**The problems behind PUA system**

**Personal opinions of the pick-up actions**

first draft

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**Outline**

**1st para.: Intro of PUA system**

Personal experience (with stance)

The origin & definition of PUA

**2nd para.: About pick-up community**

Pick-up men’s opinions towards this kind of actions  
🡪 their motives & mental states & traits doing this

**3rd para.: Problems**

Their blind spots:

-Misunderstandings of gender relationship  
-Objectify females (regard them as preys)  
-Overgeneralize & Theorize complex issues

**4th para.: Personal suggestions to improve the problems**

As a girl who likes wandering the street alone and enjoys my personal time, I am deeply disturbed by some rude men who approach me and try to get my contact information. (Interestingly, some of them seem to strike up conversations just for practice.) I am sometimes quite offended by their careless manner and their purposeful actions, which makes me feel strongly uneasy. To understand the motives behind these obnoxious actions more, I learned about PUA, which stands for “pick-up-artist.” Originating in Western countries, it teaches men how to initiate sex relationships with their crushes. After the theory was spread to Asia, it spurred a community of aggressive pick-up men, who are eager to build relationships with women and some of whom I have encountered on the street and found annoying.

To learn more about this community, I watched several videos on the Internet about the “tutors” who teach pick-up skills to men. From these videos, I discovered that in their worldview, interactions between the two genders form a “sexual market” where men must present and prove their value by having relationships with girls; otherwise, they are seen as losers excluded from this market. This perspective, which regards single men as losers, derives from what our previous generations commonly held. Under the pressure of being belittled by others, some men develop anxiety about being involuntary celibate, which means being forcibly single, while others become aggressive in their interactions with women, aiming to have multiple sexual relationships to display their “winner traits.” These motivations can drive them to learn pick-up techniques. However, their awkward opening remarks, rigid responses, and purposeful actions do not contribute to forming serious and healthy relationships. Even though they successfully get the girls’ contact information, it doesn’t mean that they outstand from the male group. Instead, they become fixated on the short-term stimuli of success or failure in their pick-up attempts, leading to a short-sighted approach to relationships. These men all have a common problem: they lack the ability of self-love, that is, they have to find their value through others’ eyes and definitions.

When those men are grasped by the result of their pick-up actions, projecting their personal value onto shallow relationships and neglecting the importance of self-awareness, they move further away from healthy relationships and a balanced mental state. They distort the essence of a healthy relationship, which, in my opinion, should be based on equal positions, sincere interactions, and mutual understandings. Viewing women as prey and pursuing a winner’s stance in the sexual market leads to a distorted and objectifying perspective of women. This objectification can unconsciously cause them to hierarchize genders and force themselves into the role of “hunters”, an outdated concept of gender relationships that restricts their views and possibilities. Furthermore, their attempt to theorize interactions between genders results in overgeneralizing complex issues, making their thoughts rigid and impairing their ability to handle unexpected consequences. This approach not only undermines the potential for genuine, meaningful connections but also perpetuates unhealthy and unrealistic dynamics in their interactions with women.

For those men who are involved in the PUA community, I believe they should break free from the PUA community’s dogma of “the definition of a successful man” and the concept of the “sexual market.” Recognizing that they have been brainwashed by a toxic perspective and gender relationships is not a trade, they should get rid of their false recognition, let go of their obsession with pursuing relationships with women, and embark on a journey of self-discovery. Only by having a truly clear self-identity can they build long-term and healthy relationships with others.