



Mating Intelligence Unleashed: The Role of the Mind in Sex, Dating, and Love

Glenn Geher, Scott Barry Kaufman, Helen Fisher (Contributor)

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Psychologists often paint a picture of human mating as visceral, instinctual. But that's not the whole story. In courtship and display, sexual competition and rivalry, we are also guided by what Glenn Geher and Scott Barry Kaufman call Mating Intelligence--a range of mental abilities that have evolved to help us find the right partner. Mating Intelligence is at work in our efforts to form, maintain, and end relationships. It guides us in flirtation, foreplay, copulation, finding and choosing a mate, and many other behaviors. In Mating Intelligence Unleashed, psychologists Geher and Kaufman take readers on a fascinating tour of the crossroads of mating and intelligence, drawing on cutting-edge research on evolutionary psychology, intelligence, creativity, personality, social psychology, neuroscience, and more. The authors show that despite what you may read in the latest issue of Maxim, Playboy, Vogue, or GQ, physical attractiveness isn't the whole story. Human mating draws on a range of mental skills and attributes--from the creative use of pick-up lines, to displays of charisma, intelligence, humor, personality, and compassion. Along the way, the authors shed new light on age-old questions, such as: What role does personality play in mating? Which traits are attractive--and which traits repulse? How do people really choose mates? How do men and women deceive each other? How important is emotional intelligence? Why do people create art--and does it have anything to do with sex? Do nice guys really finish last? Since Glenn Geher coined the term Mating Intelligence in 2006, it has drawn a great deal of media attention, ranging from a Psychology Today cover story to articles in the New Scientist, the Washington Times, the Huffington Post, and elsewhere. Now, in Mating Intelligence Unleashed, readers will have the first full account of this revolutionary new approach to dating, mating, and love.

Mating Intelligence Unleashed: The Role of the Mind in Sex, Dating, and Love Details

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From Reader Review Mating Intelligence Unleashed: The Role of the Mind in Sex, Dating, and Love for online ebook

Alicia Fox says

Fun Read

I've read better books on evolutionary psychology, but not much on the dating side of things. Plus, it includes a test. Watch out, Cosmo. (I got 16 out of 24. The average is 10.5. Yay me.)

Henry Barry says

A scientific presentation of mating intelligence, which is a new concept in evolutionary biology in a similar vein to emotional intelligence, or social intelligence. Uses meta-studies and brings the world up to date on mating intelligence, and how it can change the world. Fascinating explanation of both gender's preferences, and gives a new, fresh perspective on the same old evolutionary biological issues.

Yanick Punter says

I enjoyed this and some of the information is highly interesting. There is also a lot of research yet to be done, of which I am looking forward to.

What did bother me is that in some parts I really wondered about the science. It has taken me some time from when I started my interest in psychology to be fully convinced about IQ and the Big Five Personality, but I accept them. Of some concepts presented in this book I am (still) highly skeptical. These include concepts such as the distinction between pride (authentic vs hubristic) and more of these. It also included emotional intelligence and Robert Sternberg's theory of love. Some of these concepts could perhaps be useful without really existing but I am looking for convincing evidence that they do indeed exist. The book failed to provide those in these cases.

I've learned that we make decisions unconsciously and rationalize afterwards. So I tend to not believe self-reported reasons for why we do things. I am under the impression that it goes largely unconscious. When this book discussed what people think that attracts them in a mate I do not take it that serious. The book actually covered this (that is partly unconscious), but did have plenty of self-reports.

Political science books "Predisposed" and "Our political nature" talk (at last Predisposed did) about assortive mating between political leanings, and the latter also talked of preference for outbreeding vs inbreeding. The first was not covered in the personality chapter. The preference outbreeding vs inbreeding seems to be new enough that it hasn't been tested yet, so I mention this more for those interested.

Lastly, I didn't find anything about sexual imprinting. Additionally, I would have liked to see the info that we are attracted to mates with different immune systems.

David says

3.5 stars

Skyqueen says

It is new territory on who we are as a species and how we really are more like animals than you expect for the simple fact of evolution and propagation of the species according to Darwin. Amazing info that is being tested to be added to high school sex education programs as a means of bettering our society through several avenues including violence, finances, birth rates, and others you don't readily associate with us as sexual beings. Very thought provoking as a race and individually.

Carolyn says

Lots of intriguing research on the social psychology of how people interact and why we behave as we do. Also shines a light on how little we may understand of the underlying motivators guiding much of our daily lives — signs and signals that extend beyond dating and mating to permeate most every aspect of interpersonal relationships.

Neftalí says

Intelligence is an evolutionary tool, sexual selection has contributed to "enhance" the species survival mechanisms. Evolutionary psychology is an interesting approach to our modern "problems" at mating and etc.
