

Communication, Gender, and Attraction (DD 2B)

1. If interpersonal attraction is positively correlated with attitudinal similarity, what role does communication play in the interplay of attraction and similarity?
2. Does this work the same across all relationships?
3. Is recall of "talk" the same as recall of "relationships?"
4. What is quality interpersonal communication?

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5. Two primary dimensions—
 - a. **Communication Quality:** relaxed/strained, attentive/poor listening, informal/formal, smooth/difficult, open/guarded, great deal of understanding/great deal of misunderstanding/ free of communication breakdowns/laden with communication breakdowns, free of conflict/laden with conflict, extent talk was interesting, extent interaction was satisfying and
 - b. **Depth/value of communication—** personal/impersonal, in-depth/superficial, valuable now, valuable in future.

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5. Is the role of "mother" a prototype in terms of attention-giving? How is the role of "father" viewed in terms of attention-giving?
6. Is the role of "mother" a prototype in terms of attention-giving? How is the role of "father" viewed in terms of attention-giving?
7. What role might mass media play in attention-management in male-female interaction today?

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8. Study and results:
- a. Communication quality high, depth moderate. No sex differences.
 - b. Moderate Self-D, but perceived partner revealed more. No sex differences.
 - c. Attracted as friend not as date; attraction not mutual.
 - d. COMM quality factors account for more variance on attraction when controlling for similarity, and perceived physical attraction.
 - e. Physical attraction most important for dating attraction followed by attitudinal similarity, but not quality of talk.
 - f. Friendship attraction for women– communication quality most important. For men attitudinal similarity and perceived physical attractiveness.
 - g. See again? For women quality communication mattered most; for men, perceived similarity.
