

Dating Dilemmas

I really like this guy and my mom doesn't approve. We're dating, but all he wants to do is kiss me and hug me and touch me. He even said that he'll get me to make out with him. I really like him, but he can be kind of pushy. I was going out with another guy, but I broke up with him so I could date this guy. Got any advice?

Some of the advice we have to give begins with questions... Why does your mom disapprove? Is it age, character, reputation, etc...? Sincerely ask yourself, "Are my mother's concerns legitimate?" Mothers can have great wisdom, so don't discount her insight. What is it that you like in this person? Answering these questions will be the beginning of finding the answer to your dilemma.

It sounds like your boyfriend is being very disrespectful and dishonoring towards you. Think about it... For someone to tell you that they're going to willfully try to get you to do something that you've said you don't want to do is far from what a caring relationship is like. A caring person would respect the other person's boundaries. It sounds like he has an agenda or mission to get "something" from you. What are his motives? Clearly, they appear to be selfish. So many people have a wrong view of relationships. For many, the purpose of a relationship is to get all they can out of it, and more and more, people are unwilling to look at what they can give. If someone urges you to go against your morals, then you should have huge red flags. What will he ask you next?

The major question to ask yourself is this, "Why do I need a boyfriend?" It honestly doesn't sound like your relationships are making you happy. Are your boyfriends a way for you to feel some sense of identity, to feel cared for and loved? We need to realize that no human relationship can meet our deepest needs for significance. That's God's job. And we should not give into pressure to do something that we believe in our heart is wrong. I'm not saying it's wrong to have a boyfriend, but it almost sounds like you "HAVE" to have a boyfriend. There's a big difference. Please try to look at that in your life.

We all have needs and longings and we need to be honest about them. Right now you have a longing to have a relationship with this guy. Is it a need? Probably not. If it is, then there's a problem. Do you really think this guy is "the one." You know, is he the one meant for you for the long haul? Or is he just someone to have some fun with for a while and then get on with your life? If this guy isn't "the one," then are you OK going without anyone until you find that person and know for sure?" I know that it can be hard because society, and especially pressures from school, say that you have to have a boyfriend or girlfriend. But that's fear talking. Fear should never dictate your life decisions. And that's what this is. Your life is precious. It really is OK to be without a boyfriend or girlfriend. Maybe this is a great opportunity for you to go without a guy for a while just so you can really find your worth and value in what God thinks of you instead of what other people think.

I honestly don't know if you really want the advice we're going to give. But we would honestly suggest that you break it off with this guy and wait until you find a person who will respect and care for you for who you are and not for what you do.

Trust, maturity, honesty, purity, loyalty, devotion, respect, tenderness, kindness, etc... these are things we all look for in a friend, boyfriend, girlfriend or spouse, and rightly so. These are the things that make for long lasting, loving relationships. Do you see those things in your boyfriend? If not, you should consider why you want to spend time with him. Greater question yet... are those things that you look for in yourself and are you demonstrating these things in the way you're handling this situation? Think about that for just a moment. What kind of person do you want? Are you that same person?

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