



ANUJ ANAND

Why did I write this Book?

The thought of writing this book came to me after having read the cover story of India Today, Feb 22, 2005, which carried an alarming rate of failure of marriages in Indian Society.

It's said that marriages are made in heaven and in case of India, the martial vows taken by the wife and husband used to be so strong that only death could only separate them.

There is a saying that "no knowledge ever goes in vain", the same holds good with this book. All the situations in this book are my personal experiences of the past 14 years.

Having spent a considerable amount of my life in Hostels. Many of the situations are those, I have seen happen to various friends, fellow mates and off course me. I would not have been able to write this book without those experiences which came from various institutions that I studied in and Organization where I have worked in the past 7 years (i.e. Global Industry Analyst, Bank of Madura Ltd, NSDL, State Bank, GTI-HSBC India).

Hence I took this opportunity to share my thoughts with you by writing this book.

Title of the book

How did I arrive at the title of this book?

This is something that I would surely like to share with you. Actually after having read the article mentioned above, I was wondering about the title for the book.

It struck me why not keep "What They Don't teach In A Marriage/Dating School" greatly inspired from Mark McCormack "What They Don't Teach You at Harvard Business School".

When I suggested the topic to an office pal of mine, Gopal Pathak during some conversation. He rightly told me that "in a marriage no one teaches you anything, a person has to learn everything on his/her own".

Hence the part- title of the book came "**What You Don't Learn in a Marriage School**".

The Grading System

Since every school has a grading system. A Marriage school also has a grading system, which are the same followed in schools.

Grade A: is 70% and every plus +, is additional 10%

The three plus, add upto to 30% and the final tally works out to GRADE A+++ , which amounts to 100%. Every marriage should be 100% to successful.

Hence the title: "**GRADE A+++ , What You Don't Learn in a Marriage School**"
From the bottom of my heart, I will always owe this title to Gopal Pathak.

Thanks Gopal

Anuj Anand

Dedicate

All authors dedicate their books to someone or the other. I take this opportunity to dedicate this book to parents.

"All parents"

They could be the parents of my friends, office mates, colleagues, readers of this book.

Since I firmly believe that parents are most valuable in our lives. They have taught us everything and today whatever we have achieved, it is due to their blessing, support and good moral values imparted to us. They have taught us to fight against all the odds, and will power to achieve the best in life.

In today's life it's our parents only, who stand by our side in the times of trouble, when everyone leaves us alone to fight problems.

Acknowledgements

People always thank and acknowledge their near and dear ones. I am no different from them.

My personal thanks to my MOM Promila Anand and DAD Rudra Narian Anand, I love you both

My friends and mates in W.I.T Solapur, OUCCBM Hyderabad, SIS Infotech, Bank of Madura Ltd, NSDL, SBICI Ltd and HSBC-GTI.

My Professor and my first ideal Guru "Prof. Narendranath", who really understood me and taught me the 4D of life (Determination, Database, Dialogue and Destiny). My teacher Ms Shailaja in Osmania University College (MBA).

My spiritual teacher Ms Anuradha, whom I admire for her simplicity and practical approach toward life.

My mentors

Mr. Milind Kulkarni and Mr. Sanjay Amrite

My Bosses

Shri S.K.Nath, Shri Gopalan, Shri R.Venkatraman, Shri Srinivas Manickam, Shri S.N.Gulavani, Shri S.D.Nimdeo, Shri Siddarth Sapru, Shri Venkatraman Iyenger, Shri Anoop Kumar, Shri Arumgam, Shri Ramakrishna, Shri John Kazan, Shri Anthony Ma, Ms. Anita Fy

Ms. Anita Bhatia one of the most wonderful boss I had. Her simplicity and patience were amazing. She treated me like a kid and sometimes also ended up doing my work.

Word of Thanks

This book would not have been possible if my six close friends wouldn't have believed in me, while I conceptualized the various statements, which I have tried to explain in the book.

Kasturi Ghosh, Gopal Pathak, Janak Ghosh, Ajay Menon, Dushyant Prakash Vipul Kaushik

I would also like to thank all my friends at HSBC-GTI India, for standing by me and helping me complete the book. A special thanks to **Sandeep Madan** and **Santosh Kadam** too.

Thanks **Priya Deshpande**, a well wisher and a good friend for helping me format and edit this book. My sincere thanks to **Lalit Prasad, Aruna Boominathan** and **Poorinma Kadam** for editing the book. **Shweta Sodhani** for her valuable inputs.

My cousins, who have stood by me at various times in life

Ravi and Manju Bhatia, Praveen and Uma Bhatia, Riti, Megha, Anuj, Ispita, Vinit, Rohit.

Friends for Life

This list is so long that it would run in pages, well I will spend a page on them.

<i>Ajay Menon</i>	<i>Dushyant Prakash</i>	<i>Vipul Kaushik</i>
<i>NVC Bhaskar</i>	<i>Kanchan Kumar</i>	<i>Vinayak Nayak</i>
<i>Rajesh Lalwani</i>	<i>Sreenivas Kommisetty</i>	<i>Sandeep Kulkarni</i>
<i>Ajay Udgir</i>	<i>Sivaji Nagandla</i>	<i>Savitha Murthy</i>
<i>Shobha Raut</i>	<i>Rose Mary Mathur</i>	<i>Kasturi Ghosh</i>
<i>Sri Krishna Mishra</i>	<i>Sreelaxmi</i>	<i>Pradeep Agarwal</i>
<i>Amarnath</i>	<i>Raghuraman Balachandran</i>	<i>Sudha Menon</i>
<i>Gonsalo Fernandes</i>	<i>Gopal Pathak</i>	<i>Sindhu Mol</i>
<i>Ganesh Puthran</i>	<i>Diana Rana</i>	<i>Flavy Pereira</i>
<i>Janak Ghosh</i>	<i>Sabarinathan Radhakrishnan</i>	<i>Biju</i>
<i>Nitin Ambure</i>	<i>Krishna Kota</i>	<i>Suyash Khabya</i>
<i>Kapil Pandey</i>	<i>Atul Deshpande</i>	<i>Rajnish Kumar</i>
<i>Sameer Chaturvedi</i>	<i>Hari Menon</i>	<i>Lalit Prasad</i>
<i>Priya Deshpande</i>	<i>Abraham Jacob</i>	<i>Raja M Pratap</i>
<i>Aruna Boominathan</i>	<i>Sanjay Jain</i>	<i>Shweta Sodhani</i>
<i>Amit Narang</i>	<i>Puneet Puri</i>	<i>Ramani Menon</i>
<i>Shankar Ramakrishnan</i>	<i>Sandeep Madan</i>	<i>Kaushal K</i>
<i>Sachin Kannadkar</i>	<i>Satish Ingale</i>	<i>C.Chitharanjan</i>
<i>Santosh Kadam</i>	<i>Yadvendar</i>	<i>Claudia Dsouza</i>
<i>Swapnil Acharekar</i>	<i>Himanshu Bajaj</i>	<i>Esmail Colombowala</i>
<i>Nitin Joshi</i>	<i>Abhijit Potdar</i>	<i>Vibusha Wickramaratne</i>
<i>Sandeep Somani</i>	<i>Anandeep Singh</i>	<i>Prajakta Shetye</i>
<i>Jayasri Vanamoju</i>	<i>Sonam Udasi</i>	<i>Supratim Mitra</i>
<i>Prashant Prachand</i>	<i>Naveen</i>	<i>Siddant Sharma</i>
<i>Harpinder Saini</i>	<i>Padma</i>	<i>Saritha</i>
<i>Shrikant Gangal</i>	<i>Viji Joseph</i>	<i>Shobana</i>
<i>Vishal Soni</i>	<i>Rajeev Kondapalli</i>	<i>Chandradai Maharaj</i>
<i>Venu Madhav</i>	<i>Vijay Bankar</i>	<i>Diana George</i>
<i>DH Pranay</i>	<i>Bimal K Patro</i>	<i>Nischint Jaisswal</i>
<i>Harsh Panmani</i>	<i>Ankush Deshpande</i>	<i>Amit Kulkarni</i>
<i>Ramesh Iyer</i>	<i>Ajit Singh</i>	<i>Deepak Patil</i>
<i>Charolette</i>	<i>Prashant</i>	<i>Vijaylaxshmi</i>
<i>Venkatesan</i>	<i>Percy Gomes Terrance</i>	<i>Deepika</i>
<i>Anand Haran</i>	<i>Avinash Palvancha</i>	<i>Ajay Babu</i>
<i>Vishnu Raju</i>	<i>Kiran</i>	<i>Rishi Raj Paul</i>
<i>Krishna</i>	<i>Pramodh Bangau</i>	<i>Abhishek Khare</i>
<i>Nagaraju Chilukuri</i>	<i>Mona Rau</i>	<i>Wayne Scurville</i>
<i>Shuvo Banerjee</i>	<i>Inoka Nanayakkara</i>	<i>Sridhar Ramasubramanian</i>

Last, but not the least my dearest friend

Srikant Iyer

CHAPTER I

What is Marriage

Marriage according to Webster's Dictionary is:

The institution whereby men and women are joined in a special kind of social and legal dependence for the purpose of founding and maintaining a family.

This definition seems exactly right to most of us. We've all heard of marriage, all of us are a product of it, and a fair number of us will go through it ourselves, at least once.

It is seen by most as nothing more than the drab economic contract as described in the above statement, and although some of us enter into it with high hopes for the future, romance generally fizzles in the first few years, leaving us with a swing set in the backyard and a minivan in the driveway but little or no romantic fulfillment. Right?

Wrong. It is absolutely wrong

The worst problem with the above mentioned definition is that nowhere does it define the heart of the institution. It says nothing about love or feeling, about lifetime commitment to the person whom you admire most, love the most, are fond of the most. It does not speak of a voluntary and equal relationship between two people who choose to live their lives as a married couple.

Marriage doesn't have to be about forced relationship for life, about the death of romance and sexual fulfillment.

I define it as follows:

An equitable love relationship entered into voluntarily by two adults, a commitment to share joy and sorrows, to stand by each other in times of troubles solemnized by vows and recognized by themselves as the highest romantic achievement possible between two people. The need to love each other more than the need to be with each other.

To walk in life on mutually accepted terms, with love and respect for each other. To live a life undefined, unconquered and total unknown to the world.

Perhaps these ideas are relatively new and unheard of; perhaps it is old wisdom well known by our grandparents but never articulated in our generation. Regardless, we are in dire need of some direction on this subject.

I am not writing this book to give any guidance, who am I, to guide anyone? I am just placing a few thoughts in the public domain.

You will agree with me on some issues and disagree on some, but I request my readers to surely share your views with me. I look to learn from you all.

CHAPTER II

The Nine Deadly mistakes MEN make with women and what to do about them

Here, I am listing the NINE Ten Reasons Why Men Fail With Women—And the tricks to Make Sure YOU Avoid Every One Of These Deadly Common Mistakes...

MISTAKE **1: Being Too Much Of A "Good Guy/Nice Guy "

You must have noticed, that the most attractive women never seem to be attracted to "nice" guys? Of course you have.

Just like me, I'm dead sure you must have had really attractive female friends that always seemed to date "jerks". These women for some reason or other they were never romantically interested in YOU.

There is nothing to be surprised of, It's actually very simple...

Women don't select their choices of men on how "nice" a guy is. They choose the men on basis of a powerful GUT LEVEL ATTRACTION for them.

And Guess what?

Being nice doesn't make a woman FEEL that powerful ATTRACTION. And being NICE, innocent and simple doesn't make a woman CHOOSE you.

I realized that this doesn't make any logical sense, no calculations, no thesis in this world can explain it. It's hard to ACCEPT...

Until you accept this fundamental FACT and begin to act on it, you'll NEVER have the success with women that you want.

MISTAKE **2: Trying To "Convince Her To Like You"

What happens when a guy meets the woman who he really likes... but she is just not interested?

Right!

They just go all out trying to "convince" the woman to feel differently.

Well, I have some great news for you...

YOU CAN NEVER CHANGE HOW A WOMAN "FEELS" WHEN IT COMES TO ATTRACTION!

No amount of your hard work is going to pay . So, Learn from the Experience of others.

I recollect this incident which happened about 11 years ago. One of my room mates in Engg college Hostel was Vijay Ahuja, a really nice guy, intelligent, brainy, a whiz kid with computers, decent, you name the qualities that you will look for in an ideal guy.

He fell in love with one of classmates Shivani, and she was not just interested, he tried his best but failed. Finally she got hooked to a guy called Rishi, of our the class, who was just nothing, no personality, no knowledge, a dumb guy. We all were amazed how Shivani could just say no to Vijay and accept Rishi.

The Gospel of truth is that you can't CONVINCe a woman to feel differently about you with "logic and reasoning".

Think about it.

If a woman doesn't "feel it" for you, how in the world do you expect to change that FEELING by being "reasonable" with her?

But we all END Up do it and think she will change.

When a woman just isn't interested, we beg, plead, chase, and do our best to change her mind.

Bad idea. One that will never work.

MISTAKE **3: Looking To Her For Approval Or Permission

Guys also behaves in an irrational way at times. In our pursuit to please women (which we mistakenly think will make them like us), guys are always doing things to get a woman's "approval" or "permission".

Another pathetic idea.

No women in this world will be attracted to the types of men who suck up to them... EVER.

Please Don't get me wrong here.

You don't have to treat women BADLY for them to like you.

But if you think that treating a woman well means ` always getting her approval and permission for things ', think again.

You will never succeed by looking for approval. Women actually get ANNOYED at men who seek their approval.

MISTAKE **4: Trying To "Buy" Her Affection With Food And Gifts

Well this might have happened with most all of us. You might have taken a woman out to a nice dinner, bought her flowers and various gifts, and she REJECTED you for someone who didn't treat her even HALF as well as you did?

Well guess what?

It's only NATURAL when such a thing happens ...

That's right, I said NATURAL.

When you do these things, you send a clear message to the woman, that, I think you don't like me for who I am, so I'm going to try to buy your attention and affection.

No matter how good your intentions are, usually they come across to women as over-compensation for insecurity, and weak attempts at manipulation.

That's right, I said that women see this as MANIPULATION.

Follow a simple strategy, reverse your gears. Make her buy you things. Make her feed you.

You might think, I am crazy. I am just being honest and advising you to behave in such a manner, which will not give wrong signals to the women.

MISTAKE **5: Sharing "How You Feel" Too Early in the Relationship with Her

Another unfortunate mistake that most men make with women is sharing how they "feel" too early on.

Attractive women are very rare and they get a LOT of attention from men.

Most men don't understand this, but attractive women are being approached in one way or another most of the times.

An attractive woman is often approached several times in the day by men who are interested. This could translate into dozens of times per week, and often HUNDREDS of times per month.

And guess what?

Attractive women have usually dated a LOT more number of times than men .

So they have a lot of EXPERIENCE.

They know what to expect.

The one most thing that turns an attractive women off and sends her running away faster than just about anything is, a guy who starts saying

"You know, I really, REALLY love you" just after one or two dates.

This signals to the woman that you're just like all the other guys who fall for her too fast... and do not have any control over themselves.

Never do this, at least after reading this content, never in your life commit a grave blunder like this.

Lean back, relax, enjoy. The dating game has just begun and it a long way before you say the three Golden words.

MISTAKE **6: Thinking That It Takes Money And Looks

Another common mistakes that guys make is giving up before they've started because they think that attractive women are only interested in men who have looks and money.

Friends, take a reality check.

I am sure, there are some women who are only interested in looks and money, but you can't classify all the girls based on this.

But MOST women are more interested in a man's personality than in his wallet or his looks, because they themselves are earning quite well.

There are a few very important personality traits that attract women like a magnet...

And if you learn what they are and how to use them, YOU can be one of hottest guys in town.

Let me say this again: If you know how to use your body language and communication correctly, you can make any woman fall for you.

The other traits are, your character, attitude, decency, manners and respect for others.

MISTAKE **7: Giving Away All Of Your Power To Women

As I have said earlier that it's a mistake to look to a woman for approval or permission.

Well, another similar tactic that a lot of guys use is GIVING AWAY THEIR POWER to women.

Said differently, guys try to get women to like them by doing whatever the woman wants.

The worst idea ...

I firmly believe that women are NEVER attracted to men that they can walk all over... women aren't attracted to hen -pecked guys

MISTAKE **8: Not Knowing EXACTLY What To Do In Different types Of Situations With Women

Be prepared for the inevitable

Now I'm going to blow your mind...

Do you know that a woman ALWAYS knows what you're thinking.

I have always believed that women are best at reading body language. I would rate
Anuj Anand

them about 20 times better than men in this aspect.

You might think that I am nuts, but this is the honest truth.

i.e. if you're out on a date with a woman, and you want to propose to her, she is well aware of it.

And if you don't know exactly where to start and you just sit there looking at her and getting nervous, she won't help!

And this goes for ALL aspects of women and dating...

Approaching a woman, getting her number, asking her out, proposing to her, ... everything.

Remember one thing that you will LOSE EVERYTHING, If you don't know what to do in each situation.

The journey into a women heart is not so simple, it could be as tough as clearing the Civil Services Interviews. It could be a cake walk if you are CAT material and you know how to go from one step to the next with a woman... from the first meeting.

MISTAKE #09: Not Getting HELP

The biggest mistake of all.

This is the mistake that keeps most men from EVER having the kind of success with women that they truly want.

I know, guys don't like to make themselves look weak or helpless. Hence we do not ask for help.

We donot share our experiences, our failures, with our friends, since we believe that they would make fun of us.

It might happen that they may make fun sometimes, but they will surely help you with some great piece of advice, which will make things easier for you. On this aspect, I really appreciate girls, when they have to go on a date, they will call all their friends.

Seek advices, solicit help, which guys do not do.

Hey,I used to fail in dealing with women, then I started seeking help from my best friend's wife, because I learnt that a journey into a woman heart can be really simple with the help of another woman.

Just remember a simple concept that **MEN KNOW MEN better than women, WOMEN KNOW WOMEN better than men.** SIMPLE.

Chapter III

Dating - Quick Fire Dating Strategies

Most people have wrong notions about finding a date. They think they should wait for someone perfect or only ask out those people who have shown even a little interest in them. It's more result oriented – and far more fun – if you take a proactive, quick-fire approach to dating. You may find Mr. or Mrs. Right lot quicker than you might have thought.

Here are three Quick -fire strategies that will help you find a date.

Desensitize yourself to rejection.

One thing you must always believe that it is game, some times you may lose, other times may win but you'll never find someone until you realize that, at times, you're going to be rejected. Get over it.

If you have any rejection fears, take a cue from one of old pals Arjun, he was never accepted by anyone because he was a simple, honest, decent guy and then one day he decided to conduct himself in such an manner that girls would just fall for him and it happened.

He used to sit next to prospective dates and ask them out. He would make small talk with each. If things seem to be going well, ask them out. If they accept, great. If they stonewalled him, he smiled at himself, use to say "Kid lets start again". He learnt that being rejected isn't embarrassing or demoralizing until and unless you believe it to be.

After awhile, you'll see that the sky isn't falling on you. You may even get a date or two or three or four.

Make meeting new people your goal.

A few years back, an ex-engg mate of mine, Mani wanted a steady girlfriend, but somehow didn't knew any particular method for finding one. So he came up with a strategy, he thought would work, The Quick -Fire Approach to Dating.

For instance, if any one of his friends at lunch casually mentioned about a woman in his office, he would instantly ask about her: Was she single? Was she his age? Was she a good person? Was she beautiful ? Was she loveable ? If she passed those simple tests, He would ask his friend to introduce her.

By keeping his goal of finding a girlfriend top of mind, opportunities to meet women showed up frequently. And he took them. During that time, Mani went on dates with 58 women. Why did he stop? The 58th date was with Swati, who became Mani's wife.

Lets us understand how can you use this strategy? Simple

Make a list of every family member, friend, relative, and also those relatives whom you have never seen in your life, find a reason to contact them or get-together. During the conversation, mention that you're looking to meet someone new. You'll

Grade A+++

What you don't learn in a marriage school

be amazed how often they'll say, "I have just the person for you". You have hit the bull's eye.

That is exactly the way to end up on several blind dates and be on your way to finding someone special.

Go on many blind dates.

Many people see blind dates as a sign of desperation. I firmly believe that blind dating is an effective tactic that gets positive results.

In my opinion meeting new people is really nice, since you can learn a lot from them. If you start to view blind dates as a nice evening out, a drink, a bite to eat, and some interesting conversation, your attitude towards blind dates will change dramatically. The more people you meet, the better the chance one of them will spark your interest and develop into a relationship.

By following these three strategies you'll be on your way to meeting that special someone. And isn't that what dating is all about.

CHAPTER IV

PART A

DATING MISTAKES - 7 Things to Never Do on a Date: For girls

The worst thing of your life would be that the guy of your dreams asks you out, and you only end up blowing your chances with him by being a bad date.

Unfortunately, far too many girls don't know how to act and make obvious mistakes that send the guys running away from them.



I have listed these mistakes, which girls should avoid and succeed.

1. **The guy will surely ask the girl to order the menu for the evening and the worst thing that most girls do is** by ordering the most expensive thing on the menu. Seriously, if you do that, be sure that he will keep smiling with you for now, but later he will spend the rest of the night being pissed off at you. Don't be at the other end of scale, be natural and comfortable. Never do anything that you wouldn't want to do yourself.

It was some years back, a guy, I know from the YMCA Hostel Colaba, where I spend two of the most important years of my life, took a girl out a dinner. He took her to the Golden Chariot, one of the most expensive restaurants in Colaba. The girl did the same mistake by ordering the most expensive items on the menu, the total bill for the two was around Rs 3800/-, he was under the impression that the evening would cost him around Rs 2000/-, the whole night he kept abusing her and vowed never to take a girl out for date to any of the expensive restaurants. Till date after the incident his favourite dinner Restaurant with girls are at McDonalds adjacent to New Empire Cinema only and hence he is able to keep his bill under Rs 350/-

2. The last thing you should do on the date is to talk about past relationships...especially your most recent ex. This is a most sensitive topic, the moment you start talking about your ex boyfriend, you are being insensitive and trading on thin ice.
3. Never talk about other guys at office/college who you think are cute. Also never check out any other guy in his presence. The slightest look can drive him up the wall and close the door for you.

4. As far I know almost all girls carry a cell phone with them, I could not figure out why? If you have a cell phone on you and you get a call (if you choose to answer), get off immediately, do not talk for a long time. If you do, it will send a strong signal to your date...**you aren't interested.**
5. You have gone for a date, it's a happy evening to be enjoyed. He is spending money and time on you and you talk ill about his friends. Never, ever say anything less than flattering about his friends.
6. Girls have a really bad habit in taking very long to dress up .Please don't make him wait longer than 5 minutes with your parents while you're "getting ready".
7. Don't be dull or make bad conversation. Few things are worse than having to go on a date with a girl who doesn't talk.

PART B

DATING MISTAKES - Top Six Keys to Successful Dating for Men

As I have explained the mistakes girls commit on dates, the same rule applies to guys and they should follow these rules, they should always remember they are no different from girls in this game.

1. When with a woman on a date, never look at and flirt with other women. This is just plain rude and disrespectful. It's very degrading to a woman and makes her feel very unimportant. It will surely hurt her feelings, especially if she is attracted to you.
2. Don't play head games – Always remember, it is not corporate boardroom and you are working on the financials for acquiring another company, where your intelligence and negotiating skills are required.

Never in this world just use single women for fun and string them along with no intentions for emotional commitment. The worst thing you can do is to tell them that you love them and not even mean it. Don't get involved with a woman you have no interest in or desire to have a relationship with and suddenly tell her after several dates, "I don't want a girlfriend right now" or "I'm not interested in having a relationship". They will feel used, hurt and abused. I firmly believe if you cannot respect a woman, at-least don't show disrespect.

3. Don't make women feel self-conscious by making comments on things that she is self-conscious about such as her weight, small eyes, etc.
4. Listen to women when they talk. When a woman is speaking, focus all your attention on every word she says. Just like you listen while giving an interview for a top MNC. Pay attention to her and make her feel important and special. Women do not like to be ignored. I have a personal experience that women love to be cared, loved and respected. If you cannot respect a women, never in your life go on a date with a women.
5. Be considerate of a woman's family and friends. In this imperfect world, we are not exactly crazy about everyone we meet, but at least make your best effort possible to get along with and form a bond with her family and friends. Here's why: If you get along fine with them, they won't be so inclined to pressure her to dump you. You would be surprised what an influence her friends and family have on her relationships with men. Also, keep in close touch with your own friends and relatives. They will resent her for you forgetting about them and spending all your time with your girlfriend.

Remember that single women are unique individuals – Single women are not a combination of all the women that you have dated and had relationships with. It might have happened that some women may have cheated you or acted crabby and bitchy all the time. If you are under this impression that all single women are like this. Get rid of this attitude immediately!

You just can't judge all single women by your experiences of the past. All women

are different and don't judge all of them as being mean because of a few bad experiences. There are a lot of good single women out there that will treat you right. You just have to find them. If you are the one who doesn't believe women, change yourself and go out to find out one. I am sure you will get someone really nice and sweet.

You will thank me for this advice from the bottom of your heart.

6. Treat single women like ladies – Literally, treat them like a goddess. Open doors for them, tell them how pretty and sexy they look, compliment them on their clothes, offer them your arm. Just make them feel special, very special and desirable. And giving her flowers, gifts, cards, and poetry is a good idea too. Treat a woman like a lady and you will melt her heart and make her want to become your partner for life.

CHAPTER V

Strategies to Successful Flirting

I firmly believe and have observed that flirts are most energetic, cheerful, playful and happy people, be it a girl or a boy. Let us see what are the keys to successful Flirting

State reigns supreme

To be in the right mood for flirting is the most important component of a successful flirtation. You might have observed that Perfect Flirts are playful, have a sense of fun, adventure and are passionately curious about people. When you feel good about yourself, are happy with yourself, it shows, and then only can you give this to others.

Do something childlike each day, jumping in puddles, smiling for no reason, admire a girl's beauty (her long hair, her dimples (if she has any)). See people not as something you have to 'deal with' but as a gateway to new adventures and when you talk with people you learn a lot from them.

Let go of the outcome and get it anyway

If your main focus is concentrated on what you want, it will show on face, in your attitude. Never worry whether you will win hearts or make a good impression, focus on what you can give. Just ask your self how you can easily make other people feel good and happy.

It will return to you once the connection is made and you will begin to flirt naturally and adapt your style to the situation.

Always Be yourself

Always remember that you have be what you are. You cannot put on a mask or behave like someone else, because sooner or later you will be caught and quickly find yourself with less friends, less connections and less opportunities to meet someone who is right for you.

Feedback v Failure

Flirting is also an art. It might happen that you might not get immediate result, but that should not bog you down and you lose hope soon. Figure out what works and what doesn't work. Incase you are not getting the results you want, ask yourself what you could do differently that will get you the desired result.

When you believe that there is no failure in life and that whatever result you get is a learning tool, you will succeed. Learn from what doesn't work and do something different.

The dreaded chat up lines

People very often ask me 'Give us a good chat up line, When I talk to them about

flirting. There is no such thing as a ready-to-wear line. Each 'line' should be a genuine sentiment of what is happening at the moment. Sometimes the simplest opening gambits are the best. Sometimes by paying attention to the person you want to flirt with and noticing their good points, you will come up with a natural and successful line.

And if you can't think of one; saying 'how do you do ' with a smile and walking on by with a glance back... is my all time best successful line!

Make yourself approachable

Whenever you are out with a group of friends, be sure to separate yourself from them occasionally. The thought of being turned down in front of a crowd might scare off potential suitors. Make sure you look friendly. Behaving like an ice queen/king will not attract people towards you. You might be giving out 'no no' signals unconsciously, when secretly you are desiring for someone to approach you.

Check what you are giving off and if it's not getting results you want, adjust it. Ask friends to give you feedback. Take their feedback with a positive attitude.

Accepting compliments, brushing off rejection

We all are human beings. We get rejections as well as appreciation, but we have a very bad habit of storing rejections, when we should store compliments.

Do you take rejections deep inside your heart or do you hold it away from you so that you can look at it objectively and learn from it. You can just throw it off when you have done the learning. Look out for compliments, take them in and shrug off rejection. Begin to notice your feelings and where they are located in your body. Simple awareness is sometimes curative.

Say 'no' graciously

The most important thing, If you are going to turn someone down, do so graciously. See it as a form of compliment to be asked, even if the man or woman is not your type. If you reject someone with grace, other people will notice that and may be drawn to your charm, innocence, kindness and simplicity. I have something really nice to share with you.

One of my office mates Anurag Mathur, was an amazing character, he would say "no" in a very polite manner. He would take the girl out for a dance and dinner, treat the girl like a goddess, compliment on good qualities, appreciate on the decency of the girl and then he would a one-liner which would mesmerize the girl for forever "Goddesses are meant to worshiped not to be married".

Girls knew that they were getting rejected, but were so impressed by his behaviour that they would remain his friends for-ever.

Energy Level

What is your energy level? There are different types of people, with different energy levels

Grade A+++

What you don't learn in a marriage school

- *Are you earthy, solid deep rooted and passionate*
- *Are you a fiery wild type who is always hyper-active*
- *Are you a flowing watery type who sways and sashays or crashes through life, or are you airy fairy, floaty or hurricane-like*

We all MOVE differently.

Just check out people around you. Once you notice how they move and how they talk (fast/slowly). You will become aware of it, you can lower or raise your pace to match them and slowly lead them up or down to a place that both of you can communicate in. Ever seen someone talk really fast to someone who talks really slowly... it is an uncomfortable feeling and if we are going to interact with people, we need to make them feel comfortable.

One rider here - don't change yourself to BE like them and don't think you can really CHANGE them. If you don't like it and can't lead them to more neutral ground..
MOVE ON!

CHAPTER VI

Common Pitfalls in Marriage

I feel every one should exercise caution before getting into matrimony, as it is a one time decision, which cannot be reversed easily.

There are many reasons for a failure, but here I have singled out 6 of the most common causes. Every young person who is planning marriage should be aware of these most common pitfalls.

Marrying for the sake of love without first checking the depth of love

There is no denial that all relationships start with a sense of love and mutual liking. The biggest mistake is committing to a long term relationship like marriage solely on the basis of that feeling of love. Because most of the time this kind of feeling is superficial and can never pass the test of time.

You all will agree with me, that when a person is in love, everything seems hunkydory and at that time it is the heart that rules the mind.

Romantic feelings die very fast as time passes by and far more important issues like 'family background', 'values', 'financial stability' raise their head, and these issues are of real importance which almost every body with feeling of mutual love just get lost ??

Marrying someone who does not share an interest or hobby

A marriage needn't be unstable when both persons don't share a common interest or a hobby. But yes, If they share a common interest, it will make life more enjoyable for both the partners.

Usually this aspect is often overlooked before marriage. And basic efforts start after marriage to adapt the partner to one's own interest or develop a new common interest.

I have a very strong feeling, that a person's ability to change for some one else is maximum, when he or she is in love. Hence both the partners should try to cultivate common hobbies and interest before marriage, rather than trying it after marriage when the process of adapting may become un-palatable and may lead to unstable marriages.

One of my office mates Raj Salunki, got married to Ridhi Sharma, an arranged marriage. Raj's hobbies were money making and was movie buff and Ridhi's were reading Mills and Boons. For the first 6 months they really tried to share, each other hobbies, but it did not work.

Not knowing which questions to ask for checking compatibility

As discussed earlier, a decision to marry based on an initial sense of love may be counter productive. To make a marriage successful one should do some simple homework. Knowledge of one's future partner's background and certain other things

can play a crucial role here. But many young people either do not try to know all these important facts or do not know what are important aspects s/he must know to make their marriage successful.

Thinking proper and careful quarries may offend her/him

Yes, too much of investigation about one's future partner's background may not be a good idea and the partner may not like it, But it is very important since it lays down a very sound foundation for both the partners to work on for healthy understanding relationship.

Depending too much on friends or relative's recommendation

This concept works in our Indian society. A good number of young girls and guys often get married on the recommendation of relatives or friends.

I do agree that your relatives and friends are your well wishers, but marrying on their recommendation is not always a good idea. It is you who has to marry and not your close ones. Everyone has a perception about his/her future partner and it is only you who can find out and confirm whether you can relate with your selection.

Best way out is acting on their recommendation only after the successful completion of compatibility check.

Getting married to make somebody else happy

Another totally nonworkable concept is marrying to make others happy. A son or a daughter marries to keep their parents happy, despite that they might not like the boy or girl even a bit.

Making someone happy is not a problem, if that does not jeopardize one's own happiness. But most of the time such marriages occur without exercising even the basic caution that is required in marriages. As a result one may end up marrying someone who is not compatible.

If you are really serious about making your marriage an exciting, loving and enriching experience you need to be careful about the above things before you enter into holy matrimony.

“ Never marry a person whom 'U' love, but marry someone who loves you.”

CHAPTER VII

Six Deadly Wedding Planning Mistakes



Every one wants his/her D-Day to a perfect day and the day should leave life lasting beautiful memories. For this to happen, you deserve to have it the way, you planned. Then please take this advice.

Don't take chances with hobbyists

Your best friend might have photography as his hobby, but this is not the time to test out . This is your wedding day so it's not the time to use the hobby, photographer or caterer – you know, the person that works as a bank manager during the week and takes photos of sunrises on Sunday mornings. You really do get what you pay for. That's not to say you should pay through the roof for your wedding photos but there are so many other things to consider. Wedding photographers know how many different places they need to be in order to get all the best shots for the wedding album.

That being said, a landscape photographer isn't going to have the same knowledge and experience as a wedding photographer. You need to be sure that the person you have chosen has prior wedding experience (look at the photos), references (ask to speak with some of the brides/bridegrooms) and has the same approach that you are looking for.

Don't ask your friends to play professionals

Please don't let your friend play the florist. Your friends and family are to be as your guest not your florist /or your caterer. Let them enjoy the party celebrating your big day. Don't ask amateur hairstylist Aunty Kiran to do hair and nails the morning of the big day or cousin sister Mona to take the all important wedding photos. This same advice also goes for Uncle Khanna driving the Santro or whatever car you and your wedding party will rely on your wedding day.

And just because your niece Leena made a beautiful dress for your friends sister, doesn't mean she can do a your wedding churidar with three layer of apron falling that you want. You may think asking them to help you will save you money, but all it will bring you are unnecessary headaches.

Don't be afraid to tell wedding vendors exactly what you want

Be firm. If you don't tell the dress designer the exact design you want, you will show up to the reception happily married and with a very suit on. Not some, most of the wedding vendors will try and get you to use their preference, their convenience, which can be helpful with some choices that you are stuck on, make sure the decisions you are firm on really happen.

My best friend Sudhir's floral arrangements at the reception were all different summer colors of roses. For over 15 years, roses (especially the red ones) had been his favorite flower so it seemed a natural decision to have them as his table floral arrangements. The Florist planner of his reception site kept suggesting daises since they buy daises in bulk and they would be a cheaper alternative. Sudhir stuck to his decision and got the flowers that he wanted for the table arrangements.

Don't be afraid to move on

If you aren't willing to compromise with what you want from that wedding vendor, trust me, it's the best to just move on and try for some-one else.

Or otherwise you will end up talking about the flowers that you really wanted but couldn't get or the dress you could have worn if you had a better dress designer. The one thing that I just cannot forget was my cousin's Amar's wedding, we wanted a pianist to play at his reception, the strangest idea for an ideal Hindu marriage. The person who had given this idea was my good for nothing uncle. Now after hunting for days, we found a pianist to play for an hour or so at Rs 10000.00, later when he came to know that Amar's father was a rich man, he increased the price to Rs. 25000/-. Actually I even suggested to uncle that let the matter be given to me, I would have sorted out everything, but no one in the family listened to me. Finally we ended up paying Rs 15000.00

Don't get hung up on the small things

If you can't find the wedding favors you were hoping for or the right color napkins for the reception, make compromise. My cousin sister Ambica's wedding's color scheme went from lilac and white to lilac, white and pink because the reception hall didn't have lilac accents for the tables. Instead of adding a ten thousand rupees to the final reception bill for rented lilac colored table accents, we made a compromise and added another color to our wedding color scheme. No harm done! Forget the amount, which I never did, of course Ambica's Dad did, but I still keep raising this issue, whenever I give advice to some-one on wedding arrangements.

Don't forget what this day is really about

The easiest way to ruin a wedding day is to make the day about you. Yes, you heard me right. Of course, the bride and groom are most important people in the wedding but your guests are there to celebrate the joining of two families. This is not the time to act like a monster bride and alienate your family and friends. The most important thing is that it's not all about "you" only and you won't die if something minor goes wrong.

What if your sister decides to show up with her hair down straight while every other girl of her age has her hair up in curls. It doesnot really matter. Never worry about even if small things do not work as if had wished.

Chapter VIII

MARRIAGE – The First Year

You all must have heard this quote or statement, "the first year is the hardest". Tell me can you figure out who first said that to you? Were they happy about being married or did they proclaim their happiness through gritted teeth?

If you are ready to have a fabulous and wonderful entry into the World of Marriage, then follow these 10 magical principles, which will make your first year of marriage, a year to remember and lay a foundation of a successful married life.



Self-Love

One of the important things in marriage is Self Love. If you both take care of yourselves and take responsibility for your own happiness, then you will be very powerful in creating happiness with each other.

Be responsible for yourself and for your actions. Know that taking care of yourself is a key component to a good foundation and a key ingredient to a successful marriage.

Sense of Humor

The most powerful tool for your relationship is "A sense of humor". A good sense of humor allows us to think of creative solutions to otherwise challenging situations. Ability to laugh at yourself and take life not too seriously, can create some very great evenings, which become moments that you will cherish over a life time and talk about for years to come.

Create a Charter

I am not talking of a Charter, which forms a part of Corporate Board meeting, but of a mutual agreement between you two. Under the agreement, it should be that only one person can be angry at a time and stick to the agreement.

If your partner comes home from a bad day at the office and needs to vent off anger/ frustration by complaining, give them ample space to do that as long as you are not being harmed by the situation and it is not hurting your feelings. Wait until they are finished before jumping in with your log of complaints for the day.

This follows the simple concept that, you and your partner feel heard and listened to and goes a long way in feeling appreciated and acknowledged.

Communicating

Communicate, Communicate, Communicate. The point here is to communicate without criticism, since you both are mature individuals and deserve to be treated well / with respect.

We all make mistakes and at times we hurt each other unknowingly. Your partner needs to know when they have stepped on your toes or when they have harmed you. It is really important that you both need to share your needs in a calm and non-critical way.

Nail it in your mind that, if you both can understand where you are coming from then you will know how to take care of each other in the future and the path will be very smooth.

Complaining

Never in your life complain about your spouse to your friends, your family or your partner's family. Even though you think these comments might be made in confidence, the criticism about your partner will be felt by them.

Differences in marriage are bound to happen, its just about sorting them with your better-half rather than having an open air show. Unless you are being harmed in a way that requires the help of friends and family, keep your personal complaints between you and your partner.

Acknowledging

Use each other strengths to share responsibilities and to get the everyday things accomplished. None of us would like to hear that other people can do things better than we can. There is nothing wrong with letting your partner wash the dishes if you are the better cook - or taking turns depending on who wants to cook.

The same things hold good with cleaning the bedroom, doing the laundry, paying the bills, keeping track of Birthdays or whatever else needs to get done. (What do I know, I am just good at money management).

Another important thing, never loose an opportunity to praise the hard work your partner did to handle the bills or cook a fabulous dinner. This will go a long way in creating a successful foundation for your Marriage.

Greet Your Partner

I always believe at times small and simple things can have a great effect on one's life.

Greet your partner every day with a hug and a kiss and say I Love You at least once a day. Whether it is the first thing you do upon waking up or the first thing you do when they arrive home at night, this is a powerful way to reaffirm your bond every day. It is also a pleasant way to reconnect with each other.

It is also powerful to say "Goodnight" with a Good night kiss before going to bed.

Appreciating

Always be on a look out to find something to appreciate about your partner every day and communicate that to them.

It may be as simple as a Thank You for throwing out the garbage or it could be the colour of the kurta she is wearing or simply telling her you love waking her up in the morning. No matter how small the appreciation may be, it needs to be honest and sincere and can be extremely powerful in putting a smile on your partner's face when they are having a bad day.

Quiet Time

We all need some quiet time for ourselves, hence it is necessary that you and your partner need to spend time away from each other.

This will be the most important time since it will allow each of you to recharge and do your own thing. It could be reading a book or taking a walk or going out with friends for shopping, a movie or gossip. Do whatever it is that you love to do when you need to recharge yourself. You can also be by yourself while you are under the same roof 'house'.

Celebrating

Why do we have to wait for birthdays or anniversaries to celebrate. You could take simple occasions but important events (i.e., your first date, your first kiss or whatever makes you smile). You can do this with just a hug and a kiss (it does not cost you anything) or a card or even an occasional dinner out.

Creating a tradition of your own can be fun and it keeps the romance going.

CHAPTER IX

Flirting: Its Place in a Marriage

One question, which always makes me think again and again is "Does Flirting have a place in marriage". Well in the Indian society which we live, it is an absolute no. But some how I believe to be a bit flirt helps.

I will surely justify my answer and I hope you will agree with me. We all live a life, which is mostly mechanical. With so much pressure on an individual from all walks of life (Bogged down by weary spouses, insistent children and demanding employers) Flirtation indeed help us going, rejuvenating our energy level and keeps us in high spirits.

We shouldn't have to mask our beautiful feelings and love for others around us. Love for others does not mean love in physical sense, but love should be in deeds, your attitude, your helpfulness, your kindness.

When anyone falls in love, he is ready to do anything for the object of his affections. I say that this attitude should be there to help out our colleagues, office mates, friends and some times even for the people whom you do not know.

Word of warning though, you must keep things in the proper perspective, do not let it go too far and don't fall for your flirtation partner. Gospel of truth is that you should always remember that you are flirting sphere and you should not allow it end up in an extra-martial affair.

Flirting with your spouse or lover

Who say's that you cannot flirt with your spouse or lover. It is actually very necessary to flirt, since it will make your life more enjoyable.

I have listed a few flirting ideas which were taught to me by one of my office mates, when he had got married to his girlfriend.

Gift your spouse a genuine compliment, every day. It will help to remind both of you that you are in this relationship by choice.

When you compliment your lover, you identify what it is that you love about your lover. List those qualities to yourself. Acknowledge the kind of person your husband, wife, or lover is, and what the relationship means to you.

Incuse, your partner tells you about his or her accomplishments, appreciate them. Never compete or judge.

When you remind your partner how great he or she is, the best words are always your own words.

Phrases that might inspire you

"From the bottom of my heart, I really appreciate you being so patient with my forgetfulness."

Grade A+++

What you don't learn in a marriage school

"I want you to know that I know how much you really love me."

"I forget to tell you that I really love living with you"

"Do you know that my favorite time of day is when we wake up in the morning and you cuddle me a while before we get up. That's very special to me."

If you are really committed to flirting. I can say that be a creative flirt with your beloved, it will enhance self-esteem and make your love life after marriage an exciting one. Nail it in your brains, If you're married, be a Married Flirt. Life can be beautiful; it is what we make of it.

Love Life, Live Love, enjoy every moment of your life. Live as if this moment is the last of your life.

CHAPTER X

Top 10 Marital Mistakes

I have noticed a very strange concept in our society, that despite being so educated, qualified, in prestigious jobs, we just fail to do simple things in our life to make our marriage successful and end up with separation.

Well, after observing for years, I have been able to figure out the top ten things that you need to try and avoid wrecking your own marriage.

Lack of Respect for Each other

Never say bad things about your spouse to your relatives, friends or associates. Spouses need to be thanked. They need to know they are loved and appreciated. Remember your spouses are going to be there with you when you need them the most (at the times of sorrow) and not the world.

Not listening to your Better Half

The worst thing that you can do is by just not listening to what he/she is saying and paying more attention to the idiot box or the laptop. This also includes allowing your mind to wander and interrupting.

To be right always

I have many friends and know a lot of people in this world but I hardly know anyone who can love a know-it-all forever. Once a while you should admit that you made a mistake or that you don't have all the answers. This includes lecturing your mate, or having to have the last word.

Girls, I have found have this habit more in common, they think that they know it all and have a habit to dictate the guy. Please change your behaviour otherwise, one day the guy will just walk out of your life.

Not walking the talk

Speak, Speak, sort out your differences. Never sleep with a problem in your mind, speak out with spouses and make him/her understand your position on whatever the issue it might be. When you say you'll do something, do it. When you say you won't do something, follow through.

Hurtful teasing each other

If your spouse says the teasing is hurtful, considers it a put down, or thinks that it is inappropriate, then stop it. Claiming that your spouse doesn't have a sense of humor or is too sensitive, is being inconsiderate and unkind.

Dishonesty in the Relationship

Never have any secrets in your relationships. The saying "Honesty is best policy" might not hold good in this century, but in a relationship it's a must. Relationships grow on trust.

Having lies and secrets in your relationship can create distance, which no amount of hard work, or money can bridge.

Being Annoyed

Some people have a habit to annoy their spouse on some context or the other, they find happiness in doing so. I firmly believe they are sick people, mentally sick

This could include always being late, or nitpicking everything your spouse does, etc. It is when you know you are annoying and you continue to annoy.

About handling, such people I have only one thing to say, remain silent as long as you can, speak about it with them. If they listen, good for you, or else find out their weakness and hit them on their weakness.

Being Selfish Or Greedy

Being selfish or greedy are the worst things in a marriage. You might spend money on yourself, but make a big deal if your spouse spends a dime. Not wanting to open your home to friends and family because you prefer to be alone and don't want the hassle of entertaining.

Not paying attention to your spouses preferences. This is hogging the remote, only going to cheap restaurants when you could afford better, or not watching movies your spouse wants to see.

TEMPER Tantrums

Learned person say "Anger is the worst enemy of a person". Every couple should be able to handle conflict in a constructive way. Having an angry outburst so that you can win an argument will make you the loser in the end.

CHAPTER XI

Avoiding the 10 Grave Mistakes in Divorce

This was the most difficult chapter for me to pen down, since I was not getting any ideas w.r.t. divorce's and kids of divorced parents. All the stories that I had heard were of hate, deceit and violence. I did not want the readers to get any biased opinions, hence I have tried my best to keep it very simple.

Avoiding the 10 Grave Mistakes in Divorce

Just before and after marriage, a man and woman plan for many future events, but not divorce. Why should they even think of separation before uniting? But when the marriage is no longer working, a couple is suddenly confronted with countless issues and decisions – issues and decisions they are not prepared to handle.

The least expensive and emotionally painful divorces are the ones where in which both people used common sense and avoided the following seven critical mistakes.

Making legal and financial mistakes based on emotion.

To cope with your emotional pain you may seek help of a therapist or a counselor. This will help you in a big way, as you can focus on the legal and financial issues that must be negotiated.

Negotiating without all the important information and documents.

Remember that in a Divorce, every personal detail of your life could come out in open. Everything from your monthly salary, your assets, your liabilities should be honestly disclosed. An adamant, stingy and uncooperative spouse can be forced into disclosing information through the discovery process.

Divorce is very lengthy, expensive, and unpleasant process and any simple mistake may cost you a unfavorable settlement.

Thinking that the divorce process must be adversarial.

Divorce can be a "win-win" situation. Yes, there are settlements that were horror stories but, the true horror stories are where dowry, money, wealth involvement is the highest.

But incase where the above things are not much and there is a mutual trust between the spouses at the time of divorce, it can be a simple walk off with a smile on each other's face.

Thinking that divorce has to be expensive.

The divorce process doesn't have to cost a fortune. It only becomes expensive when the spouses can't work together. When spouses cooperate, they can do much of the basic work themselves and use lawyers for advice and processing the divorce documents.

Hiring a Combative Lawyer to Punish Your Spouse

The worst idea, for two simple reasons. The court is not going to punish your spouse financially for being a bad person.

If your lawyers fight with this idea in his mind, the litigation time period would be lengthy, hence will increase your cost and less money will be leftover for living. Treat your divorce as a business split and get your revenge by living well and happy post-

Not getting professional help

In life there are many things that you can do for yourself, but divorce is not one of them. Seeking knowledge and experience of people, who have gone through divorce isn't expensive and can save you from making big mistakes.

Not Knowing the real value of your assets

The most important mistake, some Assets are taken at face value. However, when valuing assets like house/land property or bullion it is much different. It really pays to dig deep and find the actual values.

Not controlling the process

Divorce process can be a very complicated and frightening experience. You should educate yourself and take action in order to help yourself. A proactive approach will always help you make better decisions and negotiate a settlement agreement that is fair to all involved.

Failure to Adequately Insure the Divorce Settlement

Premature death or disability of your ex-spouse can result in loss of maintenance, child support, college tuition or property settlement. Life insurance can guarantee your payments and your family's security. Also, don't ignore the high cost of purchasing individual health insurance.

Not Considering Mediation

If your assets are just moderate, joint custody is possible and your spouse is agreeable to a fair settlement, mediation will save lot of legal fees, emotional aggravation and provide more flexibility then the adversarial legal process.

Mediation is a time bomb when one spouse is hiding assets or income or is unwilling to consider the needs of the other.

Beware of Settlement Offers That Look Too Good

Always bear in your mind that life styles post divorce, will be of compromises. A settlement that does not give one spouse enough money to live on is likely to go into default in the future. Be fair, but verify the numbers. Get payments up front whenever possible even if you get less in total. Secure all payments with assets and insurance. What you have learned in these above few paragraphs is invaluable.

Not only will this information help you to avoid potential pitfalls but should empower you and assist to minimize the emotional and financial pain of divorce.

CHAPTER XII

How to get your kid through divorce

There's no doubt that divorce is really bad for kids. The worst part is when the parents become aware of the fact that they have a control the way their children live through their divorce. Being a responsible parent, you can do a lot of good for the kids by making their lives easier while you go through divorce:

You should listen to what your kids have to say and should be able to understand their feelings. Explain to them, why you are divorcing. The best way is to tell them, when the whole family is together. Kids are always under the impression that it is because of them, that their parents are splitting.

Kids are often used as a messenger in parental communications, as in "Tell your dad, that he's late with the child support payment".

Never fight or have an argument with your spouse while the child is listening. Divorce is a time of change for the whole family. You cannot stop this change from happening, but "Yes" you can minimize changes. For example, try to keep them in the same house and school if possible.

The important thing is discipline. Both the parents have a moral responsibility towards the kid. Hence, try to agree with each other about what TV programs are permitted, what language is permitted, etc.

Kids are always losers in a Divorce. Never cut on quality times with them. As parents you should give as much time as you can. Please don't restrict their access to one of their parents, no matter how willing the children may seem at the time.



Kids are kids. They are not your secret agents. If they want to tell you about time spent with their other parent, listen closely and politely, and then stop. Never interrogate them like criminals. Incase they don't volunteer any information, try simply, "Have a good time? God bless you".

Never make kids take sides in any arguments with your spouse. Kids are always smart, they generally want to make both their parents happy. Don't make them choose.

Always keep your promises. If you cannot keep a promise, never make a promise. Consistently keeping your promises lets your Kid know that he or she can trust you, which will help him or her adjust to your divorce more easily.

Both of you as husband and wife have failed. But as parents you shouldn't fail. You should always remember your failure as husband or wife at the back of your mind and try to cover up, by giving the best to your kids. Never give up on your kids, because they have only you both to depend in this world. If you both just walk out, they will be left to fight alone in this world.



Always remember to take care of yourself. The biggest mistake is that you get so busy dealing with others pain that you forget to get help for yourself. Go for counseling, it will really help you. You have to keep your own sanity; you owe it to your kids.

One of the biggest gifts, you can give to your kids is to allow as many parts of their life as possible to remain unchanged. It may be relationships with uncles, aunts, grandparents, neighbours and friends.

Well two of the most common emotions, I could relate with kids were Anger and Anxiety.

Anger

Kids, whose parents are calling off their marriage, have a great deal of anger in them. There must be some exception to this rule, but it is found that kids are really angry with their parents. Many kids, who remain calm or show cheerful behaviour, may express their anger in a destructive way later.

Solution

The only solution is taking out anger, constructively. As parents you should talk about your anger openly and honestly with your kid, not taking out on spouse or kid. The kid will surely speak out his anger and cool down and accept the divorce as his destiny.

Anxiety

Kids of splitting parents often struggle with anxiety. Anxiety can be attributed to various factors like:

- *Changes in living conditions*
- *Concern about additional separations*
- *Feelings of abandonment*
- *A fear of additional unknown trouble*

Solutions

- First of all, deal with your feelings of anxiety with a friend, office mate.
- Then ask your kid, to express his fear and be willing to listen to them- all the fears the poor kid has.
- You might have to hear and respond to the same fear over and over. Your kid might need to express it again and hear your explanation again.
- You may have to offer reassurance that the fear will not come true, do so, patiently, logically, and thoroughly.

In conclusion of this chapter, I would like to say that do whatever you can, within the constraints of the divorce itself, to give your child a stable environment. Your kid is subjected to all the changes in his or her life. Hence anything you can do to minimize those changes will help your kid lead a normal life

CHAPTER XIII

How to build a happy and lasting Marriage Relationships

About two decades ago, dating and marriage were quite different. In the present society, more than 50% of all marriages fail for one or the other reason.

Just thinking about that makes "commitment" seem the most difficult thing on this earth. It quite happens that when relationships are faced with challenges, people just quit without even trying. In the present concept, Dating is more like a Decathlon, trying to date as many people as possible, instead of taking time to get to know someone at a deeper level.

For married couples, divorce is the only solution. Whether you are married for thirty years or eight months, the outcome can be the same. The fact is that relationships, whether dating or married, is getting hard.

It happens that things do not always go perfectly, fighting does occur, and it takes a 100% commitment from both parties to make it a success. I am often reminded of a famous quote of Dalai Lama, which I share very often "The need to the love each other should be more than the need to be with each other".

People often break off a relationship, because they feel as though something is missing. The "magic" has gone, leaving one or both people feeling inadequate and unfulfilled. However, even though the odds are not very good, healthy, and long-lasting relationships are definitely possible and proven by many people.

Look at our parents they have been able to lead successful marriage relationship for so many years.

What secrets do they possess?

The answer is simple that they all work hard at their relationships. They made a very wise decision of choosing to love their mate rather than relying on those "warm and fuzzy" feelings, which everyone knows will fade as time goes on. In any Marriage not everything will be perfect and there will be lot of obstacles to overcome but you have made your decision and now you choose to make it work.

There are hundreds of things you can do to better your relationship. To help you get ahead in the right direction, I have selected 57 ways to build, strengthen, and enhance your relationship.

Remember, small little steps taken every day will add up to big successes. Just as a single run help a cricketer reach his hundred.

1. Starting All Over Again

In the beginning of the marriage, when couples first get together, everything is new and exciting. They happily overlook the little annoying things the other person does. Slowly as times progress, nagging creeps into life.

Instead of hearing, "You look handsome," they could hear "Why are you wearing that

shirt?". If this sounds like your present day relationship, then first, the two of you need to sit down and be honest that things have changed.

Figure out the things each other did in the beginning of the relationship that created the attraction in the first place. Then make a commitment to start over again. The brutal truth is, both of you will have to really work on this. It is not at all easy but it is very much possible.

Start all over again by forgiving each other for the mistakes committed, forgetting the past, and then start over with the flirtation. Focus only on the very special things your mate does and relearn to put the unimportant things aside. It will take some time so be patient.

2. Scheduling Time

It is not about spending time, but spending quality time together. It could be dining out in a new restaurant, attending a party or watching a favorite movie. What is important is not the activity but the fact that you are together, doing something that you both enjoy.

In this world, where every one is running against time, It is really difficult to find time for oneself.

But, as you could schedule a meeting on your calendar, show some courtesy in the relationship by scheduling time with each other. Once the plan is in place, there shouldn't be any backing out unless you have some life and death emergency.

3. Surprise Element

Surprise element is an extremely important concept in one's life. In case you and your mate have scheduled some time for a Friday night dinner, put together a surprise instead.

For example, if your mate loves watching plays, purchase the tickets ahead of time, try getting the best seats possible. When Friday night comes around, insist on driving and head toward the location where the play is taking place. When asked where you are going, simply answer, "I have a surprise for you. I know you love plays, so I purchased two great seats for tonight's performance". The idea of you getting the tickets for something THEY like and then keeping it as a special surprise will touch their heart!

4. Never Debate or Argue

Every person has their own views and opinions on various topics. If you are aware that you and your mate have proven differences in opinion on certain subjects, why in this world raise those subjects.

You both love each other so much, so why debate on subjects, which might lead to conflicts. As the two of you identify new topics that would lead into another hot session, stop the conversation before it even gets started.

5. Re-living Old Traditions

When you both got together for the first time, you might have made a tradition of

It could have been going out for a dinner after work on Friday at the Chinese restaurant, gone for a Sunday evening walk together or attended puja at the temple together on Tuesday. Whatever it was, re-establish the tradition.

6. Happy Birthdays

I just can't understand one very small thing in life till date. People don't celebrate their birthdays as they grow older. It happens that gifts are quickly given, meals eaten, and it is all over.

A promise from me, that I will never write again, if you tell me one person who does not like attention and doesn't like to be loved. Every person in this world, even adults, like lots of attention and love to be appreciated.

Make it a point that for your spouse's next birthday, take out some time from your busy schedule to plan something very special. Make this a true celebration of their life as a way of showing your love and you care for them. It could be a surprise party or not, your mate will be really impressed that you went to all the effort just for them.

7. Dinner Party at Home

You could start a simple tradition of hosting a dinner party every other month or two and inviting several of your and your mate's friends.

Set up card games that everyone will enjoy, have some light and lively music playing, and plan to have a blast. A great way to reduce stress is spending time with friends in such a kind of setting. Couples get along the best, when stress levels are low.

8. Secret Holiday for a day or two.

Every one should enjoy as much as possible in this life. Schedule a nice weekend getaway to some place off the beaten track where you can enjoy some privacy.

A small cottage with a charming bed and breakfast would be a perfect combination. Find out the area, well ahead of time and choose a few things that the two of you would like to do in the area, but make sure to leave plenty of time for you to be alone with your mate.

Order a nice bottle of wine or some hot sweet corn chicken soup and relax in front of the fire! Rekindle the love between you, through this romantic weekend.

9. Say it with Words

I have heard from some really pretty intelligent women that there is no better way to express love than with words. From that time onwards, I hardly miss an opportunity to express my fascination with really good words.

The same way you could surprise your mate with little notes found in unexpected places. For example, If your spouse is traveling, place a loving note saying, "I love

I have another option also, by sticking a note on the bathroom mirror so this will be the first thing to be seen in the morning. Be as creative as you can be, never feel shy. When you have married he or she is your own, have as much fun as you want to have.

10. Spirituality

Do you know why have spirituality classes become hit in our country and they are a sure must in almost every couples life.

It is because spirituality helps in reducing stress and re-energizing ourselves, in turn helps couples to focus on looking on positive side of life rather spending time on negative emotions.

11. Learn to be Successful

I have seen many couples going to a counselor for relationship classes earlier in their relationship rather than waiting for their marriage to hit the rock. This is indeed a great method for learning how to have a healthy, lasting relationship and develop open communication.

12. The Power of Touch

There is no great power than the power of touch. When was the last time you walked up to your spouse without saying a word and for no reason affectionately placed a kiss on their forehead. This is a simple way to express affection.

13. Just Because of you

Remember to give your mate gifts "just because of you." These gifts needn't be very expensive. It could be a simple Hallmark card with a Rose or Chocolates. Your wife will know that the cost of gift is not more than Rs 100.00, but the thought that you would have taken the time to find a card, which she enjoyed, was worth millions.

The small gifts packed with thoughts are far more cherished than big gifts without simple thoughts.

14. Breakfast in Bed

When was the last time you or your mate had breakfast in the bed?

Please Don't say, Never?

Next Sunday, Incase nothing special is planned, get up a little early and fix your mates favorite breakfast. Include the Sunday times newspaper as an added bonus. Although they may be shocked, you can be guaranteed that this gesture of love will be highly appreciated.

The next few things, that I am about to share, were basically taught to me by a middle age couple, while traveling with me from Chennai to Hyderabad

It so happened that they both were seating opposite to me and they were flirting with each other. I was a bit surprised since this was something new for me, a married couple flirting.

Off course I had seen dating couples do, but a middle aged couple, I found to hard to digest. They both very clever to understand my nervousness and then they started talking me and explained quite a lot about relationships.

I am sharing with you what I learnt from them.

15. Make the Men Feel Good

For the man in your life, here are some ways for making him feel very very special:

- Flood him with compliments
- Flirt with him in public places, forget about the world.
- Act jealous once in awhile, even if you are not
- Tell him how sexy he looks
- Remind him that he is a wonderful mate/husband



16. Make the Women Feel Good

Just like men, woman also love feeling good about themselves. Here are some ways for making her your most adorable darling:

- Tell her how beautiful she is
- Compliment her on skill sets (be as specific as you can be)
- Remind her how much she means to you
- Let it be known to her that she is your best friend
- Be very affectionate to her in front of family and friends
- Let her be made heard that she is very sexy

17. Cuddling Time

Anuj Anand

7/6/2005

Cuddling is usually a part of their everyday existence, when couples start dating. As the relationship progresses or after children enter the family, the cuddling stops. If your mate is watching a movie, or laying in bed reading, scoot close and tell them that you just want to cuddle. This makes both people feel secure and loved.

18. Love Making

Intimacy is the most important part of a successful relationship. Find a book from the near by bookstore and make a serious effort to bring a little excitement into your relationship. Never be afraid to experiment and learn new and exciting ways to please each other. Keeping intimacy alive is healthy and not a bad thing.

19. That Kiss

You might have observed that as couples become comfortable with each other, kisses can become very common. The next time the two of you greet each other it should be through some serious kissing, enjoy your kiss and do not be so quick to stop.

Well there are appropriate times for serious kissing, but remember that they should be loving, sincere, and passionate, regardless of how long they last.

An honest and passionate way of kissing can surely make both feel better about your relationship

20. Special Greeting

If you are aware that your mate has been held at office and would be coming home late, surprise him with a late-night gourmet meal. When he arrives home, greet him with a warm kiss, followed by a wonderful hot meal. He will fall in love with you all over again for your caring attitude.

21. Be Kind to One Another

Some amazing relationship lack acts of kindness. Being kind to each other can have a great impact on a relationship. It is said that "Kindness is often over simplified", but it is a fact.

If your wife has been working at the computer all day, walk up with a cup of hot coffee and biscuits. I hope you get the idea. Kindness means understanding the other person's situation and seeing what you can do to make his or her moments easier.

22. Special Hobby

I might have said this earlier, but have a strong feeling that it is really important, if you could share some special hobby. Find some type of hobby that you both enjoy and then do it together.

One simple option, could be something like, you both wanted to learn how to dance

(Salsa dance). Take lessons together so that you can, then go out and dance the night away.

This is a great way to make your relationship even stronger while adding in something fun that you both enjoy.

23. Being a Kid

I firmly believe that being a kid, helps you a lot in experimenting new a idea and keep you in high spirits. There is no point to allow your relationship to grow old and stale. Being silly at times is perfectly fine.

One simple idea could be to order a few games, plug in the Play Station, and play games.

24. Love Means Having to Say, I am Sorry

This is one of the most important things in a relationship.

If you have done something that is hurtful or damaging to the relationship, immediately say sorry. It actually takes a strong character to apologize.

It is often seen that when couples argue, there is a long period of silence, which actually makes the anger and tension worse. Instantly let your mate know that he/she has made a mistake and ask for forgiveness.

25. Turn the Computer Off

This is really very important. Now a days it is seen that the computer has become a perfect replacement for a lack of something in the relationship. It could be just surfing, playing games, or getting involved with websites that promote dating.

If you find that your mate is spending less time with you and more time on the computer, take this as a sign that something is missing in your relationship.

Forget everything, start by talking and searching to confirm what it is bothering your mate and then work on for making it better!

26. Fighting, Absolute No

Having disagreements is normal and healthy for relationships. But the place and degree of discussion are the most important.

Kindly keep your disagreements private. Never fight with your mate in a party or anywhere around family or friends. Breaking into an argument will not only cause embarrassment for your mate, but will go in a big way to breaking down the relationship.

27. Do Not Repeat, Do Not Repeat, Do Not Repeat

We always keep advising our kids, not to repeat their mistakes, but in reality do we as individuals not keep repeating our mistakes.

It is high time that we start learning from our mistakes. If something goes wrong, then both of you sit down and work on it. Make it sure that the mistake is not repeated. It would take time to discipline yourselves, but as you see positive results in the relationship, be encouraged that it is working.

28. Leave the Baggage Behind, Forget the past

Never walk into relationship with your past.

Every one in this world has some kind of history, or "baggage", although at varying levels. There might have been things from the past that are hurtful, and even damaging, learn from those things and come out a better person.

This will help you to step into a new relationship with better knowledge of what not to do. Never look at the past focus on today, and look forward to tomorrow.

29. Compliment – A Lot

I could not figure out, why people are so miser with complimenting others. Be extremely generous with compliments.

It might have happened that you would have noticed something nice about your mate and thought about it internally, but never voice it. Do you know that you have missed a chance to strengthen your relationship?

In a relationship, compliments are like Fevicol Bonds. They hold the couple's attention and respect.

Your compliment should be genuine and based on something you see or hear your mate do.

30. Maintain Strong Family Ties

Very much applicable to our Indian society, In a relationship, not only are you involved with your mate, but also his/her family.

It is really important that you build a strong, healthy relationship with the families as well. Even if you do not meet them often, having a cordial relationship with your mate's family will make life for everyone much better all the way around.

31. Mentoring

A futuristic idea, but very appropriate. Incase you know a couple in your office or in your locality, who have been married for a many years and their relationship is still going strong, ask them if they would mentor you.

If you know of another couple from work or your church that has been married for many years and continued to have a strong relationship,. Being around positive influences and watching some one elder who leads by example is a great way to learn how to improve your relationship.

32. A Complete Day at the Movies

One rainy Saturday, plan a movie marathon. Keep aside all your works and head to nearest multiplex. Buy tickets for some two or three movies one after the other.

Buy the theater popcorn and burgers but sneak your own juice can in.

A great way to spend some fun time together, holding hands, while sharing a few laughs.

33. Sponsor a child

An ideal way to live a life within the relationship is by sponsoring a child. Find a child with CRY, who needs sponsorship.

Together you can shop gifts for him, go and meet him/her once or twice a year. It is a one very noble cause, which you both will appreciate and have a special relationship outside the family

34. Walk the Talk

Spending quality time together where you can talk and just enjoy each other's Company. Schedule a nice walk in the park. Spending quality time together where you can talk and enjoy each other's company is critical to a good relationship.

35. Keep a Pup

Buy a pup and bring it home, if you and your mate love dogs. This can be a wonderful way to have something that you both can care for and love together.

This will open up for very long walks with your pup or hours of playing with it.

36. Maintain Confidentiality in your Relationship

They say "Women" are really talkative and they cannot keep secrets, they sooner or later share their secrets with their best friends.

Always keep information shared to you by your mate in 100% confidence.

Remember it takes a second to spill private information for the entire relationship to suffer.

37. Don't Bring Office Home

Due to high work pressure, people often get work home and spend all the time at home doing it. They just don't have time for family.

I do agree that your job is your bread and butter of life, but your mate and family are also equally important. If you have to bring work home, inform your mate about it. Then set a specific amount of time it will take you to complete and when the time to quit comes, quit.

"Honesty is the best policy" It is not a phrase design as a wall hanging, to be hung in the hall of your house, but to be seriously implemented. Honesty always pays, as a matter of fact. Never make excuses in fear of your mate not loving, liking, or respecting you.

Just be yourself and if you have made a mistake admit it openly.

Incuse you had promised to take your mate outside for dinner, got home exhausted, and just did not feel going out, never tell your mate, "I had to work overtime." Be honest and say, "You got held up in office due to work and we will order food from the restaurant.

The best part in this situation is that you have and reconfirmed your honest nature to your mate.

Always remember wives know their husband better, than husbands themselves.

39. Keep Your eyes open always.

When you invest in the stock market, you pay full attention to what's happening in the market. If your portfolio is not going the way, it should have gone. You reassess your positions. The same way when your relationship is not working.

Take stock of the situation and figure out what is missing or the definite problem areas that need to be worked on? Plan a strategy; speak to your mate and then both of you work mutually to achieve a healthy relationship.

40. Never be jealous

The beginning of trouble in a relationship is when emotions change into jealousy. Jealousy as just like a hair-line crack in the mirror, which spoils the beauty of the mirror.

Trust is the most important thing in order to have a strong relationship. Without trust in a relationship, things will quickly deteriorate.

Ex. If one of you receives a salary hike at work, there could be a small spark of jealousy on the other person's side.

The moment you figure out that, things are bit dicey, immediately talk about this and ensure that any feelings of inadequacies are permanently put to rest. Every person needs solid support at times and if you can communicate properly, things will be fine.

Sort issues out before they become a problem. Talk it out. It is not important who talked first.

41. Candle Light Dinner

Who says that you cannot have fun at home? Just do simple things, Order your

favorite food from the restaurant and light some candles. Sneak little kisses, while feeding each other food. These romantic moments will surely help you improvise your relationship even stronger.

This kind gesture will reassure your mate that you really believe in spending quality time together.

42. Accept Changes

Change is the only constant thing in this world. As people mature, their perception and views about life change. Every relationship on this earth undergoes a change with respect to time.

Rather than getting upset with each other over change, accept change.

It may happen that you might not always like the changes that happen, but just do not throw away a very good relationship just because the wind is flowing in the opposite direction. Be as cool and as patient as you can be. Being honest about your concerns to your mate will surely help you solve matter.

43. Reap What You Sow

There is an old saying that goes as "Whatever you give, You get back ". The same holds true with a relationship. If you give encouragement, acceptance, honesty and love then you will get the same from your mate.

It is 100% truth, that whatever you put in a relationship is what will you get back

44. Interference from Other Family Members (Absolute No)

This concept is the "Gita" of all the concepts explained in this book.

Never allow other people to interfere with your relationship.

Fights, arguments are bound to happen between the mates. Since each person has his own views and opinions. If you allow family members to get in the middle of fights or debates, then it's a definite trouble.

The most important of all is that to keep integrity in your relationship and not allow people to interfere.

45. Believe in Your Instincts

Believe in your Instincts, when things are not heading in the right direction.

People simply keep going in the wrong direction, hoping that things work themselves out. The end result is usually negative.

If you believe that something is bothering your mate or something is missing in your relationship, keep it between you and your mate and work things out as a couple.

46. Be Creative

The most common words to express love are, "I love you"

Now be creative and spend something extra, it will really work for you.

Rent a Billboard in a location where you know your mate drives to work, that clearly say how much you love her. She will fall in love with you again.

Or request your favorite radio station to play a song for your mate, which clearly says, "I love you"

47. Special Music

It would be an ideal way to say to your mate that "I care for you". Select a list of songs that your mate would enjoy and have a CD burned of them. To add a little variety, record a few personal messages after a set of songs, just reminding them that how much you love and appreciate them

48. Being Flexible and Accommodating

Relationships are not about winning and losing, but is it about give and take situations. There could be times when you are right and times when your mate is right.

Other than proving to you mate that you are better, it is best to put a combined effort to accomplish the same task. The end result might be that each of you might learn something new from the other person.

49. Know more about your Mate

Always try to discover, some qualities about each other.

It happened with my friend about 6 years back. He had gone with his wife to watch a swimming competition.

One of the judges recognized his wife and asked why she was not participating. My friend was surprised, later he came to know that his wife was under 18, state swimming champion for about 3 consecutive years.

50. Learn to motivate each other

In the present scenario, life is getting very tough. Everyone is lost in his own world. Pressures are really very high, it could be at home or work place and motivation levels are at rock bottom.

This is time when you can do wonders to your relationship. Incase you know that your mate is working on something. It could be writing a drama. Make it your point to keep motivating, till he/she does not complete it.

The worst aspect of anger is that it basically controls the human mind. In a fit of anger the person's thought process gets disrupted and he/she tends to take a wrong decisions. These decisions could have a very averse effect on the relationship.

Always keep your anger under control, for the love you have for your mate and for the sake of your relationship.

Another big problem with anger is that the word "divorce" can easily be thrown around. You might have not meant it and you know it hurts very badly.

NEVER talk about divorce in your relationship, even if it is just for a fun, it will have very bad effects on the relationship.

52. Financial Problems

One of the most important reasons for failures in marriage is a finance related problem. When couples are coping with financial crisis, frustrations builds, drinking may start and it would create an all-around unhealthy situation

The moment you realize that financial crises is around the corner. It is really important that you both sit down and work out a plan on how to deal with the problem. Never allow your relationship to suffer due to finance related problem.

53. Build a Family History website

Now do something different from what your friends do. With help of your mate's family and your family get information that can be shared, it could be photographs, birthday calendar, family history, family recipes, and more.

Then get a website created, it will take some time and planning, but very little money. The end result off this effort would be, that you will not only touch your mate's heart, but the hearts of the entire family.

54. Enjoy a day at the Spa

This is for couples, where the mom stays at home and takes cares of the kids all day long. Show your appreciation for the hard work done by the mom.

As fathers do babysitting for about four hours and send the mom to the nearby spa, where she could enjoy a relaxing massage or whatever special treatments that are available.

55. Do Charity Together

Find a children's home in your locality. Go together spend some valuable time with children. You may go shopping together for the children and then present it together. You might find it difficult to believe that kind acts like these are great for Bringing couples closer together

56. Keep in Touch with Each Other

If both of you have an assignment, which involves a lot of traveling, then it is really important that you keep in touch with each other often. There could be stress from separation, but by being in touch with each other and informing about things, each person is dealing with how they feel, etc., you will not have any break in your communication. The ultimate goal is that when both of you get back, you could easily pick up from where you left.

This will require a lot of extra effort on both parts; keep in mind that the separation is not forever.

57. Buy a Star for your mate as a Gift

You must be thinking that, now I am totally out of mind. Cool, read the text and check for yourself.

Ask your mate to join you outside at night when the sky is black and the stars shining brightly. Then slowly point toward the sky and say "Darling see that star up there, that is your star. I bought it for you". Then show them the certificate showing that they do in fact have a star named after them. This is most wonderful gift will last a lifetime!

There are sites on the net, which help you naming stars. A few of them are given below:

www.starfoundation.net

www.starnamer.net

www.starregistry.com

www.buyagift.co.uk/name_a_star_uk.html

As you can see that relationships take a lot of effort and hard work, But having the right attitude, dedication, some amount of creativity and above all the never die spirit.

Couples can have a very strong, lifelong relationship!



CHAPTER XIV

Future of Indian Marriage

I conceived the contents of this chapter before I thought of writing this book. However I strongly believe that whatever I have written in this chapter represents the future scenario of Indian society.

The manner/rate at which engagements and marriages are breaking up. I firmly believe that in the next 3-5 years, "**Live In Relationship**" will become an integral part of the Indian Society.

A successful marriage emanates from commitment, honesty, patience, hardwork and above all "Accountability". Every married person is accountable and answerable for most of his/her deeds to their respective spouse and kids.

The new generation of guys and girls (between age the group of 18-29) are all upstarts, but the patience level in them is very low. These people work on a philosophy which I have coined as "Moment to Moment". Every thing they like is only for sometime, it does not have a value for more than a fortnight.

The same holds good for Marriage and Love. Hence Marriages cannot be reversed easily, the best option is to maintain a Live in Relationship. Since both the members will be neither accountable nor answerable to each other. You can live with the person as long as you like, but when things don't work walk off with minimum of sentimental impact.

In such a relation love would follow the same principle "Moment to Moment". For a moment you fall in love with X, the next moment you would like to associated with Y.

Love would not be from the heart but from the mind. A heart can be struck on a single person, but the mind is always wandering. Hence love would always keep changing its perception and definition.

As we are aware that a society evolves with changing environment (incl. socio and economic). Thus the other factor that will influence "**Live In Relationship**" is retirement age.

Currently our parents are lucky to see a retirement age of 58. I am sure the way globalization is having an impact on our country, these upstarts would not be able to see even 50 years as a retirement age. They would be out of market by the time they are 45-48 years. This would be the age when their kids would be leaving school and entering college and thats the time when your expenses are on the rise and income is zero. What would these upstarts do?

Hence sooner or later, these people will understand that marriage is a "liability" Better be happy being alone or have a "**Live In Relationship**" than die every day with accountability.

It was my intuitions, which made me, pen down this chapter. I would never like this to happen to our society since I firmly believe that "**TRUTH IS STRANGER THAN IMAGINATION**".

CHAPTER XV

Conclusion

As every thing has to come to an end at some point or the other, the same is the case with this book, but I really appreciate the effort that you have taken to read it.

Somewhere down my heart, I would like to make an honest confession that whatever I have written is what I have seen around me in past 15 years of life.

No one is perfect, we all commit mistakes, but if we can rectify them, we have done what we should be doing.

A strong gut feeling makes me say that, if any one of you follow even a little bit of statements, which I have made, you would have created a heaven in your marriage down on this earth.

They say, some love stories live for long.

I pray that everyone's love story may be the greatest love story.

GOD BLESS U

Anuj Anand