

# Winfrey: Black Women Tend to Modify Standards When Choosing Mates; Library Holds Seminar

By JOHN HINTON  
Chronicle Senior Staff Writer

African American women often must modify their standards when choosing a mate because of the acute shortage of black males, a psychologist told a participant in a recent seminar on black male and female relationships.

"We say, 'He's a nice guy. He didn't beat me last night. He comes home in the evenings, so I will live with him,'" said Dr. Deborea Winfrey, the owner of PayCare Inc. of Winston-Salem and the director of institutional research at Winston-Salem State University. "Women want a man who is employed. It really doesn't matter how much money they make because a lot of times, we are going to make more money than men."

Winfrey and Tim Jackson, the director of the East Winston Library, moderated a discussion entitled, "The Good Man: Is He Really Hard to Find and do Women Really Want Him" and "The Good Woman: Is She Really Hard to Find."

A group of men and women participated in the seminar. They spoke on the condition that their names not be mentioned.

Black men prefer to date and marry two different types of women, Winfrey says.

"What men want in their wives is the flipside of what they want to play with when they are dating," she said. "Most women have a list of attributes that they want in their husband such as a spirituality, intelligence, financial stability, and physical build."

Even when women find their ideal male, they still don't trust them, Winfrey said.

"They feel like they will act badly and cheat on them," she said. "Men who are good say they get dogged by women. Good women say they are ignored by men and left out."

Jackson said that men don't mistreat women in most cases.

"Men don't dog women," he said. "When men show affection and do nice things for women, they tend to get bored with us. Women tend to like negative excitement."

The group defined "dogging" as cheating by men or women on their spouses, girlfriends, or boyfriends, lying, failing to pay bills, and not being supportive of one's mate.

"Dogging is downright disrespect for me," one woman said.

Another African American woman said that dogging was playing to one's vulnerabilities.

"If you lie to me about cheating, then you are being a dog," the young woman said. "Tell me the truth and be a honest dog."

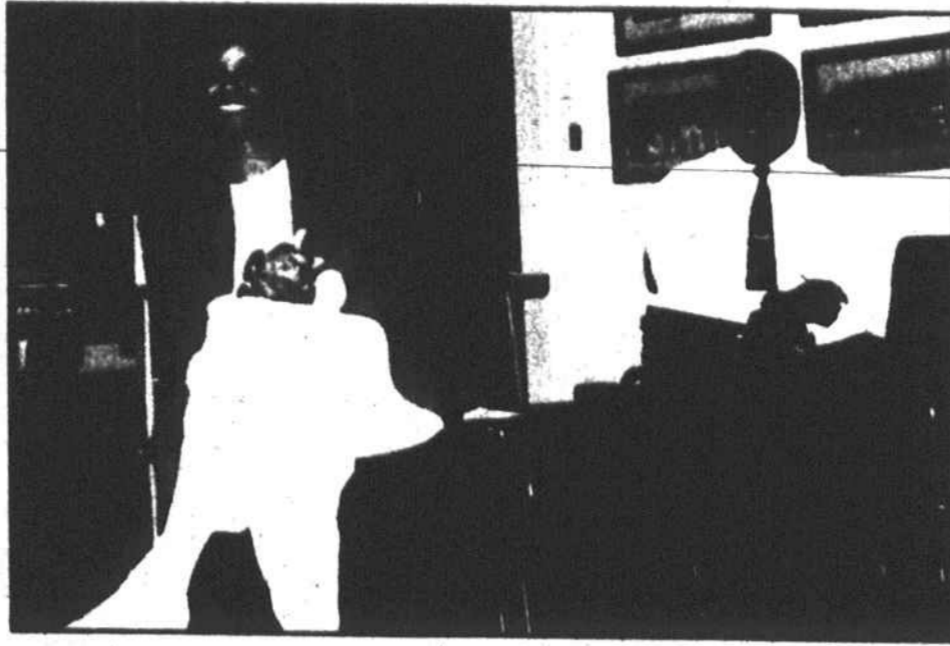
Women's perceptions of fidelity are different.

"We have been in a situation where the man's back is against the wall and he acknowledged that he was cheating," Winfrey said. "We say, You better not do any more, and we stay with them and when we really want to knock him out."

However, Jackson said many men give their wives and girlfriends a second chance when they are unfaithful to them.

"If the man loves the woman, and he finds out that she has been cheating, he will tell her not to do it again," he said. "He wants to keep her."

Winfrey asked the women



Dr. Deborea Winfrey and Tim Jackson moderated a discussion about male/female relationships at East Winston Library recently.

in the group if there was a good man out there for them.

"There is a good man out there," a black woman responded. She admitted that she had been attracted to men with sport cars and who provided her with excitement.

One African American man said that too many women wanted instant gratification and sought mates with white collar jobs.

"Most of those men in three-piece suits can't talk," Winfrey said as the group laughed.

"Many professional women deal with young criminals because they have flash and cash," the man said.

A woman responded: "He may not be mister right, but he is mister right now."

The shortage of black males is aggravating the situation between African American men and women. Too many black men are drug addicts, unemployed, married or in relationships, narrowing the pool of available mates, Winfrey said.

aged."

Jackson said that men learn how to cope with women who make more money than they do.

"If you haven't learned it, then you are going back to women that you have dated before," he added.

Despite the negative stereotypes of black men, there are ideal men for African American women, Winfrey said.

"Men have to be willing to compromise and meet women's criteria," she said. "Men want to be with women who understand them. We want you to be with us; We don't need you to be with us."

The group also discussed the importance of respecting the various interests of men and women. "There must be respect for one's mutual interest in a relationship," Jackson said.

The topic of the next seminar will be "Older Women and Younger Men; Older Men and Younger Women." It will be held at the East Winston Library on Monday, Nov. 13.

The male/female relationships seminar began in October 1986 and is the longest running public service program in the history of the Forsyth County Library, Jackson said.

# Success lasts a lifetime.

Get the training, the education, the job!



A safe and drug-free environment  
Ages 16 - 24

For more information, call  
1(800) 211-JOBS

# VOTE YES For School Bonds

We support the School Bond Issue and urge you to vote "Yes" on November 7th.

Mr. & Mrs. Joseph D. Williams, Sr.  
Pauline Jackson  
Alderwoman Joycelyn Johnson  
Dr. V.K. Newell  
Minnie Lucus  
Dr. & Mrs. C.B. Hauser  
Albert T. Porter, Jr.  
Dr. Joseph Johnson  
Lutisher Adams  
Geneva Brown  
Walter Marsall  
Mr. & Mrs. Beaufort Bailey  
Annie S. Alexander  
Marshall B. Bass  
Hazel E. Brown  
Dr. J. Ray Butler  
Annie T. Ceasar  
Sinclair R. Crowder  
Atty Billy D. Friende  
Toy T. Beaty  
Dr. Irene P. Hairston  
Dr. & Mrs. Nat Irvin

Earline W. Parmon  
Rev. & Mrs. L. S. Werts  
Mr. & Mrs. Norman C. Sanders  
Dr. & Mrs. Jerry Drayton  
Louise Smith  
Rev. J. V. Graham  
Rev. Dr. David R. Hedgley  
Dr. & Mrs. F. A. Leak  
Rev. Sheldon McCarter  
Elder Alfonzo & Cynthia Mitchell  
Robert E. Harrison  
Isaac L. Howard  
Bishop & Mrs. Sylvester D. Johnson  
Rev. & Mrs. Wendell A. Johnson  
Dr. Charlie L. Kennedy  
Katherine G. McLean  
Alex McCullough  
Robert Norris  
Rev & Mrs. Donald Jenkins  
Mr. & Mrs. Marvin Dunlap  
Jan Williams  
Dr. Willard L. McCloud, Sr.

Mr. & Mrs. Raphael Black  
Mr. William F. Fulton  
Dr. & Mrs. Oscar G. Hairston  
Dr. H. Rembert Malloy, MD  
Rev. Douglas E. Summers  
Atty Beverly R. Mitchell  
Queen B. Reid  
Thomas P. Trollinger  
Dr. Jonathan D. Weston  
Representative Larry Womble  
Dr. Elwanda D. Ingram  
Rev. Robert L. McGowen  
Bobby Robinson  
Dr. Linwood Davis  
Delayne C. Shah  
Dr. Ruby Burgess  
Dr. Loretta Davenport  
Dr. Ann Barfield  
Mrs. T.C. Little  
Dr. & Mrs. Serenus T. Churn  
Dr. J. David Branch  
Dr. & Mrs. Cedric S. Rodney