

Alex Samargia
“Swiping for love”???

With remanence of the past, dating culture has taken new transformations for the current digital age. Calling on landlines, or sending letters are a thing of the past but, the yearn for finding relationships stays in existence. Online dating and apps are not new, yet young people are finding that to be the main option for dating today. While meeting online can create long-term relationships, many struggle to make those connections.

Roosevelt alumni Jazmyne Barnhill said, “people used to meet each other and see if they had a connection by chance or through friends or working together. I think now people are obsessed with image and so many people lie about who they are.”

While social media contributes to keeping a certain image, so do dating apps, literally. Pictures and short biographies are the **only view into who the person is**.---(PLS someone help w that line it needs to be better lol). Gabriel Gonzalez, a sustainability major said, “dating is a lot less organic now, and seems to be based on looks more than initial sparks.”

“Dating is more difficult today, and most young people would agree. Technology and late-stage capitalism has left our generation more isolated and alone. I think in the last five years has also made people more isolated, so dating has become more difficult.” said history major, Everett Buiter.

Dating app usage has skyrocketed since the COVID-19 pandemic, as it was difficult to make face to face connections during a time of lockdown. A Pew Research Center study in 2022 found most singles to find it more difficult than before the pandemic even with new connection at fingertips.

Barnhill said, “I think our unlimited access to stimulation is also to blame but that’s a different conversation.”

Nearly 70% of individuals who met someone on a dating app said it led to a lasting relationship while 28% did not, according to Forbes. Buiter said, “you also have to have a little patience when using them because, as a man, I don’t get a lot of likes or matches and when I do a lot of the time, it doesn’t lead to anything.”

While many are in pursuit of a lasting relationship, statistics have shown U.S. adults are getting married later in life, and people who are single are happy with that status. This correlates with hookup culture and casual relationships. “Many young people see dating apps as a way to find dates quickly, but that doesn’t always lead to the exclusive relationships some are looking for,” Gonzalez said.

With the pros and cons of dating apps fighting for attention, it is unclear of how long dating apps will last. As the world is continuing to heal from the pandemic, “organic” connections may find its way back to the front.

“Really, I think that people in general don’t have the patience for delayed gratification and they want what they want now,” Barnhill said. “People feel like they always have to be doing something or be entertained, but that’s not true in a relationship.”