

Outrageous shopping bills are a familiar nightmare for many compulsive shoppers. And contrary to the popular opinion, men 1) suffer that nightmare nearly as often as women. A

Are You Hooked to It?

9

new survey finds that both 2) genders are almost equally likely to suffer compulsive buying disorder, a condition marked by uncontrollable, unnecessary and 3) unaffordable shopping sprees.

Researchers used to estimate that between 2 and 16 percent of the US population suffered compulsive buying disorder, and that 90 percent of 4) sufferers were female. But a 2004 telephone survey of more than 2,500 American adults found that 6 percent of women and about 5.5 percent of men are compulsive shoppers; that's 5) more than 1 in 20 adults.

The sexes do not shop at the same aisles though. Experts say that women are more likely to binge buy things like clothes or gifts for other people, while men tend to buy 6) expensive electronics. This survey is the first to find 7) such a high number of compulsive shoppers in the general population.

Study authors hope that this finding can convince doctors of how many people are hurt by the disorder, so they can 8) make finding a cure a priority.

I'm Bill Blakemore, in New York.

Audio script & key

Reporter: In Vail, Arizona, a new school with a new idea: no textbooks. While other students might be reading books, Empire students will read on their laptops. Jeremy Gypton, a history teacher at Empire High School in Vail, Arizona. Mr. Gypton, tell us about the assignment that you've already given, that might otherwise have involved a textbook, but 1) in this case involves a computer.

Mr. Gypton: Well, with the, with history I try to use as many primary source documents as possible. I actually just recently had my students, studying...my American History students, studying the French-Indian War and its 2) impact. And that sort of document is just not 3) available in a traditional textbook, I would have to say, "Go online or go to a library and find a copy", whereas with the laptops and with the 4) resources they're using, they have immediate access to it.

Reporter: 5) What's the point here? Is it to get to primary sources or is it to use a 6) medium that youngsters today are more familiar with? How do you, how do you describe what you are doing?

Mr. Gypton: When it comes to our, I guess, our 7) reasoning, these are the students who've grown up with the computer, with the Internet, er, as, as kind of organic to their environment. It's not an add-on, like it, like it was to me. And this is 8) normal for them. And so, limiting them, by like sort of a traditional, maybe thousand-page textbook is, 9) from their perspective, I think a little bit abnormal, because they are used to being able to reach out, and view one topic from 20 different angles, as 10) opposed to just the one angle that a textbook would present.

Reporter: Jeremy Gypton, thank you very much for talking with you.

Mr. Gypton: Thanks so much for your time.

Audio script & key

Beijing Opera is largely seen as a dying art in China. Louisa Lim wants to introduce us to an unlikely new champion for Chinese opera. He's a British man who has 1) devoted more than a decade to bringing Chinese opera to new audiences.

Ghaffar: And I saw a Beijing Opera in London in 1993. And that just shocked me. It really moved me.

Louisa: Ghaffar Pourazar is British, born to Iranian Azeri parents. At the age of 32, he gave up his life as a 2) computer animator and enrolled in a Beijing Opera school, drawn by the difficulty of mastering this art form.

Ghaffar: And there is no other culture which has put that much 3) discipline into training the perfect performer. That is what the Beijing Opera is about, the perfect performer.

Louisa: On stage, the actors not only act, they sing and dance at the same time as performing 4) heart-stopping feats of acrobatics and sword fighting. Once the show begins, it's clear that Pourazar has taken a Chinese classic and made it his own. The cast is partly non-Chinese. And there's a lot of 5) explanation in English. The story is the 6) much-loved legend of the Monkey King, a mischievous monkey born from a stone, who learns 7) supernatural skills and uses them to 8) challenge the emperor of heaven. Pourazar is the multilingual monkey.

(Singing)

Ghaffar: It's within the rules of the art form that you perform for that audience. What I have done is, by taking it to London, to change the spoken parts into English. And that's, 9) that's within the rules of the opera.

(Singing)

Louisa: That even means adding a bit of comedy rap opera to the mix.

(Singing)

Louisa: And this hybrid bilingual opera 10) wins good reviews from both Western and Chinese audience members.

A Man: And that's really Chinese stuff, 11) expressing the more acceptable way. So it'll be more popular.

Louisa: 12) But the popularity of Beijing Opera is fading fast, with young Chinese audiences turning to karaoke, DVDs and the Internet. Much to Pourazar's sorrow.

Audio script

Christopher Reeve: 1996 Democratic National Convention Address

Thank you very, very much.

Well, I just have to start with a 1) challenge to the President: Sir, I have seen your train go by, and I think I can 2) beat it.

I'll even give you a head start.

And over the last few years we have heard a lot about something called "family values". And like many of you, I have struggled to 3) figure out what that means. And since my accident, I've found a 4) definition that seems to make sense. I think it means that we're all family. And that we all have value.

Now, if that's true, if America really is a family, then we have to 5) recognize that many members of our family are hurting. And just to take one aspect of it, one in five of us has some kind of 6) disability. You may have an aunt with Parkinson's disease, a neighbour with a spinal cord injury, or a brother with AIDS, and if we're really 7) committed to this idea of family, we've got to do something about it.

Now first of all, our nation cannot 8) tolerate discrimination of any kind.

And that's why the Americans with Disabilities Act is so important.

It must be honoured everywhere. It is a Civil Rights Law 9) that is tearing down barriers, both in architecture and in attitude.

Its purpose—its purpose is to give the disabled access not only to buildings but to every

opportunity in society.

Now, I strongly believe our nation must give its full support to the caregivers 10) who are helping people with disabilities live independent lives.

Acid Rain

Damage from acid rain is 1) widespread not just in eastern North America, but throughout Europe, Japan, China, and Southeast Asia. Is the rain that's 2) falling on your umbrella acidic? A listener's question on today's "Earth and Sky".

JB: This is "Earth and Sky", with a question from Sandra Renee of Olive Hill, Kentucky. She asks, "How do you know when it rains that it's not acid rain, and what 3) exactly is acid rain?"

DB: Sandra, you need a pH meter 4) to reliably measure the acidity of rain or snow. But in certain parts of the US—especially in the Northeast—you can probably 5) assume that most rain will be at least somewhat acidic. Westerly winds move 6) pollutants eastward, so the eastern US gets more acid rain.

JB: Acid rain happens when airborne acids fall down to earth in rain. 7) Electrical utility plants that burn fossil fuels emit chemicals into the atmosphere that 8) react with water and other chemicals in the air to form sulfuric acid, nitric acid—the "acid" in acid rain. You don't have to live next door to a power plant 9) to get showered by acid rain. These acid pollutants reach high into the atmosphere and can travel 10) with wind currents for hundreds of kilometers.

DB: The acids in acid rain are corrosive chemicals that 11) leach nutrients from the soils, slow the growth of trees, poison lakes and 12) combine with other chemicals to form urban smog. The simplest way to curtail acid rain is to use less energy 13) from fossil fuels.

JB: Special thanks today to the Camille & Henry Dreyfus Foundation, a private foundation 14) dedicated to advancing research and education in the chemical sciences. We're Block and Byrd for "Earth and Sky".

Audio script

I was lucky. I found what I loved to do early in life. Woz and I 1) started Apple in my parents' garage when I was 20. We worked hard, and in ten years Apple had grown from just the two of us in a garage into a \$ 2 billion company with over 2) 4,000 employees. We had just released our finest creation—the Macintosh—a year earlier, and I had just turned 30. And then I 3) got fired. How can you get fired from a company you started? Well, as Apple grew we hired someone who I thought was very 4) talented to run the company with me, and for

the first year or so things went well. But then our 5) visions of the future began to diverge and eventually we had a falling-out. When we did, our Board of Directors 6) sided with him. So at 30 I was out.

I didn't see it then, but it turned out that getting fired from Apple was the best thing that could have ever happened to me. The heaviness of being successful was replaced by the 7) lightness of being a beginner again, less sure about everything. It freed me to enter one of the most 8) creative periods of my life.

During the next five years, I started a company named NeXT, another company named Pixar, and 9) fell in love with an amazing woman who would become my wife. Pixar went on to create the world's first computer animated feature film, *Toy Story*, and is now 10) the most successful animation studio in the world. In a remarkable turn of events, Apple bought NeXT, I returned to Apple, and the technology we developed at NeXT is at the heart of Apple's current renaissance. And Laurene and I have a wonderful family together.

If you think human clones are some far-off fantasy, then meet Michael West, the scientist who says his lab, Advanced Cell Technology, has made a human clone already.

It's a 1) whole new area of medicine. It's very powerful.

The clone of an anonymous donor grew to six cells before it stopped growing last November.

What exactly did you do or make that day?

What we did was a very simple thing. We put a 2) human body cell into a human egg cell.

While some scientists 3) doubt this claim, West's announcement about a human clone drew attention to a 4) well-kept secret. Most of the nation's top research scientists 5) favour what's called "therapeutic cloning", that is, human clones produced in the lab, not to make a baby, but to make embryonic stem cells.

Do you think that most Americans haven't 6) focused on this as medicine?

I think that's right. They're thinking we're cloning Hitlers and Mussolinis instead of cloning cells. We're thinking of curing 7) life-threatening diseases, not cloning people.

To West, therapeutic cloning is the answer to 8) a list of diseases. With cloning, all medicine in the future will be 9) personal.

The idea is, one day if you get sick, doctors will be able to clone you. They will use your stem cells to grow 10) whatever tissue you need, be it brain cells or a whole organ, and then because that tissue is you, it won't be 11) rejected.

This is a war against disease.

Michael West says cloning for research is 12) an unstoppable reality that will happen this year, driven by the speculative promise that cloning is the future of medicine.

Supermodels

Do you 1) recognize any of these names—Claudia Schiffer, Naomi Campbell, Kate Moss? In the UK they are household names. Why? Because they are supermodels.

2) Over the last two decades, models have gone from the catwalk to the front pages of 3) popular magazines. Some of the most well-known models live a jet-set lifestyle—they fly from country to country, from fashion show to 4) photo shoot. And in the process they can earn millions of dollars. Brazilian beauty Gisele earned \$12.5 million dollars in 2001—a world record!

Fashion designers demand the most beautiful and well-known models to show off their 5) latest creations. Frequently, the 6) fashionable clothes and accessories that the models wear are so 7) daring that to wear them in normal life would be 8) inappropriate.

However, newspapers and magazines often devote whole 9) sections of their publications to photographs of fashion shows. This means that the designers achieve worldwide 10) publicity.

So if you are more than 1.8 metres tall, have perfect skin and are 11) overwhelmingly beautiful, then 12) try your luck on the stage. Who knows—maybe you could be the next supermodel!

They've always been thin, but some of the models on the catwalk these days are not just 1) skinny, they're downright 2) skeletal.

"I see bones. I don't like the idea of a knee being the largest part of the body. I don't wanna see and 3) count people's rib bones.

When Brazilian model Anna Carolina Reston died last year of 4) complications related to anorexia, she weighed just 88 pounds. It was front-page news, and the fashion industry responded, introducing 5) health requirements for models in parts of Europe. New York responded, too: no models under 16 on the runway; models with 6) eating disorders are ordered to get help; and designers are encouraged to feed the models backstage. The problem is these are 7) guidelines. And designers are free to do as they please. At least one designer has 8) resorted to weighing models.

"What are we looking for here?"

Betsey Johnson says, that's not her style.

"There is a 9) healthier approach, and I think that's good. But treating the girls like

jockeys or sports figures, making them weigh in, oh, I think that's horrible."

Many in the industry believe the 10) real issue isn't weight, but age. With models as young as 13 on the runway, editors say, of course they're thin. They're not 11) fully-grown. Actress Raquel Welch, who at 66 is MAC Cosmetics' new beauty icon, says she doesn't 12) fault the models. She blames designers for not making clothes big enough for the average woman.

"Nothing fits. You can't get the zippers up. And you say, well, are they just...they just don't want me?"

And the models themselves, they say, "We should focus less on super skinny and 13) more on obesity."

"The world in general has the opposite problem, I think."

"Models are never going to be average. They're models. And so, that alone, they're gonna be thinner and taller and younger than the average American woman, but I still think that they should be 14) representatives of health."

Alina Cho, CNN, New York.

Missions to Mars

Mars is no pushover. This is actually not a slam dunk and nobody should think that it is. Thirty-four times humans have sent spacecraft to our 1) planetary neighbour. Only 11 times have the 2) vehicles not crashed or burnt up in the Martian atmosphere, or missed their mark entirely and skipped out into deep space.

Mars may come and bite us, and, and that's one of the reasons that we're flying two, just in case Mars bites us, and if we lose one, we have a second basically to mitigate that risk and that 3) potential.

At the Kennedy Space Centre, twin Rovers are going through the final check-out. In June, two Delta rockets, 4) launched 3 weeks apart, will start the Rovers on a 7-month journey to Mars. After air breaking through the atmosphere, giant air bags will deploy, 5) surrounding the spacecraft, which like an 6) over-inflated soccer ball, will land and 7) bounce on the Martian surface. In 1997, the Pathfinder Mission used air bags to 8) successfully land on Mars. Two years later, the Polar Lander was lost during landing. That 9) mission did not use air bags. So NASA engineers went back to a method they knew would work. At landing sites thousands of miles apart, these 10) roving geologists will spend 90 days 11) sampling Mars.

They will wake up in the morning and they'll get a message from Earth which says, "this is what we want you to do today", and they'll start doing that; and then, kind of in the middle of the day, they'll 12) send back information on what they've 13) accomplished, which we need to plan tomorrow.

The Rovers are not going to Mars looking for life but they will be looking for water, which is an 14) essential ingredient for even the simplest forms of life to have existed or perhaps to still exist.