

Romantic Relationships

Love abounds as an integral part of humans, which explains why at some certain age, people who believe they love each other move in to stay together as man and wife. Humans also have several emotions, but love ranks among the most profound. This derives from the fact that romantic relationships avail a sense of belonging and source of fulfillment. However, it is indicated that people have various assumptions of romantic love and this explains why many relationships destined to marriage end prematurely. Many factors exist explaining the trends in relationships. Some researchers indicate that some romantic relationships fail because people have not mastered the essential skills to make their relationships work. Researchers have also added their take on this topic and differing opinions abound. Wartik points to the fact that people get into romantic relationships for all the bad reasons. He asserts that deciding to cohabit before marriage or engagement is one factor that contributes to failed relationships. Watters has a differing opinion as he suggests that people rush into relationships, which they are not sure of. The author insists on the fact that people need to allow themselves enough time to mature in terms of relationships before rushing into one as this will facilitate them to treat their marriages with the reverence that they need to survive. Lastly, Slater has a couple of mixed feelings regarding romantic love. From her experience, she prefers explaining romantic love from a scientific point of view. She indicates that mental illness is one thing that can lead to a failed relationship. She also adopts a psychoanalytic perspective in explaining romantic relationships and cites the fact that romantic love is deeply rooted in our "...infantile experiences during infancy." Personally, I believe in existence of romantic love although it is guided by the desires of the couple in the relationship. Thus, romantic love lasts while the couples still love each other and it is a two way street.

This paper explores romantic love from the perspective of three researchers.

Currently, romantic love does not seem to exist. This stems from the change in traditions from the past. People seem to have adopted a new lifestyle. One of the most essential reason why romantic love does not exist anymore is because of the ideals that people are governed with. Notably, celebrities play an essential role in our society and many people tend to copy their trends. Thus, it is essential to note that celebrities have a lot of money and live luxurious lifestyles since they are independent. This explains why they are never serious with their relationships and stay around as long as the relationship still has fun in it. Warrick touches on the above point by indicating money plays an essential role in a romantic relationship. She notes that people who are cohabiting will enjoy the relationship in many cases if there is no financial problem in the relationship. However, she cautions against couples moving in together before engagement or wedding. This stems from the fact couples cohabit for different reasons such financial assistance, emotional support or premarital sex. Thus, when couples enjoy a romantic relationship before deciding the direction that their relationship end up in failed relationships because one of the couples reaches a point that he or she will demand marriage to instill commitment in the marriage while the other couple might be just in the relationship for the fun of it.

Romantic relationship exists in situations where both couples are mature and know the reason why they are in the relationship. This has been echoed by Watters who confirms that people should not rush getting into relationships. He further alleges that people between the ages of 20-30 considered as the “never married” should find a group of friends whom they can spend time as a family in order to avoid the drama that comes with misguided relationships. This is particularly true since many youths usually rush to get into relationships that they are not sure of.

As asserted earlier by Wartik, romantic relationships whereby couples move in together before engagement or marriage usually break in the end echoes the point advanced by Watters. It is critical that people take their time before getting into a committed relationship and when getting into such a relationship, both couples should understand the reason why they are making the move.

Slater has advanced one point that the other researchers have not mentioned at all. This depicts from her exploration of romantic relationships psychoanalytically. She indicates that our childhood plays a critical role in determining if we can be able to survive in a romantic relationship. Thus, from her article, she reckons that romantic relationships can exist depending on our "...infantile experiences as infants." This means that the love we experienced as children shapes our future relationships. In this context, it can be argued that romantic love exists for some people, but for others, it is dream considering that people come from different backgrounds where they treated differently.

Another essential point to explore revolves the benefits of romantic relationships. Research by Wartik indicates that people who are married tend to have less stress as compared to those cohabiting. This derives from the fact that those cohabiting say that they are less satisfied. Additionally, the author indicates that cohabiting relationships tend to break up in years or less. However, Slater also indicates that married couples are not safe because research confirms that many marriages end within a span of four years. This derives from the premise that the four years avails the couples in the marriage enough time to take care of the child up to infancy and then afterwards they regain their freedom to meet other mates. Watters seem to be inclined on the position that romantic love exists and this derives from the fact that he says that those that

have never married will most likely end up in a marriage because of the societal expectations or because they will be mature enough to grant their marriages the respect that it deserves.

From the researches done by the three scholars, it can be summarized that romantic relationships originates from people's minds. Slater confirms this by indicating that that a research done in India proves that people in the country would marry anyone as long as they fit the right qualities even though they do not love them. Furthermore, it is alleged that marriage is considered too essential to be left to chance. Another critical point to explore here is the fact that people in India believe that traditional organized marriages are more likely to thrive as compared to love marriage. This shows a tradition rooted in their mind, which facilitates romantic relationship to flourish. This point can be compared to a point by Watters advanced earlier regarding the "never married" getting into a relationship. Notably, Watters advanced that when the "never married" decide to get into a relationship, they are usually willing to respect the relationship with the reverence it requires. It can be argued that at such a point, the "never married" will have reached a point whereby it is no longer their decision to marry, but their minds. Wartik also touches on the fact that romantic relationship originates from the mind. In her article, she confirms that by the time they were consenting with her husband to get into the relationship, they had explored many things and had arrived at a conclusion that they wanted similar things. These include, but not limited to a good life and spending many times together.

In conclusion, romantic relationships exist in different contexts. In my opinion, it can be argued that romantic relationship lasts while a couple still leaves together either cohabiting or as husband and wife. It should be noted that in some regions, people are organized to marry each other and such relationships flourish because the couple have a perception that other people respect them when they stay married. It can also be asserted that our experiences as infantile

during infancy also determine our chances of entering a romantic relationship. Personally, I believe that childhood experiences shape our behaviors a great deal in adulthood. Thus, if a person experienced a very violent childhood, this clearly proves that they will tend to extend the violence on their partners in future. Another essential point to note is a couple's similarity. Couples that share several similarities tend to enjoy a romantic relationship. This stems from the point that they understand each other and know how to adjust to each other's demands. Additionally, such couples are forgiving; thus, have a higher chance of enjoying a romantic relationship unlike couples with different priorities. Arguably, romantic relationships are also a product of our minds, as well. This stems from the fact that some people will embrace their relationships because of an organized union, which sticks them together.