'Will you have sex with me?' How evolution has shaped differences between male and female desire

In a TED talk on "Sexuality Conflict in Human Mating," [David] Buss begins with a thought experiment: Imagine an attractive person of the opposite sex walking up to you and saying, 'Hi, I've noticed you lately and find you very attractive.'

Follow the latest news and policy debates on sustainable agriculture, biomedicine, and other 'disruptive' innovations. Subscribe to our newsletter.

SIGN UP

Of the women approached by the attractive male experimenter, 56 percent agreed to go on a date with him, 6 percent agreed to go back to his apartment, and 0 percent of the women agreed to have sex with the attractive male stranger.

Of the men approached by the female experimenter, about 50 percent agreed to go out on a date with her, 69 percent agreed to go back to her apartment, and 75 percent of the men said they would be happy to have sex with the attractive female stranger. Of the 25 percent who declined, many were apologetic, citing a girlfriend or fiancé and asked for a raincheck in case things changed.

This is an excerpt. Read the full article here