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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

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

we hope to see you again soon. Join us for many episodes of real conversations between american friends just shooting the breeze thanks again
bye-bye