advisor described such inverses in his advice guide:

<http://forum.internationalliving.com/viewtopic.php?t=491>

“No place in the world is completely free, however many countries like to advertise themselves as free.

As you travel you will see that usually countries that are not free politically seem to be free on a grass-root level.

Freedoms of people to do business without special permits, to make love and show affection for each other are often in inverse proportion to the political freedoms. Many societies where one is free to practice all kinds of politics and say anything one wants are often regulated on the grass-root level with too many rules and ordinances to control the daily lives of people. So, one country is free in one area but unfree in another and some other country is vice-versa.”

Also, here's another tidbit for you. It's a weird quirk between Russians and Americans which I didn't notice until a Russian person pointed it out to me. In Russia, people at work tend to be rude and cold to customers. But when they're off work, they become very sociable, open, and uninhibited. In America, it's the opposite. People at work are friendly and courteous to you when they are paid to be that way. But when they are off work, they become stuck up and don't want you to bother them. A very interesting inverse indeed.

(Note: If you want to test the latter, go to your local shopping mall in the U.S., and say, "Hi, how are you?" to people with a smile. Assuming you are average looking and not famous or in a Mickey Mouse costume, the only people who will greet you back are the retail workers who are PAID to be friendly to you. The rest will ignore you, give you a snotty look, or brush you aside.)

Fragile/high strung egos vs. thick skin/carefree attitude

We all know in the states that people are easy to offend and rub the wrong way, so we constantly have to be tactful, diplomatic and politically correct. And at times, it can be like walking on egg shells. For some reason, in the US we seem to have high strung fragile egos which make us take everything personally and so easy to offend. Some reasons why our egos are so fragile might be:

- 1) The focus in our capitalistic society on competitiveness which drives everyone to have to prove their worth rather than accept and love themselves unconditionally.
- 2) Our societal culture's focus on fulfilling outer material wants through consumerism, rather than on developing our inner world to balance out the outer world.
- 3) How fake things are in America, which acts as a pseudo protective blanket against insecurity and insanity.
- 4) And our culture's propensity to breed narcissistic personalities in people, making them ultra-sensitive to criticism.

Not so in Europe/Russia though. There, people have a lesser and more balanced ego that is not narcissistic. They have a much thicker psychological shell and a very carefree playful attitude (except when they're at work as mentioned earlier lol) without the paranoia (in Russia, almost no one wears seat belts in cars, for instance). As a result, it's hard to offend or violate them even if you try to. Therefore, the boundary levels there are different than here, which is nice because it means you can say what you want there without having to be ultra-careful about it. This includes flirting with female strangers, blowing kisses at them randomly, saying "I love you's" etc. Oftentimes, rather than feel violated, they will become amused instead. On the flip side though, this also means that if you raise your temper and voice at customer service people there for their bad service and incompetence, it also doesn't really affect them either, even if you start swearing at them. (As a consequence, losing your temper at a Russian who doesn't react to your anger with any emotion can make you feel like a bratty child. lol)

Not everyone perceives this, but I've noticed that when I see people argue in Russia, or when I argue with someone there, it is different than in the US. In the US, when people argue or fight, they are both trying to puff up their egos and bring down their opponent's. It is a defensive seesaw power struggle of pride and ego on both sides. But in Russia, the psychological dynamics are different. When I yell at someone or argue with them, they do not try to defend some false pride or ego in themselves. Instead, they just tell it like it is, and stubbornly adhere to it. And that's all. They do not attempt to attack my ego or defend their own.

Likewise, people in Russia seldom argue with each other, and feel little need to prove that they are right and others are wrong. And when they do argue, it's over some substantive issue, rather than to defend their pride or ego in petty seesaw struggles.

It's not that Russians don't have egos; they just have different kinds and express it in different ways.

Perhaps this is one reason why Russian women are so much more approachable than American women. Their egos are less or different, so they don't feel inclined to be defensive toward strangers. American women, on the other hand, have much more fragile egos that need to be defended more rigorously, hence their paranoia and anti-stranger mentality which vilifies anything it doesn't like to extremes, even creating enemies where none exist. But in Russia, women don't have such extreme illusory egos, hence they are without such paranoia complexes. And that is why foreign men tend to report that Russian women seem to be more sincere, real and simple.

In addition, our propensity to have ego complexes might also explain why so many men have the need to constantly brag, exaggerate their accomplishments, bully/belittle weaker targets, show bravado egos, legendize their past, talk people's ears off, etc. to compensate for their insecurities.

My Expat Advisor differentiated the passion of the souls between Anglos (Americans and Brits) and Slavs (Russians) in his guide on how to impress Russian women:

"The Russians are not a Germanic civilization. They are Slavs. In a way, they are closer to Latins than

Anglo-Saxons. Soul is what matters to them, not the anal behavior that so many people of Anglo-Saxon countries display.”

“Some Russian girls who marry Brits complain that they (the Brits) are as cold as dead fish and just work. They are anally retentive; just like ”Nazis”. If the women get no warmth or humanity out of a husband, but just business and money and anal-ism- being overly punctual, being a cleanliness freak, a stickler to details and all that, your relationship may fall apart. Please read up on their culture before you go and try and act their way, not your way. If you think you can get something without giving up something, you are dead wrong. You may have to give up some of the American habits and behavior if you want to accommodate them, and want them to fall in love with you.”

Regarding the above, one of my readers commented:

“Your advisor knows his shit. In fact, I've read that Latin American soap operas are very popular in Russia and the rest of the former USSR. They enjoy the unbridled passion and energy that the actors exude. As your advisor mentioned, they have much more in common with Latin cultures, rather than with Anglo-Saxon cultures. I also can personally attest to this with respect to dating Slavic women. I have been in more satisfying relationships with both Slavic and Slavic-American women than with any other ethnicity, including my own (Hispanic-American).”

Finally, what I've noticed is that just being in America in itself makes you more insecure about yourself and your self image then when you are overseas. I used to think that it was my imagination, but I've asked other expats about this and they concur. As to why this is, one of them told me:

“I think it's because Americans are conditioned to constantly judge and criticize others. Though image matters everywhere, I definitely feel more relaxed about my self-image overseas than in America.”

I would add that it's also because Americans tend to be addicted to negativity, paranoia, seeing the worst in others, and a subconscious desire to see other people go down. And of course, our cult of individualism where it's natural and normal to be selfish because you are “on your own” anyway, plays a part as well.

Bragging and competitiveness of male ego vs. brotherly camaraderie

Besides females, you can notice a difference in American males vs. foreign males as well. In the company of American men or boys, bragging goes on as each competes with the other to show off their accomplishments. Often, they exaggerate their accomplishments and lie to cover up any vulnerability (e.g. if a girl dumps them, he tells everyone that he dumped her). It's like they have some inferiority complex. Some even play this where they will ask another guy how many women he slept with, and then quote a higher number on his "scoreboard" in response. In the presence of such men, you feel the need to brag and show off too, to compete with their egos, or else be placed below them on a temporary pecking order they are trying to create. It's kind of dysfunctional.

An expat who lived in Norway for 10 years related these observations on my Forum of American men vs. foreign men at a party:

<http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=4580>

"I wanted to share one story, and actually it's not about American women, but the men.

I was at a party six months ago with a friend from Norway visiting the US. There were mostly Americans at the party (about 70% male-- a real sausage fest!), but also two Dutch guys, two Bolivians, as well as my Norwegian friend. What I noticed very clearly at this party was the antisocial and competitive nature of the American men as compared to the Europeans and the Bolivians.

Being a social person, I naturally mixed freely and said hi to many of the American guys at the party. The responses I got ranged from indifference to defensiveness ("how dare you talk to me"), and there was a lot of the macho "pissing contest" vibe.

But when I spoke to the two Dutch guys and the Bolivians (none of whom I had ever met before), there was none of that macho bullshit or paranoid behavior. They were just regular guys, well-educated, interesting to talk to, and friendly -- just like my Norwegian friend. By contrast, the American dudes seemed insecure and fear-based, like they had something to prove all the time.

Not only did I notice this, the Europeans and Bolivians at the party all mentioned it too, and one of them told me that when socializing with American men, he always felt like they were trying to compete with him for some reason, though he had no idea why. The Europeans were also confused by the macho attitude, as that is NOT common in northern Europe and is usually regarded (rightly) as a sign of insecurity and weakness.

I ended up talking to the Europeans and Bolivians all night (the six of us had a great time), while the Americans mostly kept to themselves and played silly competitive head games. We were laughing, having drinks and enjoying ourselves, while the American guys mostly looked miserable and antisocial.

I came home that night and truly understood for the first time how strong the American cultural matrix is, and how completely brainwashed the majority is in this country. They have accepted a set of beliefs and paradigms that keep them fearful, suspicious, uncooperative and competitive."

Some friends of mine concurred, remarking:

"Yep! I've always noticed if you want to know who the biggest pussy is in a group of guys, just listen for the one with the biggest mouth! It's fear that motivates him to pretend he's fearless. It's the guy who's always bragging the most, that has the least."

"I see this all the time, guys competitive and in denial. Like when I go to a social and there are lots of guys and the girls are totally unfriendly, the guys are in denial. Just walk up to one of these guys standing on the outside, looking in and say "this party sucks", He won't say it sure does. He'll say "I don't know what you're talking about, I'm having a great time". These Aholes don't deserve to succeed. I've always said that if you don't admit there is a problem, you'll never be able to solve the problem. As

my friend would say "let them die on the vine". I find it very hard to make guy friends in the US, because they are in such denial and liars. I won't make any person a friend that won't accept reality and tell the truth. "

On the other hand, with foreign men in general, there is this instant camaraderie energy when they meet or get together. Among them, you almost feel like you are brothers. There is this unconditional bond, and you feel that you are liked for you, regardless of your accomplishments. No need to brag or compete with their egos.

An Asian American lady who is a family friend of mine once told me:

"European men tend to be more broad minded, whereas American men tend to be only interested in football and cars."

Another Asian American female close friend that I've known for years wrote:

"i have never been attracted to American men for the same reasons you are not towards the girls. b.c they are into sports and cars and no brain. (now when in England, the pool of men i became interested in became greater, b.c they were into intelligence and character and internal things)"

And this young Asian American female college student that I met while traveling wrote me later:

"I feel like I'm dying in the U.S. because of lack of like-minded people. When I was abroad in Europe 2 summers ago it seemed like people were more willing to go deep.

Admittedly, I'm not willing to give up some of the material luxuries and academic/vocational opportunities in the U.S, but would like something comparable to that outside of the U.S.

I'm trying to be a writer, but would like work and community that I enjoy to support that. I find myself constantly questioning why I am dissatisfied here. And even though I have many men interested in me here, I can't help but wonder if it would be easier for me to find a "soulmate" or an awesome social life abroad-- from the few times I've travelled I've met amazing men that were able to converse at a deeper emotional and spiritual level than men in the U.S. I don't know if it is a cultural thing, but I hate how disconnected I feel here, and this nagging sense that I'm missing out on life or wasting my youth."

One of my female readers also added:

"Also the "gay complex" which exists among American men from an early age. The way which French men, for example, spend time with their guy friends would be considered gay in America, where one must fit into a certain profile- jock, nerd, etc. To prevent from rambling, modern America is simply characterized as narrowminded and hypocritical. How sorry do I feel for the millions who are stuck in a life like that but are not aware. It is wasteful that such a prosperous nation is inhabited by some of the unhappiest people in the world."

Perhaps the most insightful female letter I've read on this matter, which was passed on to me, is this one, written by an allegedly "hot girl":

"Hey Winston, thought you might be interested in this. An old friend from college sent me this - and she's a very attractive girl, for your information - and it surprised me because it sounds exactly like something I remember you writing. Just that it's from the perspective of a hot girl:

"L.A. feels pretty boring to me, but then again, i definitely do not get out much right now that i'm in school and working all the time... when i do go out though, it doesn't seem to be very social... like, people usually stay with their friends, and as girls, we're trained to think that any guy that comes up to you in a bar or club is either a) a creep, or b) desperate.... it's odd that we think that way, but it's the culture... so where are you supposed to meet people?"

another reason i think people are so uninteresting here in the States, is because of the whole politically correct thing... it has a huge effect on what people will allow themselves to express, and as a result think... it's like we're too civilized or something... so people become breathing versions of their environment, American society: conventional, washed-out, literal, pedestrian, square, colorless, mundane, and uninteresting... always looking to the future, and never living in the moment.. and if you do live in the moment, you somehow feel guilty... it's so sad to see it so clearly when you come back from being abroad for a while...

Machismo is repulsive, but what's attractive is guys who are guys... and that inevitably involves some raw, uncooked, unrefined, aggressive characteristics... maybe the problem isn't that guys here aren't these things, but that women are mentally trained to be repulsed by it... and when we go to other countries, we automatically sort of drop all of our expectations about how "our men" are supposed to be (because they're not our men) and we "allow" it ... and when you guys go to other countries, the women don't have the same expectations that american women do, and you find it more liberating and interesting to be with them, like they just allow you to be guys... i don't know, all i know is that i can't wait until spring break when i can go on another vacation..."

Pseudo-confidence and paranoia - 2 elements of American personality

Sadly, there are two main elements that comprise the modern American personality - pseudo-confidence and paranoia.

Americans constantly project this artificial fake pseudo-confidence to cover any vulnerability or inferiority complex that they have. It fuels and perpetuates their narcissism that their culture breeds. And if one is without it, then one is told that they better develop it to survive. To foreigners, it looks obviously fake and contrived, but to Americans, it's a symbol of strength necessary to survive in a Darwinistic society that hates the weak. To Americans, strength and winning is everything, even if you have to develop fake pseudo-confidence. It's very ungentle, but it's the American way.

This pseudo-confidence that Americans like to project is so apparent, that when you step into their neighbors in Canada, you notice a big difference in the absence of this pseudo-confidence and narcissism that Canadians aren't projecting.

However, it's all so fake that they have to constantly keep themselves "positive" with pseudo-positivity or else they slip into a depression, feeling of emptiness, or insanity. That's why "positive thinking" is such a fad in America nowadays. It's merely a coping mechanism to deal with the insecurity and lack of an inner life of so many Americans. Therefore, pseudo-confidence is maintained by pseudo-positivity. It's all very unreal and dysfunctional. What happened to us?

One obvious explanation for over-inflating one's confidence in the American personality is our separatist and individualist ideology of autonomy and exclusivity. In other words "you are on your own and make your own destiny". Under such an ideology, the "I" of the individual is viewed as separate, and therefore detached from community and relationships. (which is kind of lonely for my taste) In addition, it also breeds narcissism of course. As a consequence, the scared little "I" needs to over-inflate its confidence in order to survive on its own, whereas people in other countries have a much better community and social support that is more integrated. In addition, the pursuit of wealth and property rights is exclusive in nature, making individuals more separate. In short, in exchange for the opportunity to amass wealth/property and indulge in greed, you get to endure loneliness and detachment from relationships and community.

Ironically, they also have this paranoia ingrained in their subconscious that makes them think that everyone's out to get them, and every stranger could be a potential psycho or killer. It's so strong in the modern American psyche in fact, that even when non-paranoid people like me are exposed to it long enough, we eventually absorb the paranoid ourselves, unless we exit the country again.

This paranoia/hysteria is both unhealthy and inaccurate, but it's part of the modern dysfunctional American psyche. And it partly explains why many Americans don't like talking to strangers and prefer isolation, so they can feel safe from all the potential vultures out there. Our media also has a do with it, as the bad news they cover (which sells) accentuates our paranoia further. And our upbringing contributes as well, since Americans are usually taught by their parents from childhood not to talk to strangers. Probably, this paranoid disposition leads them to fear that without the pseudo-confidence, their vulnerability will show for others to pounce on like wolves.

This might explain why Americans have such a strong "victim-blaming mentality" toward anyone who complains. Those with pseudo-confidence hate complainers, and use them as punching bags to pump up more pseudo-confidence. It's all a sad dysfunctional illusion which sickens me. And I have on many occasions been victim to it.

You can see all this being played out on internet forums. For some reason, American internet users are notorious for having a victim-blaming mentality. Anyone who complains about anything on internet forums is quickly flamed by the pack, who jump at the chance to pounce on a "victim" who shows himself/herself as weak or vulnerable. Rather than trying to help the "victim", the pack prefers to condemn, ridicule, and criticize them, exposing every vulnerability they can, labeling them as "losers" etc.

It's all part of their Darwinian psyche to eliminate the weaker members of the pack to strengthen the rest of the

group, kind of like how wolves kill off and eat the weakest members of their clan to strengthen the pack.

From one point of view though, we can surmise that people outside America have evolved beyond this primal instinct of false confidence and paranoia, centuries or millennia ago.

The problem here though, is that this modern American pseudo-confidence is actually quite intimidating to those like me who are sincere, genuine, warm, sensitive, down-to-earth, gentle, non-competitive and union-seeking. It makes us feel vulnerable in an unhealthy way, which indirectly tries to force us to adopt the same behavior of pseudo-confidence to keep up and avoid being torn down. In effect, pseudo-confidence battle requires one to maintain a pseudo-self-esteem to avoid becoming a "loser". Hence, this explains why I tend to feel unnaturally vulnerable in the American society and public.

In fact, one of my female readers of Slavic descent noted to me about how she observed Russian females getting intimidated by American women. She writes:

"Russian women tend to be a little intimidated by American women. It is true that many/most Russian women are more feminine, thinner, less crass and more attractive than the typical American woman. However, I think you are colored by your own American cultural experiences to believe that Russian women have the same tendency to fancy themselves as the standard for women of all cultures. I think that this extreme self-confidence is an American tendency (probably pseudo-confidence in some cases), and not a Russian one. It is true that Russian women will talk very freely against American women when they are in Russia, or when there aren't any outspoken American women around. However, if you put Russian women and American women in a room together, the American women will intimidate the Russian women into submission every time. This is especially true in situations of American women who are not fat or butch. While it might be true that Russian women are more often thin and attractive than American women, when an American woman IS thin and attractive, she is usually REALLY hot! American women tend to have access to better fashions and beauty procedures. This has a big impact on the few feminine, thin and attractive American women (naturally, most of these women believe themselves to be goddesses; they expect to be worshipped, and quite frankly, they often are!). Russian women often expect ALL American women to be fat and butch, and for many women, a less attractive woman poses less of a threat. Despite this, even these unattractive American women intimidate most Russian women, so when they unexpectedly encounter hot American women, the intimidation is almost crippling ... and the "American goddess/diva" confidence factor makes it even more intense. In general, Americans are confident and outspoken almost to a fault. Russian people tend to be more reserved and humble ... even the free-spirited ones. Russian women do not always fancy themselves as the standard for the world's women, but American women often do ... and they are very convincing (even if it is BS). Even though the American confidence borders on being a fault, I believe it is envied by many. Hence all the American influence in many cultures."

(She might be right if the American woman and Russian woman were in America, but not in Russia!)

Now, the pseudo-confidence of American women may intimidate foreign women, but at the same time, these American women have more paranoia than them as well. For instance, European women are not afraid to travel alone, but American women tend to be afraid and vulnerable at the notion. So in that sense, you could say the European women are more confident and independent, as well as more adventurous and adaptable to changes.

As mentioned, the downside of all this perpetual buildup of pseudo-confidence is that it causes those who don't do the same, to feel somewhat vulnerable. And it not only affects me, but others as well. For instance, most people in America feel uncomfortable going to a movie, restaurant, or even a party by themselves (if they don't know anyone at the party). It's like if they do, some vulnerability will be exposed, since there is a loser stigma attached to it, which even if you try to ignore, you will still feel the stigma from the vibe of the collective consciousness around you.

For example, a lady I'm corresponding with in Arizona told me this:

"Sure. I live in Phoenix. I might be able to show you around depending on your interests. I'm the one who is interested in meeting new vegetarian friends but **too shy to go to the Phoenix vegetarian**

group events by myself. The friends I've made so far are all carnivores and do not understand...in fact they like to tease me about it."

Now, you'd think that a group of vegetarians would be open-minded, spiritual, and non-judgmental enough for one to walk comfortably into a group of them alone. But this awkward vulnerability caused by the buildup of pseudo-confidence makes one simply feel that way, regardless of their self-esteem or true inner confidence.

I say this because in Europe, people are not afraid to go to movies, restaurants, or parties by themselves. There's no loser stigma or vulnerability attached to it. In fact, people, even women, are not afraid to travel by themselves or hitchhike alone either. It's simply normal there. So by the rest of the world's standards, we are the freak.

With my stubborn willpower, I usually choose to resist and defend against these American confidence attacks on my ego, and by doing so, I draw even more wrath and condemnation. Every effort is made on their part to make me out to be a loser. And my retaliation only serves to make me appear to be a monster to the pack. Such is the price for preserving my integrity and dignity.

That is why in American society and social life, I often feel like I'm in the classic Twilight Zone episode "[Eye of the Beholder](#)", where the misfit is actually the normal one and the majority are the monsters, who in turn see the normal one as the monster. It's very awkward, to say the least.

Unfortunately, many immigrants who come to America in search of a better life and opportunity, find that they are soon forced to adopt this pseudo-confidence and paranoia elements too, in order to keep up, causing weird psychoses and complexes that they never dreamed of back in their more "natural world".

Fortunately though, Europeans and Australians already know about these 2 primary traits of the American personality. They are educated about it and see through it, so they tend to know better than to try to move here. They prefer to be genuine and wholesome in their hearts, minds, and souls, which their own culture better allows them to do. So they will politely say "No thank you."

Hopefully, the collective American personality will learn to evolve someday. But until then, those who see through these pseudo traits and refuse to be infested by them, should either learn to detach from them and live peacefully in the US, or else move abroad to more enlightened and evolved countries.

In response to the above post, one person wrote to me:

"Damn good dissertation. living here I can tell you the pathology is even more complex and far reaching than you described. Could you correspond with me so I can get my sense of reality back? ' Living US ' has destroyed me, my soul and my health. I need out, even if it's on my keyboard. I can always spot a foreign girl in a crowd for two reasons:

1. She smiles at me,
2. She talks to me."

I'm not sure about the root cause of so much unhealthy paranoia in America, but one reader gave this psychoanalysis:

"I enjoyed your book and can't agree more. You know, the primary reason why people in America are so sick is that they're scared. Oddly enough, what they're scared of is themselves, i.e., their true nature that in Europe is less disintegrated. In Freudian terms, our persecutory fascist superego is punishing our id and the result is that we're assholes. It's sad really, how lost and unbalanced we are here."

And another gave this ironic observation:

<http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=18>

"Strangest thing is, the people I've known from politically torn and bomb ridden countrysides are far less paranoid than people from the States and far more outgoing. Then again, people from safer countries than the US, which are many, are also less paranoid and more outgoing. Go figure."

Studies that show America to be the most dysfunctional in the industrialized world

"It is no measure of health to be well adjusted to a profoundly sick society."
- Jiddu Krishnamurti

The following goes to show how the myth of having more wealth and goods does not lead to happiness, contentment, or wholeness after all, but instead can lead to mental illness, health problems, and dysfunctional/deviant behavior, especially in a prudish, repressed, puritanical society like ours.

Highest prison population in the world

First, America's prison population, the highest in the world, has surpassed 2 million already.

<http://usgovinfo.about.com/cs/censusstatistic/a/aaprisonpop.htm>

"U.S. Prison Population Tops 2 Million

From [Robert Longley](#),
Your Guide to [U.S. Gov Info / Resources](#).
FREE Newsletter. [Sign Up Now!](#)

1 in 142 US residents now in prison

America's prison population topped 2 million inmates for the first time in history on June 30, 2002 according to a new report from the [Justice Department's Bureau of Justice Statistics \(BJS\)](#). The 50 states, the District of Columbia and the federal government held 1,355,748 prisoners (two-thirds of the total incarcerated population), and local municipal and county jails held 665,475 inmates.

By midyear 2002, America's jails held 1 in every 142 U.S. residents. Males were incarcerated at the rate of 1,309 inmates per 100,000 U.S. men, while the female incarceration rate was 113 per 100,000 women residents.

Of the 1,200,203 state prisoners, 3,055 were younger than 18 years old. In addition, adult jails held 7,248 inmates under 18."

Highest incidence of rape

We also have the highest incident of rape in the world. One wonders why we have such high rates of sexual deviancy when the rest of the world doesn't. Could it be that our values are too Puritanical, while our media culture constantly arouses us with images and the fantasy of a promiscuous lifestyle? Whereas in the more free spirited countries, men are allowed to be men, and social relationships are more harmonious?

<http://www.paralumun.com/issuesrapestats.htm>

"AMERICAN RAPE STATISTICS

Somewhere in America, a woman is raped every 2 minutes, according to the U.S. Department of Justice."

Higher homicide rates than other industrialized nations

Here we have homicide and violent crime rates in the USA, the world's alleged utopia and most ideal capitalistic system, being higher than that of other industrialized nations.

<http://www.co.missoula.mt.us/measures/ViolentC.htm>

"Homicide rates in the U.S. far exceed those in any other industrialized nations. For other violent crimes, rates in the U.S. are among the world's highest and substantially exceed rates in Canada, our nearest neighbor in terms of geography, culture, and crime reporting. Among 16 industrialized countries surveyed in 1988, the U.S. had the highest prevalence rates for serious sexual assaults and for all other assaults including threats of physical harm." (Understanding and Preventing Violence 1993)

Jeremy Rifkin compares rates of homicide and suicide in the USA vs. Europe, providing some shocking statistics from his research. In his book, [The European Dream](#), page 81 – 82, he reports:

"Living in a safe environment is also one of the hallmarks of a good society. We have come to believe that the more affluent a society becomes, the more peaceful it is likely to be. If GDP is the standard, then the United States ought to be one of the safest nations on Earth.

Between 1997 and 1999, the average rate of homicides per 100,000 people in the EU was 1.7. The U.S. rate of homicide was nearly four times higher, or nearly 6.26 per 100,000 people. (84) More terrifying still, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) reports that the rates of childhood homicides, suicides, and firearm-related deaths exceed those of the other twenty-five wealthiest nations in the world, including the fourteen wealthiest European countries. The homicide rate for children in the U.S. was five times higher than for children in the other twenty-five countries combined. The suicide rate among U.S. children was two times higher than all of the suicides combined in all the other twenty-five countries measured. (85)

It's not surprising that the U.S. incarceration rate is so high compared to that of the European Union. As mentioned earlier, in chapter 2, more than two million Americans are currently in prison - that's nearly one quarter of the entire prison population in the world. (86) While EU member states average 87 prisoners per 100,000 population, the United States averages an incredible 685 prisoners per 100,000 population. (87)"

Footnotes:

84. Graff, James. "Gunning for It." *Time Europe*. Vol. 159. No. 19. May 13, 2002

85. "Rates of Homicide, Suicide, and Firearm-related Death Among Children - 26 Industrialized Countries." *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*. Vol. 46, No. 5. February 7, 1997. P. 102.

86. Barclay, Gordon, and Cynthia Tavares. "International Comparison of Criminal Justice Statistics 2000." July 12, 2002; "Two Million Inmates and Counting." *The New York Times*. April 9, 2003.

87. Barclay, Gordon, and Cynthia Tavares. "International Comparisons Of Criminal Justice Statistics 2000."

In the same book, Mr. Rifkin accounts for our high homicide/violence rates by revealing that a growing number of Americans actually believe that it is acceptable to use violence as a means to achieve your goals:

Page 31 - 32:

"Canadians and Americans were asked if "it is acceptable to use violence to get what you want." In 1992, 9 percent of Canadians and only 10 percent of Americans said using violence to get what you want was acceptable. (62) By 1996, however, 18 percent of Americans felt that it was all right to use violence to get what you want, while still only 9 percent of Canadians thought the same way. (63) In 2000, the gap between Canadians and Americans had widened even more. Twelve percent of Canadians thoughts violence was justified to get what they wanted, while 24 percent of Americans felt the same way. (64) That's nearly one out of four Americans believing that using violence to get what they want is acceptable. Michael Adams, who heads up the polling organization Envirionics, concluded that "Americans are prepared to put a lot more on the line than Canadians to achieve their version of the American Dream," including committing acts of violence, if necessary. (65)"

Footnotes:

62. Adams, Michael. *Fire and Ice: The United States, Canada, and the Myth of Converging Values*. Toronto: Penguin, 2003. p. 53.

63. Ibid.

64. Ibid.
65. Ibid.

Increase in wealth failed to increase happiness for Americans

This survey found that having more did not equal more happiness for Americans.

<http://www.commondreams.org/scriptfiles/views03/1229-09.htm>

"The survey, which has studied happiness since 1945, finds it has not increased in Europe and North America even though the societies have become wealthier. The desire for material goods, it concludes, is "a happiness suppressant."

Poorer countries having happier people than America

And if the American myth that having more = being happier were true, then how could Nigeria and other poor countries have happier people than ours?

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/africa/3157570.stm>

"Nigeria has the highest percentage of happy people followed by Mexico, Venezuela, El Salvador and Puerto Rico, while Russia, Armenia and Romania have the fewest."

Highest rates of mental illness in the world

And not surprisingly, mental illness in the industrialized world was found to be the highest in the US, a whopping 26 percent of adults, according to MSN:

<http://msnbc.msn.com/id/5111202/>

"Mental illnesses including anxiety disorders and depression are common and under-treated in many developed and developing countries, with the highest rate found in the United States, according to a study of 14 countries..... Rates ranged from 26.4 percent of people in the United States to 8.2 percent of people in Italy."

According to a new study, at least half of Americans are reportedly struggling with mental illness or have been in therapy:

<http://nysun.com/editorials/are-we-really-ill?fark>

"Are We Really That Ill?
By CHRISTOPHER LANE | March 26, 2008

CHICAGO - America has reached a point where almost half its population is described as being in some way mentally ill, and nearly a quarter of its citizens - 67.5 million - have taken antidepressants."

One poster on my Forum it this way:

<http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=3823>

"I think this is a result of the social isolation in America and a result of America's culture which demands that people always look fake happy even if they're not.

In other cultures, just talking to neighbors, friends, or relatives about their feelings is probably enough

"therapy" for most people. If people no longer have opportunities to interact with others in a meaningful way, they have no choice but to talk to psychologists instead."

Studies show loneliness and isolation to be national epidemics in America

Not surprisingly, given the USA's freakish "No talking to strangers unless you are a freak or creep" unspoken social rule and isolationist mentality and vibe, America has a major loneliness problem, probably the worst in the world. This study below shows that at least **one in five people in America are lonely**. Therefore, if you think that being lonely in America is only a problem for freaks, misfits, and losers like me, think again. "One in five in America" is a LOT of people. I guess in order to live in America, you have to love loneliness. What a weird and freakish social environment.

http://www.livescience.com/humanbiology/060331_loneliness.html

"In a new University of Chicago study of men and women 50 to 68 years old, those who scored highest on measures of loneliness also had higher blood pressure. And high blood pressure is a major risk factor for heart disease, the number one killer in many industrialized nations and number two the United States.

Lonely people have blood pressure readings as much as 30 points higher than non-lonely people, said the study leaders Louise Hawkley and Christopher Masi. Blood pressure differences between lonely and non-lonely people were smallest at age 50 and greatest among the oldest people tested.

Richard Suzman of the National Institute on Aging, which funded this research, said he was "surprised by the magnitude of the relationship between loneliness and hypertension in this well-controlled, cross-sectional study."

Nothing worse

The researchers separated loneliness out from depression, age, race, gender, weight, alcohol consumption, smoking, blood pressure medications, hostility, stress, social support and other factors.

Also, loneliness does eat at you. The morbid health effect of loneliness accumulates gradually and faster as you get older, the study found. Loneliness was worse for blood pressure than any other psychological or social factor the researchers studied.

Weight loss and physical exercise reduce blood pressure by the same amount that loneliness increases it. Hawkley said this finding especially surprised her.

"It's comparable to the effects you see for the health benefits that are so often advocated such as exercise [to] keep your blood pressure under control," Hawkley told LiveScience.

Who is lonely

About one in five Americans is lonely, a gnawing emotional state that is a patchwork of feeling unhappy, stressed out, friendless and hostile.

The main psychological difference between lonely and non-lonely people is that the former perceive stressful circumstances as threatening rather than challenging and cope passively and withdraw from stress rather than trying to solve the problem, said study co-author John T. Cacioppo.

Lonely people who are middle-aged and older tend to also have problems with alcoholism, depression, weak immune system responses to illness, impaired sleep and suicide.

Some psychologists think that associations between loneliness and health or physiology are just part of a generic stress response, but this new research suggests loneliness has a unique impact."

However, some think even the "1 in 5" stat is an understatement:

"Only 1 in 5? Winston, you and I both know this survey is on the conservative side. People who say they aren't lonely have simply (I believe) mal-adapted to being lonely. No one here really communicates much besides hostility or freakish over blandishness."

Another study on social isolation reported in the Washington Post confirms all this as well:

http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2006/06/22/AR2006062201763_pf.html

"Social Isolation Growing in U.S., Study Says

The Number of People Who Say They Have No One to Confide In Has Risen

By Shankar Vedantam
Washington Post Staff Writer
Friday, June 23, 2006; A03

Americans are far more socially isolated today than they were two decades ago, and a sharply growing number of people say they have no one in whom they can confide, according to a comprehensive new evaluation of the decline of social ties in the United States.

A quarter of Americans say they have no one with whom they can discuss personal troubles, more than double the number who were similarly isolated in 1985. Overall, the number of people Americans have in their closest circle of confidants has dropped from around three to about two.

The comprehensive new study paints a sobering picture of an increasingly fragmented America, where intimate social ties -- once seen as an integral part of daily life and associated with a host of psychological and civic benefits -- are shrinking or nonexistent. In bad times, far more people appear to suffer alone.

"That image of people on roofs after Katrina resonates with me, because those people did not know someone with a car," said Lynn Smith-Lovin, a Duke University sociologist who helped conduct the study. "There really is less of a safety net of close friends and confidants."

If close social relationships support people in the same way that beams hold up buildings, more and more Americans appear to be dependent on a single beam.

Compared with 1985, nearly 50 percent more people in 2004 reported that their spouse is the only person they can confide in. But if people face trouble in that relationship, or if a spouse falls sick, that means these people have no one to turn to for help, Smith-Lovin said.

"We know these close ties are what people depend on in bad times," she said. "We're not saying people are completely isolated. They may have 600 friends on [a popular networking Web site] and e-mail 25 people a day, but they are not discussing matters that are personally important."

The new research is based on a high-quality random survey of nearly 1,500 Americans. Telephone surveys miss people who are not home, but the General Social Survey, funded by the National Science Foundation, has a high response rate and conducts detailed face-to-face interviews, in which respondents are pressed to confirm they mean what they say.

Whereas nearly three-quarters of people in 1985 reported they had a friend in whom they could confide, only half in 2004 said they could count on such support. The number of people who said they counted a neighbor as a confidant dropped by more than half, from about 19 percent to about 8 percent.

The results, being published today in the American Sociological Review, took researchers by surprise because they had not expected to see such a steep decline in close social ties.

Smith-Lovin said increased professional responsibilities, including working two or more jobs to make ends meet, and long commutes leave many people too exhausted to seek social -- as well as family -- connections: "Maybe sitting around watching 'Desperate Housewives' . . . is what counts for family interaction."

Robert D. Putnam, a professor of public policy at Harvard and the author of "Bowling Alone," a book about increasing social isolation in the United States, said the new study supports what he has been saying for years to skeptical audiences in the academy.

"For most of the 20th century, Americans were becoming more connected with family and friends, and there was more giving of blood and money, and all of those trend lines turn sharply in the middle '60s and have gone in the other direction ever since," he said.

Americans go on 60 percent fewer picnics today and families eat dinner together 40 percent less often compared with 1965, he said. They are less likely to meet at clubs or go bowling in groups. Putnam has estimated that every 10-minute increase in commutes makes it 10 percent less likely that people will establish and maintain close social ties.

Television is a big part of the problem, he contends. Whereas 5 percent of U.S. households in 1950 owned television sets, 95 percent did a decade later.

But University of Toronto sociologist Barry Wellman questioned whether the study's focus on intimate ties means that social ties in general are fraying. He said people's overall ties are actually growing, compared with previous decades, thanks in part to the Internet. Wellman has calculated that the average person today has about 250 ties with friends and relatives.

Wellman praised the quality of the new study and said its results are surprising, but he said it does not address how core ties change in the context of other relationships.

"I don't see this as the end of the world but part of a larger puzzle," he said. "My guess is people only have so much energy, and right now they are switching around a number of networks. . . . We are getting a division of labor in relationships. Some people give emotional aid, some people give financial aid."

Putnam and Smith-Lovin said Americans may be well advised to consciously build more relationships. But they also said social institutions and social-policy makers need to pay more attention.

"The current structure of workplace regulations assumes everyone works from 9 to 5, five days a week," Putnam said. "If we gave people much more flexibility in their work life, they would use that time to spend more time with their aging mom or best friend."

Biggest obesity crisis in the history of the world

And of course, no one can deny the obesity problem in America that is the worst in the world, period, a fact which is universally agreed upon by everyone, including the most fanatical American patriots. Even Oprah admits to it on her show.

http://www.mercola.com/2004/jul/3/obesity_rates.htm

"In one government report of 4,000 adults and an equal number of children, the number of overweight adults for 2001-02 had risen to 65.7 percent versus 64.5 percent in a similar study of adults in 2000-01. The level of obesity in adults edged upward from 30.5 percent to 30.6 percent. The number of adults who were labeled extremely obese grew slightly from 4.7 percent to 5.1 percent."

Some reasons given to me as to why Americans are the most overweight in the world are: 1) too much time spent in cars and homes rather than walking/public transportation, 2) lack of exercise due to laziness and too

much work, 3) too much sugar, processed bleached white flour, preservatives and grease in their mainstream foods (none of which are good for you), 4) overly large meal portions, especially at dinner, even in restaurants, 5) focus on dinner being the main and largest meal of the day rather than lunch, which throws your system off balance and increases weight gain. (many monks don't even eat dinner to maximize their spirituality) Ideally, dinner should be the smallest meal of the day and breakfast the biggest, but Americans do the opposite.

The most unhealthy and sick population among industrialized nations

Quite sadly, it has been known for a long time that the American population is the most unhealthy and sick among the industrialized nations. In fact, a study comparing middle aged whites in the USA and England solidly confirmed this, as well as both British and American medical journals. Check out this article:

http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20060503/ap_on_he_me/sick_america;_ylt=ApwGI2_a4VR7yCf_3J4qmU2_s0NUE;_ylu=X3oDMTA3czJjNGZoBHNIYwM3NTE-

"Study Shows Americans Sicker Than English

By CARLA K. JOHNSON and MIKE STOBBE, Associated Press Writers
Tue May 2, 10:47 PM ET

CHICAGO - White, middle-aged Americans — even those who are rich — are far less healthy than their peers in England, according to stunning new research that erases misconceptions and has experts scratching their heads.

Americans had higher rates of diabetes, heart disease, strokes, lung disease and cancer — findings that held true no matter what income or education level.

Those dismal results are despite the fact that U.S. health care spending is double what England spends on each of its citizens.

"Everybody should be discussing it: Why isn't the richest country in the world the healthiest country in the world?" asks study co-author Dr. Michael Marmot, an epidemiologist at University College London in England.

The study, based on government statistics in both countries, adds context to the already-known fact that the United States spends more on health care than any other industrialized nation, yet trails in rankings of life expectancy.

The United States spends about \$5,200 per person on health care while England spends about half that in adjusted dollars.

Even experts familiar with the weaknesses in the U.S. health system seemed stunned by the study's conclusions.

"I knew we were less healthy, but I didn't know the magnitude of the disparities," said Gerard Anderson, an expert in chronic disease and international health at Johns Hopkins University who had no role in the research.

Just why the United States fared so miserably wasn't clear. Answers ranging from too little exercise to too little money and too much stress were offered.

Even the U.S. obesity epidemic couldn't solve the mystery. The researchers crunched numbers to create a hypothetical statistical world in which the English had American lifestyle risk factors, including being as fat as Americans. In that model, Americans were still sicker.

.....
Americans reported twice the rate of diabetes compared to the English, 12.5 percent versus 6 percent. For high blood pressure, it was 42 percent for Americans versus 34 percent for the English; cancer showed up in 9.5 percent of Americans compared to 5.5 percent of the English.

The upper crust in both countries was healthier than middle-class and low-income people in the same country. **But richer Americans' health status resembled the health of the low-income English.**

"It's something of a mystery," said Richard Suzman of the U.S. [National Institutes of Health](#), which helped fund the study.

Health experts have known the U.S. population is less healthy than that of other industrialized nations, according to several important measurements, including life expectancy. The U.S. ranks behind about two dozen other countries, according to the [World Health Organization](#)."

The study was also reported in the Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA):

<http://jama.ama-assn.org/cgi/content/abstract/295/17/2037?lookupType=volpage&vol=295&fp=2037&view=short>

“Results The US population in late middle age is less healthy than the equivalent British population for diabetes, hypertension, heart disease, myocardial infarction, stroke, lung disease, and cancer. Within each country, there exists a pronounced negative socioeconomic status (SES) gradient with self-reported disease so that health disparities are largest at the bottom of the education or income variants of the SES hierarchy. This conclusion is generally robust to control for a standard set of behavioral risk factors, including smoking, overweight, obesity, and alcohol drinking, which explain very little of these health differences. These differences between countries or across SES groups within each country are not due to biases in self-reported disease because biological markers of disease exhibit exactly the same patterns. To illustrate, among those aged 55 to 64 years, diabetes prevalence is twice as high in the United States and only one fifth of this difference can be explained by a common set of risk factors. Similarly, among middle-aged adults, mean levels of C-reactive protein are 20% higher in the United States compared with England and mean high-density lipoprotein cholesterol levels are 14% lower. These differences are not solely driven by the bottom of the SES distribution. In many diseases, the top of the SES distribution is less healthy in the United States as well.

Conclusion Based on self-reported illnesses and biological markers of disease, US residents are much less healthy than their English counterparts and these differences exist at all points of the SES distribution.”

As well as the British Medical Journal: (abstract below)

<http://bmj.bmjournals.com/cgi/content/extract/332/7549/1047>

“Middle aged white people are healthier in England than US

Janice Hopkins Tanne

New York

People aged 55 to 64 in England are healthier than their counter-parts in the United States, a new study shows. This is despite the fact that the US spends \$5274 (£2900; €4193) per person on medical care each year and the United Kingdom as a whole spends only \$2164.

The disparity between the health of middle aged white English and American people found is so great, the study found, that **the prevalence of diabetes and heart disease among Americans of the highest socioeconomic status is similar to that among the lowest status English people.**

The study's authors, Michael Marmot and colleagues at University College London, found that middle aged white English people had lower rates of diabetes, hypertension, heart disease, heart attacks, strokes, lung disease, and cancer than middle aged white Americans (*JAMA* 2006;295: 2037-45[Abstract/[Free Full Text](#)]). The reason remains a puzzle, although the study suggests . . . [[Full text of this article](#)]”

Whatever the reasons for these finds - fatty foods, lack of exercise, stress, conspiracy to poison the food in America, bad national karma, etc. life in the US definitely seems dysfunctional and unhealthy.

US slips down development index

Lately, the US has slipped down the development index compared to other industrialized nations. This news article reports on this.

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/americas/7511426.stm>

US slips down development index

Americans live shorter lives than citizens of almost every other developed nation, according to a report from several US charities.

The report found that the US ranked 42nd in the world for life expectancy despite spending more on health care per person than any other country.

Overall, the American Human Development Report ranked the world's richest country 12th for human development.

The study looked at US government data on health, education and income.

The report was funded by Oxfam America, the Rockefeller Foundation and the Conrad Hilton Foundation.

The report combines measurements of health, education and income into one measurement - the human development index - based on that used by the United Nations.

Health insurance

The report, Measure of America, identifies significant progress in the US in the last 50 years.

Life expectancy - which averages 78 - has risen eight years since 1960.

Japan has the world's highest life expectancy - 82.1 years - according to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

The US report identifies obesity and the lack of health insurance for some 47 million Americans as the most significant factors in premature death.

It also provides a snapshot of the inequalities between the richest and the poorest Americans and between different ethnic groups.

"The Measure of America reveals huge gaps among some groups in our country to access opportunity and reach their potential," said the report's author, Sarah Burd-Sharps.

"Some Americans are living anywhere from 30 to 50 years behind others when it comes to issues we all care about: health, education and standard of living.

"For example, the state human development index shows that people in last-ranked Mississippi are living 30 years behind those in first-ranked Connecticut."

Rich north-east

Asian males in the US were found to have the highest human development index score and were expected to live 14 years longer than African-American males, who had the lowest human development index rating.

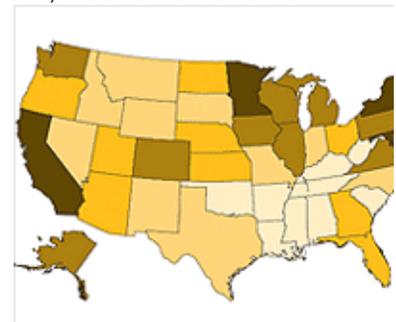
African-Americans had a shorter lifespan than the average American did in the late 1970s.



A district in Manhattan has the highest human development index in the US

” ” Some Americans are living anywhere from 30 to 50 years behind others when it comes to issues we all care about: health, education and standard of living

Sarah Burd-Sharps
Author, Measure of America



See a state-by-state breakdown of the development index

[Enlarge](#) [Enlarge Map](#)

The report further breaks down its findings into the US's 436 Congressional districts.

The 20th district, around Fresno, California, was ranked last - with people earning one-third as much as residents of the top-ranked US district, - in Manhattan, New York.

The US north-east has the highest overall ranking because people there earn more, are more highly-educated and have the second highest life expectancy.

West Virginia, Louisiana, Arkansas and Alabama are four of the five bottom states on the index. Mississippi is ranked lowest.

Among other findings:

- Of the world's richest nations, the US has the most children (15%) living in poverty
- Of the OECD nations, the US has the most people in prison - as a percentage and in absolute numbers
- 25% of 15-year-old students performed at or below the lowest level in an international maths test - worse than Canada, France, Germany and Japan
- If the US infant mortality rate were equal to first-ranked Sweden, more than 20,000 babies would survive beyond their first year of life



More US babies die in their first year than in most other rich countries

Implications

Personally, as for me, each time I return to the USA from abroad, I feel that the mental health I gained abroad starts to slowly erode. That is why I don't like staying here long, else insanity will catch up. In fact, those familiar with my Christian deconversion story (http://www.debunkingskeptics.com/Christian_Story.htm) know that when I was a teen, my mental health problems were cured when I went abroad to Taiwan for a year. Upon return, my sanity and mental health were rejuvenated and enhanced for a long time. So, it would seem that one cure for mental illness in America might be to leave the country for a while.

One immigrant shared this observation:

"I am a foreigner living here. I came across your e-booklet by chance after the 13 years I have lived in the States and been trying to find an answer to the high rate of depression (by the way I am in healthcare), unhappiness, isolation, lack of culture openness, fragmentation of family, alcoholism, and the ignorance of what real life is all about. These chronic problems exist despite what they seem to "have it all financially and educationally" (I am speaking of the environment where I live and work). I find that there is a big misconception of differentiating between "privacy" and "isolation". Also, there is an awkward unfulfilling self-interpretation of what happiness means. However, I have been able to draw a striking difference between my american friends who are well-traveled and got to live abroad and those who never had similar experiences or have not been open to it. Eric Fromm in his books "to have or to be" and "the art of loving" addresses some of these issues that industrialism has falsely promised. But still, people from industrialized european countries do not seem to suffer the same unhappiness found in America. Actually, many (but not all) of the europeans (at least students, tourists and those who worked here for few years) I have met in the US relocated back to Europe."

One of my best friends Michael Goodspeed, a freethinker and writer, eloquently sums up the above scary findings about our dysfunctional society in his article *Change, Or Die*:

<http://www.rense.com/general63/ordie.htm>

"I can't help but feel bitter over having been born and raised in the United States in the latter half of the 20th century. It is a raw, statistical fact that America is a more infectious breeding ground for emotional dysfunction than any other culture in the history of the world. If you doubt this, consider the following:

The United States has born and raised 76% of the world's serial killers, even though we hold just 3% of the world's population; we sport the highest rate of childhood murders and suicides among the world's 26 wealthiest nations; the highest rate of obesity of any nation in the world; the highest incidence of the

eating disorder anorexia; the highest rate of adolescent drug use of any industrialized nation; and the highest rate of adolescent pregnancy in the Western world.

I am embittered, because like millions of my contemporaries, the poison talons of American culture did not leave me untouched. Before I'd grown out of adolescence, I'd battled an eating disorder (anorexia), depression, suicide attempts, and Munchausen syndrome (the act of inflicting injuries on oneself.) Again, it is undeniable that these pathologies exist almost exclusively in the United States, and have only fully manifested in the last few decades. I can't help but wonder how different my childhood might have been if I'd simply been born in another place, at another time. And I can't help but grieve for the millions of souls who are suffering the tortures of emotional dysfunction."

Goodspeed goes on to brilliantly summarize in one paragraph the heavy dysfunctional problems inherent in America:

<http://www.rense.com/general63/ordie.htm>

"The reasons for our collective dysfunction have been enumerated ad nauseam; our hopelessly "dumbed down" public schools; our chemically-laced air, water, food, and soft drinks, poisoning our bodies and damaging our brains; our rancid and spiritually vacuous culture centered around a media that markets murder and sadism as entertainment; our bought and sold "elected" officials, who make life and death decisions based on their own financial interests, and for whom "truth" is just a matter of semantics; our economy, which is guided by the principles of "win at all costs" and "screw everyone but me"; our corrupted religions, which have been usurped by political extremists and completely robbed of all spiritual meaning; and the monstrously hideous, cement and brick, Godless "architecture" that makes up most American cities."

Finally, here he describes how our culture manufactures mental illness and offers hope and suggestions for overcoming the insanity:

<http://www.rense.com/general63/ordie.htm>

"The United States, while bestowing her citizens with opportunities and privileges not found in any other nation, has become the supreme manufacturer of mental illness - violent, self-destructive, and sociopathic pathologies. We are going to destroy ourselves if we do not recognize the enormity of this obstacle before us.

And herein lies an opportunity to rise above bitterness, and find hope. An interesting fact about emotional dysfunction is that it has the ability to both paralyze its victims, and set them free. People who struggle with mental illness have only two choices: they can live in denial until their lives spiral completely out of control, or they can journey inward and confront their demons head on. I speak from experience on this. I have no doubt that I am a stronger, wiser, and happier person for having discovered first hand the pathway out of dysfunction.

The first step out of dysfunction is to recognize that your way of seeing the world is fundamentally flawed. You have been programmed to believe that your interests are separate from everyone else's; that in order for you to win, someone else must lose. Remember, mercenary competition is the key tenet of every aspect of American culture. The desire to be better than others stems from the belief that you are INCOMPLETE, and in need of an elusive, future reward in order to find happiness. This constant seeking of future fulfillment blinds us to the rewards that ALWAYS exist in the present moment."

Comparing quality of life: America vs. Europe (research and statistics)

The following excerpts are taken from the book "European Dream: How the European Vision of the Future is Eclipsing the American Dream". These paragraphs in particular contain shocking statistics showing how the quality of life in the European Union is advantageous to that of the USA.

http://www.utne.com/pub/2004_125/promo/11349-1.html

"Comparing Quality of Life

Americans are so used to thinking of our country as the most successful on earth, they might be surprised to learn that, by many measures, this is no longer the case. In just a few decades, the European Union has grown to become the third-largest governing institution in the world. Though its landmass is half the size of the continental United States, its \$10.5 trillion gross domestic product now eclipses the U.S. GDP, making it the world's largest economy. The European Union is already the world's leading exporter and largest internal trading market. Sixty-one of the 140 biggest companies on the Global Fortune 500 rankings are European, while only 50 are U.S. companies.

The comparisons between the world's two great superpowers are even more revealing when it comes to the quality of life. For example, in the European Union, there are approximately 322 physicians per 100,000 people, whereas in the United States there are only 279. The United States ranks 26th among the industrial nations in infant mortality, well below the EU average. The average life span in the 15 most developed EU countries is now 78.01 years, compared to 76.9 years in the United States.

Children in 12 European nations now rank higher in mathematics literacy than their American peers, and in 8 European countries children outscore Americans in scientific literacy. When it comes to wealth distribution -- a crucial measure of a country's ability to deliver on the promise of prosperity -- the United States ranks 24th among the industrial nations. All 18 of the most developed European countries have less income inequality between rich and poor. There are now more poor people living in America than in the 16 European nations for which data are available. America is also a more dangerous place to live. The U.S. homicide rate is four times higher than the European Union's. Even more disturbing, the rates of childhood homicides, suicides, and firearm-related deaths in the United States exceed those of the other 25 wealthiest nations, including the 14 wealthiest European countries. Although the United States is only 4 percent of the world's population, it now contains one-quarter of the world's entire prison population. While the EU member states average 87 prisoners per 100,000 people, the U.S. averages an incredible 685 prisoners per 100,000 people.

Europeans often remark that Americans "live to work," while Europeans "work to live." The average paid vacation time in Europe is now six weeks a year. By contrast, Americans, on average, receive only two weeks. Most Americans would also be shocked to learn that the average commute to work in Europe is less than 19 minutes. When one considers what makes a people great and what constitutes a better way of life, Europe is beginning to surpass America."

Ideas about freedom and security: America vs. Europe

I didn't know this before, but Americans and Europeans at the core hold very different values and ideas about freedom and security. Jeremy Rifkin, in his book [The European Dream](#), expounds on the difference.

page 13 - 14:

"The American and European dreams are, at their core, about two diametrically opposed ideas of freedom and security. Americans hold a negative definition of what it means to be free and, thus, secure. For us, freedom has long been associated with autonomy. If one is autonomous, he or she is not dependent on others or vulnerable to circumstances outside of his or her control. To be autonomous, one needs to be propertied. The more wealth one amasses, the more independent one is in the world. One is free by becoming self-reliant and an island unto oneself. With wealth comes exclusivity, and with exclusivity comes security.

The new European Dream, however, is based on a different set of assumptions about what constitutes freedom and security. For Europeans, freedom is not found in autonomy but in embeddedness. To be free is to have access to a myriad of interdependent relationships with others. The more communities one has access to, the more options and choices one has for living a full and meaningful life. With relationships comes inclusivity, and with inclusivity comes security.

The American Dream puts an emphasis on economic growth, personal wealth, and independence. The new European Dream focuses more on sustainable development, quality of life, and interdependence. The American Dream pays homage to the work ethic. The European Dream is more attuned to leisure and deep play. The American Dream is inseparable from the country's religious heritage and deep spiritual faith. The European Dream is secular to the core. The American Dream is assimilationist. We associate success with shedding our former cultural ties and becoming free agents in the great American melting pot. The European Dream, by contrast, is based on preserving one's cultural identity and living in a multicultural world. The American Dream is wedded to love of country and patriotism. The European Dream is more cosmopolitan and less territorial. Americans are more willing to employ military force in the world, if necessary, to protect what we perceive to be our vital self-interests. Europeans are more reluctant to use military force and, instead, favor diplomacy, economic assistance, and aid to avert conflict and prefer peacekeeping operations to maintain order. Americans tend to think locally while European's loyalties are more divided and stretch from the local to the global. The American Dream is deeply personal and little concerned with the rest of humanity. The European Dream is more expansive and systemic, and therefore more bound to the welfare of the planet."

As for me, I find the European idea about freedom and security to make more sense, and to be more evolved, inclusive, and globally integrated.

A Slovakian immigrant to Canada, commenting on the above, confirmed the European mentality toward freedom, paying a nice compliment to me in the process:

"Thank you for the Joke , you made me laugh . You Americans aren't so bad , i met few people who knew about the World , you are a good Example .
I mostly agree with what you said about us Europeans , about that book article - I think in Europe - esp . west EU - it is true , people want to be Interdependent relationships with others - some depends on the type of person , but it is true -if you have people who you can trust around you , you can feel free , because you are safe . Money gives you freedom as well , but it is you who sets the bar how high can the control be ."

Europe safer for lone female travelers than America

Europe is generally safer than America. There is far less crime. That's partly why people there are nowhere near as paranoid. The conditions there are more wholesome and less dysfunctional, thus they don't have the psychos and degenerates that America does. In fact, I heard that in Greece, it is normal for mothers to leave their kids in the car while they go grocery shopping, which is considered safe there, as there aren't psychos and child abductors on the loose. Also, kids in Europe have even been known to hitchhike, and are usually safe doing so.

Therefore, not surprisingly, lone travelers feel safe there, even if they are female. As we all know, American females tend to not feel safe about traveling alone compared to their European counterparts. However, that often changes once they experience Europe, as did this American female did:

<http://www.travelchums.com/index.cfm?action=Knowledgebase&subaction=ViewDetail&showID=89>

"Answer posted by **COMtnGirl** on 12/08/04 12:40A

Hi Tracilee -

I'll have to disagree with Tom. I just returned from a 2 month trip to Europe and the UK. I am a female and traveled alone for most of my trip. I felt very safe and comfortable nearly everywhere. Pompeii, Italy is the exception. I am blonde and have blue eyes and stuck out in most countries too. The worst that happened to me was verbal cat calling, but that's normal in Europe. I stayed in hostels everywhere and met dozens of people with whom I traveled or could have if I so chose. Hostels are the way to go if you travel alone or want to have a social trip. My lone European adventure was the best experience of my life and I can't wait to go back!! You'll absolutely love it if you travel with an open mind, can laugh at yourself and situations in which you find yourself, and don't freak out when you get lost. Best of luck! CoMtnGirl"

Another American female who lives in Europe gave this observation and advice:

<http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0450278/board/flat/40777285?d=42900600#42900600>

"Hi there girly. I'm an American female living overseas (for nearly 5 years now), and I can tell you - A LOT!! Americans are perceived as fat, obnoxious, consumer-driven, gas-guzzling ungrateful shi-ts (can you say that here?) who have no idea what goes on in the rest of the world. You have a great opportunity. My advice to you is: Travel any/everywhere you can. Let people get to know you. Be flexible - "when in Rome" and all that. Try not to say, "In America we..." Always be polite. You will change the opinion of the people you meet by doing these things. Good luck, and relax and enjoy your trip!

Tabby"

And this American female traveler raved about how much she liked it there:

http://www.couchsurfing.com/group_read.html?gid=296&post=55917

"by the way, i have been all over the world.....and I would leave the US tonight forever if i could just find the means to do so! I LOVE Europe and it's freedom. i go at least once a year and twice if i can afford it."

The rigid compartmentalization of American life - Is it freedom?

In the US, every aspect of life is rigidly compartmentalized. There, the notion "there is a time and place for everything" is religiously followed in the US. Anything that transgresses these rigid compartmentalizations is deemed weird and inappropriate, or even condemned. There is little room for spontaneity, wildness, or having a free flowing nature. Hence, the question of how "free" America really is becomes an issue.

In fact, unknown to most Americans, there are many ways that the US is less free than other countries. Take the following examples.

- If you festively dance out on public streets, even in your own neighborhood, you are seen as a weird freak. But such would be normal and encouraged in Latin America.
- If you lie nude on a public beach, it is illegal and you could be arrested. But doing so is normal and nice in France, for instance.
- If you walk on the street drinking a bottle of beer, that is illegal and you will be cited if caught by law enforcement. But such is legal and allowed in most countries.
- If you flirt or "hit on" with female coworkers in work environments, you are subject to disciplinary action or dismissal. There is a taboo against dating coworkers in US workplace environments for some reason, which isn't so in the rest of the world, where in fact it is usually encouraged.
- If you try to meet, approach, or "pick up" new girls in public, it is considered inappropriate and out of line unless you are in a bar or nightclub setting. But in most countries of the world, such a normal male behavior is not a vilified crime, and in fact the females are flattered and amused by such behavior.
- In the US, you don't have the freedom to see a doctor without insurance, whereas in other countries you do, as health care is affordable or free.
- In many states of the US, hitchhiking is illegal, which is very ridiculous. I don't know of any other country where that is so, probably few if any. (Perhaps its the US's way of penalizing those who refuse to be corporate drones?)
- In the US, you can't go into the wilderness or countryside and build a home without buying the land or getting a permit. In many other countries, you can do that.
- In much of the states, it is also illegal to camp in non-official campgrounds. You are only technically allowed to camp in designated pay campsites. Not so in most of the world.

Etc.

Here are a few more that someone else added to my list above:

- In America you cannot take a leak against even some remote wall as you will be arrested if seen. In many countries you can.
- Japan has vending machines selling shots of hard liquor. Just like coffee machines. You just pop some money in and the machine pours out a few hundred grams of local whisky into a glass provided by it. Right on the street corner. That would be illegal in the US.
- In many countries you can just bring water skis to the city beach and the boat can come, pick you up and you just take off. In the US, crowds of angry people will gather and curse you.
- In the US you cannot fish without a license even in a small pond on college campus. In many countries no one would pay attention to things like that.
- A Dutchman who is used to being able to buy marijuana at any time, will feel that the US is very repressive when it comes to such things.
- A Kenyan may not criticise his president openly but he can have twelve wives and build a village for his one husband- twelve wife family. In the US, he will be jailed for poligamy-a separate sentence for each wife above one.

True there are freedoms in the US, but they are strictly limited, controlled, and regulated. And yes, under the first amendment, you are free to say you hate the President and the government and not worry about getting imprisoned for it. And I am free to write a booklet like this too, without fear of being arrested. But even those freedoms could melt away someday, for flag burning is being considered for being illegal. As we all know, those in power like to exercise control to stay in power, which is human nature. They only need to maintain the *illusion of freedom* in this country, to keep the working classes happily enslaved.

But freedom my a**. Rather than being free-spirited, lively and uninhibited like Europe, America is rigid, stiff, closed, and stuck-up in comparison. But of course, you're *not supposed* to say or think things like that. No way! You're *supposed* to think and say that America is the land of freedom and opportunity for all! And that everywhere else is worse or inferior. That's what the powers of the US imperial empire WANT and NEED you to think, so that you will work like a happy corporate slave to serve their interests, giving them the best years of your life, promising you the reward of freedom from working ONLY AFTER you retire. (The next section will elaborate more on this.)

So you see, the US is not the freest nation in the world, does not have all the advantages, nor is it the best in every way, as its propagandists proclaim and its citizens think. However, to be fair, one benefit of America, as a reader put it, is that:

"However, one good thing about America is that while it does not actively teach people to be such "rebels" it allows for that information to exist and you can freely access it at libraries and on the web. So, being brainwashed in the US is a matter of choice, too. You may not follow the mainstream but no one is politically forcing you to do so. You can also leave America any time you want. Other countries may not allow their citizens to leave as freely, plus they will have hard time getting visas to go anywhere as well."

And my Expat Advisor emphasized in his observations the relative tradeoffs of the types of freedoms each nation provides:

"No place in the world is completely free, however many countries like to advertise themselves as free. As you travel you will see that usually countries that are not free politically seem to be free on a grass-root level.

Freedoms of people to do business without special permits, to make love and show affection for each other are often in inverse proportion to the political freedoms. Many societies where one is free to practice all kinds of politics and say anything one wants are often regulated on the grass-root level with too many rules and ordinances to control the daily lives of people. So, one country is free in one area but unfree in another and some other country is vice-versa."

Why I experience truer freedom in the third world – a touching rant from the heart

As for me and those like me though, the kind of freedom we value goes deeper than anything political. One of my forum members put it best in this touching rant about the kind of freedom and peace of mind we have in third world countries:

<http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?p=26518#26518>

"As many know here, we could list several third world spots where you can much more easily go up to strangers and talk to them. I think most would agree that doing so in France, Germany, Spain, etc. can be more difficult. Definitely not as tense as the U.S. but still not as easy as third world spots.

Put me in Paraguay for a week then put me in France for a week. Guarantee I will make way more friends and girlfriends in Paraguay.

A good deal of Western lands are infamous for tighter cliques, and they are taking life at times way too seriously, as well as judging and analyzing too much.

The irony is that people in third world lands tend to have tougher times, tougher conditions, yet seem warmer in ways and more open.

I would add, as an aside, I myself know of a large amount of various Europeans who were also fed up in their native lands and moved on to southeast asia and latin america, so this has to say something of sorts, the same as the fleeing from the U.S.

Some at this forum have done ok in western & northern Europe, but I think they would also agree, third world lands can be much easier with less of the barriers for meeting others, and relationships seem less complicated.

Something I would like Larry (or someone else) to discuss in the next interview, is the actual freedom they experience in the non-Western lands.

I've experienced it, but I'm not the one being interviewed.
To let listeners know that there is much less judgement in third world lands.

Humans judge, it's natural and part of a survival skill, but we see people in Western lands going too far. Maybe it has helped their societies to weed out the "losers". Who only knows.

Certainly though there is high judgement. We've all heard others around us making fun of someone else. I've heard and noticed all sorts of terrible, unnecessary things, from all ages and all classes. Whether it's the U.S., Canada, western/northern Europe, etc.

Someone is made fun of because they sit at their table "oddly". I saw them - they were only resting their chin on the back of their hands. Who cares!
Or someone was made fun of because they had swirls on their collar of their shirt. My word! Who cares!
I thought overall they looked fine.
The list could go on and on.

Now, what this can tend to do to individuals who are not badboy, jerks & bold not caring what anyone thinks, it can make your average joe (or even sally) feel that if everything is not perfectly in place, or if they are not sitting or walking just right, they will be judged and of course in ways outcasted. Whether or not they are actually being judged, they will still feel as if so simply because we've learned over and over that people actually do this!

Transport yourself to a third world land and the change is amazing! Sure, you're being judged, but it's an overall general action of you being simply an outsider. They either pay no mind, or simply don't care if you sit at the table a little differently or have swirls in your collar, etc.

THIS is freedom!

I think aside from the other perks such as more easily meeting people, and females of course, many expats are lured by other things, some they are not aware of, and I would bet, this feeling of more freedom I just described, is one of them.

As a human. As a social being, this is very important!

Even when in relations with women from third world lands, it seems to flow better, more free, because you know you are not being analyzed as heavily, and if they do find something out of place, it's not a big deal. As well, there are way less hoops to jump through.

Let's say you kiss your lady. I've heard too many times from Western girls talking to others, or to myself, of how their man was too sloppy, came in at an odd angle, kissed too long, and on and on. Even if you are a secure guy, knowing all this judgement is out there when no one is perfect, still can make a person feel on edge as if always being judged.

Kiss a lady from a third world area and you really know they are not thinking like this so heavily! Yes they may notice some things, but they just let it go and it doesn't get in the way of the flow. Or they simply do not even notice.

Here again are more feelings of freedom, less to no inhibitions.

Please, one your guys being interviewed, touch on this. It is part of the lure of others going abroad and

part of what keeps them there. I don't think all realize it. They're just enjoying themselves and the large weight lifted, but don't know specifically why.

If you agree, then please discuss some of these differences between Western and non-Western lands. This is not just an American or anglo-land issue. It is definitely a step up going from the U.S. or Canada to western/northern Europe for example, but once you go to several of these third world lands, it's easy to get hooked to the feeling of higher freedom, easier flow (not referring to infrastructure), simplicity, humble natures, etc. and therefore desire less to return to even Europe and most definitely not to the U.S. Lower cost of living also is a lure as well.

Appreciate the interviews. Keep them up!"

Disadvantageous American quirks not shared in other cultures

Despite its benefits and advantages, America has many disadvantageous and belittling quirks not shared in most other cultures. Here are just a few off the top of my head.

- Persecution of geeks and nerds: America is the only country that persecutes and belittles those considered "geeks" and "nerds" and creates such artificial social categories for them. In other countries, such categories don't exist, and those who have a thirst for knowledge, or who have intellectual, technical or esoteric interests, or exhibit above average intelligence, are simply accepted as normal and appreciated for their natural selves.

- Loser stigma of living with parents: The US attaches a loser stigma to adults past 23 who live with their parents, while most of the world doesn't. In other countries, families are closer knit and bonded, and their society sees nothing wrong with adults cohabitating with their parents for whatever reason. There is not this assumption that any adult living at home with his/her folks must be a dysfunctional loser, mentally handicapped, inept, or have mental health issues. One can be independent and normal, yet still live with their parents. Of course, youngsters abroad also have the same desire to be independent, move out of their parents' homes and live on their own as their American counterparts do. But the difference is that they do not condemn or see something "wrong" with those who remain at home or move back in with their parents later on. And in fact, it is normal for those who are successful professionally, or those who are happily married, to be living with their parents, if the arrangement is mutually beneficial. The "live with parents = loser" stigma is just a weird American quirk that the rest of the world doesn't share. If only more Americans knew about such things, then they'd be far less judgmental of others.

- Pressure to always go out Friday/Saturday nights - Another strange thing is how the mentality of young American peers consider anyone who stays home on Friday or Saturday night to be a loser with no social life. If you even stay home once on a Friday or Saturday night, many of your peers will ask why, as if there was something wrong. There is this pressure that you have to go out to some social activity on those nights, or else you are "missing" out on something. This mentality is even reflected on sitcoms and TV shows. That's why it is common for young adults to ask each other "Why are you home on a Friday night?"

However, it is a weird quirk reflective of a black and white mentality, and just goes to show even further that young Americans have no inner life. If they did, like in most countries, then they would be able to enjoy activities at home, such as reading, writing, painting, meditating, exploring something intellectual, esoteric or mystical, cultivating themselves in some way, or simply engaging in a hobby. Instead, Americans tend to see only the outer life as relevant.

In other countries, people don't think that way. One is not considered a loser if he/she stays home on weekend evenings. Instead, that person is merely seen as merely enjoying other activities besides going out. And of course, in other countries, since anyone can have a social life if they want without having to conform to some "cool image" to attain one, the person who stays home Friday/Saturday night would not a loser because it's assumed that he/she does so by choice. It is simply normal, and that's it. No unnecessary judgment or stigma about it like in the strange US juvenile mentality.

- Measuring units: Not that this is bad, but we still does not use the metric system. We still use feets, inches, and miles, while the rest of the world uses centimeters, meters, kilometers, etc. This just further alienates America from the rest of the world.

- New Year days off: In the US, for New Years you only get one day off work, and sometimes even none (e.g. if you work in retail). But in the rest of the world, you get between 7 and 10 days off. And that's even true in workaholic Asian countries where people tend to live and breathe their work 12 hours a day 6 days a week.

- Dating coworkers: The USA is the only country that has a weird taboo against dating one's coworkers. In other countries, not only is dating coworkers allowed, but encouraged as well. In Japan for instance, employees of a company are like a lifelong family. People usually befriend, date and marry within their company.

- Meeting a thousand girls without getting a date: In other countries, if I meet say around ten girls, I am pretty much guaranteed at least 2 or 3 dates from it. And that's so even in a conservative country. But the US is the

only country I know of where I could meet a hundred or a thousand girls and still end up with zero dates, as they all blow me off for one reason or another, even though I'm a decent looking guy with good character and personality. That's just the way it is. Even if you say that the problem is me and that this is uncommon, you still have to deal with the issue of why this isn't true outside the US.

- Room or area full of who are all unapproachable: America is the only country where you can be in a room or area full of girls (i.e. nightclub) who are all unapproachable. In fact, you can feel a strong vibe that they don't want to meet you. And if you go against the grain and try to say hi to them, they will either look at you like a freak, ignore you, or say hi quickly and leave. In other countries, it is virtually impossible to be in a room or area full of girls who are all unapproachable like that.

- Taboo against women going out alone with male friends/acquaintances: America is also the only (or one of the few) countries where women are hung up against going out with a male friend or acquaintance alone. Generally, they prefer to limit their relation with them to over the phone/email, or hanging out in groups. They are afraid of the public stigma of being out alone with a guy unless they are romantically involved with him. In other countries, women have no psychological problem or hang up against going out with a male friend/acquaintance just to talk, hang out, or show him around.

- Women judging male friends by their looks: America is also the only place where women will not even be friends with a guy unless he is her type and considered attractive, even if they have a lot in common or have good chemistry together. That is odd cause in other countries, women aren't that shallow toward a male friend.

- Ceasing all contact with former lovers: Foreign women tend to remain friends with guys they break up with, harboring no ill will, keeping in contact to see how he's doing, and visiting each other when they're in the area. On the other hand, American women are the least likely to remain friends or keep in contact with former lovers, boyfriends and spouses. In fact, they treat them worse than enemies. At least enemies acknowledge each other's existence while spewing and trashing each other. However, American women treat their exes like they never existed, as if they were total strangers. After a breakup, they stop all contact with their ex, pretend that they never knew him, and flush him out of their life completely, in a cold-hearted sociopathic manner. Their last words to their ex are usually "Don't ever call me again (or else I will get a restraining order)". This pattern has been true in my experiences with my exes as well. It just goes to show how the foreign women still have a normal heart while the American women somehow killed theirs off.

- Going out alone means you have to be alone: Only in America, if you go out alone, you are almost guaranteed to be alone, unless you get really lucky. It's not the kind of place or society where you can go out by yourself and meet people "just because" to hang out with. That's why people in America are so adamant about having friends to go out with so they won't be alone, because deep down, they know that if they go out alone, they will stay out alone. The social norms here dictate that people in public stay with the company they are with. These are the unspoken but real rules and customs of the social scene and public life in America.

On the other hand, in most of the world, not just in Europe/Russia, one can easily go out alone without having to be alone. There is a natural inclusiveness and communal mentality. It is easy and natural to meet people, find company to hang out with, someone interesting to spend your time with, or even get a nice date with the opposite sex, if you just chat them up sincerely. Or sometimes of course, they may chat you up as well. **So in a sense, you don't even have to "break the ice" because there is no "ice" to begin with!**

- Having to "break the ice" to meet people: In America, you have to "break the ice" to meet people, a common phrase I'm sure you've all heard. This common phrase speaks volumes and implies that there is a cold sterile "ice barrier" between strangers, proving my claims in this book that Americans are uncomfortable talking to strangers and see it as abnormal, awkward, and intrusive (unless it's business-related), making it self-evident. This social norm is a huge psychological obstacle between both parties (even if one is from abroad) to initiate contact. If you've never left America, this seems normal, but if you are used to a country where there is no "ice" between strangers, then it seems awkward, unnatural, and inhuman for Americans to be this way.

In most other countries, **you don't have to "break the ice" because there is no "ice" to begin with!** Instead, there is natural inclusiveness with a communal mentality. One can easily go out alone without having to be alone. It is easy and natural to meet people, find company to hang out with, someone interesting to spend your time with, or even get a nice date with the opposite sex, if you just chat them up sincerely. Or sometimes of course, they may chat you up as well.

- Hypocritical arousal and restraint of desires: America is also the only country that sexually arouses men constantly through its media (advertising, TV, movies) but then in real life society and out in public, restrains them with its Puritanical Christian values, condemning any man who pursues or expresses his sexual desires as creeps, perverts, or psychos. It's just too easy to transgress the boundaries of our Puritanical uptight culture when it comes to sex and desires. In fact, you can't even talk about sex in public without transgressing the boundaries and risking punishment. It's simply inappropriate. This hypocritical process of arousal and restraint causes much sexual and psychological dysfunction, deviancy and insanity in America. It's no wonder why American men are the biggest consumers of porn in the world. Perhaps this serves the function of making us feel empty so we can consume more. Such hypocrisy though, is unique to America. In other countries, there is much more consistency between their media values and that of real life society. If their media encourages free love, the expression of sexual desires, tolerance for nudity, etc. then their real life public society will do so as well. Or if their culture is sexually conservative or repressive, or has a strong taboo against desires, then their media will follow suit as well. There isn't this huge hypocrisy like in America which defies common sense.

- The only place where young, cool, hip people talk full of air: America is also the only place where those considered cool and hip talk in a manner full of airs and cliqueness like this:

(Taken from a . profile)

"J-TELL!!!!!!!! GIRLFRIEND!!!! i miss u liken ens!!! YOu better be holding it down in BHAM for me MISSAYY.....i cant wait to hang out with you..i wish u were here with us KPJ i mean come on now haha welll my dear have a lovely night babyyyyy!!!!!!!! FRIDAY Night and i belive tomorrow is APRIL FOOLS DAY GIRL!! HAHA U KNOW WHAT THAT MEANS!!!!heheH love ya girl!!!"

"3/31/2006 4:42 PM

JENNIFER..its official..im comingg to walla wallaa....HAHAHA WOOO HOO..you let kayla know that...its time TO Getttt wild..i will be arriving..on APRIL 21sts....YEAY im so excited jenn I LOVE YOUU andd i cant wait to see you...haha take me to the wild whitman parties please?? haha...oh LOrd ...maybe we can lie to peopel again and pretend we are twins..or whatever we said..it was funny...hahaN E Watys jenn..love ya..and im really excited to se you..oH..by the way..I have a permission slip all signed and ready..tell LC hahaha :-)

Jillayyyy

3/27/2006 8:41 PM

hahaha JENNNN..i LOVE you...haha OBTAIN A PERMISSION SLIP?????well MISSYYY...let me tell you..maybe we can just transfer the trampoline permission slip over to the partying one?? do u think LYD could hook it up??...i thikn she could pull it off...CREWWW.hahahaha oh lord..well yea..im coming...prob this month..sooo BETter be on the lookout for some..feLLUZzz we cannnnnn Parttyyy it up with"

- Health insurance/doctor accessibility not universal: America is the only country where access to healthcare is so exclusive and expensive. This issue is widely known and acknowledged in the media and public health affairs. In other countries, even in Canada, everyone has health insurance, regardless of their income or status. And even if they don't, doctor visits are always subsidized so that the cost of going to one is very little and affordable by all. (surgeries though, are an exception)

There are many others of course, but you get the idea.

Advantageous qualities of America not shared in other cultures

As any wise person knows, there are pros and cons to every country and culture. So to be fair, there are good advantageous things that America has over many other countries as well, so I should list some of them.

- Reward for hard work: In America, if you work hard, you have a much better chance of making money than you would in many third world countries, where you can work very hard for little or no money. In fact, that's probably the number one reason why immigrants come to the US, not for the "freedom" that the US media likes to propagate.

- Anyone who obtains US citizenship is considered an “American”: In America, immigrants and minorities of other colors have the right to call themselves “Americans” once they assimilate and obtain US citizenship. But in most other nations, you can’t call yourself one of their own just by becoming a citizen or assimilating into their culture. In their eyes, you are always labeled with your ethnic heritage or “nationality” no matter what.

- No obligatory military service for men: In many other countries, males are obligated to two years of military service right high school. That’s two long years that males must give up in their lives. And during such service, many simply count the days til they’re done. But in America, military service is optional, not required.

- Freedom of speech without danger of imprisonment: In America, you are free to say what you want, including attacking/criticizing the government or President, without the danger of being imprisoned (in personal communications at least, since public communications is more regulated). But in many other countries, saying something against the President or leader in power can get you arrested or incarcerated, so one does not have the freedom to freely speak their mind against the governing authorities.

- Government and society orderly and efficient: Compared to most countries, our government is actually very orderly, efficient, and effective in its control and regulation of the laws. Only a few other countries can compare in government efficiency – e.g. Germany, Japan, and Singapore. Also, unlike corrupt third world countries, you can’t bribe the police or government to get out of breaking the law (albeit legal bribing such as “lobbying”). Likewise, unlike corrupt third world countries, the police in industrialized nations like ours don’t try to scam its citizens or tourists into giving them bribes. Simply put, there are much more and better controls and laws, checks and balances, in place to guard against cheating, corruption, and loss (e.g. bank account funds being FDIC insured), than there are in many other countries.

- “Customer is always right” motto: American service industries have a motto that “the customer is always right”. Thus, a customer can complain if unhappy and get their complaint heard and resolved, in most cases. In other countries, even in industrialized ones, it’s rare to find this. But it’s also what makes Americans more spoiled and more likely to complain in other countries about service, giving them an obnoxious reputation.

- Quality of university education: As my Expat Advisor explained:

“American Universities are among the best. A degree from the Philippines does not inspire the same awe..... So the USA is good for getting prestigious degrees. Also it has student loans, Pell grants and very flexible programs. In the Philippines it is hard to get scholarships. Most people have to pay for everything.”

Here my Expat Advisor summarizes the pro benefits of America very well:

<http://forum.internationalliving.com/viewtopic.php?t=491>

“America has many good things, too: there is freedom of speech in the sense that you cannot get arrested for saying things against the government. You cannot be put in prison not paying a debt. The infrastructure and the services are top-notch. There are social programs for the very needy, as well. Products of all kinds are easily available delivered with a smile. Credit is easy to come by. You can purchase real estate and cars relatively easily, as well. There are student loans that can help you finish school. It is easy to get into colleges and earn diplomas and such US degrees are respected everywhere in the world. People treat customers nicely. There are laws to protect minorities and other non-mainstream people and you can sue people if you feel such laws are violated. There are numerous opportunities in many fields and if you know how to take advantage of them, you should be fine. US citizenship is also not hard to obtain, albeit harder than, say, the Canadian one. If you are stateless, the US government will provide you with a semblance of a passport- a “refugee travel document“. America has no major coup d’etats or revolutions. There are no true military invasions or occupations by foreign powers. So, one can thank America for many things that it can offer a prospective immigrant.”

And here he explains very well how the standards by which we measure the tradeoffs of other cultures largely depends on the values of the culture we came from:

<http://forum.internationalliving.com/viewtopic.php?t=491>

"We see other cultures as both inferior and superior to ours. The reason we do so is because we use our own cultural standards, i.e. things that we learned as important in the societies in which we grew up. So, when we see new societies we compare them to the values that we have learned from parents, schools and peers in the places where we grew up.

People from such a spiritual country as India may admire the United States for its wealth and technology but be appalled by the spiritual poverty. An American in India may enjoy the spirituality of the people but be appalled by the physical poverty that is there. South East Asians will also admire America for its money, but be appalled by the lack of friendliness, the way children abandon their parents and the general lack of the sense of community in the country. American travelers in S.E Asia are amazed at the friendliness of the people but find the social interdependence that people there display as a sign of weakness. They also see the countries as being dirty and disorganized. Americans see Brits as being sophisticated but cold and impersonal and Brits see Americans as being loud mouthed, pushy and disrespectful of one's privacy, albeit funny and entertaining when one socializes with them. However when one is with the culture that one grew up in, one cannot see it as an outsider and is not aware of its many things the way a person from somewhere else could be."

Reader comments:

- *"Hey Winston. The following are true (advantageous qualities of America) but you don't have to come to USA to experience them all. Canada is also a mirror of USA but with MUCH NICER and FRIENDLIER people, not only the women are nice but it is easy to fit in to the culture. Even if you are from any other nation, you can still feel welcome, even become a Canadian with citizenship, a mosaic country as they say it, unlike the US melting pot that never melts. I spent three days in Burlington, Ontario and I met more people and friends than I would in 3 years in USA. And the women there are like the women in US, only difference is they are just kinder and polite, perhaps the prolonged cold climate in countries like Canada or Russia changes attitudes of people, well atleast in a good way!!*

Ethan"

- *"Advantageous qualities of America:*

How the US treats people with disabilities is exeptional. I am very suprised how even the society accept these people as who they are. In most other countries they just get stares, pity looks and negligence!"

- *"1. The USA lost the war in Vietnam?*

2. The USA Military cant control, never mind win, the situation in Iraq.?

3. America is the only country on earth to have nuked humanity.....twice!!?

4. China is going to rule the world 30 years from now.

5. The USA has the biggest trailer park trash community in the world.? You also have the most people on skid row, wineo's, drunks, drug addicts, divorces, college drop outs, suicides, child molesters, wife beaters, credit card debt, bankruptcies, people in jail, people awaiting trial, dope growers, backyard crack factories, serial killers, bank robberies, murders, rape and robberies (muggings) people murdered at work (going postal), children murdered at school, school kids on drugs, pill poppers, coffee drinkers, the most people in rehab at any given time, the most ghetto's where 20% of your nation speak gutter snipe English you call Ebonics, the most weird freaked out religious nuts and religious mass suicides in modern day history (Divinians/Jones Town to name a few and the most disgustingly fat obese people (70% of your population) and the most screwed up, back logged justice system in the Western world.?

6. The interest on the national debt the USA has to pay is Five BILLION dollars per day.?

7. The PTSS New Yorkers suffered as a result of 911was a cake walk compared to the PTSS the people of Hiroshima and Nagasaki suffered.?

8. The USA faked the moon landing in 1969.?

9. The USA is bound to get nuked one day in retaliation for nuking the Japanese. Islam has declared a holy war on you (Jihad). Your own government has prepared contingency plans for this possibility, in case you didn't know. Phone the White House, they will tell you ;)

10.Becasue of the way your government botched the New Orleans disaster?"

Why hippie counter-culture groups aren't the answer to my ostracization in America

In America, if I want to go "counter-culture" it seems that the only group I can join are the pot smoking hippies with tattoos, piercings and long hair. Though they are nonjudgmental and inclusive, which is good, I don't really fit in with them. Other than rebelling against US corporate industrial culture and materialism, I have little in common with them. They smoke pot, are usually lazy, irresponsible, unreliable, flaky, don't keep their promises, smell bad, dress like slobs with no fashion sense, and are not even serious about life. And that is not how I am at all.

Frankly though, I've never seen the connection between desiring world peace, wanting to preserve the environment, and being anti-corporation/establishment, with having to smoke pot, get tattoos, piercings, long hair, and look like a degenerate bum. It seems very odd to me, as I don't see why the former leads to the latter in America. I mean, why can't a person believe in those things and look NORMAL and be drug-free at the same time?

Thus, I don't really fit into that. Though I desire world peace, am eco-minded, and anti-establishment too, I have no desire to look or live like these hippies. Though we seem to have things in common on the surface, I find that I don't connect with them on an inner level, for they aren't really focused on the "inner level". Nor do they derive joy from intellectual pursuits. Thus I get disappointed when I try to connect with them after mistakenly assuming that they are like me.

I don't consider them to be true intellectuals, freespirits, progressives or counter-culturalists who think outside the box, but mere social deviants which, though generally peaceful, are mere delinquents who hide behind the counter culture/freespirit concept as an excuse to do drugs, be lazy and waste time hanging out at hippie concerts.

These folks may give a good pep talk once in a while, but they are rarely serious about life. Many of them are energy vampires who will talk your ear off with endless nonsense. Though I am nice and like to give them a chance to enlighten me, I find that in the end, it's a waste of time. Though they may have many creative and brilliant ideas, they rarely act on them. Thus they are almost zero on action. I can only tolerate that up to a certain point, for I am a man of ACTION, and I hate all talk and no action. And I hate wasting time too. Life is short and when you reach past 30, every week and month becomes a lot more precious than before.

Hanging out with these folks may be a fun temporary escape, as well as validation to me that I'm not alone or crazy in being a social misfit in America, but they are rarely fulfilling or meaningful. Plus, their hospitality toward me seems fleeting and temporary. They act nice and welcoming to me only because as peace-loving hippies/eco-freaks/alternative folks, they are "supposed" to be nice, much like how church folks act nice toward you because they are supposed to be nice, not cause they are genuinely that way. Thus, they don't even seem to be true long-term friends. Therefore, the relationships I've tried to have with them are nowhere near the genuineness and quality of those I've had abroad.

Besides smoking pot, their activities consist mainly of going to hippie concerts and events that try to emulate the Woodstock legend, with names like "Earth festival", "Peace and Light", "Sundance" or some other New Agey name. These concerts consist mainly of amateur mediocre music and bands which hippies like to hype on about but are tasteless and artless. And of course, there are the national "Rainbow Gatherings" and the big time (but expensive) yearly event in Nevada known as "Burning Man" (which is ironic since most hippies are poor, jobless and thus can't afford the \$200 - \$300 entrance fee for the event).

Now don't get me wrong. I am very wild too, but not wild in the way these folks are. At Burning Man for instance, they get naked, make animal noises, dance around the fire, make clay sculptures, and other thing-a-majigs, some of which are downright stupid and tasteless. And they utter retarded phrases like "Yo dude!" and "Alllll right mannnnn!" similar in tone to that character in the movie "Son in Law" back in 1993. They seem very uncultured as well as uncivilized, and I don't see anything pleasurable or fulfilling about what they do. It's not getting wild with hot women either, but mostly with men who act retarded and are incapable of high quality intellectual conversations.

I don't mean to judge these folks. These are just my observations. But of course, everyone is doing the best they can from their perspective.

Now some of these hippies are more progressive in that they are into the organic food movement, are vegetarians (like me), and also into holistic treatments and remedies. And some even go so far as living on organic farms or eco-villages as a statement of eco-living, living a totally non-materialistic lifestyle in harmony with the environment. These folks are more admirable to me and very well informed in holistic fields. But even they are usually occasional pot smokers at least. And I don't see why you have to smoke pot to be eco-minded.

But the biggest problem I have with these hippie groups in America of course, is that the females don't tend to be romantically interested or attracted to me. They engage in polite conversation with me, but that's it. They are not wild and passionate in the way that I like, at least not toward me. Instead, they tend to be attracted to white hippie type guys who have long hair, tattoos, piercings, play music and smoke pot. And I don't fit that bill of course. But beside that, most American hippie girls don't tend to be very attractive anyway, but are somewhat Tom-boy like. And the ones that are hot already have scores of male friends to choose from, again the typical problem in America.

Simply put, these "free love" flower girls don't give me any "free love" (or even paid love for that matter).

Now, hippie chicks are more open minded and inclusive than most American females, which is nice, but like most American females they are merely polite and distant toward me. And knowing me, I have a NEED to be around attractive women who are engaging and wild with me, which I get abroad, but not in these hippie groups, which leave me deprived and unsatisfied.

It's as if around them, I'm expected to not have any sexual desires or passions, but merely be polite and show interest in their eco-causes. Thus, to be appropriate around them, I have to put on this "goody-two-shoes" mask that I get tired of after a while. Since these hippie chicks have no sexual or romantic interest in them, they think I'm supposed to act like I have no interest in them either, as if I'm happy to be celibate. Yeah right. No way jose. I can do better than that and I am doing better than that.

Frankly, I think there should be other ways to be "counter-culture" or against the US industrial establishment than to join these pot smoking hippie groups. Why can't I just find NORMAL intellectuals who think and live outside the box but look normal? In America, it's difficult, but in Europe, they're everywhere.

Other inclusive groups in America are church groups and religious cults. Now, church groups do tend to be an inclusive environment, though that varies from church to church. And religious cults tend to be VERY inclusive and accepting of everyone. But to fit in with these folks, you have to be very naïve and willing to believe all sorts of extreme tenets and teachings for no logical reason other than because "they say so". And as you might have noticed, that's not really me either.

In addition, the folks in these groups tend to be very conservative, prim and proper, and anti-sex to the point that having sexual desires is like a grave sin to them. Thus, around them I feel this pressure to PRETEND that I have no sexual desires, or else be subject to condemnation. And of course, I find that very repressive and suffocating.

Therefore, none of these groups above have been a satisfying answer to my ostracization in America. Again, the only TRUE solution that has worked, is GOING ABROAD, for the reasons outlined in this book.

Discuss this article here: <http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=233>

Reader comments:

*- "Wow....agreed, why can't normal looking people go counter-culture as well?? I agree with you on a lot of this. That "burning man" thing you were talking about...desiring to find politically active, culturally aware, industry averse, normal individuals is extremely difficult! I have a few amazing friends at my school who are this way (and are even clean-shaven and pot free) and it's a relief. It disturbs me, in a way, that I am expected to accept (and even desire??) the pot culture if I want to go against the grain **at all**. Associating with some of these individuals...makes me feel as if they really don't care about any causes, only having an excuse to be lazy, neglect themselves and smoke pot. I think I've found a haven*

in my International Studies major at school. My professors are open-minded, organic/vegetarian/holistical health-minded, aware of politics, culture, and society...and so are the students! But I would say that this is certainly an exception to the rule, rather than the rule itself (and you often display). Still, even at times, I find myself to be an anomaly...not desiring to take drugs, being vegetarian, caring for politics...I don't belong here! Like you, I feel the need to get out. As for the whole girls thing...besides my few exceptions of friends...most of the girls I know just aren't that passionate and wild in the way I think you are talking about. And like you said, many will choose the white males over anyone else! I don't mean to sound crass, but the world offers up many exotic flavors, and I don't understand why these girls can't try some of them?? My boyfriend is Japanese, there's a very attractive Iraqi sitting next to me, a cute Korean guy behind me, etc. I wish these girls would just...open their minds! If they're open enough to try pot, etc., why not try "new flavors" in other areas too? (Again, excuse my crudeness--I use this more of an analogy than anything).

So, just to show you there are some sane people in America, I included a picture of myself, hahahaahaha :). I'm a normal looking, clean and nice-smelling, in-shape American girl who is culturally and politically aware. I am a vegetarian, try to buy local and organic as much as possible, care (even worry excessively) about national and international issues in health, politics, human rights, etc.... I have many international friends, have a (native) Japanese boyfriend, love travelling and learning about new cultures....can actually locate Kazakhstan (although that's kind of an easy one), Malaysia, etc. on a map and...I've never even SEEN pot, let alone smoked it. :)

So...is there hope? Probably not much, but at least there are some people out there suffering from the same problems and feeling the same way as you!! :D

*Take care Winston,
Megan"*

- "Hello Winston:

I am reading your revised, updated book as of August 2009, and I must say that so far it's are real eye-opener.

I especially liked the topic about hippies, and how even hippies chicks are judgmental about looks.

Not too long ago, I was at an all-outdoor event where hippies and political progressives were championing the whole "legalize marijuana" issue. I had the chance to meet several hippie chicks, and you're right when you say that they too are discriminatory, as if guys like us don't have any sexual desires. I talked to plenty of these women and the only guys they seemed to be hooked up with or interested in were fellow low-life, tatoored hippies like themselves. Now don't get me wrong, I am not against the peaceful side of hippies. I too think that we need to be non-violent. But nevertheless, your points were greatly made about why men have to leave this country for love, romance, and sex rather than join some cult.

*Also, what men who are suffereing this loneliness lifestyle fail to realize is that even hippies and church-going people still live in the brutal matrix that everyone else lives in. They are no more escaping it then every non-hippy and every non-religious person. And being that hippies and church people are living in this matrix, they too judge their fellow human beings by how much money they make, how popular they are, and how good-looking they are. There's no escaping it. Hippies are hippies because they need a pseudo cause to explain why they want to be poor, dumpy, and lay around smoking weed all the time. In all reality, hippies are actually mooches, and very rarely are they the types that will open their homes or shantys to someone and say "Come in, we'll feed you and give you a place to stay!" They are very narcissistic. The whole 1960s social experiment proves what idiots and phonies these people really are. They all morphed into the same characters in the 1983 movie *The Big Chill*, followed up by the late 80s series *Thirtysomething*. That's what hippies became; self-centered, selfish yuppies.*

Anyways Winston, I don't want to get into a three page discussion on this subject. But I do want to say good job on your book. You are a brilliant orator and you are very good at articulating in succinct detail the plight of men today. Keep up the good work.

Steve"

Fattening processed food vs. wholesome natural food

Almost every immigrant and visitor to the US remarks about how they quickly gain weight when eating the processed rich food here. America's obesity problem, the worst in world history, is well known all around the world. Not even the most ignorant and narrow minded deny it. There is no doubt that no other nation among the 200 countries of the world has anywhere near the obesity epidemic that the US has.

For some reason, food in America, both in public eating establishments and from supermarkets is fattening, addictive, and unhealthy. Books such as [Fast Food Nation](#) and others try to address the reasons for this, but generally the culprits identified are refined sugar, process foods, chemical additives, MSG, preservatives, and anti-insecticides, etc. From burgers and fries, to hot dogs and Doritos, food in the US is fattening and bad for you. It's hard to find healthy food in the US unless you stick to salads and shop in expensive organic stores. Add to this the fact that most people don't exercise and spend all their time in cars, houses, and offices, and the weight problem compounds even more.

When I was in Europe/Russia though, I ate a lot but hardly gained weight or got fat from it. The food was much more natural though it wasn't as rich or intense in flavor. Though I didn't exercise, I walked a lot everyday while taking public transportation. And not surprisingly, almost all young adults I saw were either thin or height/weight proportionate. Fat youngsters were extremely rare, and obesity out of the question.

Not only does this apply to people, but to household pets as well. In the US, dogs and cats also tend to be overweight too, while pets abroad tend to be thin and normal. Apparently, the poisoned processed food of the US extends into pet food as well. How cruel can the food industry be?! The food that poisons us ought to be illegal, for our own good. Some of course, postulate a conspiracy in all this to undermine the health of Americans, perhaps to keep them under some kind of control.

A simple way to lose weight that the US media is oblivious to

The reasons I've heard as to why Americans are the most overweight in the world are: 1) too much time spent in cars and homes rather than walking/public transportation, 2) lack of exercise due to laziness and too much work, 3) too much sugar, processed bleached white flour, preservatives and grease in their mainstream foods (none of which are good for you), 4) overly large meal portions, especially at dinner, even in restaurants, 5) focus on dinner being the main and largest meal of the day rather than lunch, which throws your system off balance and increases weight gain. (many monks don't even eat dinner to maximize their spirituality; ideally, dinner should be the smallest meal of the day and breakfast the biggest, but Americans do the opposite).

The funny thing is, out of the countless varieties of diet fads in America, NONE of them tell you that an often very effective weight loss approach is to simply LIVE OUT of the USA (the only world that most Americans know of) for a while, perhaps a few months, living and eating daily as the locals do. Many who do this will notice significant weight loss. And they don't even have to eat less; they can eat the same amount of food. They simply need to eat food NOT manufactured and processed in the USA, which contains high amounts of preservatives, sugar and processed white flour, which are bad for your body, make you fat, and increase your risk of diabetes, cancer, etc.

And perhaps combine that with taking public transportation, buses, trams, trains, etc. (in Europe, almost everywhere can be accessed that way) and walking everyday. THAT'S IT! It's as simple as that. And in addition, if you choose the right country to live or travel in, you'll have fun and become enriched in the process too! Can't beat that can you?.

It's as simple and natural as that. In effect, it's not really a dieting program cause you aren't even dieting. You are simply living and eating NATURALLY the way the rest of the world outside America does. If an overweight American does that, the longer he/she goes, the more gradually he/she will begin to look like people do in the non-US world, thin and height/weight proportionate. Sure, they may miss the sugary flavors and chemical additives in American food, which their body would crave from being deprived of it, but it's a small price to pay for good health and a normal body.

Yet NO media of any kind in the US seems to acknowledge or advocate this. How ignorant can all these US commercial industries be!? Perhaps they do know of this option, but because there is no commercial gain in sharing it, they don't?! Or, perhaps since they expect all Americans to slave away at working their whole lives, taking only 2 weeks paid vacation a year, going overseas for a few months simply isn't an option?! If so, it would be no surprise since according to the unintellectual US media, there is nothing outside the US except poverty, famine, disease, and warfare. They couldn't be more wrong of course. Whatever the case, such a simple and obvious weight loss option doesn't exist to America and its media, cause to them there is no world outside of America other than the one its media portrays to sell stories and ratings. And also, anything not possible in America is not possible anywhere else, they mistakenly assume.

If going abroad is not an option for you at this point, the next best thing you can do to obtain the health and proportioned figure of the Europeans is by eating all organic foods, which are devoid of the high sugar, processed white flour, and preservatives of mainstream American food. Just go to your local health food store, co-op, natural food store and they will have plenty of organic food for you to choose from. Many regular supermarkets nowadays also have sections of organic produce, fruits and vegetables. They may cost more, but for your health and vitality, it's worth it. Your body will thank you for it.

Public transportation - USA vs. Europe

Any traveler who's been to Europe and the USA knows that the public transportation system in Europe more is much more comprehensive, modernized, efficient, and less expensive than in the America. So much so that one does not even need a car in Europe, avoiding the hassle of being forced to pay for gas, heavy insurance fees, and car maintenance costs.

In Europe, you can get to almost any destination by public transportation, even late at night. Buses, trams, and trains run more frequently, making the system much more reliable and inclusive to all. Since most people there use public transportation, they get to walk a lot more, which gives them more daily exercise and keeps them in shape.

In addition, high speed trains, such as those that run in the UK, France, and Germany, are way technologically advanced than ours, running faster, more efficiently, and more frequently.

On the other hand, most Americans depend on their cars to get them anywhere on a daily basis. This makes their transportation very isolated, closing them into their shells and making social interaction less accessible than those who take public transportation. And it deprives them of the daily exercise that Europeans get, which in addition to their bad food, makes them gain more weight. Furthermore, it adds to the burden of bills and debt (car payments, gas cost, car insurance premiums, license tab fees, maintenance costs) that Americans have to put up with on a regular basis, which only adds to their stress which in turn puts them at risk for going bonkers, throwing fits, or getting mentally ill.

For Europeans, cars are a luxury that they can enjoy but don't have to. For Americans, it's a burden that they're in to.

Healthcare in America – The most expensive and unaffordable in the world

Now, I don't want to get into a detailed discussion about health care, since it's not my area. But basically, we all know that the healthcare system in America is a nightmare and scam of epic proportions. It's common knowledge throughout the world. Healthcare costs are one of the top causes of bankruptcy in America in fact.

What I've learned in that in pretty much all countries outside of America, including Canada, health care is either very affordable or free. And that's a major issue that plagues America, which even the US media admits to.

The countries with free healthcare may pay higher taxes. But they are happy with it, and well taken care of. You can't put a price tag on health after all.

But even when you do pay for a doctor overseas, the prices are very affordable, not astronomically high like in the US (without insurance). And even if someone is too poor to pay, they are NOT denied treatment.

Not having health insurance though, is yet another way America punishes anyone who is not a workaholic drone.

Women and dating

"Hi Winston, I gotta' tip my cap to you, man... You're the first person I've seen who PUBLICLY declares what is wrong w/ many women in our wonderful country, here in the good ol' US of A."

- From a fan

"I was very nervous around women... I traveled to Asia and within a week I learned that I am really only abnormally nervous around American women... What it boils down to, is that foreign women are an entirely different species... It's one of those things you have to experience to fully understand." – [Jack, forum post](#)

Why Global Dating works for any average decent male

"Are you a decent guy whose Romantic, Social and Personal needs are deprived in America and are tired of being in denial about it?"

"Would you rather have ONE dating choice every few YEARS or MANY dating choices EVERYDAY?"

"Are you open-minded and adaptable enough to seek solutions in different cultures?"

If so, let me tell you why **GLOBAL DATING** is the permanent solution you're looking for!

First, let's cut to the chase. No bull, beating around the bush or sugar coating. We all know that the dating scene in North America is now a nightmarish hell for men with gross inequities of epic proportions (even though it's taboo to mention it publicly). Here is the sad state of affairs in America's dating scene for men:

1. Around 80 percent of the women seek the 20 percent of top men, leaving 80 percent of men to either settle or remain dateless. The average single woman in America has far more choices than the average single man. That is a certainty. With so many choices, they can afford to play games, be super picky, treat men badly, demand perfection, etc. yet still be sought after by many desperate men.
2. Single men outnumber single women, [as evidenced in these stats](#) (possibly due in part to the large influx of male immigrant workers). This means that there are too many men competing for too few women, giving women too many choices and men too few. Anyone can see this both in real life and in [online personal ads](#), where women receive hundreds of times more responses than men do. And of course, they are far pickier.
3. The vast majority of women in the US are overweight and disproportionate. Few are decent looking anymore. Plus they are unfeminine, angry, stuck up, have a high sense of entitlement and awkward to hold a conversation with.
4. Any decent looking woman is virtually unattainable - She's either taken, super picky, not looking, or has mental problems.
5. Flirting with women, hitting on them, pursuing them or expressing your interest in them is considered inappropriate, creepish and out of bounds in the prudish US society. What this means is that if you see a woman you like or are attracted to, you can't do anything about it but mind your own business (work and consume).
6. Unless they're old, fat and ugly, women are generally very paranoid and uncomfortable talking to strangers or meeting new people. They've been conditioned to think that everyone they don't know is a creep or psycho unless proven otherwise. There is this thick wall or bubble around them, which isn't normal in the rest of the world, that makes it awkward and uncomfortable to meet them.

All these factors above multiply exponentially the difficulty of the dating scene for men in America, into a futile nightmare of epic proportions, making it a hostile environment as well. It's like playing a lottery where you get a result (date or relationship) only once every few years, if at all. The US dating scene for men is comparable to being in a casino and trying to score a jackpot while not even being allowed to play the slots, a total joke in other words. Yet you are not allowed to complain about it lest you be seen as a loser and freak. It's an Emperor's New Clothes syndrome

The average man can't just go out and "get" a girl he likes anytime for a romantic date, sex, or even simple companionship. Instead, he has to wait years for a girl to magically fall in love with him and give him everything he wants. It's like depending on the unpredictable forces of destiny, in other words. Until then, he has to work be positive, seek extracurricular activities and pretend that he's happy without sex, in order to "fit in" and not look like a "creep". And even if he finds a real partner, if it doesn't work out for some reason, he has to repeat the process and wait years again. This is the "normal" process for an average guy in America, and if he complains about it, then he's seen as a "negative whiney loser", so he must pretend like everything is fine and that there's nothing wrong. So, what many guys do is when they finally do get a girl after years of loneliness and sexlessness, they desperately hold onto her for life, knowing that she's the only thing keeping them from returning to the dreaded singles scene for men in America. Thus they become pussywhipped, doing everything she says and making her the boss. That's the norm in America.

The reality is, it's gotten so bad that at this point, that any decent looking female is virtually **UNATTAINABLE**. Single men outnumber single women in most places, and women are as either as picky as hell, or they don't need men and don't like them in general. Attractive women in the US are generally snobby and unapproachable, and carry a thick psychological force field around them (not sweet, modest and feminine like in the old days), so that if you try to meet them, you are considered a creep. In other words, hot women are only for looking, not touching. And having fun, wild sex with them, and romance is something you only see in the frickin movies, not experience in real life. And that just SUCKS big time!

All the average guy can do is go out and try to "make things happen" against the current and all odds, or do nothing except distract himself with entertainment and hanging out with his guy friends.

But of course, in our country of "free speech" you aren't allowed to complain about any of this because 1) you'll be considered a loser and blamed if you do due to the victim-blaming culture, 2) there's an unspoken Gospel law in America that in any public discussion of men vs. women issues, the women **MUST ALWAYS** come out on top, and 3) it's politically incorrect and taboo in the US to complain about women, the media only gives attention to the complaints of women not men.

That's the horrific situation in the US dating scene, and it's time that someone exposed it and offered real solutions, rather than pseudo-solutions which don't work that many dating gurus in the US are selling to milk the pockets of frustrated men.

In America, you can't just "go out and get a girlfriend" like the movies show. In real life, people in the US (especially women) don't talk to strangers unless it's business-related, so most people's social interactions are strictly limited to within their "clique" of friends and its connections. It's inappropriate to meet women otherwise. You can't just chat them up in public or else you will be seen as a "creep". So, unless your clique has connections to many attractive single women who also find you to be "dating material", you're out of luck. On the average, single guys in America have to wait several years (or more) before the chance to get a new girlfriend or to get laid comes along, and when it does, he's considered "lucky". Again, that just plain SUCKS big time.

So, what do frustrated single men in America usually do? Well, conventional suggestions given to them range from working on and improving oneself, to joining special clubs and activities, to improving their social skills, to the dreaded "you'll find someone someday, don't worry" and even to learning from dating gurus and seduction/pick up artists ([learn why PUA doesn't work here](#)). But these don't usually work for most dateless guys, or rarely if they do. They may help you to meet people, start polite conversations or develop superficial acquaintances. But they are not going to get you actual dates with quality attractive women. Get real! No matter how many American women that you meet, if you don't fit their highly picky standards, they are still going to blow you off if you ask them out.

You see, such cliched suggestions do not address the heart of the problem - the gross inequities, conditions and obstacles in the US dating market, which are too numerous to even count. There are so many screwed up conditions some of which don't even make any sense - inconsistencies in female behavior, stupid games, contradictions in what women want, unrealistic female delusions and entitlements, super pickiness, self-centered attitudes, mental and psychological problems, insanity, cultural problems, shallowness and superficial attitudes, degradation of traditional gender roles, feminist hatred of males, hatred of being feminine, jadedness, the isolation lifestyle, paranoia, anti-sociality, desire to be alone, racism, etc. etc. and the list goes on and on. Now do you really think that simply being more proactive in your community and life or learning BS artificial

"social skills" is going to remedy all that?! Not on your life! (especially if you don't have status, looks, wealth, fame, height, race, etc. going for you)

In addition, where in modern America are you going to find a woman who is warm, tender, caring, feminine and loving with good character and values, as well as a beautiful appearance? Such wholesome women existed in the distant past, but today, the media and Hollywood have conditioned women to be jaded, self-centered, tough and uncaring.

So you see, there are just soooooo many things going against the single male in America that it's frickin unbelievable! It's a total mess and nightmare.

Let's face it. America is good for some things, like getting a job, meeting nice guys, religious freedom, privacy and efficient quality customer service. But for dating women, social life, and mental health, it's got to be one of the WORST places if not the WORST place. Hands down. ([See my essay about this here](#) or [these studies that confirm this](#))

So is there a REAL solution to all this dead end madness for single men in America? **The answer is a resounding YES!** And the good news is that it's actually quite simple, with no rocket science, formulas or complex techniques, yet in another way it's not so simple (I'll explain why later).

Here it is. **Learn the power of GLOBAL SCALE DATING which will increase the power of your choices exponentially by tapping international markets that are in your favor!** In other words, GO GLOBAL! Start conducting the dating field GLOBALLY, rather than limiting yourself locally. By doing so, you widen your range to a whole world of 200+ countries and thus MULTIPLY your choices exponentially! Then you take the appropriate ACTION to get what you want and need (which we will provide guidance on). By doing a little research, you find a market out there in the international scene where the factors and conditions are in your favor, both on your end and theirs, so that you are in the right position to get the kind of women YOU want! (I'll show you an example later)

Now let me ask you a big question: **Would you rather have ONE choice every few YEARS, or MANY choices EVERYDAY?** If your answer is the latter, then Global Dating is for you. I am about to show you how you can have the latter in the dating field, for REAL!

Now look at me. I am a 5ft 7 average looking (by US standards) Asian American male without status or wealth in America, yet I thrive on beautiful women, love, fun, and adventure, so it's important to me to be able to date attractive women any time I want. So I was basically screwed. I went through many years of frustrations and literally thousands of rejections. I forced to live a sterile monk-like existence with no solution in sight. It was a no-win situation all around. ([See my story here](#) and the [ten reasons I had to date abroad here](#)) I tried everything you could imagine to no avail. So how did I finally solve it? Well it's simple. I finally looked outside the box and pursued an option that most do not consider because it's taboo and outside their paradigm - **I Went Abroad!** **Doing so got me more success in the dating world and a better social life than I could ever dream of!** And that's what I'm here to share with you today.

Ever since I've discovered that the dating scene is a million times better overseas, I've been writing essays and sharing stories and examples online about it, to let others like me know that they can have better and more CHOICES abroad in the dating field. After a few years, it culminated into this website Happier Abroad.

Here is a great video presentation on **Global Dating 101 - Dateanomics** from another Global Dating site which lays out these concepts in an easy to understand format.

<http://www.youtube.com/v/N2cFkOrrGwk>

To see Global Dating in action in my life, see these [Slide Shows](#) and [Photo Collage](#). To learn [why Global Dating is not a loser way out, click here](#).

The important thing here is not just that it works, because anyone can claim that something works when in reality it only works for a lucky few or on rare occasions. But Global Dating doesn't just work for a few or on rare occasions. **It WORKS for ANY average decent male!** And best of all, it's easy and natural. You don't have to try to be something you're not, become rich and famous, master some stupid seduction technique or pickup line,

pump yourself up with BS pseudo-confidence, or try to do anything else that is unnatural and unrealistic. All you have to do is open your mind, think outside the box a little, and GO GLOBAL. This works if you DO it. There are no empty promises or hype here.

That's the secret. I've already given it away. You didn't even have to buy it from me! All I sell is an book to motivate and inspire you, and provide guidance to give you the strength to pursue this route. You see, unlike other techniques, this simple strategy actually **MAKES SENSE** in and of itself, there's no mysterious voodoo behind it. And the volume of content on my website backs it up in pictures, videos and testimonials.

Other proponents of this strategy have dubbed this new trend the **GLOBAL DATING REVOLUTION**. But you can call it what you like.

Now let me give you an example from my own situation to demonstrate how this works.

As I mentioned earlier, I'm a 5ft 7 short Asian American guy without status, looks or wealth, only personality. In the US dating market, all the factors are against me. Most women in America want tall sporty looking white males with good looks and high status or income (preferably both). But since I have none of those things in the US, I'm not considered "dating material" to US women. Thus, I cannot get the type of attractive women I want and need. Trying to do so would be reaching "out of my league" so to speak and would draw ridicule and contempt from my peers, since I ain't "good enough" for what I desire. However, getting women that I'm attracted to is number one on my list. Hence a huge irreconcilable dilemma exists between my needs and the US market. Seems like a no win situation right?

Now I could do things to meet more women, like take yoga classes, tennis lessons, cooking classes, swing dance lessons, etc. But the problem is, if you're not a woman's "type", then meeting new women is only going to result in polite conversations and superficial acquaintances. They're all still going to blow you off if you ask for dates. I could try joining a band or something to get popular and up my status, but when you do something like that, it has to come from your heart and passion. You can't be something you're not to try and get women. That's unnatural. Plus you have to have the talent for such things. And even if you could, you're still not going to get all the infinite choices among attractive women that you will with Global Dating! No way!

So instead, I decide to expand myself out of the box, by searching the global market, into Philippines, Thailand and China. There, the tables are turned, and all the factors on my end and theirs work in **MY FAVOR**, and the market is on **MY SIDE!** You see, over in those poorer countries, foreign Asian men are considered higher class and desirable. The race factor is not against me anymore. And most women do not consider 5ft 7 to be too short for them. I am also perceived by people there to be rich as well (at least richer than most there). All this elevates my status and desirability in their eyes. **This means that I am now in the position and status to get the hot attractive women that I want and need, including model types!**

Plus, on their end, the women there are not spoiled selfish entitlement queens, do not harbor a feminist hatred of men, enjoy being feminine rather than masculine, treat men better, are not usually overweight, are more open, friendly and approachable, and the supply of quality single women is plenty, not scarce. Furthermore, their society is more communal and inclusive as well. So the environmental and cultural factors in those countries work in my favor too, and are conducive to a healthy dating environment.

In addition, in the Philippines, handsomeness is more than just looks, but also in the man's personality, niceness, the way he carries himself, his sweetness and gentleness. So by that standard, I am considered handsome. As long as a guy is clean cut and behaves nicely, he is appreciated and seen as good looking. The bar is not raised unnaturally high. Also, there is huge surplus of available women in their country that can't find a good guy. So the supply factor also works in my favor. In short, the market there gives me an upper hand and places me on the high end. Furthermore, Filipinas inherently believe that they need men, whereas US women are taught not to need men. And they are very approachable and easy to meet or chat up. ([For proof, see this Photo Collage](#))

In such a market, dating women that I like comes naturally and in the flow. (not forced or creepish like in the US) And BINGO! Voila! I've found the Holy Grail. See how that works?

Now, suppose I went to one of the rich Asian countries like Japan, Taiwan, Hong Kong or Singapore. In those nations, the financial factor would not be in my favor. But race and height factor do not work against me either,

since I'm Asian and the average height of males in Asia is lower than in the US. So, although I wouldn't have the perks I would have in the poorer Asian countries, the market would still be more in my favor than in the US. Though the women would be pickier with higher standards, I would not be totally shut out of the market like I would in the US.

Ok now let's say I wanted to date white women. Then I could go to Europe, Eastern Russia or Ukraine. In those areas, there is less of a negative stigma against my race. And the market conditions and attitudes on their end are more favorable too. As mentioned earlier, there is a greater supply of quality available women, females are more approachable, open and friendly, they not as spoiled, don't behave like selfish entitlement queens, are not hateful feminists with issues, are more feminine, are more thin and proportionate, etc. Plus the environment in those culture is more inclusive. Thus, I would be able to meet more girls on a regular basis, date some of them, and not feel nonexistent like in the US. My social life there would be far more active and superior. ([For proof, see this Photo Collage](#))

Alright now let's say you're an average looking white guy who doesn't get any second stares in the US, and you like Asian women. Well then you'll have it made in Asia in almost any country there. You see, there is always a segment of the population in Asia that has a white fetish and worships white culture. Even though this segment is a minority, it is still greater than the total number of white guys there. Thus, the demand for white guys exceeds the supply, which means the market is in YOUR FAVOR. Of course, like me, you will do better in poorer Asian countries than richer ones, but overall, you'd do better than in North America for sure. Tons of white guys who have been to Asia attest to it, as well as guys in general who have dated abroad. Just look in the [Dating Testimonials](#), [Forum](#) and [YouTube comments](#) for plenty of examples.

And as for white American men seeking white women, they'd have the same advantages in the European and Russian markets that I described earlier.

Are you starting to get the big picture now? **The idea is to go where the conditions and factors favor you and your goals the most, or at least where they will work against you the least, to the women YOU want.** As in real estate, it's all about location, location, location!

So what's the problem? Why isn't it that simple for single guys in America? Well there are obstacles to this strategy, both psychological and practical. They are the following:

1. **Social taboo** - We are taught to seek friends and dates locally, that the best of everything is in America and that there is nothing good beyond its borders. There is a loser stigma associated with people who seek dates, girlfriends or wives overseas.
2. **Contempt from peers and family** - Going this route may also incite contempt from your peers and family. You also risk being viewed as bizarre and crazy by others, and may even be avoided. Things that go against established norms often do not make people comfortable.
3. **Comfort zone** - It is difficult to break out of an established comfort zone, even if you're miserable. It's easier to take the path of least resistance.
4. **Job and local responsibilities** - People who have a regular job will be tied down locally with only two weeks of vacation per year. Or they may have a house mortgage, debt or other local obligations.
5. **Lack of funds** - People with little or no money may not be able to afford to travel abroad.

Now the first two obstacles involve psychological and social issues that can be overcome by willpower, motivation and asking oneself - *Which is more important, pleasing others and remaining unhappy or making yourself happy and living without regrets?* To keep motivated, it is a good idea to read this book as well as the [messages to you from my Expat Advisor Ladislav](#). The third one is another biggie because it's too easy to take the path of least resistance. Some would rather be comfortable in their misery than face change. The way to break this is to get mad and angry. You've got to get yourself fed up to the point where you can't tolerate your situation. That will give you the willpower to really break free.

But the last two are practical conditions that pose as real obstacles and not easily resolved. It takes proper planning, time, patience, dedication and hard work to deal with those. And it might even require consultation and help from a professional financial planner. But like they say, where there's a will, there's a way. If you want something badly enough, you'll find a way, even though it may take time and cause you to make sacrifices.

To deal with the fourth obstacle, you may have to change jobs or careers, sell your home, establish residual businesses, start a business abroad, live on credit, or make other drastic changes, etc. In the meantime, you may have to settle for going abroad only two weeks a year during your vacation time, until you restructure your life to spend more time abroad. There are books out there that help you plan to live overseas, many of them are listed in my [Bookstore](#). So you've got to ask yourself, how much does it mean to you to find a partner or have a rich love life?

As to the fifth obstacle, you'll have to work and save up some money without recklessly spending it. It's best to work temporary or contract jobs though, so you're not tied down and expected to be there long term. Local employment agencies can help you find those. Just look in the yellow pages or local online listings for them. Even if you're only making minimum wage, you can still save up enough money, around a thousand dollars, for a plane ticket in one or two months, if you SAVE ALL of it after taxes. To maximize your savings, you may even have to live with your parents for a while. But hey, you do what you gotta do. If you are in debt, you may have to get help with debt management, or if it's too big and out of control, you have to file for bankruptcy.

You can also get certified in teaching English overseas and land a decent job that way. Some schools may even provide your airfare and accommodation expenses if you qualify. There are books about this in my [Bookstore](#) as well, or you can look up info on [ESLCafe.com](#).

Whatever the situation, remember that where there's a will, there's a way. Just start acting on it soon, because you know, life is short, so you've got to live to the fullest without regrets.

Now, you may need some motivation, inspiration and guidance in all this. And that's where Happier Abroad comes in, to inspire and enlighten you with reasons, explanations and examples, giving you a global perspective on things.

Now, even with the right conditions and factors going for you, you will still have to gauge the chemistry you have with the culture and the individual women you meet, so it may take some time to find the best fit. Or you may find it immediately. That depends. But either way, you will have a good time doing so and feel more alive in the process, because finally, you will actually be having **CHOICES** rather than being a victim. As Jesus said, "Seek and ye shall find".

This path may not be right for everyone (nothing is right for everyone) but for many it is. There are so many guys in the US who are at a dead end and shut out of the dating scene. None of the cliched advice out there can help them, but this can! So it is my hope that they find out about it.

To give a glimpse of the dating life, social life and lifestyle in the US vs. many countries abroad, see this [Comparison Chart](#) I put together. It'll help you see the big picture.

I wish you well on this endeavor, and just remember that we're always here for you ☺

The following sections will draw comparisons in various areas between females in America vs. most countries, and will enlighten you as to their real differences. But first, let me explain why conventional advice and clichés given to dateless men in America are useless.

7 Useless cliches given to dateless men in America

For many years I was dateless and lonely in America. Meeting, dating and making love to beautiful women was my top desire and highest fantasy, which consumed me everyday. Yet I was frustrated because I seemed to be completely shut out of the dating game. Every girl I met told me, either directly or indirectly, that I wasn't her type.

Yet we were under this mass belief that getting dates was easy, that girls were friendly in America, so if you couldn't get dates, then you had to look at yourself for the problem. So like everyone else, I was programmed to look toward myself to figure out what I could change or improve in myself to get results.

Yet I saw nothing wrong with me. I liked myself and saw a lot of great qualities in me. And I didn't feel that it would be right or natural to try to be something I'm not just to please others (not that I could anyway). I didn't

understand why I couldn't just be myself and get the results I wanted, since after all, our culture and media gave the impression it was easy to get dates in America, as long as you were cool, confident and likable. If you can't, then there's something wrong with you. That's what we assume.

Anyhow, I couldn't see anything wrong with me, yet I was programmed to think that there was because I was couldn't get any dates no matter how hard I tried. This resulted in a perpetual loop where I would look to myself for the problem, but finding nothing wrong, I went out and tried to get dates only to fail again and look back toward myself, which repeated the cycle ad nauseum.

Being at a loss, I turned to others for answers. I asked what friends I had for advice, and also acquaintances, teachers, counselors, therapists, parents, even pastors. None of them had any real solutions. All they could do was one of the following:

1. **Tell me to work out and dress better, or get involved in some activities and clubs.** I did all that but I was still treated like I was not even in the dating game. There are things you can join to meet women, but if you're not their type or they're not available, the best you're going to get is casual polite chit chat from them.
2. **Tell me not to worry about it and focus on other things in life, such as getting a career or focusing on other hobbies.** That might work for a little while, but not forever, since beautiful women were my highest desire.
3. **Tell me to lower my standards.** As if they weren't already low enough, I mean come on now. Get real. What am I supposed to do, go for the rock bottom? I can't force myself to want something I don't want. And I'm not that unattractive either, so why can't I even get average looking girls who are on my level? It seems that even average girls in America think they deserve the very best in men - the prince charming with looks, money, personality and status.
4. **Give me the typical cliché "Don't worry, you'll meet the right person someday."** Yet I was not necessarily looking for the "right person", I just wanted some decent dates, which was supposed to be easy, according to our culture, TV shows and sitcoms. So why should I have to wait years or never for one "right person" just to get a normal date?!
5. **Tell me to stop trying so hard and just let things come naturally, since you usually find love when you're not looking.** Yet when I stopped trying, I still got NO results! Nothing. Same thing.
6. **Tell me to stop being negative, needy or desperate, which is a turn off to girls, and that if you like yourself, then you will become more attractive and others will like you too.** Yet I DID LIKE myself... a lot! That's why I felt I deserved to get dates and girls, and why I wouldn't give up. I felt confident and attractive around girls too. Yet that didn't matter cause the girls didn't like to be approached, didn't want to meet me, and didn't think I was their type. My confidence and self-esteem didn't change that. That was the reality. This cliché was fantasy/fiction. I was sure that being negative, needy or desperate was not the cause of my rejection, for those traits followed after my failures, not before them. This was just a cheap attempt at pinning the blame on me. After all, you can't blame a hungry man if he hasn't eaten.
7. **Preach that if I got a good steady job or career and became successful and stable, that girls would take me seriously and flock to settle down with me and raise a family.** This kind of advice usually comes from older people who are more old fashioned - like your parents. Yet I have had high paying jobs before, and when I told girls about them, it didn't create any attraction. They would just say "That's nice". This kind of advice was outdated and geared toward marriage, which I wasn't looking for. I just wanted normal dates, romance and to have good times with hot girls and to be "in the game". TV shows and sitcoms said it was easy and natural, so why wasn't it?!

So, being at a dead end, I turned to these so called "Dating Gurus" for help. These folks had marketed themselves and their books/seminars to guys like me, who wanted to get hot girls but were at a dead end. They made big promises and claims, offering techniques that could make any guy into a smooth pick up artist and ladies' man.

I was never stupid enough to sign up for their expensive seminars and boot camps of course, since I was skeptical and frugal with my money. But I read many of their books, articles and websites. When I tried to implement their techniques, all I got were laughs. The whole thing felt so fake and unnatural. They seemed to only work in the PUA guru's fictitious promo stories, not in real life. Eventually I realized that such techniques and tricks only worked if the girl was ALREADY attracted to you, not if she wasn't. But that was the problem - I could not find anyone attracted to me in the first place, so these techniques were a moot point, since they can't

do anything about the root problem. You can't create attraction where there is none. So I was back at square one again.

Dumbfounded, I turned to women themselves for the answers. I asked every female friend and acquaintance I could find for what I could do to turn my dating life around. Yet they could offer nothing but the same cliched answers above. So when I asked them "Well why am I not dating material to YOU then? What am I lacking?", all they could say was "Cause I like you as a friend".

So again I was left with no solutions and no way to get what I wanted. Yet our programmed society and culture continued to tell me to look at myself to see what I could change or improve. When I did that, I could find nothing to improve that would get any real results, and neither could anyone else. I was still not anyone's type and no one was interested in me.

Worst of all, even trying to get dates felt like the most unnatural and awkward thing in the world, as though I were going against the grain or stepping outside of bounds. This was weird cause all the TV shows and sitcoms I saw portrayed dating as easy and natural in America, as well as fun. That was what I believed too, yet I could not reconcile my belief with reality.

Frustrated beyond words, and in a state of inner torture with billions of unfulfilled fantasies, I began looking for desperate measures. I used prayer, cast love spells, used witchcraft, constructed Egyptian love charms that I learned of from books, etc. Anything to get results. But none of that really worked, and even trying them spooked me out.

The futility continued. No matter what I did, it was always a zero sum game. It seemed that I just wasn't meant for what I wanted most.

One day, I finally found my answer, one that most would never consider. **It would be the REAL and PERMANENT SOLUTION to my dilemma, one that WORKED naturally and got real RESULTS.**

I WENT ABROAD!

That's it! Doing so transformed my hopeless no-win situation into one of everlasting abundance, skyrocketing my dating life from zero to infinity! See it for yourself in my

[Photo Collage](#)

[Slide Shows](#)

[Foreign Female Encounters Film](#)

The evidence is in plain sight.

Why PUA doesn't work but Global Dating does

"I thank you Winston from the bottom of my heart for showing me and other lonely men THE WAY to PARADISE... Those seduction books I use to buy are total GARBAGE compared to what YOU'VE proven and you put PUA artist and experts to complete shame with SIMPLICITY and REAL PROVEN SOLUTIONS WINSTON..." - [Dwayne, NY](#)

First off, I've NEVER known a person whose dating life was turned around by PUA (Pick up artist industry) techniques and could prove it. Not one. The successes exist only in the fake testimonials and scripts of PUA gurus like David DeAngelo, Ross Jefferies, Mystery, etc.

PUA shares a lot of features of multi level marketing (MLM) in that it's a lot of hype around a guru or "system" with big promises, yet the majority of followers don't get the results promised. So they are told to practice further or to blame themselves, because the system "works" and is perfect. It's like a religious belief. So any failure of the system is attributed to the followers of the system, who are told to blame themselves, rather than the system itself.

It's all a con game based on false premises and flaws designed to profit those who start the system or program.

PUA offers a hyped "system" with big promises that doesn't really deliver, giving its followers something to believe in, and taking advantage of them.

It promises a formula of techniques that will "create" attraction. Yet in reality attraction doesn't work that way. Being cocky and funny (David DeAngelo's approach), for example, may get some airhead girls to laugh at you, but it's not going to create attraction from a girl who isn't attracted to you. Get real.

They claim to help you acquire social skills, which are either defined as manipulation/persuasion techniques or tact/diplomacy skills to help you get along with others. Such may help you to get along with others, such as coworkers, the cashier at the grocery store, and help you stay on other people's good side. But again, it's not going to create attraction where there is none.

For PUA techniques to work, the girl has to ALREADY be attracted to you. There has to be a pre-existing attraction for it to spice up, in which case you don't even need PUA. But it's not going to create attraction out of nothing. Anyone who claims it does is either lying, BSing, conning you, or in denial and probably has little or no experience with real human relationships.

In reality, humans and their behavior do not fit into "formulas". Any attempt to fit them into such usually fails and lacks understanding of the complexities and unpredictability of human nature. Anyone with real experience in relationships knows this.

Real social skills have nothing to do with formulas, but are about being attuned and aware of subtle messages and body language from others and having the sense and insight to act accordingly, with tact and diplomacy. Everyone is different and require different types of communication/social skills to deal with. The social skills you need to get along with others in American settings, for instance are very different in Japan, and vice versa. It takes insight and experience to be able to "read others".

There are social skills that will help you get along and work harmoniously with others (as long as they are not like oil and water to you). But there are no "social skills" that will make you attractive to the majority of women you meet who don't find you attractive. No way. Only in PUA material does such exist, not in real life. It's a totally delusional system, made evident by the lack of results.

None of the PUA gurus have any real proof that their "system" works reliably for the majority of people, even if it really does work for them personally. Instead, they expect you to take all their big claims on faith, and many are gullible enough to do just that, cause many disgruntled men who follow them need something to believe in that gives them hope and gives them the illusion that they are in control.

Now, the logical defining criteria for a system to be considered to WORK is that it has to work for the average person CONSISTENTLY, not just for a small few or rarely. Both PUA and MLM fail in that criteria, as any serious independent investigation reveals. The majority of those involved in them do NOT consistently succeed or profit. Asking PUA disciples to show you actual results is like asking Amway distributors to show you their tax returns. It exposes their charade and so they quickly find excuses not to comply.

Yet they still maintain the deception that their "system works". Now let me ask you, if I designed a computer program for a company that worked less than 5 percent of the time, would the company consider that program to "work" and be satisfied with it? HELL NO! They would never keep such a program! So why should you? To claim that something that only gets results a small percentage of the time, "works" is very deceptive and inaccurate. It's time to stop the bull, hype and brainwashing. I know we all need something to believe in, but for crying out loud, at least believe in something REAL that works consistently for the average decent person.

On the other hand, Global dating fulfills this criteria, for you will find that expat males who have plenty of experience living or dating abroad are pretty much unanimous in their opinion that dating foreign women is a much BETTER experience than back home, regardless of whether they are in long term relationships or short term flings only.

But even if PUA did work, it would only attract low quality females and dumb airheads. Do you really think high quality intelligent women are going to fall for you just because you're "cocky and funny" and you tease her and bust her balls and call her a "brat"? If so, then I have a bridge to sell you. Only the biggest fool in the world with no real understanding of human relationships or women would fall for that.

PUA is an artificial industry that produces hope for profit, but not real results or happiness or love, for it doesn't understand the first thing about human nature and attraction.

They've treated courtship as a whole "scientific field of study", which is ridiculous. This should tell you a lot right there. Why would such a natural thing like male/female courtship need to be reduced to a "technique" or "science" as though it were a difficult subject that needed to be "mastered"?!

In other countries, it's just like you see in the movies - boy meets girl, they flirt, hold hands, say "I like you" to each other, then kiss and so forth. It's completely natural and effortless. (I've experienced this firsthand many times)

The students of this industry even have to "master an art" (e.g. advanced conversation techniques) just to hold conversations with women, which ought to be the most natural thing in the world!

Now the thing is, this type of industry is unheard of in other countries. I challenge you to find another country where men pay "seduction or pick up artist gurus" to teach them how to meet women. You can't, cause in other countries, the process is natural and flows normally, not F ed up like in the US. The "chumps" in this subculture never stop to ask the obvious question: "Why doesn't this industry exist in other countries too?"

And suffice to say, I have yet to meet a single person who could demonstrate and prove that these PUA/seduction techniques turned his love/dating life around 180.

Needless to say, PUA is not natural. It doesn't even allow you to be yourself. So even if it worked, why follow something that requires you to be something that you are not, which is hardly even possible anyway? Trying to be something that you're not all day eventually leads to psychological imbalance and mental dysfunction. Not a good thing. [Click here to read a former PUA member reveal the truth about the movement.](#)

On the other hand, Global Dating is natural and is proven to work consistently, not just for a few, but for the average decent male with no major personality defects. Best of all, it allows you to get what YOU want while being yourself at the same time! It's not a technique, but a matter of geography, a global path of going where you are wanted and where you will get the women you want. You simply need to be willing to think and live "outside the box" and defy the false programming given to you. It's very easy and natural. I know all this for a certainty cause I've lived it and so have many I've met and known. This is the real thing that changes lives and transforms them. No hype, bull, gurus or false promises. This makes dreams come true and I am living proof of it. Let me show it to you all, for free!

Go to <http://www.HappierAbroad.com>

See my new film "Female Encounters of the Foreign Kind" for up close PROOF of all I say:
<http://www.happierabroad.com/film.php>

The huge [Photo Collage](#) in this ebook is all the proof you need of how Global Dating has skyrocketed my dating from zero to infinity.

Discuss this article here: <http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=6811>

Upper vs. Lower Tiers: Different dating markets for men

In general, Upper Tier countries, or the more prosperous First World regions, give women the advantages in dating selections, while the Lower Tier nations, or more economically challenged, give men the upper hand. There are exceptions of course, but this is the general pattern. Some general reasons for this are:

- 1) Immigrant male workers from Lower Tiers emigrate to nations in Upper Tiers to find work and earn money, creating a surplus of males in Upper Tier countries and skewing the demand/supply ratio in the women's favor. This means more men competing for fewer women. As a result, women become more picky and spoiled and start going for the alpha male types with looks and money.
- 2) In Lower Tiers, there are less eligible men available to the women. Poverty drives many poor men to drink, and the men from upper class families will only get involved with women of their social class. Thus, women have to compete for the small pool of good men, which means they have to impress men by treating them better, looking better, and being more kind, sweet and feminine.
- 3) Feminist values take hold easier in Upper Tiers, which corrupt women by making them less feminine, less sweet, more spoiled, more independent, etc. so that they become egotistic, jaded and filled with an off chart sense of entitlement. And of course, with work and career opportunities for women, they no longer need men as much.
- 4) High birth rates in Lower Tier countries also produce a larger population of young women as well.
- 5) People in Lower Tier countries have to be more interdependent for survival, and so become more more close and communal with their friends, family and neighbors. As a result they develop stronger social connection, deeper bonds, and more inclusive attitudes. This in turn leads to better relationships and of course makes females a lot easier to approach or meet, rather than stuck up, especially to desirable suitors.

Of course there are cultural factors as well, but those are the general variables that make Upper Tiers better for women in terms of dating, and Lower Tiers for men.

Dan DeLa Cruz and Romeo Blanco explained the differences between Upper vs. Lower Tiers very well in their book [The Global Dating Revolution](#):

UPPER AND LOWER TIERS

Let's break the world into two parts, favorable for guys and unfavorable for guys. The regions that are unfavorable we'll call the "upper tiers," while the favorable regions we'll call the "lower tiers." The countries included in the unfavorable "upper tier" are the U.S.A., Canada, Western Europe, Australia, New Zealand, and high income Asian and Pacific nations. In the image below, these countries are represented by dark blue. They account for only 30%-35% of the world's population. The numerous, more favorable, lower tier countries—all countries *not* in dark blue—account for approximately 65%-70% of the world's population.

As you will see In the image below, the places around the world that are favorable to men vastly outnumber the places where the environment favors the females. For the sake of brevity, we can say that the areas in dark blue favor women, while every other color region are places where the environment favors the men.

Source: International Monetary Fund, as of April 2008

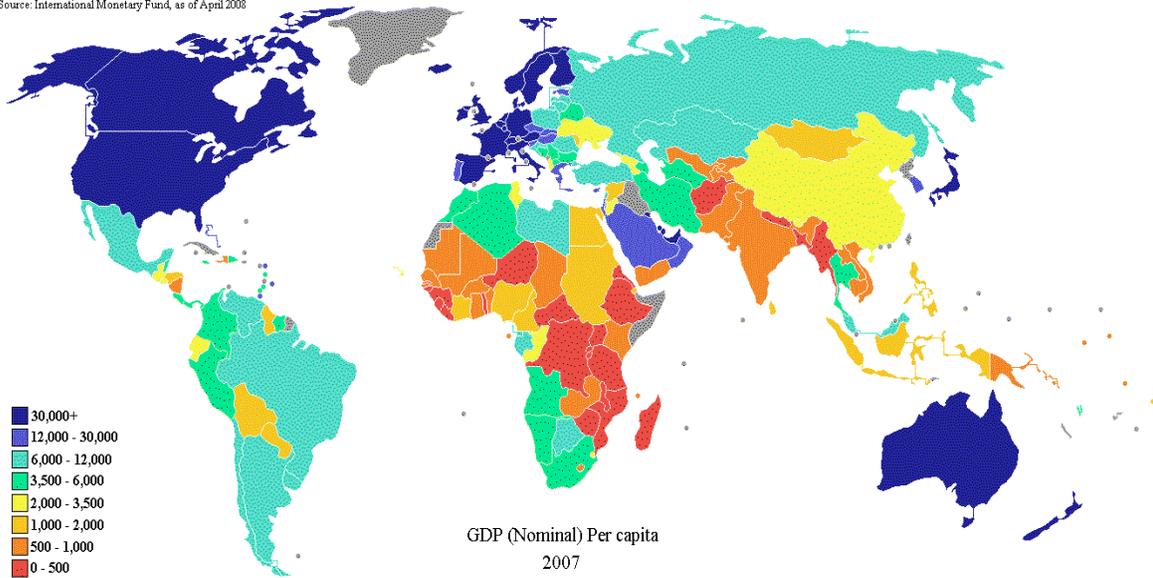


Image 2 – GDP Nominal Per Capita 2007
--Wikipedia

The dividing line is simple: Its GDP per capita income reveals whether a country is an environment which favors men or creates a nightmare for them.

For example, in both the USA and Ireland, two Level 3 Tier countries, men find it tough to find high quality, feminine, down-to earth women who do not already wear a wedding band or aren't already committed. While some men in the USA and Ireland will have success, it's a numbers game: Some find "the right one," while many more settle for whatever they can get, and more men still, find themselves completely left out.

In contrast, in Bolivia and Nicaragua, two Level 1 Lower Tier countries, economy and culture have created a booster crop of young, attractive, sexy, family-orientated ladies who are seriously looking for single guys to date.

Argentina and Chile on the other hand, Level 2 Lower Tier countries (also categorized as "Middle Tier" countries), while distinctly more favorable for men than any of the Upper Tier countries, are not as advantageous as Bolivia and Nicaragua, where young women are culturally molded into their roles of supportive, cherishing, appreciative girlfriends and wives. However I would always opt to be in either Argentine or Chile than in any of the wealthiest nations of the world, if my goal is to meet and date attractive women.

The following holds true in most situations:

Upper Tiers

Men here must compete intensely for women, and even more intensely for attractive women. In the Upper Tiers, men need social skills, looks, money, power, fame, status, and confidence to succeed with the women of their choice. It's a numbers game. There simply aren't enough attractive females so the males have to set themselves apart in order to win. Because of the disproportion between attractive women and the men who seek them, many men lower their standards and date women who they are not attracted to, and even women who mistreat them, in order to have any female companionship.

Lower and Middle Tiers

Women here must compete intensely for men. To compete successfully, they need seduction skills, a well-maintained figure, and good looks. They also need to make themselves available and friendly, leaving themselves open to all romantic possibilities. They seek out partners and flirt aggressively. In these Tiers, often, sexy women lower their standards, dating older and less attractive men, even tolerating abuse and mistreatment in order to have male companionship

There are exceptions, of course, in both the Upper and Lower Tier experiences, but most cases will be found within the range of these two descriptions. A case in point: In Lower Tier Bolivia, I dated scores of attractive, friendly, family-oriented women, while my cousin Enrique, who left Bolivia for Upper Tier USA, with its GDP per capita of \$43,000 per year, had the worse experience with women in his life!

They go on to list the major handicaps for men in the Upper Tiers.

4 ENVIRONMENTAL HANDICAPS: THE FOUR WHAMMIES:

Obesity

Obesity results in a lower percentage of females with .7 waist-to-hip ratio. This decreases the number of attractive females in a population

Strong Male Competition

High income males have more money, and time to devote to things like the gym, learning how to play the guitar, going out, spending money in bars and clubs, etc. They can spend money on nice clothes, haircuts, cars, college education, dating books and bachelor pads. In short they can compete better for attractive women. Upper tiers also have a high percentage of male diversity due to immigration; This male diversity increases the competition.

Male Surplus

A gender imbalance arises due to internal and international immigration. Healthy economies and industrial sectors bring in more males in search of employment. Labor demands dictate the severity.

Aging Talent

Pool In the upper tiers there are, in general, more old people than young people. Meaning most of the people you will encounter throughout the upper tiers will in general be older. For example, it's a well known fact, that there is a large number of "baby boomers" that are nearing retirement age in many upper tier nations. For example in many upper tier nations there are more women who are 35 than young women in their 20s. The upper tier nations have the oldest populations in the world and in many cases the young people that help keep the median age at bay are the immigrants that move to the upper tiers from the lower tiers (these immigrants are mostly male).

Next they list the major advantages for men in the Lower Tiers.

4 PHYSICAL POWERS: THE FANTASTIC FOUR:

Great Talent Pool

High percentage of .7 waist-to-hip ratios (hourglass figures) in the female population due reasons we will later explain. Women in lower tiers also compete more aggressively against each other for the males, therefore they have more incentive to be in shape, slim, and sexy. In the lower tiers it's generally more common to see gyms full of women.

Weak Competition

Lower tiers consist of the 65%-70% of the world population. They are also the lowest income earners in the world. Most males here are economically challenged. Males simply don't have the economic resources to compete on the same scale as the guys in the upper tiers.

Female Surplus

In most of the lower tiers the female surplus is due to the mass emigration of males, who migrate to the upper tiers in order to work and send money back home or to give themselves more economic opportunities. When there are more women than men, the odds are in your favor.

Youthful Talent Pool

More young women in the population than older women. The lower tiers have had the highest birth rates in the world for decades, making for a much younger and more vibrant population.

All four of these powers increase your odds greatly in meeting and dating attractive women!

Each of these elements of power varies from country to country, and even from city to city, but generally, all Lower Tier countries give men a vast advantage in the game of love. And here's one place where guys have it all!

Mr. Local vs. Mr. Global

DeLa Cruz and Blanco also give a great illustration and comparison in [The Global Dating Revolution](#) of the life of a typical local dater in America vs. that of an international global dater.

MR. LOCAL VS. MR. GLOBAL

Mr. Local, an American guy with good social skills, has lived his whole life in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (USA). Because he only dates American women raised in Philly—has never dated foreign women, Mr. Local has no point of comparison. Mr. Global, on the other hand, is a bit shy. He has less social skills. But Mr. Global has joined The Global Dating Revolution because he understands that foreign lands and foreign women have much more to offer.

While Mr. Local dates American women who have high expectations of him and call him a "loser" whenever he disappoints them, Mr. Global is dating sexy women who are "Made In Brazil" and is having the time of his life.

Mr. Local kicks himself for his lackluster dating life. He tries to improve his love life by improving himself, spending money on health supplements, gym memberships, fresh haircuts, clothes, so he always looks slick. He buys jewelry and fancy watches; he just financed a new Lexus to impress the ladies in Philly. And what reward does Mr. Local get for all his efforts? He gets crappy treatment by the sophisticated, self-centered ladies of Philly.

FOREIGN WOMEN TO THE RESCUE!

Mr. Global doesn't worry about improving himself. He knows he isn't the problem. **Western women are the problem—and he understands that foreign women—like those from Brazil, Colombia, and Costa Rica—are the solution!**

In his relationships with women from these countries, Mr. Global has found himself cherished and appreciated in ways no American girl has ever done. The foreign women in Mr. Global's life cook him delicious meals, rub his back when he's tired, and compliment him on his looks (even though he knows his is less than average-looking).

What Mr. Global realizes that Mr. Local has never learned is that great economic forces as well as cultural forces such as feminism have created two vastly different environments across the world. One environment favors a generation of women who have lost their femininity and have placed their careers first. The other environment such as Latin American favors men, and also breeds women who are both more feminine and more old fashioned. They keep themselves fit and slim where Western women let themselves gain weight to the point of obesity.

This knowledge translates into power; something Mr. Global understands, but Mr. Local doesn't grasp.

If they both stay the courses they're pursuing, Mr. Global will have much more long-term success than Mr. Local. The girls of Philly just cannot measure up to the sexy Brazilian-raised ladies.

But if Mr. Global told Mr. Local about the Global Dating Revolution and persuaded Mr. Local to meet Brazilian ladies on-line or even try to meet some who live in Philadelphia, then things might just look up for Mr. Local.

And even if there are no Brazilian ladies nearby, "Who cares?" Mr. Global would say to Mr. Local. "Come with me to Brazil!" And if Mr. Local had enough courage to go to Brazil, he would find more friendly, lovely, down-to-earth young ladies then he can handle! **The only reason Mr. Local hasn't booked his flight already is that no one has told him the secret!**

Unfortunately, what Mr. Local doesn't know is keeping him stuck in Philly where he dates overweight, feminist-minded women who treat him poorly. But, amazingly, since he has no point of reference, he is somewhat satisfied with his "success."

Nonetheless, Mr. Local seems to sense that there could be more for him. He continues to buy books that tell him "How to Become an Alpha Male" or "How to Seduce Women," hoping to find "the right touch and approach to have success with attractive women." When he finds himself being rejected by these scarce attractive women in Philadelphia, he continues with the "blame game," acting as if it's his own fault that his romantic life isn't more fulfilling. What he doesn't realize is that many of the American women he approaches have lost all sense of the word "femininity" and "family-orientated values". And he keeps pointing the finger at himself.

Mr. Global's got it figured out. He knows to point the finger at the that handicaps that throw the odds against him, but he doesn't try to fight it. No, he just continues to date attractive, foreign women. When he goes to Brazil, he dates scores of beautiful, young Brazilian ladies—without even breaking a sweat! When he's back in the United States, he stays in touch with these lovely women via the internet. Sometimes he gets lucky and a foreign lady comes to visit him!

Interestingly enough, Mr. Global is actually much less attractive than Mr. Local. For instance, Mr. Local has better social skills than Mr. Global. He is more charming, confident, witty, and outgoing. He is better looking and more muscular than Mr. Global.

But Mr. Local is also lonelier than Mr. Global. What should be so easy—a good-looking single man finding compatible, pleasant, pretty women—has become so hard. While Mr. Global, without taking much trouble at all, is having the time of his life with beautiful, charming women that try to please him!

The simple reason for this dichotomy is that Mr. Global has taken a global approach and travels and dates foreign women while Mr. Local dates only local American women. And this makes—literally—all the difference in the world.

It's tough to see nice guys like Mr. Local spinning their wheels in the Philadelphia mud. I know how it feels, because I once was Mr. Local, myself. Today, though, I'm Mr. Global—and I enjoy myself like never before. The only difference between "then" and "now" is that *now* I use the environment to blow its mighty winds in my favor!

Like Mr. Global, I say, "Join me!" There is no reason you can't do exactly what I've done. **Once you learn the reasons for the differences between the pro-male regions and rest of the world and the women that are raised in each in region, you can finally stop blaming yourself and join in on the fun!**

Meeting and dating women

Here is the general difference between meeting women overseas vs. America. For the most part, women in the US don't socialize with you unless you are part of their clique. When you see an attractive girl in a public place, it is a form of silent torture because you can't really do anything about it. They don't like talking to strangers, and if you try to meet them, most of the time they will see that as inappropriate and think you are a creep or , resulting in a defensive posture and vibe. This of course, makes guys become more shy and erodes their confidence toward attractive women. Simply put, American women generally don't talk to strangers unless it's business related. Overwhelmingly, they don't like to meet people unless through mutual friends. It's extremely limiting, to say the least.

In America, women have all the power and upperhand, and they know it. Around American women, men **MUST** act girly and emasculate, otherwise they are seen as creeps or pigs, or transgressors who violate the rules. And they will be viewed likewise if they don't always let women continue to have the power and upperhand as well. That's one reason why they're unapproachable, for to them, being approached or "hit on" is a threat to their power and upperhand. And for me, that puts me between "a rock and a hard place", because if I approach American girls I want and "go for it" then I am a creep or , but if I don't, then they never approach me either, so either way I lose.

You can tell that they have the upperhand because in America, there are hardly any lonely young women while there are always plenty of lonely guys who will jump at the chance to be with a woman.

In most countries, on the other hand, it's not like that at all. More often than not, the attractive girls you see in public that you try to meet will often want to meet you too, even if they look like models. And when they give you their number or agree to get together later, they usually follow through (rather than giving you their number and then screening out your calls like many American girls do). And even if they aren't interested or don't have the time to meet you, at least they don't make you feel like you are doing anything inappropriate, so you don't feel like you've lost anything or violated anything. And besides, there are enough girls there that want to meet you anyway, to keep you motivated and confident enough to keep trying all the time. Therefore you don't feel the torture of seeing an attractive woman and not being able to do anything about it because you **CAN** do something about it which isn't inappropriate or unnatural! Now guys, which attitude would you prefer from attractive women?

In fact, you often meet girls even when you're not even trying to meet them, like when you're on your way somewhere or doing something on your own. Often, just standing in line, asking for directions, waiting at a bus stop, sitting in an internet cafe, etc. leads to meeting women. You don't even have to try to make it happen. It just happens naturally as part of the flow of things. It's that easy. Seriously. Sometimes, they will even come up to you to introduce themselves or practice their English. They can be aggressive about that and not shy at all. Most women I've met in Europe or Russia will give you their number, and follow up on meeting you again.

The ease of meeting women in other countries gives even shy guys the confidence to approach them, which does not even feel inappropriate at all like it would in the states. Therefore, if you tend to be too shy to meet or approach women, you won't feel that way in Europe/Russia I can assure you. When you're there, it will seem so natural and easy to meet new women, that it's "part of the flow" of things. It may be hard for you to sit there and imagine yourself not being shy, but when you're actually there and melded into the dynamics of a different world and attitude, you will adapt and change to it.

If you have a hard time believing how easy it all is, just check out my [Photo Collage](#) , [Slide Shows](#), [Film](#) or [Photojournals](#) that will show you how easy and natural it is to meet women in Europe, Russia and abroad, demonstrating my claims.

One thing that American expats and perpetual travelers have in common is that the longer they spend abroad, the more they realize how much better the women abroad are in general. For example, Andy of Hobotraveler.com said in a FAQ:

<http://www.hobotraveler.com/faqs/index.shtml>

“I am not happy that American women like to act like men, they are difficult and obnoxious, they do not see the errors of their ways.”

And that’s the beauty of the overseas world. Women are so refreshingly different. They are so feminine and devoid of the attitude and male-hatred that you’re used to in the West, and appreciate men a million times more than their US counterparts. The more you experience this, the more convinced you are of it, and realize how bad it is in America. It becomes crystal clear. That’s why meeting and dating women is the sweetest pleasure of being abroad. Furthermore, in many countries they tend to be open, approachable and comfortable talking to strangers and meeting new people.

On top of that, in intellectual countries with richer histories, such as in much of Europe, women are naturally intellectual with diverse interests and curiosity. What a combination!

As you know, in America, women don’t generally talk to strangers unless its business related. They limit their social interactions to their small clique. In my experience, I have to meet about a hundred girls just to find a girl to hang out with as a friend who will follow through on it. To find a real girlfriend though, I have to meet about a thousand girls. Well those kind of odds just plain suck. And they’re unacceptable to me. It shouldn’t be that way and I deserve better. The good news though is that it *doesn't have to be that way*, because I CAN and HAVE done better! Most people in my situation though, don't know that there is a way they can do better because our media never tells them and they aren't used to thinking outside the box.

I found that in Europe/Russia, even women who look like models will spend time with you if you just ask. And even if they aren’t interested, they don't look at you like it was rude or inappropriate of you for trying. They don't have the attitude that they're too good to waste their time on you. In a societies with more socialist values, people don't tend to think that way or put a value on themselves like that. In fact, even a shy timid person could meet people there and approach a gorgeous girl, because unlike America, girls there generally are not defensive, paranoid, or stuck up when you try to meet them. This makes getting them into your social circle or getting into theirs more effortless and natural. Thus, you don't feel intimidated by them and that gives you the confidence to approach them, even if you're a shy person. It just feels so much more natural and normal, whereas in the states, approaching a girl you don't know feels inappropriate and not right.

If you look at my [Photo Collages](#) , [Photojournals](#) and [Videos](#) on my site, you can see some of the cuties and bombshells I met easily and naturally. Some guys who saw it couldn't believe their eyes. There, when I approach a woman, she often looks at me with a curious and intrigued look. In contrast, in most parts of the states, when I approach a girl I want to meet, she looks at me with an expression that says "Unless you need directions somewhere, you shouldn't be talking to me." Now how's that for a big contrast?

The most significant difference for me is this: **When I am sociable and outgoing to girls in the US, they think I'm a creep, and react with hatred and/or antisociality. But when I am sociable and outgoing to girls in most other countries, their response is overwhelmingly positive, and react with enthusiasm and/or attraction.** That’s a whole world of difference.

In short, upon leaving the USA Matrix, my **dating life has SKYROCKETED from ZERO to INFINITY!** No joke.

Nowadays, American women in general have a high sense of entitlement that goes OFF THE CHART, making it impossible for many guys like me to get a decent date with a decent woman. I know it’s taboo to say that, even if it’s true. And in fact, most of the contents of this book and website are taboo. But I’m all about the truth, not about living in fear of taboos.

But don’t worry, there is a **PERMANENT SOLUTION** to datelessness, sexlessness, and lovelessness in America that works in reality rather than in words or theory (like the bullshit techniques of dating gurus in America, e.g. fastseduction.com). And that solution is: **FOREIGN COUNTRIES and FOREIGN WOMEN!** The rest of the chapters in this section will explain why.

Single men outnumber single women in America (research and statistics)

For some reason, perhaps due to the large influx of male immigrant workers, there are more single men than single women in America. This of course, forces more competition among men for fewer available women, and leaves many decent guys out in the cold. Though many guys attest to this imbalance, here are some statistics that back it up.

This chart shows that in virtually every US state, single men outnumber single women:

<http://www.halfsigma.com/2008/04/unmarried-mal-1.html>

In this dating article, it was cited that Match.com told ABC news that the male to female profiles on their site was about 60 to 40!

<http://www.edatereview.com/blog/2005/08/malefemale-ratio-of-online-dating.aspx>

“The male/female ratio of online dating

One of the facts of online dating is that there are more men than women online. For example, Match.com recently told ABC News that 59% of their subscribers are men and 41% are women. You can confirm the ratio yourself by doing searches for profiles.

The high male/female ratio of online dating is not the fault of the online dating services, but it reflects the unfortunate realities of the real world. Over a decade ago I recall reading a New York Times article that stated that there were approximately 6 single men in their twenties for every five single women.”

And to make things worse for men, women seem far pickier than men, as this Wikipedia entry on online dating notes:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Online_dating_service

“* There is some evidence that there may be a difference on how women online rate male attractiveness as opposed to how men rate female attractiveness. The distribution of ratings given by men of female attractiveness appears to look like a standard bell curve (normal distribution), while ratings of men given by women is highly skewed with 80% of the men rated as below average.[20] This shows women are genuinely more picky than men when it comes to online dating. It could also potentially arise from women assessing other profile characteristics besides appearance, like their occupation for example.”

Women have it easier in America's dating scene

In the social and dating scene of America, there is no doubt that women have it much easier. **The average woman has WAY more choices and opportunities in dating than the average man does.** Even average looking women have it easier than many good looking men. Men are hitting on them all the time, even if they deny it. They have simply too many choices.

It is just too easy for a decent looking woman in America, that they become far pickier than men can fathom. Dates fall into women's laps so easily that they don't even have to try, to the point that they have to fight and resist offers to have any time alone.

As an example, see this video that compares the results of an Asian guy in America trying to pick up on a girl vs. an Asian girl trying to pick up on a guy. The difference is obvious and typical.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XOeAfnv045s>

Yet they continually lie and go on TV talk shows and media and claim that there are no nice single men out there, which they know is a total lie. There are oodles of nice, honest, stable single men everywhere. The problem is that these American women are way too picky and their standards too unrealistic. Every woman

thinks she's a goddess who deserves someone larger than life. So they make millions of nice single men out there feel like they don't even exist. How nice of them.

Decent looking women never have to be alone if they don't want to be, for they always have a steady supply of suitors and admirers that constantly replenish themselves. The only pretty women who are alone are those who chose to be that way, or those with major issues who hate and find fault with everyone.

But on the other hand, for an average guy it's very hard to get a great social life. He has to be alpha status to even have a chance. And he has to do far more than just look pretty like women do. It's an uphill battle all the way. He either has to find a way to become popular, break into exclusive cliques, have the right connections, or be lucky enough to be picked by a decent girl early on. But just being an average nice guy gets you nothing, as women don't need you for they have too many choices already.

Also, when I am out with a pretty girl, I notice that strangers talk to me/us far more often than when I am alone. When I am alone, strangers don't talk to me at all unless it's business-related. Obviously, being with a cute girl makes all the difference. Even female waitresses are far more likely to be social and chit chat if I'm in the company of a cute girl, whereas if I'm sitting alone then they are all business.

I've also seen how many responses decent looking women get when they place personal ads. I placed one for a female friend once, and was flabbergasted at how many good looking attractive successful interesting men wrote to her, everyday! She had so many choices that she didn't know what to do. Sheesh. It was unbelievable. No wonder why they are so picky and spoiled.

American women have so many choices that they can be as picky as they want, simply because they can afford to. They get calls and emails from guys interested in them all the time. Even if you are good looking, it's still not enough, for they can demand status, money and personality too. Or even if you have money, it's not enough, cause they need looks and personality too. And if you have a great personality, they may require the other two qualities too. Even if you have all those traits, they can still ask for more, like special chemistry, or simply flake out for no reason. These women want it all. They are entitlement queens.

Some women simply like having so many choices, that they never pick anyone because they don't want to lose the great feeling of having so many choices. They think that they deserve the best, which is what our culture teaches them, making them think that they are worth more than they really are.

In modern America most healthy athletic women don't even need men. They are too independent, tough, and unfeminine. You can see it in the way they walk out in public as though they have everything and need nothing, certainly not a man (of which they have too many to choose from already), making it very difficult or near impossible to impress them with anything.

In America, it's not enough to just have a lot in common with a woman to get romantically involved with her, since women are way too picky and want a lot more than just that. Even if you and her are very compatible, she will still think she can do better. In her mind, she can get someone better looking who also has a lot in common with her. After all, she has SO MANY choices. So even when I have compatibility or much in common with an American woman, I still lose.

On a related point, American women are the least likely to even be friends or hang out with a guy whom they have a lot in common with but are not attracted to. If they aren't into a guy, they want nothing to do with him, even if she says she likes him "as a friend". Foreign women though, will befriend and hang out with a guy even if they aren't attracted to him, as long as he is interesting and worth their time.

In response to this chapter, a female friend of mine in LA said in defense of having many choices:

"having a million choices doesn't mean you want any of them. so it doesn't matter.

if i meet a million guys all asking me out and YOU consider them GREAT, but they BORE me, i'm not any more satisfied than u are not satisfied with the offers u get. GET IT? it's all relative."

Unbelievable! How picky can one get?! If I had a lot of choices, I sure wouldn't complain.

Perhaps my Expat Advisor put it best when he said:

"The USA for women is like Bangkok for men. Women can have any man they want. But if people ask for advice about how to score with American women they can never get a straight answer or a correct answer:

1) It is not PC to admit that AW are racist and they do not like Asian men. So, they will advise you all kinds of BS and tell you to improve your hair style, your clothing, work on social skills. All while AW look ugly, have no social skills, often smell bad, are fat and **STILL GET THE MOST HANDSOME GUYS AROUND**. Something is wrong. Very wrong.

2) If you get advice from Americans, most probably they will not be travelers. So, again, they will not see the proper perspective on things.

Just get your ass over to the Philippines."

Reader comments:

- "Ever watched "blind date " the tv show. Those chicks all reject 97% of those guys.

Many, about 35-45%, are looking for a bad boy.

THE CULTURE IS FUCKED!"

(in response to what the female friend in LA said above about having many choices)

- "Well, please tell her at least she feels wanted! Many men feel very, **VERY** thoroughly unwanted. There are women who have never actually had a boyfriend and were happy because they thrived on the fact that men kept asking them out. They never felt any loneliness until they got old enough that men stopped asking. So being single and feeling wanted is **WAY** different than being single and feeling unwanted."

- "Hi Winston, I havent talked to you in a while but things with me are pretty much the same. I left work and started school and actually have more spare time now. Anyways, I can't help but notice that depression and loneliness in the US gets exponentially worse every year. This mainly troubles the intelligent and "aware" people who realize that the entire American system is based on materialism and consumerism. Everything from the invention of the new feminism (sponsored by the elite) to the long working week, to the fact that people buy to signify to themselves and others who they are, and the aggressive "eat or be eaten" leads me to think that the genius system in the US simply molds labor machines out of normal people, eradicating any spirituality they have. They are stuck in a country where, as you said, there is no interconnectedness.

Some proof for this is that this summer I was able to form real relationships with some girls from Bulgaria, simply through a chatroom. There was never any awkwardness, all of them were happy to tell me everything about them and send many pictures of them, their friends, and their family. I have all of their addresses when I go back to Bulgaria, and finally and most surprising is that one of the girls is actually coming here for winter break as I bought her a ticket. We have never met in person yet she writes me letters almost every day (as most of the other girls do) and I reciprocate with the same love and respect. She was only 17!! It had to talk to her parents, but she was very willing to come. Compare this to the US where I cant make a girl go 100 feet outside her house. I tried the same thing here and 95% were turned-off, many when I called them beautiful.

In contrast, in Europe and the rest of the world, this is obviously a compliment. The irony is that women in the US are much bigger sluts, for money that is. My father's friend, who is quite successful, has had numerous offers by all kinds of women, including virgins for him to be their "sugar daddy." He has to buy them everything they want and all they would give him is some fake company, not even sex. That is prostitution on a high level, when one is willing to sell their soul for some shopping time. So sooner or later I urge everyone to reconsider their life. Its amazing how much happiness comes out of a society with interconnectedness and idealistic views towards life."

- "Winston,

what a story. yep, I can totally relate to you , man. NA is so stuck up and women hold all the aces in their hands. us men have to jump through hoops, and that is why I am sick of the scene here especially on the west coast.

I am going to Columbia in two weeks. I cant wait , dude...

Todd"

- "Winston,

American women like getting hit on-provided the RIGHT men are hitting on them! It's ok if Brad Pitt, Colin Farell, et al, hit on them; it's not ok for ordinary guys to hit on them. They feel that we're beneath them; even the average American woman feels this way. Don't ask me why, though. All I know is what you know: that American women are sick in the head-ugghh!

Mark"

Why America has the worst dating scene for men

If you combine the American women unapproachability factor with 1) the fact that there are way more single guys in the US than single girls, allowing women to have their pick of the bunch, not even needing to look attractive to get men, 2) the fact that the feminazi anti-men mentality of our modern culture and media has indoctrinated our women to view men as “creeps”, 3) the fact that all girls nowadays think they are princesses and are treated like one makes them completely unable to even carry on a normal conversation, since they have no need to (yet how are you supposed to meet or bond with women who can't even carry on a normal intelligent conversation?!), and 4) the fact that all the laws are written in the woman's favor (e.g. men go to jail if they hit women but women won't if they hit men, women can be rude to men but men can't be rude to women, etc., the double-standards are endless), we can then conclude that America's dating scene hands down one of the WORST, if not the worst, for men!

In fact, of all the countries of the world, America is the hardest place to get a girlfriend. In no other country is as difficult in comparison. (Pretty ironic for the supposedly “greatest country in the world” isn't it?)

Just look at how hard and damn near futile these guys on my Forum describe the dating scene in the US:

<http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=4077>

“Hi all, well my story is about the same as yours, but here it is anyway: for a long time I blamed myself for my lack of success with American women. So, I worked hard for many years to improve myself to the point where I would be worthy of a decent American woman. I got myself a Ph.D., then a job at an Ivy-league school, got myself into excellent physical shape, took up lots of cool hobbies like skiing, tennis, ballroom dance... and I was *still* getting rejected by women who had no business being picky! I had my epiphany when I was 33 and dating an overweight, 42-year-old, divorced mother who dumped me because I didn't have a "wild side". So then I did some traveling to (among other places) Hungary, the Czech Republic, and the Philippines, and beautiful young women couldn't keep their hands off of me! Dating is like real estate- the 3 most important factors are location, location, location!”

<http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=4213>

“I guess I just need to vent.

I'm an American white guy. I don't think I look bad at all. Well groomed, fit, young, in college. Dating is the hardest thing in my life, it's harder than any job or class i've ever had.

Long story short, I've had to study huge amounts of dating material to have any luck with women at all. I've posted here in the past about how to actually get a date and meet women. But, sometimes it hits me, why does have to be so freaking difficult? If I didn't practically have a doctorate in pickup / seduction material I think I'd be totally shit-out-of-luck

There really is a 90/10 thing going on, or 10% of men in the U.S. get 90% of the women. If you wanna date halfway attractive women you have to be extremely alpha-male. If you show any sign of weakness or being "beta" a girl will quickly flake on you. Trying to date an attractive woman in the U.S. is like having the world's worst boss where if you make one mistake you're fired.

This week I got 3 numbers from 3 different hotties. In all the follow-up calls all 3 flaked on having lunch with me. Well the calibration of my game is clearly off... My voice tone wasn't perfect, maybe I didn't build enough comfort, maybe I waited too long / not long enough to call. Whatever the case is, my 2008 dry spell has been lasting so long that I almost feel like giving up... But, I know I can't do that:) But sometimes I get so frustrated that I reach my wits end.”

Can you believe that? There's no way in hell that dating should ever be that hard and futile! That's what's so messed up about our country, yet it's never mentioned publicly cause this subject is taboo and anyone who brings it up would automatically be deemed a loser in the US.

Based on my experiences and observations, and those of other travelers I've talked to, if you were to rank the countries of the world in terms of their availability of quality, attractive, young available single women, and the ease of meeting them, the highest ranking areas would be Europe, Asia, South America, while America would pretty much be at the very bottom rank. This means that out of the estimated 200 countries of the world, the US ranks in the last place unfortunately.

Very few Americans have any idea about that though. In fact, they assume that America is the world, when in fact it is only 5 percent of the world population-wise. Nowhere else in the world is it so hard to meet women, connect with them and date them as it is in America. The US has probably the least approachable young women in the world (unless you're in the top bracket of desirable men by their standards). US women generally don't like to even meet people unless they are introduced by mutual friends, and even then they remain merely polite and distant, often not really getting involved.

Even in other countries where women can be snobby and independent - e.g. England, France, Germany, etc. they are still far more sociable and approachable. It is still easier to break the ice and meet them, than with US females. Also, European women are far more cultured, intelligent, and communicative. Thus they are easier for people like me to connect with, for I can connect with them through those qualities which I share too. In contrast, the spoiled airheads in the US are not as cultured, so there is no basis of a connection with them. One either fits their shallow standards, or they are worthless to them. And, as mentioned in a previous section, there is a big shortage of quality attractive single women in America as well.

These observations are confirmed by other travelers I've met. For example, I have a Greek-Italian friend who works as a foreign diplomat and been to many countries around the world, approaching many women. When I asked him if he thought that the US had the most unapproachable women in the world, his response was "pretty much".

While men in England, France, Germany, and Italy also tend to view their women as picky and princessy, when they come to the US though, they suddenly realize how much worse it is here than back in their own country, thinking "Whoa! This is way worse than how we have it!"

In fact, so many young women today in the US now don't even like the company of men and aren't even into dating that much. They are never even lonely anymore. Instead, they thrive on their routine of working, eating, sleeping, shopping, and talking to their girlfriends. They don't even make themselves available in public. For example, look around at any public place in the US, and you will see that it is hard to find a female sitting alone. But of course, there are males sitting alone a lot.

Sadly, other than those involved in a relationship, there is an unusually large proportion of men in this country who have no female companionship, not even as friends, and no female interaction other than business related. For some strange reason, most American girls cannot go out with a man if he is just a "friend" or acquaintance, for any social meeting with a male to them implies dating and romance. They can't see past that. Thus, to many American girls, a male "friend" is not a "friend" they meet in person, but merely someone they call or email with once a month, and that's it. How horribly sad and weird. But thank goodness the rest of the world isn't like that!

Here's a lesson from one of my readers that sums up the problem of modern American women well:

"Now, American women are scared because they are insecure of not being rich, marrying the perfect man, and not having the perfect job or being the perfect mother. If American women had half a brain, they would know that perfection doesn't exist; but, rather they should look for a man who is perfect for them and not perfect overall."

And here is another take from someone on why the US has the worst dating scene for men:

"In the US culture people are taught to be confident, independent and believe in themselves. It is a good thing but there is an unintended consequence- you have a big class of swollen heads who think they are

hot sh*t while, in fact, they are not. Plus the culture somehow worships the arrogant as*hole type. Male or female. A humble, modest, nice person will be welcome in Asia and Latin America, but seen as a naïve weakling and potential doormat in the US. So you have a lot of strutting, swaggering, cocky people because if you do not behave like that, you will not be respected so much.

Hence, nice women are in the minority, as they have to look tough and arrogant within the context of the culture they are in. Or, as the culture goes, they will be taken advantage of.

Do not forget the British cliqueishness- another unfriendly thing inherited from the mother country- people like to be in small groups and do not like outsiders. That is why people try to get companions while in high school as cliques are hard to penetrate once you are out in society.

Also, America was built by pioneers and these needed to be strong and independent. A weak and modest woman in a covered wagon which would have Indian arrows piercing it every five minutes, would not be a good companion.

In the early days of the republic most people were men, anyway, and most (of the few that were there) women were British. These are not exactly the most attractive women in the world, but they had oodles of handsome young pioneers who would die to have a chance to marry a pale, sickly, horse- faced British woman.

Hence, the tradition of worshipping ugly and few-in-number women, and the certainty of ugly women having gorgeous men at their feet any time they wanted. So, the dating is poor. For men, that is.”

Let me put it bluntly and crudely. In America now, there are MANY lonely depressed guys with no dates or little social life, sitting on a couch in front of the TV overeating and jerking off, cause they have no choice. And what is the US media doing to help them? ABSOLUTELY NOTHING AT ALL! PERIOD. Instead, all they do is feed you with mind numbing stories that are irrelevant to your life, and are of trashy quality in content. So that's where HappierAbroad come in, as one of their sole helping hands.

The sad lonely life of a typical single man in the USA

For most single men in the USA, this is what life is like in my observation:

If he is lucky enough to find that special someone to be in a relationship with, then he is fortunate, though he usually is forced to put all his eggs in one basket due to the difficulty of getting girlfriends in the US, so that guy has to do his best to try to hold on to her to avoid the sad lonely predicament of a single guy.

If not, then his life goes something like this. As he waits to meet that special someone who will choose him for her boyfriend, he doesn't know what else to do since women do the choosing and as they don't generally talk to strangers, there is little he can do but wait for the his circumstances or destiny to bring him his next relationship. This could take months, years, or even longer. During that time though, he has to put up with sleeping alone every night, having no one to hold or cuddle with, no one to satisfy his urges and raging hormones with, and having to masturbate a lot.

During his free time or weekends, he goes out with his buddies. They drink beer, BS, brag, and tease each other, all of which serves as a shallow and temporary escape to loneliness. Many men simply feel incomplete at their deep core without a woman, though they may deny it. Sometimes however, hanging out with male buddies like that makes things worse, cause if the members of the male-bonding group all feel depressed and lonely deep down, then it rubs off on each other, making them feel even more lonely and deprived of female companionship than before. But of course, what else can he do?

At home after work, our single guy distracts himself from loneliness by trying to absorb himself in something, like a hobby - car engines, electronics, musical instrument acoustics, etc., watching sports and movies, playing video , or getting on the internet. All the while, he knows he still feels restless and incomplete deep down without a loving partner.

If he's lucky and is good at communicating with females, he may have some female friends who will hang out with him or take him shopping with them, which helps quell his "estrogen deprivation" for a while, by giving him some form of female companionship at least. But of course, she controls the nature of their relation, and he is powerless to do anything or make a move unless she gives him a signal allowing him to do so.

In his attempts at a dating life, he may have a black book of women's phone numbers, but most of the women he calls will either blow him off or only like him as a friend.

If he gets desperate, he may go to bars to try to get laid, but most often it results in wasted time and getting drunk. If he's lucky, he may score occasionally, but it's usually with someone not very attractive. And he cannot try too hard either, or else he is seen as a creep. To make things worse, in most bars the men far outnumber the women, since many women do not like hanging out in "pick up" environments.

Of course, another option is to go to dance clubs where the hottest and hippest girls in town go to, but they are often extremely stuck up, snobby, act pretentious and unnatural, have an unapproachable aura, or they just go there to dance and talk to their girlfriends, not to meet men. And in addition to that, the music at dance clubs is too loud to even have a conversation anyway. Most men do not thrive in such environments, nor do they dance that well, hence they will not feel confident in such an arena since it is a niche that only certain type of people thrive in.

If he gets really desperate, he can get a hooker or go to a brothel, but that only provides an hour of satisfaction, which afterwards leaves him empty and alone again.

Friends and advisors may advise him to go to church to meet a nice quality single woman. It's a nice idea in theory, but realistically, it is awkward to walk into a church if you do not believe in its religion, and it also feels wrong on a man's conscience to walk into a church with the ulterior motive of meeting women for romance, as the folks there think he is coming to worship. And besides, most of the women

there will be married or too young, as there is a big shortage of available quality single women in America anyway.

Or they may suggest he join a community activity to meet women, such as a cooking class or salsa/swing dancing lesson. Nice ideas in theory, but in reality, the women he meets there will only talk to him about the class related issues and won't even want to see him outside of the class. Any attempt by him to see them out of class will result in a stuck up look that says that he's "crossing the boundaries." Sad, but what do you expect from an isolationist non-inclusive environment?

And if he works in an office, the women he works with tend to be large chubby married chicks; not an option for him of course. And even if there were single available women, it is forbidden to try to flirt or pick up women in the workplace in America, which could cost one his job. In addition, there is a taboo in America (unlike in other countries) against dating coworkers anyway. But in general, in America people at work don't tend to see their coworkers outside of work, and during lunch they prefer doing something by themselves. So again, the odds are squarely against the single guy in that arena as well.

So, all the single guy in the US can do is mostly wait for that special someone that he can get into a relationship with, for an indeterminate amount of time, so that he can join that other group of men involved in relationships, which in the US is a monumental achievement. It could take months, years, or even longer. It's simply unknown. And the wait is a silent inner frustration that seems long and makes him feel powerless. All in all, it's always a steep uphill struggle for him to seek love, dates or quality female companionship. It is a life filled with disappointments and helplessness until who knows when. Some eventually settle for someone that they may not even find attractive. It's a sad lonely nightmare to be a single guy in America. Thus, many men rush in their younger years to find someone and get married right away so they don't have to endure such a life, for few men have what it takes to be single and get regular sex. And every time he sees a happy couple in love, he feels envious and wonders, "When is it my turn?"

Now, I just don't believe that single guys ought to have to endure all that. It simply isn't fair, since US women have so many options. Isn't it better for them to take control and go somewhere else where the odds are in their favor?

Holding conversations with women

The problem with holding conversations with typical hot glossy looking girls in America is that their range of conversation tends to be limited to clubbing, drinking, MTV and fashion (the areas in which they thrive, are given high status, and get ego boosts). And most of the time, trying to even start a conversation with them feels like trying to start one with a dead wall. They just have little or nothing to contribute to one.

Here is an example of what I mean. These are words of some typical airhead valley girls to their girlfriends on MySpace.com. These are the type of people who are part of the “cool crowd” in America, and fit the party animal scene, so this is how “cool people” talk in America. Not only are the words airheadish to the extreme, but very cliquish and exclusive in nature as well, not the kind of talk a third person can join in on.

“J-TELL!!!!!!!!!! GIRLFRIEND!!!! i miss u liken ens!!! YOU better be holding it down in BHAM for me MISSAYY.....i cant wait to hang out with you..i wish u were here with us KPJ i mean come on now haha welll my dear have a lovely night babyyyyy!!!!!!!! FRIDAY Night and i belive tomorrow is APRIL FOOLS DAY GIRL!! HAHA U KNOW WHAT THAT MEANS!!!!heheH love ya girl!!!!”

“3/31/2006 4:42 PM

JENNIFER..its official..im comingg to walla wallaa....HAHAHA WOOO HOO..you let kayla know that...its time TO Getttt wild..i will be arriving..on APRIL 21sts....YEAY im so excited jenn I LOVE YOUU andd i cant wait to see you...haha take me to the wild whitman parties please?? haha...oh LOrd ...maybe we can lie to peopel again and pretend we are twins..or whatever we said..it was funny...hahaN E WAtys jenn..love ya..and im really excited to se you..oH..by the way..I have a permission slip all signed and ready..tell LC hahaha :-)
Jillayyyy

3/27/2006 8:41 PM

hahaha JENNNN..i LOVE you...haha OBTAIN A PERMISSION SLIP?????well MISSYYY...let me tell you..maybe we can just transfer the trampoline permission slip over to the partying one?? do u think LYD could hook it up??...i thikn she could pull it off...CREWWW.hahahaha oh lord..well yea..im coming...prob this month..sooo BETter be on the lookout for some..feLLUZzz we cannnnnn Parttyyy it up with“

As you can see her words, tone, and wavelength are very airheadish and artificial. But nevertheless, that’s how such girls talk. It’s not just teens either, as college sorority girls also talk like this. In order to connect with them, you have to adopt the same tone and wavelength (and hell, I have no idea what frequency it’s on), otherwise there’s something wrong with you – you are considered a nerd or something.

But on the other hand, the girls of Europe/Russia have way more knowledge and depth beyond clubbing, drinking, MTV and fashion, for they are well versed in many subjects. Even the slightest experience with them makes this obvious. That’s a key consistent difference. Unlike in the US, you don’t feel you have to skillfully manipulate the conversation just to hold one. Instead, it comes naturally and in the flow.

In addition, they have a rich inner life, and an inner peace/happiness that you can see in their eyes and posture that makes them more relaxed and un-paranoid. If you are intuitive or believe the eyes are the window to the soul, then see my [Approachable Faces Gallery](#) for a plethora of visual examples I took.

You can notice a difference on the phone alone. When you call a typical young American girl for example, they give you an arrogant spoiled tone and attitude. You feel like an intruder who has to convince her that you're worth her time or else the conversation will be cut short. You get a flighty attitude that says "You'd better prove yourself in a few seconds or else I've got better things to do." To make things worse, they are interested in few topics if any, are not naturally curious, have short attention spans, and do not like to think very much. Therefore, it's awkward and non-flowing to try to hold a conversation with them, for they contribute very little if anything at all.

With European/Russian girls on the other hand (and foreign women in general), it is very easy and natural to hold a conversation with them, even if they can't speak English. They carry on a conversation with ease, ask you questions, and make the process feel natural, not contrived. You don't feel like you have to struggle to hold their attention. They do not give you that "prove your worth to my time" kind of attitude. Instead, they are naturally curious, intellectual, and find even simple things to be interesting. And they are interested in a very wide range of subjects and topics. In the case of Russian women, they have a sincere joy at hearing your voice when you call them like a child opening a Christmas present, so that you feel very welcomed. You just feel so much more appreciated when you call them, and it lifts your spirits afterward. The tremendous difference in these little things says A LOT, in my opinion.

One of my readers confided the following, which adds more depth to what I've said above:

"I dont know man, I am popular with Europeans/Russians more.. with me, Americans dont like my accent probably, and in general, they are pretty stuck up people, with more issues than a TV guide. Russians, I think, are more simple and plain. When I went to germany to visit my friend, russian girls from his friendship circle would befriend me right away and would be very interested to find out what i do, where i live, and not just cause they wanted to marry me or anything, but rather, they just look at life naturally, where as where I work, girls who are maybe 6 or 7 on a scale from 1 to 10, dont even fricking say Hi to anyone, they just walk around and avoid eye contact with most of the men... :) I gotta go to Russia!"

.....
 "i am white, but have found that my accent throws most americans off, plus they look at me like i am a foreigner, even though I am a US citizen, and pretty much I have yet to find a white american girl, who is 7 or above on a scale from 1 to 10, that i will have anything in common with. But every time i go to europe, i get along there with people, cause they are, as you said, friendlier and communal. I mean, most of my friends are russian, but since i moved to Charlotte, NC, it feels like i am kind of alienated.... I have found american girls rather cliquish and conceited. Of course, I have met some nice ones, but the big picture does not look very promising..."

You must also mention that American women take everything for granted and are opinionated. For example, Russian/Lithuanian friends of mine would be so flattered when I would give them compliments and give them flowers. They act as if that is the greatest thing you have done to them. They are happy like children, literally. Cause they are still in touch with their femininity. But in America, God forbid, compliment someone, and they will either give you a cold "thank you" and walk away, or they will think you are trying to get into her pants... My friends will attest to this.. This is true.. "

And as to why many American girls nowadays are so inherently airheadish in their personality, speech, and mannerisms, one reader noted the influence of our pop media on them:

"Specifically, I have to agree with your observations about women in the US. They are stuck up, superficial and bitchy. They are not all like that, but look at the role models they have today. The singer Pink is one girl who doesn't fit the mold and makes a good point. In Pink's song "Stupid Girls", she argues that the women that young girls and women look up to today are either stupid or act stupid. This type of girl thinks it's cute and sexy to act like an airhead. There are two major examples: Paris Hilton and Jessica Simpson. "

European/Russian women have a better combination of qualities

In general, women in Europe/Russia are much more open, friendly, intellectual, and feminine than their western counterparts. Their personality, dress style, interests, and aura reflect that. With a typical European/Russian woman, you get the best qualities of East and West. They have an outer physical beauty comparable to attractive thin American women without the feminism or spoiled attitude of the states. And they have the discipline, values and domestic skills of the typical women in Asia, but without their rigid mentality, extreme shyness and lack of independent thought. Finally, they have the intellectual side typical of Russian/European women. You can't ask for a better combination of qualities. In addition, their maturity level is far higher than their American counterparts.

These reasons are why many Western guys who experience women in Europe/Russia usually exclaim "Where have I been all this time?!"

But with a modern American woman on the other hand, you get a strange mix of strengths and weaknesses, neither of which are to your advantage. In one sense, they are strong because they are independent, liberated (by their definition that is) from traditional feminine roles and qualities, and do not need a man to function or be happy. But in another way they are weak because they are uncomfortable talking to strangers, have a paranoid mentality, and get "creeped out" way too easily, sometimes over trivial things. And they are insecure about traveling alone or going alone to a movie, restaurant, or party. But European and Russian women don't generally have such weaknesses.

Not surprisingly, men often remark that after they've experienced, dated or been involved with European/Russian women, they never want to go back to American women again. As an example,

"I flew to France after quitting a job in Silicon Valley...(where the women are absolutely terrible!)

I go to a French language school and take a class....I make 20 new friends overnight....I meet my future wife...I get married and now 2yrs later...im STILL HAPPY!

I dont want to bunch all American girls into one big lump....BUT -- the majority of them due to culture or something act really snotty and stupid - like were not GOOD ENOUGH for them....and to be honest and not toot my horn - i was voted Prom King in highscool...so Id hope to think that Im not THAT ugly at least...but i swear i went 12yrs in the bay area - and rarely found a girl who even batted an eye....and quite frankly i started to lower my own standards lower and lower....and for what? The moment i traveled anywhere else - i found girls that would SINK any american girl that ignored me...now i have a wife that turns heads left and right - but she is staring right into my eyes with love.

Real love!

I think America has a cultural problem internally that is eating it alive..."

And this Asian American in Europe noted:

"I was talking to my friend who happens to be white American and now lives in Finland. He's tall, intelligent (has a PHD), personable, good-looking and dated gorgeous blonde American girls in the U.S.

Even a guy like him says he can never go back to the U.S. nor to American women. He finds it depressing to even visit. He finds Europe a FAR easier place to meet gorgeous, intelligent, quality women everywhere he goes."

6 Major advantages of European/Russian women over American women

As someone who has approached and met many women in Russia/Europe and America, I can guarantee 1000 percent that the following six major advantages outlined here are absolutely true and testable. My website at

www.happieraroad.com contains a hundred times more than enough proof of this. Please note that though I acknowledge that while certain qualities vary universally among individuals (e.g. personality, character, behavior, morality, taste), there are nevertheless big differences that do exist between countries/regions which are apparent to even the most casual observer. (If at any time while reading this, you wish to accuse me of stereotyping or generalizing, or you wish to protest that you know exceptions to what I describe, please [click here](#))

1. Approachability/Sociability – In general, women in Russia and Europe are a million times more approachable, inclusive, modest, and easy to meet, date, and bring into your social/dating circle than women in America. This I can guarantee a thousand percent a thousand times over. In fact, the difference in approachability is greater than the average American who's never left their country can imagine. Even if you approach a female movie star, model, or married woman in Russia, she never gets offended or defensive at your initiation like American women do, so you never feel like you are a creep or for the attempt, for in such countries men are allowed to "act on their desires" much more freely than in the states. Usually, they blush or giggle when approached or flirted with.

In contrast, trying to meet and approach young women in the US often feels awkward and rude, as if you are violating some type of boundary. They prefer not to acknowledge your existence if you're not in their clique. They have strong hang ups against strangers (even if they find them attractive) and behave overly proper and distant in their communication with them. They generally don't talk to strangers unless it's business related, for they are religious about keeping social interactions strictly within their clique. They are among the most cliquish, closed, and anti-stranger women in the world, and emanate an "unapproachable force field" around them. Not to say that there are no friendly women in America, but there is definitely something peculiar that makes them and Americans in general unnaturally closed and paranoid. So the main problem is that they won't meet you if they don't know you, but yet you can't get to know them cause they won't meet you, thus creating a CLOSED LOOP against someone who wants to meet them. And that just plain sucks, to put it simply.

In fact, it's widely agreed among well-traveled playboys that the US has among the most unapproachable and anti-social women in the world. Even in other Westernized countries like Canada, England, France or Italy, where young women are also known to be snobby, at least they are still far more approachable and social than in the US (and much more cultured as well). The material on my site proves without a doubt a hundred times over that young women in the US are among the most unapproachable in the world. Even their closest counterparts in Britain aren't nearly as unapproachable, but have better conversation skills, and are generally friendlier.

In America, women have all the power and upperhand, and they know it. Around American women, men MUST act girly and emasculate, otherwise they are seen as creeps, pigs, or transgressors. And they will be viewed likewise if they don't always let women continue to have the power and upperhand as well. That's one reason why they're unapproachable, for to them, being approached or "hit on" is a threat to their power and upperhand. And for me, that puts me between "a rock and a hard place", because if I approach American girls I want and "go for it" then I am a creep or , but if I don't, then they never approach me either, so either way I lose.

2. Weight – I hate to say something so politically incorrect and offensive, but the following is absolutely true. In Russia and Europe, between 95 and 100 percent of the young women are skinny or height/weight proportionate. In contrast, in the USA between 40 and 60 percent of the women are overweight, varying among region. This is absolutely indisputable, apparent, objectively measurable, and not subject to relative opinion or standards at all, as it has to do with obvious physical differences apparent to the naked eye that even the biggest idiot in the world who goes to both regions could identify immediately without effort.

What sucks about America, despite its many ideal qualities, is that the only truly friendly open women are the large ones, while the non-overweight ones are generally stuck-up and unapproachable (though in many areas, such as LA, even ugly girls are rude and uppity). On the other hand, most of the slim young women in Russia/Europe are very approachable and easy to meet or get acquainted with.

3. Dress style – The dress style of European and Russian women is much more stylish, attractive, classy, and feminine than in America, where women dress much more plainly in comparison (since after all, even average plain women in the US have their pick of the bunch, thus they have no need to look top-notch). Russian/European women are much better at maximizing their appearance with clothes/cosmetics and unlike American women, they love wearing skirts and high heels, which are much more attractive to men. As in the

weight element above, this difference too is so apparent everywhere you go in these regions that even the biggest idiot in the world couldn't help but notice it. In fact, I and other Americans I've met would say that in Russia, about 80 percent of girls are considered "hot" by American standards, while in the USA, that proportion is, well, much lower so that any decent looking girl there is treated like a goddess and put on a pedestal. What is considered "hot" by American standards is average in Russia. If you don't believe it, come spend time in the crowded cities of Moscow and St. Petersburg, and you'll see exactly what we mean.

4. Intellectual/Inner life – Compared to the US, women in Russia/Europe have a much richer and refined intellectual life, are more cultured, higher educated, have a broader knowledge of the world, and speak many more languages (most of them speak between 2 and 5 languages while most American women speak only their own). Unlike # 2 and 3 though, this one requires interaction with the women in these regions to notice. In contrast, not only do most young women in the US not value having an intellectual life, but they lack curiosity as well, and can't even hold an intelligent conversation. Often trying to hold even a normal conversation with them is like talking to a dead wall. While a higher percentage of older women in the US can hold somewhat of an intelligent conversation, the typical young American female lacks depth and can't say much beyond "yeah", "really", and "cool", which is sad but true. This makes it difficult to connect with them or find common ground with them, as there is not much substance to them to work with. In fact, I'd say the tremendous difference between the ability of young women to hold a conversation in the US vs abroad is almost as apparent as the weight difference. One thing can be said for sure though, in pretty much all countries outside the USA, women are either more cultured or more modest, one or the other, or both.

5. Variety of interests – Based on # 4, it's no surprise that Russian/European women also generally have much more variety in their interests and passions, which makes them much more interesting people as well. They have a love for exploring new things, expressing and expanding themselves, and maximizing their experiences and passions in life. Again, the slightest interaction with them reveals this obvious difference compared to their US counterparts. European and Russian women who visit America often report that one of their first impressions is that the women there have no real interests (compared to them at least; by their standards).

6. Femininity – Last but not least, the mentality and culture of "feminism" that has taken over America has made it the most unfeminine place in the world. What American feminists (men as well as women) don't realize is that most of the rest of the world, both male and female, does NOT envy their feminism, but in fact despise it, finding it unnatural, distasteful, and UNfeminine (ironically). American feminism is rife with hypocrisy, double-standards, and dysfunctionality; yet it pervades all our modern culture, media, talk shows, sitcoms, etc., portraying women as either perpetual victims who can do no wrong, or as creatures with superior rights to men. (There are great websites that get into this in great detail, as it's beyond the scope of this summary) What this has done to the personality and behavior of women here is monstrous. Besides dress style (e.g. very few wear skirts and high heels now), their voices become coarse and rough, their mannerisms masculine, and their characters spoiled and selfish. Unlike women in the rest of the world, they aren't soft, tender, sweet, don't giggle when you say nice compliments, and don't like wearing skirts and heels. Women in the rest of the world, on the other hand, are proud of their femininity, and show it in many ways, in dress style, behavior, and attitude.

Conclusion: The above six factors outlined should make the sharp contrast and overall differences clear between Russian/European women and American women. While I do not wish to focus on appearance or dress style (the world is shallow enough as it is), my primary complaints and beef against American women are that they are 1) unapproachable, anti-social, and cliquish toward strangers, and 2) lack depth, substance, and culture, making it difficult to connect with them, find common ground or chemistry. If it weren't for these, America would be a much better place. Though what I've said here may offend some, it's the truth nevertheless. And if one isn't allowed to say the truth here, we live in a screwed-up place.

Discuss this article here: <http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=6758>

[View reader responses to this article here](#)

Fear of rejection becoming unnecessary

In America, women are so precious and sought after, that they always have the upper hand. They call out all the shots, have all the options, and can treat men like crap if they want to. They have no need to fall in love even or invest their emotions into someone to have a relationship.

So when a man loses a woman in America, it is very hard to replace her. Thus, men are scared to death of losing their woman, becoming overly possessive. And if they lose her, then they can get psycho. All this of course contributes to the negative image of men that American women seek to validate. When men in the US lose their partners or mates, they often feel like they've lost the world. And if they try to win her back like a real man, then they are deemed creeps or stalkers.

But in most other countries, men have actual CHOICES among great women. The deck is stacked in your favor rather than in the women's like it is in the US. The surplus of women over men in such countries as Ukraine, Philippines, etc. ensures that the law of supply and demand will be in your favor. You can meet so many women that statistically, there will ALWAYS be some who maintain an interest in you.

Thus, if you break up with one of them, you quickly recover because it's no big deal and your ego is not as vulnerable as it is in the US. Therefore, getting rejected there isn't as damaging to your ego, because there are always plenty of other beautiful friendly women you know there who will replace those that you lose. Hence, such losses are quickly forgotten. When you are able to have the attitude that you have nothing to lose, you are no longer desperate anymore. And that's the beauty of the world beyond the US Matrix! Also, you don't feel alienated and lonely in the first place, because the environment isn't isolating.

Men who have experienced this will tell you that it's something you have to experience for yourself to understand, for words are not enough. For example, this poster on my Forum described how he cured his anxiety around women, which mental health professionals in the US couldn't treat, by simply going abroad.

<http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=1898>

"I was very nervous around women, I found it nearly impossible to engage a woman in a conversation. I was convinced that was the reason I couldn't get dates. I was angry at myself for not being able to overcome this, but trying harder only made it worse. I spent a lot of time thinking about it and went to a doctor and was prescribed anti-anxiety medications but they didn't really help.

This problem came to an unexpected halt when I traveled to Asia and within a week I learned that I am really only abnormally nervous around *American* women. When I thought about it, this actually made perfect sense.

When I'm in a country like Thailand or the Philippines, I know that I am desirable to the women there (I get reassured of that everyday). So even if I get turned down by a woman, she probably has a good reason to say no, and she will be flattered rather than act like I'm some creep.

When I'm overseas, I don't subconsciously feel like I'm doing something wrong by flirting with a woman.

What it boils down to, is that foreign women are an entirely different species than western women. If I had been told 2 years ago that my love shyness/social anxiety with women could be solved simply by changing the type of women that I was pursuing, I probably wouldn't have believed it. It's one of those things you have to experience to fully understand."

Surplus vs. shortage of attractive mentally healthy single women

Another factor at work here that helps us men, is that in Russia, Philippines and in many countries, there is a surplus of attractive mentally healthy single women, rather than a shortage like in the US. As we men all know, in the US there is a surplus of nice good single men and not enough decent women. As a result, even the less attractive women in the US can afford to become picky, and quality single American men can easily have trouble finding any available decent women. Just go to a bar or nightclub in the US and you'll see that the men far outnumber the women. Even the unattractive women in those places seem like princesses to the surplus of disgruntled chumps there. It's a really pathetic scene for the nice guy. Some reasons for this may be the influx of male immigrant workers to the US which creates this male surplus, as well as the higher birth rates in poorer countries.

A Russian woman named Natasha wrote this in response to my question of why she was seeking a foreign mate.

"Because its very difficult to find someone special in my city. I live in a small city, we have a lot of girls, but not many boys. Some of boys doesn't want to have serious relationship, they want to have girl for one night, you understand what i mean. Some of them like to have fun and not care about future, some of them married and some of them prefer to drink to much. That is why i'm trying to find someone special abroad."

Well she has a good point if you think about it. If the women outnumber the men, then the men will be less inclined to marry or have serious relationships because they are able to play around and have multiple relationships at the same time. Not that that's a good thing, but that describes the nature of many men. But hey, it's better for men to be polyamorous playboys then to be depressed, dateless and lonely in an isolating man-hating country that suffocates their sexual desires, that's for sure. Nevertheless, this situation means that the deck is stacked in our (average men) favor rather than stacked against us like it is in the US. However, I have to admit that unfortunately, this also means that many Western men who go to the Former Soviet Union will also be tempted to play around with multiple women and not get committed.

In the US, the women have the upperhand advantage in the dating field. She has many men to choose from who are interested in her. You can tell that they have the upperhand because in America, there are hardly any lonely young women while there are always plenty of lonely guys who will jump at the chance to be with a woman. Thus, she can be super picky if she wants, and having many choices, can act like a spoiled princess, not even having to dress decently. This is not to the man's advantage at all, as he has to compete with too many other men for women. As a result, many decent men have to settle and take what they can get. However, in Europe/Russia and many other countries, the man has the advantage. He has many women to choose from, and does not have to settle or lower his standards. That is why women in the US don't relate to or understand men who have a better time in other countries. What American girls take for granted is that they are given the advantages in the US.

On another forum, a poster noted this revealing difference between a "hot girl" in America vs. abroad:

<http://reddit.com/info/22ggh/comments>

"[glmory](#) 10 points 8 days ago

He certainly can blame the shortage of super models though. A friend from South America explained it to me this way: When you say a girl in America is hot, what you really mean is she is not fat. When you say a girl is hot in much of the world, she needs much more than not being fat, everyone is not fat!"

Beauty and brains common vs. rare

As we all know, in the US it is rare to find a woman with both beauty and brains, especially one who is single too. The more beautiful a woman's appearance, the less developed her intellect is. In other words, the hotter she is, the dumber she is. And the more developed her intellect is, the less attractive her appearance is. I know this not a politically correct thing to say, but it's true.

However, in other countries, beautiful women tend to have decent intelligence and are down-to-earth. Abroad, women with both beauty and brains are common rather than rare, and can be found everywhere. And furthermore, it is easy to find one that is actually SINGLE too! In the US, that is almost unheard of and as rare as finding a diamond. But these "diamonds" are all over the rest of the world waiting to meet nice single men (like you perhaps?)!

In the Philippines for example, I have so many hot beautiful women to choose from, that I usually have to limit my "dating field" to 3 at a time, or else I'll be overloaded. Those that aren't in my top three I have to flushed out, even if I like them a lot, simply because I can't make time for them, even if I want to! And if they contact me, I have to tell them that I'm too busy to meet them. And that would NEVER be the case in the US!

Personal ads and New Age groups – US vs. Abroad

Here is one big difference I've noticed between the US and abroad with regard to meeting women through personal ads and New Age groups. In the US, the ones you meet through personal ads tend to be chubby/obese or dysfunctional in some way. The decent or attractive ones consider it beneath them to use personal ads, as they have too many choices anyway. And even if they do use personal ads, they are bombarded with so many responses that they become super picky and barely have time to respond to even the ones they like. Either way, the odds are highly stacked AGAINST the single male.

I've met hundreds of girls in person from the internet in America. Shockingly, almost none of them wanted to see me a second time, except for maybe a few, but they only wanted to meet again as friends. And it was not due to any fault of my own, as I did nothing wrong. These girls had impossible standards, and couldn't even hold an intelligent conversation. So if the problem is with me, then how come I don't have any problems holding conversations with foreign women and meeting them more than once?

But on the other hand, outside the US, meeting women and even just new friends through personal ads and the internet in general, tends to result in quality meetings with quality interesting and attractive people. Abroad, the internet is not considered for "losers" like in the US, and even those who are popular, attractive and have fulfilling lives like to meet new people online. There is no mistaking this huge difference between meeting women online in the US vs. abroad.

Likewise, with regard to New Age/alternative spirituality/holistic groups, there is a similar pattern. In the US, those who are attracted to such groups and movements tend to be old and/or chubby, past their prime, and less attractive. Just look at the "Art Bell" folks which contain a high percentage of hicks and trailer folks. And not to be mean, but it's understandable since those who aren't very attractive tend to be forced to "look inward" and ask the deep questions about life, in order to give their lives some kind of meaning. That's simply the predicament in the non-inclusive US for them.

In contrast, in other countries you find a far more normal spectrum of people in New Age/alternative spirituality/holistic groups, which includes young attractive people too. It seems that outside the US matrix, you don't have to be unattractive, old, or excluded from "fun" to be interested in spirituality, God, and the deep questions of life, reality, and the universe. But that shouldn't be that big of a surprise since in other countries, there is not an inverse relationship between beauty and brains like there tends to be in the US. Especially in Europe, it is common for an attractive person to have a cultured intellect, worldly knowledge/understanding, and a rich inner or spiritual life. And yes that applies to attractive young females as well :)

Why personal ads in the USA don't usually work

One of my readers explained why personal ads in the USA are a waste of time and don't usually work:

"Hi Winston --

Ads are essentially a waste of time. your article makes good points. Loser chycks to be found there only. As a man, you will run into 4 possible things with personals:

1. a Chyck with obvious physical flaws which would explain why she needs to use the personals (e.g. fat chycks, etc). There is a caveat here: it should be noted that if physical appearance is not a factor for you, then you can meet a chyck who will fit your criteria no problem. If this be the case, then the fatter the chyck the sweeter she will be. This is the inverse of the Beauty Premium Law.
2. Chycks who are attractive to look at, but have to retreat to the personals due to some emotional problem. These chycks are so screwed up mentally they can't hold on to a man in real life. You will discover this early on when you meet the chyck, which also includes her not sexing you.
3. lesser extent: Women in the online personals who are good looking but have no intention of responding to any anyone; they just do this for the stroking and attention they get from guys who

respond to their ad.

4. lesser extent: personal ads with attractive women which are totally fake; these are bogus ads placed by the administrators of the service. This is done in an effort to increase their membership / usership of their service.

You can pretty much take this to the bank 'ol buddy!

yours,
R"

Dating profiles comparison: American vs. Foreign women (with examples)

My friend Steve sent me this comparison of dating profiles of American vs. Foreign women that reveal a huge difference in their attitude which says it all. Below are excerpts from the sample profiles he collected. His comments are in parentheses.

Sample American Woman Dating profiles

I have somewhat cherry picked the below examples but I'd guess they represent at least 30-40% of American lady profiles. There is no better way to really know what Western woman want than by looking at their online dating profiles.

Note the DEMANDING ATTITUDES, a perverse negativity, even foul language, judgmentalness, hard to please, most have a long list of demands, some even show disdain for men referring to some men as "Bull shitters, creeps, and stalkers". A foreign woman will never talk about men this way nor curse. In American woman profiles, you repeatedly see the words "must know how to treat a lady". Right away this phrase tells you she is unhappy with the way most men have treated her, why else the need to even say it? Soft femininity in woman of America is hard to find if it exists anymore at all. Think how hard it is to have a successful relationship with hard to please and demanding attitudes like this. Just about every guy will end up disappointing these ladies eventually. Almost no one will be good enough for her in the long run. Now we can begin to understand why the divorce rate in America and the Western nations is the highest in the entire world running at 55-60%. These attitudes make it difficult for a long term harmonious relationship to exist.

On top of all this - On dating sites that allow ladies to choose a min incomes option, most American ladies have minimum income requirements of \$40K on up, many \$60k to \$100K. It is interesting to see how foreign born ladies now living in the USA almost never list any minimum income requirement on their profiles!!! Foreign ladies NEVER do nor do foreign ladies ever reference anything to do with a man's career and his money such as "must be financially stable"

SAMPLES: My comments are in Red

- I find that writing a gigantic paragraph here about myself doesn't spare me from meeting bullshitters, so what's the point right?! I'm currently single & am lookin to chill so hit me up =D show me wat yur all about. show me wat yur all about, u might be able to prove me wrong (Ive never seen a foreign lady curse. They are too classy for that. TV series such as the apprentice, Jersey shore, and the bad girls club show how woman are becoming today. The apprentice is full of woman who drop f bombs and other foul language and stick fingers in people's face when angrily telling them off. Absolutely no class compared to foreign ladies who are cultured and classy)

- I am seeking a confident, strong man who knows his way around the world. You must be smart, muscular, sexy, funny, a little****, attentive, dedicated, full of energy, well connected with lots of friends, charming, great laugh, great voice, proud, humble, giving, in charge. You must also be a great conversationalist and want to talk to each other every day. (Demands galore, what are the odds this woman can ever be pleased with anyone?)

- I am looking for someone who is funny and knows how to treat a lady. He has to know how to carry on a conversation. Anything else please feel free to ask!

- Hi. I am looking for a guy who knows how to treat a girl.

- Hi! I am newly single and like to be spoiled, I'm used to being spoiled, and I need to be spoiled again! I like to dance... I like to show off... I like to PARTY! I am not interested in boys. I want a MAN who knows how to treat a sexy lady like a lady. (At least she admits her gold digger ways. In addition, the old saying "girls just want to have fun" rings true here in the states. Contrarily, you will notice that 99% of the Foreign ladies profiles are only looking for serious relationships. Serial dating and hook up is how the American culture trains men and woman to be)

- I'm a very driven woman and have had problems finding an equally driven man. I'm not saying I 100% know where I'm going in my life - I think that's the fun of it, not knowing exactly what you might be doing in 5 years. I do, however, value stability and I'm one of the most responsible people I know. ("Value stability" = code word for looking for a guy with money. "Having problems finding a equally driven man" = Code phrase that really means having problems finding a man with a lot of money". This is the typical obsession of focusing on a man's career and money which is completely absent with Foreign woman.)

- I don't need a guy who scares easily. You need to be mature and confident in yourself and me or at least be able to communicate what you're thinking! And please be financially stable. (Need I say more?)

- I'm looking for a guy without kids and preferably at least 6'0 tall and established in his career (same perverse focus on career and MONEY)

- I'm really considering to delete this account. I'm very selective when it comes to finding my long life companion, and I'm not liking what I see on this site! Perhaps, you can prove me wrong?!?... Most men, are so insecure! a big turn off for me!... (Maybe because you are so masculine and domineering just like a man. Feminism has taught woman how to behave and be like men) After all, great confidence leads you towards any success in life!

- I am looking for a non creepy, non stalker man (this is not too uncommon, in the West women have been conditioned to view many men as predators. This fear and disdain towards men is non existent PERIOD overseas) who is not looking for a one night stand, though building a future and wants to share it with someone special, drop me a line and maybe we have some substantial things in common.

- I am not looking for someone to complete my life, rather compliment it. I am very sarcastic and the person I am with must be able to handle that. I want someone that challenges my fears and dislikes. (hmm, she needs to be challenged? Perhaps a normal plain ole good guy isn't enough to keep her interest. How long will it take for her to feel bored with her man, or if married, divorce him)

- I am looking for someone who has a direction that they are headed in life. Someone who has a stable career path...that way there is security while being adventurous in other parts of their lives. (same perverse focus and obsession with career and money)

- Hi guys! I have been in Dallas since 2001, and have found that despite the fact that there are a lot of great people here it's really difficult to find a "real" man. I am looking for a man who doesn't always find the need to take more time getting ready to go out than I do; a guy who can occasionally fix things; someone who is not afraid of the gym and who enjoys sports. One of my biggest turn-ons is a guy who knows how to open a door for a lady. (More demands)

- I have been very career driven and as you can get from my subject line, picky. I mean if you are going to be with somebody, then you need to make sure it's the right person and believe me I've chosen some bad. (Yea, no one will ever be good enough for you). If you want to talk, please let me know up front if you can't pay your bills (Perverse obsession and focus on money again), because I'm not going to be a sugar momma. I'm not your typical Dallas girl, but I do shop at Neimans and I like nice stuff. (Yea, we figured that. You just need a guy who can afford to help you with that)

- if you are one who cannot accept or is willing to take NO for an answer at times.. then don't waste your time little less my time... One other thing... Nothing upsets me more than to be referred to as GIRL!!!! (Boy, what a gem this one is. Im sure the guys are lining up to be with this one)

Samples of Filipina profiles and real emails I received

What stands out different from the American profiles is there are never any DEMANDS. In fact, the opposite is true, they more often humbly say they are looking for someone who will accept them for who they are. I find this so endearing. There is a refreshing INNOCENCE to these ladies profiles unlike anything you will find with Western lady profiles. Also note the humbleness, the non judgementalness, spiritualness, focus on faith and family (i.e God Bless) , attitude of thankfulness the general positivity and wishes of good will, femininity, value and respect they place on marriage and a positive view of men (no mention of guys being creeps or stalkers like you sometimes see in some American woman profiles). I did not need to cherry pick these samples because 99% of Filipinas profiles and emails are EXACTLY like this below. Though these are Filipina samples, the Russian and Latin profiles are not too far behind in these ways.

SAMPLES: My own comments are in Red

- If i submit myself to any man i will be with him till my last breath (you will NEVER see a statement on any Western woman's profile)
- Im looking for a man who will accept me for who I am. I hope I find it here. God Bless
- halu.. i saw u here and i click it. and u know what, its not my intention to read all, but as i read your profile i try to read all until the last word. and i like coz you saw whats nice with us being filipina coz i am a filipina too. and now that i wrote a message to you i dont expect anything that you will like me coz i am 20 years old (Foreign cultures do not see large age gaps of 20+ years as perverse, rather they often seek it. You will get as many 19 to 22 year olds as 30+ year olds emailing you on most foreign dating sites) That and i know your looking for older than that.and i think, u can find a nice girl to be your future wife. coz me even me i am also looking for a man who could give a serious relationship...every one of us look only for happiness and to have a good family. only i can say is just i hope we could find a good partner in life.. (How sweet to say) .now, im doing business and hope to find my good partner in life...anyway take care and i like your outlook in life..god bless
- I hope God will provide you a woman that perfectly love you for the rest of life, till death, (Typical comment from foreign ladies, they are serious about relationships and really do see marriage as FOREVER) and can make you proud of.
- I thank u for taking an effort to viewed my profile (How humble and gracious. Ive NEVER in 20 years of being on American dating sites had a American woman say that) it is my pleasure to know u more if u are willing to get to know me..i am a baptist too and i found out that u are a christian..hoping to hear from u soon...take care and God bless
- im just a simple girl who dream to have a happy family.i need someone who also need me (I find this endearing, and it is true, foreign women NEED men. American ladies just want men to simply complement them. For me, I prefer a lady to need me. One article I found on relationships at yahoo news said "One of the most devastating ideas of the last generation was that needing or depending upon another person is a sign of weakness. The opposite is true. The inability to need is a sign of weakness -- you are afraid to relinquish power or afraid to be hurt".)
- Hi! Im Theresa from Philippines,26 years of age, single no child..looking for a man to be with,a man who can marry me and bring me where he is.,a man who can be trusted and have word of honor,having dignity and who believe in Jesus Christ as personal saviour.. (Need I say more? Is this an admirable and honorable woman or what?)
- I appreciate I have this good chance to meet you on this site. (More humbleness and appreciativeness) I wish the man I love with a kind heart and he is tender to his love. I will bring all my love to build our happy family if we love each other someday. (Note the focus on the dream of a happy and committed marriage and family. Ive never once received an email or seen a profile from an American lady saying anything remotely close to this. Foreign ladies are serious about relationships/and are marriage focused, while Americans tend to be casual

hook up focused.) I think it is really a fate that I can contact with you. I wish you can give me a chance to know you more.

- Hello Steve..how are you? Such an honor and appreciative to know about your sides of looking a Filipina because of our beliefs and culture. And that is true..We really value the essence of true happy family. And that's what i really dream of. I am here honestly to look for a man. Someone that I can share my entire life.

- hoping to meet a guy who is real, honest & strong enough to reveal his flaws inspite of who he really is. (WOW! Here is a woman who wants you to be you, accepts you as you are, weaknesses and insecurities and all. This is unlike American women who repeatedly state that they are only looking for guys who are confident) No dramas & without pretentions, because im not looking for a perfect guy here. (but American woman are) just a right guy, whom man enough to be His own self.. & a guy who valued family.

- hi, im newly here in CB and i register here bec. this is the only way to search for my prince to be in future. :) i hope someday and somehow that person would accept me.:)i haven't got that look u want but i can assure you that i am a sweet lady and a caring person (More humbleness. I haven't ever seen any American woman dating profile humbly stating how she may not be pretty but,.....etc")

- iam honest,faithful and chubby one iam waiting to someone with a good heart and willing to accept who I am and what i am.

- HEL0000 a beautiful ^"rose from the Philippines, , , iam a friendly loving filipina ..Looking for a friend to be my best friend..im not beautiful but im faithful, a sweet and smiling person who truly i am a simple woman who has a happy disposition in life.. even the simplest things for others could make me happy.. (Don't expect the average Western woman to be so easily pleased) hope someone could do it for me.. Godbless.. *kiss

- I have no preference in looking for long term partner as long as he will accept me.of who i am and what iam.and not judge mental about my situation. (trust me, a Western woman will judge you of your situation, like, not making enough money for the lifestyle she wants) i believe that a man with kind hearted and open minded well deserve my warmest and sincere relationship with respect. im here in this site to fine my life time partner.not play a game here.

- look for serious relationship leading to marriage

- I have dreamed of having a family of my own; and wishing that through this site i be able to met my special someone.

- I am looking for a person who is searching for true and genuine love not just physical attributes of a person

- Hi to everyone,my name is Edna,I'm looking for a guy who value the relationship especially on marriage...I am honest,caring,affectionate, loving,trustworthy and a one man woman. I am seriously seeking a man to be my partner whom i spend the rest of my life.A man who is devoted and dedicated...A man whos heart and mind are open to others...I believe that relationship become a successful one through these 3things which is LOVE,TRUST AND RESPECT...f you are interested send me an email then let see what happen...thank you for reading my profile,God bless! (Ive never seen an Western lady profile saying "thank you for reading my profile". Any forms of humblness just aren't part of any Western ladies psyche or vocabulary).

- Hi' im here looking for my soulmate and he is willing to love me for the rest of his life and willing to marry me, about me i am a good person, honest, affectionate and understanding...

- I'm really just simple, really values life and goodness. I'm looking for a man who will love me of who i am and who i am not. I prefer mature man coz i want to learn from them. (They really do prefer much older men in their cultures unlike here in the US) I'm looking for long lasting relationship. If i find the man of my dreams...I love him everyday and every night when we are together. He will be the KING of my heart..

- To love another person is to see the face of God.
It is to care, understanding, support, trust. In love your second part becomes an inherent part of your life. What about me?
I'm cheerful, kind, attractive Lady, outgoing and sociable. I enjoy

life and would like to meet a nice Gentleman to share my life.
 I Value: Good manners, putting your family first.

- im here sincere for lifetime relationship leads to marriage,im not playing games and not wasting time in here. i dont want let me wait for nothing im not here just for fun only,im so serious looking for be my husband,ready to settle down

- I am simple woman.im good..loving and caring understanding honest.most of all God fearing..

- im just a simple lady who wants simple things in life. im just poor but im not a scammer and not here for money. i joined this site hoping to find my destiny here. im seriously looking for a relationship which will lead to marriage.

- honestly the reasno i am here is that i am looking forv a serious lover,,a serious partner,,which is i am here for searching a man of my life to be my husband tell death,,

- Hi Steve. I've read your profile it makes smile and happy. Thank you very much for appreciating my culture. I love that to you. Thank you for lifting us up. I hope to read other profile same as yours. You are right, we Filipina are very humble, friendly and we are very hospitable to welcome foreigners in our country. Most of us taught by our parents to become a good woman. We don't have much but the character learned from parents are more gold. (She is absolutely correct) And most of all, we have the Lord Jesus in our heart and in our life. That's the most important here on earth. I hope you enjoy your visit here in the Philippines. I hope and pray someday to visit your country and learn from your cultures. Have a nice day and God bless you. (Ive never received an email from a American woman where she ended her email in such a uplifting positive way. Feminism has erased every ounce of softness and humblness that once was common place with American woman back in the 50's)

- i'm sending you this message because i'm looking for a man who will marry me in the future i'm looking for a serious relationship of course, i have no boyfriend right now and in my age i want to have children because i'm not getting any younger anymore,and i'm so tired of being single you know..i'm just trying and hoping that i will find a man in this website..i'm hoping your response then..

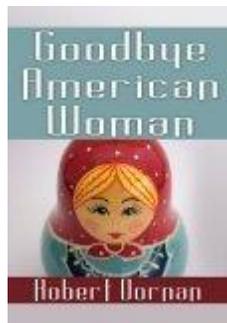
- hello everyone! .i hope everybody who joined FH has good intentions of being here...I'm 30 years old and currently waiting and looking for my love, my bestfriend, and my buddy..... Like few others who joined FH, i am looking for my prince and my bestfriend. .i want to see myself living with my own family, going home with a husband to kiss me on the forehead, going home seeing a child running towards his parents to cuddle, and i would give back my utmost love to make our home happy and peaceful...rich with love and trust to each other as we grow older. Most of the time, im at home cooking for my parents/family (How often will you see this with an American woman?).....im an operations manager of a US company for events and exhibitions. i am a god-fearing person, honest...committed to relationship..responsible....and I have this love inside me..that i want to share with you soon...and show with the rest of the world. .

- I'm looking for someone who is a ready to love.....a responsible guy, (responsible to them means being a good family man and working 40 hours a week, whatever job you have, even if its at Wal mart). who has visions about getting into relationship. ...a god fearing person....who deeply knows the true meaning of love and commitment. ...a funny man who would bring us both to smile everyday.....and who values his own family....and not hurt his family at any point of time.....i love to cuddle lots so i guess you would have to bear with me.....hope to meet a genuine better man...a loving angel out there.

need (or even like) men anymore. That's the growing trend, and it's not good for the men in this country. And with their goddess mentality, they demand that men be submissive, lest they be seen as creeps or chauvinistic pigs.

On the other hand, women abroad generally have a natural admiration for men, as long as they are decent, kind, and have good character. They do not have the deep rooted hatred for men that American women have who were brought up with by their mothers, peers, and feminist media. Any sane man would obviously prefer to be around the former than the latter, since obviously the former brings out the BEST in men while the latter brings out the WORST in them.

In fact, all the foreign people I've met in my travels seem to either have a negative opinion of American women, or else they've heard nothing but negative things about them. Now, do you think that's a pure coincidence? Do you think that's due to no fault of the American women? Do you think this international reputation of women in America is the result of "evil American men" (sarcastic)? lol What does common sense tell you? Neither Dr. Phil, Oprah or Ricky Lake have the guts to address such truths which go against their commercial/political agendas.



<http://www.amazon.com/gp/product/1412076668?ie=UTF8&tag=happabro-20&linkCode=as2&camp=1789&creative=9325&creativeASIN=1412076668>

Description from Amazon.com:

If you have ever wondered what drives men and women to look beyond their own borders to find their soul mate then this book will answer all your questions as well as entertain and perhaps enrage you. Enter into the psyche of these lonely singles and experience a contentious yet heart-warming fun-filled ride to romance, rejection and love.

The “men are creeps” attitude of American women

Nowadays, modern American women have this subconscious attitude where they assume that “men are creeps” unless they know them or prove otherwise. It’s very apparent in their attitude, vibe, behavior and actions, as they constantly seek to validate this attitude. When they meet a male stranger, rather try to bring out the niceness in him, they react to him as if he were a creep or psycho. Their eyes, posture, demeanor, expression, and communication style make that more than obvious. I don’t know why that is, but perhaps it’s due in part to the current “feminazi” (an internet term for militant men-hating feminists who want to dominate society with their beliefs) culture.

Outside US soil though, women are rarely ever stuck up, at least not in the same way. And that’s true even if they look like models. In other countries, they simply aren’t infested with the “men are creeps” attitude. Abroad, this difference is easily noticeable, once you have something to compare US women to. The difference is as apparent as ice and fire. Quite simply, outside the US women are “natural” in every sense, something you’d have to experience to know what I mean.

Even in Westernized countries such as Great Britain, France, or Germany, where women are also known to be uppity and spoiled, they are still nowhere near as hateful, stuck up, unapproachable, cliquy, or anti-men as US women are. Therefore, probably girls in the US are the most stuck up in the world..

American women have a strange mix of traits that are different from women in the rest of the world. In one sense, they are strong because they are independent, liberated (by their definition that is) from traditional feminine roles and qualities, and do not need a man to function or be happy. But in another way they are weak because they are uncomfortable talking to strangers, have a paranoid mentality, and get "creeped out" way too easily, sometimes over trivial things. And they are insecure about traveling alone or going alone to a movie, restaurant, or party. European and Russian women don't share such weaknesses, for example.

Weird paranoid fantasies about stalkers?

The drama queens of the US seem to love to create and perpetuate this myth of the “stalker” man, which feeds into the paranoia of the country, and interestingly enough, doesn’t exist in other countries. Perhaps these drama queens ought to look at themselves in the mirror. Not to say that stalkers don't exist. They do, but more than 90 percent of the time the term is used loosely by American women, it's a mere urban legend fantasy on their part, fed by their histrionic need for attention and drama.

One woman even related to me an instance where she witnessed another woman having an “imaginary stalker”. She writes:

“Allot of women have imaginary stalkers. I remember doing a political science project in college involving political action (making an institutional change on campus by lobbying etc.). There were many good ideas in the group ... having an intercampus shuttle, a day care, designated outdoor smoking area etc... We ended up doing the project to increase security on campus based on a false pretense and false statistics that there was a problem with stalkers on campus. When we looked at the actual statistics they didn't measure up ... The only reported stalker was by the girl who suggested the idea, and he was NOT a real stalker. When I asked her why she didn't report him to police or press charges she said, "oh, I am not trying to ruin his career or anything." I am sorry, but if someone has a REAL stalker (such as John Lennon's stalker), they aren't going to be concerned about the stalkers career. Real stalkers often kill their victims, and are very dangerous. The problem of recognizing imaginary stalkers is that it downplays the threat of a REAL stalker (a man can also have a stalker, i.e. John Lennon). The girl I know pointed out her "stalker" to me 2 times in order to attempt to "prove" that she indeed had a stalker (I was openly skeptical lol). Once, we were in the dining area and she pointed him out standing in line at the grill. He didn't even look our way ... He looked at the clock, ordered his food and took his food up stairs. That's a stalker? The guy has no right to order his lunch because she's in the dining area? If you ask me, she was acting more his stalker than he was hers by making such an effort to point him out and defame his character to other people. Another time, he was walking by our class and happened to look into the classroom. I ALWAYS look into the classrooms I pass ... It's just a

natural habit that people have. This is just one story of many, but there are so many stories like it. I had a serious ethical problem with that project because I felt that it was defamation of an innocent person.”

Perhaps they help create and perpetuate the existence of stalkers by using the label loosely, creating a self-fulfilling prophecy. In any case, these women never bother to ask themselves that if the problem is not with them, then how come this paranoid stalker fantasy isn't an issue in other countries the way it is here, making them the minority not the majority?

As one brave man who isn't afraid to speak the truth noted to me:

“Winston,

I agree with everything I've read that you wrote about women.

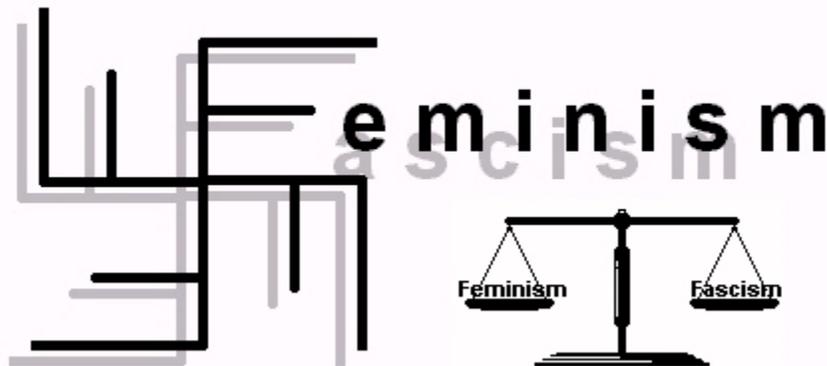
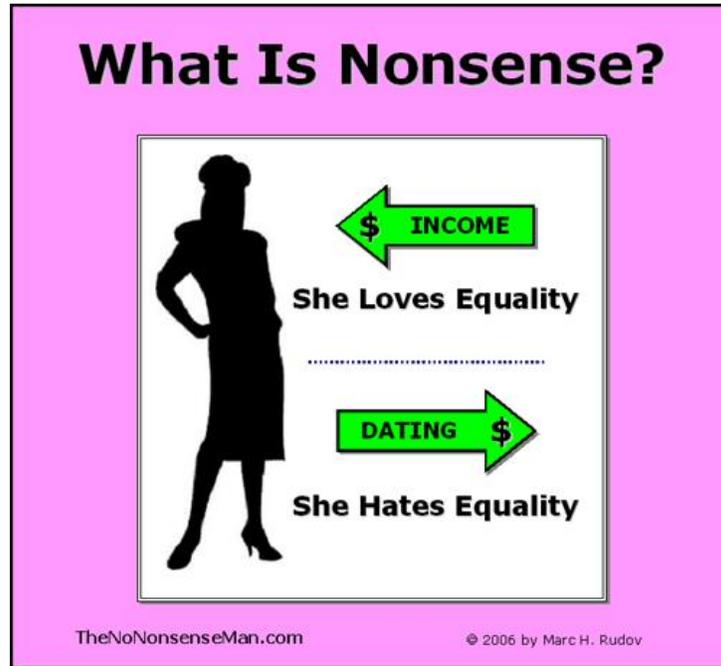
I find that when I give a woman a compliment, she backs off thinking I am some stalker.

I think stalkers for the most part are urban legend and it is a publicity stunt that celebrities say to get popular again and common women pick up on it and copy it.

I also think there is a big difference between a man being a stalker and a man trying to get a girlfriend. Most women around here don't want to know the difference.”

US Feminism = female dominance, male bashing, double standards

"Woman is a violent and uncontrolled animal... If you allow them to achieve complete equality with men, do you think they will be easier to live with? Not at all. Once they have achieved equality, they will be your masters."
- Cato the Elder



Contrary to what its proponents claim, **feminism in the US is not about equality between men and women, but about perpetuating female-dominance, male bashing, and double standards.**

Their double standards are so glaringly obvious that pointing them out is like shooting fish in a barrel, yet few have the guts to do so. Here are some great clips of comedians making fun of these double standards on stage in a revealing and funny manner:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v= Z8j4QJ0oiY>

I love the part near the end where the comedian says that when women claim it's unfair that they get paid less for doing the same job, he says

"Well it's the same fucked up reason why when we're on the Titanic, the women and children get to go first while we men have to remain onboard a sinking ship! Or why in a hostage situation, they always negotiate the women and children to be released first! Hey, bullets hurt me too! Or when there's a burning house, and the man has to be the one running back in to save others and risk his life! WHERE ARE THE FEMINISTS IN THOSE SITUATIONS? THEY'RE NEVER THERE!"

So true! Men in the US know these things yet most will never point them out because to do so would be anathema.

Personally, I have no problem with equality between the sexes, but these modern feminists who dominate pop culture, political correctness and the media, assert their dominance and superiority over men, using "equality" as an excuse and cover. You can see this both in the media and in real life.

In the media, popular talk shows like *Oprah*, *Dr. Phil*, and *Ricki Lake* do a lot of male-bashing. When they discuss relationships and bring couples on their show, the host always bashes the male partner, who is portrayed as ignorant, clueless, backward, and has a learn. And the female partners are always portrayed as smarter, in the right, and in the role of innocent victim. You can't blame these hosts in a sense, because regardless of their personal views, that's what their audience (mostly female) wishes to hear.

And of course, on TV sitcoms, wives are often portrayed as smarter than their husbands, and always right during an argument. For example, on *Home Improvement*, Tim Allen is portrayed as immature, impulsive, ignorant and needs to be leveled by his wife Jill. Every time they have a disagreement, Jill is proven right in the end, and Tim apologizes, acknowledging the error of his ways. The same scenario is depicted on the sitcom *King of Queens*, as well.

It's as if the whole sitcom TV series is preaching some twisted form of new morality of right and wrong principles that men need to be emasculated and submit to female dominance. It's a very one-sided principle that teaches that men are ALWAYS wrong when they argue with women. Ick. I'd rather get my moral lessons from the old Aesop's Fables, which are far more wholesome and do not degrade a whole gender over the other, than feminist mass media sitcoms. There's no way they're brainwashing me with such twisted values, for I am immune to brainwashing!

The most horrible example of this that I saw in *Home Improvement* was in the episode where Jill demanded that Tim get a vasectomy (have his genitals surgically altered so as not to produce any fertile sperm during intercourse) done so that they could enjoy a normal sex life without the risk of Jill getting pregnant again. At first, Tim resisted, lamenting his loss of "manhood" from such an operation, and even became the butt of jokes from others about it. But as in every episode, he eventually gave in at the end and agreed to have the operation.

In real life, a real man wouldn't have given in like that. But the wimpy emasculated feminist puppet Tim Allen character did. Somehow, the scriptwriters of the show were insinuating that men need to obey every wish of their woman, even if it means getting a vasectomy against their wishes!!!! So in other words, a man's sexual organs are owned by his woman too! I can't believe that this episode didn't cause an outrage. If there were a Men's Rights Movement, I'm sure it would have though.

In any case, if that episode is a sign of the "wave of the future" in America, then I'm outta here!

Even on the radio, national hosts such as Delilah (www.radiodelilah.com) also take this tone of male-bashing and promoting female superiority. For example, Delilah loves reading quotes from relationship counselors and psychologists that claim "*The common denominator in successful relationships, is that the male partner listens to his wife.*" Now, there is nothing wrong with listening to your partner in a relationship, as it's a good thing to understand each other. But this is totally one-sided, as there is no mention of suggesting that the woman also listen to her husband. (a bit fishy don't you think?) A form of male subservience is being proselytized here, that the man, to be a good man, must put the woman's needs above his own. In essence, he lives to please her, and to keep the relationship stable and healthy, he must acknowledge that. This is definitely a propagation of female rulership.

Likewise, in the family of one of my ex-girlfriend's, the same female superiority values were propagated. (But of course, since my ex-girlfriend's mom was a single mother, this was even more so) I was indoctrinated by her mother and her mother's friends that "a good man must take care of the woman's needs" which I have no

problem with, except that it was one-sided, as there was no mention of the woman taking care of the man's needs too. One time, when I complained about feeling like I was sacrificing all my needs for her, and that our life was all centered around her, my ex-girlfriend's sister remarked, "That's the way it should be" implying that the relationship should revolve completely around the female partner.

Similarly, in a job I had where I marketing basement finishing systems, while talking to couples who were prospective clients, the man would point to his wife and tell me, "*Well she's the boss*". Since when is the wife always the boss, I wonder.

And whatever happened to the feminist ideal that preached equality? This is clearly dominance, not equality. Any honest person can see that, though few are willing to complain about it in the US.

Also, among the feminist spokespeople, especially those who dominate college curriculum, there is a movement to also rewrite history to glorify women, and even a movement in religion to worship the Goddess, rather than God, and even to exclaim "Oh my Goddess!" rather than "Oh my God!"

The reason these feminists who dominate pop culture, the media, and political correctness, are termed "feminazis" by their critics (whose forbidden views you can't hear on TV or in the mainstream media, only on the internet or abroad) is because these folks are like "Nazis" in the sense that they seek to dominate others and maybe even the world, and they do not tolerate any disagreement or open discussion of their values of female superiority. Anyone who challenges their views or disagrees is automatically labeled as "chauvinist pigs" and backwards, a product of a formerly oppressive culture against women. Thus, you either assimilate into their values of female superiority, or you become vilified.

One of my readers vociferated:

"American feminists love to hide behind a false facade by pretending to "defend the rights of oppressed women". But in reality it's just a smoke screen to obscure their real intentions which are much more sinister. Their goal is to proclaim their superiority over men, deprive men of all their rights, confiscate all their money, steal all their property and ultimately rule over them. Since it's difficult for most women to accomplish their objectives with aggression, they seek to distract their opponent with BS---otherwise known as feminism. So when you hear a feminist feign concern for oppressed women don't be so quick to sympathize. There's a hidden agenda behind her words of compassion. Feminists are not genuine or sincere. They're selfish phonies who'll say anything to get their way."

And an immigrant observed:

"Ask any non-brainwashed woman and you will find their disgust of the irony. Thanks to the feminist movement, they can now work 9-5 instead of sit home, do nothing; romance and chivalry is gone as the woman is now "strong" and could care less about any "stupid man," etc. Obviously any US-media consumer will relate to the "stupid man" who is always portrayed as less intelligent, more amoral, non-deserving, etc. I recently saw a funny one in an average feminist college textbook- men are only physically stronger because they have forced women to nurture the young while they have developed physical power over time by physical labor. They even included some B.S. charts and graphs. One must take heed and only attend US colleges if he is pursuing a science degree. Otherwise he will be used by the instrument of the new liberals- feminists, PC drones, and the like..."

As to how this all came to be, one internet forum poster explained:

<http://www.russia.com/forums/showthread.php?t=25267>

"Women can get away with denigrating men because they have powerful political organizations that have a lot of influence in government. And men cannot do the same against women because they don't organize their politics along gender-lines. There are no politically powerful men's organizations whose purpose is to speak exclusively for the interests of men.

I suppose this is one of the dangers of democracy. People can organize themselves along gender lines, sectarian lines, or tribal lines and try to deprive each other of rights and privileges.

The Constitution is supposed to prevent this kind of thing. But the Constitution is only as good as the

politicians who write it. Perhaps the US constitution doesn't have good protection against sexism. And that's why women have been able to organize themselves along gender lines and change the rules in their own favor."

This brand of feminism in the US is also rife with unfair double standards. For example, women can bash men publicly and in the media, but men can't bash women that way.

Here's a simple obvious example. If a man says in any public situation in the US, "*Men are smarter than women*", he would automatically be labeled as a sexist and chauvinist pig, become abhorred, and lose respect among the crowd. And if it was a professional setting, he could lose his job of course.

But if he said publicly "*Women are smarter than men*", the men would passively tolerate it while the women would smirk and grin and think "It's nice that he pays us the proper respect where it's due, if only more men would too" and thus the statement would be accepted.

If that's not a double standard, then I don't know what is. There are many such examples that depict the unfairness of feminism of course, but this is just one of the simplest and most obvious ones. I wonder how American adult women, who are basically intelligent and educated, not see the unfairness in that?

Marty Nemko, author, radio show host, and co-president of NOM ([National Organization for Men, www.orgformen.org](http://www.orgformen.org)) provides examples of how quotes of public attacks on men were allowed, but not on women:

<http://www.martynemko.com/pub/articles/nom700.shtm>

"Another example of the New Double Standard: Leading women's advocates have, with little substantiation, made statements about men that never would be tolerated if said about women:

"As far as I'm concerned, men are the product of a damaged gene." (Germaine Greer, in an invited address at the Alert! Conference.)

"All men are rapists and that's all they are." (Marilyn French, author of the feminist classic, *The Women's Room*, in a *People* magazine interview.)

"I believe that women have a capacity for understanding and compassion which a man structurally does not have, does not have it because he cannot have it. He's just incapable of it." (Former congresswoman Barbara Jordan)

None of those leaders suffered significant reprisals. In contrast, consider what happened when Harvard president, Lawrence Summers, in an internal brainstorming meeting, in response to a request to be provocative, merely hypothesized, with multiple qualifications, that innate differences might partly explain why more men are in science. That statement, especially when opined in a private meeting, is not only less devastating to women than the above statements are to men, substantial research supports Summers' hypothesis. Yet, a national firestorm led by NOW ensued demanding Summers' firing, and Harvard's 762-member Faculty of Arts and Sciences issued an unprecedented and career-devastating vote of lack of confidence in Summers.

This establishes a new double standard: you can, without reprisal, viciously denigrate men without substantiation but dare you make a milder statement about women, your career is eviscerated. That double standard will make academics, leaders, and the media think 10 times before saying something negative about a woman, but not about a man. That will immeasurably hurt how men are treated today, and in future generations."

As you can see, that's an example of why I dislike the "politically correct movement" for it places its agenda (in this case, feminism and male-bashing) over the truth, while I prefer the truth over what's politically correct.

Likewise, a hiring manager can say that he wants a female for a position because females are more empathetic, kind, and understanding, but he can't say that he wants a male for a position because men are stronger and more rational, or else he is finished. The "feminazis" would eliminate such a person for saying that, hence what I said earlier about intolerance and double standards. Nemko points this out well in an article:

<http://www.martynemko.com/pub/articles/indefenseofmen.shtml>

Or even worse, imagine if a feminist overheard a male manager saying,

"I prefer to hire men because they're less emotional most of the month and dramatically so the rest of the time. I also prefer to hire men because they devote more time to their careers. More women want to work shorter hours so they can have enough time for family, friends, and so on. Yet another reason I like to hire men is that women, on average, are more devious. Guys are more direct; you're more likely to know where you stand." Even though there is a reasonable basis for that manager's assertions, he would be fired faster than you could say, "sex discrimination."

Yet if that same manager were to say, "I prefer to hire women because they're more interpersonally sensitive and better team builders," that equally gender-generalizing statement would likely be met, not with a lawsuit, but with praise. There is a new double-standard. People, the media, and the colleges can attack men but not women."

And if a woman acts rude or inconsiderate to a man, it is acceptable because she is a woman, but if a man does that to a woman, it is an unpardonable sin. Also, it is not a crime for a woman to hit a man, but it is for a man to hit a woman. Such examples of double-standards are among many.

In response to my question as to why American women tend to be the least friendly in the world, here is what one man had to say:

">Second, about RW friendliness, I forgot to tell you that in almost every country outside the US (Japan may be an exception) women are more friendly to strangers and less paranoid than in America..<

True. Because most places in the world women know how to act feminine and are comfortable in their roles. The main reason why things are so different here is because of orgs like N.O.W. The Battle of the Sexes started in this country in the late 70's and American women have wanted to compete with men and become like them (in their mind). So they figured that if they act like total bitches and are aggressive (usually overtly so) instead of assertive they will be more like men. So now you have legends of unhappy women from that era onward thinking they have succeeded, when in fact all surveys done since 1970 have shown a steady decline of happiness in women. They were told they could do and have it all, career, marriage, children etc and very few can handle any of it successfully. They were set up to fail and their failure also took down the men around them. They do not want to admit they were lied to by the feminist leaders, and the dream doesn't work. They are women and should be happy they are. The N.O.W. org in this country is and always has been run by man hating ball buster types who are also predominately Lesbians. Gloria Stienham et al has done complete 180's of their views from back when they started the movement, but they have left 2 generations of totally messed up women in the process.

It is no wonder that American women drown their sorrows in food. It is becoming the norm in this country to be obese, especially with women. Even "happily married career women". I think it was the latest edition of JAMA that stated that nurses are finding it difficult to give IM injections in the glutes of women in this country because of the excessive fat thickness! The needles can't reach the muscle!! For decades women like Oprah told women that being "large", "heavy", BBB, was okay and it is what is on the inside that counts. RIGHT Total denial of what is in the mirror! Oprah has worked hard to try to reverse that body shape and image in the last year, and finally she is looking like she wanted to in the first place! She finally figured out men do not find fat women attractive and she lost most of the excess poundage. But now she has had to eat her words and tell women her position was wrong and they were lying to themselves (mainly because Dr Phil told her she was wrong and showed her why!). They will not feel happy weighing 300 pounds and downing bon bon's to ease the pain. They have come a long way as far as equal pay and rights, but they have also taken a giant leap backwards as far as how they got there and their idea of how a real woman should act."

What these feminists and feminazis don't realize is that they are actually an odd quirk in the world. The rest of the world sees them as unnatural, anti-feminine, and anti-men; and that includes foreign women as well. They may delude themselves into thinking that the rest of the world admires them as a progressive liberation movement, but in reality they are perceived as haters of their own femininity. One reader noted:

“You are right that feminism has run amok in the US. However, many women in Europe (especially the Former Soviet Union) reject feminism and consider it a dirty word. They view a woman who is a feminist as either unattractive or a lesbian. Feminism in the US also has made men feel guilty about their masculinity. This guilt leads to more and more men becoming "sensitive new age guys", which women claim they want, but in reality do not.”

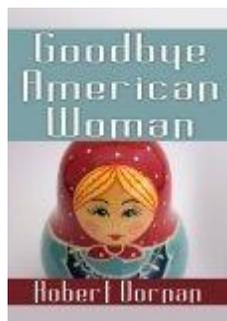
Therefore, if we take the American conformist mentality that the majority is always right, and that the misfit or odd ones are "the problem", then by that standard these US feminists and feminazis are "the problem" since they are different than the rest of the real world. (Incidentally, since American culture has always made me feel like an alienated misfit, my citing its culture as an odd quirk in the context of the rest of the world is a form of sweet revenge, you could say :))

Even foreigners within the US often view its feminism as unwholesome and unnatural. As one Russian woman wrote to one of my readers:

”I see that most of american women are very independent and strong but in Russia independent and strong woman trying to set up for her man. I think that the main point for Russian woman is to belong to someone she loves. Here in America I see that man and woman instead of equality get an opposition sometimes. In Russia the family for woman is always on the first place. We don't need equal rights because the strength of woman and man is different but in relations it is something that called harmony. What do you think? Am I right? Man is always a conqueror and woman is born to love but not to fight. I think that on the natural level every woman trying to find a man that better and stronger then she is. If she doesn't find love of such man she becoming a feminist. I am not a feminist and think that there is something wrong in that idea. I believe that any man can win the heart of any woman in the world if he has enough of persistence, patience and fascinated mind. Do you share my point of view? I think that any woman can have enough of her heart and energy to keep the house and do her career but it is possible only if she gets inspiration from her man. And nothing could make a woman more beautiful than love.”

And though rare, there are still some old-fashioned women left in America who disagree with the current trend of US female culture:

“I think it's hot and surprising that any man from any culture is dominant. There are so many men that are feminized and wimpy. What happened to old fashioned roles and values? I am miserable because of all those bra burning feminists that ruined things for my generation. I'd rather stay at home and cook and take care of babies, and be married, then be a single struggling mom trying to make it in this harsh world alone. No support. No love. It's misery. Sheer, pure, misery. Put that down for all the American girls out there. A nice dose of reality coming from your friend Kristy.”

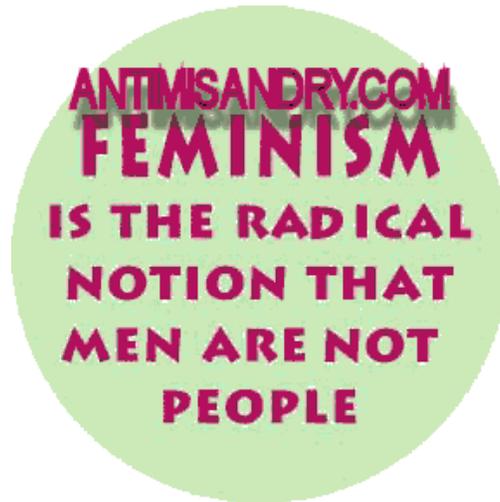


<http://www.amazon.com/gp/product/1412076668?ie=UTF8&tag=happabro-20&linkCode=as2&camp=1789&creative=9325&creativeASIN=1412076668>

Description from Amazon.com:

If you have ever wondered what drives men and women to look beyond their own borders to find their soul mate then this book will answer all your questions as well as entertain and perhaps enrage you. Enter into the psyche of these lonely singles and experience a contentious yet heart-warming fun-filled ride to romance, rejection and love.

Misportrayal of men in America by feminist media



Our modern anti-men feminazi mainstream media culture lives in an insular world that is one-sided, representing the interests of feminists, whose views have pervaded nearly all outlets of our mass media. In movies, TV shows, pop culture, and talk shows, our feminist media culture inflicts its views upon the populace, making the US a bad place for nice, sincere, well-meaning men, emasculating them in the process. In doing so, they often portray the inverse of reality.

For example, they perpetuate the theme that men are pigs, stupid, immature, and always wrong when arguing with women, whereas women are mature, consistent, straightforward, linear, reliable, and can do no wrong. . Take the TV sitcom *Home Improvement* for instance. In it, Tim Allen acts immature and stupid, and is always wrong when he argues with his wife, who makes him realize the folly of his ways at the end of each episode. Likewise, in the sitcom *King of Queens*, the UPS driver Doug behaves childishly, acts immature, and jumps to stupid conclusions so that his wife Carrie has to correct him on with her wits and common sense, showing him the folly of his ways in every episode.

This movie poster for the film *Grown Ups* is an example of this attitude toward men.

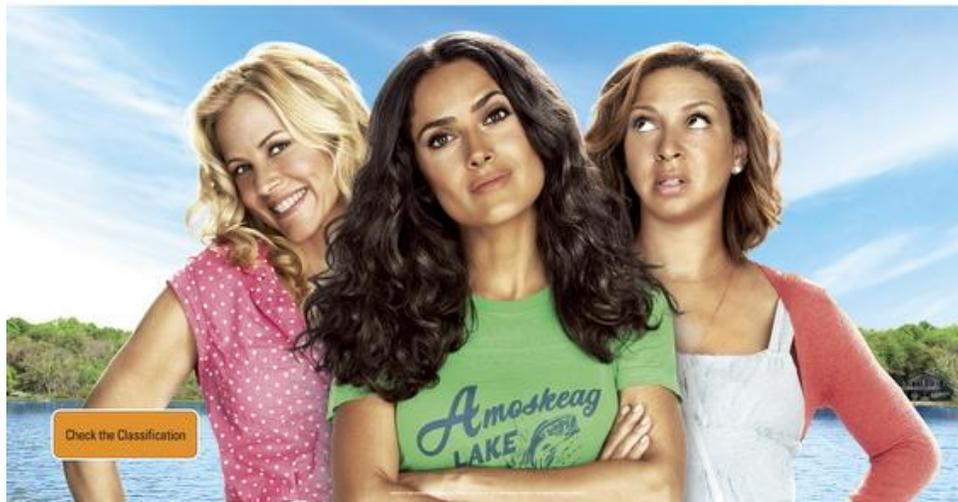


ADAM SANDLER KEVIN JAMES CHRIS ROCK DAVID SPADE ROB SCHNEIDER SALMA HAYEK

GROWN UPS

SOME GUYS NEED A LITTLE EXTRA TIME TO MATURE.

COLUMBIA PICTURES presents in association with RELATIVITY MEDIA a HAPPY MADISON production a film by DENNIS DUGAN "GROWN UPS" MARIA BELLO
 MAYA RUDOLPHI EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS MICHAEL DUBOCH BROOKS ARTHUR KEVIN GRADY PRODUCED BY RUPERT GRESSON-WILLIAMS EDITOR ELLEN LUTHER COSTUME DESIGNER TOM COSTAIN PRODUCTION DESIGNER PERRY ANDELIN BLAKE
 DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY THLO VAN DE SANDE EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS BARRY BERNARDI TIM HEURICH ALLEN COVERT STEVE KOBEN PRODUCED BY ADAM SANDLER & FRED WOLF WRITTEN BY ADAM SANDLER JACK SHARRAPUTO
 COLUMBIA PICTURES SONY PICTURES HOME ENTERTAINMENT HAPPY MADISON PRESENTS A FILM BY DENNIS DUGAN GrownUpsMovie.com.au



Yet in reality, the truth again is usually the INVERSE of what the media portrays, as almost any freethinking unbrainwashed man in the US will tell you. Male behavior in general is consistent, predictable, and linear, while women are emotional, non-linear, changeable, and inconsistent. There's no denying it. It is a proven fact in every psychological test that women change their mind way more often than men. They also send mixed signals and are notorious for having contradictions between their words and actions. In fact, they don't even mean at least half of what they say, making it frustrating to know when to believe them and when not to.

Our media also loves portraying women as victims. In romance films, men are usually the ones who dump women and hurt them, and act inconsistently, while women are codependent victims, needy, clingy and consistent. But in reality, anyone with any experience in the US dating scene knows the truth is the exact opposite. And in fact, sociology studies show that most of the time, women initiate break-ups and divorces, while men are the ones who are needy and codependent, and believe in keeping love through thick and

thin. Any decent looking girl in the US who is used to having men pursue her can tell you this, so why does the US media deny reality like that I wonder?

Hollywood likes to portray women as falling in love fast, while men fall in love slowly, but in reality, it's the opposite - men tend to fall in love easily, and have a difficult traumatic time falling out of it, while women are slower and cautious about falling in love, but can fall out of love easily at will, as though they flipped a light switch.

The US media also loves to run stories about the wrongdoings of men, far more than it does the wrongdoings of women. The proportion of bad men and criminals shown in the news far exceeds that of women. It's irrelevant here whether most crimes are committed by men or not. The point is hurtful actions, bad behavior and wrongdoing is in every aspect of social and personal life, but usually the ones committed by males are covered by the man-hating pop culture media. Daytime talk shows only cover relationship and family problems where men are the villains and cruel perpetrators (if the stories are even real). All this only serves to make the women of the US even more paranoid of men.

Furthermore, our pop culture media loves portraying men as liars far more than women. This is exemplified in our hit songs as well. For instance, in the Madonna hit song *Live to Tell*, a lyrics goes, "*A man can tell a thousand lies. I've learned my lesson well.....*" Such songs foster the notion that men are perpetual liars who love to hurt women. In reality though, men are far more sincere, consistent, linear, and unlikely to lie (unless for a very good reason) than women. On the other hand, women are non-linear in their behavior and thoughts, are flaky, inconsistent, and often lie casually on a whim even when unnecessary. Even the most honest sincere women will become pathological liars when it comes time to blow a guy off with excuses. I've seen it and experienced many times.

That is why it is so much easier to catch women in lies than men, because they tend to lie so often and casually that they are soon caught, especially when the lies start contradicting each other. Women are also notorious for doing complete 180's, saying and doing the most positive wonderful things, to you, and then suddenly change like a light switch, withdrawing and running the other way without warning. And when blowing people off, men tend to give the true reason, while women tend to hide the real reason, but instead give excuses that, while even if true, are not the actual reason but merely *used* as the reason. And we all know that women prefer giving subtle messages in their communication rather than literal ones, while men do the opposite.

So again, our pop culture media lives in a one-sided world.

For some morbid reason, the US media loves portraying men as stupid and women as smart (as mentioned in the example of the sitcom *Home Improvement*). In reality though, men are more likely to be nerds, geeks and bookworms who are stimulated by knowledge than women are. To detract from the emptiness of life or loneliness, men are more likely to retreat to the pursuit of knowledge or understanding, whether it be reading, discussing philosophy and politics, watching History Channel/Discovery Channel/PBS, engaging in an intellectual hobby, or even something of a technical or mechanical nature such as electronics or cars. On the other hand, women tend to retreat and unwind in things that provide emotional stimulation, such as watching sitcoms (why do you think most of the commercials are targeted toward women?), reading tabloids, fashion magazines, watching "E", and reading romance novels, which are shallow and unintellectual in nature. The US media is oblivious to reality, it seems.

The effect on men of the US media portraying male stupidity was revealed in a disturbing example on the radio recently, which I heard and shook my head to. In the Seattle area, on the radio station KAFE 104.3 FM, there is a lady named Delilah (www.radiodelilah.com, nationally syndicated) who counsels people about relationship issues (often giving bad advice), giving them pep talk, and playing their song requests. One male caller to Delilah admitted on the air that he did something stupid to his partner. When Delilah concurred, he suddenly added, "Well I'm a man, so I'm allowed to be stupid, right?" and even chuckled at it! Unbelievable! Here an emasculated American man admits publicly on the air that he is allowed to be stupid, because that's what men are! I was flabbergasted. All good men ought to be ashamed at such things.

And on the hit show Dr. Phil, popular with US women but disliked by men, the woman's side is always taken. The bias is unmistakable, and understandable since their target audience is predominantly feminist females. But even worse, for some reason, they always bring on stupid men rather than intelligent ones, to use as punching bags for Dr. Phil and his feminist politically correct audience. For instance, when Dr. Phil does

relationship counseling for couples, he usually lectures the male partner on what he's doing wrong, who in turn is incapable of defending himself. Instead, the stupid male guinea pig can only say regarding his alleged insensitive behavior "That's just the way I am. I can't help it." which provides a perfect target for Dr. Phil's preaching to the choir about how men "just don't get it". Obviously the show is screened and rigged this way to appease its female audience. For instance, they would never bring on someone like me who might out-debate Dr. Phil and make him look bad. This all perpetuates the feminist stereotype that men are stupid and wrong, and need to be educated, while women are innocent victims who can do no wrong.

All the above one-sided themes are in the articles of fashion magazines that women read, such as *Elle* and *Cosmopolitan*, and to extreme degrees. It's sickening and persecutory toward men.

In addition, feminist/feminazi organizations such as NOW make false promulgations and perpetuate them, as Marty Nemko of NOM ([National Organization for Men, www.orgformen.org](http://www.orgformen.org)) points out:

<http://www.martynemko.com/pub/articles/nom700.shtml>

"Similarly, women's organizations promulgate the broad and long-false statement that most medical research is conducted on men. Academia and the media promulgate such assertions without the normal vetting, ignoring definitive contradictory evidence. For example, PubMed, which indexes the 3,000 leading medical journals, from the 1950s to present, contains 42 articles on women's health for every one(!) on men's health. Where's the outrage about that injustice? Where's the outrage that women needn't register for the draft, and if they volunteer, will never be placed in direct combat? Perhaps Warren Farrell is right: "Men are the disposable sex."

To fight against this New Double Standard, Warren Farrell, along with your author, has just founded the National Organization for Men to provide a bit of balance to the National Organization for Women. We are a shoestring operation that simply emails press releases to the media in response to unfairnesses to men. The National Organization for Men's website is at www.orgformen.org."

<http://www.orgformen.org/7155.html>

- Women's organizations promulgate the misleading statistic that women earn only 80 cents on the dollar compared with men. In fact, data from the US Department of Labor and other authoritative sources indicates that for the same work, women earn more than men.
- Women's organizations promulgate the long-untrue statement that most medical research is devoted to men. In fact, despite men dying 5.3 years younger than women, a review of PubMed, which archives 3,000 medical research journals, finds that for every article citing the term "men's health," there are 42 citing "women's health."
- Women leaders have for decades made denigrating statements about men without reprisal. For example, the late Congresswoman Barbara Jordan said, "I believe that women have a capacity for understanding and compassion which a man structurally does not have, does not have it because he cannot have it. He's just incapable of it." Yet Harvard president, Lawrence Summers made a much milder, more measured, more research-supported statement about women and his career has been eviscerated.

Freethinker Robert Sheaffer vehemently writes this intro in his telling article exposing the lies, hypocrisy, and pseudo-claims of feminists:

<http://www.debunker.com/patriarchy.html>

"The feminist movement as we have come to know it in recent decades is fundamentally a "con." It is as filled with falsehood, inaccuracy, and foolishness as astrology or parapsychology. As it is considered treasonous to criticise a sister feminist, no standards of accuracy or honesty are ever enforced. Hyperbole and deceit thus become the formula for success, "peer review" playing no role in reining in misinformation. Any would-be feminist who raises scholarly objections to the rampant misinformation ([Christina Hoff Sommers](#), [Camille Paglia](#), [Wendy McElroy](#), [Elaine Showalter](#), [Erin Pizzey](#), [Elizabeth Loftus](#), etc.) is branded an 'enemy of women' and is drummed out of the movement.

Various feminists proclaim that women are 'under siege', that a monstrous social bias against them, if not a virtual war, is going on, that women have little respect or power (Steinem, Faludi, Tavis, etc.) Yet the notion of the American woman as a powerless "victim" is one of the most absurd notions ever foisted upon anyone. American women live, on average, seven years longer than men. They control 86 % of all personal wealth [PARADE Magazine, May 27, 1990], and make up 55% of current college graduates. Women cast 54% of the votes in Presidential elections, so they can hardly claim to be left out of the political decision-making process! They win almost automatically in child custody disputes. Women suffer only 6% of the work-related fatalities (the other 94% are suffered by men). Women are the victim of only about 35% of violent crimes, and only about 25% of all murders, yet because of our society's exaggerated concern and respect for them, special legislation has been passed to punish "violence against women" as if it were a more heinous crime than "violence against men". (Feminists claim to want "equality", and this is an example of what "equality" means to them, i.e., preferential treatment to address their concerns). Two out of every three dollars spent on health care is spent on women, and even if you don't count pregnancy-related care, women still receive more medical care than men - yet feminists **still** holler that womens health is being "neglected", and far too many of us credulously believe them. Of the 25 worst jobs, as ranked by the *Jobs Related Almanac* based on a combination of salary, stress, security, and physical demands, 24 of them are predominantly, if not almost entirely, male, which might explain why men commit over 80% of all suicides. (Most of these statistics come from [The Myth of Male Power](#) by Warren Farrell.)

Now, if it were really the case, as feminists claim, that men have selfishly arranged everything to be wonderful for themselves, absolutely ignoring womens' legitimate concerns and needs, would the above be true? Of course not. It is much more realistic to suggest that women have cleverly seized the upper hand by pretending to be helplessly trapped below! Looking at the full picture, and not the tiny, distorted one that feminists and those they have duped present, we see a very different picture: The American woman emerges as perhaps the most privileged large group in history, enjoying a never-before- seen level of affluence, power, leisure, and health, supported by the work, discipline, and self-effacing, life-destroying exertions of a group they have bamboozled - their men - into believing their cries of "victimization". The links below will help you to start finding your way out of the familiar maze of feminist lies."

Of course, our media doesn't care about truth or reality, only in what it wants to promote as truth, or "its truth" rather. In fact, those that think outside the box among the common folks (and there are many of them) are never even allowed to speak their minds in the mainstream US media. Only those with simplistic viewpoints who think "inside the box", and have clichéish, politically correct, conformist views are allowed to express their opinion in the mainstream news media.

In my humble opinion, the modern feminazi man-hating US media is a big load of crock and propaganda. Thus, this anti-men mentality and pop culture that has dominated our country's media are all the more reason why the US has become a bad place for men.

Indeed, men in the US are required to pay lip service to political correctness to appease women, as this traveler to Russia noticed in his dissertation comparing Russians and Americans:

"Provincial Americans VS Provincial Russians

I think a comparison of provincial Americans VS provincial Russians is in order.

Provincial Russians:

Clothing and appearance is very very important. You must polish your shoes. You must iron your pants.

They are really good at celebrating. Young people usually aren't obese. Russian women accept men as men. Men aren't required to pay all sorts of lip service to PC culture, rather, can simply be men.

They are more forward and don't play .

They are often racial thinkers. I am half Jewish. When I let them know this, this changes the way they think about me.

They all believe explicitly in Vladimir Putin. They have a deep seeded reverence for power.

They live hard and die younger.

There is a certain spiritual hardness - a joy in being Russian.

Corruption is rampant in Russia. Russians often blame others for their problems, and less often reflect that perhaps they are the problem. This is a survival instinct. In a totalitarian state, the only way to survive is by blaming others.

Dogmatic as far as 'being a man' or 'being a woman' goes.

Provincial West Coast Americans:

For liberal provincials, clothing apparently isn't supposed to qualify someone's soul.

They are bad at letting go and being intimate. Perhaps this is our own capitalist survival mechanism. American men must pay all sorts of lip service to PC culture, while at the same time 'play the .'

Relationships between the sexes is often considered 'a .' Think of Doctor Phil.

While provincial Americans might instinctually react to race, they try not to.

They don't get drunk all the time. You've seen Russians with their sto gram, drinking veritable glasses of vodka to the dregs at 9 a.m.

Spiritually confused and often dogmatic about lifestyle choices like diet, activities, and the presentation of ideas.

Extremely cliquy. No common brotherhood. No experience of suffering: often times robotic and shallow.

Politically aware in a way Russians usually aren't."

A fantastic politically incorrect revealing discussion about women

<http://seattle.craigslist.org/rnr/152614177.html>

Re: A Complete Explanation of Women in Two Minutes

Reply to: pers-152614177@craigslist.org

Date: 2006-04-19, 11:44AM PDT

I didn't agree with everything but, overall, great stuff. I flagged for "Best of" too.

Parts I especially liked:

- *Women are the way they are . . . because their old biological impulse to seek safety and security is at war with their recent political impulse to seek freedom and equality. Females are predisposed to seek security and avoid risk. This is because they are hard-wired to protect children. Security is a huge deal for most women. They want emotional security (constant reassurances of love from their male partner) and financial security (the "good provider" with the "good job", with "good job" being a code phrase for good income.)*

- *Men are forced to take more initiative, assume more risk, and absorb more penalties. Women have options; men have responsibilities.* Feminism has done a wonderful thing for women: given them the option of a career outside the home that many women previously did not have. However, there has been no parallel "masculinism" movement to provide men with the option of not working outside the home.
- *Just as citizens of the old Soviet Union who envied capitalism actually only craved the material goods that were the dividends of capitalism . . . most women recoil from genuine equality. Responsibility as men know it is usually not much fun. But while women want equal pay for equal work, they don't want to have to work unless they want to. Women are infuriated by any perception that they are inferior to men, but also infuriated by the prospect of men not paying for dates.* Women who disdain traditional gender roles in all other aspects of life - at home, at work, etc. - will gladly embrace traditional gender roles when it comes to dating. Why? Simple, those roles in dating work in their favor. No risk of rejection (at least initially) since they rarely ask men out and less expense since men undoubtedly pay the lion's share of costs during dating.
- *It is a more secure play to persist in the role of perpetual victim than to actually acquire power. Women keep imagining themselves aggrieved and oppressed by dark, male forces. But there is almost no real evidence of this.* Feminist ranting about the oppressive "patriarchy" is overblown but, to be fair, women are "aggrieved and oppressed" in one way by men: men have physical power over women and, therefore, women have reason to be wary of men in a way that men do not with women. While no man can fully understand and appreciate this, I think any smaller man who has been bullied by a physically larger man can somewhat understand and appreciate it. (An irony, of course, is that many women are drawn to the kind of swaggering macho alpha-male behavior that bullies possess.)
- *Many aspects of the old low-risk, high-security strategy remain deeply attractive to women. So they try to cherry-pick the best parts of the security and feminist/equality strategies.*
- *In a world of real equals it is immoral for a woman who earns at least as much as a man to expect him to fund their dating life.* The way many women think, what she earns compared to the man is irrelevant. He's a man; therefore he should pay.
- *Plan B for women, then, is to change men – to attempt to feminize them. Mainstream society now attacks and degrades, or characterizes as abnormal, many male qualities in the goofy hope that this will resolve women's internal contradictions about men.* One of the reasons many feminists - particularly the more strident ones - feel that male qualities, like , are "taught" rather than hardwired - is that, if this was true, men could be properly "trained", to, for example, not enjoy seeing photos of , or to not want casual sex.
- *And even if a dystopian world of all-female sensibilities could be built, it would grind to a stop before lunchtime. Male initiative, stamina, and capacity for risk may be what start wars, but they are also what keep the planet going.* Interesting to see you say that as I've long felt that if women had always run things in the world, and men had always taken care of children, we probably wouldn't have had all the wars we've had, but also wouldn't have the car, the airplane, the telephone, and the computer. Maybe that would be a good thing, though. No computers but no wars. No cars but less violence. We'd be like the Amish.
- *There isn't a man alive who hasn't been dumb enough to "share feelings" with a woman, only to see her flinch, terrified, at any display of male vulnerability. You are her security.* Have I ever learned that from experience. Women like male vulnerability in theory. They do not like it in reality.
- *Devalue the currency women use. Men are manipulated into participating in unbalanced dating relationships because they place such a premium on sex and female companionship. But all currencies, including sex, depend on the belief of their traders. If you decide it's not worth so much, it's not. Women will then have to trade other commodities for security – like, perhaps, responsible, mature, equal behavior.* I have to differ with you a little here. While I think men place a tremendous premium on sex with women, I don't think men place such a premium on female companionship. But, because women know men want sex with them more than they want sex with men, they can use the promise and lure of

sex to get men to do things for them. Women want something from men more than men want it from women: love and affection. But, for the most part, men are unable to use the promise and lure of love and affection to get women to do things for them. Women will not court men. Instead, women expect men to court them. And men do.

How Feminism destroys the Natural Feminine Energy in Relationships

"Woman is a violent and uncontrolled animal... If you allow them to achieve complete equality with men, do you think they will be easier to live with? Not at all. Once they have achieved equality, they will be your masters."
- Cato the Elder

The New Age and Spiritual movements are fond of saying that history has been controlled by patriarchal societies which have suppressed the "feminine energy", hence causing imbalance and destruction. For example, the popular internet films "Esoteric Agenda" and "Kymatica" make this point.

However, what these movements are afraid to admit, is that modern day feminism totally suppresses and destroys this "feminine energy" in its true form more than any patriarchal society ever did.

You see, the natural God given female energy is loving, caring, nurturing, tender, and seeks a symbiotic relationship with the male energy. This results in the creation of life, the highest power. Whatever you want to call it - God, Mother Nature, the Universal Creative Force, etc. - that is how it was naturally meant to be. Male and female energy were meant to complement each other, not compete and tear each other down, or engage in any "battle of the sexes", which is what has happened (and may possibly be engineered by the global elite according to some sources, Google "Nick Rockefeller and feminism").

Yet the feminist movement and its values preach the complete opposite and antithesis. Not only do they incite male bashing and double standards against men in society (examples are numerous, see here for some), but they indoctrinate women to look down on men, NOT NEED men, NOT WANT men, be independent, and view males as lower forms of life that are creeps and oppressors by nature. Men are not respected or admired, but seen as immature and dumb, which is exemplified by this movie poster:

<http://thecia.com.au/reviews/g/images/grown-ups-poster-2.jpg>

Obviously this is destructive and not good at all for male/female relationships. How can such attitudes be beneficial to the symbiotic complementary nature of male/female energy, or to its balance? It is anything but. Yet it is taboo to point this out, cause you are labeled as a "woman hater" or "misogynist" if you say the obvious truth.

It's a form of mind control, probably set up by the Global Elite, or New World Order, as the conspiracy movement calls them, to divide and conquer us. It's just another way they use to set us against each other, so that we don't unite and rise up against the real enemy, which are the Global Elite who are running the show. Aaron Russo, in an interview with Alex Jones, revealed that Nick Rockefeller of the infamous Rockefeller dynasty, told him that the Rockefeller Foundation created and funded the feminist movement, for instance.

But even charismatic conspiracy leaders like Alex Jones, David Icke and others, who are passionate and relentless about exposing the ways in which this Global Elite or NWO control and divide us, are afraid to bring up modern feminism as one of the culprits of this engineered chaos and disorder. Probably it's because they have a large female fan base and do not wish to lose them, so they avoid this taboo. Not even they, being passionate truth seekers, dare to violate it. Only Men's Rights leaders like Tom Leykis and others have dared to expose this taboo issue.

Nevertheless, the truth is the truth. Feminism destroys natural healthy male/female relationships, makes dating a nightmare of epic proportions, and totally disrupts the natural harmony of men and women. It turns women hateful and apathetic toward men. In effect, it gives women an unaccountable status where they can get away with anything, and demonize anyone who resists. As a result, they can abuse and mistreat men without judgment or consequences, for it is taboo to argue or stand up to them.

Females in America are given role models in the form of action stars, like Angelina Jolie, who in Tomb Raider as Lara Croft, is rough and tough, kicks ass, does not need men, does not act sweet, feminine or tender, does not giggle or blush, and all the while looking sexy at the same time.

Yet any honest natural man will tell you that such a woman with no feminine qualities is not attractive at all, and dealing with her is very awkward. How can you have a loving, intimate, fulfilling relationship with a woman who is rough and tough, doesn't need you and tries to act stronger than you? You can't flirt with her, court her, or charm her without feeling like you are violating her "independence from femininity". Yet you can't treat her like a male buddy either, because no matter how hard she tries to act like a man, she is not one, in ANY way. So what can you do with her?! You can't treat her like a man or a woman! It's the most awkward and dysfunctional thing.

Plus, these feminist independent women who don't need men often do not dress feminine. They hate wearing skirts and high heels and even like cutting their hair short to look like men.

How can that be beautiful or feminine to men? How can that bring out the male attraction for the feminine?

How can being strong and independent soothe a man's need for tenderness and fulfill his need for love and his need to merge with the female energy?!

IT CAN'T AND IT DOESN'T!

So obviously feminism has F***ED up our relationships, whether it was engineered or not. There's no way around it. And that's NOT a good thing.

I am not a chauvinist or sexist at all. I do not advocate male dominance or female submission either. I am just exposing the truth about the destructive harmful force called feminism which pollutes female minds in America and seeks to infest the rest of the world too. It prevents men from acting like men and women from acting like women. I am merely advocating that balance and harmony be restored, for men to be men again, and women to be women.

I am not anti-female at all. If anything, I am PRO-female. I love women and many of my best friends are females. But I Pro-True Female, or Pro-True Feminine Energy and Femininity. This artificial woman created by modern feminism is anything but natural or normal. It runs against Nature, God and every natural thing.

The sad thing is that many women are tricked into thinking that this "new feminism" is somehow liberating them and allowing them to reach their full potential. Yet how can they become self-actualized by suppressing their own natural life force or feminine energy? How is that wholesome or harmonious, when it's destructive to relationships and forces men to emasculate themselves and deny their own masculinity? Any time you try to bring up something by oppressing others, it will be a formula for destruction.

It's a total scam against women. It masculinizes women and emasculates men, twisting the male/female dynamic out of whack, turning America into one of the most unnatural dating scene in the world. It is also tyranny in disguise, which seeks to placate and weaken males, while giving women unaccountable power, which corrupts and ruins relationships.

And if you are really pro-women and pro-female, you'd expose this scam and bring awareness of it, so people can see what it really is. You'd help women get back in touch with their true divine female energy inherent in them, and stop this scam which tries to get women to deny their own femininity.

The choice is yours: Will you endorse a path that leads to destruction and division, or one that leads to love, balance and harmony?

Discuss this article here: <http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=8259>

Reader comments:

- "One thing I noticed while I was getting my ESL certificate. American women of various ages who taught at that English school in USA were ALL married to FOREIGN MEN!!!

You will ask, WTF? How could that happen? Easy! These American girls taught English abroad for many years and they understood that feminism crap means loneliness and complete destruction within themselves. So they learned manners, romance and classiness. It was amazing, first time I actually talked to American women who were smart and intelligent, but they did not want to even hear about

American men because of their selfishness and "ice-bubble", constant football games and jerkiness.

So, basically, this is a two-way street! It is not exactly men who is feeling bad, it is American women as well. What is missing here is that people DO NOT know how they should be acting, how they should be living, how romantic relationship should be because American population has NO CONNECTION to the outside world, culture, movies or music! How many times during the day do you see reports about Canadian politics in the USA? How many times have you seen news about improvements of Russian economy? How many times have you heard about amazing cultural event in Italy? NEVER! And I used to watch CNN a lot in the past. And I would slap Nancy Grace in the face cuz she says so much bulls*it. Who freakin' cares about someone who raped a child? Yes, it is bad, but talk about it for 1 hour??? Complete retardation.

In addition, I would hear American students (girls) talking how amazing it was while they volunteered in Africa and that they will move to Africa to live there, cuz people are just insanely nice, polite and respectful. I would also hear American students (girls) be completely happy with life in Europe during study abroad and say their time in Spain or France was a blast of their lifetime. So same goes for American girls - they are much happier abroad. The only problem - they don't know that!

WTF is wrong with image of men in the USA? If you look nice - you're gay. If you are dressed in fancy clothes - Armani, D&G, Gucci - you are gay. If you smell of expensive cologne - you're gay. If you have tight clothes or talk smart - you are gay. If you listen to techno music instead of cheap rock or retarded r'n'b - you are gay. If you drive certain car - you are gay. If you hug another guy or hang out with good looking guys - you are gay. So it seems to be easier to freaking become gay in the USA, I freaking swear! Ladislav knows that TOO, I read his post about American people reacting to see him dressing up better.

So in France, almost 80% of guys would look GAY to American girls, cuz they are dressed fancy, they wear fashionable clothes everywhere they go and they are very good looking! So guess what? 80% of French guys are retarded or American chicks have retarded perception? I think French guys are completely cool and American chicks are retarded.

There is only 1 solution for both men and women from the USA who want to be socially happy - GO ABROAD, get a life!"

- "I think the one of the main problems of American women is that they simply did not get any more "free", they did not achieve equality or more power for women. What they achieved is:

1. As mentioned in the article above - "Anti-biological behavior" which teaches them to hate men, which also ruins families and respect for men

2. Feminism made women in America basically copy men in everything. Women stopped dressing well, looking well, cooking, looking after kids, cleaning - everything is done by guys now. So what did American women achieve? They did not become "free", they basically became "MEN" in general term. However, American guys provide everything and guys are much better cooks than American women! And guys watch the kids and guys make money and guys are still bitched at every day. WTF? I have to say, guys are getting degraded as well, but I see very decent men with extremely retarded women (however, reversed is true as well). Somehow, hot girls date retards and hot guys date obese ugly women. Just so f*cked up.

3. What makes me mad is that with all this feminism crap talk, why wouldn't women go into construction jobs? What about serving in the military and dying in Iraq instead of guys? I mean, come on people, do women actually enjoy being men? I am not saying women should be weak, dumb or sit at home cooking, but jeez - how perverted biological image of female has become in the US? It's unbelievable.

I remember how Ukrainian or Russian girls would say "I enjoy looking good because I am a woman and I am supposed to look feminine and tender"... Wow, I have never heard any American girl say that and I expect they never even think that in their head. So what do they think about? It's out of my imagination, but probably nothing smart.

HUGE point that surprised me in the US relationship is that women and men are competing in their relationship rather than complementing (adding to, helping) each other. When you open up and share your true thoughts and ideas in front of an American chicks, she considers you weak and "loser". So she never releases her deep emotions either. So both of you rely on some superficial bond that does not even bond you because how can you even bond if there is no trust and no openness? Ukrainian girls actually love to talk deep talks, to "release your soul" as they say. They are OK for you to cry on their shoulder sometimes and they expect to cry on your shoulder if they feel like it. Also, how Ukrainian girls say in Russian or Ukrainian: "Ya hochu byt' za muzhem kak za kamennoi stenoj". That means literally: "I want to be behind my husband like a brick wall". Basically, they expect support, attention and protection (moral, physical and verbal) from their husband - not constant depressing banter, not constant competition proving who is better and who has more balls. Think of it, I hope this reveals some interesting details because I just don't see anything between Americans in their relationship - no basis, no concrete, it seems like friends with benefits who decide to get married because the sex is good. I am not seeing emotions, feelings, sensations, touches, massages, walks holding hands etc.

In addition, Ukrainian guys will most of the time speak for both him and his girlfriend when together in public. For example, when a waiter comes in a restaurant and asks if they (guy and girl) want some ice water, the guy asks a girl and then responds something like: "Yes, WE will take the ice water". Extremely funny, but when I watched "Couples Retreat" comedy, one of the advises was the same: "You guys talk about me and you, where does WE comes in?". But to me, it seems there is no "WE" in American relationship. Too much independence, too much competition between genders, too much closeness and everyone minds their own business without even sharing their true thoughts and often without trust to their loved ones. And I mean "real trust" as I know it from Ukrainian culture, as I experienced it with Ukrainian girlfriends."

The most narcissistic and paranoid women in the world

Without a doubt, **modern American women are definitely the most narcissistic and paranoid in the world.** In all the other 200 countries of the world, women are far more feminine, caring, considerate, and down to earth than in the US.

The narcissism of American women is unparalleled. Nearly every female in America now thinks she is a princess and deserves the very best in men. Their self-image is way out of proportion and totally unrealistic. As a result, no one is good enough for them, thus F ing up relationships in America in general, turning such a natural thing as male/female relationships into an extremely unnatural thing.

It's gotten so bad and out of hand, that even female psychologists have taken notice. In this news article, they describe this narcissism:

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/femail/article-1213212/The-ego-epidemic-more-inflated-sense-fabulousness.html>

Excerpts:

'Us women are more egocentric and narcissistic than we ever used to be, according to extensive research by two leading psychologists.'

'Women today think the universe revolves around them and have a deluded sense of their abilities'

'It used to be that most women who joined a dating agency had a pretty good idea of where they stood in the eligibility stakes,' she said. 'But in the past few years, I've noticed that there are a significant number of women who don't.

'They tend to be in their 30s, and there is a wide discrepancy between how they perceive themselves and how others see them.

'They are often very plain, but see themselves as being absolutely fabulous, exceptional people.

'They invariably reject every guy's profile I send them. But if a guy rejects their profile, there is all hell to pay. There is disbelief. They are really saying: "I'm so fabulous. How dare he turn me down?"

'In the past few years, I've noticed a real sense of entitlement among this small group of women. The idea that a guy might not find them as amazing as they find themselves doesn't enter their head.

'They often become indignant and angry towards me, demanding to know why a guy dared to turn them down. Most people simply accept the facts of the dating game: some people will find you attractive and others won't, in the same way that you'll be drawn to some but not others.

Women today think the universe revolves around them and have a deluded sense of their abilities

'These women, however, are unable to get their heads around the fact that the rest of the world might not share the distorted, inflated view they have of themselves.'

She said she had a eureka moment when she read a recent article about the rise in narcissism among women.

According to the American research, there has been a 67 per cent increase in it over the past two decades, mainly among women.

An estimated ten per cent of the population suffers from narcissism as a full-blown personality disorder.

The symptoms include: a grandiose sense of self-importance; the belief that he or she is special or unique and in some way better - either intellectually or physically - than others; a requirement for

excessive admiration; a sense of entitlement, whether to fame, fortune, success and happiness or simply to special treatment; enviousness of others or a belief that others are envious of him or her; an inability to empathise; an inability to admit a mistake; and haughty behaviour or attitude.

Read more here: <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/femail/article-1213212/The-ego-epidemic-more-inflated-sense-fabulousness.html>

American women are also overly paranoid, exaggerating the danger from every male around them. Humans have never been as segregated and isolated as they are today.

They aren't just that way because I'm not their type either. It's in their highly defensive posture, demeanor, facial expression, vibe and aura. Just go to a large public place where they love to hang out at, and you will see what I mean. Try to say hi to any of the gals there, and most of them will ignore you and not even acknowledge your existence. Others will give you a mean bitchy look. Some may say hi or smile back half-heartedly, but as soon as you try to make conversation with them, they start pulling away.

Try going to the mall food court and observing the atmosphere. You will notice that everyone is in a closed shell, no interaction with strangers, and those that came together are having a quiet and bland conversation, with little to smile about. It's a very cold, stiff, rigid and atmosphere. Not free-spirited at all. And if you happen to find a girl sitting by herself, she will not want any company. Try asking her, and she will tell you that she prefers to be alone. What kind of person likes to eat alone?! How boring. But such is the reclusiveness of modern American women. It's a nightmarish situation for single men all around. It's as if a guy isn't supposed to have desires, and if he does, then he can't do anything to pursue them, fulfill them, or express them. Ick!

But alas, if you insist on approaching these unapproachable women, there can be dire consequences! The problem gets worse outside the big cities like LA and New York (where women are so used to getting "hit on" that it's a mere routine for them to brush them off). In small towns and isolated suburbs, some paranoid women can't handle being "hit on" or flirted with, and will actually call security on anyone who does! Somehow, they feel so violated by flirtation that they have to treat it as if it were "criminal behavior"! If that isn't whacked, then I don't know what is! I've experienced this a few times myself and I can say it's quite humiliating. A guy cited the same experience in my Guestbook:

<http://www.ultraquest.com/view/1200586414>

"A friend of mine forwarded me several of your articles. I live in New Jersey. There have been times when I was just trying to be friendly with ladies in the Moorestown mall. Like girls working in the food court or clothing stores. There have been a few times I have been even threatened by the mall security. Just for saying hi to the girls. Can you or anyone tell me. Whats up with this. Why are the ladys so paranoid in this country. I'm not a monster. I don't even kill bugs. I'm a very kind gentle loving person."

And their paranoia makes the dating scene for men exponentially more difficult. I would venture to guess that the extreme paranoia of American women is a sort of self-fulfilling prophecy where they actually draw and attract that which they fear most. Here's how one of my Forum posters honestly put it:

<http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=4580&start=10>

"The problem is that women here are so PARANOID! It's as if you're guilty (being a stalker, being creepy, being a loser, being nerdy) until proven innocent. So the immediate courtship process is about trying to demonstrate you're not one of those things. I want to believe I'm a very honest, upfront, romantic, exciting / adventurous man. But it's the dating process (before I developed callouses) has actually made me question myself, and wonder if I'm not a good person. When women insult you just for talking to them, it can cause some insecurity."

For some reason, American girls nowadays maintain this overly proper and artificial yet distant tone when speaking to strangers, which doesn't allow you to get close and personable to them. And this applies whether you are working with them, or interacting with them in public. Conversations with them are short, to-the-point, impersonable, distant, and business-like. In other countries, it's nothing like that at all! Since America's population constitutes only 5 percent of the world population (something most Americans don't even know), that means that 95 percent of the female population of the world isn't like that. This means that fortunately, this anti-social defensive trait of American women is unique, unnatural, and NOT the norm.

In most of the world, it does NOT feel awkward and inappropriate, as if you are violating some type of boundary, when you approach a girl you don't know that you want to meet. In the rest of the world, girls may be shy and reserved sometimes, but there is never this anti-stranger, overly proper and distant communication style toward strangers. Even British women, who also tend to behave too properly, are more warm, pleasant, and sociable in comparison. This makes the modern American social environment totally stagnated, boring, cliquish, and unnatural. No wonder so many guys become sickos, perverts, psychos, insane, and starved for attention. The situation they are in is totally depriving and revolting.

US women are overwhelmingly anti-men, anti-approachable, anti-social, stuck up, reclusive, and seem to be instilled with the notion that all men they don't know are creeps. When greeted, a paranoid look surfaces on them as they put up a defensive force field. To them, the only acceptable reason to be approached by men is if they need the time or directions. It's very weird and unusual, for women in the rest of the world aren't like that. Unfortunately, that's what our country has become.

Only in America could you be in a room or area full of attractive women, such a nightclub, but they turn out to be all anti-social and unapproachable against meeting new people. This would be virtually impossible in any other country.

Of course, some may argue to me that the problem must be me because they and others they know have no problem meeting or dating women in America. Well to them, I can use the same rationale, that the problem must be America since I don't this problem in the other 200 countries of the world. So there you go. Plus, those people may have different standards (e.g. one woman to date a year is plenty to them) or they have a wide circle of friends in their clique, or they may be BSing out of pride.

American women might feel "liberated" by not needing men. But that is not good for relationships or for men who need women. Women were not made to be alone. These aberrant females are going against nature. Hence the natural frustration of single men in America about these "liberated" women. How can you have a good relationship with someone who doesn't need you and couldn't care less about you, who at any moment can toss you out like used clothes? There is no love or bond in that. These women who don't need a man have no sense of commitment, except to themselves, and will not give much of themselves to others. Nothing good can come of that.

Why American women don't make good wives - narcissistic and sociopathic

The following does not apply to all American women, just in general (and especially to those of the modern era since American women of the old days did make good wives). Modern American women are the least likely to make good wives for obvious reasons. Besides harboring a disdain for cultivating domestic skills, they are also narcissistic, self-centered and sociopathic.

First, they do not care about the needs and feelings of their partner. Rather than see her needs and her partners' needs as "one" and on equal status, she constantly evaluates how her partner serves HER needs. Thus, when he no longer serves her needs or interests, or she changes her mind about him, she has no problem dumping him like worn-out clothes.

Second, they are very disrespectful to the needs of their husband. Dr. Laura Schlessinger, author of *The Proper Care and Feeding of Husbands*, notes how American husbands feel unappreciated and taken for granted by their wives, as if their feeling don't matter. In this summary of her book, a blogger writes:

<http://marriagescene.com/2010/10/01/american-womens-disregard-for-the-value-feelings-and-needs-of-husbands/>

"A large number of married men in America feel disrespected. They feel used. They feel deceived. They feel that yes, their feelings and needs are disregarded and society allows this disregard, even encourages it. They agree that American women feel they are entitled and don't think they owe a man anything yet believe that men owe them the world on a platter. They complain that women make their demands and their men try to give and give and give until it gets to where it dawns on the man that he's giving and giving and giving and getting only ingratitude in return. The man starts showing his unhappiness with the situation and that's when things start to go downhill because as far as his wife is concerned he's not entitled to have feelings. His sole purpose in life is to make sure she is content and happy. She can treat him however she wants. He has no right to complain about it.

In her book Dr. Laura aims to open the eyes of American wives to help them see that they are the ones digging their own graves where their failing marriages are concerned. She shows them how to own their power, not the power to control their husbands and make them miserable and in so doing make them easier targets for women who go after married men, but their power to keep their marriages strong, and keep their husbands and themselves happy and have the kind of marriage that they want."

Thus, it's very hard to have even an equal relationship or marriage with a modern American woman, since she doesn't view you as an equal or even one whom she is in a union with, but as two separate entities with separate needs and interests, joined together by a mutual agreement contract no different than that of a business relationship. And when either party feels that their needs/interests aren't being met, rather than try to work it out, they simply terminate it. Hence, our unusually high rate of divorce in this country.

Marriages can only work if both parties are willing to work it out due to a commitment to love and duty. But American women are least likely to be willing to.

To a typical young American woman, people are like objects. She can eject them and dump them whenever she likes without remorse, empathy or attachment. In this sense, she can never have a true relationship or bond with someone, for she never forms a true attachment or bond with others. Deep down she is a narcissist, caring only about herself and her needs, and seeing the whole universe revolving around her.

Strangely, American women are the least likely to go out with men they consider to be "just friends". In America there is this hang up that if a man and woman are out alone together, then they are a couple. Therefore, an American woman tends to limit contact with a male "friend" only through phone/email occasionally, or by going out with a group of friends.

Coldly, American women are also the least likely to remain friends or keep in contact with former lovers, boyfriends and spouses (unlike foreign women who usually stay friends with their exes). In fact, they treat them worse than enemies. At least enemies acknowledge each other's existence while spewing and trashing each

other. However, American women treat their exes as if they never existed and never knew them. After a breakup, they cease all contact with their ex, erase his existence from their life, and coldly flush him out of their life completely, in a cold-blooded sociopathic manner. Any attempt from the ex to contact her results in accusations of stalking and threats of restraining orders, which are validated by the feminist culture movement that vilifies men. Foreign women on the other hand, usually always remain friends with their exes, keeping in contact and visiting them when they're in the area. This difference has been true in my experiences with my exes as well. It just goes to show how the foreign women still have a genuine heart while American women somehow killed theirs off.

In fact, the sociopathic nature of the modern American female's heart shows when you try to compliment or flatter her. They either give a nonchalant "thank you", think nothing of it, or assume you are a creep. In other countries, you can get a date simply by complimenting or sweet talking a girl with sincere words, triggering her femininity into attraction and romance. But with American women, no way jose. To them, such attempts have no effect, triggers nothing in them, and often makes you a bad person in their eyes for trying to "seduce" them. With warped logic, they assume by default that ANY man who tries to spend time with them, even platonically or just to talk, is after her body and "objectifies" her. It's a false assumption and false logic that they hold that creates an unfeminine no-win situation for men.

Morbidly, American women seem to treat abusive men better than they treat nice men. For example, if they dump a nice man, they will never give him a second chance, but if they dump an abusive man, they often go back to him and give him another chance. Therefore, in theory, you have a better chance of getting a second chance with an American woman by throwing her out of a moving car, then by being nice to her! How messed up is that?!

For some reason, American women seem to have a split personality disorder. They can be very sweet and tell you all the wonderful things you love to hear, but then suddenly turn on you at the drop of a dime, telling you never to contact them again or else they will issue a restraining order. Worst of all, this sudden switch from friend/lover to enemy, can happen due to no fault of your own - something out of your control, a simple misunderstanding, a wrong assumption/conclusion on their part, or even a mere hallucination on their part. I've experienced it many times (or perhaps I just have the worst luck when it comes to women). Whatever the case, it's totally irrational and unstable, yet they are like this.

Furthermore, they can go from being sincere and honest, claiming to never lie, to suddenly lying pathologically when it comes time to blowing you off, avoiding you, or ditching you.

They say that little things say a great deal, and actions speak louder than words. Well usually when a white American girl walks with her Asian male date, she doesn't bother to slow her aggressive fast pace to accommodate his often slower pace. Instead, she still walks like she's always in a rush, forcing her Asian male date to run and keep up. This says a lot about her attitude toward herself and others, the fact that she too selfish and inconsiderate to accommodate others' pace. No, the reality is that it's all about her. Sadly, there's no gentleness or tenderness in her.

Instead, white American females tend to be rough, harsh, impatient, and sociopathic toward kind sensitive men like me, rather than gentle or tender. They are quick to say things that hurt other's feelings, are always in a rush to get somewhere, and don't make themselves available. Being totally self-centered, they have very little patience, and are not caring or empathetic toward their partner's needs. When my Asian parents met the white American females I've been involved with in the past, they've always noticed immediately that "deep down, she only cares about herself".

Chillingly, for some reason some modern American women harbor deep hatred and anger within them and are subconsciously looking for excuses to vent it out on others, especially men. They are "haters" looking for an excuse to "hate". (Most of the ones I've known like this were raised by single mothers who conditioned them to hate men, including their father) Being with them is like walking on eggshells. Any time they feel like it, they will unleash their self-hatred on you, ejecting you from their lives without cause. Subconsciously, they will look for excuses to do so, for it's part of their control drama. Even if they don't have a legitimate excuse to hate you, or you don't give them one, they will simply "make up" one. Thus, you don't even have to do anything wrong for them to hate or eject you. That's how F@#\$ed up they are. Their dysfunctional egos seem to feed on hate. Some of them start out as sweet and innocent when they're young, but somehow as they get older, they transform into jaded angry haters, eventually shutting everyone out of their lives and finding fault with all.

Unlike women in most countries, an American woman derives no happiness in pleasing her man or attending to his needs, but instead feels enslaved or oppressed by such notions, influenced by our modern feminist culture. When they make decisions, they are least likely to consider their partner's needs than women in other nations. Instead, they see their man as someone who must accept and deal with whatever decision they make, cause in the modern household, women are the "boss" according to our modern feminist-controlled culture. (Incidentally, I've met many couples in America where the man points to his wife and says, "She's the boss")

Now, American women may feel liberated by all this, but in the eyes of the rest of the world, they are considered very unfeminine and unpleasant as well as unnatural. And this is true also in the eyes of foreign women. Though American women like to have this fantasy that foreign women envy them, in reality they don't. Instead, they find their attitude distasteful, unfeminine and unlikable.

Amazingly, there are a rare few American girls out there who agree with me. This one cites her friend as a typical example of what I describe:

"I digress...Like I said, the typical American woman you mentioned is a very accurate description. While I hesitate to call her my friend, I will do so here for ease of letting my writing flow. My friend often "throws people away," as you mentioned. When she finds that they are not living up to her demands (being available for a drinking party at her house, etc.), she will give them the cold shoulder, allow them a "chance" to redeem themselves, and then, when they prove themselves "disloyal" again, she will cut off all contact. I have seen many mutual friends become alienated by her because of this. She also typifies the American Girl in the way she acts/greets others/etc. While quick to include anyone with potential of boosting her social status, or one who easily fits into her clique (where she will be revered as beautiful and wonderful and dear), she just as quickly excludes all who don't seem to fit her well. (For example, she has stated many times that she hates my boyfriend because he is weird. She plotted against a mutual friend of ours, my best friend, to break her heart and 'teach her a lesson.' All for what? Does she just get bored?!)

Her life revolves around partying, consuming mass amounts of alcohol and later, laughingly, telling stories (or lack thereof) about the previous night. She buys spends all of her money on clothes, makeup, jewelry and shoes, and then wonders why she can't afford books for the semester, or a decent meal. She spends her remaining money on alcohol and fast food, only to watch in horror as her body grows fat (and she cries out, focusing on that thing alone). She is (excuse me for saying this), a cold-hearted bitch to men, using them until they aren't fun anymore. It's impossible to have a deep conversation with her, as she states she "hates politics" and/or "doesn't want to think deeply because it hurts." When she disagrees with something, she is very vocal about her stance, though her reasoning may be completely void of any logic. She makes a point of being rude to the people she doesn't like, and then wonders why more people don't like her."

And though rare, there are still some old-fashioned women left in America who disagree with the current trend of US female culture:

"I think it's hot and surprising that any man from any culture is dominant. There are so many men that are feminized and wimpy. What happened to old fashioned roles and values? I am miserable because of all those bra burning feminists that ruined things for my generation. I'd rather stay at home and cook and take care of babies, and be married, then be a single struggling mom trying to make it in this harsh world alone. No support. No love. It's misery. Sheer, pure, misery. Put that down for all the American girls out there. A nice dose of reality coming from your friend Kristy."

Western men who visit abroad often remark that they feel more like a "real man" and the women feel more like "real women". Not to sound sexist, but perhaps it's because when each gender keeps more in line with their natural roles, we get a deeper sense of naturalness and identity.

[Divorce rates: American vs. Foreign women](#)

Thus it is no surprise that divorce rates in America are so unbelievably high. Here are the general statistics compiled by the US government:

Divorce rate in America – 50 - 60%

Divorce rate between American Man and Foreign Wife – 20%

Source: http://www.uscis.gov/files/article/MobRept_AppendixA.pdf

“It is interesting to note that, based largely on data provided by the agencies themselves (along with the Commission on Filipinos Overseas report cited above), marriages arranged through these services would appear to have a lower divorce rate than the nation as a whole, fully 80 percent of these marriages having lasted over the years for which reports are available.”

A friend of mine did some research into why Americans have such a high divorce rate. Here is the summary of his findings:

Sources:

<http://students.eng.fiu.edu/~denver/pdfs/DivorceRate.pdf>

http://www.associatedcontent.com/article/152965/a_closer_look_at_the_reasons_for_the.html

Lack of social Stigma over divorce

The one major change that has pushed up our divorce rates so dramatically is the lack of societal stigma. The fabric that help together unhappy marriages in the past was not legal hurdles or lack of women's rights, but rather a very negative opinion of divorce in the American community. Couples who were unhappy knew that a divorce would bring even more unhappiness, in the form of rejection and derision from families and peers. Even their children would suffer at the hands of classmates and teachers. The threat of being disgraced in the community was enough to keep them together for better or worse.

In western countries like the USA, getting a divorce is just as easy as getting dessert. Should I or should I not?

One of the reasons the divorce rate is so high is that people have such a shabby view of marriage. Consider how many people actually go to Las Vegas to get married - with not even a thought of seeking God's blessing. Given the low esteem of marriage that this represents, is it surprising that so many of them get divorced?

Expecting Perfection

I've once heard a woman say, "I don't want to divorce my husband, but if he doesn't change, I have no choice." IF HE DOESN'T CHANGE! All of this while she was actively looking for someone else...while still married. But she is so perfect, she is entitled to demand perfection of others. Until she realizes that some of her ways need to change, men will always turn out to be dogs. All of her relationships will end the same way. One of the reasons people get divorced is that they demand and expect perfection of the other person. Once someone expects perfection from another human being, they will never fail to be disappointed. Then they will find themselves unhappy in their marriage, supposedly because the other person is not making them happy. There are some people who will not be happy, regardless of whom they marry.

Selfishness –

(According to Dr Twenge's work, she says that the rise in narcissism was most noticeable among American woman!! Keep in mind, selfishness is a key component of Narcissism.) This leads to another reason why people get divorced. People are inherently selfish. I am not happy. I don't care about my spouse or my children, what

about ME? Sure you need to look out for yourself, but people today look only after themselves. But that's human nature. The flesh is inherently selfish. Modern relationships consist of two people trying to take from each other as much as they could. When they realize that the other person could no longer give them what they want, they opt out.

Lack of Commitment

I believe this is the major American reason for getting divorced. U.S. couples stand before the minister, rabbi, or justice of the peace and often repeat the words "till death do us part", but rarely do they really consider the implications of this promise. Couples of past generations seem to have understood commitment so much better. I am always amazed when I read the stories of World War II brides who married after knowing their fiancés ½ for only a few days, weeks, or months-then went on to spend fifty or more years together. It couldn't have all been a "bed of roses"-learning to live with someone they hardly knew, yet they made it work. These couples understood commitment Americans unrealistic belief of "expecting to be in love all the time"

A misunderstanding of "love".

Unfortunately, Americans base their views on what love is primarily from what they see in the movies or on television, or read in a novel. Love according to these sources is that special, heart-throbbing feeling that you get from just seeing someone or hearing their voice. Almost every couple will experience these feelings, especially when they are first dating. For many U.S. couples, when the "feelings" fade away and the reality of actually living with and being committed to someone with all their faults and failures sinks in, that's when the marriage dies. The individuals move on to the next "exciting" person who comes along, until they "feel" like they are "in love" again-after all, isn't that how our society portrays love? Love is so much more than feelings; it grows into something that is steadfast, deep, and abiding rather than shallow.

I'm a lurker in various American cheating forums and pretty much every reason I have read as to why a woman cheated was because the "chemistry" went away and they felt as though they were being cheated out of the soul mate experience .

Americans quit

An inability to work through difficulties. When the going gets tough, Americans tend to quit. Finances get tight sometimes. Unplanned children are born. Planned children put unexpected stress on a marriage. It is easier to just walk away than to work through the problems.

American women initiate the majority of divorces

In fact, American women are reported to initiate 66 percent of the divorces in America. Here are some of the reasons they do, according to one study:

<http://www.livestrong.com/article/146100-why-do-women-initiate-divorce/>

Overview

In 2000, two law professors, Margaret Brinig from Notre Dame University and Douglas Allen from Iowa, conducted a surprising study. The two professors studied 46,000 divorce cases filed in four states--- Connecticut, Virginia, Montana and Oregon---to find out why women file for divorce. The results of that study, published in "These Boots Are Made for Walking: Why Most Divorce Filers Are Women," proved to be surprising. Women are 66 percent more likely to file for a divorce than a man, Brinig and Allen say. However, the reason why has proven unexpected.

Domestic Violence Not a Factor

Contrary to expectations, divorcing in order to escape domestic violence was not prevalent, according to this landmark study by Brinig and Allen. In Virginia, for example, only 6 percent of the divorce cases showed violence as a cause for the divorce.

Infidelity Not a Major Factor

The Brinig and Allen study, reviewed in the New York Times by fathers rights advocate John Tierney, found that adultery on the part of the husband was also not a major cause of divorces filed by wives against husbands. Infidelity on the part of the wife was not significant either.

Exploitation Not a Factor

While the wives' feelings of being "too good" for their less financially or socially successful husbands was cited in 20 percent of the divorce cases studied, Brinig and Allen still found that even this reason--- "I'm tired of him living off my back financially"---did not account for a significant majority.

"Because I've Outgrown Him"

Women today often decide to divorce their husbands because they have simply outgrown them, according to author Carol Ann Wilson in her book "ABCs of Divorce for Women." Wilson, a professional counselor for women in financial issues, says that many more women are simply realizing that they have new career and personal growth opportunities. Wilson says that wives who married young especially develop new perspectives over the years, perspectives that outdistance their husbands' ability to keep pace.

"Because I Don't Need Him"

In this age of continuing independence for women in general, divorce often is an escape for women who simply do not want in a marriage anymore. Some women just don't feel they need marriage any longer to feel complete or be successful, according to author and researcher Ashton Applewhite in his book "Cutting Loose: Why Women Who End Their Marriages Do So."

"Because I Will Win"

Statistically, author Margaret Brinig says, women who filed for divorce most often felt confident they would receive advantageous custody agreements. "The question of custody absolutely swamps all the other variables," Brinig said. "Our study found that children are the most important asset in a marriage and the partner who expects to get custody is by far the one most likely to file for divorce." Brinig adds that not only are women certain they will get custody, they divorce specifically in order to "gain full control over the children."

Obviously, something is very much out of whack in American relationships. There is no question about it. So the question is, if you're a single guy there who is not one of the "alpha males", why stay on a sinking ship in a losing situation where the odds are against you, when you could do much better overseas?

Reader comments:

- *"You're absolutely correct. Anyhow, why bother with American women? They are no quality AT ALL and they are a big headache. I have already given up on them. They are complicated-minded and have MANY issues to deal with. Also, their perception of the world around them is unreal and skewed big time. They are prisoners of their own minds. My advice is to drop chasing american women, they're useless, uncultured, superficial, selfish, self-centered, unrealistic, unsophisticated, have an unjustified attitude and come with many psychological problems. Think about it this way: when an american woman gets to live abroad, she will become different (in a good way) and will have a different approach to life. She will be more fun to be with.*

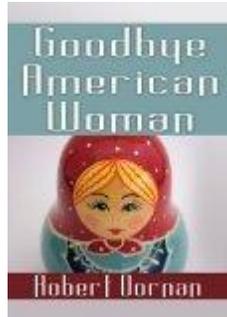
I would focus on eastern europeans or latin americans who are way too different and getting to meet them and date them is more enjoyable and will give one a totally different outlook on life. I guess I can think of two root causes (out of many) that the US society suffers from:

1. American Women. 2. US Media."

- *"I think American women become cold and hateful when they're older because they are trying too hard to be masculine. They think the less feminine they get, the happier they will be, but the truth is the less feminine they get, the more frustrated they will become. They'll never figure it out. Man they're really lost."*

- *"I enjoy your writings very much. I agree with most of your analysis on American culture as compared with Russian and European culture. I have thought the same as you for many years and I am happy to have found your site for it confirms what i have thought about American Women for many years. They*

are very selfish and brainwashed, They are brainwashed by their mothers, government, media and education into believing that they are some how superior to all human beings. I think once their brainwashed minds have been opened and their conceptions of themselves laid bare by self-analysis , they will see that they are truly a vain, lazy, materialistic, superficial and hedonistic shell of a human being.”



<http://www.amazon.com/gp/product/1412076668?ie=UTF8&tag=happabro-20&linkCode=as2&camp=1789&creative=9325&creativeASIN=1412076668>

Description from Amazon.com: If you have ever wondered what drives men and women to look beyond their own borders to find their soul mate then this book will answer all your questions as well as entertain and perhaps enrage you. Enter into the psyche of these lonely singles and experience a contentious yet heart-warming fun-filled ride to romance, rejection and love.

Lions and hyenas = Me and American women?

This might be difficult for some to believe, especially the politically correct folks, but American women seem to reject me not only for my looks, image or race, but they seem to have an instinctual innate primal hatred of me. It's kind of like how lions and hyenas, birds and cats, etc. are born with an instinctual knowing that they are enemies that repulse each other, forcing a fight or flee response. Therefore, in a sense, me and them are like lions and hyenas, oil and water, etc.

You see, even if they are attracted to me, we have a lot in common with me, great chemistry, and everything seems perfect, all of a sudden everything can change at the drop of a hat. There seems to be this subconscious innate reaction that emerges within them to hate me and reject me. It may not sound logical, but I can definitely sense it. I can even feel this in the vibes from them. And yes, this tends to happen even when I do NOTHING wrong. Simply put, they just seem meant to hate me, and nothing I do or don't do changes that.

This could all be due to a genetic factor, or even a spiritual one. Perhaps at the soul level, my soul and theirs are natural adversaries like lions and hyenas are. I can only speculate. All I know is that they tend to be sociopathic while I tend to be tender.

Perhaps this may be the reason why I tend to feel a strong "force field" around American women against me, due to us being natural enemies, not by conscious choice. Thus, this maybe the true source of their infamous "force field".

It's as if it's against the law of Mother Nature for me to even try to get American women in my social circle. That's how it's always felt for some odd reason.

As a matter of fact, even on the internet 95 percent of American women seem to disappear after seeing my photo, even if it's a clean cut handsome one, and even if they liked my words/self-description before. Something about me just turns them off at the primordial level. But on the other hand, European/foreign women I correspond with are almost never turned off by my picture nor disappear when seeing it. That's a huge difference (proving once again for the umpteenth time that people are NOT the same everywhere).

I don't know. Perhaps mainstream American valley girls (the type with airheadish uncultured accents) don't like deep soulful guys, but instead are drawn to badass boys, jocks, long haired musicians in a band, rebels, etc. hence even if they think I'm cute, I'm just not their "type". They say the eyes are the window to the soul, and you can pick up real vibes from photos; thus maybe they see something in my "soul" that is diametrically opposed to theirs. Or perhaps I have very bad relationship karma from past lives.

American Women even treat abusive men better than they treat me, though I am nice, caring, attentive, supportive, respectful and considerate of them. At least with abusive men, they give them multiple chances to change, and many are infamous for coming back to them. But with me, once they dump me (even for nothing I did wrong), that's it. There's no second chance or reconciliation. When they eject me, it's for good. Gee, how special it is to be treated worse than abusive men! It's as if, in theory, throwing them out of a moving vehicle may more likely get me a second chance with them, then being kind, caring, attentive, and considerate to them! How weird is that?!

In short, we are like oil and water. They see me as a creep for having desires and acting like I am "something" around them when they think I'm "nothing". And I see them as cold, harsh, and brutal, like Nazis. Inside, they are not soft, tender, gentle, or kind, but rather harsh, abrupt, and can say cruel hurtful things without remorse or guilt. Deep down, they seem to have an angry spiteful nature. Or maybe they just have an "alien soul" that is of a different spiritual family group than mine is.

Now keep in mind also that before you start attacking or blaming me for this, know that I did NOT choose any of this to be this way, so no need to condemn the innocent here.

On the other hand, around foreign women, I tend to feel a more comfortable natural kinship and kindred spirit, not just between our personalities, but between our vibes, instincts, and innate primordial selves.

Again, this may not sound logical or plausible to some, but we have to keep in mind that many things that are true in life are not logical either.

Therefore, if you find what I say in this ebooklet about American women to be quite negative, harsh, or hateful, this theory may help explain why. I am not a person who hates or despises for no reason. In fact, I am a naturally kind, gentle, soft-hearted, caring person. But I am fair, and I tend to give back exactly what I receive. So, whatever I express or "give out" in my writings is usually exactly what I have received.

It's like that old parenting cliché that says that however the world treats a child is how the child will treat the world when he/she grows up. I hope that puts things in perspective.

Some American women have even had the audacity to charge that the reason American women treat me like shit is because of my attitude displayed in my writings! Gee whiz how ignorant can one be? These women are even more shortsighted than dogs and cats! Of course I NEVER STARTED with this attitude toward American women. And in fact, this is not about my attitude even, but theirs! I merely report my experiences and observations. And any "attitude" I display are a RESULT and REFLECTION of my experiences, NOT a cause of them. In fact, I STARTED with an overly optimistic attitude that all I had to do was put my best foot forth, and American women would like me. Sadly, I couldn't have been more wrong. But I couldn't accept it so I kept trying and trying for years, buying the myth that the problem must be me, because American culture believes that anyone who complains about how things are, are "the problem". But no matter how many times I try to explain that to these judgmental victim blaming women, it falls on deaf ears.

Approachable Faces of Foreign Women (Visual Proof)

"I blamed myself for my lack of success with American women. So, I worked hard for many years to improve myself... and I was still getting rejected by women who had no business being picky!... So then I did some traveling to Hungary, the Czech Republic, and the Philippines, and beautiful young women couldn't keep their hands off of me! Dating is like real estate- the 3 most important factors are location, location, location!" – [Hero forum post](#)

Nowadays, US women project a very strong **anti-stranger, unapproachable force field/bubble** around them that says, *"Don't mess with me. I'm unapproachable. I don't talk to strangers. If I don't know you, you have no business talking to me unless you are lost and need directions. (Unless of course, you are or look like Tom Cruise or Brad Pitt.)"*

In the US, the only approachable lot seems to be older men and punk guys. So if you like approaching those types, I guess you could say people are "approachable" in the US. But with young women, it's a totally different universe. Generally speaking, American women don't like to talk to strangers, and if you try to meet them, they think you're a creep. But since meeting and dating beautiful women is high on my list, I've got a problem with that. Frankly, I don't appreciate feeling like a creep just cause I like girls. I prefer the company of women, and I find them more attractive, pleasurable and stimulating. But in America women are generally closed, paranoid, defensive, stuck up, and cliquish. So in the US I tend to be limited to male friends and acquaintances.

This "force field" or "bubble" I describe emanates from the attitude, separatist ego and mentality of young American women, and is definitely real. I can more than attest to it, for I have felt its presence strongly and experienced it thousands of times I've approached and talked to American women. And in fact, it's the first thing I notice at the airport whenever I return to the US from abroad. When I try to meet them, I sense some kind of shield and that I am violating some type of boundary. When approached, if they find out that you are speaking to them for purposes other than asking directions, they suddenly get defensive, upset, and act as though you've violated their boundaries. Attempting to penetrate their bubble elicits a negative response which causes an energy drain on me that discourages me from trying again. That's why most guys in the US don't have the guts to approach women. It's unnatural, creepish, anxiety-provoking, discouraging and usually leads to no real result.

For example, try walking in a public place or mall where scores of attractive women hang out at. When you say hi to them, most don't even acknowledge your existence. Those that do will only smile back half-heartedly before moving on to mind their own business. And if you try to make conversation with them, they get defensive and quickly withdraw away. (Incidentally, I've challenged those who claim that American women are approachable to do this, but they all failed and chickened out. They were just all talk.) The ones that work there will give you a professional "Hi how can I help you?" of course, but that's their job.

US women are not comfortable meeting people, and if they have to do so, then they humor them with fake contrived greetings. They prefer to ignore your existence if they don't know you and you're not in their clique. The only folks who try to deny it are the politically correct, narrow-minded, reality deniers and feminists who hate men. Anti-social people themselves also notice nothing wrong (since anti-social people consider other anti-social people to be normal).

Besides me, many others have felt it as well. For instance:

*"The invisible wall you described does exist. I felt it many times. With me, when I used to go out more, I would usually just be looking for some intelligent conversation. Sex sometime too. I find woman, yes even American woman, to be alot more interesting than American men. But approaching a woman with that "F*** You" look on her face, I 'm sure you know the one I'm talking about, is hard. So I wait for them to approach me. It has happened, just not as much as I like."*

And this person put it vehemently:

"I recently found your website and agree with everything you have said. American women are the most spoiled, unfriendly, unapproachable and anti-social women in the world! I live in the Chicago area and the women here are just like you describe them on your website. Even some of the fat and ugly girls have the attitude that men owe them something!! It's hard to meet women when they are unapproachable and give off that vibe that says "don't approach me unless I already know you!"

This French speaking student lamented his surprise at how unapproachable American females are:

<http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=7285>

"Hello folks sorry my accent I primarily speak French (24 y guy)... I am a finance student and I have been studying here since 2006. I just want to say hello and join the club and make a short comment concerning the US and its dysfunctional social structure. Since I came here WOW my dating life has dramatically decreased to the point that the confidence that I had at the beginning was shattered. It is almost unbelievable how unapproachable women are here. when you approach a girl here she feels like you are going to rape her. Even if she finds you cute, she feels like you should be the one to go to her because she is so perfect and even if you do that; she plays mind game with you. You call her, she is either very busy (on weekends) or she does not answer. I have never experienced this before, and frankly I never thought that a country such USA could be like this. When I look at this, I would just say these women are very insecure and have a lot of mental issues. It would not be very to be involved with in anything. Anyway what are good countries to date in all continents for all races?"

And undoubtedly, the US media's propensity to make people live in fear is a factor too, as this reader explains:

"American culture is in reality dictated by the media. If you look at other cultures, let's say Canadian and Dutch, their media doesn't feed fear into the minds of their residents. Americans are deep down scared of too many things. The movie "Bowling for Columbine" was very accurate."

On the other hand, in the rest of the world, women are flattered and sweet when you approach them, whether they are interested or not, whether they are available or not. For example, women in Russia and Europe definitely do NOT have this anti-stranger, unapproachable force field around them. From abundant personal experience, I can say for sure that it is absent, as it is in the "normal world". But you wouldn't know how girls are in the "normal world" until you've left the Puritanical "Matrix" of the US, otherwise you have nothing to compare to.

In many foreign countries, when you approach or chat up girls, they don't get offended or see it as creepish, but are often flattered and see it as sweet, **giggling or blushing** in the process (how many American women nowadays blush or giggle?). It's a total refreshing contrast. That's how "real women" are, and it's truly feminine. Thus you feel more confident and relaxed about meeting women, since it's far more natural to do so. Basically, a guy is more allowed to be himself abroad, rather than suppress who he is.

And it's not because they all want your money either (although there are always a portion of bad apples, scammers, and hustlers that you can run into). For a list of reasons why, see the chapter entitled [Aren't foreign women just after your money and a green card?](#)

Getting dates outside the US is also easier and more a part of the flow. Why do you think in other countries there are not so many guys complaining about not being able to get dates like there are in the US? Think about it. That's another reason why the problem doesn't lie with me, as critics sometimes charge. Also, the fact that I don't have the dating problems abroad that I do in the US, also testifies that the problem was never really with me.

In Russia, for example, all you have to do is say "Hi I'm interested to meet you" in Russian and it builds naturally from there. That's it. It's the only line I ever need. It has worked for me hundreds of times, literally. No mind games or tricks are required. One reader who concurred wrote me:

"Mojno s vami poznamomitsa? - usually does it! Very direct and simple!!! dont have to "game" chicks in russia, like in America....

When picking up chicks in America, i tend to be very unnatural and sneaky, which I hate. I love when i can just approach an open minded chick and just tell them "I like you, you seem very interesting, can i get to know you!" thats it!!!"

Later on, he reiterated:

“Right on Winston. I met this Super from Lithuania in a club the other day. I just said hello and we instantly connected....Did not have to play mind games or tricks...she was also telling me that she got approached by some men, and she noticed how unnatural the men were, meaning they were acting as if they were doing something wrong, cause she said she is not used to such unnatural behavior....

zdravstvuite, mojno s vami poznakomitsa! is all you need!!.... cause thats how simple life should be, a man wants to meet a woman, and there is NOTHING wrong about it...

:)”

My pickup line in Russian though, is “Moznah vstretumsen?” for “Can we meet?”

In Russia, approaching and hitting on women is so normal that I am have even hit on Russian policewomen, believe it or not. On several occasions, including in Latvia (Eastern Europe), I made them blush and giggle as I sweet talked and complimented them. Here is one of them below. She walked around with me and gave me her number too. Imagine trying that in the US!



But with American women, you have to play games, be indirect, and often not even that works. For example, see this example of how complicated dating advice is in America. (Who wants to deal with this?)

<http://www.digihitch.com/ftopicp-31831.html#31831>

“Seeker, Tips:

* A non-straight answer means the girl isn't interested.

* Don't listen to your friends: NEVER tell a girl you want to get involved with "I like you" "I'm interested in you" or anything like that. That's for -after- the relationship is established. If you say this before she likes you, she will get the "ICK" factor, and you have LOST your chances with her. If she -already- likes you, these may work, but then again, she'll get involved with you no matter what you say if she already likes you. Along the same line is "Would you like to go out with me sometime?" NEVER ask this, or make reference to "going out with you" under any circumstances!

* Be VERY skeptical of advice that women give you about what women want. They mean well, they even believe what they say. But they are wrong. Following a woman's advice when you are pursuing another woman WILL make you lose your chance. Try an experiment. Ask for love advice from one of your female friends about "another female friend you like." Use that love advice on the same friend. See how quickly both chances of love AND friendship vanish into thin air!"

This forum poster put the dysfunctional crazy dating scene in America very well:

<http://brown.dailyjolt.com/forum/read.html?id=531250&PHPSESSID=4f69c4a88e49c6294892aa0fc84ee6ca>

"That's because American girls are really psychologically fucked in the head.

If you approach an American girl and are nice to her, you are a "stalker" or a "loser." In addition, Asian guys can't get white girls because they're viewed as subhuman by most white girls. Asian girls drool over white guys. What is an Asian guy to do?

As a general rule, for an American girl, if you treat her like shit, demean and ignore her, she loves it and can't get enough. She will become totally self-destructively obsessed with pleasing you and will eventually lose herself in the drama that you have to create for her to actually be interested in you. This is unhealthy, but it's the only way to really get laid here.

In other countries the more intuitive phenomenon of "If I am nice to you, you will be nice to me" actually applies. So you don't have to go against your morals in order to hook up with a girl or keep a girlfriend.

My two cents!"

Even good looking attractive guys have the same complaint, as this one admitted (I know he's good looking cause I've seen his picture by the way):

"Thanks, but I have many of the same complaints as you do, seriously. You have to play games with girls in the states and they are spoiled and bratty and controlling and manipulative and have double-standards...they are mostly bitches in a word."

As one reader observed, why bother with all that when in Europe you can just be upfront and yourself to get the results you want? Isn't that much more smooth, genuine, honest and natural?

"..... I agree with you that it is a shame that a guy has to go to all that trouble exploiting the intricacies of social dynamics to get an attractive girl's attention and interest. From what I've read, European girls seem to have less hang-ups than American girls, and don't need to be approached indirectly. I would love to skip all that and get to building attraction rather than breaking her "forcefield" or what I like to call "bitch-shield". The saying, "Work smarter, not harder comes to mind". Why work so much harder to achieve the same result, when you can have a much easier and enjoyable time with women in Europe?"

This reader below cites the easibility and fluidity of meeting women in France compared to Silicon Valley:

"I flew to France after quitting a job in Silicon Valley...(where the women are absolutely terrible!)

I go to a French language school and take a class....I make 20 new friends overnight....I meet my future wife...I get married and now 2yrs later...im STILL HAPPY!

I dont want to bunch all American girls into one big lump....BUT -- the majority of them due to culture or something act really snotty and stupid - like were not GOOD ENOUGH for them....and to be honest and

not toot my horn - i was voted Prom King in highschool...so I'd hope to think that I'm not THAT ugly at least...but i swear i went 12yrs in the bay area - and rarely found a girl who even batted an eye....and quite frankly i started to lower my own standards lower and lower....and for what? The moment i traveled anywhere else - i found girls that would SINK any american girl that ignored me...now i have a wife that turns heads left and right - but she is staring right into my eyes with love.

Real love!

I think America has a cultural problem internally that is eating it alive..."

Some hear about such things from their friends: (though you won't hear about it in any public media outside the internet)

<http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=3991>

"Dating in America is very competitive! Just like with Darwin's theory, only the strong survive. I have had guys in college who were from countries abroad tell me the women from their countries were far more approachable and friendly than American girls are. These guys said women are just more open to meeting men in public places (grocery stores, book stores, etc.) than American women are. It has to do with the culture and attitudes of the people from a particular country as how things shape up socially."

Photo Gallery

They say a picture is worth a thousand words, so let me show you some real life visual examples from out in the field that typify how girls in non-US environments react to men who are "chatting them up". (something vilified by American women). It's the next best thing to being abroad in person. These are images of girls I chatted up in public without having any prior acquaintance. Some are photos and others are digital stills from my video footage. Notice the attitude on their faces. There is a natural openness and relaxed look of approachability without any fear, paranoia or uptightness. As you can see, meeting girls that you don't know for the first time in many foreign environments is very natural and part of the flow, not creepish, out on a limb and against the flow like in the US. The eyes are the window to the soul, so notice the attitude in their eyes.

First, some images from Russia/Europe.



























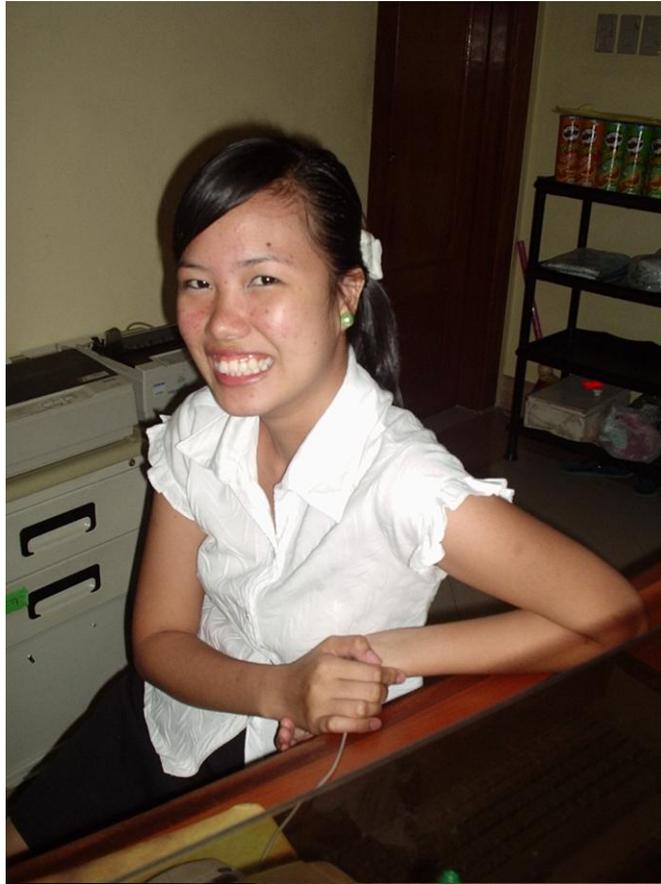


As you saw in those images from their eyes, gaze, and expression, they have a relaxed, enthusiastic, curious look about them, even though I'm a total stranger. And there is an openness to them that is very rare in the modern US.

Did you notice how unspoiled and modest they look in their gaze, not just toward me, but in their general aura? They had no pretentious ego shell like US girls have, but were sweet, relaxed, natural, modest, down-to-earth and without the "men are creeps" attitude instilled in them!

Note: Many of my encounters with the girls above can be seen on video in my Foreign Female Encounters video series at <http://www.happierabroad.com/film.php>

Now for examples from Asia. Here are some girls I met in the Philippines. Notice the similar relaxed genuine non-jaded attitude of openness, cheerfulness, approachability and non-paranoia.











You see how unlike in the US, they do not have a paranoid look of fear or defensiveness toward strangers? Take a close look again at the images above, and see if you can spot any anti-male attitude or stranger-paranoia in these girls. Instead, you see a refreshing genuine attitude in them that is relaxed and ease. The difference is like night and day. And these examples are by no means exceptions either, but in fact are very typical.

For many more examples, see my [Foreign Female Encounters Videos](http://www.happierabroad.com/film.php), which are the closest thing to firsthand: <http://www.happierabroad.com/film.php>

Now, contrast that with these photos of typical young American girls. Notice how superficial their smile, eyes and facial expressions are. There is more of an artificial-ness to them compared to the foreign girls above.







Below, notice the tough badass looks on the hot American blonde and brunette that basically says, "We don't need men and we are too good for everyone". Now how feminine is that? Who needs that?!



See the difference? Even friendly girls in the US give a smile that is more contrived and artificial than their foreign counterparts. They have nowhere near the sweet feminine genuine expression that the foreign girls in the pictures above have, as you can see.

You might ask why there is such a big difference. I can only speculate and surmise that the individualistic values of our nation that create a sense of separateness in the self, coupled with the modern feminist culture that overempowers women to lose their femininity and become independent, has caused some type of imbalance that has changed their human nature. These two factors could very likely produce a strong but false sense of self and ego, an illusion that American women overprotect in unnatural ways, such as by emanating this anti-stranger, unapproachable force field, among other things.

When one discovers that the anxiety-provoking force field of unapproachable American women is absent in foreign women and experiences it firsthand, it can have curative effects, as conveyed in this account:

<http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=1898>

“I was very nervous around women, I found it nearly impossible to engage a woman in a conversation. I was convinced that was the reason I couldn't get dates. I was angry at myself for not being able to overcome this, but trying harder only made it worse. I spent a lot of time thinking about it and went to a doctor and was prescribed anti-anxiety medications but they didn't really help.

This problem came to an unexpected halt when I traveled to Asia and within a week I learned that I am really only abnormally nervous around *American* women. When I thought about it, this actually made perfect sense.

When I'm in a country like Thailand or the Philippines, I know that I am desirable to the women there (I get reassured of that everyday). So even if I get turned down by a woman, she probably has a good reason to say no, and she will be flattered rather than act like I'm some creep.

When I'm overseas, I don't subconsciously feel like I'm doing something wrong by flirting with a woman.

What it boils down to, is that foreign women are an entirely different species than western women. If I had been told 2 years ago that my love shyness/social anxiety with women could be solved simply by changing the type of women that I was pursuing, I probably wouldn't have believed it. It's one of those things you have to experience to fully understand.”

Such striking differences make me wonder why more people in the US don't know about them, but as my Expat Advisor explained to me:

“Oh, yes, in the US women are sociopathic for the most part. US men (in general) also never travel and they think that women all over the world must be the same. It is called seeing the world through the prism of your culture. Plus many think the US is the world and inside of every ____ (put a nationality there) there is an American waiting to get out.”

One factor for the "unapproachable force field" that I feel around American women might be due to an incompatibility between our soul densities, since not every guy agrees that American women are unapproachable (but then again some guys are afraid to admit the truth or are blind to it or too politically correct to acknowledge such things, and plus some guys don't believe in approaching women anyway). It could be that our soul energy or consciousness vibrates at a different frequency and so our presence around each other feels awkward and approaching them feels wrong and unnatural. Conversely, this would also explain why I tend to find women in Europe to be approachable too, as my soul energy and consciousness vibrates at a much more similar frequency to theirs. After all, I definitely feel that I have a "European soul". But this is only a factor, because the reality is that out in public in the US, it is socially inappropriate to chat up a girl you don't know (even though the movies make it look natural and normal, in real life it's not), and seen as creepish as well. Thus, to try to do so safely feels “out on a limb”. And so this isn't just about me, but a societal thing. As evidence, if you look around you in a public US environment, you will see that strangers do not talk to each other except for business related interactions, and guys do not go chatting up women they don't know to try to meet them. That's just the reality, which is apparent for anyone to see. So to try to pin the blame on some deficiency on my part is illogical. It's true that not every guy complains about American women being unapproachable, but still, a fact is a fact.

If you're stuck in the US though and can't go abroad yet, but wish to meet approachable American women, then your best bet is probably to head for the Southern States like Texas. Women in those regions tend to be the

most sociable and open toward strangers in comparison to the rest of the US. There is also the Southern hospitality thing that plays a role.

But in the meantime, I hope my visual proof of approachable faces gallery above has inspired you and awakened you to the refreshing difference of the dating world beyond America.

What guys don't understand about the fear of approaching women

What many guys, especially the ones involved in the PUA (Pick Up Artist) movement, don't understand about the fear of approaching women is that the reason they are afraid is not because they lack guts. It's because they can sense that the girls they want to meet do NOT want to be approached, so that to do so would be rude and violating. They subconsciously sense the "do not approach me" shield around them.

You see, everyone has body language and vibes. We can all sense them, even if we deny that vibes exist as a form of energy. There is a big difference between a girl who is approachable vs. one who is not. But this difference can only be described in words to a certain point. It is mostly felt and sensed by one's natural instincts. You simply "just know", even without observative physical signs or evidence. Even left-brained guys who deny that vibes and auras exist as a form of actual energy can instinctually sense others' vibes, despite their denial.

To try to put into words, an approachable girl looks at ease, relaxed, open and friendly. It's in her face, body language and aura too. She makes eye contact with others, smiles back at people, and has an open body posture. An unapproachable girl, on the other hand, has a closed narrow vibe and look on her face. She is uptight, serious, focused, does not make eye contact with others, and has a "don't bother me" look on her face. When you try to muster the courage to talk to her, you will feel a cold chill and an alarm will go off in you that says, "DO NOT! NOT ALLOWED! INAPPROPRIATE!" It has nothing to do with guts or bravery at all. And even the top PUA gurus can do nothing about it, despite their bogus claims. Guaranteed.

An adept "people reader" can spot these differences consciously, while others merely feel them subconsciously. Either way, one simply knows, even in the absence of physical signs.

So for example, say I'm in the Philippines where there is a very open culture. There, many girls are approachable and easy to chat with, without being introduced by a mutual friend. I could easily meet girls in public, flirt with them and get their numbers. It will look very relaxed and natural. To inexperienced others, it may look like I am bold and have guts. Yet when I fly to Japan, the opposite will happen. I will sense that the girls are unapproachable and are NOT comfortable talking to strangers, even of their own race.

Now this is not my imagination. In Japanese culture, people do not talk to strangers unless they are properly introduced by mutual friends, or it is for business-related purposes. It has nothing to do with you or whether they like you. It is merely a basic part of their culture. Almost everyone conforms to it. You can feel it in their "collective vibes" even. If you try, you will sense an inner alarm that says "NOT ALLOWED! FORBIDDEN! TOTALLY INAPPROPRIATE!" It would feel like you were about to commit a cardinal sin and violation. You just know this.

In this scenario, it won't matter if you are the biggest daredevil in the world, or one of the top PUA gurus (e.g. David DeAngelo, Ross Jeffries, Mystery, etc.). It won't make a difference. Despite their bogus claims, if put to the test in this situation, the PUA gurus will undoubtedly fail. I can guarantee that.

If something is inappropriate, you just know it. You don't have to be told or given physical signs. And it's not your imagination either. You simply know, even if you are not good at reading others.

What this means is that American guys are not really gutless, as the PUA movement claims. Not at all. They simply live in a culture where females are paranoid, not approachable, and don't like talking to strangers. To violate this is inappropriate, so most guys do not dare try.

Yet American pop culture maintains this myth that girls are very open and friendly in America, so that anyone who has trouble meeting or dating girls must have a problem - they are either too shy, nerdy, lack social skills or technique. So these guys who are afraid to approach girls, falsely assume, based on this myth, that they must be lacking guts or "technique" when in reality it isn't that at all. The girls they like simply don't want to be

approached or do not find the guys to be their type, so they put out that vibe to them. The unwanted guy then senses this "reject shield" and misinterprets it as coming from their own fears.

This misconception is then capitalized on by the PUA movement and their gurus, who have a vested financial interest in selling expensive seminars and courses to these "average frustrated chumps (AFC's)" as they put it, to help them overcome their fears, which further perpetuates this myth. But it ends up being just a bunch of pep talk with little or no result.

In reality, it is extremely rare to change the mind of a girl who doesn't want to meet you by using some kind of "PUA technique", and even in such cases, the girl is likely to be mentally unstable or erratic.

Anyone can make bogus claims or brag. But to prove them is another matter. And bogus claims usually fail when put to the test. I've seen it time and time again. A lot of guys who claim they can pick up girls in places where they are not approachable, end up chickening out or making excuses when put to the actual test. Even if it were possible, it would happen occasionally, not on an everyday anytime basis.

Of course, your looks matter. Some girls only want to be approached by guys that are "their type". These girls are "conditionally approachable" and you can also recognize them by their "don't approach me unless you're hot" vibe as well.

Now, suppose you are a very good looking white guy in Japan. In that case, yes a certain percentage of girls will be open to cold approaches from you. But we are talking a minority percentage here, not the majority. Most girls will still not be willing to be approached by you in public, even if they think you are very attractive. They are simply way too uncomfortable with it. Also, most Japanese girls will not date seriously outside their race, even if they have a curiosity toward white guys. You can find a girlfriend of course, or date several girls at once, from the percentage of girls who will be open to you. But you still would not be able to chat up any girl you want anywhere you want. No way. Not in Japan. And whether the girls interested in you will be the same ones you are interested in, is another matter.

So the lesson here is that approachability of women depends on the situation, location, culture and type of woman. It's not about guts or technique. You simply have to utilize those factors to your best advantage.

Now if you are in a culture where it is not appropriate to approach girls coldly, you can still meet them through introductions, parties or other social events. Those would be the socially acceptable venues in that case. But at that point, you would have to evaluate your desirability and eligibility to the females there. You'd have to gauge whether you are seen by a reasonable percentage of females there as the type they would be willing to date.

Here is why this matters:

Take the example of a typical Asian male in America who is not seen as "dating material" by over 99 percent of white females there. In that case, it wouldn't matter whether this average Asian male goes out and meets many white girls at social events, parties, swing dance lessons, cooking classes, through mutual friends, etc. for he is simply NOT their type. Even most unattractive white females will reject him. The best he could do is engage them in polite casual chit chat. But that would be the limit. Any attempt at a date or hint of it, and they would blow him off immediately. In such a case, he is in a ZERO SUM game, for his attempt of using socially acceptable venues to meet women will simply be an exercise in futility (unless a miracle happens). Therefore, if you are not seen as a potential suitor by the females you are attracted to, it will not help you to have opportunities to meet them – whether through introductions, social events or cold approaches – for they simply will not be interested in you in that way.

Now in the earlier scenario of the good looking white guy in Japan, the results would be different. In his case, since a certain percentage of Japanese females will undoubtedly be interested in him, all he has to do is meet them through socially acceptable channels - at social events, parties or through introductions - and statistically he is eventually guaranteed to find some Japanese females who will be interested in him. Thus he would have a valid chance of getting results through these venues.

So you see, your desirability and eligibility is another important consideration you would have to factor in.

This will matter even if you are in a culture where the women are very approachable. For example, if the typical Asian male above goes to Russia, where the females are VERY approachable and have no hang ups about talking to strangers or being "hit on" by guys (which is socially acceptable in Russian culture) the same factor will apply. If he goes to Moscow, in Western Russia, where the Russian women are very racist toward Asian men and see them as sexually undesirable, he may be able to meet hundreds of girls easily by approaching them randomly in public. But they will usually end up using him for culture/language exchange and getting free dinners off him, or worse, milking him for cash and gifts. They will not take him seriously and will not be intimate with him beyond a certain point (if you know what I mean). However, if he were to go to Siberia or any part of Eastern Russia, where the Russian women are more pro-Asian (being closer to Asia geographically), his chances would be upped considerably. His race would not go against him, and far more females would take him seriously as a potential mate.

So, even in a super approachable culture like Russia, his desirability factor will ultimately determine his success.

There are always exceptions of course, but that's how it generally is.

In any case, it doesn't hurt to try to develop your people reading skills, so you can size up people and situations quickly and accurately. If you are strongly left brained or practical, focus on utilizing the skills of your right brain so that you can function with whole brain holistic thinking. Being able to connect the dots and understand others requires the abilities of your right brain, not just your left. So don't neglect it.

That is my suggestion. Good luck!

Discuss this article here: <http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=7033>

Reaction from women: Hatred and Antisociality vs. Enthusiasm and Attraction

In America, I can start polite chit chats with girls that go nowhere. Any nice guy can. But actually dating them is another story. For me and many, it feels out-of-bounds and out-of-flow, like looking for water in the desert. I probably have a better chance of getting into Area 51.

But in other countries, meeting girls is smoother, more natural, flowing, and abundant. The most significant difference for me is this: **When I am sociable and outgoing to girls in the US, they think I'm a creep, and react with hatred and/or antisociality. But when I am sociable and outgoing to girls in most other countries, their response is more positive, and react with enthusiasm and/or attraction.** That's a whole world of difference.

You can witness this difference yourself in my [Female Encounters film](#) as well as my [Slideshows](#).

Best of all, foreign women LOVE to flirt. When I flirt with girls in the Philippines for example, they not only enjoy it, but it actually ADDS fuel to our chemistry (whereas in the US, flirting with girls creeps them out and emanates a defensive “brush him off” attitude from them). And that's a big thing to me, because I am a big-time flirt!

It's not because they all want my money either (although there are always a portion of bad apples, scammers, and hustlers that I run into). For a list of reasons why, see the chapter entitled [Aren't foreign women just after your money and a green card?](#)

Public eating places – Europe vs. USA (not about the food)

"I believe in Wu. Wu was right about the Polish girls and them being really friendly and giggling and blushing. Wu was right about being able to go over to the girls' tables and immediately go and sit with them. Wu was right about the society being more open in Poland than in America. WU WAS RIGHT!!! ... Wu is trying to help other people's lives. And he helped my life because I stumbled upon his website and read his stuff and I was inspired in part by his website to try Poland. AND IT WORKED!!!! WU WAS RIGHT!!!! WU WAS CORRECT!!!!"

- [Luke from the Forum](#)

In America, when you walk alone into a public eating place, you are expected to eat alone. Not so in other countries fortunately, where you can walk into a café, restaurant, fast food place, even Pizza Hut or McDonald's, and meet women, join them or ask them to join you. Here are some examples with photos.

In Krakow, Poland, my buddy Robert and I were in a Pizza Hut there. I saw three nice girls sitting together there, and invited them to join us. We ended up lightheartedly chatting for a few hours, and Robert arranged a language exchange relationship with one of them. Now keep in mind that these were not floosy or slutty type girls, but proper, goody-two-shoes Catholic girls. Here is their photo below that I took.



And here we were with them again later on when we met up with them again.



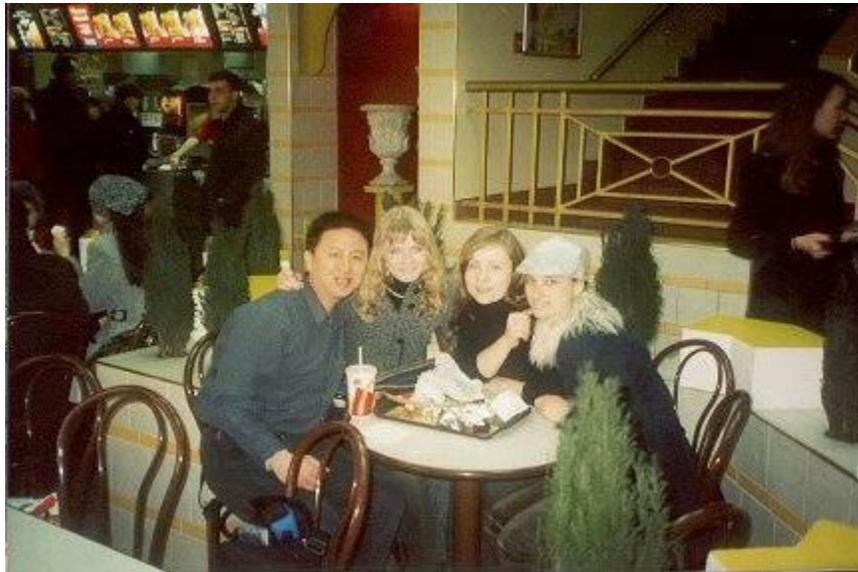
Likewise, in Russia, I met girls in McDonald's easily who let me join them. For example, take a look at these two nice looking law students in Moscow that chatted me up.



And in a McDonald's in Kazan, these three girls beckoned me join them. Take a look at this video still of one of them beckoning me to come over (and yes, she was already doing this before I raised my camcorder):



Here I am with them:



And one of them even gave me a kiss of infatuation here:



And here are some more girls I met at either McDonald's or public cafes in Russia:







Video footage of the above encounters with the Russian girls can be seen in my Foreign Female Encounters video series: <http://www.happierabroad.com/film.php>.

Here, even some drunk guys at an outdoor café salute me just for the hell of it, rather than ignore everything and everyone around them like they would in the US:



Now, anyone in their right mind in America will tell you that meeting girls like that in the USA at public eating places is inappropriate and out of bounds. If I were to try to meet girls I didn't know in Pizza Hut or McDonald's in the US, they would get offended and look at me like "Who the hell are you?! I don't know you! You aren't supposed to approach strangers like this!" If you don't believe me, go and try it.

In response to this example, a female traveler on my list reported her similar experience in Italy:

"The zero tolerance policies produced by all the bogus harassment cases and imaginary stalkers would have a do with the socially uptight social/dating scene in the USA. It can be as annoying for women as it is for men. I observed very much of the same thing in Italy's cafes that you observed in Poland. Italian men are not afraid to flirt with or pursue women in public places or even on the job. Italy does not have those "zero tolerance policies" that you see here. A waiter at any Howard Johnson restaurant would be sued and fired if he would engage in the same behavior that I saw at a hotel cafe in Venice ... For what? For simply asking a girl out on a date ... It's scary stuff and a miracle that Americans can hook up enough to date, marry or procreate!"

And interestingly enough, in response to this posted on an internet forum, an American woman confessed:

<http://www.russia.com/forums/showthread.php?t=25331>

"ROFL. It's true. I am an American woman...and if someone walked up to me in McD's and tried to talk to me, I would surely be creeped out. Yet, in a bar...it is socially acceptable. (Just as "dangerous" but acceptable) Maybe we Americans are so uptight that we require alcohol to talk to people we don't know. Or maybe its that fact that just because someone happens to be in the same room with you, doesn't mean they want to meet you or talk to you. Thats why we have fast food. You dont go there for conversation, you go there to inhale your food and leave."

Well what do you know? Her words seem to ring true that Americans are so hung up against talking to strangers, that they can only do it with alcohol in their systems. Otherwise, only creeps and criminals talk to strangers in American society.

But if you really want to meet or game women in America who are outside your clique, here is some advice from a reader. Apparently, you have to be a lot more discreet and indirect in your approach (to appease the wimpy backbone of American women toward strangers):

"I do not think this has to do with your wavelength. I personally think that American women tend to be more cautious and scared when guys approach them, and it is somewhat understandable, cause we live in a ed up society, where people do not trust each other, and there are a lot of unnatural tendencies and screwed up social dynamics between men and women. There ARE women, however, that are totally open to my approach as long as I do not telegraph too much sexual and romantic interest in them right away. Russians/Ukrainians are probably more receptive to such advances from men, but that's not to say that American women in general are not approachable. The approach needs to be tweaked a little bit. I personally find that as long as I approach women and qualify THEM, rather than qualify MYSELF, things go smoother, than if I were to walk up to them and declare my intentions without getting to know them. In Europe, where women are more feminine and sexual and sensual, yes, asking them out on a date and showing them romantic interest is quite acceptable, but American women, in general, i think, need to be approached in a slightly indirect way. And the bitches who give you attitude, em, who needs them. They are insecure, ego-tripping validation seeking barbies.... but there ARE many approachable women out there."

However, as one reader observed, why bother when you don't have to go through all that hassle (which doesn't work for me anyway) to get results:

"..... I agree with you that it is a shame that a guy has to go to all that trouble exploiting the intricacies of social dynamics to get an attractive girl's attention and interest. From what I've read, European girls seem to have less hang-ups and American girls, and don't need to be approached indirectly. I would love to skip all that and get to building attraction rather than breaking her "forcefield" or what I like to call "bitch-shield". The saying, "Work smarter, not harder comes to mind". Why work so much harder to achieve the same result, when you can have a much easier and enjoyable time with women in Europe?"

Hypocritical arousal and restraint of desires in our society

One way that American society causes such unnaturally high rates of dysfunction and mental illness in this country is by arousing people and then restraining them. On the one hand, our media (advertising, movies/TV programs) constantly contain sexually arousing stimuli and messages to influence, manipulate, and entertain us. And movies/TV like to show people "acting out their desires" freely. But in the public domain of real life society our Puritanical values, control, and restraint govern. People are not free to "act out" their desires, especially men. In fact, it is inappropriate to mention anything about sex in public or in any professional environment without risking punishment for transgressing the boundaries.

It's as if having desires is forbidden in America. Or you can have them, as long as you don't admit to them in public or act on them. In effect, what this means is that a man can't really pursue his desires in America. If he does or acts on them, he commits a punishable offense, and risks getting arrested or sued. Therefore, all he can do is watch at home and masturbate. It's really pathetic.

In America men aren't allowed to "act out" their desires toward women, as freely as they are in most other countries, which see such behavior as natural and tolerated. Unless of course, a woman gives him "permission" to do so (toward her). Any attempt by a male to act out their desires without clear permission from a woman first, is seen as creepish, perverted deviant behavior. Unfortunately, that means that if no women give you permission to act out any of your desires, then that obligates you to behave and live a monk-like existence. Such is the state of the prudish, stuck-up modern America.

For those like me who have strong desires in sex and romance, and possess a go-getter personality, we are not allowed to be who we are in America for it transgresses the social boundaries. And that to me is an unacceptable constant torture.

In many other countries, guys are ALLOWED to show or pursue their desires without being seen as creeps or psychos.

In America, trying to get sex is often a lose-lose situation for people like me. If I try to pursue sex, then I will be seen as a creep or pervert. And if I ask for it directly, women may slap me, treat me as a creep/criminal, or even call security/police on me. But on the other hand, if I just wait for women to offer sex to me (aka "letting it happen naturally") or initiate intimacy, well, they never do. So either way, I lose and get no sex. That sucks I know, but there's nothing I can do about it.

This hypocritical process of arousal and restraint causes much sexual and psychological dysfunction and insanity in America. It's similar to tempting a baby with a lollipop and then pulling it away repeatedly. It's no wonder why American men are the biggest consumers of porn in the world. What else can you do with so much constraint and suppression?

A reader of mine of European descent noted the inherent danger to one's mental health from unnatural constraint and prohibition in the USA:

"All of this unnatural prohibition and constrain in the USA can severely impair the mental health of people, especially men. It is not surprising that child molesting predators and alienated teens turn anti-social under these circumstances. It is very much the same as the situation with prostitution and marijuana in Holland vs America. Holland allows both while the US carries stiff penalties, especially if you're caught trying to release pent up energy even by paying someone! Ironically drug abuse is much higher in the US among all social classes(work hard, watch tv, sleep during workweek, binge on drugs on the weekend) compared to Europe where one enjoys drinking moderately every day as part of the traditional cuisine. Rape and irrational murders are virtually zero; that was the case in the Soviet Union also during the 50 years it was around. The relationships among strangers were friendly and open, flirting with your friend's wife was nothing more than appreciated in many cases. And yes, the media does portray America as the most free, liberal, and progressive..."

And a Dutch girl observed to me:

"I, myself, am from Europe (the Netherlands) where I lived until about 8 years ago. Being brought up in such a liberal country has made it very difficult for me to adjust to the American life style. Soft drugs, Euthanasia, same sex marriages, and prostitution are all legal and are not looked as if they are taboo or wrong doing (feel these things should also be legal in the U.S.)

As I said before I'm having a difficult time (still) adjusting to the American way of life. **What are Amercians PRUDE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! I can't stand it.** Talking about sex is a taboo, having sex is a taboo and oh boy... what if you see a nipple or a butt crack on T.V., it better be blurred out before we realize that others have those, too. In the Netherlands (as well as other countries throughout Europe) we embrace nudity. Women go topless or walk around naked on the beach, we wear shirts without a bra where the nipple is shown through. It is sexy and not looked as perverted. We have T.V. commercials (even during the day) where nudity is shown. Something I really do not understand is that on T.V. in the U.S., plastic surgeries are shown, the breasts are cut open and everything is exposed except for the nipple that of course, are blurred out. Nipples, vagina's, penises and butt cracks are part of the human body and should not be looked upon as something disgusting."

Such hypocrisy though, is unique to America. In other countries, there is much more consistency between their media values and that of real life society. If their media encourages free love, the expression of sexual desires, tolerance for nudity, etc. then their real life public society will do so as well. Or if their culture is sexually conservative and repressive, or has a strong taboo against desires, then their media will follow suit as well. There isn't this huge hypocrisy like in America which defies common sense.

As to why this is, one can only speculate. One of my readers though, relates to me a plausible explanation:

"I have heard a point similar to the one you make about america.. that the difference between sex in the media and the conservatism in reality is designed to make people feel inadequate so as to drive consumerism."

The myth of sexual freedom in America

Perhaps my Expat Advisor put it best when he explained:

<http://forum.internationalliving.com/viewtopic.php?t=491>

****If you grew up in the West, you may have developed the idea that sexually, it is very free. In a way, it is, but in order to enjoy the "sexual liberation" of the West, you cannot just be an average Joe. In order to meet exciting and beautiful women, you have to be either super good-looking, tall, and handsome (and young, too) or be super successful. That means that a small percentage of men enjoys this kind of life and a big percentage lives lives of drudgery and hard work. In addition to all that, there is a great deal of ageism in the West- unless you have a glamorous job as a senator or a movie star, meeting younger women if you are over 40 (in some cases, over 25) is also not an easy proposition. In other words, for an average bloke who is middle income and middle aged, life can be pretty lonely and sexually frustrating. That is , if you mind dating many women who are overweight or divorced with kids or plain unattractive.

The prostitution industry in the US is highly regulated, extremely expensive and the majority of women who are involved in it are not very attractive physically.

In spite of the Hollywood culture portraying life in America as an endless sex party, an average person there hardly has more than 10 partners in his or her lifetime.

This is in stark contrast to many societies, Thailand, for one, where many local men visit prostitutes regularly and have a choice of incredibly beautiful ones for a very affordable price. However, this is done more or less discreetly and is not mentioned in casual conversation. Expats who lived in Thailand for a long time would come up with the statement: "Americans talk about "it" but don't do it, Thais don't talk about it, but do it.

If you visit any big entertainment area in Bangkok, Manila, Phnom Penh, Rio, and even Moscow, you will find thousands upon thousands of Westerners who either live there or visit regularly all for the purpose of being able to have sex any time they want. If the West were as liberated as it is portrayed in the movies, why would there be such a powerful sex tourism movement *out* of the West?"

Nothing could be closer to the truth. I've never experienced any of this "sexual freedom" in America, only heard about it. It was all talk and no action as far as I'm concerned. On the other hand, here in the Philippines, I experience TRUE SEXUAL FREEDOM – the freedom to have sex with a hot woman ANY time I want, as well as the freedom from datelessness and desperation! That is something that America never provided me, giving me only stupid excuses instead. As expats in Thailand say, "Americans talk about it but don't do it, Thais do it but don't talk about it."

Great news for dateless frustrated men about Asia, Philippines and Thailand



For lonely sexually frustrated men in the US who are disgruntled with the dating scene in America, and are open to dating/marrying beautiful Asian females, there is GREAT news that they NEED to know. The Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam, China, and much of Asia have an endless supply and surplus of beautiful, feminine, exotic, attractive, gorgeous, model-like women who will treat you like you always wanted to be treated, and fulfill all your fantasies to the core, as long as you're a nice and decent man. Many US men already know this and are already there getting their wants, needs, and fantasies fulfilled, but there are still MANY frustrated men in the US who don't know or are afraid to take such a plunge. So we need to get the word, "the Gospel" as I would put it, to them!

Suffice to say, most of these Americans and other Westerners in Asia getting treated like kings and celebrities there are mostly retirees (old and fat in other words) so if you're young and handsome (like me, at least that's what I'm constantly told here in the Philippines), you will have a huge edge over the competition. In fact, you will have no problem finding girls who like you for you and not your money, if you're young (look under 45) and look decent. That's been my experience in the Philippines, as I have no problem finding girls who like me for me, while the other expat retirees here tend to only find girls who want only their money, making them somewhat jaded.

Since most of my dating experience in Asia is in the Philippines though, I can only vouch for that country, which exceeded my expectations. There, I have so many beautiful exotic women of both light and dark complexions, to choose from and not enough time for them all. It's definitely a loveboy's paradise alright, which some call an "Adult Disneyland" too. Amazingly, when I walk into any mall there, 80-90 percent of the girls will give me their numbers if I ask for it and flirt with them, even the ones who look like models, movie stars and beauty queens! See these updates I wrote from there: [January 2007](#) , [May 2007](#)

Here are what others have wrote or posted to me about their transforming relevations in Asia:

"I could not agree more on the sorry state of American women (in terms of dating in general). For me, Chinese women (in China) have been sooooo good, and they are thin and hot; they are well edcuated and will do everything for you. The guys who get stuck here in North America are, well, stuck. This is not even to mention the physical state of the women here; most American women over 30 are obess (not just over-weight). And they are used; who knows how many STDs they have had. I feel sorry for them sometimes.

I applaude you courage and wish you the best.

ZN"

<http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=2412>

"I've never been to the Philippines, Winston, but after spending a month in Thailand I'm willing to believe everything you say about it.

It's not hard to meet girls in Thailand, it's hard to get rid of them. Not just bar-girls either - although there is a delightful abundance of those - but regular Thai women. There's a rumor that Thai women won't marry Western men, that only the lower classes do, and so on - but it's not true at all. Thai women of all classes are interested in Western guys.

That said, the girls from the north, from Issan chiefly, figure disproportionately in the plans of farangs (Westerners) because these girls are the ones who work in the bars and massage parlors of Bangkok and Pattaya, and to the Western eye they're very attractive, despite the Thai preference for lighter skin as noted in my earlier post.

That was my first trip abroad, Winston, and it has convinced me that your position that Western guys can have a better life in other countries is absolutely correct. More men die of happiness in Thailand than heart disease, cancer, and stroke combined..."

<http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=1898>

"I was very nervous around women, I found it nearly impossible to engage a woman in a conversation. I was convinced that was the reason I couldn't get dates. I was angry at myself for not being able to overcome this, but trying harder only made it worse. I spent a lot of time thinking about it and went to a doctor and was prescribed anti-anxiety medications but they didn't really help.

This problem came to an unexpected halt when I traveled to Asia and within a week I learned that I am really only abnormally nervous around *American* women. When I thought about it, this actually made perfect sense.

When I'm in a country like Thailand or the Philippines, I know that I am desirable to the women there (I get reassured of that everyday). So even if I get turned down by a woman, she probably has a good reason to say no, and she will be flattered rather than act like I'm some creep.

When I'm overseas, I don't subconsciously feel like I'm doing something wrong by flirting with a woman.

What it boils down to, is that foreign women are an entirely different species than western women. If I had been told 2 years ago that my love shyness/social anxiety with women could be solved simply by

changing the type of women that I was pursuing, I probably wouldn't have believed it. It's one of those things you have to experience to fully understand.”

Pretty inspiring huh?

Listen also to these exciting and revealing interviews by Steve Hoca with Expats who discovered a world of difference with Filipinas:

<http://www.happierabroad.com/interviews.php>

Here also is an inspiring and touching story about the Philippines by my Expat Advisor that led me to go there:

http://www.happierabroad.com/Love_Adventure_Philippines.htm

At the link above, there is a great comparison analysis of the pros and cons of the women in each country in Asia. Thailand is also a great legendary option, but Asian men do better there, especially Chinese, since they are considered the ruling class there.

The consultant who wrote the story at the link above, recommends Filipinas as the best wives and girlfriends, for the following reasons that he cites:

- “1) They are either drop-dead gorgeous or at worst, cute.
- 2) They have good characters and are modest and family oriented.
- 3) They speak English, are Christian and understand and like Western culture.
- 4) Race is not a factor for most of them. They are Asian Latinas. Spanish colonies are usually not into racialism. So, most people of most races can easily fit into their society and not be treated as "foreign devils". Other Asian countries are very ethnically fundamentalist and race is big deal.
- 5) The Philippines is the only Asian country where mixed children are not harassed or discriminated against.
- 6) They are just normal people that behave the way a human being is supposed to behave.
- 7) They appreciate a nice guy who treats them nice and do not treat him like sh!t in return.
- 8) They are inexpensive to support if you have to. \$200 sent to your girlfriend every month will go a long way.
- 9) When they talk about me, they say "that man" instead of "that farang/foreign devil/outside person, etc.
- 10) They make love with great passion.”

And he adds:

“Filipinas make the best girlfriends and wives, too. They take love and romance seriously. Plus they speak English and are Christians.

Plus they like foreigners. These are all advantages.

Now other girls can be more intellectual but they are uglier and more plastic. And you can always teach a Filipina to be intellectual and teach her some culture. It is up to you to mold her.

But it will be harder for you to teach ugly girls in other countries to be prettier or warmer or more fun to be with. Plus you have more xenophobia and racism to put up with in other countries.”

Here are some videos on YouTube that show you the wonderful world of Filipinas here!

This video that shows you the variety of women in Philippines! As you can see, they come in so many colors and types to choose from!

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ls4zODEbE6A>

Here is an incredible pictorial presentation of Filipina beach babes. They are proof of a man's paradise! (If this doesn't make you jump on a plane to the Philippines now, nothing will!)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rfEhvdcOeUo>

And get this. All those girls are realistically attainable types, as long as you are nice and sweet and no an a**hole.

Next, these Filipina media stars guaranteed to make you drool! Warning! Once you look, there may be no going back! 😊hehehe

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u0CaOWGt6o4>

And imagine this, these girls have this warm inclusive touch and vibe that just fulfill you so much that you want to forget all other women!

Here are video stills of typical expats and their Filipina wives/gf's. They are representative of what I see of typical expats and their Filipina wives/girlfriends. They all look like nice people and the Filipinas on them are very cute and attractive, to me at least.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u5X0JQobPPY>

More videos of beautiful Filipinas can be found from here:

http://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=filipina+girls&search_type=&aq=f

And videos of beautiful Thai girls can be found from here:

http://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=thai+girls&search_type=&aq=f

Finally, here is a clip from a funny cartoon series about the lifestyle white men live in Japan.





(Charisma Man comic series courtesy of http://karatethejapanese.com/all_about_japan/charisma_man.html)

My perpetual ecstasy in the Philippines!

Here is a raving update I wrote to my mailing list in October 2006 about my ecstasy in the Philippines:

Dear all,

Here in the Philippines, my dating life has been a TRILLION TIMES better than it was anywhere! Even better than it was in Europe or Russia. It's like a totally difference UNIVERSE here! Over 90 percent of the girls here are skinny and attractive, and so approachable. I feel so popular with them. My dating life, and choices here are BEYOND IMAGINATION and have exceeded even my expectations! It's incredible and surreal beyond belief! I'm actually considered and treated as HOT STUFF here, and seen as hip and cool too! It's an amazing feeling and daily experience that words can't even describe. The people here, the enthusiasm from crowds and groups of girls all around me, all bring out the BEST in me!!!!!!!

Everyday, every moment, often I am thinking in the back of my mind, "If only the folks back home could see what I'm experiencing here, they'd be amazed, dumbfounded and converted for sure!!!!!!!" Nowhere on earth have I seen so many hot girls 24/7 on the streets here, who mirror back all my flirtations, kisses, seductions, etc. They are so wild! I thought that such was only possible in dreams, but here it happens anytime, 24/7!!!!!!!

All my needs and desires are fulfilled here, to the point where I hardly even use the internet anymore, since the need for escapism through the internet due to lack of social life no longer exists here.

The girls here have this way of making you feel like a million bucks, and appreciated like a real man, that is hard to explain, but something you have to experience to understand. It's something that is of course, nonexistent back in the states. To me, I would say that for a man, you haven't really lived until you've experienced the attitude and vibe of the females here toward you.

Every newcomer here is stunned, thinking "Where have I been? Why didn't I come here before?!" I toured a couple of visitors and guests around and enjoyed seeing their reactions to it all, as if they've become "enlightened" to how it all should be!

Wow. The experiences here are so fulfilling, every moment, that they've practically ERASED the all the years of negative baggage I had from the states of feeling like a perpetual misfit, lack of social life/popularity, and the daily nightmare of trying to get a date! It's like all those years and decades of that have been wiped clean from my memory, emotions, and psyche! An ABSOLUTE MIRACLE!!!!!!!

Man, I just don't know how else to describe it. But I'm doing my best. I'd say that the difference between the health, quality, and excitement of my social/love life here and in the states, is not just multiple times bigger, but ASTRONOMICAL in comparison! In fact, the difference is as great as the difference between the size of the Earth and the size of the Sun! A difference bigger than you can imagine!

Sure there are a lot of quirks, oddities, and inconveniences here that annoy me a lot, but all of the above more than makes up for it.

Another thing I can't believe, which I've hear all the time, is that my facial features, which are considered nerdy and unattractive in American culture, are actually considered attractive in Filipino culture! For example, countless times on a regular basis, I've gotten compliments on my slanty eyes, which I never thought were attractive in any culture (since kids used to make fun of them back in school, using racial slurs and innuendo). But here, they are different from the norm, since Filipino eyes are big and round (which are considered more attractive in Western culture, and to my taste too) and somehow, most Filipinas like them and compliment them. Some have even gone crazy over my eyes and say they are obsessed with and in love with them, especially when I gaze at them! Amazing. I also get a lot of compliments on my lips, which I always thought made my mouth too small and feminine. Man I am just so appreciated here in ways that I never thought possible!!!!!!!

I gotta tell you though, that even if you're a guy (White or Asian) who generally isn't into Asian women, if you come here and let me show you around, and experience what I have, you will ACQUIRE a taste for Filipinas!

GUARANTEED! They are just too good not to. And let me tell you, the Americanized Filipinas in the states aren't as attractive and don't represent what you find here, for sure.

What I can't get enough of is that smooth silky chocolaty dark skin that most Filipinas have here. It's so hot and sexy, and I have a huge fetish for it. I just can't get enough of it, even if I rub and massage it all day and night. Oooooohhhh. The girls here are amused by my fetish for it.

The girls here are so playful and easily amused, that anything I do that's corny or out of the ordinary makes them go wild and makes their day. Heck, I've even danced on the stage here at the go go bars many times, cause when they see that I'm in the dancing mood, they invite me up there. And that's something I usually would never do. But with so much wild enthusiasm and cheers from all the girls here, it just brings it out in me. Incredible. I never pictured myself doing such things. I feed on their enthusiasm toward me, which is constant and perpetual. Since they have Latina blood, they are always in the mood to party, always ready to get wild/passionate, and always have this sensual playful smirk on their face waiting to be activated at any time, and believe me, I can activate it, since I'm the same way as they are, a combination of Asian gentleness/tenderness coupled with a wild/passionate side. That's what makes me and Filipinas such a great natural match. We are so similar and have a lot of synergy together.

Everyday I wonder "Why didn't I come here sooner?!" for every moment here is one of sheer ecstasy and bliss, like a perpetual everlasting orgasm.....

PS - Here are some eloquent and insightful quotes that were sent periodically to my cell phone by my Expat Advisor who is an expert on Filipino culture and speaks ten languages including two Filipino dialects (abbreviations spelled out):

- "Happy New Year to you too.

I hear about the US and anyway, now you are far away from it and you can see that when they say that people are all the same, they have not traveled enough.

Just keep in mind that the US is a land of practical opportunities whereas the Philippines is a land of romantic/social opportunities- tons of them. By combining a practical and a romantic country, each one at different ends of the globe, you live a perfect life.

This is my concept of "quilting your world" from many different countries each one providing you with what it does best. Just as long as you do not make demands on stones and turnips to give blood, and instead go to blood banks, you will be OK. You asked america to provide what it does not have- i.e, you were looking for water in the sahara. you need to go to the Nile for water.

L."

- "Your experiences in this miraculous nation of redemption will need to be high in intensity so that they would be equivalent in value to decades of neglect back home. The new memories will, in due time neutralize the bad ones; and the bad ones, if they remain, will only serve as stern reminders of where not to be and what not to expect."

- "..... yes the Philippines liberates my soul- I can fully be myself here. This place is the capital of romance- it has a certain cord (musical that is) that hangs in the air and my soul chimes with it- so does yours, I guess."

- "The Philippine society puts primary emphasis on family, human relations and the development thereof- which includes sex, friendship, love, etc. Socially, it seems to be one of the most advanced societies on earth. Of course, these developments are not mentioned in the western press which only measures progress in political, technological and financial areas. If it started measuring societies by the healthfulness of social life, the place you are at would win hands down. Cheerz."

- "Do keep in mind that while we enjoy ourselves in the Philippines, there are oodles of lonely Asian-American men jacking off in the toilet with no hope in sight. It is all right for us to be hedonists, and to live abundant romantic lives, but we need to keep in mind other guys who are still encased in the lonely

social prison in America. Our spirit is that of altruism and leading others and liberating them, too. There are huddled Asian American masses in the US yearning to breathe free as you are now. Do not forget them. Spread your message to them, but keep info. decent and not raunchy- confine it to romance and social life. Maybe you can start posting on various Asian American message boards or newsgroups. Many Asian American guys need it. There is a lot of frustration and hatred in the Asian American community. By establishing a rapport between them and the friendly Filipino people you will be helping both groups. It will help to bring more investors into the country as many Asian American men are seen as good people there and who will become good and responsible residents helping the economy and improving the international ties between the US and the Philippines."

- "Have you noticed another thing? In bars in the US you have 40 sweaty, yelling working men and maybe two ugly girls on stage and you can't even touch them- you will be bounced out. And it's supposed to be "The Land of The Free". In the Philippines- 2-3 ugly old guys in the bar and 40 sweaty working girls and there is no jealousy among the guys for bar girls. Now you know where the land of the free is."

- "Winston, got your email. Advice: every country you go to will have great benefits and gross and awkward inconveniences. You alone may try to change them but you won't succeed- they take centuries to change. Better adapt to work within the systems that they have and try to see benefits in their inconveniences, as well. Try to be a bit more opportunistic- see opportunities where others see problems. Do not look for water in deserts- e.g. efficiency in the Philippines, friendliness in the US, but combine several countries- that is PT (Perpetual Traveler) way. Stop asking why things are the way they are. Why is the sun hot? Why is there a radiation belt outside the Earth? They just ARE. Ask "how can I deal with the situation and see the benefit in it?" Do not complain to the natives- they may not understand."

- "As you have observed in Russia, it was the opposite of the US, in that it was skewed in a different direction but still unbalanced. The Philippines is again unbalanced and is again an opposite of the US. Its social system is based on love, romance, family and friendship. In that respect, they have one of the most socially advanced societies on Earth. Many people have called it the best place in the world. But they are not advanced in practicalities and have not developed an organization/logic in practical things. But you can train them in that. On the other hand, it is very hard to train people in the US in the art of being friendly, respectful and loving. The US is a place where assholeism in human relationships rules supreme and selfishness is not even contested. So, that brings us again to the realization that one never, ever can have it all in one country- it seems that the world is simply not designed that way and that every country is inherently and grossly incomplete."

(Comment: 'assholism' in human relationships- I love that, so true!)

- "Do you remember these pop song lyrics: "If I fail, if I succeed, at least I'll live like I believe....." also "I did it my way....." and ".... then the hero comes along, with the strength to carry on....." All the above things represent the American spirit of individual achievement and, ironically, you are using it, and following it while looking for collectivist cultures. In other words, you are looking for the balance between the two and, possibly, finding it."

- "One thing about the Philippines is that if you are a foreigner, people will always want to befriend you. Thus, you will never be without friends there. That is guaranteed. Different countries guarantee different things. America guarantees political and religious freedom. Italy guarantees employment for artists. Saudi Arabia guarantees Islam. And the Philippines guarantees friends."

(Comment: I would definitely add above that the Philippines also guarantees men, both foreign and local, a GREAT love life!)

- "One more thing about Philippines- if you're a comedian type with a sense of humour, a joker and a clown, Filipino people love you for that. If you are a live wire and talk a lot, they also like that. The more you talk, the more they like you. They will sit and listen to you for hours. Not so with their neighboring countries. To them, a man should be a sullen, formal, morose, discreet and tense robot to be respected. Neither a comedian, nor a chatterbox (like me) gets any respect, least so from women."

Note: If you are considering going to the Philippines, I recommend you get Larry Elterman's book [A Man's Guide to Life and Love in the Philippines](#). It's a must have for anyone serious about the Philippines. [Click here to read sample chapters and order](#). Listen to his [informative audio interview here](#).

Why I like Filipinas the best – as lovers, playmates and best friends

Here is an update I wrote to my mailing list in March 2007 about why I love Filipinas:

Hi all,

There is good news now. As I'm writing this from the Philippines, I am happy to say that I am now a perpetual happy and positive optimist. How did I do it, you might ask?

Well it's simple, but it wasn't by changing "myself" (for I wasn't the problem). And it wasn't by changing my attitude, thoughts or going through some self-help/pop psychology/New Age program or seminar. In fact, I didn't even have to change myself or who I was. I just remained the same person. Instead, it was simply by changing my geographic LOCATION, environment and culture, entering another world so to speak. Let me explain.

In the US, no one talks to me except old people, I can't get any dates at all, women are completely anti-social to me, strangers act like I don't exist, and I am totally ignored and feel like I don't exist. Unfortunately, women in America generally don't like to meet new people. They don't even talk to you unless you are in their clique or they grew up with you, or it's business-related. And that's unacceptable to me. But everything I do to try to change all that seems futile, as if trying to change any of it goes completely against the flow and against the grain, inappropriate and out-of-bounds! Ick! It's a no-win situation, or a serious incompatibility at least.

So, with everything that I am suppressed, strangled, and invalidated, how could I possibly be happy or positive, when I can't be who I truly am or act out my nature of being an outgoing fun vibrant social butterfly? It's simply not possible, nor is it natural.

But on the other hand, here in the Philippines, I can be who I truly am, and when I do so, it gets very POSITIVE results! The social environment here completely allows, encourages, and adds fuel to my very social outgoing nature, especially with women! Here, I NEVER have to be alone if I don't want to. I ALWAYS have many hot women to choose from, of all types - dark skin (chocolate), light skin (vanilla), medium olive color, cute, sexy, tall or short, etc. (If you think my ice cream comparisons are bad or cheesy, get this - when a dark skinned and light skinned Filipina are together, they like to refer to themselves as "coffee and cream") Often I have so many contenders that I don't have time for them all and have to cancel a lot of plans!

Best of all, these sweet cuties and angels in turn see me as attractive, handsome, cute, interesting, charming, significant to them, etc. etc. and that completely VALIDATES who I am! I completely exist and matter to the women that I'm ATTRACTED to here! And that's HUGE! It means more than words can say. Everyday here, I feel like Brad Pitt or Tom Cruise! Literally. No exaggerating here.

Thus, I am finally allowed to be the social butterfly that I am, as well as positive, confident, optimistic and happy. How can I not be, when all my fantasies and desires and wants/needs are being fulfilled here, naturally and with the flow too!? Simply put, who I am is ACCENTUATED here, rather than invalidated or suppressed.

Some people here even say that I'm the most positive and confident person they've ever met. (If only they knew where I was coming from!) The difference is astounding. It's like a completely different universe where I'm a completely different person. The magnitude of my dating life here is literally "out of this world" (out of the world of America that is).

Critics and prejudiced Americans will commonly charge that the women here, as well as in most foreign countries, like me for money and a green card to the US. However, they are wrong because: (please read these ten bulleted points carefully)

- 1) Many girls here don't care about my money and STILL like/love me even after I tell them that I'm on a budget and very frugal. They like and enjoy my funny, sweet, sappy, positive, enthusiastic personality.
- 2) This is probably the biggest reason, and my Expat Advisor, a long time visitor to the Philippines who speaks two Filipino dialects, attests to it too. Most of the Filipinas I've met or dated here prefer that their boyfriend or husband stay with them in THEIR country. After all, family is everything to them, and so they prefer to remain close to their immediate and extended family. But if their lover insists, they will try

- to go overseas. That right there DEBUNKS this common misconception. Besides, it is an American myth that most people in other countries want to come to the US. The well traveled know that is not so.
- 3) I've slept with both bar girls and normal girls for FREE, simply cause they liked me and found me sweet, romantic, tender and charming! They never asked me for any money! Imagine that. That could never happen to me in the States. That proves right there that they aren't after me only for money, but that I am very sweet, likable and charming to them. And I've gotten free kisses here from many girls too, including French kisses (and NO, they don't do that to every guy!).
 - 4) A few girls here (but not most) have told me that I'm not their type, for they like white guys or bigger masculine guys. And conversely, I've seen some reject white guys in favor of me, because I'm more of the type they like and go for. Now, if it were all about "money and a green card", then "type" wouldn't matter now would it? But it does, because taste, romantic chemistry, and attraction matter as well.
 - 5) Filipinas have shown favoritism toward me over other older richer guys or customers. (I can't get into details about how since it wouldn't be appropriate to describe here :)) This also proves that they don't like me just for money, since I am treated better, given favoritism and preferential treatment over other guys who have more money than me, due to my higher likeability. I have a fun loving free-spirited personality that a lot of Filipinas resonate with, as well as a sweet romantic side, and a face they find young and handsome (gwapo).
 - 6) I've been able to get acquainted and befriend middle class girls here who have enough money themselves not to need a guy (which I can't do in the states). Sure, the middle or upper class girls aren't easy to "pick up" in public, but they find me interesting and likable too, once they get to know me. And they are willing to spend personal time with me, unlike girls in the US who always make excuses and say they are busy.
 - 7) There are some guys here with looks and money who don't do well at all with Filipinas. I know one good looking American guy here with a good income from an international job, and my Expat Advisor knows a good looking young French guy here with a successful art business. Yet believe it or not, both of them can't get a real girlfriend in the Philippines! They have had nothing but bad luck and bad experiences with the women here. The girls who go out with them look unhappy around them, and don't stay with them for long. Though they will accept their money and presents, they still leave them after a while because they simply don't like them and don't enjoy being with them. It's obviously not their looks or status. But rather, something in their vibe and personality just doesn't jive well with the girls here. Some people's chemistry just doesn't mix well with certain countries, just like mine doesn't mix well in American culture and its fake politeness social culture. Sometimes, things just don't click, not just between individuals, but between individuals and countries as well. Thus, it's not all about money and status, like some think. Here in the Philippines, my personality seems to jive extremely well with Filipinas as a whole, regardless of whether I'm their physical type or not. And that's why almost all Filipinas, even those who aren't into me romantically or are already taken, ENJOY hanging out with me. Now, if it were all about money, this wouldn't happen. You've got to remember that these girls, though mostly poor, are HUMAN BEINGS who, like you, prefer to be with those they LIKE and CLICK with, not just anyone with money and a US passport.
 - 8) Now, think about this. If it were all about money or a green card, then why aren't poor foreign men seeking out American women the way that poor foreign women are? And why aren't there websites or matchmaking agencies out there for foreign men seeking American women? It's because there isn't a market for it. Very few foreign men would want an American woman, even to get into the US. These men want feminine women, and the denial of their femininity as well as their selfish attitude is a huge turn off to foreign men. Also, ask yourself this. If poor foreign women just want money, then what do American women want? A dazzling personality and kind heart? Not! They not only want money, but they want it all, perfection in every category!
 - 9) From my experience with gold diggers and users in Russia and the Philippines, I've come to recognize their common patterns, such as the way they manipulate and tell lies, the way they tell you what you want to hear yet their actions contradict their words, and their tendency to ask for money within the first day or week of knowing you. And what I can tell you is that MOST of the girls who like me here do NOT exhibit these traits.
 - 10) A high percentage of Filipinas I get involved with tend to like to bite me and pinch me. I was told that they only do that to you if they LIKE you. Certainly if they only wanted to use me, they wouldn't be biting and pinching me. They only do that to those they like or find adorable, cute, or cuddly.

What you've gotta understand is that it's not a simple case of "these women are friendlier to you cause they are poor and need your money." I mean, yes money is a factor here. But what's being overlooked here is that the poor are unspoiled and dependent, so they often have to cultivate good inner qualities in their personalities and

behaviors to get what they need, and to compensate for their lack of material assets, especially since they have interdependent relations with others. In other words, they have learned to treat others nicely to get ahead, whereas someone who already has it all doesn't need to be nice and can afford to be spoiled, stuck up and treat others badly. So that's another reason why poor people are nicer. It's not cause they only want your money, though money is an indirect cause of this, but it has more to do with their character being developed differently than ours.

Some guys see everything in terms of money and economics. Well I'm not one of those guys of course, for I consider many other deeper factors. Not every guy with money can duplicate everything I've done. Looks, personality, attitude, and chemistry are strong factors too, and in this culture, I rank high in those areas to them, even in the looks department since I am far closer to the ideal male image here than I am to the one in the states. That's why I often get preferential treatment from girls here over richer guys not as personable or likable. In reality, human beings are very complex, and don't fit into overly simplistic pet theories like "She just wants you for money". So these one shot labels put together by shallow know-it-all people to try to explain other people just don't hold. Perhaps these guys are "all about money" themselves, so they can't help but assume that everyone else is too. But they can only speak for themselves, not for others.

Oddly enough, there are some women (and men) who genuinely believe that giving money is a demonstration and sign of true love. These folks see no shame in "buying love" and are proud to utter the phrase "no money, no honey". Such women will even ask for money from a man she truly loves, seeing nothing wrong with it. But of course, I do not share their values. An effective way I've found, to weed these types out is to simply tell them that you are poor and on a tight budget, and act like it. If they disappear after that, then you know what they were probably after. If not, then you've got a more genuine girl. Needless to say, if you want to impress somebody, you don't have to take them to a fancy restaurant everyday; rather, mix it up with several days of going to fast food or cooking at home. A nice sweet Filipina will appreciate that.

If you think though, that all my experiences here are with money grubbing whores, think again. Make no mistake, I can and have gotten NON-WORKING girls to sleep with me on a regular basis. So, please don't assume all my experiences are with whores. Unlike in Russia, after our dates, they often prefer to go home WITH me rather than without me.

Sure, there are old fat white drunkards with money here who are also sleeping with "hot girls" too. However, there are two primary differences between them and me – 1) They usually have to pay girls to be with them and/or send financial support to their families, 2) Their dating field is usually limited to the bar girls or whores, and they cannot get dates with normal Filipinas or pick up girls in normal public settings, whereas I can easily get dates in non-bar settings.

Anyway, some of the relationships I have here even eclipse the romances portrayed in Hollywood films, to the point where when I watch them, I say to myself, "I have a lot better than that in real life!" And that's something I could NEVER EVER have said in the USA! In fact, I don't even watch TV here (like the millions of couch potatoes in America, of which I used to be one of) because I have no need to, as my REAL LIFE is more exciting to me than what's on the tube!

Believe it or not, some girls here have even said that I'm TOO HANDSOME for them! And that because of that, they don't trust me! In their view, they explain, handsome men have many girls and don't stick to one, and thus can't be trusted. Thus, they prefer average looking men who are more likely to be anonymous, as they don't like the drama of being in love with a guy who has many girls. Imagine that! No one in the US would ever say or think that about me! Amazing beyond belief! That's why I say that the Philippines is total salvation for a guy's ego!

The most significant difference for me is this: **When I am sociable and outgoing to girls in the US, they think I'm a creep, and react with hatred and/or antisociality. But when I am sociable and outgoing to girls in the Philippines (and in most other countries), their response is overwhelmingly positive, and react with enthusiasm and/or attraction.** That's a whole world of difference. As an incredible example, when I go to the local mall here in the Philippines, about 90 percent of the girls will give me their number if I ask for it, even if they are really hot and the kind that you would say "ouch!" and consider out of your league! 90 percent! But in the states, that percentage is..... yep you guessed it, zero! What a universe of difference! In fact, most of the time, they enjoy being "picked up" and "hit on", finding me charming and attractive. And my sweet talk and compliments make them feel good about themselves, so they like being with me.

Likewise, the biggest difference between my life in the Philippines and the US is this: **When I am dateless in the US, all I can do about it is masturbate, watch TV to escape loneliness, and eat potato chips/junk food. And if I can find people to hang out with, it's usually only guys. But in the Philippines, I'm NEVER dateless or lonely. I have so many hot girls gunning for me and contacting me that I don't have time for them all and have to cancel on them or postpone them! My only disappointment is not having enough time and not having enough of me to go around for all the hot chicks available here! (especially when each one wants me to be "the only one"!) Thus I am constantly desired and in demand by a neverending supply of hot chicks! Now, again that's a whole UNIVERSE of difference, beyond belief, yet TRUE!**

In short, here I LIVE the kind of love life I've always DREAMED of!

In my opinion, Filipinas make the best girlfriends, lovers, and friends. Compared to females in the other Asian countries, they aren't as strict, serious, prudish or hung up. Instead, they are more relaxed, carefree, happy-go-lucky, easygoing, playful, passionate and sensual. They are also very nonjudgmental and nonracist. And they have a great sense of humor, enjoying the silliest things which easily amuse them. Thus, you can always have fun and joke around or play with them, even if you have nothing else to talk about. That's so nice and refreshing, especially when you are so accustomed to antisociality and hostility from women in the US.

Best of all, they LOVE to flirt. When I flirt with girls in the Philippines, they not only enjoy it, but it actually ADDS FUEL to our chemistry (whereas in the US, flirting with girls "creeped" them out and emanated a vibe of hostility from them). And that's a big thing to me, because I am a big-time flirt!

Filipinas are also a great blend of outer and inner traits. Ethnically, they are Asian, Malay and Spanish, resulting in a very exotic and beautiful mix that is very pleasing and sensual to the eyes. Their exotic sexy sensual olive complexion ranges from light to dark shades, all of which are sexy to me and many other foreigners here. And their attractive highly feminine appearance is combined with a tender romantic loving/caring inner side to them – a fantastic blend to say the least.

The way they treat you and touch you is just so sensual and fulfilling. They have this warm tender touch that white women definitely don't have (not to sound racist). I've experienced it and can understand now why so many foreign men are addicted to the Philippines and to Filipinas. I think it's a genetic thing, not just a cultural thing, as you can feel it to the bone (and soul). Not to sound racist, but just as brown sugar is healthier than white sugar, and brown rice is healthier than white rice, (as any nutritionist will tell you) perhaps brown skinned women are healthier for your mind, body, and sanity as well. They seem to bring this natural balance to your life and soul.

Thus, I'd say that even if you didn't have a taste for Filipinas or Asian women before, if you come to the Philippines, you soon will. Once you're here and experience females of this caliber, any preferences you had will simply go "out the window."

Not only are most Filipinas either hot or cute, and passionate and tender in bed, but their personality is so soothing, gentle, easy-going and accommodating that they are like my best friends too. They are just so comfortable to be around, in a way that you could never imagine possible in the West.

They are also a great blend of White and Asian traits. Their Spanish blood makes them much more wild, relaxed, passionate and expressive than Orientals such as the Chinese, Japanese, or Koreans, who are non-expressive, robotic and overly serious and strict in comparison. And they have big round eyes that are considered attractive in Western Culture (although to my surprise, my slanted Asian eyes are considered more attractive in Filipino culture than their big round eyes are). They have all the physical beauty of thin feminine Asian women in light and dark colors ("vanilla and chocolate" so to speak), as well as their humble, modest, sweet, pleasing, soothing romantic nature. The only drawbacks to them are that they don't like to think much, don't like to answer questions or provide explanations when asked to do so, and are sometimes moody and quiet for unexplainable reasons that they refuse to discuss. It seems in their nature to be that way. Thus you don't get much intellectual stimulation with them. But the good news is that it's much easier to train and educate them than it is to teach a Westernized woman to be sweeter and more loving.

Although Filipinas aren't as intellectual, educated, or deep-thinking as the European women are, they make up

for it in their other qualities. They have this essence about them, warm sensual tenderness and a way of treating you that makes you feel needed and loved, like a real man, in a way that you had always wished and dreamed deep down but never dared hoped for. It's beyond words - something you have to feel and experience as a man to understand. And when you do, you realize it's what you had always wanted and even friends. They are tender, sweet, passionate and fun.

In a way, it's like they give **new birth to your heart**, for if your heart had lost faith in love, they awaken it and renew it with their child-like hope and belief in love, making it a reality for you, and making you a believer again as well.

Basically, it's like this: Here, there is ALWAYS ACTION to be had, so I am never bored. I can always go out, have fun, get hot girls, and any type of action I want or need, ANYTIME! Contrast that to back in the states, where I was forced to stay home all the time, as no one wanted to meet me if I went out, so there was no point. There was nothing to do, no action to be had, no one to meet, no fun to be had, etc. It was complete boredom and suffocation, as well as loneliness and isolation. (Yuck!) But now that I can get action anytime I want here, or have fun whenever I want, there's a reason for me to go out everyday! Wow. I NEVER have to stay home and be bored if I don't want to here! In fact, there's always something going on here that is fun and wild that I can PARTICIPATE in interactively (I won't give you specifics, but leave it up to your imagination), not just sit back and watch passively, more than there is time for! Best of all, there are ALWAYS tons of hot/sexy/cute/gorgeous girls who constantly want to meet me, be with me, have fun with me, get wild with me, and whatever escalates between us, MORE than I can handle! It's literally a "sex babe Disneyland"!

Here, I get the best of both worlds. On the one hand, it's one of the easiest places in the world to get sex, if not the easiest. And on the other, there are many commitment-oriented romantic old-fashioned goody Catholic girls as well to choose from. So I can get easy sex, or romance/steady relationship, for the sappy sentimental side of me, as well! I can choose from either, the best of both worlds! Thus, a person can satisfy both his lust for casual sex and need for steady relationship/romance! (though society considers both desires to be mutually exclusive, I don't)

Anyhow, I gotta tell you though, when you can go out and get hot girls, dates and action ANYTIME you want, and you have hot cuties gunning for you daily, it's an INCREDIBLE FEELING. Nothing beats it! It feels as though you've transcended the barriers and physical laws of the universe! And it makes any sacrifices you make to be here definitely WORTH IT.

Here in the Philippines, I experience **TRUE FREEDOM** – freedom from datelessness and desperation, and freedom to have sex with a hot woman ANY time I want! That is something that America never provided me, giving me only stupid excuses instead. As expats in Thailand say, "Americans talk about it but don't do it, Thais do it but don't talk about it."

Anyone who saw my life here and my life in America would think that I was in two different universes. I'm serious. And anybody who witnessed the difference in person would never blame me for saying all these things either. That I can GUARANTEE. I have literally thousands of photos now, from Russia, Europe, and Asia to prove it all – how different my social/love life really is here vs. back in America.

To see visual proof of what I'm talking about, see my [Photos from the Philippines](#).

So, contrary to what New Agers and attitude fanatics (the "you create your own reality" crowd) think, I didn't become a happy optimist by changing my attitude, thoughts or beliefs, but by exercising my power of choice and braving it out against the fear of the unknown, by going to another location on the other side of the globe. After all, in truth dating is like real estate, as long as you are a decent guy, it's all about location, location, location!

And that folks, is the bottom line I want to share with you.

Thank you.

For another awe inspiring story of Salvation in the Philippines, see my Expat Advisor's account at:

http://www.happierabroad.com/Love_Adventure_Philippines.htm

Here are some videos on YouTube that show you the wonderful world of Filipinas here!

This video that shows you the variety of women in Philippines! As you can see, they come in so many colors and types to choose from!

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ls4zODEbE6A>

Here is an incredible pictorial presentation of Filipina beach babes. They are proof of a man's paradise! (If this doesn't make you jump on a plane to the Philippines now, nothing will!)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rfEhvdcOeUo>

And get this. All those girls are realistically attainable types, as long as you are nice and sweet and no an a-hole.

Next, these Filipina media stars guaranteed to make you drool! Warning! Once you look, there may be no going back! 😊hehehe

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u0CaOWGt6o4>

And imagine this, these girls have this warm inclusive touch and vibe that just fulfill you so much that you want to forget all other women!

Here are video stills of typical expats and their Filipina wives/gf's. They are representative of what I see of typical expats and their Filipina wives/girlfriends. They all look like nice people and the Filipinas on them are very cute and attractive, to me at least.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u5X0JQobPPY>

More videos of beautiful Filipinas can be found from here:

http://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=filipina+girls&search_type=&aq=f

And videos of beautiful Thai girls can be found from here:

http://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=thai+girls&search_type=&aq=f “

Note: If you are considering going to the Philippines, I recommend you get Larry Elterman's book [A Man's Guide to Life and Love in the Philippines](#). It's a must have for anyone serious about the Philippines. [Click here to read sample chapters and order](#). Listen to his [informative audio interview here](#).

How a Filipina transformed this man's life and self-worth

Check out this heartfelt touching story posted in my Forum about how one man's life and self-worth were completely changed by a Filipina!

<http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=6931>

“Admittedly, I am not a big fan of everything that Winston Wu says and does, but I do believe there is a lot of truth in his ideas. My story is similar to his. I grew up being told that I was a freak, a weirdo, a homosexual, and a moron. I couldn't understand what I was doing wrong - I was smart, caring, insightful, hardworking, ambitious, and prosocial. I couldn't understand why some people believed in all the drama that came from living an antisocial life.

I was punched, pushed into urinals, and worse. I became convinced there was something wrong with me...I even seriously considered suicide when I was in grade 11. That was in 1999, when the Columbine School Shootings happened, and I identified with Eric Harris and Dylan Klebolt.

It wasn't until high school was done and that I got into the real world that I realized that really, there isn't anything wrong with me. In fact, some people looked up to me.

More importantly, I discovered Filipinas. Well, Filipinas discovered me. What a change it was being told that I was hunk. After years of being humiliated in school, I finally found myself being adored by Filipinas !!! Not just loved - lusted after. I could be sweet, and would get love back. Gone were the days of being punched for being a prosocial person. Western high schools reward mentally ill idiots who while ignoring prosocial go-getters who will actually make a difference in this world.

My unhappiness became a distant memory...now I am loved, cared for, listened to....Filipina girls respect my character. They respect the fact that I am not just lusting and gambling my life away. I got Filipina girls telling me I am so handsome. In fact, my Filipina girlfriend's friends all send her messages telling her that she is so lucky to have me, and one even asked whether it would be possible to marry my dad (she assumed my dad must be similar to me).

More than anything, I feel vindicated. I know that really, it isn't me. I am normal; it was the people around me who were mentally ill.

One could write an essay over one hundred pages long about the benefits of having a Filipina girlfriend. Most men appreciate the care, the devotion to family, as well as general sexiness of Filipinas as the main reasons for choosing one. Also, many of them have been severely hurt from a previous relationship with a Westernized lady, and are determined to find someone who will never hurt them again.

For me, the best thing about having a Filipina girlfriend is that I am able to show love, care, and affection and be accepted and loved in return. Growing up, I was constantly told that I need to "man up" and "be more aggressive." In Western culture, men are taught to get what they want by fighting for it. You need to stomp on someone else's head so they won't stomp on your head. I was told that I was not aggressive enough, and that I needed to be a jerk to women. Men told me that I needed to treat my girlfriend like she was a dog and make her beg for a treat. I needed to be the prize.

For a while I actually (regretably) believed that crap. But I quickly realized the nonsense for what it was. My heart changed, and then I met Mahal. I know I can be sweet and caring, and not have to worry about her treating me like a doormat. Westernized women often think that being nice means being weak. In Filipina culture, being nice is returned with kindness, and perhaps a bit of sex too.

When I am with Mahal, I feel like I can be myself. I don't have to walk around all "macho" (whatever that is supposed to mean). I can share my weaknesses, and we can laugh at each other in a supporting way. I have finally realized that it really isn't me that is wrong; for so long I had been with mentally ill people who viewed prosocial people as a weakness. You can't blame a Palm Tree for not growing in Alaska.

For the first time in my life, I have felt unconditional love and acceptance being with Mahal.

To be with someone who values me so much brings out the best in me. I want to be the best lover, the best husband, the best father, and the best servant in her church. I don't have to fear that my efforts will be replied with insult. I can serve her, cuddle her, listen to her, and support her, and not fear rejection. She is the best lady, so I want to be the best lover I possibly can be for her.

I wish all men still looking for their Filipina love lots of good luck !!!!"

Here are some fascinating observations of the Philippines based on my experiences as well as those of other intellectual expats and foreigners here.

- It's a culture of denial. When lies or dark secrets are discovered, they simply act as though it doesn't exist. For instance, when you catch a Filipino or Filipina in a lie, they don't try to explain it, acknowledge it, or even apologize for it. They simply act like it doesn't exist and refuse to discuss it. Likewise, when you ask them to reconcile a contradiction or discrepancy in their story, they often don't bother and if you insist on it, demanding "Just tell me the truth!" it usually falls on deaf ears. Or when you catch them in an embarrassing blunder, such as when a store clerk tells you "We don't have that, sir" and then two seconds later you see it behind them and point to it saying "Well isn't that it?" (which happens very often here), they don't apologize or acknowledge their error. And if you then ask "Why did you tell me you didn't have it when you did?" to try to force them to acknowledge their mistake, it will certainly fall on deaf ears, no matter how many times you repeat the question. It's their way of "saving face".

- They don't even like saying "I don't know" in response to a question. In fact often they'd rather give you the WRONG directions, wasting your time, energy and money, rather than tell you "I don't know" when asked for directions. Obviously, they are not taught that "honesty is the best policy". And this applies to even good well-meaning people here. It's definitely a country where perfectionists who demand exact answers and information will get frustrated and annoyed often. Logic doesn't even seem to exist here, and isn't even used in their vocabulary. Every single foreigner I've talked to who has been here for a long time agrees with this and reports similar experiences. Some even say they can write volumes on such experiences and even more bizarre ones.

- One refreshing thing I've noticed is that they do not generally judge, analyze, criticize, compare, or complain. It's not in their nature to do so. And that's nice in the sense that they aren't usually going to judge or criticize you. But on the flip side, this also means that they also lack the ability to analyze, think and reason as we understand it, so communication with them can often be frustrating. And giving them lectures in logic or on being fair and considerate by Western standards, often feels futile. They aren't as exacting as we are. In fact, asking them for explanations often results in silence as if they don't hear you or their brain stalls. It's as if asking for explanations "freezes up" their mind. They simply don't like to think of "explanations" or "reasons" or even to question things. It's definitely not an "intellectual culture" or even an organized one. Since they do not generally complain here (at least the way Americans do), services and processes don't usually improve. It's a non-confrontational culture.

However, all this is also beneficial and therapeutic in the sense that no one is labeled a "misfit" or "weirdo", or told that they are "unusual" or "different" or that "there is something wrong with you". Hence, misfits and freaks from other societies will feel like they finally "fit in" here, accepted and very much at home.

Whereas Western countries are advanced economically, the Philippines is much more advanced socially. Although its economic infrastructure is weak in comparison, socially it is far more evolved, advanced and more integrated than in the West. No one is perpetually lonely, friendless or dateless here. No one is really isolated and families always help each other. There isn't the concept of "individualism" that isolates people and separates them like in the States, and hence there is little individuality among people here. People remain calm, easy-going, cheerful and pleasant in stressful situations, when things go wrong, and even while driving through heavy traffic on the streets. Rarely does anyone ever lose their cool. Depression, mental illness, and suicide are unheard of here and almost nonexistent. No one has to go to a psychiatrist or therapist. Finding someone here who has been to a therapist is like trying to find a needle in a haystack. Now, CONTRAST that to America, where nearly HALF the population have been in therapy at some point during their lives! Somehow, people seem to be able to maintain this inner state of balance, "Zen state", psychological harmony, or whatever you want to call it.

Thus, as in all things, there are pros and cons to the Filipino ways, culture, mentality, and behaviors. But as for me of course, the bottom line is that my love life here and the women here, are a TRILLION times better than in the States. Here I have a CHOICE among beautiful women, thus giving me a sense of WORTH and VALUE. To men like me, that's what matters the most. And that's why we put up with all the annoyances here.

Comments to this update by my Expat Advisor, who speaks almost ten languages, including two Filipino dialects – Tagalog and Visayan:

- *“One more local trait- they do not like to apologize, you are supposed to sulk at them for a few hours to a few weeks depending on the offence and then you are supposed to forget it as if nothing has happened. They will do the same to you. You will be amazed at what offences they forgive and forget. When you start mentioning some past misdemeanors, they will shrug and say- ‘but it is all in the past’. These past offenses only resurface when they are drunk.”*

- *“Another trait of Filipinos is to live in today and to see enjoyment in very simple things. And if you learn the language you will see that every word sounds like a piano note and every phrase like a musical chord. So, their life is overflowing with meaning, beauty and significance that few foreigners can see.”*

How a normal guy can have a lifestyle like Hugh Hefner (and I mean in REAL LIFE not in theory)



This might sound distasteful, especially to women, but it's true. (and isn't the truth what's most important here?) For those playboys out there who dream of having a life like Hugh Hefner, well the good news for them is, **THEY CAN!** I'm talking about in REAL LIFE though, not just in theory like the pick up artist books only deal with. And they can have it without being a multi-millionaire, having to spend lots of money, or owning a Playboy Empire.

All they have to do is step OUT of America, and go to one of the renowned sex capitals of the world, such as Angeles City, Philippines (where I'm at) or Bangkok, Thailand (for more recommendations or advice, see the forums at www.worldsexguide.com and www.internationalsexguide.info). These places are considered "Sex Disneyland" and "Babe Paradieses" where you can have LOTS, endless in fact, of beautiful sexy women, even ones that look like porn stars, models, and beauty queens. They will get wild with you, treat you like a real man, satisfy you, make all your dreams and fantasies come true, etc. You won't have to spend much money either, \$10 - \$20 a night is enough in most cases. And if you're a decent looking guy with a charming likeable personality, you can often get laid for free too.

Once you experience what I'm talking about, you will feel exactly like Hugh Hefner, or even better. In fact, places like Angeles City, Philippines can have this addicting effect of making you feel like a "God", that you'll never want to humble yourself again. Many guys end up staying there forever. So be warned. (But I guess that's better than staying home all day feeling desperate and horny all the time)

To see some videos that show what I'm talking about, see these:

Angeles City: http://www.youtube.com/results?search_type=&search_query=angeles+city

Pattaya: http://www.youtube.com/results?search_type=&search_query=pattaya+girls&aq=f

And check out these [raving updates of mine](#) when I first arrived in the Philippines.

Listen also to these exciting and revealing interviews by Steve Hoca with Expats who discovered a world of difference in the Philippines:

<http://www.happierabroad.com/interviews.php>

These other sites contain large databases of member submitted photos from their sexual escapades in Asia, Thailand, or the Philippines:

www.go2phil.com (requires subscription fee to view photos)

www.piatnight.com

www.asianescapades.com

One of my friends and advisors in Manila had this to say about his long-time experience there:

<http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=364>

"I've been living in the Philippines for about 4 years now, actually right in the middle of the red light district in Makati city on P. Burgos St.

What's different about sex workers in Philippines and Thailand is that they don't always just treat you as a you pay me, I fuck you, I leave type deal. The girls in these two countries, if your nice to them and they like you they will be like a temporary girlfriend to you for as long as you want them around.

I discovered Thailand at 19 years old while in the Navy and for the rest of my life I couldn't get the place out of my head. American guys have no clue how different and readily available sexuality is overseas compared to America. Men are starved in America, and get stuck with fat blobs cause they are so horny they will hook up with anyone after a while. In SE Asia you will have so much pussy in your face you will actually get bored with it after a while.

I went crazy for the first year then slowed down until now I really don't go out much to the bars anymore. Most guys in America would wish they had this problem but I've changed my life enough where I can live overseas for as long as I want and don't plan on returning to America to live anytime soon. So I'm not as worried about not getting laid cause I know I can get laid whenever I want here in the Philippines whether I want it for free or pay for it."

And with that comes "true freedom" as he explains:

<http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=286&start=15>

"I can honestly say I have true personal freedom now and feel comfortable knowing I can get laid and meet a woman whenever I want to. If I don't want to be around one, i don't and this is a personal lifestyle choice; unlike in the states where its mostly forced upon a guy."

Here is an account from a 44 year old man with a beer belly of his time in the Philippines:

<http://www.worldsexguide.com/guide/Asia/Philippines/index.htm>

1. **"Mactan Island, Cebu Travel Report** *Dated Added: Mon Aug 30 2004 Submitted by: David C*

Recently I flew from my home in Canada to meet my Friendster friend who lives in Cebu. Turns out we didn't hit it off so well, so I went exploring.

It is easy to meet chicks there. I am 44 years old and have a beer belly but in Cebu, I was Brad Pitt. There are many girly bars but its not necessary to go to one. Just go to the mall. Any mall. Spot a pretty girl and ask for her cell number. You'll get it. Guaranteed. Ask her if she would like to have a coffee with you. She will. And I mean goddesses. Not skanks, these girls are tired of poverty and are more than willing to share their time with you in hopes of romance which will get them out of their dismal shacks. They are nice sweet girls who dream of a better life, and they will be as good to you as you are to them. Even buying them a T shirt makes them happy.”

For more personal accounts like the above, see the forums at the off-site links above.

Oh and no, they aren't all after your money (but even if they were, who cares as long as your needs are being satisfied). Most of these sex workers, bar girls, and entertainers are nice girls also looking for love. They are simply wilder and more open than average and have chosen an alternate lifestyle. And if they go with a customer that they like, they will treat it like a REAL DATE, not all business like they do in the US. They also fall in love with the guys they “barfine” with and get jealous if they see him with other girls, which is quite common, so **all the feelings in a natural type of relationship are all there**. I'm not saying it's true love, but it's not all business either. It's somewhere in between. When you get to know some of these bar girl workers, as I have (rather than just banging them and leaving them) you'll see that deep down they are normal sincere girls too. It's better to get to know them first than to just prejudge them. Many of the ones that I know will go out with me and sleep with me for free, if they like me, if they find me charming, likable, funny, personable, and entertaining to them (and yes, physically attractive as well, for they do more for me in certain areas than they do for other foreign guys, including richer ones, but I'm not giving any examples here in this conservative politically correct book :)). Plus, since I'm wild in my blood too, like them, we share a sort of kindred spirit. I hate to admit it, but I often feel like the bar girls in the Philippines are like my sisters (in spirit that is).

Asian men perceived as asexual and undesirable in America

Now I hate to sound like a whiner or pessimist here (and before you flame me, remember that I don't make things the way they are, I just tell it like it is), but to be frank, America really has NOTHING to offer Asian men other than a good job of slavery to the economic system if they qualify and study hard. But that's it. Socially they are treated like crap. They are seen by our culture to be unmanly, unmasculine, short, inadequate, geeky or super-nice, not exciting, asexual, not worthy of consideration, not worthy to be noticed, etc. The only use for them in our society is to fill the demand for the shortage of labor of high tech jobs or other business careers they do well at. Otherwise, all they have to look forward to are dead end jobs and crappy social/dating lives. The benefits of American society and culture go to mostly tall white men, not to nice Asian men with intelligence, personality, character, and good hearts. Asian men are **SOCIALLY OPPRESSED** in America. They are seen as undesirable and asexual. That's why I sometimes refer to my escapade abroad as ***freedom from social oppression in America***.

I grew up in California, and you would think that in a multi-cultural politically correct place like that, the ethnicities would be integrated, but they're not. Instead, they have strong stereotypes about each other (thanks in part to Hollywood), and see each other as competitors. Social groups there are segregated by race in California and cliques tend to be of the same race. You can see this everywhere in public there, with people generally befriending and dating within their own race.

To my disadvantage, white girls in California tend to befriend within their race more so than white men do. You can see this easily out in public. There's no denying it. In fact, most white girls it seems prefer not to even acknowledge the existence of minority men. They simply see them as ZERO VALUE and ZERO CONSIDERATION. And of course, men of color notice this attitude from white girls more apparently than white males. Outside of California in the rest of the country, white girls tend to be more open to interracial dating and befriending because they have less preconceived stereotypes about minorities.

The odd thing was that while growing up in California and having these problems with white girls not liking Asian men, I was NEVER told by friends and people I consoled in that white girls outside of California are far less racist since they don't have stereotypical views about minorities as in California. Instead, I was told that the problem was with me, that my standards were too high (which was false), or that I ought to be pursuing girls of my own race instead (nevermind the fact that white males are not restricted to dating within their race, and I thought we were supposed to be an equal society?). My fellow Californians made it sound like the white girls in California represented the world and that if I couldn't make it there, then I couldn't make it anywhere! They were dead wrong. And they probably didn't even know it. But it's amazing that they had such a narrow view of the world, and that I didn't know any better either. If I had, I would have left California long ago.

Incidentally, I should add that the only areas where America is not racist in is in politics and law, at least in terminology and wording. In other words, in America you are free to be a racist, as long as you don't say you're one or make racist remarks or delineate racism by your actions. However, America is definitely VERY RACIST in its social culture, media and cliques. Just think of all the American movies you've seen, and you'll notice that Hollywood is very religious about keeping characters within the bounds of our racial stereotypes in its films. One big reason for that is because our society and culture is very racist in its attitudes and preferences, and therefore movies must reflect and appease that. After all, Hollywood has always argued that it doesn't create stereotypes, but merely reflects them in our culture.

Why USA is the worst place for Asian men who like white women

Though Asian men who prefer white women have it tough in general, nowhere is it worse for them than in the good ol' USA. There, Asian men are considered the least attractive, least desirable, and least manly of colored men. Even Hispanic and Black men are preferred by more white women than Asian men. And of the Asian men with white women, they are usually with average/plain looking types.

White men in America, on the other hand, tend to be a bit more open minded about this (perhaps because the male instinct tends to crave diversity more), and are more likely to date outside their race, which is obvious from

what you see out in public in America. But the vast majority of white girls in the US are not open to interracial dating. Unlike white males, they aren't attracted to diversity, but prefer convention.

To put it bluntly, at least 90 percent of white women in America (in my estimate), view Asian men as unattractive, unmanly, a-sexual, undesirable, not in their league, and simply of zero value to them, even for friendship, only for business social acquaintance. They may talk to them or socialize with them if it comes up, but they will never approach them, and remain distant and cold toward them, not wishing for there to be any chemistry at all, even if they meet one whom they have a lot in common with. At least 90 percent of white women in the USA are prudish, asexual, and anti-social toward Asian men. And they project this sterile cold vibe at them. They don't even like them as friends, even if they have a lot in common, for they are zero value to them, completely outside their social league as well as dating type. To them, Asian men are not even "in the game" and are of no factor or consideration to them, not even worth their personal time (except in business or work situations).

Somehow, the genetic mating instincts of white women reject the looks, qualities, and essence of Asian men. Their instincts tell them that Asian men are unmanly and not brawny to them, but are a bad match, apparent by their actions, behavior and vibe toward them. Heck, even sexually active sluts, whores, women, "easy women" and maniacs are prudish toward Asian men, making them the ultimate losers of the dating scene, whether they like it or not.

Only Asian men know what I mean about this prudish vibe white women project at them, which telegraphs to them that there is to be a distance between them which insures that any association between them is purely superficial and on an as-needed basis. Furthermore, this prudish vibe also delineates that no matter how much they have in common or how compatible they are personality-wise, there is to be no chemistry or spark between them.

And even among the white women who date Asian men, they seem to unusually dump them rather quickly and suddenly, in a very cold non-involved manner, as if the relationship had been hanging on a thin thread all along, with no emotional investment on the part of the white woman. It's as if the white woman, even if she likes her Asian partner or is attracted to him, has something in her subconscious instincts that cause her to eventually reject the Asian man anyway, and once she does, all feeling she had for him seem to just turn off like a light switch.

White men and especially white women do not and can not relate to the predicament of the Asian man, of course, since a decent looking white woman is treated well and considered desirable by most people everywhere she goes around the world. In fact, any Asian man as well as most men of color can tell you that at a service establishment such as a restaurant or cafe, they are treated much better when they are with a white woman, than when they are alone or with non-white company. They are given better service, the staff are more attentive and talkative with them, more personable, etc. Also, strangers come up and talk to them more often when they are with a white woman too. There is no question therefore, that racism is still a part of us despite our modern age of political correctness and civil rights reforms.

Among the other colored minorities, blacks seem to relate best to the predicament of Asian men, due to the immense amount of persecution they've gone through in America that leads to similar inferiority complex problems (what most don't know though, is that blacks in England, for example, do not have the inferiority complex that blacks in the US do, for Britain is more evolved in this aspect). However, in terms of dating/love life, black men are even still better off than Asian men, for there are far more white women with fetishes for black men (and their legendary reputation of being well-endowed) than there are for Asian men.

This is why Asian men who desire white women are in the WORST position in America in the dating/social scene, and have the most vacant love lives. They simply aren't "in the game" and are a non-factor to white women in general. But when Asian men who like white women complain about all this of course, the victim-blaming mentality of Americans leads ignorant people to accuse them of having a bad attitude, having a "victim-mentality", being too shy, or wrong to try to date outside their race (nevermind the fact that white men can easily date outside their race). All these are typical lazy copout excuses by those who can't relate or accept injustices, and they miss the real issue of course, which is that most white women (whatever percentage you want to put on it), are a , prudish, distant, and anti-social toward Asian men.

On the other hand, white women outside of America are far LESS racist toward Asian men. Though it can't be denied that anti-Asian attitudes among white women exist outside the USA, it's still far less in comparison. They

are much less hung up about befriending and dating men of other races. Unfortunately though, most Americans don't know this except through word of mouth (like our feminist media is going to reveal it, yeah right) This has been not only my experience, but the experience of other men of color as well. Many have written me about it too. As an example, see the first reader response below.

While Asian men who meet white women abroad notice this difference quite readily, white men of course don't notice it as readily for it doesn't apply as much to them, but they notice other non-race related differences between white women abroad vs. the USA (as the quotes cited in this book demonstrate). ([See the chapter about the great news for Asian and Black men about Europe](#))

Generally, white women in other countries are a different dimension than white women in America, although most Americans don't know that for some reason. They generally have more depth and are easier to connect with.

Of course, white women cannot relate at all to the predicament of Asian men, for they can easily find friendly men who are interested in them, in ANY country, which allows them to be as picky as they want, or tailor their love life any way they want. Asian women though, can relate to some of the racism against Asian men, but nowhere near the same degree, for they still seen as desirable and attractive in US culture (and by many white men), and hence have nowhere near the oppression and inferiority complex that Asian men have.

Therefore, not surprisingly, there is a huge gap between the understanding of Asian men and white women when it comes to people abroad being more sociable and friendly. I have learned this from personal experience. When an Asian man claims that people abroad are more friendly to him, he is referring to the far less racist attitude and vibe against them from white people (especially from white women), thereby allowing him to be himself and flourish naturally without feeling like he has to compensate for some deficiency or dealing with a culturally given inferiority complex. But since white women don't deal with these issues, they cannot relate, and are instead confused by this claim, for their experience is that many people everywhere are interested, open, and sociable to them to similar degrees. If they are decent looking, they can get action anywhere they want, anytime they want, for there is always a supply of interested people available to them, thus they are always "in the game" if they choose to be. Ironically, often they are so picky and particular that they elect not to be in the . They have it way too easy to relate to what an Asian man goes through. (Their understandable complaint abroad, of course, is that they are not given the upperhand and power that they are used to in the US, hence the fall from power can put them in shock)

Sadly, a typical Asian man's life is simply BORING and BLAND in the USA, unless he has low standards and ambitions. He doesn't get the kind of ACTION that normal people get, he's rarely "in the game" or of any value socially. And if he complains about it, few who are non-Asian can relate to him, though blacks tend to relate best to his predicament. Simply put, they are forced to lead lives devoid of ACTION and STIMULATION. Their lives are strictly limited to SCHOOL and WORK, where they can at least excel and prove themselves useful in some way, in an area where the law protects them from racism.

While some Asian men can accept this predicament, if their ambitions are strictly limited to career aspirations and Asian women, others who are like me - expressive, ambitious to obtain higher status and achieve greatness, wishing to be desirable, requiring action and stimulation in their lives to grow, and attracted to white women, etc. - cannot accept this horrendous predicament for us. And therefore, that's how someone like me is forced to take extreme measures, like going to Russia/Europe and having the adventures chronicled on my site, since after all, as the saying goes, "extreme situations require extreme measures".

In America, Asian men are made to feel like HALF A MAN compared to the standards of a Caucasian male. The good qualities of Asian men are NOT appreciated socially or culturally, only in the workplace since their hard-working diligence contributes to profit. In the states, the typical qualities of Asian men - kindness, tenderness, gentleness, intelligence, diligence, efficient thoroughness with details, attentiveness to others' needs, loyalty, commitment, etc. contribute NOTHING to their social status or desirability. Hence, it's very easy for Asian men to feel naturally alienated.

I hope all this sheds light on my situation and the predicament of those like me, even to those who cannot personally relate, so that others can better appreciate my valor, motivations, and aims.

For Asian men like me, my Expat Advisor advises:

“Again, Asian guys CAN get white girls once they get out of any of the British colonies where their status is traditionally low.

The Asian girls who go to the US do have a hope of meeting an American in many cases. A REAL American- Burt Reynolds, Tom Cruise, etc. Somehow, also to qualify for a visa to the US, you need to be an exceptional Asian, either with means, or with very high scores, etc. Not the cross section of the population. Hence, the girls have high ambitions. Meeting a REAL American.

White girls in the USA are stuck up because they are from a British settler society- traditionally full of handsome young men and a few not so pretty women.

You need to send the guys your solutions and your videos.

Blessed are those who are aware of alternatives.”

So far, the best solution for Asian American men seems to be to go overseas, as my Expat Advisor explains in [his expose](#).

It's gotten so bad for Asian men in the US that even the attractive ones are forced to go overseas for a quality top-notch love life, as in the case of this Asian intellectual in Europe who explained to me:

“Hey Winston,

I'm around 6'1" and attractive by Asian standards. What that meant was that I could usually find a girlfriend (Asian mostly) without too much trouble in the U.S. On the other hand, I too still faced the discrimination that all Asian men are subject to.

I had white American girls yell "Ewwww! Yuck!" to my face when I approached them at a club. I could go on but I'm sure you get the point.

The reason I left the U.S. was because I found it to be a profoundly depressing and soulless existence living in North America. I hate life in U.S. suburbs the most. Cookie-cutter houses. Endless strip malls filled with the same stores (Blockbuster, McDonalds, etc). Having to drive EVERYWHERE. Spending every night watching television or DVDs in my big, isolated house. Weekends with nothing to do but go shopping at the mall. Like many people, I always felt half-dead whenever I spent significant periods of time in the U.S. I couldn't figure out why. Then I realized it. It was American culture. It was the American media. To put it bluntly, American culture is a ghetto culture that values flash over substance, superficial consumerism over spiritual growth. It's a culture that has an invisible racial hierarchy that places Asian men at the bottom and is obsessed with all things white or black American. It's a country that is built for doing business, not living life.

Anyhow, I've lived in many places during my life. And as we all know, each place has its good bits and its bad bits.

I've now learned to take the best bits of the U.S. (namely, service and business) and transfer it to my life abroad.”

[The two choices that Asian American men face \(by an Asian American in Europe\)](#)

The Asian American intellectual living in Europe whom I quoted above, gave this straight talk about the two choices that Asian men in America face. I admire his intelligence, boldness, and ability to put complex issues in simple terms, evident in his writing:

“There are vast numbers of Asian-American men who are mentally dysfunctional from their life of ostracism and sexual denial. Instead of seeing the light, they'll claw at the messenger and attempt to silence the truth. They're like that character from The Matrix, who after realizing that he has lived in a mental prison his entire life, actually wants to go back to its safe confines rather than face the harsh reality that lies before him.

Asian-American men face two choices:

1. They can admit that the US has an invisible hierarchy that places Asian men at the bottom of the sexual totem pole - which combined with the inferior mating qualities of American women and the fierce competition amongst eligible men - makes it highly unlikely they'll find quality dating lives in the US except by blind luck (e.g. running into a girlfriend in college and sticking with her no matter).

or

2. They can pretend that the US is the greatest, happiest, and most wonderful nation in the world, a place that has the most beautiful women on earth who give each man an equal opportunity regardless of race or ethnicity. If only they study hard enough, work hard enough, and improve themselves in every way, they'll get the American dream girl.

Most Asian-American men will opt for a variation of option #2. Quite a few will even go so far as say "I'm not attracted to white girls" (as a way to reject white women who they feel are going to reject them anyhow and because they think American "cows" = white women all over the world).

As you've no doubt realized, Asian-American men develop a variety of complexes, angst, and mental defense mechanisms to shield their egos from the brutal truth.”

Elated responses from Asian American men

From an elated Asian American man in Minsk, Belarus:

"Hi Winston,

Wow, what a great news!!!

Winston, you are a pioneer. You are inspiring Asian American men everywhere to take the plunge and travel to Russia (or Ukraine or Belarus.)

Yesterday I went to see Nutcracker Ballet with a beautiful 26 year old Minsk girl I have been writing emails to. She held my hands and treated me most tenderly. Almost like a boyfriend she loves. Wow!!! Imagine that. I am a 46 year old Asian American guy who had NO American girlfriends, no sex with white American girls and of course no marriage and no family in all my life in USA. I could scarcely believe I was not dreaming throughout that date. It was so unreal that this beautiful girl treated me so well.

The plain fact is that most Asian American men are treated so shabbily by American girls. We are simply zero to them. And most Asian American men are totally discouraged IMO (in my opinion). They think they have absolutely no chance dating a beautiful girl of their dreams. Well, Winston, you have shown that it can be done. Not in USA of course, but in FSU (former Soviet Union) countries. Here, it just feels so good to be treated as a man for a change! And you don't have to be a great looking investment banker guy. Some women here just appreciate tender attention. For some women, even just companionship is enough!

I consider coming to Minsk to be one of the very best decisions I have ever made in my life. And hopefully, I will not go back to USA. I like to marry a beautiful Belarussian girl and live here permanently."

From an Asian American in New York who was shocked by my brutal politically incorrect frankness:

*"I came across your web site on Google. All I say is... "Wow! I can't believe anyone would write this sh**!" Lest you think this is a flame, I AGREE WITH ALMOST EVERYTHING you've written. Hell, I've experienced almost all of it! The thing is, I can't believe someone would come out and say this--because chances are, you're going to get flamed to hell! I may think it, but I sure the hell wouldn't say it!.....I grew up mostly in North Carolina, went to Carolina -- getting a BS and MS. I experienced a lot of rejection from white girls. (No use trying to get Asian girls, as there weren't too many of them...) I have since lived in Boston for over 3 years, and now live in Manhattan. I tell you, Manhattan is really as good as it gets in America, and dating still suck for Asian men. The fact of the matter is, we are considered a by American society at large... Just look at the Manhattan craigslist. Do a rough search for Asian -- it's typically white guys looking for Asian girls, and vice versa. Sometimes, an Asian girl will add "or Asian" to their preference..... As one of my good [white Jewish] friend commented, American women always have this concept of the type of man they want -- tall, dark, handsome, and almost always white, and will date almost any jerk provided they fit that cast -- they're not going to diverge from that until their triple witching hour (that is -- the final hour of the trading on the third Friday of March, June, September, and December, when options and futures expire on market indexes used by program traders) -- basically, that women here won't "select" someone like you (and me) until they are too old not to have any other options. Gee, doesn't that make us feel all warm and fuzzy?"*

From a Korean American in Virginia:

"Hi,

I'm a Korean male living in America that shares almost the same feelings as you do. I think that your sites should be spreaded and it really makes sense. Wow, it's amazing how much you wrote. Very motivational for me because here in Virginia, people seem to be boring and anti-social. I can't open up a good conversation even if I try because, for some sort of reason, the most good response i would get is "Hi, how's it going"? Like people here would be interested only if you are very popular with any of their interest. Anyways, I just want to say it's a great work and I like your site. It should be motivational to similar guys like us and many more.

P.S.-- It's great to hear that Europe/Russia is open about dating asian men."

And from an Asian American who became enlightened by my observations and discoveries:

"Hi,

I found your site from the link in Asian-man.com forums. I read a good article about the differences of life in America and Eastern Europe/Russia. I read an interesting articles and pure truth about the reality of Asian men and the stereotypes and how this is played out in America. Sad but true. It is quite surprising that these chances are slim and Asian men are welcomed in Russia/Eastern Europe. I didn't know that Russians/Eastern Europeans were very opened. I usually heard only bad things from the American public. I want to be on your list. Maybe I could learn some more interesting lifestyles in different parts of the country outside the USA."

From an Asian American male actor:

*"First of all if I can give you a handshake and a hug right now I will. I myself am tired of the stuck up white girls here in America and the hypocritical, soulless culture that we have. And now because of you and your pics--you lucky mother****er.... Russia is one of the places to visit on my list now. Originally, coming from surfing the net for Asian-White love I've found from other Asian male travelers that in France and other parts of Europe we Asian Men are a 10 to these women, and now...Russia.*

...I'm tired man, tired, tired, tired.

I'm an actor myself, i wanted to get girls that's why I became one--but eventually fell in love with the art of it as well but still didn't get action---the farthest that I got was a stage kiss with this cute blonde, that's it!

*Now I realize that I don't need to be a somebody but myself---in America or not. I'll still continue though approaching American girls because it'll only help me gain my balls back by not being ashamed of myself---and nowadays there are white girls hooking up with Asian guys--but they are a rare find indeed. You'd love to **** them but they can't hold a nice convo and get bored easily about things because they're so air-headed. All they know is clubbing, drinks, and ****ing MTV--I want to connect but I can't."*

From an East Indian guy in response to my complaint that when Asian men complain about how shoddily they are treated by white women, they are usually told that the problem is them and that if they had a better career, build, hair style, or personality, then their results would change:

"Winston,

Yes I have heard this B.S. all my life!!! My parents have inculcated this all during high school and college. For 4 years now, I have a stable job as a newspaper editor and I still have no luck with women in this country. Essentially, it boils down to that women want to use a man with money if he has it, if he is poor then she will use him for something else, more likely to use his emotions to make her feel more important. From what I have seen, American women will never spend time with an ordinary nice gentleman, for they are deemed to be a waste of life and more importantly waste of time. I have asked thin girls, fat girls, rich and poor, they all give me a universal message that is you are not desirable. I have heard young people and old people telling me what was wrong with me, what I could do to change myself. I am not sure they have got it perfect themselves. I said F#& that, I will use my insight and judgment to solve this problem for this country offers too many vultures to pray on innocent Asian minds without mercy. Moreover, white American women have shown me no mercy, have made me feel undesirable at the best of moods, given me false hope, slandered me at various occasions, and have even went as far as to ridicule my culture which they know nothing of. Not all the people who immigrate to this country will fit in, no matter what they do in life, and it seems to me that Asians are the least desirable in the eyes of Caucasian women in the order you have mentioned starting with white men, Hispanic men, African-American men, Native American men, and finally and least the Asian men. Therefore, if Asian men rank so low, the only judicious retaliation is to rank these trash whores where they place us. It may be harsh but I assure you the Caucasian women of this country have made it even more so for us in the ever-increasing sentiment of feminism pervading this society. I have not given up my quest for meeting gorgeous Caucasian women, I believe if you find beauty in such women, then it is by a natural, male, human instinct and virtue to find and spend time with them, even if it be thousands of miles away in a continent called Europe. I continue to hold that no matter what kind of women you like, they should take the time to spend time and respond to their admirer in the same way as their potential mate, because we as a people still breathe the same air molecules, drink the same water molecules our ancestors did thousands of years ago, and God forbid, we shall also be part of the ground when our time is up. Nothing really in our society has changed in the vast expanse of time, and it will not change for the next million years until our species transforms into something else. So in the essence of happiness which we value most, the only solution is stop wasting time in a land where there are no fruits available, move to more fertile grounds where crop and women can satisfy the male spirit, ultimately leaving us time for enjoyment that was meant to be ours, but which was hard to attain initially."*

From an Asian guy who's spent many years in Russia:

"Hey Bro!

Came across your website and book. I too spent more than ten years in Russia and 5 in the USA, and you're RIGHT! I love Russia, and I love Russians too! White women in the USA treat Asian men like how Nazi German bitches would treat a Jewish guy in 1939, but Russians, now that's a hope for humanity after all! Good work bro, and all the all the best. Paka!

TC. "

An Asian man from New Zealand observed:

"Its a perennial topic for discussion among Chinese guys like myself - and yes I agree with you 1000% - there is something really fucked up about the attitudes of not white people in general, but Anglo-Saxon societies in their attitude to Asian men. Even 100% non-sexual communication between white woman and asian man is often a fraught affair - however with foreign European women at work it is never a problem - whether they find me attractive or not is beside the point - they just treat you as another human being."

And an Asian reader from California thanked for me enlightening and validating him:

*"Sent: Mon, 13 Aug 2007 8:22 am
Subject: You are AWESOME!"*

Dear sir,

You have made me extremely happy today. I too live in California and am of Asian descent. For my entire life, I have been socially awkward and rejected in school and other areas. Although I do have a lot of friends, I've always seemed to notice that my social skills differed from the "norm". I've always seen myself as outgoing, funny and nice but when I tend to over do it at times and thus lose friends and respect. I've always thought that I was the only person like this but when I found your site and read about your experiences, it described me exactly and now I know that I do not have to conform to American society. Throughout my past 3 years in High School, I've been changing almost every bit of myself in hopes of becoming popular again and having friends, but to no avail. Hopefully, I can become an expat and live in France or other part of Europe and enjoy the same success as you.

Thank you so much!"

One from Washington D.C. made these eloquent remarks:

"Subject: Greetings from Washington, D.C.

Hello Winston,

I visited your website, happierabroad.com, and I agree with everything you write. You are my hero! You have spoken truths that many men do not understand. You have broken ground that many men have not.

I am a Korean American and I have struggled so much. You are an inspiration!

Cheers, Mark"

The best solution to the Asian American man's dating dilemma (by my Expat Advisor)

A great expose by my Expat Advisor who speaks ten languages and is "The Socrates of Expatriate Life". It puts the Asian American man's dating situation in perspective, offering the best solution:

<http://truthfulinsights.blogspot.com/2007/05/dating-advice-for-asian-american-men.html>

"Dating Advice For Asian American Men

If you are an Asian American (or another hyphenated Asian) and you have a great number of dating companions of all ethnicities, the advice below is not for you. If you are not an Asian man in America or any other "Anglo-Saxon" country (including the UK), again, the informaton below does not apply to you.

If, however, you are an Asian man living in an English-speaking country, primarily the US, and are experiencing difficulties dating and socializing because of negative stereotypes about you, please read on:

It is no secret now that Asian men in America have problems dating. There have been several programs on TV already describing the fact that as an Asian man, you have harder time finding a mate than your Caucasian, African-American or Hispanic counterparts. There have been articles in magazines and newspapers addressing the same problem and describing its causes (and effects). Few such programs or articles, however, offer solutions to such men, and many still find themselves lonely and bitter, although sometimes pitied. However, more often than not, they simply end up lonesome and dateless.

The deal seems to be this: Many Caucasian women in the US do not find Asian American men manly enough to consider them dating material. Many Asian women also prefer Caucasian men, and the ones who prefer Asian men, are apparently not enough to go around.

The US media often portrays Asian men as dorky buffoons, skinny and freaky martial arts experts, mathematics nerds, clumsy immigrants with mangled English of the 'fled lice' variety", noodle shop cooks or laundry managers, and not as being as powerful and confident as White or African American males, or as romantic as Hispanic men. Plus, throughout the history of the US, Asian countries were enemies whose males were to be killed on the battlefield, and whose women were to be taken home to mom as war brides after their men lie dead in the jungle or at the bottom of the sea.

In other cases, Asian countries were often suppliers of poor workers or indigent immigrants of all kinds to provide cheap labors in developed, most often Caucasian countries. Also, in the past, Asian Americans, period, were victims of serious discrimination coming from the government, a practice which has since been abolished but whose residues still haunt Asian men even today as they are not seen as fully American by the US society. None of the above has helped to create an image of a virile and dependable Asian male, a potentially desirable mate for American women to date and marry.

With the great improvements in Civil Rights, and the general feeling of guilt coming from mainstream population groups (whoever they may be) the situation of the Asian minority has improved significantly, for sure. The pejorative word "Oriental" has been stricken down from printed materials and is avoided in daily speech. The proud term "Asian American" has been born. Asian men are in the government and politics, they run successful businesses, they are achievers in the field of science and technology, law and medicine. However, as far as American women of all colors seeing an Asian American man as a preferred dating and marriage partner goes, the state of affairs still leaves a lot to be desired. In short, if you are an Asian man in America, citizen or not, native-born or not, fluent in English or not, rich or poor, you will have problems dating ladies there.

Those Asian men, who feel that they are being discriminated against on the US love market, resort to several ways of dealing with the problem:

1) Ignoring it and playing the numbers game. If one goes through enough dating ads, attends enough parties and invites enough women out, there will be a number of women who will want to date, and possibly have a serious relationship with you. The men who go down the path of copious dating and selection will disregard any flak that comes their way in the process, and come out winners in the end. That is a good strategy except that it is not very likely that one could end up with a high quality female partner in the end if one stops his search too early. If one still continues dating, ignores numerous rejections, and sieves through any unreliable partners that appear in the process, one will end up with a prize- a good and honest woman to be one's companion in life. But boy, it is going to take a really long time, believe me!

It is a rather daunting course of action, and is not suitable for every Asian man, especially not for those who come from a background that emphasizes modesty and non-aggressiveness.

2) Developing a complex and hatred of American men of other races, particularly those of the Caucasian race, and writing articles and posts on the Internet newsgroups and bulletin boards complaining about lack of dates and the prejudice against Asian American men. Interviews with commiserating media and videos on youtube.com also become a vent for the frustrations of such men. The hope is that the US society will change and they will suddenly become accepted and welcomed as romantic companions and more. This approach, while a good therapy for one's psychological state, is still not very effective in procuring potential dates any time in the near future. In the end, one is either angry and militaristically racist, and supported only by other frustrated Asian men, or one is felt sorry for. In both cases, one still often remains dateless.

3) Bringing a female partner from the Old Country. For some reason, this approach is seen as un-cool by a big number of Asian American men. They see it as a step back, and feel that a woman from the Old Country will become a burden on the already Americanized husband, what with her old-fashioned customs and behavior which will interfere with the further acceptance of the couple and their children into the American society. Only very traditional, mature in age, or religious Asian men seem to opt for that route; not the majority of the Asian male population of the country.

4) Finally, there has recently been a trend among US citizens of Asian extraction to date internationally. One can call this trend Romantic Multi-Nationalization. What happens is that after having discovered the US love market to be of unsatisfactory performance in the area of providing them with dating opportunities, such men have decided to cross oceans and date in other countries. They have finally had the courage to claim a very important truth: It is not their fault that the US society has such stereotypes of them. It is not their fault that Hollywood often portrays them as emasculated persons who are not worthy of being admired by the opposite sex. It is really the fault of the modern (and past) US culture and the media which reflects it. Also, since the Hollywood culture has infused its stereotypes into many other countries making things harder for Asian men all over the English-speaking world, one needs to find a culture in which such stereotypes have not yet spoiled things for Asian men.

The trend of Asian Americans traveling to other nations in search of romantic opportunities is growing as they are now discovering huge areas on Earth where they are seen for what most of them truly are: diligent, intelligent, honest and dependable Americans with excellent work and business ethics, a great deal of talent, gentleman-ness, decency and a sense of responsibility that should make any female proud.

Also, in many countries the stereotypes of Asian men are very positive to begin with. They are seen as smart, sexy, brave, adventurous and as excellent providers, too. They are not viewed as poor immigrants running noodle shops, but as progressive and confident modern Alfa-males. Yes, it is true. Go to such places and see for yourself.

International dating also allows an Asian man to finally meet numerous Caucasian women who look like Hollywood actresses, and who will be happy to be

involved with the man romantically and look up to him

If you are an Asian American man, I would urge you to explore this past option. However, you will need to know where to go. The world is a big place and it would make little sense to leave the US and go to, say, England or Australia. Or China for that matter- what with its huge surplus of men. It would not be easy for you to compete with an army of several million bachelors scouting the Chinese countryside in search of brides.

The best places for Asian men are probably the following:

Thailand, Philippines, Vietnam, Cambodia and even Malaysia. Going there will allow such men to discover their true potential as respected and dignified dating and marriage partners. Asian guys coming from the US are highly sought after as husbands and lovers (even more so than Caucasian guys), and, upon arriving in those places, they will enjoy high status and be treated extremely well by the local female population.

In Europe, it seems that the countries whose ethnicities have had a high admixture of Asian "blood" (Tat-C chromosome) through past Asian migrations there, welcome Asian men in ways that the US (or British, Australian, Canadian and any other society founded by British settlers) never has. Large areas in Eastern Europe, in particular, the Baltic countries of Estonia and Lithuania (currently EU members), have shown to be very accepting and friendly to American Asian males, and is a place where a growing number of such travelers have been able to find incredible opportunities for social life and romance. Many Asian men's previously almost unattainable dream of finding a "gorgeous blond and blue-eyed girlfriend", has come true with ease as soon as they started dating in those countries.

Belarus is another country where Asian men, even those who are not American, have been able to feel accepted, and where they have enjoyed good treatment and many new possibilities for abundant "romancing".

Parts of Russia and other CIS countries (outside of Moscow and St. Petersburg) have also been described as very good for such Asian men although the growing Fascist element in the country is making it more and more dangerous for foreigners by the year. Still, if one knows his way around these places, one will do very well there and be able to avoid trouble in the process.

Parts of Brazil, according to some sources, have proven to be excellent, and some Asian men have been able to mingle freely with the local population and date beautiful women there.

France is another country in which Asian men (those who can speak French- a necessity there) have reported that they have been treated quite well by the local females. They were finally able to date as normal human beings should, and, quite possibly, get married as normal human beings should. Upon arrival in the US, however, they would more often than not again face ostracism from the majority of the US women.

Yes, this ostracism seems to be a sad reality for many an Asian man in the "Anglo Saxon" world, and it is high time for decisive steps be taken to solve that insidious problem. Waiting around until the attitudes and stereotypes of the American society change for the better (which may take decades) does not seem to be an effective technique of solving it. Hence, such love travel appears to be a surgically efficient way of dealing with it.

So, maybe it is time to do some research, save up some money and buy that ticket. You will be able to solve the dateless-ness and gloom that many Asian guys face in America by living in more than one country. Unless you look like the Hunchback of Notredame or are the Elephant Man, the success is virtually guaranteed because quite a few Asian men are already doing the same and are reporting excellent results.

It may not be an easy path to take, but the rewards will be tremendous. You may have to learn new languages, new rules and customs, and whole new ways of life. However, your own life will be

rewarding beyond your wildest dreams. The only very important condition that you need to fulfill is to be able to support yourself while on the go, which is becoming more and more possible with the help of the Internet and the general globalization of the business environment. Becoming a computer programmer online, running a money-making website, living off rents, and doing similar things whereby you are able to create a cash flow from anywhere in the world, will liberate you from having to be located in the US all the time and depending on the unfriendly (to you) US (or the UK, Australian, etc.) love market.

Life in many countries of the world is now very similar to life in the US. The rest of the world is now becoming developed and very similar to America in terms of the variety of products, services and business opportunities. You may even, one day, wish to open a business in one of those countries. One only need to dare to leave one's 9-5 job in the US as one's romantic future does not seem to bode well for one who dates there. Also, it would be better if one started out as young as possible lest one end up a frustrated middle-aged man who has missed his chance.

So, if you are an Asian American man (or a citizen of any other immigrant nation such as Australia, Canada, NZ, or even the UK), and you feel that life and love are passing you by, do not become despondent. Internationalize yourself! You will soon be living a life that you truly deserve to live."

Reader comments:

- *"Subject: thanks!*

Date: Wed, 08 Aug 2007 19:27:01 -0700

Thank you for your article, "The best solution to the Asian American man's dating dilemma." You took the words right out of my mouth and put it into writing. I am no longer waiting for American society to change its views towards Asian men, and I have been planning to move abroad. I have searched the Internet for at least a few years now for an article just like yours. Thanks again. steve."

8 reasons why Asian men have a better social life in Russia than America (by my Expat Advisor)



Another insightful great essay by my Expat Advisor, the “Socrates of Expatriate Life”:

“Winston

If you still have not figured it out, do not rack your brains over it. It is several reasons, not one- so it is a combination of factors that lead to the different results you are experiencing. Here they are one by one:

1) East Orthodox Slavic culture vs. Anglo-Celto-Germanic. Communal and friendly vs. individualistic-cliqueish one.

Russians are generally friendlier people when it comes to strangers because of their communal past- even long before Communism. They are used to including strange people into their group. Anglos on the other hand like to be alone, do not like people they don't know, and prefer being in cliques. If you want to know why Americans behave a certain way look at their ancestors- go to London and any other English town. See how cliqueish the people are and how difficult it is to make friends. There is no eye contact, the people just seem to be absorbed into their own world and their own clique. But Anglos are very friendly inside of the clique and act as normal humans when they are in it. It is just that getting into the clique is the problem.

2) Your worth on the love market in both countries. Who and what are you as far as the context of the

market you are in.

Take (mentally) all the men in the US, line them up and put yourself amongst them. How would you rate in terms of looks, height, money, etc? Probably not high. Put yourself in a line-up with Russian men and see how and where you would rate. Probably quite high.

Mostly because Russians do not on the average have as much money and/or international lifestyle that you can offer. You are making ten times to twenty times more money than they do. If you look at it within the US context, it is as if you were a man making \$20,000-\$40,000 a month.

3) America is divided along racial lines and five categories of people- Whites, Blacks, Hispanics, Asians and Indians.

Each group has its assigned role and image within the US. In that system Asian men and Asian people in general are not seen as something popular or powerful. Within the context of the US culture, an Asian man is seen based on American stereotypes and you are familiar with them.

Russia is not divided so much by racial lines but more along the lines of ethnic Russians vs. non-Russians and foreigners. Kind of like China or Japan where it is not Blacks vs. Whites, etc, but Chu-Guo-Ren (Middle Country Person) vs. Wai-Gwo-Ren (Out of Country Person) or Ni-Hon-Jin (Japan Person) vs. Gai-Jin (Outside Person) . Foreigners in Asia especially richer ones are seen with curiosity, positive or negative. They are unusual and people are curious about them. They want to help them, invite them to their homes, talk to them. There aren't many of them., so people want to meet them and hear what they have to say. On the other hand, Americans being descendants of foreigners who left bad conditions in their homeland have been conditioned not to look back or be interested in bad countries that their ancestors came from. So, a foreigner evokes a yawn in the US and is seen as a dorky and clumsy person. Someone who has not yet learned to behave and act as a normal, American person.

4) The US is a land of plenty. People (think that they) have seen everything, experienced everything, done everything and that everything is available.

Especially women see it that way. Russia has not been a land of plenty. People there are not cloyed with benefits of life. Things are hard to find. Good people are also hard to find. So, you are appreciated more within that market. People's lives there can be quite drab so you seem to be like a breath of fresh air to them. There are not that many foreigners there, either. So, when they see you, it means a new experience, something better and more exciting.

5) There are too many available handsome men in the US.

There are oodles and oodles of men with money, cars, houses, careers. Women can have the pick of the day every day. So they are stuck up as they can get any man they want. Even ugly and fat women in the US can get the guy. That is why you see horrid-looking women, ill-dressed women, women without make-up everywhere parading around like they are Miss Universes. Not so in Russia. Too many men were decimated by wars and too many drunk and irresponsible men are around. Finding a good guy is hard. Finding a rich foreigner is even harder. Women need to look their best, be nice, and try hard to find a good man.

Women everywhere want to improve their species. That is human instinct. that is what love and dating is all about. In the US the people believe that the species is already highly improved. So improving your species yet means dating Donald Trump or someone like that. In Russia the male species is quite poor and less numerous than in the US and also less well-behaved. So, on that background you stand out quite well. As you can see, context determines everything in society. In a land of the blind, a one-eyed man is king.

6) The US TV and culture in general glorifies men that look like Steven Seagal, Bruce Willis, Brad Pitt, etc.

Now, how would you rate compared to those paragons of manhood? Russia does not have those paragons. If you listen to songs in Russia it is usually a woman singing about how a man abandoned

her for another. If you listen to a love song in the US, you will usually hear a sweet voice of a man courting a woman. Or a man whining about a lost love. The markets are different. Male-female ratios are different.

7) Russian people are used to Asians.

They have been seeing them since the 13th century. They have been dealing with them and even marrying them for a long time. It does not mean that as an Asian you are seen as "popular", it is just that you are part of the landscape. You do not evoke much negativism and it is not much of an issue. In the US, Asians are seen as fresh off-the-boat immigrants. poor and dorky, that is. People are still not used to them. There are many stereotypes of Asian men that work against them socially in the US. In Russia, there are stereotypes but not of the same nature.

A local Siberian Asian in Russia is not the most flattering thing to be, either. They will call him –a deer herder, "Churka"- the Russian word for the non-Russian colonial subjects- the equivalent of the British word "Wog", and treat him as a dorky hick.

This would not concern you as it is not so with a Japanese, Taiwanese or a US Asian. But try dressing like a Russian and acting like those Siberian Asians. You will feel the difference.

8) The word "foreigner" in Russia ("inostranets") is not a negative word.

It immediately evokes mental associations of- "cultured- successful- richer than me-smarter than me-more exciting than me". So, when people in Russia see you as a foreigner, those associations spring to mind. And the people act accordingly.

In the US people see you and say- "Oh, another Asian man"- and the associations while not exactly hostile, are not flattering, either-" poor immigrant making noodles, maybe a martial arts freak-cannot speak English properly-a clutzy and clumsy Japanese student-short-has small dick-computer nerd." Or- "Pearl Harbor- Korean War- or Jackie Chan"- a clown. Hardly positive or respectful associations.

The word "foreigner" in the US is a negative word. It is used to designate a non-American- someone who is either an enemy of the US or someone who is poor and just came and is not assimilated. That is why even the phrase "foreign student" had to be changed to "international student".

These are the main reasons why you have a better social life in Russia."

Great news for Asian and Black men about Europe



If you're an Asian American man attracted to white women, there is some great news for you about your chances in Europe that will make the dating field for you there like paradise compared to here. Unfortunately though this fantastic liberating news for Asian men like us is still not that well known among Asian American communities for some reason. (Perhaps many Asian Americans have been conditioned to believe that America is the ideal standard for everything, and that anything outside of it would constitute a step down) But oh what a difference location makes. See the articles and testimonials quoted below.

From a French magazine:

<http://goldsea.com/Features/Parisasians/parisasians2.html>

"The Asian Image

Asian males also enjoy a better social image than their American counterparts. **French women consider Asian men exotic, refined and -- get this -- good lovers, according to Sanchez whose ex-husband is Chinese.**

"In the United States there is a lot of emphasis on physical strength and appearance, so tall and muscular Caucasian men are more appreciated than Asian men," says Mayako Yamamoto, a Japanese student who lives in Paris but has visited America several times. *"The values here are different. You don't have to be tall and strong to be popular. They like you to be gentle and understanding, and Asians are gentle. You also need to be charming, intelligent, seductive, sensual and stylish. I think that in the States, Caucasians always serve as the reference points. You are always compared to them instead of being judged as you are or compared to other Asians like in France. That's why I feel more comfortable here."*

Asian physiques don't appear as unusual because the French are generally shorter and slimmer than Americans.

The French also differ from Americans in their attitude toward interracial relationships. It is considered a natural process for immigrants and their descendants, even of non-White races, to have French spouses and meld into the mainstream of society. Whereas in America Caucasians and Asians ponder the phenomenon of interracial marriages, the opposite is true in France. Many French

interviewed for this article expressed surprise at the fact that Asians tend to marry within their own communities.”

In a blog by an Asian PUA (Pick Up Artist) guru known as “The Asian Playboy”, these Asian Americans testified that in Europe, they didn’t need “game”, questioning whether the whole artificial PUA thing was even worth it.

<http://theasianplayboy.blogspot.com/2005/08/dear-asian-playboy.html>

“Asian Playboy, I was reading your blog and had a question. Would you agree that it is not even worth trying pick up white girls in California?

What I mean is that the effort is not even worth the benefit. When I was in Europe, I had sex with a girl in Berlin and kissed several other girls in some hostels I stayed in.

It was not easy but it was not hard either. It just felt natural because the girls liked me, and I could tell they liked me. Here in California, I just think the overall environment is very negative for Asian guys.

I don't think it's even worth going through all the effort just to get a kiss here, or sex there. I think it's better to just leave California altogether where Asian guys are more respected. That to me means Europe!
-T”

“One question I had while researching it was the lack of information on the subtleties regarding being an Asian man. Well, damn good to find it here. I do have to say that while in California I had next to nil luck, but was able to score SO MUCH better (tho unfortunately I ain't headed back to CA with a hot euro babe in tow) while on my 8 month stint here in Europe. While in London I've seen a handful of AM/HotWF couples, which made me think the game's much more favorable here. Sure, you still have to have game, but why bother with playing it on dirt when you can have a plush astroturf? If relocating is an option, go ahead!”

Below is another account by an Asian American who went to Europe. As you can see, it applies to blacks as well.

http://www.discovervancouver.com/forum/topic.asp?TOPIC_ID=10543

“I'm a single East Asian guy from Hawaii and am thinking about going to grad school in Montreal. I spent a year in Rouen (France) and had something of a revelation. French women really have a “thing” for tall & fit Asian guys (I'm about 1.87m...6'2”). I got hit on (and scored) with so many gorgeous French girls (blondes, brunettes mostly), I cried when my program was over. Hell, even the girls in the Netherlands were all over me, which was quite an experience since I don't really turn very many heads at all in the U.S.

It explains my success in Rouen, but I also got amazing responses from gorgeous French girls in Paris, Strasbourg, and Montpellier as well. The Dutch girls were also really receptive (still fondly remember a blonde university student asking me for my number on the train...and a very happy weekend thereafter). I almost felt bad for my white travelling companions, who weren't getting much attention at all. In Germany, my black friend also got quite a bit of attention, and we were the only ones who ended up hooking up with some cute German girls from Heidelberg. I guess European women prefer Asian and Black men because of the “exotic” factor....similar to the large numbers of white men with an “oriental woman” here in North America. Maybe it's time to head back to Europe. I still remember black American GIs telling me Europe is “black man's heaven”...but I have to say, it's “Asian man's heaven” as well (as long as you're single and like blondes!)

I've found that it's much more difficult in North America to score, because racism is “infused” into the sexual dynamics of society here. I've still dated several of white girls here, but I met them in school and not in bars/nightclubs. I actually talked to an Asian guy who lives in Paris, and he confirmed that white

French women LOVE Asian men. I guess movies like L'amant reflect the sexual they have for us. Apparently, the French guys are starting to complain that French women only want "ethnic" guys. Most of the Asians in the Netherlands are Indonesians. And they do GREAT with the beautiful blonde Dutch girls. My friend is an Indonesian from Utrecht and we seemed to have our pick of women in the nightclubs. We even took a trip to Sweden and met some of the hottest girls ever seen. It's just too easy in Europe if you're a tall decent looking Asian guy."

This East Indian who grew up in the states noticed the amazing difference that Europe made as well. He relates to me:

"Hell for me started in junior high school (I attended Sunnyvale Jr. High) in sixth grade. It's basically the same story as yours. I went to Fremont High School in Sunnyvale for freshman year, and it was a nightmare. I used a fake address to go to Homestead High School in Cupertino, and although it was an improvement (in terms of less barbarians), it was still a nightmare. Almost everything you said about your high school experience matches mine. There was not even one girl who had any interest in me.

Although I am an agnostic, when it comes to my romantic life, I like to jokingly say that "Jesus saved me." In 1999 (when I was 23), my parents, who are Catholic, wanted to make a pilgrimage to the Vatican, as well as travel around Italy and France for three weeks. They really wanted me to come along with them (for free!). Prior to this, I had never truly been out of the USA (I went to India for two weeks when I was 15, but stayed in a family friend's home the entire time, so I didn't get to interact with the Indian people much). While in Florence, I went into a bar by myself. It was somewhat empty, and there were many empty tables around the one I was sitting at. I saw a beautiful blonde girl with her two cute friends (a redhead and brunette), and made eye contact with her. We kept exchanging glances, she seemed so happy that I was looking at her, and her friends were happy about it, too. The redhead came over to my table and asked if she and her two friends could join me. So they all joined me. They were from Sweden.

Keep this in mind... I am not passive. I am an extrovert who goes up and talks to women I am interested in. This got me absolutely nowhere in the USA up to that point.

In Lourdes, France (a Catholic tourist destination), sexy locals were checking me out. Then I get back to the USA, and nothing happens romantically for me. Not even a single date.

One year later, in the summer of 2000, I decide to try a personal experiment... I want to know if there is something wrong with me, or with America and American women. I get on a plane to Sweden and stay in Stockholm for two weeks. The second day I'm there, a girl asks me out on a date. The next day in a club, a girl is very interested in me and tells my close friend (a Swedish guy who was an exchange student and the only friend I had during my senior year of high school) that she was disappointed that I left early. A few days later, in a queue for a club, a hot blonde starts hitting on me, and asks me to join her and her friend. She sits on my lap in the club while we drink. (I know Sweden is a very feminist country, and I am 100% opposed to feminism in all its forms, but even so, you can still see how big of a difference there is between Sweden and the USA when it comes to getting dates).

I come back to the USA, and despite my constantly approaching and chatting up girls, I go without sex for two years."

And an elated Asian American man in Minsk, Belarus wrote:

"Hi Winston,

Wow, what a great news!!!

Winston, you are a pioneer. You are inspiring Asian American men everywhere to take the plunge and travel to Russia (or Ukraine or Belarus.)

Yesterday I went to see Nutcracker Ballet with a beautiful 26 year old Minsk girl I have been writing emails to. She held my hands and treated me most tenderly. Almost like a boyfriend she loves. Wow!!! Imagine that. I am a 46 year old Asian American guy who had NO American girlfriends,

no sex with white American girls and of course no marriage and no family in all my life in USA. I could scarcely believe I was not dreaming throughout that date. It was so unreal that this beautiful girl treated me so well.

The plain fact is that most Asian American men are treated so shabbily by American girls. We are simply zero to them. And most Asian American men are totally discouraged IMO (in my opinion). They think they have absolutely no chance dating a beautiful girl of their dreams. Well, Winston, you have shown that it can be done. Not in USA of course, but in FSU (former Soviet Union) countries. Here, it just feels so good to be treated as a man for a change! And you don't have to be a great looking investment banker guy. Some women here just appreciate tender attention. For some women, even just companionship is enough!

I consider coming to Minsk to be one of the very best decisions I have ever made in my life. And hopefully, I will not go back to USA. I like to marry a beautiful Belarussian girl and live here permanently."

On an internet forum about the sex life of Asian American men, one poster wrote regarding my stories and photos:

<http://www.asianrelations.com/cgi?bin/yabb/YaBB.cgi?board= :action=display:num=1131368826:start=15>

"Re: Photo collage of 100's of girls I dated in Russia
« Reply #17 on: Feb 11th, 2006, 2:06am » Quote Modify

Hey folks, even the "top" Asian PUAs (who claim to be the antithesis of WW - by relying upon " " and self-defined realities) live in the EU (or moved there). WW bagged all these babes in Russia. And even if some of them were gold-diggas - look at him - there's no way in hell he could even come close to getting any gold-diggas like that in the USA! So, obviously, the bell curve is vastly shifted over in favor of AMs in the EU! Face the facts and give this guy some credit, people!

Look at Rick for god's sakes - most of his "partners" are all from the EU AS WELL! Face it folks, EU = man-loving AM HEAVEN! USA = man-hating AM HELL! No way around that one...the evidence is just overwhelming."

And this Asian bro from New Zealand echoed my thoughts and sentiments exactly:

"Its a perennial topic for discussion among Chinese guys like myself - and yes I agree with you 1000% - there is something really fucked up about the attitudes of not white people in general, but Anglo-Saxon societies in their attitude to Asian men. Even 100% non-sexual communication between white woman and asian man is often a fraught affair - however with foreign European women at work it is never a problem - whether they find me attractive or not is beside the point - **they just treat you as another human being.**"

In regards to the above phrase I bolded, deep down, isn't that what many of us Asian American males just want? It's not much to ask for, really.

I would really urge those reading this to pass this great news on to other disgruntled Asian Americans that you know. Doing so can result in life-changing inspiration for them, as in the case of this teen Asian American teen who wrote me:

"Winston, I'm currently 17 years old and like you I am a Chinese American. I love the ebooks you have online and I really enjoy hearing about your success with white women abroad. I have a research paper on "my hero" and I choose to do my report on you and your success. I would really like to possibly chat with you online and just ask you simple questions for my report. You are an inspiration to Chinese Americans such as myself."

As for Black men, here are some great countries for them to date foreign women in, as listed by my experienced forum posters:

<http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=4856>

“All of my black friends that travel swear by:

-the Philippines

But the middle and upper class ladies tend to not like black dudes

-Romania

I know like 40 black guys that swear women constantly approach them on the street and in the clubs in Romania. When I was living in Doha, Qatar the Romanian stewardess on layover used to always pick up the black American and Brit guys in the clubs.

Brazil

-I have a couple of black friends that have retired in Brazil, they love it, the ladies are cool to them and no one gives them any hassle.

Middle East

-Black dudes do great with local women in the ME, many Arabs are dark skinned or ethnically Somali so seeing a black dude is nothing shocking to them.

Germany

-Sorry Winston, the skinhead stuff is mostly media hype. The Hundreds of black dudes that I have met who have lived in Germany (I used to work with the military so 70% of the black dudes I met were posted in Germany before) tell me that the German ladies absolutely love black dudes.

Japan

-Yes in the land of “No Foreigners Allowed Signs” the ladies love hooking up with black dudes. Its more of a “I wonder what it is like” sort of thing, but who’s complaining, lol. Avoid any town with a US military base in it, the local gals have probably already had their fill.

Indonesia

The Indonesian ladies like foreign black guys, especially the upper class ladies. Out at clubs can be hit or miss

The Editor at Large at ExpatRockstar is ½ black so I got a lot of this info from him, he also spends a lot of time here in Bangkok and he does great with the women, he has a girlfriend here that is a FHM Thailand model (but that may have more to do with his financial status than his skin color)

~James G

[Expat Rockstar Magazine](#)

Expat and Travel Lifestyle Magazine for Men”

“My coworker, a black guy from Tennessee, blacker than anthracite, was in Denmark while in the military and he LOVED it there. He would go to clubs and men would ask him to dance with their wives.”

Dating advice from a mono-national who thinks inside the American box vs. mine

In contrast to my Expat Advisor's dating advice to Asian men article which suggests going overseas, let's hear from the other side, just to compare. Here is some dating advice from a well-meaning poster on the Asian Avenue forums using conventional American wisdom. He is obviously a mono-national who thinks INSIDE the American box and USA matrix. This person is responding to my Expat Advisor's article suggesting that Asian men who can't get any dates go overseas.

My analysis, brutal truth critique, comparison and challenge to him follow below.

http://www.asianave.com/forums/thread.html?thread_id=3101

"I find this discussion a bit strange. I grew up in North and South Carolina during a time when there were very few Asian girls (much less Chinese girls that my mom wanted me to date) in the area. So, I had no choice but to date non-Asian (Caucasian) girls.

Sure there were girls that I wanted to date but wouldn't date me and there were girls that wanted to date me but I wouldn't date. But it had more to do with the pecking order of social groups and how I projected myself within the social groups than with race.

If you have problem getting dates, I would suggest that you ask yourself these questions:

- 1) Are you even connected with a social group?
- 2) If so, are you connected only with groups which have only guys who have a hard time getting dates? Or are you connected with groups that constantly have desirable girls circulating in?
- 3) How polished are your social skills? Do you speak like a literate person or do you speak street trash? Do you dress with sophistication or do you dress like you have no life? Do you know which fork is for eating the salad, the main course, and the dessert? Do you know how to dance? No, I don't mean randomly waving your arm while bending your knees and occasionally stepping from side to side. I mean do you know how to do the electric slide, the shag, the waltz...
- 4) How do you project yourself in that social setting: are you a leader, a joker, a wall flower, an annoying dweeb? (from the woman's perspective)
- 5) Are you the type of man that other men want to be like and women want to be with?

If you don't like your answers, do something about it. Invest your time and money to build a social foundation.

- 1) Take classes to sure up your social skills like etiquette classes, dance classes, style classes (to help you dress better).
- 2) Take community classes where you can meet people that match your interests. (Great way to expand you social connection without stretching your social skills.)
- 3) Get involve with community service projects. (Women want men who cares about something bigger than themselves.)
- 4) Mentor younger guys. (There's nothing sexier to a woman than a guy who knows how to lead and nurture.)

I guarantee that these steps would cost you less and would be more effective than going abroad to look for a woman."

(end of quote)

Ok I have a number of important points to make about the above advice.

1) First of all, in the first line he says that this discussion is strange. Well of course it's strange to HIM because it's outside HIS box! He is a mono-national who thinks inside the American box.

2) Second, I would answer negative to a lot of his leading questions. He does correctly point out that there is a pecking order in US social groups. But the problem is that they are exclusive in nature and if one such as me simply "doesn't fit in" he offers no solution. Some people are different and don't fit anywhere along that "pecking order" not even at the bottom. They are simply out of sync, too evolved, on a different frequency, don't connect, or out of their league. These people will not be accepted into the social groups or cliques that have desirable girls in them.

3) Likewise, with regard to his suggestion about "social skills", it is a highly subjective thing. As I explained in my subchapter [Social skills with the flow vs. against the flow](#) if I am with people similar to me, I have excellent social skills and communication as well as mutual understanding will "flow naturally" between us, but if I'm with people on a totally different wavelength, then we won't connect and any great communication skills I have will be rendered inert. But his assumption is that all people are the same, which is NOT true.

If by "social skills" he means by ability to act fake to fit into a group full of fakeness, well I'm sorry I can't do that, cause I'm down to earth and real. That's not me. I can't constantly live a lie. Why should I when I don't have to?

4) Fourth and most importantly, I'VE TRIED all his suggestions for years before I went the overseas route. And you know what, they DIDN'T WORK!

The truth is, doing those things may get you admired and respected in the community. But with regards to women, they will merely congratulate you or pat you on the back for your admirable qualities or give you a thumbs up. It's not going to lead to attraction, love, desire, romance, or sexual tension, nor does it get you any dates! There are American women even who admire me for my travels, guts, and for writing this book, but they aren't offering to date me. Congratulations does not equal love and attraction.

If you do all those tedious things that he says, the best it will get you are a few female friends and acquaintances, most of whom will probably be overweight too!

In fact, I know some guys who do all those things he outlined. Though they are happy and active, they are surrounded by a circles of overweight chicks whom I wouldn't have been interested in anyway.

But why do all that anyway if it isn't natural and your heart isn't into it? Doing such will only drain your energy. You gotta do what you love and follow your bliss to be inspired in it.

Besides, the guys in America who get hot American girls don't do all that. They simply belong to a good band or are a jock sports star, or a bad boy on a motorcycle.

In any case, my advice gets RESULTS with HOT CHICKS, not overweight ones as my links below prove:

<http://www.happierabroad.com/ebook/Collage.htm>

<http://www.happierabroad.com/Photojournals.htm>

<http://www.happierabroad.com/slideshows.php>

<http://www.happierabroad.com/film.php>

I'd like to CHALLENGE this Asian Avenue poster to provide some proof that his tedious advice, which will require a lot of time and energy to implement, works in getting HOT CHICKS. I've got a MOUNTAIN of proof at the links above, which anyone can take the time and see. But does he? I very much doubt it.

One thing for sure, I NEVER would have gotten the multiple successes with women featured in the collages above, by staying in America and following that kind of advice. No way. Not even one percent.

Yet he makes a ridiculous guarantee at the end of his post that his suggestions are easier and better than going overseas. Yah right. He is not even qualified to make such a statement, nevertheless a “guarantee” since he’s hasn’t tried going overseas for love extensively like I have, whereas I have tried both and know without any doubt which works better.

Sure, that guy may fit in America and thus get better results in the US than me, but for those like, his advice won’t work.

So if you are dissatisfied with the dating scene in America, your choices are to listen to tedious unnatural advice like his, which probably won’t even work, or mine, which is proven to work naturally with the flow and is already followed by many. (though ignored in the media)

In contrast to all his tedious advice, mine can be summed up in a single sentence:

“Get OUT of the USA matrix, pick the country that resonates with you, GO there, then just be a nice, outgoing, passionate, adventurous person and your results will dramatically improve, often exceeding your expectations!”

Now doesn’t that sound simple, natural, and with the flow? So whose advice are YOU going to follow?

Response from my Expat Advisor to the mono-national advice

Here is what my Expat Advisor, an intellectual who has lived and traveled in many countries and speaks nearly 10 languages, wrote me about mono-national Americans such as the one above on the forums of AsianAvenue.com:

- “Winston, I am being flamed by Asian American smartasses on the AsianAvenue.com forum..... They are suggesting that a person needs to join various community organizations, mentor young men and generally become a shining beacon of hope to get a girlfriend in the US. (while the US woman does not have to do all that, of course, she can be unattractive, wear ugly clothes, have slept with 20 men before me and I have to be the one to work hard to get her, yeah right) Sheeeeit. When I lived in Russia and the Philippines, I did not have to do that. All this goes to show that a PT (Perpetual Traveler) will never be understood by a mono-national. They simply cannot think in the terms that we think in. They have no experience with the demographics and economics and ethnographics of other societies. They can’t relate to our lifestyle. It is like explaining the benefits of flying to an earthworm.”

- “They are not travelers and they don’t know how demographics and economics as well as cultural and racial factors affect dating. They have not seen the amazing results that we have when we manipulate those by traveling. And they believe in America being the only place on earth and are not world citizens. Btw, American women do not need training- they can get a guy anytime. Even when fat and ill dressed. Not Filipinas, these will not find a guy if not attractive.”

- “In America they have all these advisors and experts but most have no idea about life outside the US. In many ways, Americans are more insular than the Japanese; so few travel that persons like you are still in the forefront of international dating. Americans are mostly very prejudiced because they think these women date you because they want a green card. And the most prejudiced Americans are 1st generation born there. As you may have noticed, Filipinas would much rather have their foreign boyfriends and husbands stay in the Philippines. And the Russians love their country.

- “Those Asian Avenue advisors have not traveled so they have no idea just how unfriendly the US society can be. I went to college in NY and it would take people in the same class 2-3 months to start talking to each other. It is insane! On subways and on buses people do not make eye contact and talking to strangers is a taboo. I got my MA in Vermont and people from other states living there would tell me that it would take them 9 years (!) to get invited to a local wedding. A very friendly and generous

government but very cold people. But these Asian Avenue people do not know otherwise so they think it is normal and that it is how people are.”

- “This reminds of me of preaching in the desert. Only one person agreed with me and then, in an iffy way.

Explaining int'l living and dating to these people is like explaining colors to a fly.

Or as the song (“Vincent”) goes:

*...How you argued for your sanity
How you tried to set them free,
They would not listen, they did not know how...”*

He is correct that in my experience, most Filipinas I’ve met in the Philippines prefer their boyfriends and husbands to stay with them in THEIR country, so as to be near the comfort of their families.

And he is correct in that mono-nationals typically cannot relate to what’s outside their world or “matrix”. One Air Force veteran related the same experience with mono-nationals:

“I’ve been to the Philippines and Thailand 14 times (it helped being stationed in South Korea, haha) and when I come back to work and explain my vacation to my co-workers, I get nothing but blank stares...if they only knew. Some friends of mine have never left New York State (except for the occasional trip to Canada), and it’s harder to explain to them.”

Response from Asian American in Europe

An Asian American intellectual in Europe, whom my Expat Advisor referred to me, made these comments about the stubbornness of mono-nationals on Asian Avenue:

- “Date: Fri, 20 Jul 2007 22:43:11 -0700 (PDT)
Subject: Re: AsianAve.com almost overwhelmingly rejects my advice for Asian Men to date abroad

Again, not surprising.

There are vast numbers of Asian-American men who are mentally dysfunctional from their life of ostracism and sexual denial. Instead of seeing the light, they’ll claw at the messenger and attempt to silence the truth. They’re like that character from The Matrix, who after realizing that he has lived in a mental prison his entire life, actually wants to go back to its safe confines rather than face the harsh reality that lies before him.

Asian-American men face two choices:

1. They can admit that the US has an invisible hierarchy that places Asian men at the bottom of the sexual totem pole - which combined with the inferior mating qualities of American women and the fierce competition amongst eligible men - makes it highly unlikely they’ll find quality dating lives in the US except by blind luck (e.g. running into a girlfriend in college and sticking with her no matter).

or

2. They can pretend that the US is the greatest, happiest, and most wonderful nation in the world, a place that has the most beautiful women on earth who give each man an equal opportunity regardless of race or ethnicity. If only they study hard enough, work hard enough, and improve themselves in every way, they’ll get the American dream girl.

Most Asian-American men will opt for a variation of option #2. Quite a few will even go so far as say "I'm not attracted to white girls" (as a way to reject white women who they feel are going to reject them anyhow and because they think American "cows" = white women all over the world).

As you've no doubt realized, Asian-American men develop a variety of complexes, angst, and mental defense mechanisms to shield their egos from the brutal truth."

- "Because they've never been abroad. And even if they have, they probably went to a few tourist spots, talked to none of the local women (being brainwashed to think that white American women = white women all over the world), bought a I Love Paris t-shirt, and happily came back home to their \$2500 PC game stations.

I was talking to my friend who happens to be white American and now lives in Finland. He's tall, intelligent (has a PHD), personable, good-looking and dated gorgeous blonde American girls in the U.S.

Even a guy like him says he can never go back to the U.S. nor to American women. He finds it depressing to even visit. He finds Europe a FAR easier place to meet gorgeous, intelligent, quality women everywhere he goes.

I think there are people who just get it and those who don't. Better to have the people who get it comes to you than to try to convince those who are incapable of understanding (or in denial)."

Never in the game vs. always in the game

In America, the bottom line problem for me is that no matter where I am, no matter what situation I'm in, I'm NEVER "in the game" so to speak. I'm totally shut out and excluded from it. It's one thing to get used, cheated on, etc. like those who are "in the " deal with, but people like me aren't even called up to bat. And that's the worst position to be in. I'd rather even be used than never in the game.

Even if I am in a situation where the women far outnumber the men, such as a cooking class, yoga class, swing dance club, or college girls dorm, I'm still never "in the game" because they do not see me as dating material, so they project asexual, prudish vibes at me, keeping interaction with me to a bare minimum, humoring me at best if they have to. In fact, even if I meet a girl who complains that no one wants to date her, and I say that I am interested in dating her, she will usually act as though she didn't hear it.

Frankly, that's just plain unacceptable to me, even though that's my given place and position in my society (has nothing to do with my attitude, I promise you). And any attempt on my part to counter that feels strongly like I'm going against "the flow", as if I'm walking upstream against a massive tidal wave. That just sucks 1000 percent.

On the other hand, when I am abroad, whether rain or shine, whatever happens to me, at least I'm ALWAYS "in the game". That's why whenever I return there, I behave jubilantly as though I were Superman who got his powers back! And I feel like a man again and free to be me again! As one of my readers put it bluntly while I was abroad:

"Read more of you adventures.....your doing fineyou learned some lessons but do you feel **alive**.....If it makes you feel better I'm in America and I feel NUMB.....DEAD
You've done some amazing things.....screw the nay Sayers, they are ignorant or jealous.....and what is wrong with chasingjust cause it's a crime in USA doesn't mean it has to be in Russia.....and you will find **the one** or she will find you.....You've got courage.....and nobody is FEARLESS.....nobody.....like that girl said she was.....when you feel like you want to come back to US remember.....there at least your in the game.....here (in USA).....your always on the bench and never get called to bat.....Women, as you know get everything they want here even the ugly ones.....but when a man wants something or has desires he is looked on as a creep or desperate.....and let me tell you it's getting worse.....Oh and your not a loser, losers don't travel abroad against all odds, losers stay home and watch TV and flame real people like you.....Johnny G write me back if you have time."

But nowadays, it's not just Asian men who have it tough in the US dating scene, as one Asian man on my list observed:

"To sum it up, it's not just Asians in US who have it tough. Anyone not wearing Rolex, gold chain, or look like Tom Cruise/Brad Pitt usually find it quite a lot of work to get things going. The keyword is WORK. If you look at any girl-chasing web site, they always sell all kinds of tricks, the right things to say, psychological maneuvers, etc... to get girls. In E. Europe, I can forget about ALL of that. Just be myself, and I am infinitely more successful."

10 Reasons why I'm forced to look for love beyond America

I'll put this as honestly as I can, with no BS, no beating around the bush, and no sugar-coating or "watering down" of the facts about why I am excluded from the dating scene in America.

The reasons that the dating scene in America is a no-win situation that doesn't work for me are:

1) I don't fit any of the culturally desirable types of guys that American girls want

I am a short Asian male which is the opposite of the cultural ideal in this country. Young American women desire the following types of guys, none of which I am one of: a) tall sporty athletic Caucasian males, b) scruffy looking punk/skater types, c) beach boy/surfer dude types, d) bad boy types with goatees, and tattoos, e) jocks/athletic types (who are white of course), f) cowboys/macho men, and of course g) guys in a band. I just don't look like any of those types, therefore, I'm not on their wish list or preference. To them, a preppy looking clean-cut kind intelligent Asian male has nothing to offer them, even if he has way more money than those cultural ideal types above that fit American girls' tastes. Hence, they are anti-social to me and see me as zero value.

Now, I am the type of guy that many American women SAY they want – nice, caring, considerate, attentive, considerate, intelligent, with many interests, New Age type, etc. but in REALITY they go for the bad boy types, and then complain later, "Where are all the nice men?" Thus, they shoot themselves in the foot and contradict themselves. How wholesome they are, NOT! In reality, "nice men" are everywhere, they just don't want them.

2) My ethnicity is considered the least desirable among males to American girls

Among males in the US, Asian men are considered the least desirable race in this country in terms of attraction to American women. They are the equivalent to Black females, who are also considered the least desirable in America in the female racial hierarchy. American females' racial preferences are in this order 1-Whites, 2-Hispanics, 3-Blacks, 4-Asians/East Indians. For those who beg to differ, this order of preference is very evident even in personal ads. For example, if you browse through thousands of American women's personal ads on match.com (something which I have done), you will find that most of them prefer to meet only white Caucasian men. Less than half are open to interracial relationships/dating. And among those that do, they prefer Hispanics and Blacks. Very few are open to Asians or list "Any" under racial preference. Any cursory glance of female personal ads in America will reveal this. There simply is no debate. Even Hollywood movies depict this. In fact, there is an unwritten rule in Hollywood that the Asian star never gets the girl, only white stars do.

Now, some American women occasionally come out to me and protest, "That's not true, I like Asian men!" but of course, they are in the minority not majority (one "x" among nine "o"s doesn't erase the majority of the "o"s) whereas we are talking about the collective preference. Plus, I've noticed that, as with the "I want a nice guy" claim above, many American women who SAY they like Asian men, in reality never date them anyway.

In fact, American women generally do not even like foreign men in general unless they are white Western European or Australian. They see being with a foreign man of color as a considerable lowering of their status. (In contrast, their white European female counterparts are for more open and willing toward foreign men of color) My Expat Advisor noticed this too:

"I have been to quite a few countries and I have noticed that foreign men living there would normally have local girlfriends/wives. In Japan most foreigners would eventually settle down with a local lady. Same in most other Asian countries, Africa, Latin America, etc.

However, you hardly ever see an American woman with a foreign man and hardly see foreign men married to American women. Very very few."

3) My height disqualifies me as well

Also, women are genetically imbred to prefer taller and bigger guys because their instincts think they look like they are better providers and a strong foundation to lean on. Most women won't even consider a guy who is not at least 5ft 9. And since I am only 5ft 7, I'm just not in the running to them.

4) Most of my qualities are inner, which only older women appreciate

Since most of my good qualities are inner rather than outer, it seems that only women much older (too old for me) appreciate them, rather than younger women or even women my age. And that's why usually women too old for me reply to my personal ads on Craigs List. The reason, according to one of my consultants, is:

"Because when they are older they lose their beauty and develop inner qualities as well. So they value those in others. Younger girls do not have them and they only have the outward qualities so they value those in others too. They cannot relate to inner ones since they do not have any yet."

And gee, that just sucks.

5) No freedom to act out my natural genetically-encoded desires for women

In America, young independent women walk around with their nose in the air and give men this vibe that subliminally conveys *"You are not to have desires around me. You are to act girly and emasculate, UNLESS I give you permission to want me by coming on to you. I call all the shots. Not you."*

Simply put, men aren't free to "act out" or "act on" their desires toward women (as they are in most other countries), unless a woman gives him permission to, of course. But the problem for me is that women never give me permission to act out my desires for them. So what am I to do? I definitely have VERY strong desires for romance, love, sex and intimacy. But what can I do about it?! I can't constantly restrain these desires 24/7. Get real American society!

And of course, I can't always afford to hire hookers at \$200 an hour. Get real. And even if I could, they lack any genuine affection and treat it as all business, which is a real turnoff (I have heard though that non-white "working girls" though, tend to give genuine affection to their clients and treat it like a date). So that wouldn't be enough to satisfy me anyway.

No, I need REAL physical and emotional affection from a woman I'm compatible with who is consistent, sees me regularly, a regular partner to me, and won't flake out or make excuses not to see me. Lots of other guys I see around me have that, so why can't I?! It's not that much to ask for, especially from a good person! I tell God and the universe this everyday, but no real relationship ever solidifies, no matter how hard I try or what I do or how many women I meet. Where is the justice in this universe?

6) US women have so many choices that I don't even have a chance

Young women in America simply have way too many choices. Guys are constantly after them, hitting on them, calling them, asking for dates, etc. And naturally, when you have so many choices, you become super picky, or you don't choose anyone at all.

Average looking men like me simply have no chance. They have all the upperhand, and whether we treat them right or not, it doesn't matter, cause we aren't their "type" and they look down on us.

In defense and in admission of having too many choices, an attractive close female friend of mine said:

"having a million choices doesn't mean you want any of them. so it doesn't matter.
if i meet a million guys all asking me out and YOU consider them GREAT, but they BORE me, i'm not any more satisfied than u are not satisfied with the offers u get. GET IT? it's all relative."

Uh geez! How picky can you get? If I had a lot of choices, I sure wouldn't complain! At least she feels wanted. Later on though, I did get her to admit that if no guys wanted her, she would "develop complexes" about it.

Nowadays American women have such an off-chart sense of entitlement that makes it nearly impossible for guys like me to get dates. And to make things worse, American women always claim to be too busy to date or spend time with me, always, especially in this workaholic society where people make money and mind their own business. So what am I supposed to do, wait for them forever and masturbate while watching useless junk on cable TV? No way! I can just go ABROAD where lots of gorgeous women, most of them tall, skinny and

pretty/cute, have plenty of time for me! Why stay in a sinking ship, simply because it's TABOO to think or talk about getting off it? That's crazy!

Perhaps my Expat Advisor put it best when he said:

"The USA for women is like Bangkok for men. Women can have any man they want. But if people ask for advice about how to score with American women they can never get a straight answer or a correct answer:

1) It is not PC to admit that AW are racist and they do not like Asian men. So, they will advise you all kinds of BS and tell you to improve your hair style, your clothing, work on social skills. All while AW look ugly, have no social skills, often smell bad, are fat and STILL GET THE MOST HANDSOME GUYS AROUND. Something is wrong. Very wrong.

2) If you get advice from Americans, most probably they will not be travelers. So, again, they will not see the proper perspective on things.

Just get your ass over to the Philippines."

7) Bubble/force field around young modern American women toward strangers

In America, young women don't like talking to strangers, are paranoid and stuck up toward them, and in their own little bubbles/islands. Only old people and little kids are sociable and relaxed toward strangers. But not young women. No way. They are a different dimension and wavelength.

American women tend to ignore those that aren't part of their clique, talking to strangers only for business or money related matters. In fact, they are defensive, anti-social, and paranoid toward them. They have this bubble/force field around them that makes it feel inappropriate to try to meet them, making you feel like a creep or if you even try (or dare to have desires for them). And if you do penetrate their "bubble", it causes an energy drain in your vibe/aura, to the point where the more you try, the less will and motivation you have to try again. Thus, having nature-given genetically-encoded desires for women makes you feel like a criminal in America, an oddity indeed. This makes meeting women in America SUPER-HARD and unnatural, to say the least.

Though Americans tend to be in a "bubble" more than people in other countries, due to our strong sense of individualism and lack of interconnectedness that other countries have, the females tend to have a much STRONGER bubble around them than the males do. This has been attested to as obvious by both men and women.

In fact, you rarely see American females even alone in public, but mostly males who are sitting alone and open to being approached. Females tend to hang in groups, with girlfriends, or with their boyfriends/husbands, out in public. And even if they are alone, they usually prefer being alone, for if you ask to join them, they will say that they are enjoying valuable time off and prefer to be by themselves. It is very difficult to find one alone and open to meeting strangers. But, of course, you can find that easily abroad.

But unfortunately, even when I do meet women in America, it's still like a lose-lose situation for me, because one of the following always happens:

- a) They talk to me for a few minutes and then say, "Well it was nice meeting you" and then go off and I usually never see them again.
- b) I ask them out and they respond with either "I have a boyfriend/husband" or "I'm too busy to go out and I work/study too much" or "I don't date, I spend all my time with my baby" or "I just got out of a serious relationship and am not looking right now" or they agree to a date but flake out/not show up later.

So you see, in the big picture, there's no way to win. Either way, I lose. Why should I play such a losing chess game?

8) High rate of flake-outs and making excuses

In short, no matter how many girls I meet in America, they always tell me they are taken, not looking, or flake out on me.

After meeting me, for some reason, probably a combination of the above reasons, women tend to make excuses not to spend time with me after meeting me, even if they enjoyed our time together and have a lot in common with me. After our first meeting or date, they tend to either 1- get too busy with work and life to make any time to see me, or 2- suddenly go through emotional stress/problems and claim to need to spend time alone. Or they come up with some other BS excuse, never offering or proposing an alternate or available date to see me again. And if I check back again later, they come up with something else. This happens even when I've done nothing wrong, treated them well, given them a great time, or even if we have tons in common and seem to connect well or are very compatible.

In other countries, all you have to do to get a date is pay a few compliments and flattering words to a woman you desire, and you got it. But in the US, that's nowhere near enough. Compliments to a woman usually results in a simple "thank you" or feeling that you are a creep. And simply asking them out upfront usually results in responses such as "I have a boyfriend, I'm busy, I am so stressed that I spend all my free time alone, I'm not looking for anyone, I don't know you." etc. With warped logic, they assume by default that ANY man who tries to spend time with them, even platonically or just to talk, is after her body and "objectifies" her. It's a false assumption and false logic that they hold, that creates an unfeminine no-win situation for men.

On the internet alone, over 90 percent of American females tend to stop talking to me and disappear after they see my photo (unless they're old and don't care), EVEN if we have a lot in common or they like what they hear about me and my qualities. This fact alone totally DEBUNKS the assertion of many naive Americans that women are rejecting me cause of defects in my personality or attitude, for clearly I am being rejected based on looks in this case repeatedly.

That almost never happens with foreign women, even if they're from industrialized countries. I'm not saying that foreign women don't care about looks. They are influenced by them too, but not to the degree that American girls are. Sure, foreign women have rejected me too, but the flake-out rate on me (in person and online) is nowhere near as high as in the states.

I've also met hundreds of girls in person from the internet in America. And you know what? Almost none of them wanted to see me a second time, except for a few, but they only wanted to meet again as friends. Does that indicate that the dating scene in the US is to my advantage? And it was not due to any fault of my own, as I did nothing wrong. These girls had impossible standards, and couldn't even hold an intelligent conversation. So if the problem is with me, then how come I don't have any problems holding conversations with foreign women and meeting them more than once?

To those who tell me that I must lower my standards (albeit an unrealistic suggestion since first, I don't have high standards, and second, I can't force myself to be attracted to someone I'm not), consider this. Even fat ugly women have rejected me in the same way (before I can reject them too lol) simply because, although they can't get anyone either, I still don't fit their "tastes". A lot of chubby women that no guys want still prefer "punk rock" type guys.

The thing is, not only are girls hard to meet in America, but even when I do meet them, no matter how many of them I meet, whether it's 10, 100, 1,000 or 10,000, they ALL make excuses not to be with me, even though I'm good looking, nice, interesting and I do NOTHING wrong. And when they blow me off, they do it as though it were a routine they've rehearsed many times before. That makes it the most unnatural dating scene in the universe! There is definitely something very out of whack and F-ed up about that for sure! It should not be that way at all, which you fully realize once you are in a culture and place where it's not like that.

But it's not just me and Asian guys that have this problem. Many decent white guys in American also report similar situations. For instance on my Forum:

<http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=4213>

"I guess I just need to vent.

I'm an American white guy. I don't think I look bad at all. Well groomed, fit, young, in college. Dating is

the hardest thing in my life, it's harder than any job or class i've ever had.

Long story short, I've had to study huge amounts of dating material to have any luck with women at all. I've posted here in the past about how to actually get a date and meet women. But, sometimes it hits me, why does have to be so freaking difficult? If I didn't practically have a doctorate in pickup / seduction material I think I'd be totally shit-out-of-luck

There really is a 90/10 thing going on, or 10% of men in the U.S. get 90% of the women. If you wanna date halfway attractive women you have to be extremely alpha-male. If you show any sign of weakness or being "beta" a girl will quickly flake on you. Trying to date an attractive woman in the U.S. is like having the world's worst boss where if you make one mistake you're fired.

This week I got 3 numbers from 3 different hotties. In all the follow-up calls all 3 flaked on having lunch with me. Well the calibration of my game is clearly off... My voice tone wasn't perfect, maybe I didn't build enough comfort, maybe I waited too long / not long enough to call. Whatever the case is, my 2008 dry spell has been lasting so long that I almost feel like giving up... But, I know I can't do that:) But sometimes I get so frustrated that I reach my wits end."

9) Being overly tough, aggressive, masculine, confident, they need someone stronger than them

Nowadays, for some reason, American women act overly tough, aggressive, overly confident to the point of being masculine, in their behavior and speech. They are very different from the classical feminine persona of being sweet, tender, modest, romantic, and empathetic. Rather than being gentle, soft, and tender on the inside, they are cold, harsh, abrupt, angry, hateful, snobby, bitchy and ready to diss anyone who accidentally steps on their toes. Also, they behave as though they own everything and have the final say on all.

Modern American women also tend to be harsh, abrupt, business-like, and are able to easily say cruel or hurtful things without remorse or regret. To me, that's just sociopathic (or perhaps they just have an alien soul to me, who knows).

Therefore, of course, since we all know that women want someone stronger than them, so they can feel protected. That means I've got to be even more tough, aggressive, masculine and confident than they are, to even be considered.

Well it's not that I'm not. It's just that my true strength is inner rather than outer, and keeping it that way feels the most balanced to my overall persona. Outwardly, I am naturally gentle and tender, and so of course they will perceive me as weaker than them. Therefore, in that sense, I'm also not their type, besides not being the cultural ideal. But what can I say? I can't be something I'm not.

Foreign women, on the other hand, tend to be much more modest, humble, gentle, tender, and less aggressive. The difference is too obvious. Thus, who I truly am is a better match-up with them.

10) American women despise men and don't need them

Nowadays, American women have this inner dislike toward men, fueled by feminism and talk shows. You can see it on their faces in public, this anti-men look on their faces, expression, and vibe.

In America, women can treat men like shit, but men aren't allowed to complain about it because in America's politically correct feminist culture, women are never wrong and can do no wrong. Hence it's taboo and politically incorrect to go against that.

In addition, they are so independent, strong, overly confident, and masculine that they don't really even need men. They believe in having productive, fulfilling lives without them. Many are perfectly happy to just work and go shopping in their spare time. They see themselves as complete, independent and view men as an unnecessary luxury that often causes more trouble than good.

You can see it in the way they walk and behave, as if they have no need to bond/connect with others, seek romance, open their hearts and minds, etc. Instead, they are business-like and cold, only speaking to strangers if it's business or money related. It's as if they are incapable of loneliness and are too fulfilled and busy to

bother investing in others. And they walk around with their nose in the air and give men this vibe that subliminally conveys *"You are not to have desires around me. You are to act girly and emasculate, UNLESS I give you permission to want me by coming on to you. I call all the shots. Not you."*

I just don't agree with that. I believe that men and women should need each other. Why should I pursue someone who doesn't need me, won't emotionally attach herself to me, and doesn't even make time to spend with me? Why give your heart, feelings and emotions to someone who won't truly give their heart/emotions back? It just seems pointless. And very unromantic as well.

Conclusion:

So you see, in America, I'm never in the dating game, but totally shut out and excluded from it. It's one thing to get used, cheated on, etc. like those who are "in the game" deal with, but when you aren't even called up to bat, that's the worst position to be in. I'd rather even be used than never in the game.

Thus, I would say that America probably has the worst dating scene in the world for me. I don't think any other country in the world would totally shut me out of the dating scene and exclude me from it the way that America does.

The things above happen to me constantly even after meeting thousands of women. It just never changes. They all either tell me that they are taken, not looking, or flake out. And if an exception seems to be brewing, getting me all excited, it always turns out to be just a farce and temporary. That's just unacceptable to me.

Even if I was in a situation where the women far outnumber the men, such as a cooking class, yoga class, swing dance club, or college girls dorm, I'm still never "in the game" because they see me as "not dating material", not their type, and project asexual, prudish vibes at me, keeping interaction with me to a bare minimum, and humoring me at best. In fact, even when I meet a girl who complains that no one wants to date her, and I say that I am interested in dating her, she will usually act as though she didn't hear it.

Dating in the US is a ZERO SUM game for me. You see, even when I meet a girl I have a lot in common with who shares my intellectual interests, passions and outlook on life, it still doesn't work out. She either likes me as a friend only, flakes out, or has some excuse why we can't date. There have been times when I met such a person and could swear we were soulmates. There was chemistry and stimulation between us, the kind you see in romance movies, and the gazing into each other's eyes for hours and forgetting the time and food on the table, etc. In such cases, it seemed an absolute certainty that we were compatible and meant to date at least. All the ingredients of the love formula were there. But yet it all fell apart for some odd reason, every time, leaving me bewildered and in denial. This has happened on numerous occasions. Always something goes wrong, even when I try my best to prevent it.

What this means that even in the BEST CASE scenario, I still LOSE! Thus it's a ZERO SUM game. This is yet another reason why I am forced to date abroad through NO FAULT of my own.

[Read my story here](#) about the 20 years of loneliness and datelessness I endured through America, where I tried everything you could possibly imagine, and more, and you will see that I had no choice in the end. It's easy to blame the victim, but I did nothing wrong and had no other choice. In the end though, when I found my salvation overseas, I realized the problem wasn't me after all, and that I had a valid case to blame my antisocial culture and society, or at least my incompatibility with it.

Eventually, I decided that it was time to stop being a loser and start being a WINNER!

These reasons help explain why I hate the dating scene in America so much, and why it's a no-win situation for me. I simply feel suffocated and tortured under these conditions, never being allowed to fulfill my desires and fantasies. There seemed to be no logical solution. I tried everything, both conventional and unconventional, more than you can imagine, and nothing worked. It was either a case of bad circumstances, bad karma/fate, or both.

Whatever the case, I won't give up. If going overseas is the only remedy that works, then so be it. And even if the critics of overseas love-seeking are right (which they are not) that I would get "used" overseas by "desperate women", it's still better than the aforementioned conditions of being totally shut out of the game. Besides, a

desperate man is better off going for desperate women anyway, than pursuing super picky Western women with too many choices who don't need him, don't find him to be her type (preferring football players, punks, and bad boys), and don't ever give him a chance. At least with the former I have a chance, whereas with the latter I have no chance.

But for some reason, these critics don't get that and don't see the big picture.

As my Expat Advisor said above, "The USA for women is like Bangkok for men." So why stay on a sinking ship? Why play a losing game? Why not go to where I can have the same upperhand that women do in the USA, such as the Philippines or Thailand (Bangkok)? I am just as deserving as they are (in my opinion). I'd rather be in an area or situation where I have more of an upperhand in the dating field, as it should be. And if it comes down to two desperate people "using" each other, then so be it. It means a lot to me, and no one has the right to tell me that I should continue to suffer and play a losing game instead.

Logical reasons why my standards are not too high in America

Let me tell you something horrible. The dating scene in America is so bad for men now, that I can't even get fat ugly chicks anymore. You see, even they have their tastes and sense of entitlement. They don't just want any good guy that's nice to them, for they've been taught by their culture not to settle until they get what they want, which is the very best. Likewise, they are not my type or taste either, as I am attracted to tall thin women.

What's strange and irrational though, is that critics, especially American women, like to claim that I am reaching too far out of "my league", that my "standards are too high" and ought to settle for women that I'm unattracted to who are more in "my league". Now this is very hypocritical, because these same women who claim this often have overly high standards themselves. Yet they do not feel that they need to lower their standards, whereas I do.

But technically, there are some core problems with that.

- a) First, I can't force myself to be attracted to someone I'm not. That just does not work and would not produce any chemistry. It would make me unhappy, and wouldn't be right, nor even possible.
- b) Second, even if American dating culture put me in the same "league" as fat ugly women, it still wouldn't matter, because as already mentioned, I'm not their type anyway and they aren't my type either. So it could never work, even if I'm in their "league" by cultural standards.
- c) Third, there is nothing wrong with wanting thin feminine women, because that's how NORMAL women are, in most of the world and throughout history. (If you go to Ukraine for example, that's how AVERAGE women look – thin, pretty and feminine) It's only in America that thin decent looking females are placed so high up in the hierarchy that make them unattainable to average men because there are so few of them. Since average women in America are fat and ugly, while normal decent looking women are so cream of the crop, they are placed so high up that even many normal decent looking men who should be in their league, are actually out of their league in this artificial scene that favors women. What this means is that me and other decent looking men are not in a position to date women who are in our league, lookwise, because every thin decent looking woman in the US becomes a goddess! Thus it is America's standards that are unequal and imbalanced, NOT mine! By international standards, my standards are NORMAL. Therefore, again, it's American dating culture that is the problem, not me.

Also, technically I should not be in the same "league" as fat ugly women because I am NOT fat or ugly. Sure I may be a few pounds overweight, but I am not obese. So there is no logical reason why I would be in the same "league" or category as them. Thus, these female critics are not making any sense, nor are they being realistic. They are merely making excuses to defend the messed up US dating culture that gives them all the power.

The only thing I have in common with fat ugly chicks is that we are both considered unattractive by US cultural standards. However, everyone who is unattractive in US culture should not automatically be put in the same category, especially since I don't look anything like them, and even more so, since attractive women abroad consider me in their "league" or sometimes even above their "league" (as the case is in the Philippines). Therefore, there is no logical reason why we should be in the same "league".

Therefore, technically there is nothing wrong with me or my standards. That is not the problem. I am simply a mismatch in US dating culture. The logical solution then, would be to go abroad where my "standards" are not considered "too high", but are normal and attainable, where my dating opportunities and likability are vastly greater. So far, that solution has proven to be the correct endeavor.

Discuss this article here: <http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=1543>

Reader comments:

- "..... A quick comment on the essay you sent me, I agree with your argument but want to point out that many white men are also having issues with American women! The truth is American women are more standoffish and guarded than women in other parts of the world. I will put it this way, even if American women were approachable I would still prefer European women just because they are so beautiful and feminine by comparison.

Some people may think you are bitter because you have been rejected by American women but I think that once you have been to Eastern Europe and experienced things the way they ought to be, you would never want to turn back to deal with this shit again! I went to Prague in August and can honestly say that I was in heaven! It's more than the long legs and beautiful faces, it's the attitude and personality as well.

Take care and have a great trip!

Regards,

Danny"

- "Don't feel to bad about being rejected by your looks, as I have a friend who is even a male stripper, that moved here from Mexico City. The first thing he noticed was that he couldn't get a girlfriend or even one single date to save his life. He came to me one day, just beside himself, saying "what the hell is wrong with this country"? He told me how women would even flirt with him first, so then he would ask them out, only for them to reject him in the rudest manner he had ever seen. And in Mexico City, this guy had a 23 stripper for a girlfriend, and he was only 15! He said in Mexico, any man could date any woman who was available.

I'm also the tall, athletic Caucasian type that you mentioned. I agree with you, women do go for that type, but even I can't hardly get a girlfriend. I didn't get my first girlfriend until I was 27! Being good looking or built will get you laid pretty easily in the USA and thats all it does. I just wanted to share with you this insight. You can tell people about my stripper friend, and I even have another friend who is a stripper who also says he has great difficulty in getting a girlfriend. I'm telling you man, both of these men actually had women paying them to have sex with them! Yet, even these men can't get a girlfriend. I really can't figure it out. I have suspected the gender ratio, but both of these men live in a city that you can just tell there are about equal numbers of men and women. I understand that Californian has 150,000 more men than women, so I would expect this stuff over there. But even in places with more women, things are the same.

I have a trip planned to Kharkov, Ukraine in three weeks. Will be my first trip. The guy you call your cultural adviser, the former Ukrainian, has told me I would have no problem with women there. I can't wait to see for myself.

You have been a big motivation for me looking abroad. Thanks for all of your articles! Maybe something good will come from this. I seem to attract FSU women effortlessly. The only problem I have ran into with them, is they just simply don't believe me when I say I don't have lots of women. They seem afraid that I am some kind of playboy who has slept with a hundred women. I explain that I have only been with one, and they refuse to believe me. One of the few FSU women who rejected me, did so because she didn't believe that I was sincere about marriage. She said a guy with my looks would have no problem with women at all. So she stopped writing me. Can you believe that? But I have plenty of others to choose from."

Aren't foreign women just after your money and a green card?

I get asked this all the time, and so do others who date overseas.

“Aren't those women just after a green card to the US or your money?”

I'm so used to it by now, to the point where I can use the old “if I had a dime for every time someone asked me that, I'd be rich” phrase. I've addressed it in the [FAQ's and objections section](#).

The answer is – No, for the most part. This is a typical copout line of thinking that ignorant mono-national Americans who don't know much about other countries have. It's a cultural myth given to them by a system that tries to keep them “in the box”. The fallacy in it is that it assumes that if people in another country are more friendly or open, then they must have ulterior motives.

This can be true in part, but it ignores the larger complexity of cultural psychology and many other factors. Most people don't like to think, so they try to pin everything on one explanation or reason, when in reality almost everything is the way it is due to MULTIPLE factors, not just one.

The reality is this:

Not all foreign women want to go to America. And even among those that do, they aren't going to just go with ANYBODY. Put yourself in their shoes. If you wanted to leave your country, would you do it with just anyone, or with someone YOU LIKE and are COMPATIBLE with?

Many foreign white women liked me even when they weren't interested in going to America, and of course, they don't even know that I'm American at first glance since I'm Asian. The bottom line is that women abroad are billions of times more approachable and inclusive than in the States, regardless of their “motives”. And that's what matters to us guys.

Yes, being American does bring a novelty appeal when you are abroad. But it's just one small factor among many others, such as personality, charisma, personality, looks, money, vibes, tastes, standards, personal chemistry, etc. It's also due to subjective and personal factors as well as cultural.

This “foreign women only want a green card” myth is perpetuated by our ignorant media whose job is to keep you within the box. Only the non-traveled espouse such myths. Anyone who has lived extensively in other countries knows that most foreigners are not trying to leave their country or come to America, and that our country is not as idolized as Americans and their media think.

And besides, even if foreign women only liked me only to get a green card (which they don't of course), so what? It would still change nothing, because **the bottom line is that MY NEEDS ARE FULFILLED overseas but they aren't in America**. And as long as everything is consensual, what business is it of anyone else? To claim that I shouldn't pursue fulfillment of my needs just because someone wants to leave their country would be like telling someone not to buy something they want at Walmart simply because *“Walmart only wants your money”*. People have a right to fulfill their needs in a consenting way. And just because what I do is unconventional doesn't mean it's wrong, bad, or unadvisable.

But even if I was being only used by foreign women, it's still better than being forced to sit at home in the US all the time watching TV, eating potato chips, masturbating, and having no female companionship or dates. No question about it. **At least I'm in the game and LIVING my fantasies, the kind most Americans only see on TV and never live!**

Here in the Philippines, for example, I know that girls don't want me just for money and a green card for the following reasons: (please read these bulleted points carefully)

- 1) Many girls here don't care about my money and STILL like/love me even after I tell them that I'm on a budget and very frugal. They like and enjoy my funny, sweet, sappy, positive, enthusiastic personality.

- 2) This is probably the biggest reason, and my Expat Advisor, a long time visitor to the Philippines who speaks two Filipino dialects, attests to it too. Most of the Filipinas I've met or dated here prefer that their boyfriend or husband stay with them in THEIR country. After all, family is everything to them, and so they prefer to remain close to their immediate and extended family. But if their lover insists, they will try to go overseas. That right there DEBUNKS this common misconception. Besides, it is an American myth that most people in other countries want to come to the US. The well traveled know that is not so.
- 3) I've slept with both bar girls and normal girls for FREE, simply cause they liked me and found me sweet, romantic, tender and charming! They never asked me for any money! Imagine that. That could never happen to me in the States. That proves right there that they aren't after me only for money, but that I am very sweet, likable and charming to them. And I've gotten free kisses here from many girls too, including French kisses (and NO, they don't do that to every guy!).
- 4) A few girls here (but not most) have told me that I'm not their type, for they like white guys or bigger masculine guys. And conversely, I've seen some reject white guys in favor of me, because I'm more of the type they like and go for. Now, if it were all about "money and a green card", then "type" wouldn't matter now would it? But it does, because taste, romantic chemistry, and attraction matter as well.
- 5) Filipinas have shown favoritism toward me over other older richer guys or customers. (I can't get into details about how since it wouldn't be appropriate to describe here :) This also proves that they don't like me just for money, since I am treated better, given favoritism and preferential treatment over other guys who have more money than me, due to my higher likeability. I have a fun loving free-spirited personality that a lot of Filipinas resonate with, as well as a sweet romantic side, and a face they find young and handsome (gwapo).
- 6) I've been able to get acquainted and befriend middle class girls here who have enough money themselves not to need a guy (which I can't do in the states). Sure, the middle or upper class girls aren't easy to "pick up" in public, but they find me interesting and likable too, once they get to know me. And they are willing to spend personal time with me, unlike girls in the US who always make excuses and say they are busy.
- 7) There are some guys here with looks and money who don't do well at all with Filipinas. I know one good looking American guy here with a good income from an international job, and my Expat Advisor knows a good looking young French guy here with a successful art business. Yet believe it or not, both of them can't get a real girlfriend in the Philippines! They have had nothing but bad luck and bad experiences with the women here. The girls who go out with them look unhappy around them, and don't stay with them for long. Though they will accept their money and presents, they still leave them after a while because they simply don't like them and don't enjoy being with them. It's obviously not their looks or status. But rather, something in their vibe and personality just doesn't jive well with the girls here. Some people's chemistry just doesn't mix well with certain countries, just like mine doesn't mix well in American culture and its fake politeness social culture. Sometimes, things just don't click, not just between individuals, but between individuals and countries as well. Thus, it's not all about money and status, like some think. Here in the Philippines, my personality seems to jive extremely well with Filipinas as a whole, regardless of whether I'm their physical type or not. And that's why almost all Filipinas, even those who aren't into me romantically or are already taken, ENJOY hanging out with me. Now, if it were all about money, this wouldn't happen. You've got to remember that these girls, though mostly poor, are HUMAN BEINGS who, like you, prefer to be with those they LIKE and CLICK with, not just anyone with money and a US passport.
- 8) Now, think about this. If it were all about money or a green card, then why aren't poor foreign men seeking out American women the way that poor foreign women are? And why aren't there websites or matchmaking agencies out there for foreign men seeking American women? It's because there isn't a market for it. Very few foreign men would want an American woman, even to get into the US. These men want feminine women, and the denial of their femininity as well as their selfish attitude is a huge turn off to foreign men. Also, ask yourself this. If poor foreign women just want money, then what do American women want? A dazzling personality and kind heart? Not! They not only want money, but they want it all, perfection in every category!
- 9) From my experience with gold diggers and users in Russia and the Philippines, I've come to recognize their common patterns, such as the way they manipulate and tell lies, the way they tell you what you want to hear yet their actions contradict their words, and their tendency to ask for money within the first day or week of knowing you. And what I can tell you is that MOST of the girls who like me here do NOT exhibit these traits.
- 10) A high percentage of Filipinas I get involved with tend to like to bite me and pinch me. I was told that they only do that to you if they LIKE you. Certainly if they only wanted to use me, they wouldn't be biting and pinching me. They only do that to those they like or find adorable, cute, or cuddly.

What you've gotta understand is that it's not a simple case of "these women are friendlier to you cause they are poor and need your money." I mean, yes money is a factor here. But what's being overlooked here is that the poor are unspoiled and dependent, so they often have to cultivate good inner qualities in their personalities and behaviors to get what they need, and to compensate for their lack of material assets, especially since they have interdependent relations with others. In other words, they have learned to treat others nicely to get ahead, whereas someone who already has it all doesn't need to be nice and can afford to be spoiled, stuck up and treat others badly. So that's another reason why poor people are nicer. It's not cause they only want your money, though money is an indirect cause of this, but it has more to do with their character being developed differently than ours.

Some guys see everything in terms of money and economics. Well I'm not one of those guys of course, for I consider many other deeper factors. Not every guy with money can duplicate everything I've done. Looks, personality, attitude, and chemistry are strong factors too, and in this culture, I rank high in those areas to them, even in the looks department since I am far closer to the ideal male image here than I am to the one in the states. That's why I often get preferential treatment from girls here over richer guys not as personable or likable. In reality, human beings are very complex, and don't fit into overly simplistic pet theories like "She just wants you for money". So these one shot labels put together by shallow know-it-all people to try to explain other people just don't hold. Perhaps these guys are "all about money" themselves, so they can't help but assume that everyone else is too. But they can only speak for themselves, not for others.

Oddly enough, there are some women (and men) who genuinely believe that giving money is a demonstration and sign of true love. These folks see no shame in "buying love" and are proud to utter the phrase "no money, no honey". Such women will even ask for money from a man she truly loves, seeing nothing wrong with it. But of course, I do not share their values. An effective way I've found, to weed these types out is to simply tell them that you are poor and on a tight budget, and act like it. If they disappear after that, then you know what they were probably after. If not, then you've got a more genuine girl. Needless to say, if you want to impress somebody, you don't have to take them to a fancy restaurant everyday; rather, mix it up with several days of going to fast food or cooking at home. A nice sweet Filipina will appreciate that.

If you think though, that all my experiences here are with money grubbing whores, think again. Make no mistake, I can and have gotten NON-WORKING girls to sleep with me on a regular basis. So, please don't assume all my experiences are with whores. Unlike in Russia, after our dates, they often prefer to go home WITH me rather than without me.

Sure, there are old fat white drunkards with money here who are also sleeping with "hot girls" too. However, there are two primary differences between them and me – 1) They usually have to pay girls to be with them and/or send financial support to their families, 2) Their dating field is usually limited to the bar girls or whores, and they cannot get dates with normal Filipinas or pick up girls in normal public settings, whereas I can easily get dates in non-bar settings.

12 Reasons why Russian women are not desperate to leave their country

With the advent of Russian bride agencies, the myth has been perpetuated that Russian women are trying to find men to use to come to America. But based on my 3 years of experience in Russia, here are many reasons why most of them are in fact NOT desperate to leave their country.

1) First of all, the simple fact is that most women in Russia are NOT trying to leave their country to live abroad. (In fact, most people in any country are not trying to leave it.) I've met hundreds of women in Russia, some casually, some I dated, and some as friends. Out of them, only a few claimed they seriously intend on emigrating to America (and I mean move there, not just visit).

In fact, the percentage of the female population in Russia who belong to marriage agencies is far less than one percent of the population. According to the statistics on the Myths section of Elena's site (<http://www.womenrussia.com/myths.htm>) the percentage of the women in Russia affiliated with marriage agencies looking for foreign men is about 0.13 percent of the total population. That's about a tenth of one percent! Such a stat is only an estimate of course, but the point is that the women looking to leave their country

for good is a very small percentage of the whole, contrary to what many Americans believe and what our media likes to perpetuate.

Through the many diverse Russian women I've met in 12 cities over many months, here is what I've learned. The average Russian woman loves to travel to other countries due to their love of foreign culture, curiosity, and sense of adventure. But they are not looking to move abroad permanently. It is rare to find one with the sole purpose of moving abroad.

Those that are considering moving abroad are not usually desperate to do so anyway. It is rare to find a person in Russia who is desperate to leave their country, but as always, those who are, are the ones who make the news, getting attention which contributes to this myth. Furthermore, many women who join internet marriage agencies are not even willing to leave their country, but are just scammers without serious intentions who get a high off of having men come and spend money on them, wine and dine them, etc. And even among the sincere women in marriage agencies, they are usually just considering it as an option anyway, not basing all their hopes on it. Their view is that they would consider moving abroad for the right man that they fall in love with, but relocating is not their primary objective. Finding the right man for them is.

And even among these few who want to relocate, most of them prefer Europe rather than America because a) the proximity is more convenient to allow them to come back to visit their families, and b) European culture is closer and more compatible with Russian culture, and nowhere near the extreme shock one feels transitioning from Russia to America.

In fact, I met more Russian women who wanted to move to Germany than America. For some reason, they have an affinity for Germany (despite what that country did to them in the Second World War), though they say they don't know why, and many Russian women speak German as a second language rather than English.

I think this myth began as a rant started by feminists to defend their pride against the tide of Western men who are looking for women abroad, painting the men as desperate losers and the foreign women as conniving users who want a green card. Plus, America likes to think that the world revolves around them for some reason (it doesn't and the well traveled soon learn this). Probably the media further perpetuated it to appease these feminists, whom are the main audience for their advertisers. Our media's other purpose is to motivate you to get up and go to work or school everyday to keep our economy/society productive. One of the ways of doing this is to make you think that other people are worse off than you and would give anything to be in your shoes. And of course, bad news sells better for the media and its advertisers, since people like to believe that others are worse off than they are and would give anything to be in their shoes, to keep themselves motivated in their current situation in life.

To get an idea of Russian people's views on emigration, check out these interviews with everyday people there at this site. You will see that almost none of them are trying to leave their country.

<http://www.waytorussia.net/Features/RussianPeople.html>

Also, many Russian women are not even drawn to the USA. For example, here's what a Russian girl from Moscow that I corresponded with said to me in a letter:

Elvira:

"To be honest i don't like usa at all, i can move there but only if it is strongly needed (if i fall for an american). Many of my friends was there(with families or for student exchange Work&travel usa) and say something similar to: "they have no culture, but the money... money and nothing more is interesting for them", Doesnt sound inspiring.."

Perceptions of American life such as hers are more common than you might think. Now, here is a challenging question for the Westerners out there who believe in this myth. I have heard that in Saudi Arabia, the natives see Americans there who came on a spiritual pilgrimage to Mecca, which they consider the spiritual center of the world. This leads them to assume that most Americans must be desperate to leave their country to come to Saudi Arabia and Mecca. After all, that's what they see happening around them. Now, let me ask you this. Are they right that most Americans are trying to leave their country to find salvation in Saudi Arabia? Is that what they would find if they came here? If not, then why not? After all, that's what they see going on in their country. They are doing the same thing YOU do, looking around their immediate surroundings and making snap

judgments. You see a few Russians around you in your country, hear stories on your news, etc. and assume that most Russians want to come to your country. Their reasoning process is no different than yours.

Do you see how faulty and narrow your myth is now?

In fact, there's really no such thing as a "Russian mail order bride" anymore than there is a Santa Claus. You cannot just go online and "order" a wife or bride. That denigrating term and concept was created by our media for political and social reasons to keep men in fear and appease the feminists. You can read about this in more detail at:

http://www.womenrussia.com/mail_order_brides/
<http://www.womenrussia.com/russianwomen/escape.htm>

Also check out the FAQ's and misconceptions section of:

<http://www.wtw.org/mob/Lies.htm>

Sorry folks, but the truth is, in real life you can't "buy" or "order" a bride from Russia, contrary to the fictional concept created by our media. Those marriage/introduction/dating agencies out there simply allow you to purchase their womens' contact information, not sell away their individual rights to anyone. You've still got to win their hearts or attraction to you. Of course there are scammers on the Russian bride agencies, as well as gold diggers and visa whores. But even in those cases, you are still not "ordering" someone to be your bride.

2) Second, as I mentioned above, most of the women that are in those online marriage agencies are NOT there for the sole purpose of getting out the country. They are there because there is a shortage of good men in their country who behave decently and can financially provide for them (see the next point on surpluses and shortages) and they want to see if they can meet such a man for them. IF they meet that right man, THEN they will consider relocating to his country if he wishes. But their main objective is NOT to get out of their country!

Now, if you want to claim that some of these Russian women want a foreign man because he has more money and is a better provider, that may be a factor, but you've also got to ask yourself, how is that any different from an American woman (or any woman for that matter) who wants a partner who has money and is financially stable? Most women do not marry a man just for their money. There has to be more to the relationship than just money usually. Russian women are human beings too, so why shouldn't the same apply to them? Motives are not mutually exclusive, contrary to what some ignorant people want to believe.

Even a Russian woman who wants to leave their country wants to at least leave with someone they LOVE and are COMPATIBLE with them, not just anybody! Just because someone wants a foreign mate doesn't mean they'll take anyone! Common sense should tell you that. Think about it and put yourself in their shoes. If you wanted to move to a country by marrying someone there, would you take anyone, or something you are compatible with and love? So why would it be any different for a Russian woman who wanted to marry a foreigner? People are so quick to believe the worst about others, which is sad because it marks a sign of a dysfunctional psyche.

3) Third, in Russia there is a big SURPLUS of attractive mentally healthy single women, rather than a shortage like in the US. In the US there is a surplus of nice good single men and a shortage of nice attractive mentally healthy single women. As a result, even the less attractive women in the US can afford to become pickier, and good single American men can easily have trouble finding available decent women. Just go to any bar or nightclub in the US and you'll see that usually the men outnumber the women. And even the unattractive women in those places seem like princesses to the surplus of disgruntled chumps there. It's a really pathetic scene for the nice guy.

But in Russia, the deck is stacked in the average man's favor rather than against him like in the US. The surplus of available women is another factor in why Russian women are friendly and approachable.

In fact, a Russian woman I corresponded with named Natasha wrote this below in response to my question of why she was seeking a foreign mate.

Me:

"Why do you seek foreign relations?"

Natasha:

"Because its very difficult to find someone special in my city. I live in a small city, we have a lot of girls, but not many boys. Some of boys doesn't want to have serious relationship, they want to have girl for one night, you understand what i mean. Some of them like to have fun and not care about future, some of them married and some of them prefer to drink to much. That is why i'm trying to find someone special abroad."

Well she has a good point there if you think about it. If the women outnumber the men, then the men will be less inclined to marry or have serious relationships because they are able to play around and have multiple relationships at the same time. Not that that's a good thing, but that describes the nature of many men. (However, I have to admit that unfortunately, this also means that many Western men who go to the Former Soviet Union will also be tempted to not get serious in a monogamous relationship, and instead just to play around with multiple women.)

4) Fourth, the women in Russia are naturally communicative, inclusive, curious, and intellectual. They typically have a wide variety of interests too. Therefore, they are obviously going to be naturally outgoing and communicative with me out of sheer curiosity if nothing else. This is also true of European women as well, which as we know, do not have a reputation for being desperate to leave their country. And it's true of foreign women in general as well. This just goes to show that women everywhere CAN be friendly to strangers, open, and inclusive, without there being an ulterior motive.

5) Fifth, I can tell you from experience that overt friendliness, inclusiveness and hospitality is an integral part of Russian culture. As my friend Masha told me after my first trip to Russia:

"I don't think that Russians treated you so well only to your being a rich, Hospitality is an integral part of Russian character, and you can see it during travelling by trains when people in one compartment became good friends, spending together not much time and treating each other with their food. On my way to Izhevsk, I was in one compartment with an old woman and spent 2 days together and she told me about all her life since her childhood and when she got off the train(but earlier than I) she introduced me to all her relatives who came to meet her at the station. So, don't think that you was met good only due to your been a foreigner, rich foreigner, may be, you can't understand why they did so, and I can't explain-it's Russian character, if you'll come to Russia again and live for a while, may be then you will understand and even feel why."

Well she was right. After many months in Russia the second time, I experienced what she meant. I definitely felt the hospitality and friendliness that was an integral part of Russian culture and soul. I could sense the natural inclusive vibe of the social environment, which was much better for my mental health than the isolationism of the states. It is something that exists naturally, straight from the depths of people's souls, without agenda or motive. And it's sad that many Americans cannot fathom such a concept that's above their heads, since in our western materialistic individualistic society, actions almost always have motives and agendas. That says sad things about what our society, though economically prosperous, has become. Our mistaken mentality is that just because we tend to be agenda-driven, does not mean other people are too.

6) Sixth, Russian women come from a different economic/social system than ours, which give them a different mentality and social attitude than us. Our country is based on a strong capitalistic system that is Darwinistic in nature and fosters individualism. Competition is the basis of our culture and economy, and therefore becomes our mentality as well. This means that people either have money, or they are striving to be better than everyone else. This competitive mentality eventually leads us to become more "stuck up" toward others than we would otherwise be. We evaluate others in terms of their worth, and compare ourselves to them. This creates a rivalry mentality that leads fellow human beings in our country to see each other as opponents or adversaries. And sadly enough, having a lot of money and material possessions changes your attitude toward others, making you more spoiled and "stuck up".

On the other hand, countries like Russia are accustomed to a more socialistic system that is less individualistic and competitive in nature. Therefore, people's mentality and attitude are going to be different obviously. In poor countries, people don't have as much money and material possessions, so therefore they are not so spoiled and "stuck up" as people in capitalist countries. What they lack in material assets, they make up for in personality

and soulfulness. It's a simple trade-off here. In the US, it's vice versa of course. Therefore, it is not realistic to expect them to be the same as us (and thank goodness for that). And that's one reason why people in general in Russia are more open and friendly. Therefore, the major factor in why Russian women are so much friendlier and open has to do with the economic/social system they live under and the mentality it produces, and not because they are desperate to leave their country.

7) Seventh, women in Russia have a natural admiration for men, as long as they are good, decent, kind, and have good character. They do not have the deep rooted hatred for men that American women have who were brought up with by their mothers, peers, and feminist media. Any sane man would obviously prefer to be around the former than the latter, since obviously the former brings out the best in men while the latter brings out the worst in them.

Nowadays in America many women seem to have a deep-rooted subconscious hatred of men. Even if they like a man at first, they seem to look for excuses or ways to hate him later, even going so far as fabricating reasons or manipulating facts. First they bring out the WORST in them, and then use that AGAINST them as well, justifying their hatred of men, and making it a no-win situation for the man! Not all are like this of course, but many are. It seems like some kind of psychosis or control drama that has become a disturbing pattern. Every man's nightmare is seeing his woman whom he thought loved him, suddenly becoming cold, cruel, and flaky. It's a creepy and shocking experience.

In addition, nowadays American women don't even NEED men anymore, so they treat them as expendable and unnecessary. They have all the advantages in our society now - money, career, the legal system on their side, the ability to get jobs with their looks rather than qualifications, etc. and they simply don't need (or even like) men anymore. That's the growing trend, and with their goddess mentality, they demand that men be submissive, lest they be seen as creeps or chauvinistic pigs.

In fact, all the foreign people I've met in my travels seem to either have a negative opinion of American women, or else they've heard nothing but negative things about them. Now, do you think that's a pure coincidence? Do you think that's due to no fault of American women? Do you think this international reputation of women in America is the result of "evil American men" (sarcastic)? lol What does common sense tell you?

8) Eighth, there are many American man/Russian woman couples who live together in Russia. I have met some of them too. You just don't hear about them because our media doesn't cover them. Now, if the Russian woman in these couples was desperate to leave their country, then why would they choose to stay in Russia? Some of the men in these couples told me that their Russian wife/girlfriend preferred to stay in Russia, and so they stayed with them.

9) Ninth, the Russian women I met who weren't trying to leave their country or seeking relations with foreign men didn't treat me any less better than those who did. They were just as warm and enthusiastic toward me, and were willing to spend time with me and get to know me. The same goes for those who didn't have a romantic interest and just wanted to be friends.

10) Tenth, if they were desperate and saw me as a ticket out of Russia, why would some dump me if they didn't think we were compatible? And why didn't I get a 100 percent response rate from the ones I wrote, if it didn't matter who wrote to them, only that he could take them out of their country?

11) Eleventh, here is another good point made on an internet article I read that I didn't consider before. It made sense and is another factor at work here, so let me quote it.

<http://www.womenrussia.com/russianwomen/escape.htm>

"The truth of the matter is, that the percentage of Russian women who are looking for their "soul mates" through the internet is no greater than the percentage of women from western countries such as England, Canada, Australia and the United States who are searching the Internet for their future spouse!!!!

Here is an interesting tidbit: With the population of Russia at approximately 170 million people as compared to the United State's population of more than 250 million people, why is it that you don't see as many dating agencies from other countries?

The answer, is a simple one... CHOICE!!!

Women, from the USA and most other Western Nations have choices to use or not to use the services of a dating agency. Almost all women from western countries have computers at home or at work. The Internet services in most of these countries are ridiculously low when compared with the cost of the same services in Russia.

Only a few very big Russian cities such as Moscow and St. Petersburg have Internet services that are more or less affordable for an average person. Russia is a huge country, with its eleven time zones from East To West and is just now establishing Internet services. It is only within the last three or four years that the Internet service providers have begun to take hold within Russia and the fees for their monthly services are out of reach to most Russian citizens. It is not uncommon for most Internet services to cost \$100.00 or more, a month. With the average salary, for example, for a Russian doctor being around a \$100.00, it is a luxury few citizens can afford. But, we are talking about a single woman or a one-parent household.

Do you think that the average American single mother could afford this kind of money for Internet services? So, this is the reason why you see so many Russian dating agencies! Russian women HAVE TO USE their service!"

12) Twelfth and finally, despite all of the above, the bottom line here is that women in Russia are VERY APPROACHABLE! That is the reality, regardless of the reasons for it. Whether they like you or not, whether they are interested or not, whether they are available or not, they are extremely approachable at least. And often, they are warm and enthusiastic toward you, even on the first meeting. They almost NEVER give you that look that American women do when you approach them that says "Who are you? If you don't know me and aren't in my clique, you aren't supposed to be talking to me." This means that you never feel awkward, uncomfortable, or like a creep for approaching them. And that's because unlike the prudish puritanical USA, men are allowed to act on their desires in Russia and most countries where such behaviors are not seen as creepish/perverted or criminal. Even if she's a model or married, she won't get offended or defensive toward you for your interest and initiative. You feel like there's nothing to lose. And that's a BIG difference.

In contrast, in the US, when you try to approach and meet a girl you find attractive but don't know, it feels awkward and "out of bounds" as if you are crossing a boundary or violating some rule. They make you feel like you are a creep because in their minds, strangers don't talk to each other unless it's business-related. That awkward feeling makes it an uphill battle that really sucks and shouldn't be that way, especially when once you see that other places aren't that way..

Also, Russian women are not only approachable to me because I am a foreigner or because they want something from me. It's how they naturally are. They are that way to Russian men too. So it's not really about me, but about THEM! They are warm and enthusiastic by nature. European and foreign women in general are like that too, even if they are from economically stable countries that don't idealize the USA, which proves that women can be that way without having an ulterior motive. Though I try to keep them as the focus, my critics tend to prefer to focus on finding fault with me instead. How convenient.

What the critics don't understand is that it's not really about my status as an American to them, or they wanting my money or a visa to the US. They have an open direct personality that is similar to my own that I naturally click with. On the other hand, I've always found it hard to connect or click with the typical mainstream hot American airhead girl who likes to blurt "Alright!" and "Yeah!" I don't know why. It's like there's nothing there but a pretty shell, or maybe they're just too different from me.

Testing my claims from your home

You might think that in order to test my claims above, you would have to go to Russia yourself. You could do that of course, but I have a simpler way for you to do it right from home. And no, it doesn't involve looking for Russian women in your local home town either (after all, would you try to learn what black people are like in Africa from black people in America?). Rather, it involves contacting average ordinary Russian women on a penpal site designed for friendship and cultural exchange. Remember that since this is not a marriage agency or dating site, you will almost never find scammers or conniving gold diggers on it. Therefore, the Russian women from this site are much more representative of the average typical females in their country. Here is the link:

<http://www.sv-agency.udm.ru/sv/penpal.php>

Now select "Russia" from the countries menu and click on the "Search" button. Around 500 results will come up, comprised mostly of Russian female ads. You can write the ones you find interesting individually, or just send them all a mass form letter to save time. Many will write you back and from their letters and words, you can get a glimpse of the traits and qualities in them that I describe in this essay. But most importantly, to test my main claim here that they aren't desperate to leave their country, you can poll them or ask their opinion about moving to America. You find that you will be lucky to find even one in a hundred among them who is seeking to move permanently to America. Try it and you'll see what I mean. It will definitely show this myth to be in vain.

Conclusion

The people making these rash statements about Russian women being desperate to leave their country have never even been to Russia. No one who has spent extensive time there thinks that people there are desperate to leave their country. Most Russians are very proud of their country and culture, and it shows in their traditions, architecture, music, holidays, vibes, etc.

From what I've learned, the reasons why Russian women treat me better and give me much more attention are more due to the following:

- 1) They are NATURALLY friendlier, inclusive and more open than women in the West. As mentioned above, they lived under a different economic/societal system than ours that didn't cultivate a competitive selfish mentality in them like ours does. And as we all know, people from poorer countries are less spoiled and selfish too. They make up in personality and soulfulness what they lack in material possessions.
- 2) As already mentioned, women in Russia are almost always APPROACHABLE, both to foreigners and locals, whether they're interested or not and whether they're available or not (which further debunks the myth that their friendliness is a cover for ulterior motives). One can speculate on the reasons for it, but that's the reality. But in fact, most foreign women are like this too, even the ones who are from economically prosperous countries that don't idealize the US.
- 3) They are naturally curious, communicative, intellectual, and exploratory by nature. There is a free-spirited uninhibited playfulness about them which you would have to experience to know what I mean. These are common traits I've noticed in a very high proportion of Russian women I've met.
- 4) They have a natural admiration for men, as long as he is good, decent, kind, and with good character, rather than the deep rooted hatred for men that American women have influenced by their mothers, peers, and feminist media. Therefore, they bring out the best in a man, rather than the worst.
- 5) Some Russian women perceived me as rich and wealthy by their standards (even if I told them that I'm not).
- 6) Those that don't care about money still see me as an exotic and interesting novelty, or as a chance to practice their English with.
- 7) Finally, like I said earlier, there is a big surplus of attractive single women in Russia, and a shortage of good men who can treat a women right (which is inverse to the US). Therefore, a lot of nice single women who have trouble finding a good available man see me as a valuable find.

Some Russian women are friendly to me due to one of these factors, others are due to a combination of them. But as you can see above, NONE of the reasons have to do with them being desperate to leave their country.

And besides, even if Russian women only liked me because they want to leave their country (which they don't of course), so what? It would still change nothing because the bottom line is that I meet women in Russia easily and am in the game there. That's what's important. And as long as everything is consensual, what business is it of anyone else? To claim that I shouldn't pursue fulfillment with people who might have ulterior motives would be like telling someone not to buy something they want at Walmart because "Walmart only wants your money". I mean sure Walmart might want your money, but they are offering you something you want or need as well. It's a barter. People have a right to pursue their needs in a consenting way. And just because what I do is unconventional doesn't mean it's wrong or bad.

If you still doubt this, then ask yourself this. Who is more qualified to comment on whether Russian women are desperate to leave their country, someone like me who has been to many cities in Russia, traveled around there for many months, met hundreds of people and had lots of experiences, or the egocentric American who never goes abroad, gets his/her information from the egocentric US media, and makes snap judgments about people there being desperate to leave?

You know, I hate it when people are so judgmental. It's one thing to be judgmental about something you have a lot of knowledge in, which I can respect. But when people are judgmental about something they know almost nothing about, that's ridiculous and a big turn off to me.

The reasons I elaborated on obviously prove that this ignorant myth about desperate Russian women is wrong. I have been acquainted with many Russian women, and I can tell you that the majority of them do not act desperate or project those kind of vibes. They are simply more open, modest, unspoiled, friendly, unparanoid, etc. and do not have the self-righteous and arrogant tone that many American women (and sometimes men) have.

You can also check out these links on Elena's Models site which also address this misconception.

http://www.womenrussia.com/mail_order_brides/

<http://www.womenrussia.com/russianwomen/escape.htm>

Other myths about Russian women addressed.

<http://www.womenrussia.com/myths.htm>

Also, check out these interview excerpts below from www.waytorussia.net, where 5 Russian women and a Russian man were asked if they'd want to emigrate to America. Their answers will come as a shock to non-travelers who harbor the belief that everyone wants to come to their "land of the free."

<http://www.waytorussia.net/Features/RussianPeople.html>

Question: "Would you ever consider emigrating, and if yes, to which country?"

A: Yes, I would go to Italy. But I would be working in Russia, anyway.

Question: "If USA opens immigration to Russia would you like to come to US? If yes, why?"

A: I wouldn't go. I don't want to immigrate. I would leave Russia only for the family reasons.

Question: "If USA opens immigration to Russia would you like to come to US? If yes, why?"

A: No. I don't want to leave Russia. I could immigrate earlier, but I didn't.

Question: "If USA opens immigration to Russia would you like to come to US? If yes, why?"

A: No I don't want to go to USA.

Question: "If USA opens immigration to Russia would you like to come to US? If yes, why?"

A: No, I'd not immigrate. I'd like to go there on vacations.

<http://www.waytorussia.net/Features/RussianPeople/2004Mar15/index.html>

Question: "Would you ever consider emigrating, and if yes, to which country?"

A: No, I wouldn't emigrate. I would go for a long time to another country, but I wouldn't settle there. If I went anywhere, it would be Australia, because of kangaroos and green forests.

Question: "Do Russian people see anything in common with American people?"

A: Nothing. Maybe with Europeans, yes, but not with Americans.

Question: "Do you like Americans?"

A: No. They are the kind of people who are interested in themselves only, who care only about their own well-being and money. I also saw some Americans who were trying to imitate Eastern spirituality, but it was all fake.

I've seen some Russians who went to USA for a few months, and when they came back you couldn't recognize them: they were constantly showing off and were caring only about the style of their clothes.

Question: "Do you like to travel and see new places and cultures, and which country would you most like to visit if you could travel anywhere?"

A: Yes, I would travel a lot if I had an opportunity. I would go to Australia, Thailand, China, Japan. I wouldn't go to western countries, only to France, because there are such cathedrals that you've got to see at least once in your life.

Finally, my Expat Advisor lists these 12 reasons below as to why the majority of Russians are not trying to leave their country.

"Twelve reasons:

- 1) There is no place like home. Even if other places have more money. Do you see Americans who desperate to leave and go and live in Luxembourg, Brunei and Kuwait or move to Switzerland because there is more money there?
- 2) Different language. If you cannot speak English why would you want to go to the US? Unlike in Hollywood movies where Russians speak perfect English albeit with an accent, in that country most people do not speak English and are not seriously studying it. Why should they? Who are they going to speak it to? Unless you are in a big city, you will probably never meet a foreigner in all of your life.
- 3) Propaganda- as most countries, especially big ones, Russia teaches its citizens that their country is the best. Other countries are portrayed as worse than Russia (Yeah, right).
- 4) America is portrayed as a dangerous country with a high crime rate, drugs, homos and various perversions and depravity everywhere (never mind that the Russian crime rate is twice as high and there is enormous alcoholism problem and that sexually Russia is freer than the US-the fact that America is still largely puritanical in so much of its culture is not even mentioned). Russia is shown as a safer, better country with highly "moral" people. (which is pure BS, but that is how most nations indoctrinate their citizenry).
- 5) Leaving family behind. Would you like to leave all your relatives behind and go live 4000 miles away for the next several decades?
- 6) Culture. You will miss the movies, the literature, the nature and all those other things.
- 7) You will miss your friends. Will you easily make new ones in the new homeland?
- 8) Life is not so bad in Russia as it is portrayed in the West. Things are cheap and services are cheap, too. Little money can go a long way. There is a lot of freedom there, now, too.
- 9) America is very far away. Geographically and culturally. France, for one, is closer and people would probably be happier to go and live in France if they had the choice.
- 10) The mystic attachment to "Rodina"- the Motherland- Russians generally do not like to live in other countries- that is why there are so few of them outside of Russia- unlike Anglo-Saxons who do not mind going and colonizing huge continents and never truly missing England again.
- 11) Logistical problems- it is a big undertaking to go and move to another country.
- 12) General fear of the unknown.

My 2c."

Far less risk abroad for a man marrying a woman half his age

Most of us know by now that it is far easier and more accepted overseas for an older man to date or marry women far younger than him. That's why many American expats, and even Europeans, in their 40's, 50's or 60's go to Asia, Russia, or some other poor country, to date, sleep with, or marry women in their 20's and even teens. Obviously, they are able to get women there with the looks and youth that they could never get back home, due to 1) their higher economic/social status in those countries, 2) the desperation, poverty of the females, 3) the less egotistic, more appreciative quality of the women there, and 4) the lack of available secure single men in those countries.

Usually, Western mentality frowns upon such huge age differences in couples, and argues that it is unwise because the two are at different stages in life and will have less in common. It is an assumption that has a degree of truth, but of course, it also overgeneralizes. Plus, it is feared that a young girl in her late teens or early twenties is at a very changeable stage in her life and may not be the same person in a few years after the much older guy marries her.

Generally, the above concerns are very legit in the US, but not as applicable in other countries that are more collectivist than individualistic. Here's why. As explained earlier, in other countries people don't have such a strong individual separate ego as in America. Therefore, they are less individualistic, less selfish, and have more in common as a whole. For instance, in the Philippines I noticed that most girls like the same things, have the same tastes, laugh at the same things, and give the same responses to asked questions about themselves. There were very little individual differences between them. Therefore, if you get along well with one, you generally get along with them all, and personal individual chemistry is far less of a factor. And, with less individualism, they are far less selfish as well, since the "me" factor isn't as strong.

Thus, young women in a country like the Philippines are far less likely to change in a few years than their American counterparts are. Of course everyone changes since change is a constant in the universe. But the key difference is this. Since they fundamentally view themselves and their mates or families as integrated rather than separate, when they do change, evolve, and develop, it doesn't happen in a manner that makes them GROW APART from their loved ones. On the other hand, in the US, where individualism and separateness reigns, "growing apart" is far more common among loved ones and couples compared to collectivist nations such as the Philippines and the rest of Asia.

Therefore, a man marrying a woman far younger than him is FAR LESS risky abroad in collectivist nations than in the US. The woman from a collectivist nation sees herself and her husband as an integrated unit, rather than two separate units like Western women do. So as she changes, matures, or evolves, she tends to do so in a manner that complements her husband and benefits the relationship rather than conflicts with it. And since selfishness is far less a factor, it's far easier for this to be possible. In short, the risk of "growing apart" is far less.

Testimonials that dating is all about location, location, location!

With all the letters I get from others and the many posts on my Forum testifying that dating is like real estate - all about location, location, location - I've ran out of places in this book to put them, so I've created this section to post them. Hear are their testimonials and accounts in their own words. (edited for spelling)

<http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=4077>

"Hi all, well my story is about the same as yours, but here it is anyway: for a long time I blamed myself for my lack of success with American women. So, I worked hard for many years to improve myself to the point where I would be worthy of a decent American woman. I got myself a Ph.D., then a job at an Ivy-league school, got myself into excellent physical shape, took up lots of cool hobbies like skiing, tennis, ballroom dance... and I was still getting rejected by women who had no business being picky! I had my epiphany when I was 33 and dating an overweight, 42-year-old, divorced mother who dumped me because I didn't have a "wild side". So then I did some traveling to (among other places) Hungary, the Czech Republic, and the Philippines, and beautiful young women couldn't keep their hands off of me! Dating is like real estate- the 3 most important factors are location, location, location!"

"Hi Winston,

Wow, what a great news!!!

Winston, you are a pioneer. You are inspiring Asian American men everywhere to take the plunge and travel to Russia (or Ukraine or Belarus.)

Yesterday I went to see Nutcracker Ballet with a beautiful 26 year old Minsk girl I have been writing emails to. She held my hands and treated me most tenderly. Almost like a boyfriend she loves. Wow!!! Imagine that. I am a 46 year old Asian American guy who had NO American girlfriends, no sex with white American girls and of course no marriage and no family in all my life in USA. I could scarcely believe I was not dreaming throughout that date. It was so unreal that this beautiful girl treated me so well.

The plain fact is that most Asian American men are treated so shabbily by American girls. We are simply zero to them. And most Asian American men are totally discouraged IMO (in my opinion). They think they have absolutely no chance dating a beautiful girl of their dreams. Well, Winston, you have shown that it can be done. Not in USA of course, but in FSU (former Soviet Union) countries. Here, it just feels so good to be treated as a man for a change! And you don't have to be a great looking investment banker guy. Some women here just appreciate tender attention. For some women, even just companionship is enough!

I consider coming to Minsk to be one of the very best decisions I have ever made in my life. And hopefully, I will not go back to USA. I like to marry a beautiful Belarussian girl and live here permanently."

"Hell for me started in junior high school (I attended Sunnyvale Jr. High) in sixth grade. It's basically the same story as yours. I went to Fremont High School in Sunnyvale for freshman year, and it was a nightmare. I used a fake address to go to Homestead High School in Cupertino, and although it was an improvement (in terms of less barbarians), it was still a nightmare. Almost everything you said about your high school experience matches mine. There was not even one girl who had any interest in me.

Although I am an agnostic, when it comes to my romantic life, I like to jokingly say that "Jesus saved me." In 1999 (when I was 23), my parents, who are Catholic, wanted to make a pilgrimage to the Vatican, as well as travel around Italy and France for three weeks. They really wanted me to come along with them (for free!). Prior to this, I had never truly been out of the USA (I went to India for two weeks when I was 15, but stayed in a family friend's home the entire time, so I didn't get to interact with

the Indian people much). While in Florence, I went into a bar by myself. It was somewhat empty, and there were many empty tables around the one I was sitting at. I saw a beautiful blonde girl with her two cute friends (a redhead and brunette), and made eye contact with her. We kept exchanging glances, she seemed so happy that I was looking at her, and her friends were happy about it, too. The redhead came over to my table and asked if she and her two friends could join me. So they all joined me. They were from Sweden.

Keep this in mind... I am not passive. I am an extrovert who goes up and talks to women I am interested in. This got me absolutely nowhere in the USA up to that point.

In Lourdes, France (a Catholic tourist destination), sexy locals were checking me out. Then I get back to the USA, and nothing happens romantically for me. Not even a single date.

One year later, in the summer of 2000, I decide to try a personal experiment... I want to know if there is something wrong with me, or with America and American women. I get on a plane to Sweden and stay in Stockholm for two weeks. The second day I'm there, a girl asks me out on a date. The next day in a club, a girl is very interested in me and tells my close friend (a Swedish guy who was an exchange student and the only friend I had during my senior year of high school) that she was disappointed that I left early. A few days later, in a queue for a club, a hot blonde starts hitting on me, and asks me to join her and her friend. She sits on my lap in the club while we drink. (I know Sweden is a very feminist country, and I am 100% opposed to feminism in all its forms, but even so, you can still see how big of a difference there is between Sweden and the USA when it comes to getting dates).

I come back to the USA, and despite my constantly approaching and chatting up girls, I go without sex for two years."

"I could not agree more on the sorry state of American women (in terms of dating in general). For me, Chinese women (in China) have been sooooo good, and they are thin and hot; they are well educated and will do everything for you. The guys who get stuck here in North America are, well, stuck. This is not even to mention the physical state of the women here; most American women over 30 are obese (not just over-weight). And they are used; who knows how many STDs they have had. I feel sorry for them sometimes.

I applaude you courage and wish you the best.

ZN"

<http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?p=6394#6394>

"I have seen that because my personality remains unchanged, as I go from country to country the reactions of women to me are incredibly different. Why do I attract women in one country and not in another? Because of different cultures and values that they have vis-a vis men. When I lived in Russia as a teenager, girls would write me notes, come and see me in the house even if uninvited, tell their friends how much they were in love with me. When in America, all of that suddenly was gone and women would pass me by steely-eyed with not even a look of curiosity on their faces. I simply stopped existing as a man."

<http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=2412>

"I've never been to the Philippines, Winston, but after spending a month in Thailand I'm willing to believe everything you say about it.

It's not hard to meet girls in Thailand, it's hard to get rid of them. Not just bar-girls either - although there is a delightful abundance of those - but regular Thai women. There's a rumor that Thai women won't marry Western men, that only the lower classes do, and so on - but it's not true at all. Thai women of all

classes are interested in Western guys.

That said, the girls from the north, from Issan chiefly, figure disproportionately in the plans of farangs (Westerners) because these girls are the ones who work in the bars and massage parlors of Bangkok and Pattaya, and to the Western eye they're very attractive, despite the Thai preference for lighter skin as noted in my earlier post.

That was my first trip abroad, Winston, and it has convinced me that your position that Western guys can have a better life in other countries is absolutely correct. More men die of happiness in Thailand than heart disease, cancer, and stroke combined..."

<http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=1898>

"I was very nervous around women, I found it nearly impossible to engage a woman in a conversation. I was convinced that was the reason I couldn't get dates. I was angry at myself for not being able to overcome this, but trying harder only made it worse. I spent a lot of time thinking about it and went to a doctor and was prescribed anti-anxiety medications but they didn't really help.

This problem came to an unexpected halt when I traveled to Asia and within a week I learned that I am really only abnormally nervous around American women. When I thought about it, this actually made perfect sense.

When I'm in a country like Thailand or the Philippines, I know that I am desirable to the women there (I get reassured of that everyday). So even if I get turned down by a woman, she probably has a good reason to say no, and she will be flattered rather than act like I'm some creep.

When I'm overseas, I don't subconsciously feel like I'm doing something wrong by flirting with a woman.

What it boils down to, is that foreign women are an entirely different species than western women. If I had been told 2 years ago that my love shyness/social anxiety with women could be solved simply by changing the type of women that I was pursuing, I probably wouldn't have believed it. It's one of those things you have to experience to fully understand."

<http://whatmenthinkofwomen.blogspot.com/2007/04/top-ten-reasons-why-american-women-suck.html>

"Absolutely true! Every word in the 10 reasons. I was married to an American woman for 14 years. I left the marriage a hollow shell, a broken man. Why couldn't I do anything right? Everything was my fault, right? I must have been the evil bastard she described! Long story short = the AW got the house, and the 500K of capital gains (California). Not to mention my heart and soul. I licked my wounds for 5 years, feeling bad about myself.

Then, I discovered Mexico. At the age of 42, I found a new life. I met a fantastic woman... loving, selfless, sharing, caring, and did I mention drop-dead gorgeous? I am now living in Southern Mexico, completely happy. I have been married to my Oaxaquena for 3 years, and the heat just gets hotter. We actually appreciate each other and life together is a 2 way street. She is always at my side with encouragement and support. And no, we don't place a lot of value on material things. When I am up in the states on business, or to visit my side of the family, I am quickly ready to come home. I laugh at the poor bastards I see chasing tail with their tongues hanging out. I don't give any American woman any thought except what a kid must think after the first time he touches a hot stove. I have been relieved of the sickness the shallow ones!

One need only sit in a coffee shop in a mall for 5 minutes to see the problem in its stark reality. Watch the women as they salivate over material goods and ignore everything and everyone in the area besides themselves. Do you see any smiles or eye contact going on? Absolutely none. In Mexico, smiles, personal greetings, hugs, kisses on the cheek, fond embraces are the order of the day. Contrast this with fake tits, collagen lips, and harried scowls, evil countenances, and the inability to pass up any

type of reflective surface. Whattaya got? I have no use for American women. I only feel bad that I wasted 14 years of my life on one of them. RIGHT ON with the 10 rules!"

<http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=4219>

"Last night on a foreign subway, I gave my business card to the most gorgeous woman in the world, a 20 year old college student 30 years younger than myself whom I had only said a few words to about her dressing very stylishly. Then I got off the subway car saying please send me a text message sometime.

Just as the doors were closing, she jumped off the subway car asking for clarification about why I gave her my card. The subway pulled away.

Five hours later, after dinner, we were holding hands while walking along a river.

Her education level was way, way above the best Harvard student I have dated (and I have dated a number of Harvard students).

I could not have been happier about my decision to live outside the US.

The above would NEVER happen in the New York subway with someone raised in the US on CNN or Fox News to be paranoid and scared of her own shadow."

From YouTube Reviews about this site:

<http://uk.youtube.com/watch?v=v4yVrx2QYzo>

realteruchan (3 days ago) Reply | Spam +2

"Nonsense. I've been to many places, like China, Japan, Philippines and America and the idea that the women are the same in each is foolish. It's like four different species. And it can't be about financial status. Tokyo and Shanghai are rich first world cities and the women there have no desire to go to the U.S. Yet is easy to pull hot women in both cities. Not AS easy as the PI, sure, but compared to America, it's a cakewalk."

<http://uk.youtube.com/watch?v=kdlOibpEmTM>

"Social economics doesn't explain why the dating scene is so much better in Shanghai or Tokyo where it is equally easy for an American to date hot women, even successful women. They certainly have no desire to go to the US. I have always had a great time in China and Japan. Compared to America it's a cakewalk. There has to be more to it.

Actually I know many guys who find the dating scene in France and Germany leagues beyond America. I find the same in Tokyo or Shanghai."

<http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=4517>

"This reminds me of when I worked in Hollywood, there were all these stewardesses from all over the world working at the same company. There was this Filipina girl there that drove me wild. She was so gorgeous (I thought) ! I was gonna go crazy. But she had like 4-5 boyfriends and I could not compete. Then she dumped me like a sack of potatoes. Then, when I finally ended up in the Philippines 3 years later, and looked back at those times, I could see things from a different perspective- she was just an ordinary girl - but, boy, within the context of the US, she looked so exotic and desirable. I eventually ended up dating model quality girls in Manila that would make her look very plain and unsightly. Oh, that location, location, location thing. How true it is!"

<http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=4742>

"Hi all, I'm Jon. I've lurked around here for a while and finally signed up. I'm a youthful 40, in great shape, and own a few web businesses. I lived for about 10 years in Northern Europe, where I have friends I still visit; and I'm considered quite social and charming there. But...I moved home to the US a couple of years ago, and for the first time in many years, found that I had virtually no social or dating life.

Perhaps it's because I stayed gone so long, but when I returned to the US, it seemed socially awkward, shallow, immature and (if I'm honest) culturally backwards.

I appreciate Winston doing this site because frankly, I know he's right. Before I moved abroad my social life in the US was a 2 out of 10 (at best). When I moved abroad all that changed dramatically, and I made true friends and dated gorgeous women. Actually, I lost my visa to stay in Europe, otherwise I probably would never have come back.

I've been back a couple of years and I've really tried to make things happen here. But now I have finally had enough. This year (2009) I'm planning to leave the country. I haven't decided exactly where I'll go yet (I'm considering a few places), but I do know that I'm definitely leaving, and "sooner rather than later."

I have seen the quality of my social and dating life go down significantly here in the US, and frankly, life is too short for this bullshit. You know what they say: once you get used to champagne, it is tough to go back to kool-aid. ☺

If anyone wants to chat and/or share info about moving abroad, please be in touch. I'm social and cooperative by nature (as opposed to paranoid and competitive). Perhaps that's WHY I don't fit in the US?

Be well,
Jon"

<http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=4580>

"I completely agree with you mobstersreport. I have a very similar situation. I'm 40, no kids, divorced years ago, in excellent shape, own my own web biz, well-travelled and educated, but I'm finding myself "stuck" in America with practically no social life whatsoever.

I left the US once before, back in the 90s -- I moved to Scandinavia, and discovered what I had been missing all those years. I'm a decent looking guy with a good head on his shoulders, but I never had any luck with American women whatsoever. But in Europe, I discovered I could finally be myself, and there were All kinds of attractive, natural, intelligent women interested in me.

Unfortunately, I lost my European residence visa a few years ago and had to move back to the US. Since that time, my social life has gotten consistently worse, and I find it hard to relate to the brain-dead mentality that dominates here (I'm in Florida by the way).

Ironically, women that I wouldn't give a second glance to in Europe seem to think they're too good for me here in the states. Of course, many of them wind up married to some abusive inbred redneck, and then divorced with a few kids in a couple of years. You reap what you sow...

So I've find myself in the same boat you're in -- looking for way out, and just trying to decide where to go and how to proceed forward. I'm very lucky in that I have an established internet business that pays the bills, so I can work from anywhere in the world. I've been considering heading over to the Philippines and checking that out, but an acquaintance of mine has also got me interested in Brazil.

Either way, I'll be making a decision soon and getting the F out of here. ☺ The Philippines seems to have the most relaxed visa regulations, making it possible to stay there almost indefinitely if you work

within the system, So that's certainly a big plus (The lovely ladies are another of course).

Which brings me to my last point: it's tough for a lot of guys to just up and leave the U. S., even though they know in their heart they'll be glad they did and their life will improve once they've done it. So I think people like us should stick together and join forces whenever possible. Traveling the world or relocating to another country can be challenging, but it becomes a lot easier when you have a like-minded "wing man."

So if anyone on here is in a similar situation and would like to compare notes, or potentially even buddy up to travel, please be in touch. I'm open to suggestions.

Finally, I know I've written a short novel here as a first post, but I want everyone on this site to know that Winston is 100% right. I have lived abroad and seen the difference in my social life, in how it made me feel inside; and I've also seen the antisocial lame-ass dating scene in the US, and how it undermines a man's confidence and inhibits his ability to simply be himself. It is an absolute shame, and no man should have to live that way.

Thanks for a great site Winston. You're doing a service to all American guys by exposing the limited possibilities for happiness and social connection in the US.

Also going abroad in 2009,
Merc"

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OwkYiCJ0rJU>

"So true! I went to SE Asia 3 months ago, My Social life went from 0 to Rockstar overnight. America is a dead place, Just GO! and get on that airplane. Life is better abroad, I'm making plans on fully moving to Asia this year."

"Winston, you're absolutely right about foreign women vs American "women". Foreign women are far more cultured, intelligent, sociable and sophisticated than American women. I can honestly say that once you meet a foreign woman, you will never go back to an American woman again. You've mentioned this in your forum, but this trip abroad confirmed everything you said. You're absolutely right. Keep up the good work."

"After reading all your ebooks and following your advice to visit Lithuania I did and met the love of my life. I really give you credit because you are 100% right. I'm never dating or going with a shallow, superficial american woman ever again. I would also like to let you know that I am getting married in MAY 2008. Keep up the good work Winston you do inspire people."

http://www.happierabroad.com/Love_Adventure_Philippines.htm

"Then the second girl called me and said these words:

"Hello, my name is Inday, we met in the jeepney. I told all the girls in college about you and they all want to meet you."

Yup! They ALL want to meet me.

I went to a department store and again it was chuck full of little miss Universes- sales girls. I approached a counter and they crowded me.

" You are so cute. Your face is so cute". Then on another occasion I was paying for some stuff that I bought and the cashiers started whispering something. I though something was wrong. The answer

was: "Very handsome". "Who, me?" "Yes, you". "What is so handsome about me?" "I don't know, maybe it is your tantalizing eyes". And they started laughing.

I could go on and on and on. I would sit down and relax and girls would pass by and whisper to each other pointing me out. The word I learned was "gwapo"- handsome. Once I was just crossing the road. Four young ladies linked their hands and would not let me through. Sales girls from stalls would call out- "Hello, Darling!"

After a few days, I noticed something different about me when I looked in the mirror. My eyes were no longer sad as they used to be. I was smiling for real. Because this was the way a man should be treated. Appreciated. Desired. Women should seek him out and not the other way around. Rejections and maltreatment by women in the US or anywhere else where cruel women live harm the man from within. Rob him of his dignity. Slowly eat away at his self-respect and the sense of self-worth. Make him ill on his inside. He may not show it but permanent scars would form on his inside. My time in the Philippines was like some magic ointment for those scars. They were finally gone!

A place like that was not planet Earth the way I knew it. At least it should not be planet Earth. It was a Shangri-lah.

At night, my nightlife would start. I would go to bars and karaoke establishments and there would be girls everywhere and not many guys. The girls would crowd me. They were so gorgeous I was out of breath.

In the US, if you go to a night club, you always see more guys than girls and the guys look glum and pissed off. The girls look like they are princesses even if butt ugly. Here it was different. The guys looked friendly and non-threatening. Most were just relaxing. No competition. Enough girls for everyone to go around.

Eventually, I took three girls who were working in the karaoke and we went to a resort where we rented a hut on the beach under palm trees. If there is a heavenly situation that one can imagine, it would probably be falling asleep in a bamboo house while listening to the surf and the wind rustling in the palm trees while being hugged by three angelic young ladies from the South Seas...

That's living!. No amount of job satisfaction or professional achievement cannot bring you close to the sense of fulfillment that such experiences can bring."

"Dude,

You are 100% right about european women and american women

It is so easy to meet women in europe.

If you are well traveled, well spoken and educated you will meet the nicest girls

I traveled all over europe. I dated the most beautiful women.

I married a beautiful girl from the Ukraine.

I wasted years on caribbean cruises, and should have gone to europe.

I support your comparison 100%.

American women don't get it.

In my travels I would say in europe the toughest girls are Czech and French.

Russians, Latvian, Ukrainian are the nicest and sweetest.

John”

<http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=6549>

“Wow, I thought it was my imagination or something.

Last year I spent a month and a half in Europe and the whole time I was there I experienced an ease and comfort in social interactions that led me to keep thinking to myself: "Whats been the big deal all these years?...theres nothing wrong with me at all"

At the time I mistakenly thought that I had just finally broken through some sort of personal hang ups that had previously been holding me back.

About a week after returning home I realized that it was going to be back to the same old shit. I actually broke down in the street crying.”

<http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=4278>

“Winston's blogs and photojournals are epic! I have a new internet hobby now: reading Winston's stories.

I'm moving to St Petersburg in the new year and as I was researching I came across Happier Abroad, and I couldn't agree more with the overall message.

I'm a 32-year old Canadian guy and I am actually fairly attractive (so much for modesty) and educated and so on. I spent 2 years teaching English in South Korea and I was engaged to my gf of 6 years, until she cheated on me last year. Well, I'm back in Canada and I think my experiences in Korea messed me up, because I find women here so damn unapproachable. There's a lot of beauties here and in the U.S., but what is up their asses?

I'm a "nice guy". I don't let people walk all over me but I'm not about to go out and hurt others, either. I've been back in Canada for a couple of years now and I am sick and tired of North American women. I remember how warm and friendly and flirty Korean girls were, and how fiercely loyal those people were to their friends, and I miss that.

So, I'm giving up my well-paying job here and going back overseas and I don't know if I'm ever coming back. If I can find someone to marry and raise a family with, all the better. At the very least I'll be somewhere where people aren't such a-holes. If Russia doesn't work out then I'll move on somewhere else.

Winston is absolutely right from my experiences. I had to go somewhere and then come back to see the light, but I definitely see it.”

“I discovered what you now know about the reality of courting and dating American women some many years ago.

As a middle aged guy, never married, I'm now in a serious relationship with a Hispanic woman, very beautiful, in Mexico .

Here in Arkansas, in the lower Midwest (midsouth), where I grew up, still today, (and I'm 45), rarely ever, do I ever get any beautiful women approaching me, either at a bar, in public, or anywhere that wishes to get to know me for simply being a guy. Unless I have a charade or dog and pony show, or act or mask to put on, to this very date, I've never had a woman approach me just to be nice and hint to me that she's interested in getting to know me personally. I've never been aggressive or lowered myself to the level of lying to entrap and deceptively lure the opposite sex, simply because of loneliness and desperation. (Hence, I'm still single and don't regret it.)

Our horrible culture sends mixed messages, and has for years regarding our roles, both male and female, and the social ritualistic nature, which has become tarnished and clouded with apprehensiveness and indecisiveness regarding the haphazard introductory social skills when meeting someone of the opposite sex. Hollywood and feminism are to blame.

The break down of masculine roles and norms has eroded the male into feminized males without spines. Women know they have power, and they show it when competing and playing the dating and courting realm. It's all about power and control when playing the market and participating in the game. Ever notice the onslaught of popular top forty music lyrics? Hmmmm, guess how many continuous songs are sang about females having domination and power over their male counterparts, even in the introductory level in the poetry of the music.

No doubt WU, I eventually overcame the obstacle of datelessness a long time ago, simply by leaving our nations borders.

The United States can go to hell, and so can their women and so can the pussification of our men.

To this date, I, by myself, while often setting at a social bar drinking will explain this phenomenon to my fellow male patrons besides me, and still today, they don't believe me, or think that it's possible to be happy and meet a woman from another culture who actually likes you, simply because you're an American guy. They're so brainwashed and pessimistic, all because they've given up hope and settled; settled for taking no for answer and being turned down, like most modern day males.

Women from other cultures have always told me this, "American act like and present themselves with a confidence all because they have a since of entitlement and are spoiled with the men who cave in and become submissive. American men are in demand everywhere else in the world, except America".

Peace Wu- You Rock!"

"Winston -

I came across your website while searching online for people who had made observations similar to mine.

I am a former American expat who has had to return to Chicago to deal with family and financial issues. Prior to returning, I had lived freely, comfortably and happily in Paris for 3.5 years: almost completely forgot the unnatural tempo to American life that you so rigorously describe.

Your description of sex life is especially accurate. In the states, I have sexual interactions at a much slower pace, and sometimes go long periods with no success at all. Furthermore, when I do "score," as Americans call it, it tends to be with much less attractive women than I had grown used to in Europe. I have even been flatly rejected by women that I would normally pass up in Europe (for being too fat, arrogant, loud and annoying).

You are also exactly right in describing how attractive women in America find their beauty to be a commodity that can only be shared with someone of "value," however arbitrarily they define such value. You have to play ridiculous games, talk in insipid soundbytes, and belong to an easily identifiable archetype (ie hipster, yuppie, bro-dude, etc) in order to have a reasonable chance at a healthy sex life. What's more, sex is so often void of any meaningful romantic and intellectual connection. I never have those fleeting experiences in the states, where I make a week-long connection with a woman: meet in a bar one night, re-connect the next day at a cafe over talk of politics and post-modern philosophy and a pack of cigarettes, then out that night to go dancing, or into a pub to watch soccer. Life is just so mundane, empty and blatantly anti-intellectual in the United States."

"Winston

yup -- these guys are right on the money. I flew to France after quitting a job in Silicon Valley...(where the women are absolutely terrible!)

I go to a French language school and take a class....I make 20 new friends overnight....I meet my future wife...I get married and now 2yrs later...im STILL HAPPY!

I dont want to bunch all American girls into one big lump....BUT -- the majority of them due to culture or something act really snotty and stupid - like we're not GOOD ENOUGH for them....and to be honest and not toot my horn - i was voted Prom King in highschool...so I'd hope to think that I'm not THAT ugly at least...but i swear i went 12yrs in the bay area - and rarely found a girl who even batted an eye....and quite frankly i started to lower my own standards lower and lower....and for what? The moment i traveled anywhere else - i found girls that would SINK any american girl that ignored me...now i have a wife that turns heads left and right - but she is staring right into my eyes with love.

Real love!

I think America has a cultural problem internally that is eating it alive...

Good luck man"

<http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=118>

"I believe in Wu. Wu was right about the Polish girls and them being really friendly and giggling and blushing. Wu was right about being able to go over to the girls' tables and immediately go and sit with them. Wu was right about the society being more open in Poland than in America. WU WAS RIGHT!!! ... Wu is trying to help other people's lives. And he helped my life because I stumbled upon his website and read his stuff and I was inspired in part by his website to try Poland. AND IT WORKED!!!! WU WAS RIGHT!!!! WU WAS CORRECT!!!!"

<http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=118>

"I've had a bunch of other people validate what Wu says in general about European Culture. The last guy I talked with posted that message about Spain and the women he met. He too is confirming what Wu has said."

<http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=149>

"...I was in a high school in Russia and I was quite popular there. Even in the neighborhood where I lived, girls would look at me and tell me that I was handsome. I was not really doing anything, just being myself, basically. Girls would send me notes; some would come and visit me unannounced by just knocking at my door and the asking for my phone number. And I was just a teenager...

In the USA, things got far worse for me. Girls would just pass me by without giving me so much as a look. Years of loneliness went by after that. I tried to pick up girls on buses but they would look at me with fear as if I was a criminal. Most people would not make eye contacts each other or talk to strangers. I went to college in the USA later and stayed in a dorm and it was OK but you could not compare the dating scene to that of Russia. There were fewer pretty girls, lots of handsome talk and "sweet" guys and the competition for girls was keen...

When I went to the Philippines, things changed radically. It was even more intense than Russia- girls would stare at me everywhere, blow kisses at me, flirt with me and ask me if I have a wife. If I asked them for a phone number they would give it to me. Strange! Well, not now that I have learned about the Philippine culture. There are more women than men, they like Westerners more than other Asians and they do not mind mixing with other races as a rule.

So. I did not change but instead, I went from one country to another. Results were completely different and girls responded differently to me depending on the country.

I have found a better social/romantic life in the Philippines; I go there all the time; I have learned the two main languages there and as long as I am connected to that country, my social problem has been solved. I invite others to do the same.”

(Comments on my Female Encounters film on YouTube)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zFYvCYZ3ktw>

“Dude it's so true. Women are scumbags, and the men are douchebags here. I don't speak for everyone, but I am talking about the majority. Ever since I got back from places like Brazil and Europe, I never looked at American women the same. American women are the most boring, unfaithful, gold-digging vindictive pieces of trash. It truly disgusts me. Will I live in a place like Brazil someday? You bet ur ass I will.”

“i agree with wu, and i'm on the flipside of things- i'm a woman! after being dateless (yes, even in college, save one date) and going to france, i found guys approaching fairly regularly-- in random places! like coffee shops and museums, not just in bars. and what's more, women too (platonically)-- thus, dating and forming friendships were easier in a certain way. it was great. guys, ask us girls out! with so few other guys having the guts to do so, you won't have much competition!”

“I totally agree with Wwu. I went to Russia and married a beautiful Russian lady in 1999. We have been married almost 10 years now and have a 6 year old daughter together. Russian women have a quality that is difficult to understand unless you have been there. It is a completely different experience than the US. Two keys: Be and act like a decent person and use the head closes to your neck.”

“well, i really do have to admit you're right :) though we have a fair share of stupid women here too lol (im belgian btw, women are fairly loose here) (sorry if i misspell anything :p)”

http://www.henrymakow.com/wholesome_refuge_in_china.html

I've been living in China for about 6 years. I came over from Canada when I was 19 because i was fed up with life there. It was the best decision I ever made. I've lived in big cities and small in the North and South and traveled all over.

When I first arrived I was shocked at how sweet and feminine the women were. Chinese women were so approachable and didn't appear to hate men. They liked men and appreciated their attention. If they aren't interested in a guy they'll take all precautions not to embarrass the guy or make him feel bad.

On visits home, I found Canadian women simply unbearable to be around. Just mentioning Asian women would make them crazy and appear visibly threatened! Women in China know that finding a good guy is the most important thing for them in life. It would be difficult for you to find a woman in China who actually dreams of being a careerist and most women that end up that way (usually not by choice) feel lonely and are desperate to find someone.

I'm recently married to a Chinese woman and so happy. She takes care of me and doesn't challenge my natural role of authority in our relationship. She is so patient and sweet with me, it is incredible. I thank God every day for her.

I also loved how nobody in China cares about your opinion. There is no political correctness here. You are free to speak your mind. As long as you don't publicly oppose the government, nobody cares what you say. People with differing opinions don't vilify each other here. It's great.

http://www.thezeitgeistmovement.com/joomla/index.php?option=com_kunena&Itemid=99999&func=view&catid=231&id=235951&limit=10&limitstart=10

"Bravo...Bravo WWu777 good stuff

I can speak on this first hand. I lived in Europe for a couple of years and after returning to the good ol' us of a I felt like I was getting the stone cold shoulder, this coming after a very nice relationship or two with girls in Germany. I can really only speak about Germany on this matter but I was amazed at how girls or women if you like, over there would not automatically assume that you wanted to take advantage of them in some way. A couple of girls even went out for coffee with me, while having a boyfriend. I found this to be VERY refreshing. It was a lot of fun, and the women are incredibly mature. I was in my mid twenties and the women I dated were in their early 20s and they were far more mature and understanding than any girl I met in the US at that age. Of course, I don't speak for everyone in the US or Germany, and I did meet some snobs over there as well, but they were hard to come by.

I do agree with unheardlogic that leaving isn't necessarily a good answer, but I think I'm going back after I graduate college. Traveling is very addictive.

Keep up the good work!!"

<http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=7332>

"Thank you for creating this site, Winston...I've spent hours this evening reading your site and comments on here before joining, and you've really put your finger on so many of the dysfunctions in the US. I knew many of them, and even sensed them as a kid growing up (I'm now 40 and married). I can attest to the incredible femininity and beauty of the women overseas, particularly Eastern Europe, where I spent many years. I actually met my Italian wife in St. Petersburg, Russia!"

<http://happybachelor.proboards.com/index.cgi?board=abroad&action=display&thread=3328>

"Wow. Winston. Is it really you? Lol....if so WELCOME TO THE FORUM MAN.

I've got to say this right out: everything you wrote is absolutely dead on, and furthermore, your site, happier abroad, which was linked up to nomarriage.com was INSTRUMENTAL in my choice to not give up on women entirely, but look overseas for women of quality. I've been on both sides of the fence that you talk about here; having gone through long periods of rejection by american women, followed by projecting the alpha bad boy image (unintentionally) they seem to eat up and got 'picked' left and right. But I can say this definitively: success and failure was all shit. People would constantly tell me "oh you just haven't found the right girl!!" Ha. Bullshit. Why is it every dumb bitch would take the alpha happy bachelor version of me, transform me to the beta, then resent their creation like a fucked up dr. frankenstein and then hop from one cock to the next? Over and over again. Nearly every relationship I've had with these animals has ended in infidelity on their part. After a 7 year meltdown in which the girl cheated on me with a 20 year old drunk (she and I are 32 LOL) I knew I was done. I'd long been a misogynist and those dormant views came right back to the surface. This helped when my best friend recommended me to nomarriage.com, MGTOW, and HAPPIER ABROAD.

I was at a crossroads. I've been so damn happy as a bachelor I wasn't sure I wanted to get involved with any women at all....but then my best friend joined International Cupid when we were out of contact, met a brazilian hottie...and is now getting married this summer. I thought fuck it. What have I got to lose? Let's TRY. I'd always found asian women the most attractive in the world, so I thought let's zero in on them and see what happens. I read your site. I read your forum. I read testimonials of dudes who hooked up with hot asian (and other) types of women, and had seen the light. I did more and more research. Saw that AM to FW divorce rates are much lower. On and on.

After doing my homework I did Cupid too. And I'm happy as shit I did. I met a fillipino english teacher living in Indonesia on there last September and there has been no going back since. I flew out there and spent an amazing week with her...I'm going to write more about this on my own thread "The Trip"

But I can attest Winston....everything you say above, and on your site is damn true. Damn true. In 7 days I have never been so happy with a woman in my entire life? Why? Because she is night and day unlike the shit here.

I've been telling my friends in real life that going foreign is UPGRADING. UPGRADING. See, if you get picked by a bitch here...chances are on the attractiveness scale, unless you are a serious alpha or moneybags....expect a 4-7 at best. Further, they PICK, the stupid man just settles...because when he is offered pussy, he just can't refuse...having no clue that he has better options, that he can UPGRADE. Getting laid here by these animals is drinking a slow acting poison. It's only a matter of time before your hormones will lead to emotional and financial devestation.

Overseas women are radically different than the shit here. I can tell this already. Hmm. See my forthcoming post on "The Trip".

But Winston, I cannot recomend your site enough. And the book. The book was great. I even owe you a thank you, I'd say. What I read on there helped me to decide: JUST GO. JUST DO IT. I'm 10,000 times happier because I did. Thank you for your wisdom. Feel free to use anything I write on here or my thread as a testimony.

I was about to give up on women entirely and just be a confirmed bachelor like one of my heroes CS Lewis. But WHY? God, there are women of quality out there. Quality. I HAVE one now. And I saw A LOT MORE. Go abroad, gentlemen, you will indeed be happier...I know I am.

Thanks Winston."

<http://happybachelor.proboards.com/index.cgi?board=introductions&action=display&thread=3327&page=2>

"Winston,

I'm on Part IV of your video series now. That's good stuff! As a Navy vet, I can vouch for everything you say, especially about the women. Please keep in mind that I was in the Navy some 25-30 years ago, while American women still possessed a smidgen of sanity; it's only gotten worse since then. American women are REALLY fucked in the head now! Let me tell you a story...

I remember when we were in Palma de Mallorca, Spain. It's in the Balearic Islands off the Spanish coast. I was out & about doing some laundry before we made our Atlantic crossing to return to the States. I ran into one of my shipmates who had three local girls with him. For some reason, he was trying to ditch them, though I can't remember why now. They were nice, working class girls. Though none of them were gorgeous, they were decent looking; what's more, they were very NICE. I put my wash in the machine, and we went to a streetside cafe near the laundromat. We spent the night enjoying one another's company as I practiced my Spanish on them-ha! Here were three strange girls who had no problem hanging out with me, a strange foreigner.

You know what's funny though? Even back in the 1980s after my Navy tour was done, I can remember thinking how that sort of thing would NEVER happen in America-never! This was before the women were so paranoid of men; this was before women hated and feared men like they do now. That says a lot, none of it good, that the sort of chance encounter I had in Palma could not happen here. Judging by your adventures, I'm sure this is old hat for you though.

MarkyMark"

<http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=7396>

"I am completing a trip through the Balkans. Pretty much everything stated on this website is true, it is like being on a different planet. Now I see how much damage the US matrix has done - 20 years of baggage and issues, mistrust and rejection are ingrained into my view on reality. I assume rejection before I even talk to a woman, which ruins the potential for doing anything with her at all. In the states, a man is openly described as pathetic if he approaches a woman, asks for her number, etc. I can see that going outside of the US matrix behavior pattern produces unimaginable results here that would be impossible in the US.... for example, if a woman gives you her number, she may actually answer when you call her and may actually be interested in getting together.... It could take many years to begin reprogramming myself."

<http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=7530>

"Then it happened. I met a fillipino girl who was living in Indonesia as an ESL teacher, and there was no going back. She had joined the site not because she was specifically seeking a man or a relationship, but because she was lonely in Indonesia, as she is a devout Roman Catholic and was in an Islamic dominated society. She was just looking for people to talk too. We met in September of last year, talked online and on the phone almost daily....until it culminated into the fact that we had really fallen for each other. In march, I went out there to visit her in Indonesia, and it was my first bachelor trip abroad, and it was without a doubt the best week of my life. In seven days that woman made me happier than all the years of bullshit I had put up with american women. She was everything they were not, and what's more...it was NATURAL...not the fake act that western women use to ensnare a man and then drop once they have him. She was sweet, elegant, cultured, refined. She was also very attentive. Constantly making sure I was happy, having a good time....in short, I have never, never in my life, Winston, seen a woman act the way she did. It was like she was from another planet!!!

The cultural difference was night and day in Indonesia too. People were friendly everywhere I went, none of that bubble shit there. Everyone was saying hello to me. Strangers would strike up conversations with me. Women would check me out, and they always made eye contact. The night clubs were different too. The men were dancing with women there, in fact, they were even interactive. They had everyone doing line dances and things like that. I'd never seen things like that at a club before.

It's just unbelievable. I've told people I know she is my UPGRADE. Finally the Samsara is broken. I finally got my beautiful asian girl, and more importantly than that, is I got a woman of out of this world quality. She is everything I could have ever wanted in a girl, that would have been absolutely IMPOSSIBLE here. I feel like the luckiest man alive as I write this. She is coming here to live with me, with her family's blessing, to go to school and get a nursing degree while I am in Seminary. Some people have cautioned me about bringing her here; but that is for the time being while we are in school. She likes the idea of ultimately moving back to the Phillipines to be near her family: and so do I. But as far as her being here, like my best friend, we don't fear the cultural bullshit of this toilet poisoning our women: because THEIR culture is so different. Both my fillipina and his Brazillian place the family unit above individual gain and satisfaction: which is why the marriages of all their families have LASTED. They don't subscribe to the TOXIC Me first ideal of this country. My girl's family would literally disown her if she got married and then turned around and divorced, she says, and I believe it. The divorce rate in her country is about nil. Happier abroad, indeed.

Thank you so much for all your work effort. You are an inspiration, Winston. I only wish more men would wake up and see the light like we have."

<http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=8262>

"Hey, I just joined up here & have a bit of experience traveling abroad. Most everything I read here seems dead-on. Women abroad are definitely nicer and were even coming up to hit on me a lot. I love how foreign women really take care of themselves, ie. very few obese. I've read somewhere the average American woman is about 5'4" and weighs 157. That's more than me! I'm 5'8" & 150 and none of the women abroad have ever mentioned my physical size as being an issue. Here, I had a girl once tell me that I reminded her a lot of her 11-year old nephew...nice lol.

I'd like to live somewhere else someday, I hate cold weather, so therefore I think Brazil or the Southern Coast of Spain would be nice.

Winston, this is a great site!"

<http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=8066>

"Yeaaaa... Russian or Ukrainian girls... I know, I grew up there and moved to America only to understand the same stuff people have been writing up here - life of white male is next to zero in the USA unless you are some wigger, white trash or football player. Somehow girls go for "true" losers and call normal educated smart people "losers" 😊 I just don't freaking get that! Thank God, I just moved to Europe and even here in France girls are much more skinny, tender, romantic, dressed much better and actually dance in the clubs. No fake smiles, no "game playing"... WTF is going on with USA? Where did all these games, "you're creep" behavior come from? Why are you "creepy" if you act natural and spontaneous in the USA? Why do you have to hide your intentions when you meet a girl? Why compliments are viewed as "creepy"? I freaking hate that word cuz it applies to most normal guys just being guys who get low self-esteem not even understanding that they are not the problem - the problem is with f*cked up society in the States.

Go Europe! Go Asia! I am proud of being Ukrainian! Our girls are some of the most beautiful in the world and with proper care they will stay looking gorgeous until very old."

Now how much more proof do you need besides the above Testimonials, my [Photo Collage](#) and [Videos](#)? Oh yes, how about voices testifying to the differences as above? We have great audio interviews with genuine real people just like yourself, who testify that dating is all about location! They are guaranteed to impress you. See our Interviews page here: <http://www.happierabroad.com/interviews.php>

See Also:

[Letters from Expats who are Happier Abroad](#)

[Quotes about Winston Wu](#)

[Fan Mail Archive](#)

For more inspiration, see this [incredible transformative story in the Philippines](#), written by my Expat Advisor, which inspired me to go there. http://www.happierabroad.com/Love_Adventure_Philippines.htm

Why many American men now prefer foreign women (other perspectives)

Here are some similar arguments posted on my Forum:

<http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=4235>

I've said a million times, all opinions about foreign women should be based on several months of **first hand experience** with foreign women in their country. If a man has several months of first hand negative experiences with foreign women in their country or simply doesn't want anything to do with any woman, I can respect his decision. However, it should be based on his own experiences, not on somebody else's opinion.

This is a follow-up to my post "Are Foreign Women Really Better".

<http://foreignwomenonly.blogspot.com/2008/07/are-foreign-women-really-better-than.html>

In my original post above, I talked about some of the myths that American/Western women are spreading about American men (who date foreign women) and the foreign women that we date.

I also see a lot of **mis-information** from American **men**, including some MRA/MGTOW men regarding foreign women. Here are my personal observations about **why** foreign women are better based on spending a substantial amount of time in foreign countries:

* **Importance of the family** – In countries such as Mexico, countries of South America, the Philippines, and others, **family is the most important thing in life**. In countries where family is the most important thing in life, women are much more community minded and much less self centered than in America. In countries where family is the most important thing in life, fathers are still respected, and men are not hated or marginalized. Therefore, girls are taught from a young age how to have a **functional** relationship with men. In America, the Misandrists/Feminists destroyed the family nearly fifty years ago and replaced the importance of the family with self centered-ness, shallow-ness, and narcissism. The destruction of tens of millions of American families has created tens on millions of **dysfunctional** American girls who have grown up without knowing their father or having any positive male role model. Girls are taught from a young age how to manipulate men, that all men are idiots, and men are to be disrespected.

* **Respect for men** – In the non-man hating countries mentioned, men are still respected, and there is **no hostility** between men and women. Wife's show respect for their husbands, and girls learn to respect men from a young age. Men are not disrespected or marginalized in the media. There is **no misandric hate speech** spreading lies such as: "all men are pigs", "all men are rapists", "all boys are future rapists", "a woman needs a man like a fish needs a bicycle", "anything a man can do a woman can do better" (truly **female supremacist rhetoric**). In America, we are living in the "**Axis of Misandry**" where men are vehemently, and venomously disrespected, marginalized and portrayed as idiots in the media. In America little girls are taught that men are morons, only to be used as walking wallets.

* **Work ethic** – In foreign countries girls and boys are expected to do work, including cooking, cleaning, caring for siblings and earning their own spending money. In many countries, it's not uncommon for girls to prepare dinner for the entire family every day, and do laundry by hand. Hard work builds character. Unfortunately, most American girls do little or no work while being handed massive entitlements from birth. This leads to unrealistic expectations, an unrealistic sense of entitlement, and narcissism in American/Western women.

* **Spirituality** – In foreign countries religion is often an important part of life. Hence, relationships and marriage are considered to be not only a **commitment** between a man and a woman, but also a **commitment to a higher power**. In America women consider themselves as the highest power in the universe.

* **Economics** – Many men, even MRA/MGTOW men have the **misconception** that foreign women are better only because of economic conditions, and the chance to improve their economic condition by

marrying an American man. While it's true that scammers and "gold robbers" exist everywhere, foreign women are generally much more willing to **reciprocate** than American women. Reciprocating is **not** consistent with being a "gold robber". Most foreigners, while seemingly poor to Americans, are actually **happier** with their lives than most Americans. This is true due to the above facets of foreign culture. Contrary to popular belief, most foreign women do **not** want to come to America... also true due to the above facets of foreign culture. The only main factor of the economies of foreign countries is that while the cancer of Misandry/Feminism has infected every country in the world, the cancer can only **spread** in the countries that are rich enough to essentially pay half of the country (women) to do nothing.

Many men have the misconception that the economy and the other above factors in foreign countries are used "to keep women under control". Fact is that with the above factors men do not need to "keep women under control" because women control themselves... a concept that is unimaginable in America.

ForeignWomenOnly

<http://foreignwomenonly.blogspot.com/>

Here are more perspectives I found on why many American men prefer foreign women:

<http://answers.yahoo.com/question/index?qid=20080808000536AA7dHEf>

"Best Answer - Chosen by Asker

This question comes up a lot now and part of it has to do with the plummeting marriage rate in the US. I have spent time in both America and Asia and there are huge differences in women. I mean huge. American women are still female but have taken over the role of "man" in most relationships. They have made it crystal clear they do not need men for much of anything, and they pretty much run the show.

Many single guys see their friends marriages, and the interactions that take place with the couple, and say I want no part of that mess. So many guys choose to remain single. Of course many ladies choose to be single too, because men can no longer live up to their expectations. So there is no wonder why marriage is on the decline. American men and women are growing apart.

I honestly believe in the current day and age men in the US are more suited to be with international women. In many Asian countries there is still some clear distinction between the roles of men and women which results in a lot less conflict. Don't get me wrong, Asian women are very strong and determined. They are just less in your face and have no problem admitting that they still need a man. "

http://answers.yahoo.com/question/index;_ylt=AncK3L2tF7cVsE0HHOwZBETsy6IX;_ylv=3?qid=20080808072518AAXVfNK&show=7#profile-info-4IVPagQbaa

"Best Answer - Chosen by Voters

If I put the entire list, I'd probably have my account suspended for "hate rant."

Independence and strong will ("outspokenness") are one possible factor. COMMITMENT is a major issue. American women complain about men not wanting to commit, but many of them don't commit and stay committed themselves; just look at the skyrocketing divorce rate. The divorce rates for men who marry foreigners is much lower. Many American women cheat on their partners (yes, American men do too, but I know the real statistics and women are almost just as bad).

Many say that white American women's physical attractiveness declines much sooner and quicker than certain other races. Most won't leave the house until they gob on a ton of much-needed cosmetics just to look "presentable." Many foreign women have much nicer body shapes, more feminine traits and a lot still have nice long hair, opposed to the boyish low-maintenance short cuts that most American women get by their mid to late teens and never grow back.

Submissiveness is also correct in some cases; many foreign women PREFER the traditional gender roles, and don't WANT an "equal" partnership. They are much more appreciative and respect a man for what he is and who he is.

Greed. Sheer unmitigated greed. American women claim that foreigners just want to "break out of their

third-world countries," but how many American women choose men solely as a way to increase their standard of living too? 99% of the time, one of the FIRST questions an American woman asks me is "What do you do for a living?" If I said I were a doctor, she'd talk to me more. If I said I were a data entry clerk, she'd disappear faster than a cockroach in daylight. If I don't have a nice house, a nice car and a nice wardrobe, I'm not going to get her phone number. Meanwhile, most foreign women ask me about WHO I AM, rather than WHAT I HAVE. When one does appear to be looking for someone "financially secure" (i.e. RICH), I can quickly exclude her and go to the next one.

Different background: Foreigners are INTERESTING and exotic. There are long, humorous, exciting conversations that are exchanged between the two parties, just about their day-to-day lives. We already know how most American women grew up, same as we did and that's boring. We've heard all the stories already, and probably lived them ourselves.

It's not just American men who dislike American women either. You don't see Web sites catering to foreign men who want to marry American women. That's because the market doesn't EXIST. American men and women have almost identical laws pertaining to naturalizing foreign spouses, but extremely few foreign men would want to marry an American woman, even if it meant a free ticket to the USA. Many of them like how American women look, but they dislike their attitudes for the same reasons American men do. Meanwhile, I can pick and choose from THOUSANDS of beautiful and intelligent women who are truly interested in me, rather than chasing after one stuck-up, game-playing American woman who thinks she's too good for me.

Yes, I'm one of "those" guys, so hate me all you want. I'm looking for a foreign spouse too, and would NEVER accept an American woman. I don't even care what country she's from or if we speak a mutual language. In fact, I'd probably be happier with her if we couldn't even understand each other, than some American constantly nagging and ragging at me in English.

No, this isn't a NOVEL. As I said at the beginning, it's just the tip of the iceberg.

Edit: lol, sure I have "issues," and not everything I wrote will apply to ALL men or ALL women, but you asked for a stereotype and you got it! I don't expect everyone to agree with everything I wrote, but I assure you that the majority of men (and even women, if they allow themselves to be honest) will agree with at least PART of what I wrote. As another user responded, if we could marry foreigners as easily as we can marry domestic partners, American women would really be out of luck. Guys are naturally a bit lazy too, and they'll choose a convenient American woman rather than dealing with the stacks of immigration paperwork. Many guys also never even leave the USA, so they don't actually meet foreign women and they have no basis of comparison."

"I cannot say about american guys but yes, we in India would never dream of having an american women. The reason is not far to find. What does a male look for in a female? Yeah, femininity is the answer. And look at an American women. Except for physical characteristics, she does not appear to have any feminine characters left in her. And this should be the sole reason that guys in america do not find anything appealing in their women. Of-course there are exceptions to this. But this is true in general."

"American men are tired of feminism, plain and simple. What started off as a positive movement has turned into and ugly beast. Men are tired of all the complaining, anti depressants, self pity, and double standards.

Men now have so many choices when searching for a partner in life. Guys, spend some time in any Asian country and you will realize what you have been missing. It has nothing to do with being submissive. This is just an easy way for American women to rationalize why many men now reject them. If it was not for the high cost of travel, and the immigration nightmare, more men would be marrying abroad. I did it 10 years ago and I am so thankful everyday!

What makes it a harder pill to swallow is that American women do not have the same option. Where else in the world are American women going to find men that are so wimpy and kiss so much buttocks..lol"

"I have read what the men have said and I must agree with most of them. As an American woman myself who lives overseas, I see we have let down the standard for being feminine in the USA. I am blown away at the hard working independent women I see everyday here in Hungary who still come straight home after work and take care of their families. They are able to handle it all it seems. Of course they have someone helping out at times like a mother-in-law or grandmother that many of us don't have in the states. I have never been attracted to American men, just the opposite problem. I like a strong man that doesn't whine about every little thing, one that can take care of things without having to get approval first. I don't know where we went wrong in the states but everyone is just too self centered and egoist to just be themselves. Seems everyone is looking out only for themselves and not really loving anyone but themselves. The me first attitude is going to be the ruin of our country."

"American women in general do not respect men. A lot of American women have become selfish, self centered brats. And no matter what you do for them they are never happy. They expect equal rights and yet expect to be treated as dainty princess. Women in other cultures still respect men. Women are not held accountable for anything by the court systems, are given the benefit of the doubt, and have been given more rights than a man. This has created a spoiled, non compassionate sex that I have seen demasculate their spouses, take advantage of their "meek" gender by threats, abuse verbally and physically, because they know they can get away with it. Not all women are this sadistic, but I know if I were given every thing and never held responsible I would be the same way."

Personal psychological issues

"If anyone feels they "come out of their shell" when overseas, try to keep something in mind. That person you are overseas is the real you. The person you are in America is a prisoner, nothing more."

- [Grunt, forum post](#)

Feeling good about yourself and being wanted

Now, on a personal psychological level, here's what at stake for me. In Europe/Russia, I have the freedom to be what I want to be, in a land where my dreams come true. I have the popularity I never had in high school (where I was constantly persecuted and alienated at my school in suburban California) and college. And I get acquainted with people easily. There, I walk around with confidence, knowing that I'm attractive and interesting to people around me rather than alienated without an identity or existence like I do back home in the states. I can feel natural and normal, rather than vulnerable and awkward like in the US world. And best of all, I can date girls out of my US league, since I have higher social status there. Therefore, I don't get lonely or bored like in the states. And I am able to prove that I am not the loser that America claimed I was.

It's a special place that I have discovered myself in, as if I finally discovered who I really am. You see, the reason I'm so passionate about all this is because Europe/Russia isn't just a geographic region to me, but almost like a religion, because I was sort of reborn there. I got the love and acceptance from people that I never had in America, especially in high school. It changed my life, self-esteem, and view of the world. If there is such a thing as reincarnation, then I probably I had many past lives in Europe, for I feel a natural bond and affinity to it, as if my soul knows its home there.

In a way, Europe/Russia is like a big playground to me, in the sense that I can "hit on" and pursue girls all I want without feeling like a creep or scum. It's more fun, lively, natural, people are way more cool, and I can do what I want without feeling unnatural or inappropriate. Growing up, it was a constant uphill struggle for me to try to be accepted and on equal terms with white people in America. Then in Europe/Russia suddenly whoala! I get poetic justice, and automatically given higher social status by the white people there. (Similar to the status whites are given in Asian countries) That's so neat in a way that only others in my situation could understand. And that's what I love about it. I felt alive for the first time in my life.

In addition, I felt that my soul vibrated at the same frequency as the environment around me, which it never did in America. That's why it brought out the best in me. Perhaps it has to do with genetics; since my Asiatic genes are closer to Slavic genes as opposed to Anglo Saxon/Nordic genes, my "vibe" subconsciously resonates at a more similar frequency in tune with them.

But in America the "frequency" of the environment around me feels like a constant struggle to maintain sanity. For me, I constantly struggle to keep from being depressed about the social oppression and rejection that I face for being seen as undesirable and a .

You know, for most of my life, I've felt like an outcast in American society. It wasn't because I was a hard person to get along with though. On the contrary, most people who have met me will tell you that I'm an easy-going pleasant guy. The reason, in large part I think, is because my image of myself has always been very different from other people's image of me. For example, in public high school, I was seen as a nerd and placed in that category in people's minds. However, I had nothing in common with people in that group. I wasn't into math, science, or computers, and I didn't really care about my grades or appreciate the nerds' geeky style of humor. Therefore, I just didn't connect with them. I think that I was an intellectual type, but in American public high school, there wasn't really a group for that. Back then, people couldn't tell the difference between a nerd and an intellectual. In actuality, a nerd is into math, science, and computers, while an intellectual is into art, philosophy, history, politics, spirituality, religion, sociology, etc. and constantly asking questions and searching for meaning and information. Therefore, they are very different indeed. But unfortunately, none of the other groups and cliques in high school would accept me or see me as one of them. So I didn't belong anywhere.

Hence, I had an identity crisis which resulted in emotional baggage being carried over to my adult life. There was a large discrepancy at work. I saw myself as cool, attractive, and intelligent. However, I am not considered

attractive or date-able by most American females because I don't fit the cultural media image of the "alpha male", a problem many Asian men have (which the media has largely ignored, partly because Asian men tend not to be vocal about it or draw attention to it).

Since America has made me a misfit all my life, I have dealt poetic justice here in this treatise by making America out to be the misfit by the rest of the world's standards, pointing out its many odd quirks that "alienate" it from the rest of the world.

Bottom line is that I **FEEL GOOD** about myself overseas, and that's the most important thing. I feel accepted and whole. America couldn't give me that. Men also like to feel wanted, needed and desired. So it's understandable and not a big mystery when you think about it. Nothing else works wonders for your self esteem than that. When you have that, you wake up feeling good everyday. Plus you feel free at last, free to be yourself. Nothing beats that.

The social status factor for me

Let me put the social status factor in perspective. You see, in the US, my social status is almost nothing. I've always had an extremely hard time making good friends, getting invited to parties, and getting dates with women. Instead, I'm mostly alienated, ignored and excluded from cliques. This was true no matter how outgoing I was or how good my "attitude" was (that's for those in America with a victim-blaming mentality). Life in America becomes like a mental prison. All I can do is stay home and be lonely most of the time. No one wants to meet you, and you can't do anything about it because people just want to mind their own business and they want you to mind yours as well. It's awfully sad and pathetic, but such is the fate of those in America who aren't popular.

On the other hand, in Europe/Russia I am given high status socially, so those things come easily to me. When I'm back in the states and reduced to nothing again, I feel depressed and experience withdrawal symptoms, since I've already become accustomed to having a high social status, making me long to get my high status back again. It's like the "stud aura" I come back with starts to slowly dissipate. And it's as if the mental health and sanity I gain abroad starts to slowly erode when I return to the states, a scary thought.

I would hope that such is understandable to the reader. After all, would you rather have a life filled with boredom, loneliness, and isolation, or a life filled with excitement, drama, and beautiful women? There, my life is like James Bond, but here, my life is dateless and sexless, the women are cliquish and anti-social, and I'm surrounded by people who are hickish and backward. It's very easy go to from bottom to top, but not the other way around. Once you are accustomed to a Tom Cruise-like status, you never get used to having a loser status again back in America.

Since American culture has given me zero social status, making friends and getting dates is way too hard and unnatural. And everything I try to do to change this seems futile. When you have zero social status, cool fun people just don't invite you out to places and parties. On the other hand, those things come easy to me in Europe/Russia because of my high social status there. I am seen as attractive and exotic there. And I am also a symbol of wealth and power, much like tall white men are in Asia. Even though I'm not rich at all, people there "think" I am, and so they treat me like it. Eventually, I start to believe it myself as well. (Needless to say, it's no willful deception on my part either, because no matter how many times I tell people there that I'm not rich, they still won't believe me for some reason!) There, I feel I am finally able to prove that I'm not the loser that America claimed I was after all.

Furthermore, as a short Asian American man, my dating situation puts me in the worst possible place. Here, Asians do not at all fit the cultural media stereotype of an attractive or interesting male. They are portrayed as either geeky or super-nice, and not masculine or desirable at all. Therefore, to most white women in America, Asian males are considered zero interest and value. Usually they prefer to not even acknowledge their existence (unless they are paid to). It's a horrible situation and therefore I conclude that for an Asian male interested in white women, America is the WORST place for him. The odds are all stacked against him. After all, who ought to stay in a place that considers him completely undesirable? That would be inhuman torture. **Being seen as undesirable and a is a form of social oppression.** (That's why I like to call Europe/Russia "freedom from social oppression.")

Fortunately, there is a better solution for the Asian males in America, but our media just WILL NOT inform them about it of course, but instead wastes time on silly redundant news. Although I don't consider racial issues in my mind and see myself as a person rather than a race, I gotta admit that it's a factor, whether I believe it or not.

The bottom line is that I require a high social rank or status to be happy. And I just don't get that in America, no matter what I do. As a result, my needs are almost never fulfilled and the odds are always heavily stacked against me. That's just not acceptable to me. Europe/Russia gives me the high social rank that I need. Therefore, in Europe/Russia I get what I want that I couldn't get in America. It's as simple as that.

As one reader of mine who felt the same way after returning from Russia vociferated:

"Having been able to experience the kind of life I had in Russia as an ordinary gentleman, I have been truly uplifted from my misery and blessed to know that women even more beautiful than in USA exist

and are willing to spend time with me or marry me. And even if I am a tan-skinned person in a sea of white people, I will still be happy internally and externally in Russia(mind, body and soul in harmony at last!!) Especially after realizing that I don't have to be enclosed in a "bubble/force field" all my life, condemn myself to celibacy 24/7, and refrain from acting on my own male desires, while I bitterly notice some other "desirable" men get women on a periodic basis. This is a form of harsh punishment if you think about it, like being Pavlov's dog and forced to remain hungry and strapped up in the presence of food, something that no descent human should ever have to experience. Thanks for your help."

Regardless of any condemnation or ridicule I may receive, the simple truth is that I was GIVEN a loser status in my society, and thus treated as such. I NEVER EVER asked for it or earned it! And that is the honest truth, so help me God.

In America, my race, appearance, and height place me at a very low social status and image, making it very difficult to get a good social or dating life. And when I try, it always feels like I'm going against "Mother Nature" so to speak. On the other hand, in Russia my higher status allowed me to have a good social/dating life with ease, without going against "Mother Nature".

And of course, in the states if I complain about this, I will be accused as having an "attitude problem" or "victim-mentality", which are typical lazy copouts from those who can't relate or accept such injustices.

America is the kind of place where if you are considered unattractive, undesirable, or given low status for whatever reason, then your life is going to be BORING as hell, as well as alienating, to the point where you are better off not having desires of the flesh. Instead, you're better off in spiritual or religious pursuits, which pose a different kind of challenge altogether against the mind and ego. It's one thing to have desires and have the ability to fulfill them on demand, as attractive people and movie stars are able to, but it's another to have them and be unable to fulfill them, which can only lead to pain and suffering. That's what sucks about America, besides it being the hardest country in the world to get a girlfriend in.

Simply put, I have needs. But my position and status in the dating/mating here does not allow me any way to fulfill those needs. Girls do not want a relationship with me, nor do they want casual sex with me. They either only want friendship, to be an acquaintance, to use me, or nothing at all to do with me. That puts me in a position where I am forced to resort to extreme methods and tactics (since "extreme situations require extreme measures, but I won't even go into what extreme things I've done), one of which is going abroad and doing the bride-seeking route.

Nevertheless, social status seems to be an integral problem for immigrant minorities in America, despite our all inclusive, multi-cultural, non-racism propaganda. As well-traveled expat explains:

"Most immigrants come to America filled with great hope and looking forward to a higher status not lower status.

After they come, they start seeing that the locals treat them as low status people unless they are from an Anglo-Saxon country and speak with a "sophisticated" accent. Or they are good looking Asian or European girls.

Everybody else will be treated with a certain degree of contempt. It is seen in the way people talk down to you, their body language and their refusal to associate with you socially, invite you to parties, etc.

So, after that many immigrants form their own cliques. The ones who are white have a long road to assimilation-spanning maybe 2-3 generations- they need to start speaking "American" and behave as Americans. Then they will be treated more or less as equals.

The ones who are not white can never really assimilate into the mainstream and will always be treated differently (unless, of course, these are pretty young girls)."

The metaphysical influence of the collective will on social status

With regard to status, I've noticed there is a metaphysical element as well. Regardless of my own self-esteem, self-image, or self-confidence, there is a huge influence on my social status from the collective will of those around me. I can definitely feel it, and it is not my imagination or my attitude. Thoughts are energy. It's been demonstrated in scientific experiments and quantum physics. (examples here: <http://www.debunkingskeptics.com/evidence.php>) And the more thoughts from the collective, the greater the energy that manifests the thoughts, beliefs, or attitudes into reality.

What this means is that when I'm in the USA, regardless of my confidence or self-image, even if I knew with an inner knowing 100 percent that I was high status and attractive, the collective perception of me being undesirable and low status due to my race and appearance, would still place me as low status within the hierarchical pecking order. This is not my imagination or perception, as I have felt the collective will of US society literally force me into a low status position, even with me fighting hard against it to keep my high status image that I attained overseas. This is very real, even if you don't believe in psychic energy. And it means that when I continue acting like a high status person here that I'm used to being in Russia, it feels totally out of place like trying to run upstream, for the collective consciousness and perceptions of the society around me, which set the standards, will override my will. No joke.

On the other hand, when I enter Russia, regardless of my confidence, mood or self-image, I immediately feel my high status place in their society (due to me being a foreigner). Thus acting and walking like a high status person there, for me feels like "riding along with the waves", so to speak. So in that sense, I'm much more free to be myself than in America.

I have been back and forth from America and Russia a number of times to know that this is due to the collective will, perception, and beliefs that define the standards for my status, and not to my own attitude, confidence or self-image like naive gestalt psychology folks think.

Nevertheless, it seems that social status is very relative among different nations and ethnicities, as one man who has lived long term on several continents explained to me by the following examples:

"A lot of it is not metaphysical but simply your place in the "US market of people" and your cast position in the US culture. Every person has a certain worth. Yours may be quite low in the US, not the lowest but somewhere around number 4 on a scale from 1 to 10.

In Russia you are number 7 or 8.

Let me give you an example. I knew of Singaporeans and HongKongers who went to Thailand to live. Their status immediately jumped up and they got respect, friends and girls. On the other hand white people who went to Thailand did not get such an honor and were not very welcome by quite a few people. To good Thai girls being seen with a Whitey is not honorable but being seen with a brother Asian is a good thing.

Then I saw Singaporeans and HongKongers who went to Japan. Within the context of the Japanese society these were just former colonial slaves. Their status plummeted. They got almost no Japanese friends and no girls. Anglo Saxon people such as Brits, Americans, Ozzies were much better accepted, got jobs, girls, etc. Opposite of Thailand."

Having the life of a popular person

One of my main desires is to have the life of someone popular, something I could never get in the US. It's important to me because I thrive on friends, meeting people, fun, get togethers and parties, beautiful women to charm, dates, and the ability to get a date anytime I want. Those things are important to me. But in the US, I could never achieve anything near that, due to both my looks and inability to connect with mainstream Americans. However, in the other countries I went to, I have all that in abundance, easily and naturally. People there are generally curious, open, non-cliquish, and easy to meet.

In fact, from being in a dozen countries and meeting thousands of people, I've learned that most of the world is non-cliquish, with the US and a few others being the exception. All my life I struggled to fit into America and its cliques with no success. No one I consulted ever told me that if I went abroad that my problems would be alleviated and I'd get the popular stimulating life I want. Instead, they tried to fix me and pep up a pseudo-confidence in me. If only someone had told me the truth about outside "the matrix".

The movie star Gwyneth Paltrow once said in a TV interview that the best thing about being a star is that for the first time in your life, other people see you the way you see yourself. Well that's kind of how it is for me too when I'm abroad. For the first time in my life, others see my social status the way I see it. No longer is there the huge discrepancy between my self-image and others, causing the huge psychological rift that has plagued me all my life.

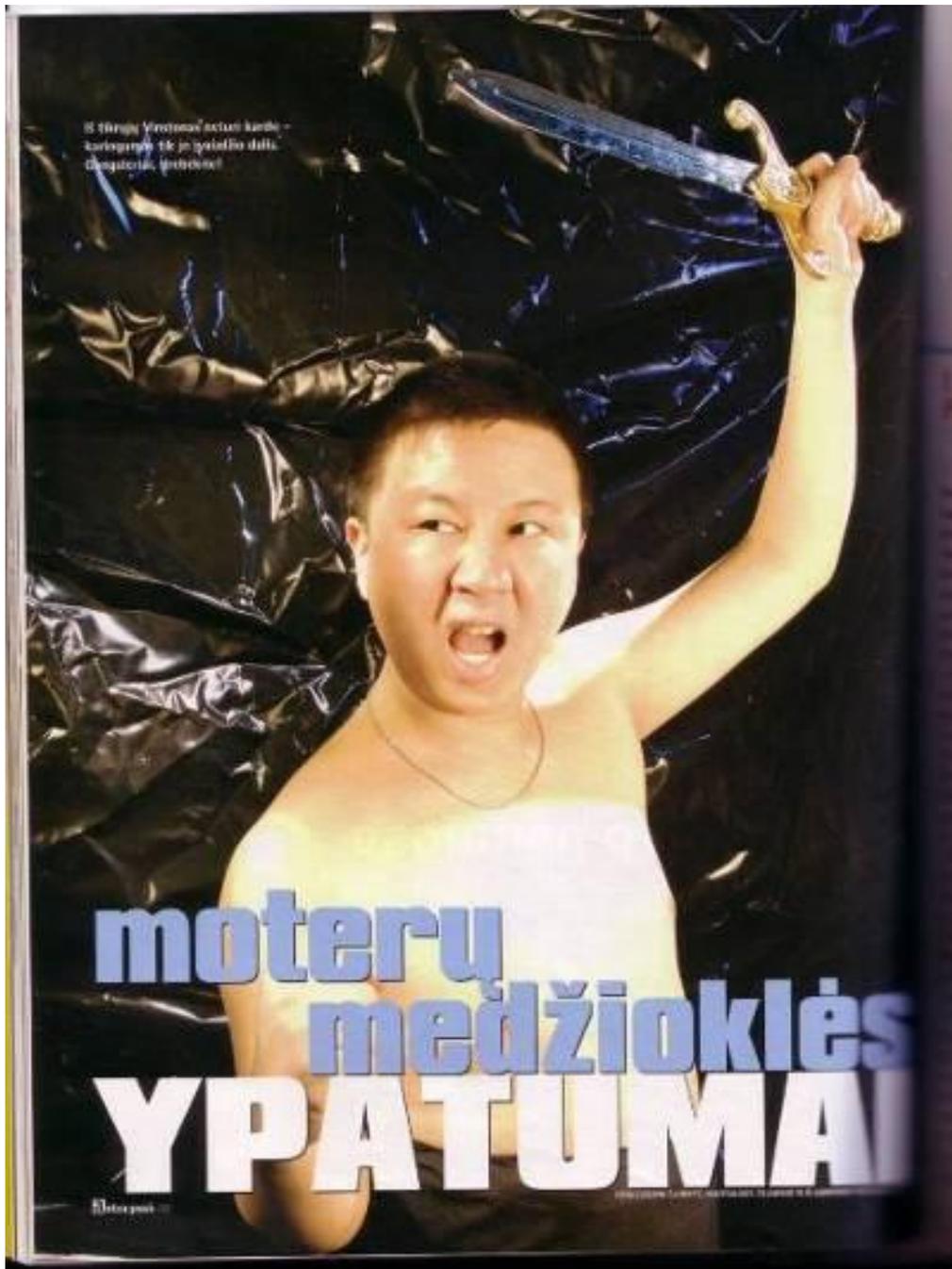
To put it into simple terms, abroad I have the lifestyle that an attractive person has (which is what I've always wanted and strived for) whereas in the states, I have the lifestyle that an ugly person has (even though I don't consider myself ugly). It's very very hard to go from being accustomed to an attractive person's lifestyle to an unattractive person's lifestyle. Seriously. Overseas, I have the life of a celebrity or movie star, but back in the states, I have the life of a ghost who just doesn't exist to people, and that's just not the kind of life I thrive on.

The foreign experiences I had, both good and bad, made me feel ALIVE. And the attention I got, both good and bad, made me feel alive too. Drama happens to me over there, rather than nothing. You feel involved in interesting things all the time. And that's what counts for me. Nothing is worse than feeling like you don't exist for a prolonged period of time.

From little fish in big pond to big fish in small pond

When I'm in America, I am a "little fish in a big pond", a nobody so to speak. But when I go to a small tiny foreign country like Lithuania for example, then I can be a "big fish in a small pond" so to speak, especially with my outgoing and charismatic nature. As an example, in Lithuania I stood out and was seen as interesting and unusual. Not only was I an American, but an Asian American as well, which is a rare combination there. Plus, I walked around speaking Russian (which most of them understood) so that really made me an enigma. And since I was meeting and flirting with many girls, one of them hooked me up with a reporter to do a story on me and my adventures in Russia.

My story went into a national magazine (Antra Puse) and you can see some scanned pages of it below:



A friend of mine, who had always complained that was a “nobody” in the US, went to Lithuania and became a celebrity there. He had actually become so famous that he was featured on the front cover of a local magazine. Just being a US citizen there made him very interesting to the natives since there are very few Americans there. This is an example of how one can become a big fish when one moves from a huge and competitive pond of his own country to a smaller and a more provincial one in another. Some people benefit by moving to the US and some strangely enough, benefit even more, at least socially speaking, by moving to another country. If you feel that you are somewhat unnoticed on your home turf and do not wish to go through the rigors of local competition, maybe you should consider the option of becoming a luminary somewhere on the other side of the globe.”

Confidence and psychological maturity accelerated overseas

Now, get this. Amazingly, during my whole time growing up in California, I was always told that I lacked confidence, had low self-esteem, was too pessimistic and negative, and had a bad attitude about myself. But in Russia, Europe, and the Philippines especially, I've often been told the exact opposite - that I am very confident, outgoing, brave, and optimistic/positive. In fact, many say I have too much confidence and am so very brave. Some have even said that I'm the most confident guy they've ever met. How could that be, you might ask?

Well for one thing, something in the US seems to stunt my mental/emotional growth, and the essence of who I am. I've never flourished in the strange culture in California of ego, image, cliques, coolness, etc. I never fit into it nor did I ever have a place in it. I've always wilted in California, and felt uncomfortable. As a result, it made me shy, introverted, timid, and socially inept. I couldn't even emulate the fake manner in which people spoke to each other, thus giving the false impression that I was shy when nothing could be further from the truth. Since I felt uncool and unwanted, with no reason to go out, there was no reason to even be confident. Simply, I wasn't allowed to be confident. And even if I tried to mimic confidence, it would accomplish nothing, cause I was simply "out of place". Acting confident (or pseudo-confident) didn't bring any results. In short, the California people and environment treated me like sh** which brought out the worst in me.

On the other hand, in the other countries that I've flourished in, I felt cool, attractive, popular, and socially successful, cause that's how I was treated. My confidence and self-esteem naturally went up as a result, based on how I was treated and how easily I could make friends, meet people, and date beautiful women. In short, these environments and cultures brought out the best in me, allowing me to be the "social butterfly" that I am, and accelerated my mental/emotional growth to having a positive/optimistic/confident attitude.

So basically, I gained all my confidence, self-esteem, guts/bravery, optimistic attitude, and all the positive traits of my personality overseas, not in the US. In retrospect, my mental/emotional growth and maturity level in the US was stunted early on, leaving my maturity and EQ (emotional quotient) level far below my chronological age. I simply had no experiences in the US in which to "grow up" or "evolve". It was only through the redemption of my overseas experiences and adventures, that my mental/emotional levels were accelerated forward at such a rate to bring my maturity and EQ into alignment with my chronological linear age. As a result, my mental health, attitude, self-esteem, confidence, wisdom, EQ and optimism all shot up to positive levels toward "self-actualization" (in Maslow's terms). That is how I was "redeemed" from my misfortune and no-win predicament in the US.

The reverse culture shock of knowing that you had it better abroad

"If anyone feels they "come out of their shell" when overseas, try to keep something in mind. That person you are overseas is the real you. The person you are in America is a prisoner, nothing more."

- [Grunt, forum post](#)

Having been abroad and back a few times, I can tell you that the transition from American culture to European/Russian culture is interesting and stimulating, like you've found a lost part of your soul. And the culture shock is exciting as every moment new experiences are expanding you mentally and culturally.

As this person put it after returning from Europe:

<http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=4580&start=10>

"I went abroad for the first time last summer (I don't think I've posted here since then...) and it was quite an experience. I feel like I only got a brief taste of life in Europe, and I really want to go back. Many things were different. Even in a very exclusive country like France (with FAR more antisocial people than in the U.S.) I made truer connections."

However, when you go from such cultures back to American, the opposite happens. The transition is psychologically painful and disruptive to your psyche, since you lose all the advantages and benefits you've gained abroad. People coming back often reporting feeling "flat" as though a high is gone.

Experienced travelers know about the **reverse culture shock** of returning to their home country after they were immersed in a foreign country. The effect has been well documented, and is known to last between a few weeks and a few months before the traveler re-adjusts to life back in his/her home country, and the changes caused by the foreign experience purged or subdued. This is considered normal. However, there are many cases where the traveler suffers from **perpetual reverse culture shock**, never fully re-assimilating back. One old timer in a factory told me that he knew a guy who never recovered from his reverse culture shock after returning to America. The reason, he told me, was that deep down he just didn't want to re-assimilate back, which I could relate to of course.

I know this feeling and experience all too well as I have been through it several times before. When I came back from my 2nd trip in 2003, I was in such reverse culture shock that I couldn't even leave my home for a week. The different vibes, energy, auras, environmental chemistry, social attitudes, etc. around me in America was too different to accept right away. I felt withdrawal symptoms. Whereas women abroad were more accepting and open toward me and found me more interesting, suddenly, back in America they are completely anti-social toward me.

Here are some testimonials of reverse culture shock from my forum:

<http://www.happierabroad.com/phpBB2/viewtopic.php?p=23902#23902>

"And by the way, I am back in the matrix and miserable about it. Can't talk to strangers, can't make eye contact, neighbors don't interact, social groups in public do not interact or over lap, extreme social cliquishness, nothing going on for social life in the community, women unapproachable to the point that it feels taboo to talk to them at all, and lonely, isolated lives are standard, people spend more time with a TV than with people, and the relationships/dating scene here and the disintegration of family, marriage, and community is downright shocking.

Just seeing how my family members live on in this isolated and dysfunctional matrix, oblivious to what a wonderful, open, natural welcoming social life exists outside of the US, depresses me. I can't wait to get out myself. And so I have a lot of work to do on not letting that whole mess consume me now while trying to get enough healthy human contact to stay sane in this incredibly frigid and mistrustful and disconnected social atmosphere."

<http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=6956>

“When I got home after that first trip I noticed a few things. First, how fat everyone was. Seriously, it took me two weeks to cope with that alone. The other thing was how bland and unfulfilling life in America was. And I’m still not over that. I now felt like a foreigner in my own country. I had changed and had experiences that just would not permit me to integrate back into American society to the way I was before. It’s why I no longer live full time in America any more. I have no idea if this is how returning troops feel when they return, but I’m slightly different now and feel slightly foreign and just not being able to connect with friends at home the same as before. This is actually a pretty shitty feeling, but who knew it would happen?”

I’ve had the conversation so many times with my stateside compatriots, even the ones I grew up with who have taken the obligatory packaged vacations abroad. It’s like discussing sex with a eunuch. If you haven’t experienced significant time abroad... enough time to look back at America from very different vantage points, you are just not going to understand what some people in this thread already know.”

It’s as if there is this void in the US that tries to suck out everything you’ve gained in another country, as it tries to re-assimilate you into its prison. This can be very hard and alienating though, as few will be able to understand or relate to you. An expat from of mine in the Philippines related:

“Well yes i noticed that there is a spiritual void in the US that sucks out whatever you have gained in another country. There is an emptiness that can’t be described in words. Everything is based on material possessions, wealth, appearance, etc... Its a very unnatural artificial world.”

This runs deeper than you might think. Immersing yourself and integrating into another country’s “vibe and energy”, so to speak, can change your soul’s frequency and mental wavelength, to the point where when you come back to the USA, the “polarity” of your energy simply runs against the currents of everyone else around you, making you feel awkward and unnatural even in the most casual situations. It’s difficult to put into words. But the bottom line is that you just don’t relate to others around you the same way anymore. You’ve changed and evolved, and they haven’t, for they are still part of “The Matrix” so to speak.

A former critic of mine turned fan shared these enlightening observations he gained by going abroad:

“Once you go abroad it’s difficult to go back. My first extended experience living overseas opened my eyes in a variety of ways. People will always be people but I believe that culture is the single biggest influence on people. There is definitely something wrong with America in this respect. America may be a lot of good things - productive, prosperous, and relatively free but the socialization of its citizens is much less advanced than other (much more economically poorer) countries I’ve been in. The way I look at it quality of life isn’t just all about money. It’s about what you can do with yourself in that society and how comfortable you feel around others. In America I was never truly “comfortable” but always felt tense or slightly agitated at the people around me. There’s definitely a hostility and tenseness to social interaction there that I don’t feel anywhere else. That’s a lot of negativity to deal with daily so it’s not surprising that out of all industrialized first world countries Americans generally have the least healthy lifestyles and shortest overall life spans.”

And of course, experiences with women are also a form of “reverse culture shock”, as men often remark that after they’ve experienced, dated or been involved with foreign women, they never want to go back to American women again. As an example, this Asian in Europe said:

“I was talking to my friend who happens to be white American and now lives in Finland. He’s tall, intelligent (has a PHD), personable, good-looking and dated gorgeous blonde American girls in the U.S.

Even a guy like him says he can never go back to the U.S. nor to American women. He finds it depressing to even visit. He finds Europe a FAR easier place to meet gorgeous, intelligent, quality women everywhere he goes.”

Do I feel withdrawal symptoms because I want too much? Not according to this guy, who described my situation well:

“It isn't so much that you aren't happy with what you've experienced and want 100x more of it. It is like taking a poor girl from the country and bringing her to Paris. You can't then send that girl back to the countryside after she's experienced how good it is to live in Paris. Likewise, since you have felt how warm other women are in other societies, coming back to the feminist states of America is what is depressing. It is withdrawal, pure and simple.

If you went back to Europe, you wouldn't need 100x more of the same experiences. You'd be happy at the same level you experienced before. It's just that in the states, those pleasant experiences with women are RARE. So it is depressing. But just imagine how depressed you'd be if you had never gone to Europe. Likely you'd think the world is a horrible place cause these women are cold here. At least now you know there is some hope.”

Students and Backpackers in Reverse Culture Shock

Here are some revealing quotes from college students returning from their time abroad, who are in a state of reverse culture shock. They are compiled in a handbook to help their parents deal with this situation, which you can view at the link below.

http://www.worldlearning.org/SSA_Other_documents/parent_reentry_handbook.pdf

“The hardest part of re-entry was people seemingly not caring how my life had been transformed.”

“I definitely felt I had become part Ecuadorian, and had no way to express that new part of myself.”

“It's so tough to return to your own 'reality' (or what it was before leaving) and realize that you don't necessarily agree with your life or your culture or the values underlying it”.

“I stayed inside for three days before going out.”

“For three weeks after I got home I ended up just trying to recuperate, rarely going out.”

“I was a good wreck for a couple of months.”

“In total, return culture shock lasted about a year.”

“People in the US are far too tense, selfish and in a hurry.”

“It was difficult to adjust to the pace of life back home -- the dependence upon time and scheduling.”

“Then Christmas hit. The extravagance was overwhelming and depressing to me – the waste, the excess.”

“I found myself many times completely unable to cope with the fact that I live in a society that glorifies material wealth and in a country that dominates the world economy.”

“The hardest part for me was reconciling how much I had experienced and therefore changed with people and things that had remained the same at home.”

“I felt like I was unable to really communicate to people what my semester abroad meant. Few people want to take the time to hear about what really touched your heart and changed your perspective.”

“My biggest desire was just to be around people who understand, who would listen to me, validate my feelings and not expect me to 'get over' my depression or confusion or anger or frustration too quickly.”

“School was really hard to get back into. I just didn’t want to be there... didn’t want to be reading about other people doing things, I wanted to be doing them.”

“When I went back to school I was hit with the reality that the lives of my friends had changed and I was no longer a part of the close knit circle I had had before.”

“It is crazy to think it was two years ago and is still so important and the source of most of my best friendships.”

“My views were so changed, my eyes awakened, and I could not continue as I had before leaving.”

“I was listening to my two closest friends talk during my first week back, and I was shocked and appalled. I assumed that they had grown and matured as much as I had. Boy, was I wrong.”

“One hard thing for me was finding myself among peers who don’t share the same global consciousness that I had acquired while I was away. I wanted to smack a lot of people and tell them to wake up and look around them, even though I could easily have been one of them four months before.”

“The toughest part for me was sinking back into the lifestyle – the bubble – and not feeling that I was abandoning something.”

“I needed to find connections to my former host country in my home community, even just a restaurant. This would have helped me relax, given me a taste of the culture that had become so familiar to me.”

One parent of a student who returned from France related:

http://www.worldlearning.org/SSA_Other_documents/parent_reentry_handbook.pdf

“Driving back home from the airport, I glanced over at my daughter. I was so happy to see her. Somehow she seemed a little disoriented, though I knew she must be excited to be back, after spending four months in France on an SIT program. “Exhaustion and jet lag,” I thought to myself.

After a few days, the situation at home was becoming difficult. She wanted wine with every meal. She requested cloth napkins. She wanted to listen only to French music and look through her photographs. She kept describing the wonderful places she had been and the food they had eaten. She complained about the quality of our cheese. She didn’t want to call her old friends. She didn’t really seem to be happy to be home. Frankly, I was a little concerned and frustrated, as well. How long was it going to take her to readjust to normal life?

Time went by. After three weeks, I was ready to have a fit. She still continually criticized everything. She moped around the house. She didn’t seem to want to get out and find a job for the summer. I could feel myself running out of patience. I was tired of hearing about her life abroad, and I wanted her to be glad to be home! Even though I knew it was normal to have some difficulties adjusting to being back, it seemed to me that this had been going on long enough. It was time for her to get over it. I wanted my sunny, positive, energetic daughter back again.”

And here are some excerpts from the author of the handbook:

http://www.worldlearning.org/SSA_Other_documents/parent_reentry_handbook.pdf

“While students are struggling with this process, it is not uncommon for some of them to try desperately to find a way to go back overseas.

There are students who feel out of place from the moment they walk through the door. For them, the readjustment to home actually feels harder than the original culture shock they felt when they left to go abroad. They may take weeks to integrate the new person they have become into the reality they left behind. Usually, the more successful the student was in integrating into the host culture, the more difficult he or she will find the challenge of slipping back into the American way of life. Conversely,

students who were less affected by the time they spent abroad will typically have an easier time returning home.

Pace of Life

Although many of us know that other cultures have a far more flexible attitude towards time, it comes as a shock when we realize how well our children have adapted to “Jamaican time” or “Spanish time” or “Indian time.” This particular cultural idiosyncrasy is often treated lightly, even jokingly. However, it actually is indicative of a deeper issue. Much of the rest of the world is amazed at how Americans allow their lives to be ruled by the clock, ignoring mitigating factors and circumstances beyond one’s control. Although students can re-learn to check the watch, it might be hard for them to give time the same importance it once had. They often continue to feel that people and situations should take priority over schedules and deadlines.

Consumerism

Most SIT students choose to study in countries that are not as wealthy as the United States. They often are amazed at the quality of life of people abroad who lack what the US culture has taught them to consider as basic possessions. They are taken by surprise at the closeness of the families, the warmth and friendliness, the willingness to share. Coming home, it is not unusual for students to feel vaguely guilty for all they and their real families own.

World View

Many students also feel their world view has expanded immeasurably. They have a deeper awareness of global issues and a broader perspective regarding globalization, IMF policies, ecological challenges, health concerns, international income disparity, and so on. They feel the richness, the weight, and the responsibility of first-hand experience. They are understandably frustrated with the seemingly superficial priorities and the general lack of international awareness in the lives of their friends and family. Some returning students realize that they themselves were as unaware as their friends before they left to study overseas. Most, however, conveniently forget this fact. If they are not careful, their attitude of moral superiority alienates the very individuals they are trying to reach. The challenge here is for them to not forget what they have learned, and at the same time, not allow their indignation and self-righteousness to get in the way of productive dialogue with others.

Self Image

One of the final issues faced by returning students is confronting their self image. Many students go to countries where they look different from most of the local population. Both men and women often find themselves receiving far more attention from the opposite sex than they were accustomed to, simply because of their American appearance. Although this constant fishbowl effect is exhausting, it is also flattering.”

This Backpacker who runs a travel blog wrote this post about his reverse culture shock in coming back home and finding that people there are no longer open and sociable as they were when he was traveling.

<http://www.nomadicmatt.com/travel-blogs/meeting-people-here-and-there/>

“One of my favorite parts of traveling is meeting so many people. Meeting them in hostels, on tours, on buses, sitting at cafes, or at bars. On the road, it’s easy to make new friends. So easy that sometimes you feel like you have friend overload. On the road, you find very little pretense. No one has their guard up. No one questions your motives or wonder what you are after. Saying hello is all you need. In the world of travel, everyone is open to meeting new people. A simple hello and before you know it, you are traveling with people for months.

Yet back home, I’m finding it’s not like that. Out at the bars or on the street, saying hell or engaging strangers in conversation is usually met with a stare. “Why is this person talking to me? What do they want?” People put up barriers. No one is as open as they are on the road and there’s always a supposed motive. Once, I was home in Boston and my friends and I had gone to a bar. While there I spotted a guy wearing the quintessential Vietnam backpacker shirt – a red shirt with a yellow star on the chest. Anyone who has ever been to Vietnam has one and you’ll spy hundreds on any trip around Southeast Asia.

Among travelers, there is a certain comradery. We understand each other. We're used to talking to strangers and think nothing of doing so. So I stopped and struck up a conversation about backpacking Asia. It's not often you meet Americans who have done it. I think I can count on both hands the number of Americans I've met. While we talked, I glanced over at his friends and could see the confusion on their face. Why as I talking to their friend? Did I know him? Was I hitting on him? When our conversation ended and I returned to my friends, they asked the questions out loud. No, I didn't know him. We were simply talking about Vietnam. My friends, perplexed by this, replied with a word: weird. I had broken some social rule simply by doing what travelers around the world do everyday.

Talking to girls is even worse- the first thought is always "what does this guy want? Is he trying to sleep with me?" An innocent conversation at a bar is never innocent even when it is. Yet on the travel trail, I have and see tons of innocent conversations between the sexes that revolve anything and everything. Striking up a conversation with a girl isn't about a hidden agenda, it's simply about making new friends.

Coming back home into this mindset has been difficult. You used to the openness of travelers and the conversations with perfect strangers. It's friendly environment. But back home these situations aren't easily replicated and people always thinks there is a hidden agenda. Every Sunday, I go to a bar in New York City's East Village to watch HBO's True Blood. Once after the show was over, I tried talking to some of the people about it. They seemed in rush to talk. I got the hint.

Then I think maybe it's me. Maybe this is in my head or I'm just really socially awkward. Maybe I smell. But when I ask other travelers who are reintegrating, they speak of the same thing. They speak of the weird looks they also get and the walls people put up. They speak of it with a heavy heart. Readjusting is already difficult. This just makes it harder.

One of the greatest things about traveling the world is that it makes you comfortable speaking with strangers. It makes you more outgoing. It's either talk or be lonely. It's do or die. There's a very jovial spirit about travelers. We leave to meet new friends and put ourselves into new situations. People interest us.

Coming back home to the opposite line of thought has been quite an adjustment. One I don't really like. It's off putting. You have to work to break down barriers. People always think the work. Few people seem interested in just having a conversation for the sake of having a conversation. Being on the road, this is never an issue. And after seven weeks back in America, it's making me long to get back on the road."

Reader comments:

- *"This is just one angle- Americans who went abroad and became bi-cultural vs mono cultural. Similar experiences are given by foreign students who study in America and cannot fit in back home. They are now independent, strong, confident, think for themselves and feel stifled by traditions and lack of opportunities. Women especially cannot fit in. They are now second class citizens and are oppressed. So, one person's meat is another person's poison.*

One thing I will tell you, the Philippines with all its monumental faults is the hardest place to live without. Especially for a guy.

And why leave anywhere. We should run our quilted world in many places and enjoy it to the fullest. We should also associate with other international people and not be lonely."

- *"Winston,*

I have heard of folks who came back from India and had to live in England for 8 months before they could re-integrate into the USA. I also heard of another guy I know who came back from India and had to live in a cabin in the mountains of Colorado for a year or so before re-integrating into the US society again. India is a pretty dramatic cultural change, however even being in Europe has an effect on a person.

I, personally, after spending only 2 weeks in Europe, came back pretty transformed and ended up quitting my job at the time and taking up organic farming for a few years. There were a few more variables to my stay in Europe, in that I attended a conference on world peace, which had a transformational effect on me. I was speaking with people from different cultures all over the globe at this conference for two weeks. However, I agree that once you mix with other cultures for a period of time, even a brief time, it does change how you look at things, particularly in the USA."

- "Oh Yes for sure!!!

I knew a woman who was from England but loves to spend most of her time in India. She goes back and says how miserable she's feeling there. People are cold, climate is cold and wet and everything is so bloody expensive!!

She lived and traveled in India a lot. And the place she lived was a beautiful famous town surrounded by mountains and lake and palaces. People loved her and were always very happy to see her.

She kinda embedded as a foreigner in that environment and people would help her out in anything.

So I guess that's an example that I know. Its not to back to the U.S., but England.

umm back to the U.S. example is surely the cultural shock and the absolute change in time cycle.

The customer service was surprisingly quite pleasant in India even than the U.S.

One may order a list of things from the store and the guy will deliver it free!

Or there are hawkers who would come right in front of your house and sell you fresh fruits and vegetables or do other things. In the U.S., one has to drive upto a big mall and go through the selection of a thousand things before buying something.

just my 2 cents. "

Synergy vs. stagnation with the people and environment

In Europe and Russia, I had much more synergy with the people and environment as opposed to the stagnation I had in the states.

As a rule of thumb, when you come to a new place, within the first month or two, if coincidences and synchronicities start working to your advantage, and you develop contacts and networks easily and naturally, often by accident even, those are signs that you have synergy there and that you are meant to be there. If, on the other hand, after a month or two nothing happens or you run into a dead end, then you are probably not meant to be there. If you stay, stagnation or conflict could result. It's as simple as that.

Popular spiritual books such as "The Celestine Prophecy" by James Redfield echo the importance of synchronicities and coincidences that guide our lives and destiny. The book emphasizes that when there is strong synergy between two entities, they bring out the best in each other and together produce more synchronicities between them that enlighten and inspire each other.

Generally, when two entities come together, the energy and chemistry that results will either be one of synergy, stagnation, or conflict. Or a combination of them. In Europe and Russia, wherever I was, I often had some kind of synergy or energy with my environment and people. I've always had much more of a comfort zone and synergy with foreigners in general than with Americans, who have a weird way of making me feel vulnerable. Abroad, I establish networks and contacts easily, naturally, and often by accident. Perhaps it has to do with genetics; since my Asiatic genes are closer to Slavic genes as opposed to Anglo Saxon/Nordic genes, so my "vibe" resonates at a more similar frequency with theirs.

One of my best friends, a fellow Californian named Robert, whom I hung out with in Europe and lives there now, urges me to return because he knows that when I am there, I am like a magnet that attracts interesting people and experiences, which often benefited him too. Robert wrote me:

"I have my own flat which is brand new and has everything. It is small though and it takes 20-30min. to get to the center. I pay 10,000kc a month about \$420 USD. I could get us a killer one in my favorite location Zizkov! This is where you meet the creative moviemaker, musicians and inventors! My friend has a music studio he built himself! He's such a hippy and I know you would guys would have lots of laughs and intellectual conversation! I really wish we could get a two room flat there. I know some huge ones with 2 rooms for 1300kc etc.

I just got back from village with my friend Peter who is from New York has a Czech wife and daughter and is born on the same day as me! We are very much a like! He and his family have a small flat in the center and they go to the village every weekend and fix up a house they bought. I helped build the second deck of the house a bit over the weekend. In addition the river flooded. I got to meet all the cool country people which are more warm to tourists for many reasons.

Anyway I'm tired! So let me know when you plan to arrive!

Peace,
Rob"

In contrast, during my many years in California and Washington, I never felt any synergy at all, but instead stagnation, blockage and dislocation, like a constant fish out of water. Coincidences and synchronicities rarely went in my favor, but often against me. It felt like the universe was against me. My days, weeks, and months were mostly filled with stagnation or conflict between my energy and that of my environment and people.

Why "fitting in" makes you more attractive to others

What I've also found is that when one is not in an environment and culture that one jives with, one will appear less attractive and likable to others since the best is not brought out and one is not in the flow of things, and vice versa. But when I am in environments and cultures that I jived with, I radiate more energy and confidence, and

along with it, appear more attractive to others as well. In such scenarios, I appear a lot more relaxed too, rather than frustrated and anxious all the time.

Contrary to the belief of fake mono-national Californians that it's all about attitude, in my firsthand experience it's all about chemistry and location. Some people's vibes and personality nuances fit a certain country well and others don't. For example, there are some white guys in America who are good looking and fit the cultural ideal, yet they don't fit in and don't generally connect with other Americans or the US culture in general, nor do they feel at home there. Conversely, there are Asian American males who, though not desirable in US culture, still somehow click better in the US than they do in other countries, which helps their social lives.

My Expat Advisor described a great example from his own life about how individual chemistry mixes differently with different countries in his blog:

<http://expatriateobservations.blogspot.com/2010/03/one-mans-heaven-is-another-mans-hell.html>

"A friend of mine is an old-time resident of Thailand, and, for years he had been convincing me to move there, find work and live a happy life ever after. He sang praises to the country, the friendliness of its people, the beauty of the women and the exquisiteness of the Thai culture in general. So, since he was one of my best friends, one day I decided to take the plunge, and obtained a job in the Kingdom. It proved to be a disaster. I am very good at languages and I became fluent in Thai within a year. I studied the culture thoroughly, but, in spite of all my efforts, I could not help feeling that I made a severe mistake by moving there. Something about Thailand and "me" simply did not click. My personality, my character, my whole set of values were completely different. Thais like quiet and discreet people. I am gregarious and talkative. Thai people like neat and polite people. I am by nature sloppy and straight-to-the-point. Thai people do not like intellectual discussions, but prefer to speak "ngai-ngai" -just chit-chat. Knowledge is a personal thing to them. I am very much into knowledge, expression, conversation, etc. They are not. Thai people like people who dress in nice clothes; I do not dress in nice clothes. I can adjust to the culture but it implies changing myself too much. It goes against everything that I am. Hence, they did not like me so much. And the feeling was mutual.

In other words, it was a complete mismatch. Thailand and I simply did not connect. This was when I realized that the Thai dream was my friend's dream, and what was good for him was simply not good for me. Duh! One man's meat is another man's poison, as they say. No matter how hard I tried to live a normal life in Thailand, the culture was as alien to me as it could ever get. And it was not just the East/West thing. I lived in some very traditional areas of Japan and I seemed to relate to people quite well. With Thailand it was just total incompatibility.

When I arrived in the Philippines some years later, a country that is not on many a travelers' list, I felt like I was a hand, and the Philippines was a glove. I fit right in. The way people behaved, talked, acted with friends, the way they sang songs and carried on discussions was very similar to the way I did the same things. Filipinos dressed modestly, so did I. They were intellectual, so was I. They enjoyed someone who was a joker, a talkative and gregarious person. Unlike in Thailand where they would always tell me to "shut up", the Filipinos wanted me to talk more and would sit there and listen to me for hours. They liked me and I liked them. I was like a star to them. Or so I felt. Whereas in Thailand I always felt that I was somewhat of a nuisance.

When I invited my Thailand-based friend to come over to the Philippines to visit the country, he did just that, but he felt out of place. He and the Filipinos simply did not "chime". Something was missing for him there. He became distressed and ended up going back to Thailand. So, while Thailand was good for him, I wound up living in the Philippines on and off for 15 years after that. We (the Philippines and I) simply 'clicked'. Thailand and I, on the other had, did not click at all.

The moral of the story is this: just because a country is in the news and everybody including your best friend is singing praises to it, it does not mean that it will necessarily be a good country for 'YOU'. Go there and see how you and the people there "jive". It may or may not be a good match. Ask yourself how you feel there after a few weeks or so. There is that certain something that you will feel. It is kind of like 'love'. An affinity. You will feel the same when you meet a person of the opposite sex that you are considering falling in love with. Either there is chemistry or there isn't. If you force it, it will be pure misery, even if your parents think it's a match made in heaven."

I guess the lesson is that different people have different chemistries with different cultures. In other words, everyone has different experiences. Therefore, the assumption of many Americans and the US media propaganda that the US is a culture where everyone fits in and is happier than anywhere else is FALSE. And that's the point I'm trying to make. If only more people had the guts to admit this and allow open public discussion about it, we'd be a lot closer to the truth.

Default loneliness and isolation vs. Perpetual connection and bond

This might surprise you, but when I am in Russia or Europe, even when I'm physically alone, I never actually feel alone, because I always feel a natural perpetual connection and bond with the people, environment and flow around me. There, I am able to meet people anytime I want to with ease. In Russia, I even had a hard time finding time alone, since people were constantly bothering me with attention, so there was less privacy there. And even when bad things happened or I had bad experiences, I was never bored because there was always "energy" between me and the environment/people, never stagnation.

On the other hand, in North American environments, I do not generally feel a connection or bond with the people and environment around me. In fact, I felt weaker and more vulnerable, naked of my confidence, like how Superman feels near Kryptonite. Even when I am with others, most of the time I still feel lonely and estranged for some reason. There was this hollow emptiness there. Thus, the default condition for me there was one of isolation and loneliness. It was a constant uphill struggle to overcome that.

And that's a remarkable difference and contrast that says it all.

In fact, it seems that in America, you are not even supposed to try to connect with others. People don't even seem to even try to connect at all. They just meet for convenience and go their separate ways. They seem to be in their own "island", only humoring others in social situations, and expect you to do the same.

There are others who feel as I do. In response to this section, a reader wrote me:

"There is a very simple explanation for all this: The need for affection and communion with our fellow men/women is a basic human need. In a healthy society, where there are no inhibitions and complexes, this need is expressed and fulfilled very naturally and easily. But when a society in general is not very social and its members live in their own little bubble, then alienation and isolation is what one feels very often, even, as you said, you may be physically interacting with others.

I am sure America is not the only country where such alienation and loneliness of humans occurs, but I would bet, it is right up there on the list.

I agree with your observations.

Just the other day, I walked in a little gym in our apartment complex, and I there were about 7 or 8 people who were working out, and I was just observing how alienated and paranoid they were; never saying Hi to each other or anyone who walked in. Avoiding eye contact and any kind of interaction. Very closed and not even acknowledging their fellow humans around. I even made a sarcastic comment "You guys seem very sociable and friendly"...and they looked at me without saying anything, as if I was a freak. And you know what, its not about looks, cause I am a decent looking person, and most of them in there were, if we go by looks, average and below average looking, which I absolutely don't care about when it comes to socializing, but the whole atmosphere/aura/vibe if you will, was not very comfortable and did not give me a warm and fuzzy feeling that a normal/healthy social circle should give its members...

just my 2 cents!"

Forced loneliness vs. never having to be lonely

In the US, I'm literally forced against my will to be lonely. Cliques don't accept me and are not open. It doesn't flow at all. You feel like you gotta "make" something happen, even if you can't. There's no reason to even go out because no one will talk to you, unless it's business-related of course. It's awful, yet most in the US think that's normal when in fact most of the world is nothing like that. Thus, no matter how hard I try not to be lonely, I'm forced to be. In that sense, I simply have no choice.

But in other countries, I always find a way to meet people, go out and have fun. The social environment flows naturally rather than enclosed in tight boxes like in the US. Thus I'm almost NEVER lonely, especially in Russia or the Philippines which are super inclusive countries where I'm seen as interesting and higher status. Thus, I can always find company or dates, attractive ones too, not just with losers or freaks like I'm usually limited to in the US.

In such open passionate countries there is ALWAYS ACTION to be had, so I am never bored. I can always go out, have fun, get hot girls, and any type of action I want, ANYTIME! Best of all, there are always an everlasting flow of hot/sexy/cute/gorgeous girls whom I can easily meet with the flow, more than I can handle. It's literally a "Dating Disneyland"!

Anyone who sees my life in America and my life overseas would think that I was in two different universes. I'm serious. Those who have witnessed the difference in person have understood. I have literally thousands of photos now, from Russia, Europe, and Asia to prove it all – how different my social/love life really is in America vs. abroad.

The bottom line for me is that outside North America I feel appreciated, accepted, valued, desired, wanted, liked, loved, needed, etc. whereas in North America I constantly felt alienated, alone, ignored, undesired, unwanted, nonexistent, and worst of all powerless to do anything about it. In short, my wants, needs, desires, and fantasies are fulfilled abroad. I FEEL GOOD about myself overseas, and that's the most important thing.

My response to those with a “victim-blaming” mentality

Unfortunately many Americans have a “victim-blaming mentality” that likes to pin the blame on anyone who complains, suffers from loneliness or doesn’t “fit in”. There are several reasons I can think of for this:

- 1) People prefer to believe that life is just and fair. The idea that there are victims suffering unjustly is too disturbing to them. They don’t want to face that it could be them, so they’d rather dismiss it with a convenient excuse such as “the person must have done something wrong to deserve it.” This is why in movies, the bad guys usually get punished at the end and the good characters get rewarded. That’s what people want to see – justice. An unjust state of suffering is too uncomfortable for people to accept, so they rationalize that the victim must have done something wrong to deserve their predicament. They’d rather believe in a universe of order than of chaos.
- 2) People don’t want to carry the guilt of not helping others who are suffering, so they make a quick excuse not to.
- 3) People are also afraid of hanging around someone less fortunate than them, for fear that they may be “brought down” with them. They harbor a subconscious fear that lonely victims carry some kind of “negative energy” that could affect others or bring misfortune upon others.
- 4) People are raised with the assumption that the majority is usually right, and that it is the individual’s duty to conform to the herd. If they can’t, then they must be “defective” in some way. People who wish to become popular or cool do not associate with such misfits for they would hurt their image.

Funnily enough, motivational self-help gurus and pop psychologists constantly use the term “victim-mentality” in their presentations but never acknowledge the existence of this “victim-blaming mentality” so apparent in many, which is just as real if not more so.

Victim-blammers also tend to be [attitude fanatics](http://www.debunkingskeptics.com/Attitude_Fanatics.htm), believing that thoughts/attitudes create reality, therefore anything that happens to anyone must be of their own choosing, and thus they themselves are responsible and to blame. To see my expose on the folly of such beliefs, see: http://www.debunkingskeptics.com/Attitude_Fanatics.htm

If they’re reading this, their instincts are probably leading them to accuse me of being the fault and blame for my problems in America too. Well I’d like to try to enlighten those kinds of people with the following analogies. First, some things don’t mix well. For example, milk and ketchup put in a glass cup is a bad mix. But that doesn’t mean there is something wrong or at fault with the milk or ketchup. For if you put ketchup with french fries and milk with cereal, they mix much better. **The lesson here is that some things just don’t mix well together, but they do when mixed with other things.** That’s life. Therefore, there is nothing wrong with taking two things that don’t mix well and mixing them with other things that complement better. It’s as simple as that. There is no need here to be pointing fingers at victims or whiners.

Some seeds don’t sprout in certain climates. For example, mangos sprout in tropical climates like Mexico and Asia, but not in North America. Does that mean that there’s something wrong with mango seeds if they don’t sprout in the North America? No, of course not. They simply aren’t suited by nature to sprout in that climate. **The lesson here is that not everything and everyone thrives in any particular place.** This applies to people as well as fruit seeds. Therefore, to blame someone for not fitting in or thriving somewhere would be like blaming mango seeds for not sprouting in the Northwest. It would simply be fruitless and pointless. Those who would do so are narrow-minded and one-dimensional. Some things, people and places simply bring out the best in you while others bring out the worst. That’s just the way it is. There’s no need to scapegoat misfits to bring yourselves up, which itself is unconstructive.

And as mentioned before, when you put two entities together, sometimes there is SYNERGY and chemistry between them, and sometimes there isn’t. If their wavelengths and energy go in congruent directions, then they will benefit and bring out the best in each other. If there is friction or conflict, then each side will aggravate and emotionally drain each other. And if there is stagnation, then both sides will simply be in a deadlock inertia. That’s simply life. Wise and broad-minded people understand this, but victim-blaming people don’t.

Also, as already mentioned, my predicament stems from me being placed into a low social status and undesirable image by the standards of my culture and society. In other words, it was GIVEN and ASSIGNED to

me, not earned or asked for. Therefore, trying to blame, punish, or condemn me for that would be like blaming someone who was born crippled for their predicament. People who do that might as well throw rocks at handicapped people as well.

The bottom line is that I had NO CHOICE. In order to fulfill my wants and needs, and feel good about myself, I had to go overseas. See these [ten reasons why I had no choice](#), and you'll understand.

Any realist who isn't hung up on being politically correct knows and understands that people do treat you VERY differently depending on your looks, image and appearance, hence your looks do create your lifestyle, whether you want to deny it or not. This is true regardless of your attitude, which brings up my next point. To all you attitude fanatics, idealists, and even New Agers out there who think that people are treated based on their attitude, let me tell you this. You are dead WRONG, whether you want to believe it or not. I have meticulously counted a vast array of my life experiences, and found no real empirical correlation between how someone has treated or viewed me, and my attitude about myself. In fact, many times the correlation was inverted! This "attitude" thing is just an excuse fad that a fringe group of Americans (particularly on the West Coast, California) religiously cling to, even in the face of empirical evidence against it.

One of my readers also related a similar disgust with the illogic of attitude fanatics:

"Hi Winston,

I wanted to say that just about everything in your writings reflect what's on my mind. I grew in San Francisco and experienced things very similar to you. What you say about the United States is spot on. I can relate in what you say about this country being affected by insane levels of ignorance and New Age nonsense. I, too, get tired of people saying to me: "your problems are your fault" or "if you think positively, good things will happen; you will get everything you want; and women will gravitate towards you". Yes, I've heard this a million times and I want to scream. I can relate to you so much that I thought maybe you are me in another life."

These folks need to understand that those like me are just trying to do what's best for ourselves to fulfill our needs and objectives. There is no need or reason to constantly stay in a losing situation where my needs aren't met and I don't thrive, just to please people with a conventional outlook. After all, if I don't thrive under certain conditions, what is the point of blaming me or trying to force me to conform or thrive? And if my needs and wants aren't being fulfilled where I am, then I have a right to go somewhere where they will be met more easily, or do something to try to fulfill them. It's as simple as that. Blaming me and being judgmental toward me is simply both illogical and counterproductive.

A lot of these attitude fanatics seem to like to make absurd leaps in logic. When I describe my results, for example, they prefer to focus on attitude. For instance, if I complain about constant rejection from women (even those that I have a lot in common with), many automatically claim that I get rejected because I have the "attitude" that I'm getting rejected. What the @\$%? What are these people smoking? That is the most inate logic I've ever seen. The claim had NOTHING to do with my attitude (since I have projected 100 percent positive attitudes around women, yet they still thought I wasn't their type and made lame ass excuses not to spend time with me), but with results.

As for me, I am neither a perpetual optimist or pessimist, but a realist who tells it like it is. West Coast Americans don't like people like me who tell it like it is. Instead, they like people who are optimistic and positive about everything and everybody 24/7, always acting as though "everything is always cool". However, I don't believe in pretending that I like something I don't just to appease attitude fanatics and politically correct drones. I simply don't believe in being fake. And I will not lie to avoid their condemnation.

Some victim-blamers view one's attitude as the cause and solution for everything. Anytime someone complains about going through bad circumstances, they tell them that their "attitude is the problem" as if it's the magical solution to all. There are a number of problems with this.

1) First, it is quite presumptuous for these attitude fanatics and victim-blamers to try to pretend they know what the problem is without seriously investigating it, as if they were omnipotent.

2) Second, a bad attitude does not cause bad circumstances in most cases, unless the person is in complete

control of all factors around him/her. Rather, the circumstances cause the attitude usually. So they have it backwards.

3) Third, this ideology presumes that merely fixing one's attitude and making it positive will turn the circumstances positive, which is a vain wish that is not true in reality, only in the hyped imaginary world of the attitude fanatic.

4) Finally, if it were true that positive attitude = positive circumstances and negative attitude = negative circumstances, then everyone could get all that they want and produce nothing but advantageous circumstances by merely having a positive attitude. The simple formula that "attitude cures all" would have been figured out centuries ago and habitually used. But unfortunately, reality is not like that, hence that's why not everyone has a hokey positive attitude all the time. I'm not trying to be a pessimist here, just telling how it is.

Even the mental health profession admits that you can't always control what happens to you or your circumstances, only how you *respond* to them, which is one of the aims of therapy.

Finally, here is what I have to say to victim-blamers straight from the bottom of my heart: I have a RIGHT to complain if I'm not happy or feel oppressed. I should not have to put up with being constantly treated like sh** in my environment and it is unrealistic for them to expect me to endure all this without doing anything. My closest friends will tell you that I am a good person and that they would trust me with their life. Just cause America doesn't fulfill my needs doesn't make me wrong. I am simply doing what I have to, just like anyone else. And I will not endure silent oppression just to please the moral judgment of others.

Am I too negative or hateful about America?

Many have charged me with being negative, hateful or whiny in my comments about America here. Are they right? Well yes and no. It all depends on your perspective and whether you agree or relate to me or not. Positive and negative are subjective. We tend to view those that we disagree with strongly as "negative". Even the George Bush administration views all who oppose the Iraq War and the senseless bloodshed they've caused on both sides, as "negative". So it's a matter of perspective.

I would say that I'm not negative in the sense that I don't have a bad attitude, think negatively about everything, or see only negativity in others. There are people like that of course, but I'm not one of them. If I was, I would not be offering positive solutions and a brighter side to things like I do in this book. Quite the contrary, I happen to be very positive in my attitude and determination. After all, how else do you think I get the strength to better myself in the face of overwhelming odds?

Yes some of my views in this book may sound negative of course, but what do you expect? In the US, I can't meet people, can't get dates with anyone but losers, don't fit in anywhere, am not happy, have no fun, am not popular, etc. etc. And I can't accept that. But there's nothing I can do about it, at least in the US. So of course I'm going to complain since all that makes me unhappy. I'm just being honest, that's all. But I offer hope for me and others like me. In case you haven't noticed, what I describe in this book about what I like abroad and why it makes me infinitely happier, more fulfilled and more alive, happens to be very positive. So in effect, I do offer readers a positive alternative to the US matrix.

In modern America though, particularly on the West Coast, this positive/negative polarity is overemphasized I think. In other countries, you aren't expected to always be "positive" and people don't try to fix or condemn those who aren't "positive" (by the American definition). It's kind of an American thing to always have to be positive. In fact, I notice that only Americans seem to be calling me "negative" when they disagree. In other countries, you can just be the way you are. And even if people disagree with you, they don't accuse you of being "negative". They simply disagree and list reasons why.

My theory is that Americans are so hung up on being positive because it's too easy for them to slide down into depression, hopelessness, and insanity. They live in a fake world after all, with fake culture, fake entertainment, movies, video, fake happiness, fake smiles, fake greetings, fake relationships, fake friendships, etc.. Therefore the line between the fakeness that gets them through the day and the depressing emptiness before them is so thin and fragile that they constantly have to overcompensate for being positive out of the subconscious overwhelming fear of the negative. Thus, anyone who is slightly "negative" by complaining arouses the fear of

emptiness in many Americans, especially those who have no "inner life" or richness of soul to fall back on.

In my experience, those who don't agree with what I write tend to view me as "negative" or even "hateful". But those who agree with me have told me that I give them hope and inspiration, that I am refreshingly honest, admire my courage to tell the truth, and that I have finally found the words to express how they've always felt but didn't know how to put into words. Likewise, those who are unhappy or lonely in America and confused about it, often write me telling me that I've given them hope and inspiration that there are alternatives which they never knew about. So again, it's a matter of perspective and reference point.

For instance, rather than see my writing as negative or hateful, some see it as a beacon of truth:

"my friend you are not too negative. it was necessary for someone to clearly point out the realities of society in the usa, as compared to other countries. Hell, I was born here, caucasian and all but I grew up in mexico, so I had much more of the latin culture and upbringing. when i came here and hit the cultural "wall" i felt left out and cannot honestly welcomed warmly by anyone. the only thing that kept me sane for the first 6 years from 7-23 was the hope and escape at least every summer back to my city of guadalajara mexico, and weekends to stay over in tijuana, where i had a a family that always showed me hospitality and companionship. And i personally do thank you for the info regarding eastern europe. ive chatted with many open and warm young ladies, and have exchanged more emails in the span of one single month than ive had with american ladies in the past 15 years . GRACIAS my friend, . and hey--if anyone can't take hearing or reading this--it's supposed to be AMERICA where we can speak our minds freely. although with this administration, im sure they're doing they're damn'd best to squash this...

for now ,,,, ciao :)"

And others find my words revealing and insightful, putting the pieces of the puzzle together.

"Anyway, to cut a long story short, everything you wrote in your treatise is precisely to the point. I am a Russian who has lived in the States long enough to know. I came to the country expecting to find some flavor, as I had been able to do in France and Germany. Alas, what I ran into was a sea of blandness.

I took me a while to realize that there was a chasm of difference between the media picture of America and real life, but when the truth hit home, I felt very disappointed and empty. I even had a lapse of self-condemnation as I thought the problem was in me. I have gotten over it now and can see clearly. Your writing puts all the pieces of the puzzle together very well."

People that know me in person though, will describe me as being enthusiastic, positive, outgoing, full of energy, adventurous, spontaneous, etc. I am a man of action, a go-getter, strong willed, and I don't give up unless necessary. I don't tolerate unhappiness, instead I do something about it. I am a seeker, in search of meaning and happiness. And I'm not afraid to go for what I want. You tell me, are those the traits of a negative person?

Just because I make a lot of undesirable observations about American life and culture, doesn't make me negative, in my view. I am merely being honest with how I feel, what I've experienced here, and what I see. Why should I lie and pretend to be positive, just to appease the masses? I don't believe in lying to fit in. I'd rather be honest and negative, than dishonest and appear positive. Deep down, it's a matter of values and integrity.

Also, understand that me projecting negative vibes is merely a surface symptom, not a root cause. For that, one must look deeper. Simply put, I am very absorbant. Whatever vibes I receive, I project back. That means if I am projecting negative vibes, it usually means I am RECEIVING negative vibes as well. Therefore, it goes BOTH WAYS. Likewise, if I am in an area where I receive positive vibes, then I project positive vibes back, making me more likable, happy, and enthusiastic.

For example, when I am in an environment or culture that I flourish in, I tend to become a happy positive optimist. For an enthusiastic explanation why, see these two updates from the Philippines that explain it all: [January 2007](#) , [May 2007](#)

I think the moral here is that one must look deeper than the surface.

The sad truth about my negativity and deep resentment

If you want to know the truth about my seeming “negativity”, “hate”, “deep resentment” and “baggage” toward my life in America, here it is in all brutal honesty with no holds barred.

Growing up in America, I felt EXCLUDED and OSTRACIZED from everything socially. All I could do everyday was stay home and watch TV. Expecting anything else felt futile. I HATED it but felt powerless to do anything about it. If only I had known then that it didn't have to be like that.

My story entitled *20 years of loneliness and datelessness America that led me abroad* can be read here: <http://www.happierabroad.com/MyStory.htm>

When I was in elementary school and high school, everyday I was bullied, teased, verbally abused, alienated, etc. just cause I was timid, weak, vulnerable, and different. Every day in my public school life was a hellish nightmare that I could do nothing about but only endure. For some reason, I was made the scapegoat and target to ridicule, whether I liked it or not. I felt trapped, overwhelmed, and defenseless against everyone. The only thing that kept me alive was the belief that it was immoral to kill oneself. Other than that, I had a brief fling with the Christian fundamentalist religion to give some purpose and meaning to my suffering. But I always felt nothing but loneliness, unhappiness, alienation, and dysfunction in America.

Also, another cause of my deep rooted alienation was that ever since I was about 9, people around me in America have been constantly telling me that there was something wrong with me, both directly and indirectly, but I was never clear as to what exactly. I never could fit in, and never knew how. It was a totally subjective problem unsolvable by logic, as if nature and cosmic forces (or environmental sociological forces rather) had predetermined it to be that way.

The perpetual feeling of being a misfit around your peers eventually damaged my mental health, as well as the constant unavoidable loneliness and isolation. My childhood and teenage years were filled with nothing but alienation, loneliness, no fun, nothing cool, no dates, nothing but watching TV and doing homework. This I disdained very strongly and deeply, mainly because I felt I had no choice in the manner. It seemed like it was just "meant to be", as if I was never even given a choice. It always felt like that was my natural given place in the social scene around me, and to try to tamper with it would be trying to go against all the forces around me.

It almost felt illegal for me to try to have a social life, get a date, or fit in, like none of those things was meant for me. In short, I felt like I was born to suffer as a loser, and had to endure it. It was a futile existence of alienation, loneliness, suffering, and no social life or any idea how to get one, simply because I didn't fit in and was treated like an outcast. Simply put, it was a total de-validation of my self-worth. This no-win situation all around that I endured for years, left me resentful, feeling weak, vulnerable, powerless, and undesirable the whole time.

This is the source of my deep baggage and resentment toward social life in the US, which has brought out nothing but the worst in me.

I hated every minute of it, but I always felt helpless and powerless against it. Hence, I have a very deep source of resentment toward my life in America that goes back many years. There will always be that inferiority complex in me, which I can only be liberated from by going abroad.

That's all I had in my precious youth in America, and that's all I could get. So how the hell am I expected to be “positive” about my life in America? Expecting me to be positive about my life in America would be like expecting the Jewish community to be positive about the Nazis and the Holocaust. It's simply absurd and insensitive.

While people around me are raving about how great and free America is, how can I agree with them, when I've experienced nothing but loneliness, alienation, people constantly telling me that there's something wrong with me, feeling sterile, inept, futile, unwanted, suffering unjustly, etc. resulting in a total deprivation of my self-worth?

Simply put, I give back what I get. And if I get mostly bad experiences, sh** treatment, alienation, loneliness, and isolation, then that's what I will report back. I sure ain't going to report false positive experiences just to please others! No way. All my life I've been accustomed to having the "crowd" against me, but now that I am strong, assertive, outspoken, aggressive, passionate and courageous, I am not afraid or timid to retaliate back against the crowd, if I have to. You'll only get the blunt truth from me, no BS.

The bottom line here is that you have to understand that if the world I grew up in showed nothing but hate, ridicule, and estrangement toward me, then of course I'm going to show a lot of that back in return. It's that simple.

I admit that I am so jaded and jarred, that I only wish I could follow such good advice as this girl gave:

"yeah, u are very european, winston.

its okay to feel america is shallow and to feel out of touch here. i don't blame u. but cope with it. forgive everyone for not being as deep or as sensitive as you.

when i had that same resentment, i had to forgive. why? because most ppl have not had the benefit of LEAVING this country and finding the rest of the world out there, as YOU have."

For those in my situation, one of my readers offers this consolation:

"I just turned 40 and my peers are still trying to tell me there is something wrong with me and or there must be something wrong with me. Well them. They are the losers who are always looking at what is wrong with something instead of looking at what is right with something and or someone for a change. Don't worry, the truth is that even if there really is nothing wrong, they will make up and create a problem to feed their sick ego. I choose not to measure up to their standard that being successful is being a burnt out pathetic complaining slave. I would rather own my own thoughts and control my own motivation then have it dictated to me by society and the corporate sector. One has to realize that some things are a no win situation and the standard has to be set by oneself. These so called peers, do they really know what the correct standard is in the first place?. Probably not or they wouldn't be constantly looking for what is wrong with an individual and wallow in denial that they are another slave in this corporate word."

Am I a loser? Is this site for losers?

To those who consider me and others who date abroad to be losers, my Expat Advisor has this to say to you:

"To those who consider us losers, here is our answer:

We have discovered that love and sex are commodities as any others and they both obey market trends and the laws of supply and demand. We treat male and female attractiveness only in marketing ways, as well.

In other words we export the attractiveness of the American male to global markets rather than depending on the domestic markets alone. If that is being a loser, than any export company that tries to find better markets for its products is a loser, too.

Global marketing is a respectable trend and international trade is a quadrillion dollar a year business. Can you imagine someone writing an email to a large global company with billions in sale around the world and saying something like this:

You loser, what's wrong with a good old American market? Why can't you find an American customer.

Worse yet: Hey what's wrong with American investors? Why sell out treasury bills to the Chinese and Saudis?

As it happens, an American Citizen man (of any race, age and looks) is in greater demand in many countries than he is at home where he is surplus merchandise. So, we are here to market ourselves on the global scale."

I hope that makes sense to you and helps you to see the bigger picture.

To those who would say "The problem must be you!", well here are two ways how I know the problem isn't just me.

1. I don't have the dateless sexless life abroad that I do in America. So if the problem is me, then why don't I have the same problems overseas? Anyone who sees my [Photo Collage](#) , [Film](#) or [Photojournals](#) will instantly see this.
2. In other countries there are not oodles of men who can't get any dates at all like there are in America. There isn't a Pick-Up-Artist/Seduction Guru industry marketing seminars and books to guys on how to pick up girls like there is in the US. It is not a widespread silent epidemic like it is in America, and men are not forced to live sterile lives. So you see, this problem is on a large scale, not just limited to me and a few "losers". What does that tell you?

For me and many others, the overseas path was the best and most effective solution for our needs, wants and happiness. It was the only solution to our dilemma, even if it is considered a "loser path" to the mainstream American mind. **It WORKS. I get what I want and I am happy, and that's the bottom line.**

And besides, how can I be a loser? I don't drink, smoke or do drugs, and I never get drunk. I am not violent or abusive (and when I do get mad it's usually for justifiable reasons). I'm responsible and organized. I do what I say and I keep my promises. I am clean - I shower everyday and am clean shaven. I am decent looking. I am intelligent (of course) with good communication skills and I am very articulate. I'm very outgoing. And I treat people fairly too. In fact, I have a lot of great qualities ([see 10 outstanding examples here](#)). So how am I a loser? Sure I have faults like everyone does, but there is no valid reason to insinuate that my imperfections directly cause my loneliness, isolation and datelessness in America. Therefore there is no valid justification in claiming that some fault of mine is responsible for my sterile condition in America. Such "victim-blaming" statements are merely the rantings of people programmed by a sick society in denial.

So why do I suffer in America then from loneliness and datelessness undeservedly? Is it cause my race, height, looks and the "type" of guy that I am is not what American women want? Those certainly play a role in it. But is that my fault? No, those are factors out of my control. Is it cause my personality doesn't fit in America and I do not feel comfortable adopting its fake/artificial social and communication style? That's probably a factor too. But how can I be something I'm not, and moreover, why should I be something I'm not? When you become something you're not, it's not good for your psychological balance and plus you can only attract the wrong people. How is that in my long term interest?

You see, the more you think about it, the more you realize that all fingers point to the sick society and culture in the US, and my inability to fit into it as well as my low rank value in it. That's the real cause of the problem, if you want to find one.

The alternative to going abroad – Why it's inferior

Now look at the alternative - staying in the US and following the standard pseudo-advice commonly given to the dateless:

1. Work on yourself
2. Get involved in activities and clubs

Where do you think this would get me? Let's see, I work on myself for a few years, and enhance my desirability a bit. Then maybe ONCE every few YEARS, I'll find someone who wants to date me, and if I'm lucky she might even be somewhat cute or attractive. **But that's ONCE every few YEARS!** (which was my dating record in the US already) Plus, there's no telling how long it will even last when it comes either (my last American girlfriend lasted only 5 weeks!). Now does that spell *wide pool of CHOICES to you?* I think not! Life is too short for that. On the other hand, look at my wide assortment of dating choices overseas in my [Photo Collage](#). I think that says it all. Anyone would rather have lots of choices constantly present, then just ONE choice every few years, or none at all! Get real.

And besides, even if you did "work on yourself" and became a great guy with wonderful qualities and a lot to offer, so what? If you're not a woman's type in America, and hence not desirable, then all you will get is a pat on the back from women and be told, *"Congratulations. You have many great qualities and a lot to offer. I'm sure you'll be a good catch to the right woman someday."* What's that going to get you?! **Rather than wait years (or never) for "someone" who finally appreciates me, I'd rather be DESIRABLE to women in general, so that I have CHOICES anytime I want, including NOW!** And in some foreign countries where the factors are in my favor, I have just that. Life is too short, so why wait years or never?!

As to number two, been there, done that. Sure I can join activities and clubs to meet girls, or take classes popular with girls (cooking, yoga, swing dancing) or just simply going to places where the girls are. Anyone can do that. But look at reality here. **Meeting lots of girls you like isn't going to get you any dates if you're not their type.** They're still gonna blow you off if you show interest. All that will come of it are polite conversations, but nothing more. And if you try to make something more out of it, they blow you off or refuse politely, saying that they have a boyfriend or that they prefer to have time to themselves. So sure, you can *meet* lots of girls in America, there are places and activities for that, but if you aren't their type, which I never am, then you'll only be left with disappointment, a huge let down, and blow to your ego. You will be left wondering,

"What's wrong with me? Why am I not dating material? Why did those girls say they would rather be alone than hang out with me?"

But let's be honest here. How many dateless people do you know who turned their dating life around by simply 1) Working on themselves and 2) Joining clubs and activities? Virtually nobody right? So as you can see, this advice is simply worthless.

Well f@#\$ that. Why deal with that when there's "dating paradise" overseas?! Life is too short to waste. You gotta make the best of it NOW!

I mean, look at me and the difference in my life, which is beyond imagination. **In the US I was perpetually dateless, and every single girl I liked blew me off. It was totally hopeless, literally, despite the fact that I tried everything you can imagine. But look at me here now that I'm overseas. I feel like James Bond! I feel desirable and wanted. And I can live my fantasies with beautiful women whenever I want, because they are not out of my league here. What more could I want?** So you see, who cares if I'm a loser by mainstream people's standards, especially when those segments of society are hate-driven and brainwashed by their wicked media?! Wouldn't I be a bigger loser if I had stayed in my unhappy, loveless, sexless, hopeless situation in the US?

In the end, you gotta ask yourself this. Would you rather forever endure constant rejection from women, such as this fan from my Forum received in this letter:

<http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=4381&start=10>

"Paul, i have to tell you something. I have met someone and he is fast becoming a very important man in my life. I am having feelings toward him that I haven't felt in a long time and I want to see where this is going to lead. He has made me realize that there is life inside me that I can feel again, that I am a woman as well as a mother and my needs are important too. It was nice meeting you but I don't think that I want to persue anything more than friendship with you as I have some very strong feelings toward this other man. I would prefer not to correspond with you and would like it if you don't call me anymore, I don't have feelings toward you in that way. Your daughter is beautiful and you need to make her the focus of your life, never let her want for anything. It was nice knowing you, Jodi"

Or, would you rather live like this: <http://www.happierabroad.com/ebook/Collage.htm>

I rest my case.

Here are some eloquent words from a fellow Asian American expat who calls himself DarkTalay. He sums up the long term picture of what awaits you if you remain in the US to fight a dysfunctional losing battle.

<http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=3958>

"Let's see, climb the corporate ladder, work over-time doing things you hate for people who look down on you to pay for a house you can't afford and a fancy car that depreciates as soon as you drive it off the lot.

Getting a measly two weeks of vacation time while Euros get months.

Slave away at this job only to have the company down-size or get taken over and have your position made obsolete and find out that you are unemployable since you are middle-aged.

To bust your ass trying to please American women and get their attention.

Marrying your sweetheart only to see her turn into a nagging fat shrew.

Working at said job and finally retiring when you are too old to enjoy your freedom, consigned to watching "Oprah" at the senior center, playing canasta on Saturday nights and having "Senior's Night" at Denny's your weekly thrill.

No thank you!

Most men are indoctrinated from birth via the schools and the mass media into becoming enslaved for life to this treadmill.

Men become so preoccupied with covering up his ass at work (meeting quotas) and playing the political game while desperately trying to meet suitable women.

American society has changed radically over the past century before WWI most Americans worked at agrarian jobs, born, raised, marrying and dying within a few miles of his birthplace.

He probably went to a church which was a place where all the community met.

He knew and was known by all of the females from childbirth having gone to school and to the same church as they attended.

There were matchmakers, barn-dances, ice cream socials to allow singles to meet.

Finding a mate was easier as women were expected to find a decent husband and were raised to respect men.

The Industrial Age and WWI changed all that as farm-boys went to war and were suddenly exposed to fighting in a foreign country, growing up very fast and being exposed to a alien culture.

The mass-marketing of the automobile and the creation of the Intercontinental Highway system made America a mobile society.

Now people can live in a neighborhood and scarcely know their neighbors.

Feminism has destroyed trust between genders and now men are seen as predators/criminals/fools.

Mass communication is cheaper and easier than ever with cell-phone, internet, VIOP and chat-rooms yet people are more isolated and out of touch than ever.

There is no real effective way for singles to meet nowadays as men are working overtime to make ends meet and have little time to socialize.

But that is what they were told to believe in and it makes them great wage-slaves who can be easily manipulated.

Personally I tried singles groups, singles ads and partner-danced for years with little result.

I have friends who haven't had a date for years and are unlikely ever to meet a decent woman.

Those relationship "experts" are like the American Cancer Society, they are not interested in helping you but to rake in cash from desperate people dying to meet a partner.

A few men have found the courage to get off the treadmill and find their fortunes Overseas.

It's not easy, some men have fallen on their faces but most have succeeded.

Dark"

If that inspired you and you feel the same way, then here are DarkTalay's suggestions for expatriating yourself overseas:

<http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=12>

"I teach English here in LOS (Land of Smiles), it doesn't pay much but the cost of living is much lower than the States.

I managed to buy a beachfront condo in Pattaya on the Eastern Seaboard.

The first thing a potential expatriate must do to make a successful escape is to commit and make a choice on actively exploring the notion of leaving one's homeland.

He must commit to make as many field trips as he can to check out the country desired.

He must cease merely dreaming about living abroad immediately as that encourages procrastination.

He will instead visualize himself actually working, living and playing in the chosen country.

He will read all books on how to successfully expatriate.

He will research on the chosen country, learn something about the culture, history and some of the language.

Once he is there he will connect with the expatriates already living there via the many expat clubs.

He will ask hard questions about the reality and ins and outs of living there and finding work.

He will visit the local realty companies to check out condos and houses.

After he does all of this if he still is motivated he will make a decision and stick to it.

Everything he does from now on will support his expatriating.

He will get rid of that fancy car with its expensive monthly payments.

He will move out of that fancy apartment and into a trailer park to save money or convert his property into a source of income.

He will cease useless hobbies that are a financial drain such as playing the horses or going to lap-dance clubs.

So what if your family and friends raise their eyebrows, you are busy

engineering your escape to a better life.

He will make financial arrangements with his accountant for overseas communication and tax returns.

He will start disposing of accumulated junk in his life that's served its purpose but is now a drag on his life.

Junk such as comic book collections, old love letters for exes, bowling trophies, etc.

He should be down to a suitcase and a carry-on by the time he departs.

He will set a firm date for moving out, if he doesn't he will find more excuses for inaction and never commit.

He will be very discreet about his plans to casual acquaintances especially Western women especially if he plans to move to Thailand.

He will find that doubters, mostly female will come out and try to discourage you.

They will cast doubt on your manhood ("What's wrong, are you threatened by strong American women?").

They will tell your half-truths about moving abroad ("it's dangerous, you'll be back in a month.").

Do not depend on mainstream travel guide for information relevant to expatriating.

They are written for back-packers, wealthy couples, women, Gays and Lesbians.

"Lonely Planet" is very slanted against the single heterosexual male tourist and is not to be depended upon..

On-line forums such as www.pattayasecrets.com are better and have less disinformation.

Putting up pictures of the country's landmarks and post-it notes on bathroom mirrors with encouraging phrases is helpful.

I have strong doubts that any of this is going to be listened to much less act upon.

Few Americans even have passports.

Most men are used to being wage-slaves and will block out any information or advice from friends about becoming an expatriate.

Most will just read this, shake their heads, and declare that it's a hopeless dream and return to working at a soulless job with a miserable commute and a rancid nationwide dating environment.

Thousand of expats live abroad, why not you?

DarkTalay"

Finally, here is a great analysis of the global dating predicament from my Forum.

<http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=4378&start=10>

"The short man did not choose to be short. He did not choose to be, in Winston's words, "undesirable, unattractive, unwanted, and not dating material". "These labels and statuses were given and assigned automatically by default". Compared to taller and more appealing males, the shorter male must work harder to improve his sexual market value, to move up from the "undesirable" to the "will consider" category, while very few will make it to the "preferred" category (Tom Cruise?).

People don't like Winston (and others who went overseas) because he revolted against the established social structure and went abroad where his sexual market value is automatically higher. In Angeles city, a single American male is probably in the "preferred" category. He doesn't have to climb up in the same way as his counterpart in the US.

This upsets people who are firmly established in the meritocracy mindset, who thinks he took a short-cut. But the birth or gene lottery is not meritocracy, some people are born with a silver spoon and others are born into crushing poverty. The American meritocracy mindset is also hypocritical in its worship and

granting of exceptions to the rich and famous. There's a double standard where a joe average male with a pretty wife from abroad is looked down as "mail order bride" loser, versus Hugh Hefner can have many pretty young GF's and be glamorous. Whos' to say that the average joe with a pinay wife isn't a better family man with strong traditional/conservative values, verus Hugh Hefner's playboy lifestyle?"

FAQ's - Frequently Asked Questions and Objections

Over the years, I've received the following common questions and objections. Here are a list of them and my responses. If you have a question that's not addressed here, you may [post it to me in this forum thread](#).

- [Isn't going abroad just running away from your problems?](#)
- [I want to go abroad but I don't have the money or I can't leave my job. What can I do?](#)
- [I want to live abroad for the reasons you list. But how will I make a living there?](#)
- [I'm afraid what my friends and family will think about me moving or dating abroad. They might be against it and think I'm a loser.](#)
- [Isn't the reason people are friendlier to you abroad is because you are a tourist and novelty to them?](#)
- [If social life and dating are better abroad, then why don't we hear about it more? Why isn't it being publicized more? And why aren't more people going abroad?](#)
- [If life is better abroad, then how come so many foreigners are trying to get into America?](#)
- [Foreign women just want your money and a green card. You are a loser who can't get laid so you go abroad to take advantage of women who are economically oppressed.](#)
- [I've lived in America or visited there. I didn't experience what you claim. I met many wonderful friendly people there.](#)
- [You generalize and make a lot of blanket statements. There are many exceptions to the broad brush you paint.](#)
- [Perhaps the problem is you. You have a bad attitude and are whiney and that puts women off.](#)
- [Your site promotes sex tourism which supports sex trade trafficking.](#)
- [Concluding comments](#)

Question:

Isn't going abroad just running away from your problems?

Answer:

It depends on how you want to look at it. But such a question is usually asked with the assumption that things are the same everywhere, and that only the person is the problem, not the location, and therefore one should stay and tough it out.

But if you think about it seriously, it makes no sense. It's a fear driven response based on an attachment to the safety and familiarity of home. If you look at the big picture, you realize that the world is a big place with over 200 countries. There is no need to confine yourself to one little region, especially if it's not working out for you. There are better markets out there where the supply/demand factors work better in your favor. Businesses take advantage of that, so why can't you?

You know, I grew up in California, and there, within its narcissistic and fake culture, people had the assumption that they were the center of the world, the hub culture of activity on the globe, and that if you weren't having any fun there, you wouldn't enjoy it anywhere else, for California was as good as it gets. It was a consensus assumption.

Yet once I left California, I discovered that the rest of the world had plenty to offer that California didn't. Sure I missed the great weather there, but the bland scenery of most of the state, the stress of the rat race, and the snobiness of the girls there made it a miserable hell. Furthermore, there was no real culture there. Everything was commercialized and superficial.

The moral of the story is that there is no one place that is best for everyone and that is "as good as it gets". Every culture has its pros and cons, and people who fit in and those who don't. You have to visit a lot of cultures and places, a wide variety of them, to know where you fit in best. That's how life is. Only you know what's best for you, but the only way you can do that is by following your heart, not doing anything out of fear, but out of passion.

The diversity and complexity of the many cultures around the globe is beyond your imagination. Don't let fear and comfort zones give you excuses not to go global and multiple your field exponentially. And don't trap yourself in a bubble or isolate yourself.

So technically, yeah it is "running away" I guess. But why stay somewhere you're not happy in the vain hope that things will turn around, especially if you've done everything you could already? Why not try somewhere else that might be better? I mean if a flash flood were coming your way, wouldn't you want to "run away" too?

Plus keep in mind that many people actually do feel more at home in other cultures than their own. See my book chapter on "reverse culture shock" for some examples. So home is not always where you grew up. There is no logic in believing that one must stick to where they grew up when there are many better options out there.

Start traveling to cultures that FIT your personality, where supply and demand work in your favor, and you will overcome your fears and start down the path to greater potential. If you aren't getting everything you want in your home region, then you've got nothing to lose. If you haven't yet, see my Advisor Ladislav's inspirational messages about Global Dating here: <http://www.happierabroad.com/Ladislav.php>

Question:

I want to go abroad but I don't have the money or I can't leave my job. What can I do?

Answer:

That is a common scenario, especially among the young. First, you've got to believe in the motto "Where there's a will, there's a way." It's true. If you strongly want something, you'll find a way to get it.

If you are lacking in money, get a temp job, or even work in fast food if you have to. Western countries pay well, and even at minimum wage in America, as long as you live very frugally and cut your expenses to bare minimum, you can save a couple of hundred dollars per month. To fly halfway around the world costs around 800 dollars round trip. Even after a few months of working at McDonald's, you could afford that.

If you don't have a job, go to your local temp agency. Any city in the US, even in the suburbs, has plenty of them. You can find them in the phone book. You will usually find ones like Kelly Service, Manpower, Express Personnel, etc.

You can also do some work online, through contracting or freelancing. Here is a list of sites you can find freelancing jobs on:

<http://myseoblog.net/2008/04/07/lists-of-freelance-sites/>

<http://www.freelancer.com>

<https://www.demandstudios.com>

<http://www.essaybay.com/>

You can even make money teaching English online! For example:

<http://www.verbalplanet.com/teach-english.asp>

But you gotta stick with the plan and not spend every paycheck you get. And you've got to learn to cut a lot of corners too. Stop paying rent. Live with your parents if they'll let you, so you can save that money. Try to keep your assets light. Don't get a new car or anything that you'll have to make payments on. A life of traveling should be done with the lightest load possible. Save at least a few thousand dollars first for your first trip abroad after you've researched the world and decided where you'd like to go. You will get a feel or instinct for where your journey lies. As Ben Kenobi said to Luke Skywalker, "Trust your feelings".

If you are already working in a long term stable job, then you are simply a slave. If going abroad for happiness and a better love life is really important to you, you've got to make sacrifices and change your lifestyle. At first, you can use your vacation time from work to go abroad and experience it or scout it out. You may only get 2 weeks a year off, but it's better than nothing. Then when the time is right, quit. You will know when the time is

right, cause you will feel it. Your intuition and heart knows what you really want. Trust it and follow it. Your corporate self created by society is a fake pseudo-self. It's not the real you. Don't hold it as anything sacred.

Besides, you can always get a job abroad if you want. Being happy and fulfilled is the most important thing. Being a slave only makes those at the top richer. It's not in your best interest.

Try to save up as much money as possible, at least \$10,000 (but it depends on which country you're going to) in disposable income if you're going to move overseas, or less if you're just traveling, but it depends on the length of your trip.

Question:

I want to live abroad for the reasons you list. But how will I make a living there?

Answer:

That's an important practical concern of course. Again, as in the previous answer, the same motto applies "Where there's a will, there's a way."

Many expats find ways to make a living overseas, through a variety of means. Even the dumb ones can do it, if they really want to. So why can't you? It's not as difficult as you think. It's the fear in your mind that's the biggest obstacle.

List your skills and what you have to offer. Create a nice resume of them if you haven't yet.

Then do some research on the job market in your country of interest. Go to various Expat forums and ask around about finding work in your country of interest (See a list of them under Expat Links on my site or visit these: <http://transitionsabroad.com/listings/living/resources/expatriatewebsites.shtml>). Network with other expats, especially the ones that live in the country you're going to, while you're at home. The more people you correspond with, the more leads you will get, which will result in more opportunities. Sure there are jobs advertised online that you can Google up too, by typing in "Jobs in (name of your target country)" in Google. But most jobs are not advertised. They are promoted from within or networked through referrals. That's why it's important to network, get as many acquaintances as possible in the field or culture you want to move to. Ask a lot of questions, so you can find out stuff.

At the very least, you can teach English there (unless English is the primary language of the country you're going to) to get by. If you go that route, you can get all the info you need on where to apply and what the conditions are, at www.eslcafe.com

Wherever you're going to, there is a LOT of info online about it that you can research. So research a place thoroughly before you move there. Or take a scouting vacation trip there first, before you decide to move there, if you can.

If you would like to work for a US corporation overseas, you can apply within your own country for any openings they have abroad. But this will be a tougher route unless you have highly specialized skills, for such jobs usually go to people already within their company.

If you have some capital to invest, you can also start a business overseas. But that is a risky venture (especially in corrupt third world countries) and you'd better know what you're doing and consult with other Expats there who are running their own businesses first, about the pitfalls of that endeavor.

If you plan to work for a foreign company in that country, you usually cannot apply without being in that country, so you will have to wait til you arrive first. However, most foreign companies prefer to hire local people, not foreigners. It is cheaper for them and they do not want the hassle of having to get you a work permit too. But it depends on how badly they want you and how specialized your skills are.

The ideal scenario is for you to have some kind of online business, which will allow you to have a mobile lifestyle. In addition to the freelancing site links above, here is a rundown of the ways you can make money online:

<http://www.doshdosh.com/ways-to-make-money-online/>

Anyhow, keep trying. If you want it badly enough, you'll find a way. As they say, follow your path and coincidences and other people will help you as you need them. That might sound New Agey, but it's true.

Question:

I'm afraid what my friends and family will think about me moving or dating abroad. They might be against it and think I'm a loser.

Answer:

That's another common concern. But you've got to ask yourself, do you exist to please them? Is it worth compromising your happiness just to fit in with the hive and please the ignorant? Would you regret it if you didn't follow your heart and take the red pill, just because you were worried about what others think? You've got to do what's best for you. As I said earlier, you can't make decisions out of fear, but out of heart and passion.

When you go an unconventional route or lifestyle, there will always be those who disapprove. People can be highly judgmental against things they don't understand that are outside their box. Such types live in fear and ignorance.

If your friends or family really care about you, they will stick by your decision to do what's best for you, even if they don't understand it. They will get used to it and accept it eventually, especially if they see that you indeed are happier and have a better life in another culture. Maybe then, they will open their minds. Or maybe not. But you've got to do what's right.

As Frederich Nietzsche said:

"The individual has always had to struggle to keep from being overwhelmed by the tribe. If you try it, you will be lonely often, and sometimes frightened. But no price is too high to pay for the privilege of owning yourself."

However, in this case, if you have a better social, love life and self-esteem abroad, then you certainly won't be lonely.

The great Greek philosopher Plato had a Cave Allegory in his literature where he described a tribe that spends all day watching shadows on the wall lit by candles. They do not bother to turn around and see what is making the shadows. Nor do they ascend to the surface to see the light. Those who do find the light will not be understood by the tribe that is living in ignorance. Instead, they will be ridiculed for going outside the tribe.

But nevertheless, it is better to find the light and see the truth and free your mind. If the tribe continues to live in ignorance, that is their problem. You can't help people who don't want to be helped. But you can become an example to others, as I have, which will serve as an inspiration and living proof of the reality outside the tribe matrix.

Question:

Isn't the reason people are friendlier to you abroad is because you are a tourist and novelty to them?

Answer:

This one comes up a lot for some reason, especially from those who never left America. It's a rationalization and excuse to maintain the belief that America is as good as it gets and you can't get any better elsewhere.

Sure it is true that people will be naturally curious about foreigners. That is a factor, but not the only one. It does not account for all the differences cited here, nor for all my experiences. If it did, then I could do the reverse. I could pretend to be an Asian immigrant who just arrived in America, and get lots of easy dates and meet lots of inclusive people that way. Everyone would be curious and ask me about my culture, and me being different would attract people. I'd be treated far better than local Americans, simply cause I'm a foreigner.

But is that the case? HELL NO!

British and Aussie accents might be more attractive to American females. But Asian, East Indian or Arab men wouldn't be given the time of day.

This "everyone is friendlier to tourists" theory does not explain why American women get creeped when approached, whereas European or foreign women don't. Nor does it account for the general inclusiveness of people in many other countries and their natural openness toward strangers. You see, the foreigners I met were not just more inclusive and unparanoid to me, but to each other as well. So it's not really about me, but about them.

Therefore, I think an even more important question to ask is: Why aren't mainstream Americans as natural, open and relaxed as Europeans are? Why aren't Americans as curious about foreigners in their country?

So there is a lot more at work here than just simple novelty. People and cultures are just different, for whatever reasons. Some cultures are more open, social and passionate, while others are more closed, cliquish and cold. In most foreign cultures, people act natural and down to earth, not fake and pretentious.

The "foreign hospitality" factor is merely one among many. It doesn't address the deeper issues or explain why I tend to have a much more natural comfort zone with foreigners than with Americans. And this tends to be true even with foreigners within the USA. Those that feel the same way know what I am talking about.

Question:

If social life and dating are better abroad, then why don't we hear about it more? Why isn't it being publicized more? And why aren't more people going abroad?

Answer:

This is a great question. And it shows that you're thinking. I like that. There are many factors at work here.

a) First, America controls much of the world with its wealth, power, influence and ability to infiltrate power structures at the top in many countries. As such, it has indoctrinated the world with a highly positive image of itself as a savior of the world and a role model of a free country of prosperity where everyone lives out their dreams. In other words, America is as good as it gets. Though that may not be true in many ways, America certainly has the power to control public opinion and perception. The US elite are masters of mind control and manipulation.

And sadly, most people do not know how to resist mind control. They are followers and raised to conform to the hive. It gives them a sense of safety and structure, so they don't have to avoid facing the emptiness they have inside them, and the boredom/misery of true freedom. In other words, most people believe whatever they are told like automatons and zombies. So, if they've been indoctrinated that America is the best, the ideal pinnacle of civilization, then that's what they will believe. It becomes a safety net where they ridicule everything outside of it.

What this means is that people don't want to hear the truth unless it fits in with their programmed world view. So if many people go abroad and find a better life, make better friends and connections, and get better dates, and feel better about themselves, then most Americans don't want to hear it. Expats and Global Daters know that, so they are careful who they talk to. They know that the mainstream will not understand them, and that the US media is not interested in their life unless there is something really tragic about it that can become sensational news.

The job of the US corporate media is not to educate, inform or tell you the truth about everything. It's to entertain you with sensational news and keep you within the hive mentality. Their job is to control your mind in other words. The elite either control you with domestic armies like they did in the past, or they control your mind through the tube like they do now. They've learned that it's far easier to control your mind through the media and your TV set, so they've stuck with that, for an invisible tyranny works better than an open one, where people unite and rebel. This is why you don't hear deep truths from the corporate media. Their job is to dumb you down and keep you a happy slave living in fear of anything outside your bubble.

Thus, the reality of a social/dating life being better outside America goes against the narrow view that the US media indoctrinates you with, and will not be acknowledged. It's not in their interest or agenda to cover such things or encourage them. So it will not be given publicity. As a result, most Americans don't know about it.

b) It's also a social taboo to say things like "People are stuck up and antisocial in my country. But they are friendlier, more open and more inclusive abroad." Criticizing cultures like that or comparing them is very taboo,

impolite, offensive and politically incorrect. Normal people just do not do that openly, not just the corporate media. You just don't say things like that. We are programmed to blame ourselves or improve ourselves, not to blame our culture or society.

Saying taboo things, even if they're true, draws condemnation from others. It alienates you and leads to ostracization from the rest of the tribe. So most of us don't do it. The truths and comparisons described in my work are thus "silent and forbidden truths", the kind you are not supposed to talk about openly. Such is the sad state of affairs, when truth is a censored taboo.

Thus, even by word of mouth, the truths about the life outside the US matrix are not spread around well or openly, due to this taboo nature. That's another reason you don't hear about it much in normal social circles.

In fact, even on mainstream Expat sites (ExpatExchange.com, TransitionsAbroad.com, EasyExpat.com, etc.) you won't hear the kind of truths and cultural comparisons described in Happier Abroad. Those sites have to be politically correct for their audience. They will not help single men learn how to find love and dating overseas either. That's what makes HappierAbroad.com so unique. It openly discusses the deep taboo truths and realities that other sites do not dare to.

c) Expats tend to be private people who prefer to remain anonymous and not draw attention to themselves. They do not publicize their experiences and stories online usually. And they do not like to post their names and pictures online. Most Expat bloggers only write about trivial stuff, not deep, intellectual or insightful content. They are not true freethinkers.

But I am different than other expats. I enjoy attention, and as a passionate writer, I like to inspire, help and liberate others from misery, suffering and mind control.

I've always felt that my life path was as a truth seeker and liberator of minds and lives. So in that sense, it's my soul and karmic destiny. I am also not a conformist by nature and not afraid to go against the grain or offend the tribe. That is why I am bold enough to put all this stuff out there. And I possess insights that allow me to describe truths in deeply profound ways.

This isn't about being smart or dumb. It's a matter of whether you live for the truth or to conform to the tribe out of fear.

Now in response to your last question, there are many expats who have left America and discovered the truths described in Happier Abroad here, but they do not get publicity in our media, do not discuss their lives openly, do not seek attention, and are not studied by government agencies. They simply don't fit into the system, and are thus ignored. If they attempt to spread taboo truths or upset the apple cart, they will be ridiculed of course, rather than understood. So they don't.

Question:

If life is better abroad, then how come so many foreigners are trying to get into America?

Answer:

Fair question. I've struggled with this one, and wondered whether the foreigners who have a rosy picture of America and want to immigrate here are seeing an illusion, or whether they are seeing something real that people like me don't appreciate. I've come to think it's a combination of the two.

I should clarify some things here.

First, the people who come to America aren't coming for freedom (contrary to US propaganda), or a better social/dating life. They are coming for the almighty dollar or for career opportunities. Thus, their reasons and priorities are vastly different than mine. I'm not like them though cause money doesn't make me tick. Meaningful experiences do. I do take what money I can get (hence why I've commercialized this website somewhat) but it's not the purpose of my life or soul.

Money is not really a natural thing. Nothing else in nature of the universe, as far as we know, use it. It's an artificial system designed to control, enslave and oppress people. Without it, they could not control you. It is the

total antithesis of a free society and free man. There is nothing spiritual about it at all. This is why I am drawn to popular internet films like Zeitgeist Addendum.

But we still live in a practical world where we need money. So intellectually I understand that and have to compromise with the system, even though my soul hates it. We all hate and love things. That's life. The trick is finding a proper balance between the two.

Second, the percentage of the rest of the world that are trying to come to America is not as large as most Americans think. In any country, the majority prefer to stay in it. Think about it. Why would they want to leave their friends and family behind? Most Americans wouldn't, not even for a higher paying job abroad, so why would foreigners?

But of course, Americans only see the ones coming in and assume that "everyone" is trying to come. It is as flawed as a Saudi Arabian thinking that because he/she sees many Americans coming to Saudi to make the Pilgrimage to Mecca, that most Americans must be trying to come there. Only third world impoverished countries still view the US as a golden land. Highly cultured countries like those in Europe are critical of life in the US for many reasons (see my essay *The Industrial Culture of America*), and see no advantage to moving there. The places with the highest percentage of people wanting to immigrate to the US tend to Mexico and parts of Asia. But they're doing it for the money of course, not for social, romantic, psychological or cultural benefits.

Third, it should be noted that a large percentage of immigrants in America end up disappointed, alienated and isolated. Others feel overburdened with the stress of debt and bills that call into question whether the American dream is really worth it or not. And some complain of the lack of culture, social life, connectedness, and ability to enjoy life there. For example, see these stories about disillusioned and isolated Indian immigrants in the US: [paste](#)

And of course, see [my page containing many immigrants' feelings and views about coming to America](#) that are censored by US media. It is very revealing.

Fourth, there are increasing numbers of Americans disillusioned with life in the US moving abroad, but none of it gets any publicity in the US media of course, only the incoming immigrants do. As we all know, the media's coverage is highly biased, selective, unbalanced, and agenda-driven. So you do not hear everything that's out there.

The bottom line is that each place has its pluses and minuses. We all have our values and priorities. If you are seeking money, career, and privacy, then America may be a good fit for you. If you are seeking passion, friendly women, a great social atmosphere, social connection, etc. then you may be disappointed with America. France or Italy may be better for you.

I never claimed that everyone thinks and feels as I do. Some do and some don't. But the imbalance here is that you will ONLY hear about those who fit into America and assimilate there, but not about those who don't or that fit better elsewhere. Thus the former has a legitimate voice in America while the latter doesn't. And that's the imbalance that HappierAbroad tries to remedy.

Each individual has a different chemistry with each culture. Some like more open cultures, while others prefer more reserved ones. As for me, dating, social life, and feeling special and desired are a high priority. Other cultures seem to fulfill those areas for me better than the US does. In Europe for example, the best in me is brought out and I can grow and evolve more freely. There are others who feel the same, though not everyone of course. But I do feel that I and those like me have a right to a public voice - to organize, reach out, and validate each other. Our truth should not be suppressed.

Objection:

Foreign women just want your money and a green card. You are a loser who can't get laid so you go abroad to take advantage of women who are economically oppressed.

Response:

Sigh. This is perhaps the most common prejudiced objection by brainwashed Americans who don't travel and know little about other countries. First, most women in any culture are not looking to leave it. That is US propaganda and Hollywood myth.

See my [12 point article debunking this common misconception here](#).

And see these [excellent points](#) explaining how I know that girls in the Philippines don't just want money or a green card from me.

What you've gotta understand is that it's not a simple case of "these women are friendlier to you cause they are poor and need your money." I mean, yes money is a factor here. But what's being overlooked here is that the poor are unspoiled and dependent, so they often have to cultivate good inner qualities in their personalities and behaviors to get what they need, and to compensate for their lack of material assets, especially since they depend on interdependent relations with others. In other words, they have learned to treat others nicely to get ahead, whereas Western women do not need to and can get away with treating others bad due to their overly high entitlement status. So that's another reason why poor people are nicer. It's not cause they only want your money, it has more to do with their character being developed differently than ours.

But even if those ignorant critics were right that I'm only desired for money and a green card (which they aren't), I'd still continue doing what I'm doing, cause as long as my needs and desires are FULFILLED abroad, that's the bottom line. Being used by females is far better than being ignored and out of the game completely. At least I'm in the action, having fun, and getting my choice among beautiful women. And that's what counts.

Most people in any foreign country are not trying to come to America. That is an American myth that the ignorant espouse based on propaganda. When I was in Russia, more women I met wanted to go to Germany than America, as it was closer and they admired the culture more. Most women I met were not interested in emigrating to America. In fact, they tend to have a lot of critical views of America. [Many examples are here](#).

In addition, most foreign women I meet at first assume that I am from Asia since I am Asian, so wanting a green card to go to America could not be the reason.

Hence, this copout is invalid. It's just a way to try to undermine or discredit the truth, that US social life and dating for men is one of the worst, if not the worst, in the world.

Do these objectors who use this lame argument really think that all women who have no ulterior motives naturally become paranoid, anti-social, stuck up, unapproachable, non-inclusive, and creeped out when you flirt with them?! Heaven forbid. They couldn't be more wrong.

Naturally feminine women are sweet, friendly, loving and enjoy being flirted with. Cinderella was like that too. So I think the real question is, why aren't women in the US that way?

Now, as to me being a loser, see these pages of responses by me and my Advisor:

<http://www.happierabroad.com/alternative.php>

<http://www.happierabroad.com/Ladislav.php>

What is a loser? There is no objective criteria for it. It's a highly subjective and judgmental term based on hate and ignorance. But yes, I have been treated like a loser in social/dating situations for much of my life in America. But it was never by choice. Deep down I always saw myself as a winner who deserved better, hence my taking action in going overseas out of the "Matrix", which turned out to be the real solution without hype and BS.

I am just a nice decent guy looking for love, fulfillment and happiness. Why should I put up with anything less, simply because I don't cut it in the insane dysfunctional artificial society of the US? I didn't do anything wrong. I did not ask to be suffocated or socially isolated and lonely in America. Those were external factors beyond my control. See these [Ten Reasons](#) why I was forced to look for love abroad, and you will see that I really had no choice, as these factors were out of my control.

A person does what he/she has to do. If his/her needs aren't fulfilled or met in one place, why not try other places? If you were at a store in the mall that didn't have what you want, should you stay and buy something you don't want, or go to another store to seek what you want?

As the New Age Author Wayne Dyer said, "Those who judge do not define those that they judge; they merely define themselves as people who judge."

Objection:

I've lived in America or visited there. I didn't experience what you claim. I met many wonderful friendly people there.

My response:

I can believe that. I never claimed that all Americans or all foreigners were a certain way. Experiences are a mystery and one can never understand why people have different experiences, even in the same places.

But let's define first what we're talking about here. How do you define "friendly"? People have different standards for what they consider "friendly". To some, it means you smile and nod at strangers as you pass by, and never see them again. To others, it is just superficial politeness. That is common in America, but not what I'm referring to. I am talking about social inclusiveness, the ease of making friends, of connecting with others, of sharing quality time together, of fellowship/camaraderie, and of being able to date and romance beautiful feminine women of good quality. All of that has to flow naturally. That's what I mean about being open and friendly.

I know that might seem like a lot to ask for in a culture like the US where selfishness and isolation is the norm, but in most of the world, it is the norm and therefore NOT a lot to ask for. You have to remember that I am looking at all this from a much broader scope than those looking at it strictly through a mono-national American perspective (or the perspective of their locality).

Now, if you had lots of fun, attention and a great social life in America, it may be that you 1) were lucky enough to find a great clique to break into, 2) were lucky enough to meet great friends who introduced you to others, 3) just fit in well with American people and culture (some do), 4) were part of an organized activity that was social in nature (college, camp, band, etc.), or you hung out in groups of travelers with lots of social connections, or 5) were very attractive to Americans and have a look they desire, hence your elevated treatment there.

Or simply put, you were a cute female that got lots of attention from lonely emasculated guys trying to kiss butt, which is no surprise, and so you mean that guys were friendly to you. But if you were a single guy like me, you wouldn't have gotten all that attention and special treatment, so how can you relate? But you probably noticed a lot of jealousy from other American females if you were more attractive or feminine than them. Or maybe you didn't stay long enough in America to start seeing the dark ugly soul-sucking side beneath its fake exterior.

Whatever the case, the fact is that many Americans and foreign immigrants feel the way I do. The massive volume of people that I've quoted in this treatise documents that well.

Moreover, as mentioned in the chapter about dysfunction in America, stats show that loneliness is an epidemic in America. At least 1 out of 5 people are lonely, which isn't true in other nations, so that should tell you a lot right there about the isolating element.

Just because you got lucky in America doesn't negate the real pain, isolation, loneliness, alienation, and estrangement of millions of others in America suffering silently. Not everyone is as lucky as you. Michael Jordan might feel that it's easy to make slam dunks in basketball, but that doesn't mean that for most, it is.

Regardless of your experience, it doesn't change the fact that in US culture, people don't talk to strangers unless it's business related, and that women are unapproachable, paranoid, non-inclusive, and think that men who flirt with them are creeps. Try approaching them if you're a guy and you'll see. Even if you are decent looking, you will still get a force field if you approach them that tells you that talking is not allowed unless you need directions or if it's business related. In other words, the patterns I describe here still hold true even if you were lucky to have a great experience.

No guy I know who argues that Americans are open and inclusive, has the guts to approach them and prove it. They are all talk and no action. Just because they meet a lot of people through their friends, which is the "normal way" to meet people in America, doesn't erase any of the above social rules and isolation mentality.

As for me, even if I had a lot of connections and activity in the US, I'd still feel alienated and estranged since I don't act fake, and my soul is too honest and natural.

Objection:

You generalize and make a lot of blanket statements. There are many exceptions to the broad brush you paint.

My response:

First, see my article refuting such politically correct objections, at

http://www.debunkingskeptics.com/Politically_Correct_Fanatics.htm

I do not generalize in the sense that I claim that what I describe is 100 percent. I merely describe general PATTERNS. Yes we are all individuals but PATTERNS of differences DO EXIST between people of different regions, cultures, and groups. The examples that could be given are infinite. For instance, if you go to a sewing class you will notice mostly women and few or no men. That's not generalizing, it's simply a pattern and reality that anyone can observe or know by common sense. Likewise with yoga classes or psychic fairs. But if you go to a NASCAR racing event, you will notice far more men than women. Again, that's not generalizing, simply a pattern observable by anyone.

Anyone who goes into a department clothing store can see that the quantity and variety of clothes for women are far greater than for men. Is that generalizing, or reality? Did I ever claim that 100 percent of the clothes in clothing stores are for women, that 100 percent of Minnesota is under snow, or that 100 percent of Arizona is desert? No, of course not. Use your common sense please. Therefore, technically speaking, I'm not generalizing.

Moreover, things and people are NOT in the same percentages everywhere. For instance, in Holland a greater percentage of men are taller than in China. That's not generalizing, but a measurable and well documented fact and "pattern". There are more Blacks than Whites in Africa, and in Asia there are more Asians than Whites. Overall, Whites tend to be taller and bigger than Asians. That's not generalizing or racism. It's just a real pattern fully established and easily observable.

PATTERNS ARE A REALITY.

Why deny truth in favor of political correctness? I prefer to live for the truth. I never said that all Americans or all foreigners are the same. This treatise is not about absolutes, but about general patterns and tendencies. I've provided much evidence, examples and quotes to illustrate this. A lot of it is just common sense, as in the common knowledge that most parents wouldn't want their kids to get kidnapped for instance, which anyone would agree with without asking for statistics or proof.

Now just because you find or know some exceptions to what I claim here, doesn't debunk the general patterns. For example, just cause you find someone who is rich and well fed in Ethiopia doesn't change the fact that most people there are starving and poor. Likewise, just because you know some guys who wear lipstick doesn't change the fact that most guys don't. To give you another example, we all know that it rains far more often in Seattle than Los Angeles. However, if you wanted, you could find some days when it rained in Los Angeles but not in Seattle. But would that refute the fact that it rains in Seattle more often? Nope.

Here is another one: We know that the USA has a higher population than Canada. But if you were to take a specific acre of land in Canada that was densely populated, say in downtown Montreal, and compare it with a specific acre of land in America that was barely populated, say an acre of open land in Kansas, would that then debunk the fact that America is more populated than Canada?

So you see, there are always exceptions, but they don't debunk a general rule, strong pattern, or social custom.

What would you rather have me do, lie and say that everything is the same everywhere, that there are no patterns or percentages of differences, just so I don't offend anyone?!

Objection:

Perhaps the problem is you. You have a bad attitude and are whiney and that puts women off.

My response:

Judgmental people are quick to insinuate that the problem must be me. However, there are two primary reasons why the problem can't just be me.

- 1) I don't have the dateless life abroad that I do in America. So if the problem is me, then why don't I have the same problems overseas? Anyone who sees my [Photo Collage](#) will instantly see this.
- 2) In other countries there are not oodles of dateless men like there are in America. There aren't Pick-Up-Artist/Seduction Gurus marketing seminars and books to guys on how to pick up girls like there are in the US. Normal healthy societies don't need that. Dating and relationships are more natural overseas, not dysfunctional and Fed up. What does that tell you? This problem is on a large scale in America, not just limited to me and a few "losers".

Now I can understand that a lot of what I write here might sound negative and whiney. However, when I am constantly socially isolated, suffocated, feel weak, vulnerable and lonely, what do you expect? Of course I'm going to seem negative in a situation that doesn't bring out the best in me. You can't expect me to be totally positive under those conditions.

But the main thing to understand here is that "whining" or complaining did not cause my dateless situation in America, it was the RESULT of it. Those who spout this rejection have it completely REVERSED. The truth is, I've had optimistic positive confident attitudes toward women for years and years, and I believed that it was easy to get dates in America cause that's what our media and culture says. But my belief didn't manifest. I still got constant rejections, blow offs, and excuses. No one starts complaining for no reason unless things go wrong repeatedly. This is just a typical shallow copout.

Put me in an environment that I like, have a synergy with, and that brings out the best in me, and I'll definitely be exuding positive vibes. So it's not like I project negative vibes everywhere, only in places I don't jive with or belong in. It's that simple. LOCATION is the main factor, just as in Real Estate, and [these testimonials prove it](#).

However, pointing to negativity or a bad attitude does not address the causes, merely the symptoms. I didn't just come up out of nowhere and choose to have a negative attitude so that I'll have negative experiences. It's never like that, and those who think so imply backward causality, that the symptom somehow moves backward in time to create the result. It's utter nonsense.

The truth is, regardless of my attitude, the patterns I described in this treatise are still be the same. Becoming positive isn't going to change women or our paranoid society. And it's not going to take down the social boundary that talking to strangers in public is inappropriate unless it's business related. Those things are part of our social culture, and have nothing to do with any negative vibes from me.

Having positive vibes is not going to make American women see me as dating material. Even good looking successful guys have made similar complaints as I have about the horrible dating scene for men in America. They've written me about it too.

Therefore, accusing me of projecting negative vibes is irrelevant. Another indisputable argument is that nearly all American girls I meet online disappear when they see my picture, even if it's a good looking one! Yet foreign women don't do that. That's a tremendous difference, one that has nothing to do with my "attitude". In fact, a lot of American girls LIKED my personality and attitude online. But when they saw my picture, they bolted. So it was obviously LOOKS, not attitude, that was the factor.

So again, such arguments fail to look at the big picture or the root causes. They are just victim-blaming judgmental copouts to try to dismiss me and others in my predicament, motivated by the need to defend the status quo mentality that dissidents are to blame, never the system or culture itself.

Objection:

Your site promotes sex tourism which supports sex trade trafficking.

My response:

This is a typical feminist response and copout that avoids the truth of what we are claiming. When they can't win on the arguments and facts, they resort to attacking the messenger. That is the hallmark of someone with no ground to stand on and needs to hide from the truth.

The fact is, my site mentions sex very little. Why do we need to mention it? We are not a porn site nor do we have any porn pictures. We focus on natural attractive, love, and fulfillment. Sure the sex is a natural part of that, but not the focus of this site.

Why do we need to talk about it anyway? We prefer doing it to talking about it. Why talk about it? It's better to just do it. Furthermore, why condemn it? Sex is a natural desire and part of human life and pleasure.

If a guy wants to sleep with a prostitute, that's his business. No one else's. It is between two mutually consenting adults after all, so there is nothing ethically wrong with it, even though it's not good for someone seeking a monogamous relationship. But some guys enjoy having prostitutes, which by the way are different in foreign countries in that they treat men better and put more emotional investment in it (e.g. bar girls in Southeast Asia for example) and are not all business like in America. For them, enjoying prostitutes is part of the umbrella of being "Happier Abroad" and that is their legal and personal right. What business is it of anyone else's?

Besides, there are too many judgmental terms being thrown around in our society that spin natural things like sex in an unnecessarily negative way. This Expat explained to me the relativity of it all:

"By the way its funny how some people throw around the term sex addict. Don't most men love sex? You can say he has a strong sex drive, or you can say he is an addict. You can say he is virile, or you can say he is a maniac. You can say an older man that likes younger women is young at heart, or you can say he is a pervert. Its all how you spin it."

There is this feminist cultural myth though, that most prostitutes are "trafficked" as slaves against their will. That is not true. Most prostitutes do it by choice. I've never met one that said she was forced against her will to do it. Therefore, these feminists promote lies and are control freaks who are very anti-male, which is their true agenda.

Some of my forum posters described the motivation of these "sex trade" accusers best in these response to attacks on us from the PlentyofFish Forum:

<http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=8511>

"Ah, the usual load of shit. It's an easy way to actually dodge the issue to make themselves look good. The one bitch writes about this being a 'sex trade' site...and then all the manginas who worship these worthless animals rush to their defense. Let's not confront the real issue of what Wu and others are putting forth...that you will find better women abroad than the domestics...and lets call it about sex trade.

Sex trade. My ass. Even if it WAS in THEORY the women would only be angry because MEN are controlling the arrangements. There is nothing more dangerous to the feminist whore than men deciding or helping others to gain access to a vagina, the only natural weapon or defense they possess. What these manginas fail to realize leaping to her defense, is that there is a sex trade in the United States, which the women control. It is called 'dating' here. Dating in this country resembles the mating habits of baboon packs or peacocks in the animal kingdom; the male displays and the broad picks. They go for the strongest or the most attractive. And so it is with out dating scene.

Honest manginas go on POF hoping to find a date, and unless he meets their ridiculous criteria, his messages will be deleted without even being read, let alone an actual response. Why is this? Because the ratio is skewed. There is probably 10 guys to every female on there. You send her an email, well, she has 30 other messages in her inbox too. She's not gonna read any of them. She's going to click on the pictures. Lol that bitch and manginas said 'unattractive' men do this, get foreign girls? Not so, jackass. Because see, being decent, average, or moderately good looking...ISN'T GOOD ENOUGH. You better look like Brad Pitt. I've read profiles of these fat ass bitches with 1 or more bastard kids saying they want a guy who is 6'5, is athletic, or has tatoos and looks like a 'bad boy.' Why does a fat piece of shit like this get to pick ANYTHING? I've noticed too, as I've browed the POF forums, how most of the guys on there...just suck up to these worthless

bitches...probably hoping because they NEVER GET EMAIL RESPONSES OR ACTUAL INTERESTS IN THEIR INBOX that kissing ass on the forums might generate some sort of interest.

I also like how the one mangina says that men who do what we do is usually "unattractive losers who can't get girls" or something to that effect. Ha. Not true at all, buddy. I have an account on that fucking site. Now I'm not a PUA by any stretch, but I AM a writer...so I wrote mine in such a way that bitches look at it constantly, and they email ME. I went alpha on it. I literally changed the fuckin thing from a normal decent dude profile to one...that has the attitude...which is not false...I actually was being honest. I said what kind of bitches I do and don't want..shit like...no kids, sorry...women of class only...if you haven't been outside of Ohio you are not cultured enough for me...all that shit is on my profile..and bang...night and day. I suddenly get emails.

I went on dates with some of these bitches, on the side while I waited for my REAL girlfriend, the foreigner to get here...dateless men? Ha. I probably got more dates off there than that asshole. But you know what? It just confirmed everything we talk about on Happy Bachelors, on Happier Abroad...these women are shit. Some of them were so self absorbed it was like being at a Monologue one man act play and sitting there for 2hrs or however long the date was. So I emailed, I talked on the phone, and I went on dates with some of these girls...and all it did...was make me that much more thankful for my fillipina. It was almost to prove to myself experientially that I had made the right choice in doing this. I didn't even want to sport fuck them....it didn't even seem worth the time or effort.

I met one good girl on POF.....AND SHE WAS FROM THAILAND.”

“I read some of that attack and also the anti-Wu site created for you (some rough stuff out there). Had to come back to this thread and post.

About Wu? Whatever. There's something bigger at play. See, you could be considered like a messenger and people love to attack the messenger and not the actual message/matter at hand, especially when it goes very much against what they have been believing. If they have to stretch outside their paradigm or comfort zone, they'll look for the diversion to attack. Winston takes the blows, and also too, because there is some material there for them to do so. A real easy route for them.

What about the rest of us? What about the 1000's and 1000's of us who have GENUINELY found very nice and easier flowing relationships with NON-WORKING women and women who DO NOT want our money like some hungry wolf nor want to get U.S. citizenship. Or just overall better day to day living conditions (NOT measured by the wealth of a country).

What about the VERY REAL difference of women in several of these other countries vs for example the U.S. and how they score on the cards quite higher?

Of course, there are also the many issues non-female related for being HappierAbroad.

These are the FACTS that the people who can more easily attack a messenger (be it with this relationship issue, or politics, or whatever) choose to try to get away from. You see this a lot in debates in the media when they have on (rarely) someone who really is speaking the non-PC, and less frequently mentioned truth. They get attacked for everything else BUT the facts they are bringing to the table.

Whatever these haters say against Winston, is basically immaterial. He's already written a quite insightful book, and created this forum for others to share insightful thoughts and experiences (although I admit, it is quite bombarded with date ads all over the place). Therefore, it's already too late for the antis. People are being saved from the trap, from the pit, one by one, be it with seeking better relationships (as here on this forum), or being set free from the grips of an infiltrated gov, media, banking, med, edu, force set to ruin a people (other forums to learn of the many actual names behind those fields and the commonality they share).

Praises be to the internet! There are downsides to it, but also many blessings! Praises to the great minds. People who want to help people and not hurt them.”

Concluding comments:

If your question was not addressed in the above FAQ, feel free to post it here in this forum thread:

<http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=6648>

So you see, a lot of these objections are merely statements of ignorance and prejudice, and do not take into account the big picture and the truth that is unprogrammed.

Perhaps my Expat Advisor summed up these narrow objections best:

- “All this goes to show that a PT (Perpetual Traveler) will never be understood by a mono-national. They simply cannot think in the terms that we think in. They have no experience with the demographics and economics and ethnographics of other societies. They can’t relate to our lifestyle. It is like explaining the benefits of flying to an earthworm.”
- “They are not travelers and they don’t know how demographics and economics as well as cultural and racial factors affect dating. They have not seen the amazing results that we have when we manipulate those by traveling. And they believe in America being the only place on earth and are not world citizens. Btw, American women do not need training- they can get a guy anytime. Even when fat and ill dressed. Not Filipinas, these will not find a guy if not attractive.”
- “In America they have all these advisors and experts but most have no idea about life outside the US. In many ways, Americans are more insular than the Japanese; so few travel that persons like you are still in the forefront of international dating. Americans are mostly very prejudiced because they think these women date you because they want a green card. And the most prejudiced Americans are 1st generation born there. As you may have noticed, Filipinas would much rather have their foreign boyfriends and husbands stay in the Philippines. And the Russians love their country.

Thankfully though, I do have the occasional surprise of having a critic turn into a fan, as in these cases:

http://www.happierabroad.com/Great_Letters.htm

“I don’t remember the exact year but it was probably around 2002 or 2003 when your website was a chronicle about all the problems you were encountering in Russia . I believe my initial responses to you were kind of critical in regards to your adventures in Russia and your motivations. Well, like you I am an Asian-American and I made the decision to live abroad in 2005. I haven’t regretted it one bit and it has been a life changing (and saving) experience. It’s interesting and sort of funny to me that it seems you decided to live abroad roughly around the same time as I did. I always considered this option and deep down inside it’s what I was planning for in my life.”

<http://www.youtube.com/globaldating>

"After weeks and months of criticizing Winston Wu, I have to give it to him... He is right... American women are more stuck up than foreign women and the proof was what I witnessed...? I actually went to most countries abroad and what Winston said was SO true. I now applaud for his effort in helping dateless man like me in America face hope again. Thank you Winston Wu."

I'm not alone – Letters from fans and supporters

Please note that if you consider my experiences and claims to be freakish and unusual, I am not alone and that what I say represents a lot of people out there who are afraid to express their true opinions, programmed to deny such forbidden truths, or never covered by any public media. As evidence, check out these collections of letters and comments I receive from those who observe and feel similarly:

[Testimonials about Happier Abroad](#)

[Testimonials that dating is all about location](#)

[Testimonials from those who found happiness abroad](#)

[Fan letters from readers](#)

There are many in America who feel the same way I do. The difference is that they are afraid to speak out because either 1) they have never lived anywhere else so they have nothing to compare it to, or 2) they are afraid to admit it in public or to others because a) they do not wish to appear negative but positive instead, b) they are afraid that if they admit it, others will think there is something wrong with them, c) it will make them seem like losers if they don't like where they live, d) they are afraid of offending others, and e) since humans are conformists by nature, they naturally try to fit in with the party line and are afraid to go against the crowd, (unlike me) regardless of how they feel deep down. Instead, they merely tolerate it.

In addition, it's too easy to develop a "comfort zone" where you live, so it's often difficult to change your situation or location, even if you hate it. It's human nature to prefer inertia and inaction rather than to take risks to change an undesirable situation.

Now, don't get the idea that all my fans and supporters in my readership audience are geeky/nerdy Asian American males who can't get dates in America. There are also many white guys as well, some good looking by American standards. It's just that their soul, personality, and aura/vibe don't jive in America. Simple as that. In addition, there are some open-minded females (American and non-American) in my audience too, who sympathize with how I feel and admire my courage, openness and insight.

But nevertheless, I receive fan letters like the following on a regular basis (as well as the ones from all the quotes you see in this book):

"I came across your e-booklet on Happier Abroad.

I cannot express in words how impressed I am by your work and how accurate and true you are to yourself. I have lived in the US for 13 years now, and I can't but agree with every single word you wrote. I am sure that many of my friends who have gone through the same experiences do also agree. America is the land of false promise, the land of moral and psychological depression. People in the US who think they're happy, are mostly so because they do not know any better.

Anyhow, I am working of relocating out of the US as soon as possible after reality of life has become crystal clear. No regrets, because life events have forced me into this direction, but now I say to myself: enough!

Congratulations again on a job well done!!!!!"

"Hello Winston,

I am only on number seven of your article but I had to write you now to tell you how eloquent and spot on you are with your analysis and descriptions of our society here in America. I don't belong here and each time I go to Europe I realize more and more that I belong there. I can't stand Americans, the culture, the way this society is heading and especially the girls. Your descriptions finally put into words what I cannot stand about this place. I have had trouble putting into words why I don't like it here. Please allow me to plagiarize, copy or put into my own words your descriptions. I am amazed at how well you painted the proper picture."

Even immigrants who live in the capital of America, New York City, see a lot of truth in my words:

"You are very thorough with your arguments about American culture and women. Making these observations is the taking of the red pill from the first Matrix movie. You can finally see the reality of America instead of her outward appearances. It's sad that there isn't really much behind the surface of this country because 230 year old America has been an unprecedented and wildly successful experiment in human history. Yet, now it seems that our country, its government and its culture are in decline. Others may say, "America love it or leave it!" If things don't drastically change soon, the response unfortunately will be "America: once loved it, now will leave it!" "

And intelligent foreign females who live here see truth in my words which to them are a rare outlet of truth from the mainstream:

"Winston,

I was referred to your webpage by a friend of mine who is from Germany. She had sent me one of your articles and I decided to explore further on your web page. I found the article titled " what immigrants and foreigners say about America that you never hear in the U.S. Media" very funny and completely accurate. I am glad that there are people out there who realize that the U.S. is not everything. My friend and I always talk about this type of stuff, and it makes me very happy to see that WE are not the only ones who feel this way and get upset about it. Because we feel we cannot express ourselves fully without getting a strange look or some kind of disagreement. (It is as if we are emotionally in jail.)

.....
Unfortunately I'm bounded to the U.S. because of family, how ever, I do hope to be back in Europa within the upcoming 5 years because there is no place like home ;-D

Thanks for being an outlet, and it is good to know that I'm not the only one. I feel a whole lot better already! hahahaha"

Even US military veterans, who tend to be the most patriotic, see a lot of truth in my words:

"Winston,

As a 44 year old Navy veteran (I served 1980-1986) who's travelled the world, all I can say is this: you're right on! From women to the screwed up hyper consumerism in the USA, you're right on. Now, I'll finish your e-book (I downloaded it to my computer-yes!), then I'll write again..."

"Sir, first off, let me tell you in one word what I thought of your e-book...OUTSTANDING!!!!!!!!!!!! I'm currently reading it right now and it is great!!!

A little background about myself...I'm retired from the US Air Force and currently working for the government...however, I'm counting down the days till I can leave the rat race and head overseas to The Philippines to live there permanently...."

Many who feel the same way have stated that my writings reflect what they've always felt but couldn't put into words:

"Your (enormously large) page has helped me to realize why it is, exactly, that I feel so terrible living in the United States, it has been a goal of mine to leave for a while, but as I have very little in the way of "upward mobility" (no money) I can't quite figure out how to escape.

It seems as though I would be a great deal less miserable elsewhere and I would like to ask for advice on how to escape the US with my limited means. I can't even have a decent relationship with my parents because they are everything your page describes as the typical American, and I am not."

“Having never lived outside American society I accepted as 'normal human conditions' the diseased social interactions that plague America. Reading your writings has helped me realize the causes of many of my discontentment. From there, there is no where to look but up to brighter days.

I have read a lot, but in particular this

<http://www.happierabroad.com/ebook.htm>

made me realize a lot about the culture in which I live in America. Having never lived anywhere else I didn't really have any comparison and only vaguely realized that there were other ways of living and interacting than what is found in America, with its often cold nature.

Regards, “

And some are made happy just by feeling validated by my book:

“Sent: Mon, 13 Aug 2007 8:22 am
Subject: You are AWESOME!

Dear sir,

You have made me extremely happy today. I too live in California and am of Asian descent. For my entire life, I have been socially awkward and rejected in school and other areas. Although I do have a lot of friends, I've always seemed to notice that my social skills differed from the "norm". I've always seen myself as outgoing, funny and nice but when I tend to over do it at times and thus lose friends and respect. I've always thought that I was the only person like this but when I found your site and read about your experiences, it described me exactly and now I know that I do not have to conform to American society. Throughout my past 3 years in High School, I've been changing almost every bit of myself in hopes of becoming popular again and having friends, but to no avail. Hopefully, I can become an expat and live in France or other part of Europe and enjoy the same success as you.

Thank you so much!”

Also, those who are outside the US mainland are much braver about voicing their opinions, as this Hawaiian man vociferates:

“To answer your question, I spent the first 5 years of my life on the continental US, and then three months in 1999 before moving to Hawaii. So no, I am not really very familiar with it... and, quite frankly, I have little desire to be. Although I am officially an American citizen, I agree with all of your sentiments about Americans that I have read so far -- and I have a good few that I can add: America as a concept and a people is a failure. Americans for the most part are spoiled, greedy, vindictive, unworldly, unsophisticated, unhealthy, unattractive, uneducated, and downright stupid (mentally lazy). And, even when they are aware of the world that lies beyond their shores, they view themselves as superiors to everyone else -- entitled to whatever the rest of the world can produce for them. They are concerned with having it all, NOW: They are short-term thinkers (if you can call it that) who can't understand the difference between quality and junk even if you show it to them. You can also add cowardice to the list - - Americans simply let their military and corporations do their dirty work around the world, without any regard to the consequences for the planet or its people so long as "the chosen ones" can drive their SUVs to McDonalds cheaply.

(Just remember, I am an American too, so I think I have the right to speak my mind during the closing hours of this country's freedom of speech.)”

And even in the face of harsh criticism on internet forums, some enlightened folks immediately recognize truth in my words, as this nice Polish American did:

“Hey Winston,

I just read over the euro weekly digest and found you to be the only person who knows what he's talking about. I am a Polish-American that was born and has lived most of my life in the US and speak fluent English without an accent. I have spent many years living abroad in Poland (I visit just about every summer), Italy for a year, England for a year and visited a lot of other countries in Europe as well as Northern Africa.

So, when I read over your posts its just like reading what I've known for years. When I was younger I was a very average American teenager until I went to high school and saw the insanity of America and the everyday mentality of my friends from middle school becoming that of their narrow-minded parents. Ever since I have grown to hate America more and more by the day. America lusts for money and greed, the whole system is anti-friendly and geared towards those who like to work to death, after all what is the point of life in America if you are not working? Anyways I will spare you the rest of the generalizations because I already mostly agree with what you wrote in your posts. American people are duped everyday by their popular culture and the people in power, keeping everyone servile.....

Just wanted to say hi and say I know your right and the rest is either uneducated or refuses to think deeply enough about the overall situation in the world.”

Of course, the lone dissident faces an uphill battle, even if he speaks the truth, as the ancient story of Socrates goes. And often, the plight seems futile, as a local boy wrote me:

"I've enjoyed your postings and have just posted one of my own. I think we might have a lot in common - especially, perhaps, our experiences in the former Soviet union. The mistake you make is however assuming you can get through to people who have only experienced one variety of life and who are entrenched in hipsterdom. See, the hipster has a scene. The scene dictates the ideology, and individuality is frowned upon.

.....
It's amazing to me how old knowledge about the human race rings true. The individualist always goes against the group and is often right about important things where the group is usually wrong. This is how it has always been, but I, like you, often make these attempts at getting through to others who have usually large social support networks that are too powerful to negate.

Another reader gave me this nice consolation:

“Well, I'm glad you're on the journey of self-discovery out of the Matrix. Good luck. If the average American doesn't like you, then you're probably on the right track, but remember that you're not alone, just outnumbered and underrepresented. That's the way it's always been since ancient times.”

But standing alone can pay off into being deemed “hero” status, as my consultant observed:

“Oh, yes, and you have dared to be yourself and stand alone. That makes you lonely and a subject of ridicule for years, but if you stand your ground you become a ‘hero’. I have been called a hero a few times, too.”

Amazingly, I actually have been called a “hero” and “inspiration” by some of my fans. And that's an honor that very very few men get in life. [Here are some examples from fan letters, in their own words.](#) A teen admirer even wrote me:

“Winston, I'm currently 17 years old and like you I am a Chinese American. I love the ebooks you have online and I really enjoy hearing about your success with white women abroad. I have a research paper on "my hero" and I choose to do my report on you and your success. I would really like to possibly chat with you online and just ask you simple questions for my report. You are an inspiration to Chinese Americans such as myself.”

Also, my writings have even changed some people's lives, as this person credited to me:

“After reading all your ebooks and following your advice to visit Lithuania I did and met the love of my life. I really give you credit because you are 100% right. I'm never dating or going with a shallow, superficial american woman ever again. I would also like to let you know that I am getting married in

MAY 2008. Keep up the good work Winston you do inspire people.”

When my long-time advisor and contributor to this book heard about how I've changed lives and given new hope, and become a hero to others, he exclaimed:

“Winston, Dude,

You are a leader now! A LEADER!!!! I was positively shocked by these comments- so many and of so many backgrounds. And most are Americans!!! And Aussies? Wow! I kind of expected some ABC nerds from Monterey Park to comment, but you are getting basically quite mainstream people BEING LED BY YOU!!!!

BY YOU, DUDE!

And in some ways, you are being led by me.

HOLY FUCKING SHIT!!!! YOU ARE DOING IT MAN!!!

You are definitely not living your life in vain.”

And put me in a grand new light:

“Winston you are now an Asian American Moses, and you are leading your people out of the “captivity” of boredom, loneliness, lovelessness and datelessness to the various promised lands of milk and honey, many honeys that is and milk is to come later. Lol.”

For more testimonials and comments, see these links:

[Testimonials about Happier Abroad](#)

[Testimonials that dating is all about location](#)

[Testimonials from those who found happiness abroad](#)

[Fan letters from readers](#)

Note: You may now interact with my other fans and supporters on my new discussion forum at www.happierabroad.com/forum/index.php

Concrete visual proof of my claims from thousands of photos and videos (with electrified responses from viewers)

Anyone who views my [Photo Collage](#) , [Photojournals](#) and [Videos](#) of my trips in Russia and Europe will get a great up-close and personal glimpse through my eyes of what I'm talking about. They contain thousands of images and video clips that provide concrete visual proof of the claims in this book about foreign women. They show you from my perspective, the cultural stimulation that I'm used to, as well as the inclusive social environment and approachable nonparanoid beautiful women that I described. Here are the links to them.

Collage: <http://www.happierabroad.com/ebook/Collage.htm>

Photojournals: <http://www.happierabroad.com/Photojournals.htm>

Videos : <http://www.happierabroad.com/Videos.htm>

They show you firsthand just how natural and easy it is to meet girls in public overseas. Look at what viewers and fans wrote about them in these electrified responses they sent to me:

“The collages were fantastic. Loved every girl shown. I went through your photo album 2003 and I must say you were like a different person out there...like you were possessed by something..lol Anyways, how did you plan that trip to meet so many women there? It seemed that every town you went, you had somebody waiting for you there..... One thing that still bewilders the hell out of me is the ease and confidence of how you met women in any public place. I hope things are still the same way in Russia nowadays, since your last trip. I want to meet some gorgeous women but with character as well..... Your pictures are probably going to keep me up all night, cause of those damn beautiful exotic creatures I saw in the photo album (especially that blonde haircutter from Ismailovsky park and Katya). I wonder why I wasted my so much time here when so many nice women would be willing to meet me half way around the world. It just doesn't make much sense...does it? And no one told me about the opportunity to meet women until last year!!!

“Winston, I just finished your Photo Journals

All I can say is "WOW"

“Dear Winston,

I want to thank your for your interesting and educational picture galleries on your trips to Russia. I enjoyed browsing through all those pics. I also enjoyed looking at all those beautiful russian women. I still can't believe you were there so long and your 6 month trip there must have been a learning experience.”

“Too be honest with you Winston, I think almost all of the girls you hit on (and many of them you scored) are all very hot. This makes me wonder how you did it, especially the fact that you're an oriental. I know some guys who have a lot more than you, but they can't do anywhere near what you did (in terms of girls of course).

I think I now equate Winston Wu as expert in picking up hot chicks. Really.”

“Winston, as I was watching your adventures, I was thinking what a lucky person you are to have experienced so many things - regardless if they were positive or negative. You did this on your own, and you should be proud of yourself. Most of your enemies simply sit and write behind a computer, but you have lived it - which means a lot more. Think of how many men in the US will never have the chance to do

what you have done. I guess what I admire most about you is that you been willing to share your experiences with the rest of the world to enjoy, and I am happy to have come across your site 3 years ago, as I feel I have gotten to know more about Russia via you. Thanks!"

"Dear Winston,

I hope I'm not being a bother, but I saw your pictures in Russia and I'm very impressed. Damn, you had a lot of beautiful women at your hands. Although I'm going to Russia to fulfill my foreign language requirements in college, I don't think it'd be a bad idea to hit on all the hot women that everyone's talking about. My Russian professor here tells me that the women will be all over me in Saint Petersburg."

"Hi Winston

I have been very impressed with your special missions in dealing with Russian women. You have the skills and tact to deal with these Russian women on their terms on their own turf. Many of these guys on the list seem to miss this very important fact.

From your posts you clearly turned the tables on quite a few of them and you clearly proved with your photos. Photos prove everything they backup the talk. You walk the talk so to speak and very few of these other men on these Blogging site can ever claim this not even the agency owners whom many are scamming many men."

"By the way, I saw your other photo album that you sent me with respect to your six-week ordeal in Moscow; VERY IMPRESSIVE."

"I couldn't go through all your photos, but I got through some of them. I must admit some of the Russian chicks were quite hot."

"I just finished viewing your 2005 photojournals. With all those pictures, I feel like I was there too. Wow, what an adventure! Can you tell the group what is happening with you currently..."

"i have been travelling around europe for the past 5 months and have a photo gallery of my own.... but the photos are pretty tame, i left my camera at home on most occassions when i was with girls but you my friend are a legend when it comes to that!!!!"

"Winston, I am amazed at your ability to attract women that are much more attractive than yourself. I wish I had more of your magic. I consider myself much more attractive than you, but you seem to do better with the ladies. What is your secret?"

"Winston,

You are my hero. When will you have another trip to Russia? I will go with you. Maybe you could organize a group for Russia girls."

“Winston,

Yes, I saw all nine of them. Very good!! The photos for the second trip I had already seen before but looked through again. This time I got to see all the photos. I had seen those when you had it up before back in January before I ordered the trip 3 videos. After seeing them again and the photos from your first trip, I can't wait to see the actual videos.”

“I have now spent a couple of days (in between busy periods, which is usually the case) looking through your photo journals and... WOW! What can I say?!”

Your journeys certainly put mine to shame. I didn't even have a camera on mine (back in 1994, digital cameras were not yet good enough/available, and as a vegan I did not want to use gelatin film), so I don't have a single photo aside from what ladies sent me in letters. Next time I'll come well prepared in the camera department!

But again, WOW - I can't believe your forwardness, and the successes that you had (even though you complain that you weren't successful)! How did you do it? “

“Also, your videos and photos are so great and interesting that they stir up debate in forums and interest in countries.”

“Your photo album made this freestyle form of dating appealing as it provided me a glimpse of how social dynamics work there, so Winston you did a great job.”

“Hi! My name is Kevin. I'm from the Philippines. I spent the last two days reading (or rather looking) at your pictures. It was a like movie!!!! (though your ending isn't that happy :<) I really learned a lot from your site..... Anyway I hope they make a movie out of your life one day!!!!”

“Winston --

I really enjoyed the photos you provided. They were great. You did a great job of narration also. I visited Moscow, Kazan and Yoshkar-Ola in 2004. Incredible isn't it?”

“I dont know how you do it, but whatever it might be(wit, charm, outgoing personality, etc.), i think you've got game(by that i mean confidence).

Frankly, I think you just have an uncanny outgoing personality.

Cheers and Kind Regards,

Howard

ps, you kick ass man.”

As you can see just from the stunned responses above, I don't have a problem meeting girls outside America. The difference astounds even me. Abroad, I couldn't be more different than the bored person in America who always has to stay home because women are totally anti-social to him in the unsocial environment around him. The thousands of images from my real life experiences displayed in the [Photojournals](#) as well as the [Videos](#) prove that conclusively many times over.

Now, to be honest (I'm all about the truth you know, even if it shames me), among my stories and events are misadventures and mishaps as well. Some are pitiful, and others are comical. But the thing is, they still made

me feel ALIVE, whereas when in the states I feel dead and numb! And that's what matters. Since I'm always "in the game" and always "in the action" there (as you can see in the plethora of images in them), I'm allowed the experiences I need to grow and evolve. And that's what makes me tick. It's all part of the experience. In my view, there are no "successes" or "failures" (it is the mind and ego that cast such judgments), only lessons to live and learn, and karma to work out. Besides, many of what we think of as "failures" are really blessings in disguise, which we don't realize until later.

Anyone who views what I have been through there can see how coming back here would seem so empty in comparison, because it has none of the things that stimulate you there. I mean, look at all those richly cultured photos of scenery, environments, and architecture, and imagine coming from there to a cultureless place like suburban America, where one feels like an assimilated robot!

Also, see these [Slide Shows](#) which are a photographic testament to why I am "Happier Abroad".

In addition, I also have over 38 hours of video footage (which many images in the [Photojournals](#) were taken from) available from my [Russia Video Trilogy Collection](#).

Disadvantages of being outside the US (to be fair) to consider

To be fair and bring balance to this treatise, I feel that I should inform you about some of the common disadvantages of being outside the US in developing countries.

For one thing, customer service is not the same at all. In most countries, there isn't the mantra or rule in commercial service that "the customer is always right". In fact, it's often the opposite. Repeat business and establishing good customer relations are not a concern, only short term profits are. Service is often horrible, apathetic, or nonexistent, and no efforts are made to improve it. No one seems to care about efficiency even. Thus, US travelers and tourists are often horrified at how inefficient and apathetic customer service can often be in developing foreign countries, as if courtesy, consideration and even common sense don't exist among the service staff, who may seem like robots incapable of thinking outside of their rigid "program".

To make that worse, information in such nations, especially in third world countries, is often badly organized and hard to obtain, compared to the US. Whereas in America you can look up almost anything and get addresses and contact information quickly by simply "Googling" it online, looking in the Yellow Page, or dialing 411, developing countries you can't just simply do that. Instead, you have to ask around a lot, get tossed between many people, trying to get them to understand what you're looking for, just to get some basic info (e.g. tax information, laws) or find the location of something. The process could take hours, and even then you might only get partial or ambiguous information about it.

Also, in a lot of third world or poor countries, there aren't many laws to protect your safety. For instance, public streets could be splattered with construction rubble, holes, ditches, or even crevices that could really hurt you if you fell into them. Yet the city government doesn't really care, and assume that it is simply your job to be careful and watch out for them. Also, food sanitary laws are not as stringent as those of the FDA, thus your chances of eating unclean or contaminated food are much higher abroad as well.

Furthermore, problems and inconveniences that arise in these poor but corrupt countries are much harder and slower to deal with and get around. Examples are limitless, some you could never even imagine (but just remember that what doesn't kill you makes you stronger). Even getting a simple toiletry item (toilet paper, toothbrush, nail clipper, etc.) can be a difficult hassle that you have to work at to obtain. When a problem or red tape bureaucracy arises, there is often no short cut that you can take to quickly resolve it (unless you try a bribe) like you can in the US, especially since quick efficiency is not a priority nor the norm.

On a deeper issue, in most developing countries outside the US, which are mostly poor ones, there isn't the same sense of right and wrong, morals or ethics that there is in the US. Morality, justice or even basic fairness simply doesn't come into play and aren't even a factor in most overseas nations. They don't mean much, don't change things, and don't govern people's behavior, neither among the poor or rich. Instead, the people there are in a sort of "survival mode" where the ends justifies the means. They will do whatever it takes to survive or gain for the time being, without regard to morals, fairness, right/wrong, justice, God, karma, or even a basic conscience. Ethics, right/wrong, or even honor in keeping your promises, simply aren't a factor in their actions and behaviors. Their world more closely resembles the "animal kingdom" rather than the civilized world. As you may have seen on the Discovery Channel or National Geographic Channel, the animal kingdom is a world of Darwinism, survival of the fittest, predators stalking prey, and creatures doing whatever it takes to survive. In the animal kingdom, right and wrong, justice, fairness, morals, etc. simply don't exist and aren't a factor at all. It's all about getting what you can any way that you can. Sadly, that's how it is in a lot of countries, especially poor ones. My dad used to tell me regarding mainland China, that "people only have morals if they can afford them".

Similarly, but for different reasons, those in positions of power or in the highest socio-economic upper class tend to view themselves as "above morals", "above others" and even "above the law". The higher you move up in socio-economic status, the less relevant morality and ethics are in your life. This is true in the US as well, among elected government officials and those at the top of the corporate pyramid. Simply put, when you are surrounded and influenced by millions or billions of dollars of power and money, then any morals, justice, right/wrong, etc. that you had simply aren't relevant anymore. They move to second place or are eventually discarded. Of course, you may pay public lip service to ethics and justice, but rarely do you really live by them anymore. At that point, it's all about staying in power any way that you can, even if you have to sacrifice all your

morals and principles. And this is so even if you were a good ethical honest person of good intention before coming into such a position.

So, in simple terms, what you have in a lot of these countries is a poor majority constantly seeking for short term gain, a "quick buck", any way that they can, and a few people with all the power and money constantly looking for ways to stay in power, any way they can. Both without regard to morals, principles, honor, integrity, or justice.

Now, I don't mean to generalize here and claim that all people outside the US have no true morals. Not at all. What I'm saying is that in developing countries in particular, they are far less stringent and adamant about them in comparison with Americans, and much more likely to bend or compromise their morals when they see fit.

Therefore, those in the best position to have morals, ethics, and principles are the middle class, rather than the lower or upper. They are in the best position to "afford" them, as my dad used to say. The problem is though, that in most developing countries, there is no middle class, only the poor peasant class of the majority and the minority of people who hold the power and resources. Thus, most people there are not in a position to afford much morals, honor, or integrity. As a result, ethics, principles, and justice aren't much of a factor in most situations. And they can't be used to "win" or change anything. (In fact, logic and reason can't even be used to win arguments or change anything, only money and power count) For example, if something is unfair or unjust (e.g. a double standard) people don't voice their complaint about it and demand change. They know that to do so would be futile, and plus that's not how things work. Those in power make the rules and laws, and that's that. People grew up accepting things as they are, not expecting them to change. In addition, people outside the US are generally more passive and compliant, rather than outspoken and opinionated, as social harmony is more important to them than the ego's need to be right. Thus, change or progress in the name of ethics, ideals or principles tend to be either minute or nonexistent. Only organized revolutions truly change things, and it's been that way through all history.

That's why many American travelers and tourists who go overseas assuming that others have the same sense of right/wrong and morals that they do, are often shocked and find out the hard way that they don't. They get easily scammed, as their assumptions about others are quickly taken advantage of and used against them by opportunists. In Russia for instance, it's well known among scammers and con artists that Americans are the most easily taken in. They are naive and assume that others are like them (with the same ethics and morals).

Also, and I can say this from personal experience, the scammers, con artists and hustlers in corrupt developing foreign countries tend to be far better skilled, more swift, more efficient, and use more elaborate techniques than those in the US, who are quite clumsy and obvious in comparison. For one thing, they make their living off of what they do, so they have a lot of practice, and without a conscience too. And unfortunately, law enforcement in most other countries is nowhere near as effective (though they don't have to go through as many legal channels, e.g. obtaining a warrant, to arrest somebody) at cracking down on scammers and con artists, nor do they even care to. Instead they are open to accepting bribes so that for the right price, anyone can get away with anything. As a result, these foreign environments where bribes are accepted are fertile breeding ground for scammers and con artists to flourish in and hone their skills.

Personally, I would suggest that Americans going to a new developing country for the first time stick with a trusted local or experienced expat there who is familiar with the "ropes and traps" for a while, before going off on their own, lest they be prey for opportunists. But of course, safety in numbers is best, if possible. Even if you are kept safe though, be prepared for many inconveniences overseas which are inevitable.

Also, in many less civilized or semi-civilized developing countries, a foreign visitor is constantly hounded by pushy hustlers, peddlers and opportunists always trying to impose their will onto them for profit. Having to fend them off everyday can become an annoying routine after a while, as they are very pushy, don't take no for an answer, and have no respect for your space. After a while, it feels like playing a video game where "enemies" and obstacles keep appearing without end (and hopefully you get good enough at it that it becomes second nature for you). You realize that you can't get from point A to point B peacefully without someone trying to get money from you one way or another. Soon you feel like a target in a shooting gallery where many are always lining up to take a shot. It takes a thick skin (or you'll have to develop one) to adapt and deal with this everyday, unless you are able to blend in and look like a local (which is not feasible if you are not a member of the majority skin color of that country). Sometimes, you can't be a nice guy anymore, no matter how much you want to, for these hustlers can be so pushy and insistent that the only way to get rid of them is to get angry and tell them to

"F@#\$ OFF!" Unfortunately, sometimes you have no choice, as they won't budge until you give in to their will and hand over the money they want. What many experienced expats suggest as the most efficient way to get rid of hustlers and pushy peddlers is to just give them one firm no and walk away, not making eye contact with them or stopping to interact with them (which only prolong and increase their persistence). It's also suggested not to show them any emotion, for they will use that against you, seeing you as open to manipulation.

All these things can be annoying and difficult hassles, but if you exercise good safe common sense, and are well prepared and organized in your itinerary, they can all be dealt with and managed. Just be prepared for inconveniences and obstacles that can arise anytime and anywhere. Simply, expect the unexpected. As the US Presidential Secret Service once said on The History Channel which applies anywhere, "There will always be risks. Risk can never be eliminated. The trick is in knowing how to take 'calculated risks'".

Nevertheless, if having soul-expanding experiences, never having to be lonely, having a rich social life, and having relationships with beautiful quality women any time you want that you could never have in the US, is important enough to you (as it is to me), then you may find it worth dealing with all of the above hassles. Each person will have to decide what is most important to them, what they are willing to deal with or put up with, and what their priorities are. As they say, follow your heart and inspiration, find your true destiny or calling, and it'll all go your way and work out for you.

Conclusion

Wrapping it up

If you've read this far, or simply scrolled down to here after glancing through it, I congratulate you. You definitely have a lot of interest, enthusiasm and patience for non-conventional observations and opinions, which I admire. I hope that my observations, experiences, and comparisons that I've detailed here have made a convincing case to you.

In summary, here are the primary differences I discovered between dating, social life, and mental health in the US vs. most countries abroad:

In America:

- Women are generally paranoid, anti-social, and stuck up toward others, especially strangers. They interact with others only on an "as needed" basis and do not like to meet new people, and if they do, it's only through mutual friends.
- They have an off-the-chart sense of entitlement that makes them think they're too good for most guys. The majority of available women are gunning for the 20 percent of men at the top, thinking they deserve no less. This leaves around 80 percent of men without choices, forced to be either alone or settle for someone (fat, ugly, plain) that isn't their top pick.
- Single men outnumber single women in America, as [evidenced in these stats](#). This means that there are too many men competing for too few women, giving women too many choices and men too few. Anyone can see this both in real life and in [online personal ads](#), where women receive hundreds of times more responses than men do. And of course, they are far pickier.
- Women in America nowadays have a negative general view of men and hatred toward them, which is condoned and supported by the media. In fact, some women meet a different man every week and end up hating every single one of them, regardless of their looks or personality.
- Feminism and political correctness have taken over the nation, corrupting women and giving them a false sense of pseudo-power. And the political correctness that shields women from criticism allows them to get away with almost anything with no accountability.
- Rather than being tender, soft and feminine like most women of the world aspire to be, they act overly tough and behave like Nordic warriors.
- To make things even worse, obesity has become an epidemic, and fashion standards have dropped, decreasing the number of attractive women so that unattractive females now outnumber attractive ones.
- Sex with attractive women is very hard to get in America. (And for me, sex with unattractive women is hard to get too) You have to be a very specific category type and hang in very specific groups or cliques. But even then, your choices are limited and dependent on timing and opportunity.
- The whole US social scene is cliquish, closed, exclusive, and isolationist by nature, with work and consumerism being the only constants. A weird "ice barrier" exists between strangers in the US. People are disconnected from each other and interact on an "as needed" basis only. They do not generally like to meet people, and if they do, it's only through mutual friends. Hence, the average person's social circle is severely limited to a few. (In fact, the US is the only country I know of where you can be outgoing and sociable yet have no friends)
- Friendships tend to be superficial and short term. They grow apart very easily, and are often a mere facade that lacks any true human bond or connection. Furthermore, most of your so called "friends" do not even really like you for you. And of course, most of them do not stick with you through thick and thin. Thus, it's no wonder that so many Americans say that "true friends are hard to find".
- The environment, culture and vibe definitely have a dysfunctional effect on one's mental health. That's why the US ranks the highest in mental illness among industrialized nations, as many studies have shown. More people go to psychiatrists and therapists in the US than in any other nation, period. That should tell you something. Furthermore, since many people have no true friends to talk to about their problems they have to go to therapists. There is something in the US that makes one feel insecure, disconnected, isolated, easily down and depressed, and undermines their self-confidence/self-esteem.

All around the US, you see many jaded dysfunctional people with issues and baggage, "screw ups" so to speak. And deep down inside, you feel "alone".

But in most other countries, most or all of these factors are reversed.

- Women do not put up unnatural defensive barriers toward men or strangers, but are open, approachable, sociable, and talk to strangers as if they already know them. They love meeting new people, and are not anti-social or paranoid.
- Women are not angry or hateful, and act more humble and modest. They respect men, rather than see them as creeps. They enjoy flattery and compliments, and like being "hit on" or pursued, finding it manly and charming rather than "creepish".
- In many third world countries, single women outnumber single men, giving men the upperhand with a surplus of choices. The high birth rate in such countries adds to this, as well as the fact that many males emigrate overseas to work.
- Females are usually thin or height/weight proportionate and enjoy being feminine, acting feminine and dressing feminine. Obesity is rare and the attractive women outnumber the unattractive ones.
- Contrary to dysfunctional US females, they really do like NICE GUYS, supported by their ACTIONS not just their words. They stick with them, love them, and sleep with them.
- Basically, they are the way women were meant to be, which is refreshing to the Western male.
- Best of all, normal men (decent guys with no mental problems) actually have CHOICES among attractive women in other countries, either just as many as the women do, if not more. There are not millions of lonely depressed guys with no social life or female companionship and unable to do anything about it like there are in the US (which is probably the loneliest country in the world).
- Sex with attractive women is generally easier to get overseas, ranging from a little easier in some countries (Western Europe, Australia), to a lot easier in others (Russia, Eastern Europe, South America, Mexico), and overflowing in others (Philippines, Thailand, China).
- The social environment is naturally inclusive, so that one does not feel inherently disconnected from everyone else, even if they're alone (whereas in the US, you can be around hundreds of people yet feel totally alone, and you can also be outgoing and sociable yet be excluded and have no friends, unbelievably).
- People generally like to meet new people, and social interaction is not limited to cliques or through mutual friends. Instead, it flows naturally and smoothly. It is normal to meet people in public situations. There is not a weird "ice barrier" between strangers like there is in the US. And people generally talk to strangers with a comfortable natural demeanor, as if they already know them. Thus, if you are outgoing and sociable, you are guaranteed to make friends.
- Friendships tend to be deeper, more sincere and close-knit. They are also more long-lasting and enduring, with a truer human bond and connection. With foreign friends, a more natural camaraderie develops or is often instant. They are closer to the kind of ideal friendships you read about and cherished as a child in wholesome fictional stories that hold a place in your heart and memories. And of course, it is easy to find people that like you for you. In fact, "true friendships" develop more naturally and smoothly.
- Mental health is more normal and wholesome. People have problems of course, but no one seems to need psychiatrists or therapists like in the US. They are able to deal with them on their own. There is a natural sense of connectedness and community with others, rather than isolation and disconnectedness like in the US. Deep down, you do not feel "alone" like in America.

All these things are a huge refreshing difference, a world of difference in fact. Though these differences are as glaringly obvious as the blue sky above, NONE of it receives ANY publicity in the US. You aren't supposed to know about them for some reason. And that's what this website tries to remedy, by getting this info out there and educating those who need to know.

The bottom line

Now, there are some out there who might nitpick and find faults, inaccuracies or flaws in my reasoning here in this treatise. They can logically argue that my observations are merely from one angle/perception, making them subjective, personal and relative. But it really doesn't matter what they say.

The bottom line is that it is a FACT that MY social needs, dating life, and mental health are infinitely better abroad. I feel appreciated, accepted, valued, desired, wanted, liked, loved, needed, etc. whereas in North America I constantly felt alienated, alone, ignored, undesired, unwanted, nonexistent, and worst of all powerless to do anything about it. In short, my wants, needs, desires, and fantasies are fulfilled abroad. I FEEL GOOD about myself, and that's the most important thing.

That's a difference greater than any critic can possibly imagine. In fact I would bet anything that if any of my critics saw in person what my life abroad was like in comparison to how it was in the states, if I could show them all in person firsthand, they would agree with me on this wholeheartedly with no doubt. Anyone who sees my life in America and my life overseas would think that I was in two different universes. I'm serious. And anybody who witnessed the difference in person would never blame me for saying all these things either. That I can GUARANTEE. I have literally thousands of photos now, from Russia, Europe, and Asia to prove it all – how different my social/love life really is in America vs. abroad. Again, you can see my [Photo Collages](#) and [Photojournals](#) for real-life visual proof.

What it comes down to is:

Though America may be great for career advancement and making money (if that's all your life is about), other countries are better for my social/love life and mental health.

I found Europe/Russia to be better for one's SOUL, mental health, confidence, ego, self-esteem/worth, and happiness. And of course, I have a lot more SYNERGY with the environment, people, and life there which produces positive synchronicities and networks.

As one of my readers summed eloquently in one sentence:

“America is a country that is built for doing business, not for living life.”

Now don't get me wrong. I don't hate America the country itself. Throughout its history, the US has stood for many great things and ideals and accomplished great things as well. **What I hate is MY LIFE there, in particular my social and love life.** The reality is that my social life and dating life completely sucks there. Nowhere else is it so unnatural and awkward to try to meet people or get dates. Nowhere else is it so hard to try to "fit in". Nowhere else are you so forced to be lonely against your will. Sure, men and older folks in the US are open and friendly, but women, no way.

Though America may be the richest and most economically prosperous nation in the world, its social life, dating/love scene for men, mental health and the way it makes you feel about yourself (insecure), and family harmony are probably the worst in the world. My life in the USA was mostly filled with days of loneliness, boredom and alienation. Frankly, American life was boring, routine, lifeless, and anti-social to me, filled with nothing but hyped consumption. In the US, adults are obsessed with work, girls are stuck up and paranoid, social life doesn't flow smoothly, etc. The longer I stay in the USA, the more my mental health deteriorated. Nothing could result except insanity. And the worst thing is, you aren't allowed to talk about all this because it's a taboo subject. Doing so will brand you a loser and people will say "The problem must be YOU!" There's nothing I hate more than something that totally sucks but yet you aren't allowed to talk about it. A denial culture is the worst.

None of that changed until I stepped out of US soil, where I discovered a more rich and fulfilling life. However, such an unconventional remedy is unknown to most in the US in my predicament, who are taught that the US is the world and that everything outside is either worse or inferior. I've learned gradually that this is not true at all. And that is what I wanted to share with you in this book with its point-by-point comparisons.

Now, to those of you reading this who wish to accuse me of over-generalizing in my observations, claiming that you know people who don't fit my descriptions, let me tell you this. My observations and descriptions here do NOT refer to all individuals, but to general PATTERNS. I get tired of repeating that all the time, so get that through to your head. And if your next response is "You haven't met the mass population of millions to have a bell curve" well let me ask you this then. "Do most people in Asia have black or really dark hair?" If you say yes, can I ask if you've met most of the millions of people in Asia to know this? And "are most men stronger than most women?" If so, how do you know if you haven't met most men or women? Also, "Are most people in

America who wear skirts and bras women or men?" If you respond "women of course" can I ask you how you know without personally knowing most of the population of this country?

But regardless of what degree of truth my statements in this book have, and regardless of who you are even, one thing I can say that is emphatically true beyond a doubt is this: **In general, it is far easier to meet people outside of America in most countries.** That I can say with the same certainty as $2 + 2 = 4$.

Now, I acknowledge that each country has its own pluses and minuses, and that America has some benefits and advantages over other countries. But for **social life, dating, relationships, family harmony and mental health**, I find it among the worst if not the worst place, at least for people like me. And as explained, my soul, personality, vibe and energy are a bad fit for its culture and paradigm.

As my Expat Advisor summed up in a nutshell:

"You discount one fact though- the US is good for people who are into careers and developing their professional potential. It is not too good for parties, women and songs.

You are obviously not a very career-oriented person. So you may be happier outside of the US. Others in other countries that are not happy with the way their jobs/careers/economic futures are going prefer the US."

And one of my readers eloquently gave a similar observation:

"Let's face it America is good for some things like making money, developing stable businesses, and enjoying the natural landscape however the standard of living is highly overrated and downright poor in many respects. People in America are stressed, sexless, annoyed, and angry most of the time. You can see it in mainstream American culture, the macho bullshit posturing, the elitism, and the feminist nonsense. I know some people will deny this and call us "pathetic" for our choices but I know too many American expats from all walks of life who are happily living abroad to discount this as mere coincidence. The english speaking western world has really pigeonholed itself as a moralistic, productive, and order based society but I feel the more you order and categorize people's lives the less happy they are. I'm not even going to get into all the racial discrimination, social politics, and other nonsense that pervades every aspect of American life either. Let's just say that I'm sure you know about as much as I do how bad it can be as an asian minority in the U.S. Actually, it's not even a race thing these days. I find a lot of my friends from ALL racial backgrounds to express how sick and tired they are of the bullshit they face in daily American life. However, the vast majority of these guys will never leave. They just don't have the options on the table because they set down responsibilities and roots that will not allow them that mobility. I feel for them, if only they knew.."

Ironically, social integration is a paradox in America. On the one hand, people mind their own business and leave you alone, and expect you to do the same, leaving you bored and alone. But on the other, you feel pressured to fit in or else you are alienated, feeling naked and vulnerable. And worse of all, in society's eyes, you are a loser according to the American logic that the majority is always right (and that goes for anyone who doesn't fit in to the pretentiousness). So the paradox is that you feel pressure to fit in with people who prefer to be lonely and detached, each minding their own business. It makes no sense, never did, and seems like a lose-lose situation.

In any case, Europe, one of the hot spots for intellectual Americans to expatriate to, is now emerging as the new beacon of light for the world, replacing our position of that role. In his book [The European Dream](#), Jeremy Rifkin concludes at the end of the last chapter:

Page 385:

"The European Dream is a beacon of light in a troubled world. It beckons us to a new age of inclusivity, diversity, quality of life, deep play, sustainability, universal human rights, the rights of nature, and peace on Earth. We Americans used to say that the American Dream is worth dying for. The new European Dream is worth living for."

Now, suffice to say, I am a **Romantic and Intellectual** type of person. I live for passion and new experiences. People like me simply don't fit into America, where we are constantly told that there is something wrong with us,

simply because our life is not all about career and money like it's "supposed" to be, hence we are perceived as "something wrong" or "out of place". Being a true romantic is out of style and unrealistic in modern America now, where not even women desire or dream of romance anymore. And likewise, being an intellectual or free-thinker is out of place in America too, where the "gospel" is to conform to the narrow rigid paradigms of the corporate industrial culture. In fact, free-thinking outside the narrow boundaries of the mainstream paradigm is alienated, condemned, or not even acknowledged. Therefore, my soul is a bad fit for America's industrial tunnel-vision culture.

Similarly, people like me do not fit into Oriental countries either, such as Japan, Hong Kong, Taiwan, etc., for their mentality of "working and making money are everything" is similar to America's; hence by their standards we are not normal either, but rather seen as "a defect that ought to be fixed". Now since Asians have a deep gentle/tender nature that White Anglo-Saxons/Nordics/Slavs lack, as an Asian myself I do have a natural comfort zone with them, but I don't share a kindred spirit or connect with them mentally like I do with Europeans.

People like me feel alienated in such single-minded pragmatic tunnel-vision cultures. Instead, we fit in places where romantic intellectuals are appreciated and valued, where they can express their desires without being seen as "bad" or "creepy", rather than Puritanical countries like the US that try to fix us. Places like Europe, South America, Russia/Ukraine, etc. fit the bill much better for us.

Now, if you find what I say in this ebooklet to be quite negative, harsh, or hateful, understand this. I am not a person who hates or despises for no reason. In fact, I am a naturally kind, gentle, soft-hearted, caring person. But I am fair, and I tend to give back exactly what I receive. So, whatever I express or "give out" in my writings is usually exactly what I have received.

My close friends who saw my videos of Europe/Russia, my interactions with people, introducing things on camera, etc. all say that it was obvious that it brought out the best parts of my personality. They also said that my personality seems to fit in there well. They are definitely right. People there brought out the best in me. I felt like the best in me was allowed to sprout. On the other hand, in America I don't feel that I can show the best parts of my personality because those parts just don't thrive here. It's like they aren't allowed to sprout. Being the best that I can be in America is like trying to grow the wrong fruit in the wrong climate. Instead, the worst parts are often brought out. I often feel insecure, unworthy, and told that there is something wrong with me. And my peers act like they are too good for me.

A final warning

By the way, I should warn you though, that once you go abroad and experience what I'm talking about, you will NEVER get used to the way women are in America again. Ever. Seriously. They will seem so MASCULINE and MONSTROUS in comparison to the women you experienced in Europe/Russia and Eastern Europe. Something deep inside of you will change too, and you won't be the same person afterward. You have to experience it to truly understand what I mean.

Picture this. Imagine being in an environment like Europe/Russia surrounded by women who admire men and bring out the best in you, getting used to that for many months, and then coming back home to be surrounded again by women who hate men, bringing out the worst in you. Then you'll better understand what I mean about how hard it is to get used to that.

Final words

If you've been inspired and enlightened by this book and website, **please forward** the link to HappierAbroad.com to as many people you know who would benefit from it and distribute these [Pamphlets](#). There are millions of Americans living in FEAR and ISOLATION because the US media tells them that there is nothing good outside America. You can do your part to help counterbalance that lie.

I hope that for those lonely in America and see way out of their predicament, HappierAbroad will give them hope and inspiration. And for many it has, as evident from the comments presented here and [testimonials for my website](#).

As an increasing number of Americans feel the way we do and become enlightened about the real world outside the USA matrix, and stop living in fear, my site and all its material can only grow in popularity and legitimacy. And my courage and passion will continue to fuel what the site stands for. Perhaps this is my true calling, to help others change their lives and find happiness, while giving myself the ego boost of importance that I've always wanted. At this point, that seems a fair exchange.

I've always known that my life's purpose was to help people in some way. It was a sense of destiny I could feel in my intuition. Psychics have even told me that. But I couldn't see how since I was so shy and timid, so I brushed it off. But now, I see that destiny beginning to emerge.

My Expat Advisor, a big contributor to the quotes in this book, has put me in this amusing light:

"Winston you are now an Asian American Moses, and you are leading your people out of the "captivity" of boredom, loneliness, lovelessness and datelessness to the various promised lands of milk and honey, many honeys that is and milk is to come later. Lol."

The secret is out, our message is ever-growing, and I'm proud to share it.

I'd like to close with these words from Mark Twain.

"Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things that you didn't do than by the ones you did do. So throw off the bowlines. Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover."
-- Mark Twain

Thank you for reading. I wish you a pleasant and safe journey.

Any comments or questions may be sent to me at WWu777us@yahoo.com or posted in our [Online Community](#).

Sincerely,
Winston Wu

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- **Open to contributions:** If you have an idea, comment, or article that you feel would make a good contribution to this book, you can send it to me at WWu777us@yahoo.com

Note: If you feel inspired, empowered, or enriched by this book, you can further help support us by joining one of our Dating Sites here <http://www.happierabroad.com/dating.htm> or ordering my Russia Videos at http://www.happierabroad.com/Video_List.htm

Suggestions for relocating and working overseas

Although I am no expert in relocating and working overseas, I can give you a few guidelines and suggestions based on what I've experienced and heard.

- When trying to decide on which country you want to relocate to, you will have to do research on each country, look at photos/watch videos of it, and try to get a gut intuitive feel for which one suits you best. As information, reports, and even images can often be biased (including my own) you should get as diverse of opinions/sources as possible.

- To get an idea of the cost of living in a particular country, see this [International Cost of Living Calculator](http://www.salaryexpert.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=COLCalculator.intlcol&lang=en): <http://www.salaryexpert.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=COLCalculator.intlcol&lang=en>

- Eventually, you should narrow it down to a few countries or a general region. But sometimes, you don't really know until you go there. So at that point, you should try, if possible, to make a scouting trip to that destination to get a feel for it, immerse yourself in its culture, get acquainted with people, make friends, learn about it, etc. so you can get a better idea of how you fit in. Even if you change your mind about it, at least you can cross it off your list and learn from it. Whatever you learn from that experience will help you make better decisions about the next destination (when you are at that point, you will know what I mean). Remember that failures are not really failures if you learn from them to better your chances of success henceforth.

While abroad, pay attention to any synchronicities that happen, for they may be trying to tell you something. The universe and your higher self sometimes gives you messages about important decisions in such ways. As a rule of thumb, they usually happen early on. Here is a video explaining how to watch for synchronicities that will lead to results: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qUhVNo_URVs

- If you haven't yet, you should read my Expat Advisor's blog on multi-national living, covering many cultural, sociological and psychological factors in selecting the right country for you. He is the "Socrates of Expatriate Life". <http://expatriateobservations.blogspot.com>

As to working overseas and making a living, it is easier than you think to get a job overseas. But you have to be there to ask around and network to get the right leads, because most overseas jobs that hire Americans are not advertised online. There are several options that go along these lines:

a) The easiest way is to work as an English teacher or as a journalist for an English publication in that country. Though some English schools require a TESL or TEFL certificate, not all do. Generally, the better and higher paying schools require such teaching certificates. However, if you go to small towns and less developed areas in foreign countries, the schools will be more desperate for English teachers and thus the standards will be lowered. Thus, they will be willing to take an uncertified English speaking foreigner. Of course, their pay may be less, but it will usually be enough to survive, which is the important thing.

Eventually, you may want to move from institutional teaching to private teaching/tutoring, which many claim pays better and has shorter hours.

As to working as a journalist, even if you don't have a journalism degree or professional experience, as long as you are a good writer, you have a decent chance of getting work writing for English publications overseas. Since the competition for those jobs is much less than in the US and UK, they are much more attainable.

Many of these type of jobs can be found in newspaper classifieds, through employment agencies, on the internet sometimes, and through word of mouth referrals/networking.

b) Another option is to start a business you can do over the internet from anywhere that generates residual income. There are now so many ways to make money online, even if you're not an entrepreneur type or techie geek. For an overview, see www.doshdosh.com/ways-to-make-money-online/. Of course, such an ideal situation is easier said than done, so you will have to do a lot of research, have persistence and determination.

c) The best paying option is to find an American company that will hire you to work overseas, giving you an American level salary with a foreign level social/cultural environment - the best of both worlds. Many US corporations outsource their jobs now or have overseas operations. They may not pay you as much as in the US, but it will be decent or above average by that country's standards.

d) Still another variant is to work for your government overseas through the US Embassy, Foreign Diplomatic Services Department (<http://www.foreignservicecareers.gov/specialist/faqs/index.html> , <http://www.careers.state.gov/>), or Peace Corps (www.peacecorps.gov). However, these options provide little freedom, as you will not get to choose which country you go to (and often they are in developing countries that are not exactly thriving), and you will be required to support and defend US foreign policy regardless of whether you personally agree with it or not. Also, the Peace Corps is a two year commitment of unpaid work, thus your heart has to really be in it to do that.

Whatever the case, remember that "where there's a will, there's a way".

Here is some good advice about expatriating from a fellow Asian American:

<http://www.happierabroad.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=12>

"I teach English here in LOS (Land of Smiles), it doesn't pay much but the cost of living is much lower than the States.

I managed to buy a beachfront condo in Pattaya on the Eastern Seaboard.

The first thing a potential expatriate must do to make a successful escape is to commit and make a choice on actively exploring the notion of leaving one's homeland. He must commit to make as many field trips as he can to check out the country desired. He must cease merely dreaming about living abroad immediately as that encourages procrastination. He will instead visualize himself actually working, living and playing in the chosen country. He will read all books on how to successfully expatriate. He will research on the chosen country, learn something about the culture, history and some of the language.

Once he is there he will connect with the expatriates already living there via the many expat clubs. He will ask hard questions about the reality and ins and outs of living there and finding work. He will visit the local realty companies to check out condos and houses. After he does all of this if he still is motivated he will make a decision and stick to it.

Everything he does from now on will support his expatriating.

He will get rid of that fancy car with its expensive monthly payments. He will move out of that fancy apartment and into a trailer park to save money or convert his property into a source of income. He will cease useless hobbies that are a financial drain such as playing the horses or going to lap-dance clubs. So what if your family and friends raise their eyebrows, you are busy engineering your escape to a better life. He will make financial arrangements with his accountant for overseas communication and tax returns. He will start disposing of accumulated junk in his life that's served its purpose but is now a drag on his life. Junk such as comic book collections, old love letters for exes, bowling trophies, etc. He should be down to a suitcase and a carry-on by the time he departs. He will set a firm date for moving out, if he doesn't he will find more excuses for inaction and never commit. He will be very discreet about his plans to casual acquaintances especially Western women especially if he plans to move to Thailand.

He will find that doubters, mostly female will come out and try to discourage you.

They will cast doubt on your manhood ("What's wrong, are you threatened by strong American women?").

They will tell your half-truths about moving abroad ("it's dangerous, you'll be back in a month.").

Do not depend on mainstream travel guide for information relevant to expatriating. They are written for back-packers, wealthy couples, women, Gays and Lesbians.

"Lonely Planet" is very slanted against the single heterosexual male tourist and is not to be depended upon..

On-line forums such as www.pattayasecrets.com are better and have less disinformation.

Putting up pictures of the country's landmarks and post-it notes on bathroom mirrors with encouraging phrases is helpful.

I have strong doubts that any of this is going to be listened to much less act upon.

Few Americans even have passports.

Most men are used to being wage-slaves and will block out any information or advice from friends about becoming an expatriate.

Most will just read this, shake their heads, and declare that it's a hopeless dream and return to working at a soulless job with a miserable commute and a rancid nationwide dating environment.

Thousand of expats live abroad, why not you?

DarkTalay"

For your inspiration, here are some quotes from my expat consultant who has been living abroad since 1990. For those like me, he gives the following consolation:

"People devote lives to battling racial stereotypes, discrimination and becoming martyrs for the cause, developing deep seated hatreds, complexes and grudges whereas all they have to do is get a job in another country and things change dramatically for them.

As you go from country to country people are so different. I hate it when they say that people are all the same. They are not.

The bottom line is this- you do not have to put up with social rejection in the US and develop complexes. Unless you are spastic or a paraplegic, or have a down syndrome, there is nothing wrong with you. There are 200 countries in the world. Combine a few of them that will treat you nice, keep the US as a business base and you will be OK. Your dignity will be restored, too.

God has given you life and put everything you need on this planet so that you could enjoy it to the fullest.

However, in his infinite wisdom, compassion and fairness he did not put it all in only one country."

However, he also cautions the following.

"A lot of people who think they escape "hell" in one country, usually end up exchanging one hell for another when they emigrate."

There is a lot of truth in that. Many immigrants to the US say that when they come here expecting a better life and a chance to make more money, they find that they traded the hell of poverty in their country for other hells in this country that they never had before, namely the stress of keeping up with exorbitant bills, mortgage payments, rent payments, car insurance, health insurance (cheap or free in other countries), extreme government regulation/laws, etc. And they also tend to feel more alienated with less of a social life and community rapport.

In my case, when I moved to Russia from America, the issues I had with life in America - loneliness, boredom, lack of social life/dating scene, stagnation - were alleviated alright. But in its place were new problems and grievances I didn't have back home, such as horrific customer service, horrible food, not being able to trust anyone since so many are out to exploit me since they see me as some "cash cow", being used by those I thought liked me, and so forth. Thus, I had less peace of mind in Russia. In addition, it was hard to get any privacy either, as someone was always bothering me about one thing or another, so having my own space was more difficult than back home.

Therefore, moving from one place to another, even if its only within the same country, often results in trading one set of problems for another. Few things in life are all gain and no loss. In most cases, when you gain something, you lose something in its place. Life seems to have a karmic balancing system that evens itself out somehow. Therefore, in reality each decision involves a series of tradeoffs.

For instance, this Bulgarian, one of my readers, described the tradeoffs he faced between living in the US and Bulgaria:

"Dear Winston,

First of all, my friend wrote a much more eloquent and descriptive essay on this same subject, but I refuse use his work. BTW he has only been in US for 6 months and his English surpasses that of natives. As a 19 y.o. Bulgarian immigrant to the US (10 years ago) I have experienced everything you mention, in the exact way in this society. I do not normally go out of my way to write to strangers, but having come up to your website has made me happy for all of what you write about is what my family, Bulgarian friends, and I have been criticizing all this time. Fortunately my culture has prevented me from absorbing "americanism" and I have been able to see all of the disparities in this country. I have nothing to comment on the empty "culture" here since you have covered almost everything. My happy memories from childhood in Bulgaria and my recent visits have prompted me to question my situation- stay in America with my generous income and soulless toys or go to Bulgaria to enjoy friends, spirituality, "true" freedom, and sex, but at a country where the avg. teacher makes \$150/month? To tell you the truth I would be ready to give up what I have here except I have an opportunity to "hit" the big banks through credit and leave. The complete absence of a social life (a fake social life for the "cool" people) and the widespread hypocrisy has had me. I do, however, give credit to those genius Jews in the media who have painted America pink. My once hateful feelings of Americans are of respect and pity, for they are stuck in this atmosphere completely unawares. I do, however, completely appreciate the positives of America such as business freedom and socioeconomic mobility- mainly caused by the non-social democracy, low taxes, and the unlimited availability of hard work. The immigrant's plight is that if he stays he will miss the old ways and if he leaves he will miss the money- yes I am stuck and cannot definitively say one place is better. To those dissatisfied with America, America also grants the freedom to leave; in the end we may criticize but certainly not complain since it is up to us... Thank you and anyone else who attempts to educate the brainwashed, both here in America and across the sea."

And another related to me this similar dilemma:

"I've been wanting to live in South America for so long because I'm originally from there. Now I'm reaching 39 years and I'm panicking because on the one hand I feel like I'm too old to go and then I'm too old to stay and retire at a young age. I messed up here. I never amounted to anything and I wanted to get a good government job (I had one and lost it) and retire with a nice government pension. I told myself that I didn't want to become an old man in the USA. It's bad enough that I lost my youth here. So now I have a dilemma: stay here and try to get a good job and then retire and go? OR do what you're doing and leave now while I still don't need Viagra and actually be happy for once in my life and live outside this insane asylum called the US of A. I can write volumes about why this country is difficult but for now I wanted to write to you in short prose."

So what should one do then, you might ask. What's the trick? Well here is what my Expat Advisor advises.

"However, you will also exchange one paradise for another as many places have "reverse" paradises, social in one, material in another.

If you are a positive go-getter and you can hold the hells back or deal with them through being tough and street-smart, you will be able to build your almost-heaven by COMBINING two countries or more and using the good things in all of them. That is a skill that successful PTs (Perpetual Travelers) develop.

The stupidity that many people fall prey to is expecting ONE country to provide ALL things. God did not put ALL things in just ONE country.

By maximizing paradises and minimizing/ evading hellish elements by shuttling back and forth and dividing your happiness between two countries or more, you will be able to build yourself a near-perfect life.

Hang tight- you'll master the skill soon."

While in the Philippines, he wrote me similar advice:

"Just keep in mind that the US is a land of practical opportunities whereas the Philippines is a land of romantic/social opportunities- tons of them. By combining a practical and a romantic country, each one at different ends of the globe, you live a perfect life.

This is my concept of "quilting your world" from many different countries each one providing you with what it does best. Just as long as you do not make demands on stones and turnips to give blood, and instead go to blood banks, you will be OK. You asked america to provide what it does not have- i.e, you were looking for water in the sahara. you need to go to the Nile for water."

As to how one might accomplish this realistically, he suggests this optimum solution:

"The solution to your predicament of living where you do not want to live and suffering with nasty and unfriendly women can be solved in very simple steps:

- 1) Get some profession where you can make money online. Find out what it is. I recommend being a programmer or something like that.
- 2) Start living as PT with income from abroad- America, that is. Live in the countries you want without disturbing their economy. You are a US citizen so that opens many roads for you.

This way you will get the good from each country and bypass the bad.

Bingo, you have solved all your problems.

IMHO, while your articles are often right, you have restated the problem enough times. Maybe it is time to think of a *solution*. You have countries where you like to be. The people there like you. You have babes there. All you need now is a small detail- a money flow over the Internet. I would put my mind 1000% into resolving this problem. With your brain you will do it very fast. Even faster than me. Then you will be able to help many other people do the same.

You could then write about all the problems with Plutocracy, arrogant people, boredom, but not as a sufferer from these, but a solver of these living in your castle in Lithuania surrounded by ten blonds.

You will tell us: "This, this and this are a problem, so I did this, and that and that and I have solved the problem".

Then people will follow you in droves. All the other people that are suffering from such deep loneliness, that is.

However, many people are aware of the problem and know how bad things are. Please be their leader in solutions, not in bemoaning the same fact over and over again.

Self-Internationalization is the key. Let's work on developing international lives and let's stop

complaining about how bad women are in the US and about all the problems there. Let's concentrate on good things in the US- the infrastructure, the opportunities, the flexibilities, the reliable people. Use American financial opportunities to your benefit and use other countries' social opportunities to your benefit, too.

None of us are getting any younger. Another day wasted in harping on the same problem over and over again will not bring any solutions."

One should take heed of the above, for he also warned later on:

"In the US, people may be cold and all, but there are numerous organizations to help you and there are so many creative ways to solve problems, make money, get credit, and all. In many tropical 3rd world countries the people are great and the women are gorgeous but if and when you need to make money, you get shit. Another thing- as long as money flows from you to the tropical people, you are in heaven; things change to hell when money needs to flow from them to you. Anyway, smart emigrants/expats do not abandon the US in the heat of emotional fury- they combine both systems and come out winners, and the locals love them for that, too."

Finally, for those disillusioned by the promises of the American dream, he consoles:

<http://expatriateobservations.blogspot.com>

"So, if your American dream has not come true yet, and you feel like you are running out of time, consider creating a somewhat modified version of it, which would involve some other country in addition to the US. With enough imagination, preparation and guts, you may attain it sooner than you think, although its realization may happen in places you had never even thought of traveling to before."

Dealing with the pitfalls of being an expat

In his superb Blog, my Expat Advisor wrote the following superb dissertation on how to deal with the pitfalls of expat life:

<http://expatriateobservations.blogspot.com/2010/02/culture-shock-and-power-of-money.html>

****Those men who visit exotic foreign lands are often taken in by the beauty of the scenery and the women as well as by the friendliness of the local people. Their money which doubles or even quadruples elevates them to a higher status than what they had back home. Being suddenly rich, in a beautiful land, surrounded by gorgeous women who admire the man every step of the way, the charmed tourist sometimes says: "Wow! I am never going back home, I am staying here."

However, after being in the place for several months, the tourist discovers that not all is rosy here, either. Corruption abounds. People seem unreliable. He is overcharged when buying simple commodities. And, sooner or later, he starts running into people who do not like for a foreigner to be there. He needs to bribe people to get simple things done. Nothing seems to work. People do not speak English, or what he perceives as "correct" English and, after a while they expect him to speak in the local language.

In other situations, he learns the local language but the locals do not understand his accent and are not helpful. Some make fun of and look down on him. Some feel insulted that a foreigner is speaking their language. Some, particularly in the case of Asian societies, stare at him as if he were a block of wood, disbelieving that a person of another race can speak the local tongue and guffaw in ugly laughter when they realize that he is in fact speaking it.

The culture shock and the disappointment set in.

Now he begins to understand why the local people treated him with so much respect in the first place- he was perceived as a rich and successful visitor from America, an achiever, a new face from the land where everything is possible and opportunities abound. Now, that the locals see that the tourist is not as rich as they thought and is complaining about this and that, their friendliness to him diminishes. They

cannot do much about the corruption the disorganization and the poverty of the country and it irritates them even more to see a foreigner whining about the fact that the things are not the way they are back home. His girlfriend is also unable to help him. In many cases she does not have the money or the connections to set up a business for him or make him advance in his new society. Eventually, the tourist starts seeing that while there were not many beautiful women and/or friendly people back home, everything else worked well, he knew the social and cultural rules and did not feel out of place as much as he does here.

In addition to that, he discovers that as a foreigner, his legal rights in the new country are limited. He cannot own real estate, cannot have anything in his name and is dependent on visa authorities to grant him the permit to stay in the country.

Eventually, the embittered tourist ends up teaching English for a pittance, not being able to find a job in anything else and observing the local rich living the life of Riley while he is plugging along from one meager paycheck to another.

Then, he goes home, a broken man.

This is a very typical scenario which can be observed with many starry-eyed expats all who tried to find work in the so-called developing countries.

Now, what if you have money? Like, a lot of money.

Well, now we are talking about a whole different game. If you arrive from America with a few hundred thousands of dollars, the smiles will not diminish with time. If you become a foreign investor, and go through the local government authorities and hire local lawyers, then, your quality of life will be much much better. You will love the people forever and the people will love you, the cultural problems will not seem unsolvable, but rather, amusing. The woman will not be upset with you and she will serve you blindly forever.

Ah! The power of money!

If you are not rich yet but have a way of making money either in your country or in some oil-rich state in the Middle East, you should become a frequent, long-term visitor who comes and goes. This way, when the culture shock hits and the place seems unbearable, and the locals get tired of you- as in about three months, you can then leave, go back home, "regroup", recuperate, see things in their proper perspective and let people back there miss you. Distance lends enchantment and when you are back there with more money, well rested and confident again, you will thoroughly enjoy your stay and be attractive to the local women again.

The above are not the only scenarios, either. Here are some things one can do:

- 1) Work on the Internet for a company back home. You can be a translator, an online instructor or a programmer. This way, you can live in a country you like without having to deal with the misery of trying to eke out a livelihood from the local corrupt and inefficient economy.
- 2) Become an artist or a writer - you can work anywhere and email or, in case or paintings ship them back home to various galleries. This is hard even back home and takes time to establish oneself. With the Internet you now have a chance to speed up the process and make a worldwide living out of it. It is not easy but possible.
- 3) Become a buyer of goods. If you find a customer back home, you can offer your services in the way of buying merchandise in a foreign land at discount prices. But for that, you will need to have local contacts. These are not easy to find.

In all cases, one needs to do proper homework, learn about the culture and the laws and patiently work one's way into the new society without severing ties back home.

A smart expat is not an emotional but a cool-hearted and patient one. And he never relinquishes his ties to his home country- it has a lot to offer in the ways of organized business infrastructure, availability of information and the seriousness of the people.

The best way to expatriate has been to live not in one country but to use each country for what it is good for: the West for business ties and the "fun" countries for fun and romance. Be prepared to shuttle back and forth a lot."

Travel / Expat Links and Resources

For travel planning, airfares and hotels, check out our affiliate links below to see if you might find some good deals.

Travel Links

- [Search International and Domestic Airfares](#)
- [Search Hotels Worldwide by City and Country](#)
- [Rush My Passport - Expedited US Passport Service, within 24 hours](#)
- [Rush My Visa – Expedited Travel Visa Service, within 24 hours](#)
- [CheapTickets - Search for cheap airfares from multiple airlines](#)
- [CheapOAir - Search airfares from many sites, veterans save up to 65 percent](#)
- [Priceline.com - Name your price on airfare, hotels and car rentals](#)
- [OldManFriday](#) – Expat Service for general errands and assignments in Russia. Contains general advice on Russian travel and living.
- [CheapMoscow](#) – Budget travel site and tips for Moscow area.

Happier Abroad is mostly about Dating, Social Life and Psychological Well Being overseas. For information on economic concerns like jobs, properties, investments, or other practical considerations, check out these mainstream expat sites below which deal with such matters. Many of them contain links to job and property listings that you can browse through.

Expat Links and Resources

- [Expatriate Observations and Insights](#) - Blog of my Expat Advisor, aka "The Socrates of Expatriate Life". Contains deep cultural analyses, comparisons, insights, knowledge, wisdom, lessons and advice on world living, dating and cultural understanding. It is unrivaled in scope and depth. Get his book FREE when you order the [Happier Abroad book Package](#).
- [Happier Abroad Bookstore](#) (Powered by Amazon.com) Browse books on international living and dating, expatriation, overseas relocation, and seeking employment abroad in my online bookstore.
- [Book: Getting Out: Your Guide to Leaving America](#) - A book you can order that deals with the practical aspects of relocating overseas that my site doesn't get into as much. Fans say it's a great complement to my book.
- [Book: Goodbye American Woman](#) - If you have ever wondered what drives men and women to look beyond their own borders to find their soul mate then this book will answer all your questions as well as entertain and perhaps enrage you. Enter into the psyche of these lonely singles and experience a contentious yet heart-warming fun-filled ride to romance, rejection and love.
- [book: A Man's Guide to Life and Love in the Philippines](#) – By Larry Elterman, a long time Expat in the Philippines who has written probably the BEST book on living and dating there. It's no-nonsense and covers pretty much everything you need to know. You can order his book at the link above. It is very inexpensive. [Listen to his informative audio interview here](#).
- [My Country Summaries](#) - My summaries of the pros and cons of each country I've visited.
- [My Traveling and Dating Guide To Russia](#) - My travel guide and dating guide to Russia, contains useful info as well as inside tips and tricks based on my year of experience in Russia.
- [International Cost of Living Calculator](#) – Get an idea of the basic costs of living in different countries and cities around the world.
- [Escape Artist](#) - An international relocation website providing resources for those who want to move overseas. The website has country profiles that assist you in moving to various countries. A large international real estate marketplace has real estate listings from around the world. There is also an overseas jobs section which provides current overseas jobs postings. The website has three magazines geared to those who want to move overseas. An offshore investment section provides resources for getting a 2nd passport, investing offshore and protecting your assets. Updated daily, their magazines have over 380,000 subscribers, and subscriptions are free.

- [ExpatWorld.net](#) – A collection of expat resources and newsletters.
- [ExpatExchange.com](#) – Articles and resources arranged by category and country.
- [Expat Focus - global relocation advice for expatriates covering visas, residency, overseas employment, buying property abroad, international schools, offshore finance and more](#) Join our lively expat community today! Meet and learn from other expats in our forums, email discussion list and monthly newsletter. Get help finding overseas property, job opportunities abroad, international insurance cover and investment advice, including pensions and retirement planning.
- [Expatica.com](#) - For expats in Western Europe, with many resources, features and forums.
- [Expat Blogs](#) - Contains a directory of expat blogs, resources, offers a free blog, and a forum. [Also hosts a list of products and services for expats.](#)
- [Fleethecountry.com](#) - A collection of great links from an expat in the Philippines. [His blog is here.](#)
- [GSEAbroad.com:](#) - Global Student Experience provides study abroad programs in Europe, Australia, Argentina and the UK.
- [InternationalLiving.com](#) - Features Real Estate Ads, Rentals, Retirement Property, Publication, and Forum.
- [LivingAbroad.com](#) - International resource center.
- [LivinginthePhilippines.com](#) - Great resource site for living in the Philippines with a wide range of articles covering many aspects.
- [OrientExpat.com](#) - The expatriate portal for all things Asian. Information, community forum and expat articles.
- [TransitionsAbroad.com](#) - Incredibly comprehensive in scope and resources. [They have a guide to choosing the best country for you here.](#) See their [extensive list of expat sites](#) which include global expatriate sites as well as sites by country.
- [EasyExpat.com - International Relocation](#) - Help for expatriates on overseas moving and relocation abroad (Paris, London, Sydney, San Francisco, Montreal, New York, Frankfurt, Madrid, Milan, Brussels, Geneva, Dubai, Shanghai, Amsterdam, Copenhagen, Dublin): accommodation, jobs, international schools, health.
- [Expat Web Directory](#) - Online global resources for the expatriate, searchable and categorized. Free and sponsored listings available.
- [Tales from a Small Planet](#), a webmagazine for expatriates everywhere, with reports on countries all over the world.
- ["The Expert Expat: Your Guide to Successful Relocation Abroad"](#) a guidebook on adjusting to an overseas move or assignment, especially for those with a partner and/or children.
- [MadridMan.com](#) - A comprehensive travel and living guide to Madrid, Spain.
- [BarcelonaMan.com](#) - A comprehensive travel and living guide to Barcelona, Spain.
- [Central America Forum](#) - Compare [living in Costa Rica](#), [Nicaragua](#) and [Panama](#).
- [Investment International](#) – Website and magazine about offshore investment opportunities.
- [Expat Arrivals](#) – Contains profiles and relocation information for major countries.
- [Happier Abroad Discussion Forum](#) - Anything else you need to know, feel free to ask about it on my Forum.

International Dating Sites and Links

To start meeting quality foreign women now who will treat you right and make you feel like the man you always longed to be, you can start by trying out these international dating sites. Unlike popular US dating sites like Match.com, Eharmony.com and Yahoo Personals which sensationalize themselves but don't get the results you want in real life (and no guy I know has gotten what they wanted from them either), these sites are the real thing and hook you up with REAL quality attractive females who want love, kindness, romance and a good man.

- [Happier Abroad Dating \(by Dating and Matchmaking Inc.\)](#) (see my [favorite profiles here](#))
- [Happier Abroad Introductions and Romance Tours \(by A Foreign Affair\)](#)
- [A Foreign Affair – The largest and most reputable foreign introduction agency, featuring Romance Tours to Russia, Ukraine, Latin America and Asia](#)
- [Elenas Models - Reputable agency, features a large database of Russian women of model quality](#)
- [RussianEuro - Russian women dating service by the reputable Cupid Media Network](#)
- [UkraineDate - Ukraine women dating service by the reputable Cupid Media Network](#)
- [GetRussianWife.com – Russian American matchmaker offers unique personalized matchmaking service designed to weed out scammers and gold diggers by introducing you to Russian women NOT affiliated with marriage agencies](#)
- [AsianDating - International Asian dating site of Cupid Media Network](#)
- [Christian Filipina – Where Christians find friends and partners for life in Asia](#)
- [Cherry Blossoms – One of the most popular sites for finding your Filipina love](#)
- [Cebuanas – Another popular site to find a Filipina](#)
- [Filipina Heart – Filipina dating service by Cupid Media Network](#)
- [Thai Love Links – Meet Thai women for love, dating and marriage, by Cupid Media Network](#)
- [Chinese Love Links – Attractive Chinese singles for dating, by Cupid Media Network](#)
- [Vietnam Cupid – Vietnamese women seeking foreign men, by Cupid Media Network](#)
- [Hong Kong Cupid – Meet singles from Hong Kong, by Cupid Media Network](#)
- [Latin American Cupid - Single Latino women seeking dating and marriage, by Cupid Media Network](#)
- [Brazilian Cupid – Meet hot single Brazilian women from all over the world, by Cupid Media Network](#)
- [Columbian Cupid – Lovely passionate Columbian women, by Cupid Media Network](#)
- [Mexican Cupid – Beautiful Mexican single gals for love, dating and marriage, by Cupid Media Network](#)
- [Interracial Cupid - Interracial dating and personals site for singles looking to date men and women from different races, cultures and ethnicity.](#)

Remember that unlike the US where most of the people you meet online are losers, overseas it is very usual and standard to meet QUALITY people on the internet. I've experienced this plenty of times and can personally attest to it.

Free Social Networking and Dating sites to meet Foreign Women

- <http://www.tagged.com>
- <http://www.myspace.com>
- <http://www.facebook.com>
- <http://www.friendster.com>
- <http://www.girls-of-asia.com>
- <http://traveldatefinder.com/>
- <http://www.plentyoffish.com>
- <http://www.dateinasia.com>

Other Sites about Foreign Women and Global Dating

- [A Man's Guide to Life and Love in the Philippines](#) – By Larry Elterman, a long time Expat in the Philippines who has written probably the BEST book on living and dating there. It's no-nonsense and

covers pretty much everything you need to know. You can order his book at the link above. It is very inexpensive. [Listen to his exciting audio interview here](#).

- [International Dating For Men](#) - By Mark Edward Davis, author of *Mastering the Adventure of International Dating* and *From Here to Her*, aka "The International Dating Ambassador". Contains podcasts, dating site, videos, books and courses.
- [Expat Rock Star](#) – Blog with articles and stories about dating foreign women
- [Travel Guide For Men Blog](#) – By Dan De La Cruz, features blogs, articles, videos, book and newsletter (Note: If you order their book "[The Global Dating Revolution](#)", please enter this code on the PayPal page for discount: **wwu2008**)
- [Global Dating Revolution](#) – Also by Dan De La Cruz, contains his articles, advice, tips and other services.
- [Latina Bride Guide](#) – Focuses on Latin women and argues against the institution of marriage. Free newsletter.
- [Foreign Women Only](#) – A blog advocating dating foreign women, promoting men's rights, and exposing the lies and inequities of feminism.
- [Single Abroad](#) – A site that offers information about dating women in different parts of the world for a fee.
- [Anglobitch](#) – A site and blog that exposes Anglo Feminaziism and its evils and inequities.
- [Filipina Dating](#) – Articles, Suggestions and Resources about Filipina Dating.
- [Marry A Filipina](#) – Advice from a Western man living in the Philippines. Avoid the Scams and find True Love in Asia through Penpal Dating Websites.
- [Happy Bachelors](#) – Website and Forum for single men who have sworn off American women that supports interest in Foreign women.
- [No Marriage](#) – A vehement militant site against the institution of marriage, especially to American women, and advocates Foreign women.
- [American Women Suck](#) – A vehement hate site against American women. Includes articles and forum.

Sex tourism resources and guides

- [World Sex Guide](#) – Contains trip reports and forum boards for different countries.
- [International Sex Guide](#) – A big forum of whoremongers sharing info and trip reports on sex markets around the world.
- [Travel Sex Guide](#) – Sex tourist info, links and escort directory.
- [Thailand Sex Guide](#) – Information and resources for sex tourism in Thailand.
- [Brothel Blog](#) – Brothel and red light district reviews around the world.
- [Sex141](#) – A directory and database of beautiful sexy escorts in Hong Kong, some available for in-calls.
- [Asian Babe Cams](#) – Features many Asian girls (mostly Filipinas) doing web cam strip shows for fees. In spite of this, many guys do end up dating or even marrying the girls they meet from this site.

Addendum: Excerpts from "The European Dream" by Jeremy Rifkin

Here are some excerpts below from a groundbreaking book [*The European Dream: How Europe's Vision of the Future is Quietly Eclipsing the American Dream*](#) by Jeremy Rifkin.

It describes sociological, economic, and historical factors and trends that indicate that life in the European Union has a brighter future, more progressive outlook, and better quality of life than in America. It makes a lot of sense, and contains scholarly statistics. The book also substantiates my claims about the more inclusive atmosphere in Europe and provides socio-cultural and historical reasons why. The author, Jeremy Rifkin, spent 20 years in Europe as a corporate economic advisor, which greatly qualifies him.

Page 3:

"The American Dream is far too centered on personal material advancement and too little concerned with the broader human welfare to be relevant in a world of increasing risk, diversity, and interdependence. It is an old dream, immersed in a frontier mentality, that has long since become passé. While the American Spirit is tiring and languishing in the past, a new European Dream is being born. It is a dream far better suited to the next stage in the human journey - one that promises to bring humanity to a global consciousness befitting an increasingly interconnected and globalizing society.

The European Dream emphasizes community relationships over individual autonomy, cultural diversity over assimilation, quality of life over the accumulation of wealth, sustainable development over unlimited material growth, deep play over unrelenting toil, universal human rights and the rights of nature over property rights, and global cooperation over the unilateral exercise of power."

Page 13 - 14:

"The American and European dreams are, at their core, about two diametrically opposed ideas of freedom and security. Americans hold a negative definition of what it means to be free and, thus, secure. For us, freedom has long been associated with autonomy. If one is autonomous, he or she is not dependent on others or vulnerable to circumstances outside of his or her control. To be autonomous, one needs to be propertied. The more wealth one amasses, the more independent one is in the world. One is free by becoming self-reliant and an island unto oneself. With wealth comes exclusivity, and with exclusivity comes security.

The new European Dream, however, is based on a different set of assumptions about what constitutes freedom and security. For Europeans, freedom is not found in autonomy but in embeddedness. To be free is to have access to a myriad of interdependent relationships with others. The more communities one has access to, the more options and choices one has for living a full and meaningful life. With relationships comes inclusivity, and with inclusivity comes security.

The American Dream puts an emphasis on economic growth, personal wealth, and independence. The new European Dream focuses more on sustainable development, quality of life, and interdependence. The American Dream pays homage to the work ethic. The European Dream is more attuned to leisure and deep play. The American Dream is inseparable from the country's religious heritage and deep spiritual faith. The European Dream is secular to the core. The American Dream is assimilationist. We associate success with shedding our former cultural ties and becoming free agents in the great American melting pot. The European Dream, by contrast, is based on preserving one's cultural identity and living in a multicultural world. The American Dream is wedded to love of country and patriotism. The European Dream is more cosmopolitan and less territorial. Americans are more willing to employ military force in the world, if necessary, to protect what we perceive to be our vital self-interests. Europeans are more reluctant to use military force and, instead, favor diplomacy, economic assistance, and aid to avert conflict and prefer peacekeeping operations to maintain order. Americans tend to think locally while European's loyalties are more divided and stretch from the local to the global. The American Dream is deeply personal and little concerned with the rest of humanity. The European Dream is more expansive and systemic, and therefore more bound to the welfare of the planet."

Page 16 – 17:

"That's why it saddens me to say that America is no longer a great country. Yes, it's still the most powerful economy in the world, with a military presence unmatched in all of history. But to be a great country, it is

necessary to be a good country. It is true that people everywhere enjoy American cultural forms and consumer goods. Rap music, action movies, and other forms of entertainment, as well as our brand-name clothes, are eagerly snapped up around the world. America is even envied, but it is no longer admired as it once was. The American Dream, once so coveted, has increasingly become an object of derision. Our way of life no longer inspires; rather, it is now looked on as outmoded and, worse yet, as something to fear, or abhor.”

Page 23:

“It’s going to be very difficult for Americans to adjust to a borderless world of relationships and flows where everyone is increasingly connected in webs and networks, and dependent on one another for one’s individual and collective well-being. What happens to the American sense of being special, of being a chosen people, in a world where exclusivity is steadily giving way to inclusivity? Does God really care less about the whole of his earthly creation than he does about the North American part? Europeans might find such a conjecture funny, but, believe me, many Americans remain wedded to the notion of our special status as God’s chosen ones. If we were to give up that belief, or even entertain doubt about its veracity, our sense of confidence in ourselves and the American Dream might experience irreparable harm.”

Page 31:

“I was recently teaching a class of young business leaders, half of whom were from Europe, the other half from America. The Europeans said they were perplexed that whenever they attended a business meeting where a presentation was given by an American businessperson, the Americans in attendance would shower the speaker with congratulations for doing a brilliant job even if he or she was merely delivering a rather standard talk about not very interesting things.”

Page 31 - 32:

“The desire for instant gratification, when combined with a sense of over-empowerment and entitlement, can create a volatile emotional mix. The narcissistic personality type is generally less able to handle life’s many frustrations, and more prone to anti-social behavior, even including using violence to get what they feel they deserve and are entitled to.”

“Canadians and Americans were asked if “it is acceptable to use violence to get what you want.” In 1992, 9 percent of Canadians and only 10 percent of Americans said using violence to get what you want was acceptable. (62) By 1996, however, 18 percent of Americans felt that it was all right to use violence to get what you want, while still only 9 percent of Canadians thought the same way. (63) In 2000, the gap between Canadians and Americans had widened even more. Twelve percent of Canadians thoughts violence was justified to get what they wanted, while 24 percent of Americans felt the same way. (64) That’s nearly one out of four Americans believing that using violence to get what they want is acceptable. Michael Adams, who heads up the polling organization Environics, concluded that “Americans are prepared to put a lot more on the line than Canadians to achieve their version of the American Dream,” including committing acts of violence, if necessary. (65)”

Footnotes:

62. Adams, Michael. *Fire and Ice: The United States, Canada, and the Myth of Converging Values*. Toronto: Penguin, 2003. p. 53.

63. Ibid.

64. Ibid.

65. Ibid.

Page 51 - 52:

“Europeans like to say that “Americans live to work” while “Europeans work to live.” What’s the point of making money, they argue, when you have no leisure time to enjoy it? According to one study, 37 percent of Americans now work more than fifty hours a week, and 80 percent of male workers work more than forty hours a week. And the hours worked by many Americans keep going up while in Europe hours worked keep going down. No wonder 70 percent of American parents complain they lack sufficient time with their children, while 38 percent of Americans say “they always feel rushed,” and 61 percent say they rarely have excess time. (52) With so little time available after work, Americans use many of their spare moments just to run errands, pay bills, and fix up the house.

The increase in work hours takes a heavy toll on American health, according to health professionals. Stress-related diseases - heart attacks, strokes, and cancer - are on the rise in America. One recent study by the

journal *Psychosomatic Medicine* found that the more often American workers skip their vacations, the higher their health risks are. Men who took an annual vacation were 32 percent less likely to die of coronary artery disease than those who did not take vacations. (53)

The difference in how Europeans and Americans conceive a good economy is reflected in the hours worked on both sides of the Atlantic. If one measures the standards of living in terms of paychecks, Americans are 29 percent wealthier than their European counterparts. (54) But if one measures the good life by the amount of leisure time available, the average European enjoys four to ten weeks more of play each year. (55) The question, then, is, Does that 29 percent of additional wealth buy more joy and happiness - enough at least to justify giving up upwards of two to three months of additional leisure each year? As my wife is fond of reminding me - because I, too, am an American workaholic - "No one has ever regretted on their deathbed that they didn't spend more time at the office."

Footnotes:

52. Scheier, Lee. "Call it a Day, America." *Chicago Tribune*. May 5, 2002

53. Ibid.

54. "Main Economic Indicators: Purchasing Power Parities." OECD. February 2004. www.oecd.org

55. "Employment Outlook: Average Annual Hour Worked in the OECD, 1979-200." Paris: OECD, 2001.

Page 81 - 82:

"Living in a safe environment is also one of the hallmarks of a good society. We have come to believe that the more affluent a society becomes, the more peaceful it is likely to be. If GDP is the standard, then the United States ought to be one of the safest nations on Earth.

Between 1997 and 1999, the average rate of homicides per 100,000 people in the EU was 1.7. The U.S. rate of homicide was nearly four times higher, or nearly 6.26 per 100,000 people. (84) More terrifying still, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) reports that the rates of childhood homicides, suicides, and firearm-related deaths exceed those of the other twenty-five wealthiest nations in the world, including the fourteen wealthiest European countries. The homicide rate for children in the U.S. was five times higher than for children in the other twenty-five countries combined. The suicide rate among U.S. children was two times higher than all of the suicides combined in all the other twenty-five countries measured. (85)

It's not surprising that the U.S. incarceration rate is so high compared to that of the European Union. As mentioned earlier, in chapter 2, more than two million Americans are currently in prison - that's nearly one quarter of the entire prison population in the world. (86) While EU member states average 87 prisoners per 100,000 population, the United States averages an incredible 685 prisoners per 100,000 population. (87)"

Footnotes:

84. Graff, James. "Gunning for It." *Time Europe*. Vol. 159. No. 19. May 13, 2002

85. "Rates of Homicide, Suicide, and Firearm-related Death Among Children - 26 Industrialized Countries." *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*. Vol. 46, No. 5. February 7, 1997. P. 102.

86. Barclay, Gordon, and Cynthia Tavares. "International Comparison of Criminal Justice Statistics 2000." July 12, 2002; "Two Million Inmates and Counting." *The New York Times*. April 9, 2003.

87. Barclay, Gordon, and Cynthia Tavares. "International Comparisons Of Criminal Justice Statistics 2000."

Page 83 - 85:

"THE TUG BETWEEN EUROPE and America goes even deeper than questions of personal opportunity and quality of life. What really distinguishes the comings and goings in Europe and America today is that Europe is busy preparing for a new era while America is desperately trying to hold on to the old one.

What we are going to find, by retracing European history, are the roots of the American Dream that we discussed in chapter 1. Although historians rarely allude to it, the reality is that the American Dream represents the thinking of a moment of time, frozen in European history and transported whole cloth to American shores in the eighteenth century, where it continued to animate the American experience right up to the present day.

We Americans like to think of ourselves as forward-thinking, with our attention focused on the distant horizon. However, our worldview, strangely enough, is locked into a specific period of time long since passé by in European history. In short, the American Dream is a very old dream and becoming increasingly irrelevant in the new era of globalization."

Page 145:

"For the Enlightenment philosophers and the jurists of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, freedom was defined in negative terms as the right to exclude others."

Page 158:

"Most of my European friends and acquaintances are quick to ridicule America's love affair with "the almighty dollar." "All you Americans think about is money" has become a standard mantra in virtually every opening discussion about the American character and the American way of life. In reality, the American condition is more complex. It's not the money per se. Rather, it's the search for personal security that comes from being propertied, the belief that our possessions will make us free. For many Europeans who have opted or less wealth and more play, the American obsession with creating propertied wealth appears more like a kind of pathology. They say that "our possessions end up possessing us."

But the point is, it was the American people that became the purest advocates of the European Enlightenment idea that equates private property with freedom."

Page 385:

"The European Dream is a beacon of light in a troubled world. It beckons us to a new age of inclusivity, diversity, quality of life, deep play, sustainability, universal human rights, the rights of nature, and peace on Earth. We Americans used to say that the American Dream is worth dying for. The new European Dream is worth living for."

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Other Books by Winston Wu

(Available in Paperback, PDF and Amazon Kindle format)

The Happier Abroad Guide to International and Global Dating

Winston's Guide to Traveling and Dating in Russia

Available at HappierAbroad.com

Debunking PseudoSkeptical Arguments of Paranormal Debunkers

Debunking the Arguments of Christian Fundamentalists and Evangelists

Available at DebunkingSkeptics.com