

Psychology 304: Social Psychology

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Assignment 4

Love is funny in such a way as it is able to be studied and recorded into research but also be mystical and undefinable. Before taking the love scoring test I had a general idea of what I thought to be love. To be romantically attracted to and in love with someone who reciprocates these feelings. While there are times where love is not given in return or they are not romantic with each other. Most of the time they do have mutual respect and romantic interest in each other.

The style of love that I have with my current partner is a strong physical and emotional relationship where both parties sacrifice for the other even if it is unneeded. I know that my own love language is touch and so when I scored “low” on the eros subscale I was not surprised at all. I know that I prefer to touch or be touched and very in touch with my emotions when I need to be. What surprised me was how low I also scored on agape. I did not think that I would think of myself as a give you all of me and expect nothing in return kind of person.

With ludus and pragma I scored very “high” as I do not see relationships as a game to be played. The relationship should be open and honest where communication can follow easily. The thought that people would treat love like a game infuriates me. To lie and manipulate someone else and call it love is disgusting. A relationship based on lies is doomed from the start. While I do understand pragma and trying to plan for the most compatibility, it is not something I could do. In my understanding of love, you cannot plan for it. Things change and people enter your life at the strangest of times.

I definitely agree with my eros score as I have previously mentioned. Most of the time I tend to move first and think later. Touching is powerful action and can be seen as respectful or

disrespectful depending on the situation and context. Giving a firm handshake is seen as respectful, while giving a weak gripped noodle armed shake is quite disrespectful. A big part of loving someone is being comfortable enough with someone else to lower your guard around them. Touching someone else can be a very intimate thing and build trust between the two. Hugs are also very important as if you are comfortable with the other person it can be a safe relaxing moment from reality. Showing your emotions is important as being a stoic shell and bottling emotions tends to lead to more mental damage and could lead to relationship problems.

The Ludus subscale only makes me angry as it seems to be wrong and dishonest. How could some see lying and manipulating someone else as love? I understand not telling something small to spare their feelings but your partner has a right to know the truth. Treating love as a game is a dangerous ideal and can only hurt the other party involved. This would be considered an almost toxic relationship. I scored very high and I completely agree with my score.

Storge is the subscale I agree with most. My score was lower than the average and seems to reflect my opinion. The start of all relationships should spring from a solid foundation of friendship. How would you know if you are compatible without first knowing who they are? There are moments of love at first glance and thinking they are the one but becoming friends is always the first step to a romantic relationship. Most people get to know the other before asking them out and pursuing a relationship. Even with the romantic trope of enemies to lovers they become friends at a point. The strongest of relationships is where your lover is also your best friend.

While I see the appeal and understand pragma, I scored higher than most did on average. I see trying to find someone that has the same ideals as you and being able to have healthy children. There is only so much you can plan for as the people you may love the most can appear at a moment's notice and normally at the strangest of times. With astrology you can only get with your compatible signs is a foolish notion. You cannot plan who you will love as it happens all on its own. Love is not something you can force to appear between two people as it leads to a false relationship which will only serve to hurt two people.

Mania is about uncertainty about yourself and that of your lover. If giving this quiz earlier in my relationship I would have scored much lower as there was confusion and uncertainty in a new relationship. Now that I have a better understanding of relationships and the dynamics of the one I am in there is no need for the uncertainty. While losing sleep over being in love or being upset when your partner is upset does still happen it is no longer to such an extreme. There is more trust and no room for jealousy in a stable relationship.

My score on agape was lower than I thought I would score. It surprised me to know that I would give more of myself to make my partner happy at the cost of my own happiness. It would rather suffer a little if it meant my partner would be all the happier for it. It would be nice if your partner would also do it in return but it is not needed or wanted. When both give too much then nothing happens as they wait for the other. On the other hand, neither partner should be a doormat for the other. There needs to be a balance with an agape form of love.

Looking at my own relationship I see that it influences eros and storge a large amount. We are both very open and emotional when we communicate with each other. Both of our love languages are touch and so we both tend to hold hands or in some forms are touching when we go out. Our relationship started as a friendship as had most of my prior relationships. I have never had to use dating apps or dated someone that I knew little about. Without having ever experienced that it most likely affected the way I view relationships and how they begin.