

Archive 7

I read personal ads for men-seeking-women (MSW), women-seeking men (WSM), women-seeking-women (WSW), and men-seeking-men (MSM). The advertisements totaled about thirty-five per category, and I documented the top three desired traits in the person they were seeking. Each heterosexual relationship searches yielded contrasting results, while the homosexual want-ads were surprisingly similar.

Heterosexual men are primarily looking for women who are mature (as in drama-free as they appear to typically put it), weigh less than them, and only want a physical relationship. This indicates that these men are interested in sexual encounters with attractive women, but those women must be socially and behaviorally mature. Heterosexual women, on the other hand, are mainly interested in long-term relationships with someone who likes to have fun and whom they can trust. This points to the idea that women are more interested with a committed family, and that integrity is paramount.

Homosexual men and women are overwhelmingly looking for very open sexual encounters. The advertisements that were read were very descriptive in their intentions and desires from both genders. Homosexual women were also more interested in femininity in their spouse. Conversely, the third-most request in the WSW ads was the intent on a strictly platonic friendship with another woman. Homosexual men, the most open and graphic ads by far, were filled with men in their fifties looking for younger men. While a serious relationship was a top priority overall, it paled in comparison to sexual encounters. I wonder if both WSW and MSM are so sexually prevalent because openness about sexual preferences is still a taboo culturally.

