

Assignment 5-Sugar Daddies, Sugar Babies

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After reviewing the videos and articles regarding Sugar Dadding and Sugar Babing, it goes without saying that this is an emerging and controversial topic. To better understand this topic, its best to start with identifying the key players, or stakeholders, involved with this field and their rights. First, there are the sugar babies. These are women that are connecting with the sugar daddies in order to receive some benefit or payment from these men and women. Sugar babies have many rights involved with this process. They have the right to use their resources and abilities in make a profit in the best way they see fit. They also have the right to protect their interest and the privacy to fulfill their goals in the way they see most fit. The sugar daddies, or the men who provide money or gifts in exchange for an evening with these younger women, have similar rights. They have the right to spend their money as they see fit and the right to privacy in regards to their decisions. Other lesser known stakeholders in this situation would be the families of the different sugar daddies. These families, specifically these men's wives and children, have the right to know exactly what their husbands and fathers are doing and why they are doing it. They also have the right to have a say in how their money as a family is spent. Additionally, the service providers that offer sites for these sugar daddies and babies to meet have the right to have accurate and true information regarding their clients in order to make the best possible matches and avoid any miscommunications.

Along with this emerging lifestyle, there are many technologies and emerging statics becoming available to this group. Specifically, there are many websites and applications users can use to connect, meet and social network with through the internet. Websites such as SeekingArrangments.com and SugarSugar.com are becoming some of the most popular means of communicating between sugar daddies and sugar babies. Nearly three million registered users are connecting through Seeking Arrangements and that number grows every day. Mobile devices, such as cell phones and GPS systems are used to make initial contact with each party then to meet up at a designated location. As more and more users are becoming more open to their lifestyles, they are revealing some interesting facts. Just to name a few, women have revealed they can make anywhere between \$1000 and \$5000 a night between gifts and actual payments. The average age for women signing up for these sites are 27, while the average male is anywhere between his late 50's to early 60's. Additionally, the average male makes around \$240,000 annually. Finally, about 40% of the men looking for sugar babies are married men with children.

There is also a lot of controversy surrounding sugar dadding and sugar babing. Specifically, a lot of individuals are questioning the legal and ethical issues that surround this emerging lifestyle. However, through research, neither the sugar babies nor the sugar daddies are participating in any illegal activity.

Because most of these individuals are exchanging actual goods, such as money from one party for the time and company of another party, there are no regulatory matters being broken. If either party were to exchange money from sexual activities, they would be participating in prostitution which is an illegal act. However, many explicitly state they are not engaging in such activities. However, for the ethical side of the situation, each party could be participating in a very unethical situation, specifically from the sugar daddies. Most sugar daddies have admitted to have spouses and families that do not know of their lives with the sugar babies, which raises many ethical concerns. Additionally, there are those using these sites and social tools in order to find women just for sex and other activities, which would be breaking many ethical and legal regulations.

One of the reasons this topic has become so controversial over the last few years is because it is often compared to prostitution. However, these arrangements are vastly different from this profession. Sugar daddies and sugar babies reach an agreement on what each party is looking for and many of them are just seeking companions or dates to take to events or to simply have a fun evening with. This makes the arrangement different from prostitution because sex is usually not even a factor for these couples; they are simply looking for someone to connect with for an evening or day. This is the main reason why I do not see a problem with this chosen lifestyle. Each party has come to an understanding and agreement about what the other is looking for, and if both are morally and ethically sure in their decision, I feel it is their choice and their right to live their life as they see fit. However, I could never see myself being a sugar baby. With my current life situation and the resources I have available to me, I wouldn't need to be a sugar baby because I have the availability to provide for myself. This is also the reason why I didn't find it surprising that Lisa Ling was a sugar baby. She seems to me to be the type of woman that takes advantage of an opportunity when it is presented to her instead of shying away from it just because of what other people might think of her. She knew she could travel the world and do things that others couldn't and she wasn't afraid to take advantage of this situation.

Works Cited

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