

Features



The Kozouz sisters answer your relationship questions every Tuesday in *The Detroit News*. Send your questions to Lowdown@detnews.com or write to Motown Lowdown c/o The Detroit News, 615 W. Lafayette Blvd., Detroit, MI 48226.

Ford lineworker should stop picking lemons as dates

I am 35 and have been single for 5 years. I don't have a college degree or work in an office, but I do work extremely hard (I'm a Ford production worker), make good money and have a clean home. I am mildly attractive, sincere and, more importantly, I live a very moral lifestyle. I am tired of females thinking that just because I work for Ford I am uneducated and an alcoholic with just one thing on my mind. The problem is no female wants to take the time and effort to get to know me. Until I see a serious attitude adjustment from the 20- and 30-something females, I will continue to be a cynical person.

— Miffed in Madison Heights

Dear Miffed:

As sad as it is, there are all sorts of stereotypes that are associated with a person's job. If the women you have been in contact with are really as shallow as you describe, then you should change the type of materialistic women you are chasing and go for solid and caring individuals.

— Reham

While I am not telling you to lie, you should focus on highlighting your positive attributes. You say telling women that you are a line worker is an automatic turn off. Then don't tell them you are a line worker! All they need to know is that you work at Ford. If they insist on more detail, then tell them you enhance production. The point is, just spin it until you can capture their hearts with your intellect and charm.

— Rana

You said you are cynical. I can vouch for most women when I say that cynicism is not on the Top 10 list for traits that turn women on. When you lose the self-deprecating attitude, women will find you more attractive.

— Leena

Why do you automatically assume that 20- and 30-something females think that Ford workers are uneducated alcoholics? I've never heard that and I do not think that is the case. I think there are other reasons why the women you

have dated are not attracted to you. Only until you come to some honest self-realization can you work on improving your situation.

— Ruba

I am 20 years older than my male companion. We've dated for three years. I know we love each other. About two weeks ago, we got into an altercation, and he packed his things and left. When he left, he owed me \$700 for the rent. I also let him get a used car in my name because he owed tickets. Well, he got stopped and was taken to jail. I know he'll probably call me once he's released. If he wants to try to mend this mess, should I give it a second chance? I do know I won't trust him again, but I miss him to death.

— Longing in Livonia

Dear Longing:

No more "Get Out of Jail Free" cards for this free-wheeling derelict. Say goodbye mama and don't look back!

— Rana

It's obvious that you have very strong feelings for this person, even after all this trauma he has caused you. It is also apparent that he needs your support. I know it can be difficult to throw (the relationship) away. However, he seems to be using you as a crutch and may be better served with some tough love.

— Reham

How insecure of a person are you to want to be with someone you cannot trust, someone who has left you and someone who uses you? Stop thinking about the relationship and focus on how you can help yourself in becoming a more secure, solid and worthy person.

— Leena

First things first — get the money he owes you and get the car out of your name before this turns into a bigger fiasco. If you have to, file a small-claims lawsuit against him. Once you see how he handles these matters, you can address whether he is worthy of a second chance.

— Ruba