Editorial

Why Can’t Boys and Girls be Just Friends?

I think boys and girls should be able to be friends without someone thinking there’s something going on between them. Sometimes yes, one might start having feelings for the other one, or maybe even both of them begin to have feelings for each other. But that’s not always the case, maybe he/she is less drama, fun to be around, and to talk to. Maybe they listen to what you have to say and won’t turn their back on you, like others will. So I’m going to tell you reasons why they can be friends, and nothing be going on between them.

I think everyone should honestly have a friend of the opposite gender, you can get amazing friendships out of it. Not every time you see a boy and a girl together, walking down the hall, sitting together, or even eating out together, don’t always assume that they are in a relationship, you may consider it but don’t always assume. Most of the time when two people of the opposite gender are eating out they are in a relationship, but not always because occasionally you get two people of the opposite gender that aren’t in a relationship.

You can be friends with anyone you want. Don’t let someone’s gender keep you from being friends, they could turn out to be a good friend, and good friends are hard to find, especially now a days. What if one of your good friends, had a best friend of the opposite gender and they told each other everything, and you let someone tell you that it’s not ok to have friends of the opposite gender, so you don’t have one, but that could be the best thing that’s ever happened to you, so don’t underestimate a friendship because another person thought it wasn’t ok.

If you have feelings for one of your friends, you should be completely honest with them and tell them how you feel. But you should be prepared for something you may not like. If they like you back that’s great, but if not you have to put the friendship first or you may not be able to have a friendship anymore. You’ll have to focus on your friendship and push your feelings away. But if your friend likes you, don’t be afraid to admit it, but if not be nice to them when you reject them. Make it clear you want to be just friends and stick by them through the friendship during the post declaration, that’ll show you’re a true friend. But don’t ignore your feelings; be honest with your friend as well as yourself.

In one study, people from 88 opposite sex friendships were asked to rate qualities like the attractiveness of their opposite sex friend, the strength of their desire to go on a romantic date with that person and the perceived desire of their friend to take them on a romantic date. The results, not only did men report more attraction of their female friends than women did to their male friend. The men overestimated their female friends attraction them, women underestimated their male friends attraction to them. So not only is it men like their women friend more than the women like their men friends, but women underestimate the men’s attraction to them.

Now I know that a lot of people think that every boy/girl friendship has to have something going on between them when in reality there’s nothing going on between them. According to, <http://www.scientificamerican.com/article/men-and-women-cant-be-just-friends/> “New research suggests that there may be some truth to this possibility—that we may think we’re capable of being “just friends” with members of the opposite sex, but the opportunity (or perceived opportunity) for “romance” is often lurking just around the corner, waiting to pounce at the most inopportune moment.” I think they can be just friends, but others don’t, it’s their opinion so I can’t say they’re wrong about it because some friendships are like that, that one likes the other or they both like each other. There are a few friendships where one likes the other and the other one doesn’t and when they admit their feelings, they end up not being friends because they don’t handle it well and everything ends up awkward.

<http://elitedaily.com/dating/sex/can-guys-and-girls-be-just-friends/734236/>

<http://gawker.com/5907597/should-men-and-women-be-friends-wonders-canada>

<http://teenadvice.about.com/od/loveanddating/a/guygalpals.htm>

<http://thecollegecrush.com/why-cant-we-be-friends-no-seriously-can-guys-and-girls-be-just-friends/>