

Opinions

Love on Hawk Hill

A series on what it takes to make a relationship work on a college campus

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Opinions Editor

The past three weeks of my column have consisted of the chronicles of my oftentimes failed love life. Even though I've had my heart broken and my hopes crushed, I still believe in love. I want to be in love and want to experience the feeling of being loved. To me, there is nothing greater than caring for someone.

With the holidays coming up, it's important to remember that it's not the end of the world if you don't have someone to share that New Year's Kiss with. After this past break, I got the constant question from well-meaning family members: "Are you seeing somebody special?" And I know it's only going to get worse from here. Every Christmas Eve, my cousin's grandpa's girlfriend always asks me at dinner if I'm seeing anyone. Every year I say no, and my response often is met with the condescending response, "That's okay, you're young."

But I always want to say, "No, it's okay because I don't need to be in a relationship to be happy." But Barbra may have a point, and I might just be super defensive. It may seem as if we don't have anyone by now, we're never going to meet anyone special. But you have to stay positive. Sure, our grandparents may have gotten married before they were legally allowed to drink, but times are different now, and the average age to get married is increasing.

My parents did not get married until they were in their early 30's.

They've now they've been married for almost 22 years. If that's not an indication that love exists, I

don't know what is.

My grandparents were married for 49 years before my grandpa passed in 2005. Whenever I feel down about the fact that I'm not in a relationship and I continue to

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find loser guys, my mom just reminds me of her grandmother's adage, "You're young; you've got your whole life to be married."

Relationships always happen when you least expect it. You can't go around looking for your next relationship. I'm not saying you can sit at home every night of the week and expect Prince Charming to knock at your door.

When you're feeling lonely and upset, get it together and get out there. Just because you don't have a significant other doesn't mean you don't have any friends. Go out with your friends, have a good time, laugh.

People are attracted to happy people. It's a fact. We can't put our lives on hold while waiting for someone to show up.

I met my first boyfriend in high school as a set up. He needed a prom date, and my best friend wanted a friendly face at the prom.

It was a win-win situation.

I was expecting to get a fancy dress, and maybe get a new profile picture on Facebook. I was not expecting to date for the year and a half.

It was that relationship that taught me what it's like to care about someone so deeply you would do anything for them. And it was all based on a whim that maybe Petey and I would look good together in pictures.

I met my boyfriend freshman year after I broke up with Petey and didn't want to meet anyone new.

But we instantly clicked and dated for our entire freshman year. You can't plan these things, as much as we would like to try.

We just need to be open honest with ourselves.

I really believe everything happens for a reason, and every person comes into our lives for a specific purpose.

You never know who you're going to meet, and when. But you can never give up hope, because if you want it to happen, it will.

In the words of my favorite cable TV character, Carrie Bradshaw, "I'm looking for love."

Real love. Ridiculous, inconvenient, consuming, can't-live-without-each-other love."

Editorial Personalize the Magis

As Saint Joseph's University is rapidly becoming more and more secular, we all need to remember that we chose Saint Joseph's University for a reason. As a campus community we need to uphold the Jesuit values that originally drew us to St. Joe's.

Perhaps the biggest secularization recently is the use of "That's the Magis" as a slogan and catchphrase. There are many mixed emotions over this new advertising campaign. The word

was originally used in a religious context, meaning 'the more.' However, with the new campaign, some see the use of "the Magis" as simply a marketing ploy, and the religious aspect has been completely removed. Some feel that the intentions

of the Magis campaign could be potentially misconstrued as trying to commercialize the university and the campus community as a whole. In this respect, the phrase "living greater" can be miscomprehended as a way of simplifying all of our complex Jesuit values. This unfairly groups all of the Jesuit values we uphold.

Our rich Jesuit tradition incorporates numer-

ous beliefs and practices that make the education we receive unique. Being "men and women with and for others," caring for the whole person in the tradition of "cura personalis," and doing everything for "the greater glory of God" are all integral parts of our identity as a Jesuit university. Furthermore, the common theme among all of these traditions is the explicit religious reference to God, which has been lost in the current use of the Magis. Unfortunately,

ignoring this central aspect of our identity and the true religious meaning of the Magis has troubled many members of our campus community.

We need to respond to this marketing campaign as we find personal meaning in

"living greater." It's important to utilize the values we have so identified with (or will come to identify with) during our time at St. Joe's, and act in the way we can apply the Magis as it was originally intended.

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