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## Streetwise English Podcast Episode 1 : Dating Apps with Josh

(rough transcription)

You know if somebody's the wrong person for you,  
you don't want to figure it out after five years and two kids.  
You want to figure it out after like eight minutes of a conversation on a  
dating app. You know what I mean?

Hi, welcome back to another episode of Streetwise English Podcast.

I'll be your host Carl. I'll be talking to different American friends around the country and  
you can join in and listen to interesting conversations about various  
topics ranging from dating apps to favorite dishes to what's the latest  
movie we've seen.

We'll be talking in a casual manner. Hopefully this will be entertaining for you and also give you  
a chance to improve your listening and give you some material to listen to as  
you develop your American English.

You can go to our website to find access to the written transcripts at  
[streetwiseenglish.com](http://streetwiseenglish.com)

The spelling of the website is in the links below so be sure to check that out.

Hey boss.

What's up man?

How you doing?

Can you hear me okay?

I can hear you just fine.

Did I catch you...

Are you uh are you lifting weights or uh  
doing push-ups or what's going on over there?

No not yet man I'm uh, I'm just, I'm cooking a bunch of meat.

[Laughter]

Is that soy meat you're cooking up?

Oh no it's it's all straight from the cow.

So you've gone straight edge with the uh with the chemicals but not  
with the flesh.

Not with the flesh yet but that's a good point. But I feel like we're probably  
all going to be going in that direction within the next few years.

Which direction?

The vegetarian direction.

Okay, I'm just giving you shit man.

So I was gonna... Can you talk right now?

Or do you want me to call you back later when you're done eating?

No I've got time.

I'm cooking. It's in the instant pot.

I'm all good.

Okay okay cool.

It's good to hear from you.

And I was thinking, I was like who should I interview? Like who's the most witty charming guy i know?

Mr J.

Who'd you come up? Oh me.

[Laughter]

Sounded like a good guy to know.

Yeah you've always been like one of the uh funniest quick witty son-of-a-guns I've ever met so...

Well thank you very much. I appreciate that.

and I hear that uh humor works well in the dating arena as well.

It does. If the ladies uh aren't laughing at you then uh go ahead and have them laugh with you.

Yeah okay so as we we talked about it a little bit before, but i think it would be fun to uh chat a little bit about um maybe the dating app etiquette and strategies and experiences.

Sure okay.

So first off the first question should be, What is your preferred app or your top three apps to use?

So um my number one is uh is Bumble.

That's the one that I like the most and it's for for a couple of different reasons. The main reason is that the woman has got to make the first move. uh she's got to

uh start the conversation

um and she's got uh 24 hours i believe to start the conversation uh after you both match

and so that takes some uh a lot of time guys have to on these dating apps

um really be pressed to uh to come up with something clever because

from what i understand the uh the ladies get inundated with these uh you know

with these with these hits so uh you

know it's you know if if you've got a really good you know woody opening you

know opener or if you're if you if you

kind of like are good at those

then uh

then that's one thing but a lot of guys

aren't and uh or a lot of guys will say something dumb or uh or say something that you know the ladies heard you know 50 times  
so bumble takes away that pressure of having to figure out something clever by the time she's talking to you you already know she likes you enough to start a conversation and you know on a dating app if she's reasonably attractive then you've uh that you're you're already like uh you you're pretty far along the road at that point you know so what's what's the key to uh getting her attention  
on Bumble in the first place  
uh there's two rules um  
is to uh the first rule is to be attractive and the second rule is to not be unattractive and i hate to sound shallow like that um  
but it's true  
and when I say attractive I don't just necessarily mean physical features although that matters  
height which you know matters  
unfortunately  
um or fortunately depending upon where you're at with that um  
but also how you you know how you write your bio how you uh present yourself the types of pictures you're taking  
if you're  
um  
not uh not naturally uh super handsome or good looking then you know the quality of the picture is gonna matter you know and there you can and you can look this kind of stuff up uh people are or you know people that are photographers can tell you a little bit more about about what makes a good picture you want to avoid a bunch of selfies you want to avoid the shirtless

bathroom pics girls don't like the gym  
pics for some reason or at least the  
ones i talk to probably because girls  
that really appreciate a gym body  
wouldn't talk to me  
um  
[Laughter]  
the  
yeah so it would be  
so being attractive can be a few  
different things it's going to be mostly  
and it's going to come down to  
you know if you're living in any kind of  
city that's uh that's a good size at all  
um you know there's gonna be a lot of a  
lot of people that we're gonna be  
swiping through  
So it's your first picture is really  
gonna matter and then if the dating app  
you're on has like a little blurb like i  
think tinder does where it's like a  
little  
it'll be like a little uh you know one  
liner you can add to your  
picture and that's that's uh sort of  
things gonna matter but uh  
yeah that's what uh that's  
that's what i would recommend you gotta  
be you gotta you gotta be attractive on  
these things and uh and if you're not uh  
naturally uh naturally gifted in that  
department  
then uh wearing nice clothes uh taking  
good pictures uh you know getting a  
haircut  
getting your facial hair the way you  
want it to be all those types of things  
showing that she cares is going to be  
important  
okay okay  
sounds good and um so  
did so you said do not include selfies  
so did you have professional pictures  
taken or

no I mean I made selfies um  
i'm talking about i'm talking about in  
general if you're struggling you know  
what i mean um the uh  
the  
that's gonna sound so you've got to edit  
that part out it's not super interesting  
it's funny um you don't want all selfies  
you know what i mean you don't want all  
selfies you want to come you know do  
have a picture of you doing something  
you like have a i actually had a um  
one of my pictures that i had that i had  
the most success on uh was me and i was  
actually i was pretty fat um  
and i was uh standing uh kind of slumped  
over with a uh a bunny mask on like a  
huge like  
full head coverage bunny mask on that i  
found in this department store my  
girlfriend the time took the picture and  
i got more comments on that picture than  
any other picture that i ever had  
because it was funny it was weird they'd  
swipe through and they'd be like oh  
that's strange um  
you know doing something kind of uh  
kind of kind of kind of put yourself out  
there a little bit  
without looking like you're showing off  
or anything like that no one's showing  
off in a big bunny hat um you know that  
can start a conversation as well  
so it wasn't like a scary bunny where  
you can't see your face you could still  
see your face no you couldn't see my  
face at all so  
it was actually less scary so how much  
how many piercings and tattoos did the  
girls have that responded to that  
um yes they all they all had major red  
flags all of them  
and the ones that didn't were too boring  
for me

okay that's good so so what do you consider uh red flags  
uh it depends you know where um i mean it depends on where you're at in your journey and i and i should say you know for  
for anybody that's on a dating app um spend some time thinking about what you're doing um and i and what you want  
uh some people just want to bring up their body count some people are looking for  
for you know like a short-term fling to get them through you know some period of time some people are looking for rebounds some people are looking for a relationship  
um you know think about think about what it is that uh i'm sorry what was your question again  
oh no red flags you're talking about avoiding red flags or accepting red flags with open arms  
right so okay sorry um so the red flags are going to be dependent upon what you want that's where i was that's where i was going to go with this so if you're looking for a long-term relationship and you're on tinder that's a red flag um or if you're looking for a long-term relationship and and the person puts on their profile they're not um you know red flag  
um  
for me personally uh you know alcohol and drugs aren't part of my lifestyle anymore and anybody i'm not anti either one of those for other people that's a me thing but if somebody said on their profile like their life was you know 4 20 or they drank often or all their pictures were

you know showing them partying i think  
in general if every picture i see of  
somebody's they've got a drink in their  
hand that's

yeah kind of red flagging you know what  
i mean

um yeah if that's not the stage of life  
that you're in personally right  
and i would you know i mean i don't yeah  
i mean i'll speak for myself there there  
was certainly a time in my life where  
yeah i mean a girl with a drink in her  
hand that was partying all the time was  
exactly what i was looking for uh but  
not not what i'm looking for now  
yeah um

so you know red flags i mean anybody  
that's uh for me personally if uh  
if if someone um

[Music]

if someone's like you know it doesn't  
happen too often but it's always funny  
when it does you know somebody bitching  
about their ex or somebody saying like  
um

you know talking about how they have a  
few kids and they're all a package deal  
it's like ladies this is tinder man  
let's not let's not get too far ahead of  
ourselves you know what i mean  
um

if somebody's talking about uh  
i always appreciate it when people are  
upfront um with any sort of uh  
any sort of um i don't know if you want to you know  
keep this part in here but um if people  
are up front with what they've got for  
any health issues or something like that  
that can sometimes be not necessarily a  
red flag but it's you know what would  
mean you know incompatibility  
right um

and you know and as far as like the the  
common red flags that some guys would be

like oh she had you know purple hair oh  
she had a nose ring or a dip i mean  
that's i mean i love that shit so yeah  
that's like a hundred percent of all  
your ex-girlfriends or wives right yeah  
and all my future ones hopefully um  
the  
yeah i mean that's that's a preference  
thing and i'm saying if somebody was  
like uh if somebody you know for me  
personally if somebody all their  
pictures were them climbing you know  
rock climbing or mountaineering that be  
a red flag for me although that's  
perfectly healthy behavior i don't want  
to be doing that with you so  
look for common interest you know what i  
mean that being said if they're you know  
you know if if they're making it you  
know if you're just looking for  
short-term flings and they seem open to  
it then you know, then the sky's the limit. Go  
for it you know then  
okay okay great so now let's just say  
that the the girl has  
acceptable red flags or no red flags  
um and she shows interest  
how do you start off that conversation  
so i will always look for something that  
we've got in common you know what i mean  
um and you're not going you're not you  
don't have a lot you know to go with  
when you're first when you're when  
you're first starting that opening up  
you know what i mean and you're not and  
i'm not trying to like get into their  
heads or anything like that but  
people like talking about themselves you  
know so you want to give people an  
opening to talk about themselves  
everybody's favorite subject is  
themselves as evidenced by me talking  
about myself right now  
so you know look you know look at their



profile and you know pay attention because a lot of guys um don't you know from what i've heard a lot of guys uh you know are just looking at physical stuff you know girls all you know they get that shit all the time um they're walking around in a world where they're being judged by their appearances all the time. I do it to them as well i'm just not obvious about it.

So the you know if she's uh you know if she went to a school that you know or that you've been there You know mention it if she you know if if you know she was in the military and you were or your you know one of your family members were you know mention it if she is you know a picture of uh her in uh california and you've been there you know mention it be like oh that was great i was there so and so something where you can because you know what what you're really trying to do and you don't want to take too long on on these conversations with these dating apps um because it just uh devolves into uh boringness and the last thing you want to do when getting a woman's attention on a dating app is be boring so you want to you want to make her feel comfortable talking to you and you want to give her something to respond to that isn't about your neediness you know what i'm saying so you you know being being funny um and and not being uh not being too hesitant not being too like uh what's up uh you know give her something interesting because she's gonna open up her messages and see 75 what's ups and you got to do

something a little bit better than that  
you know I mean without coming across as  
egotistical um  
don't brag about yourself don't talk a  
huge amount about yourself  
you can you know reveal yourself be  
vulnerable be open um but but you know  
don't don't brag about how you got this  
how you got that you don't know what she  
values you don't know what's important  
to her and what you want to do is you want to  
find out those things you know what's  
important to this person and what you're  
I want to be  
very you know specific because this  
could seem kind of uh like you're being  
disingenuous  
um  
you know if you're just looking for  
hookups you're just looking for hookups  
and what you're basically trying to do  
is to make them feel you know have them  
feel comfortable enough that they're  
willing to uh you know either do a phone  
call or meet up for a cup of coffee  
something like that just to you know  
move it along  
but what you're really trying to do if  
you're looking for anything apart from  
just you know a warm body is you're uh  
you're trying to disqualify them uh just  
as much as they're trying to disqualify  
you and i think for guys really it's  
really important to uh  
to look at that because it's really easy  
to get excited and be like oh i've got a  
match here um  
where you know  
maybe i'm old-fashioned but you know for  
me going out on if i'm going out on a  
date with a person it's not just you  
know back to the apartment you know i'm  
going to spend some money i'm certainly  
going to spend some time where i don't

you know i don't i can't make that back  
and so i want to make sure that i'm you  
know

that the person that i'm talking with is  
somebody that i'm going to be interested  
in you know and if they're coming across  
it's not very conversational or boring  
or you know our politics don't align at  
all or they say something like you know  
really red flaggy or problematic you're  
not going to want to end that  
conversation pretty quickly because  
you know if i'm not getting good  
vibes from it then there's no reason to  
to continue pushing on that time is much  
better spent

um you know talking other people or you  
know really the time is much better is  
doing anything else except talking the  
wrong person you know

no that's good that's good advice uh  
your focus is to disqualify the  
person as well right

yeah i mean that's what your time and  
your money is valuable right

yeah i mean you you don't want to um  
i don't want to say that i've never made  
a mistake in a relationship before  
but you want to uh you want to minimize  
them you know what i mean um and it's  
you know and if you're just super  
thrilled that a lady's talking to you  
that's not that's not really giving her  
much either you know what i mean um  
you've gotta you've gotta be willing to  
to to uh

to be disqualifying these people as well  
and and really the quicker you can  
the better it is and i'll give you  
another extreme example you know if  
somebody's the wrong person for you you  
don't wanna figure it out after five  
years and two kids you know what i mean  
you want to figure it out after like

eight minutes of a conversation on a dating app you know what i mean so that's what i mean by like if these people aren't like doing it for it and again it all depends on what you're looking for if you're looking for a marriage then there's a little bit more you know talking if you're looking for you know hookup tonight it's uh bars might be a little bit lower you know

well thanks a lot josh that was very informative and um i hope that whoever's listening to this learned something and enjoyed the experience from mr j and this was our first experiment so this

we're talking about dating apps and stay tuned for more similar um interesting conversations you can go to our website to find access to the written transcripts at [streetwiseenglishpodcast.com](http://streetwiseenglishpodcast.com) the spelling of the website is in the links below so be sure to check that out and

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bye-bye