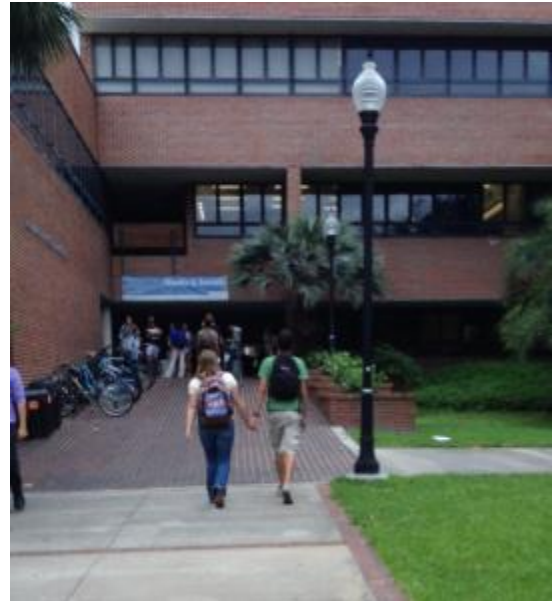


Social media love

In today's society, social media has one of the biggest influences on our personal lives and relationships. Whether it's a social networking site, printed media or reality television shows, we are constantly shown how our personal relationships are made public and the affects they have on our lives. Throughout our day we check our cell phones and the internet for new updates on our relationships. When I say relationships I mean every kind: friendships, partnerships, family, co-workers and hook ups. We subconsciously login on social sites to check on our significant other lifestyle, validating ourselves on what's going on in their daily lives. At times we as individuals may feel insecure about what our spouses are really doing. In fact people are creating barriers and social habits that are destructive to their relationships. Social media can cause the individuals within the relationships to loose trust. Social media tends to have a persuasive effect over the individuals within the relationship, making them question the loyalty and honesty that should be present.



However, social media has created a huge dating pool and makes it easier for individuals to form relationships. People are naturally afraid of rejection especially face to face but having media sites allows others to cope with it easier. In an article by Social Implications, Jennifer Mattern describes how “social media tools have the ability to serve as a stepping stone to deeper and more personal relationships with those we want to build them with.” With blog sites and status entries we are able to know our common interest with an individual instead of just knowing that person is good-looking. In other words, we are able to know what we are getting ourselves into before the long run. I like to think of social media as an extended introduction as well.

What about you? How has social media affect your relationships with others?