

## maleCall

I seem to be getting a lot of different reactions from the “chemistry” essay last month. Many folks absolutely agreed (and they will be getting a lovely autographed copy of my e-book CD in the mail). Others thought that I just make this stuff up.



**JAMES ROBERTS**

Phoenix

To save you from having to go to your personal “Male Call” archives, I’ll just remind you. I opined that “chemistry” is a term that is mostly in the gals-glossary. Guys might feel it or not, but they don’t use the term much and, frankly, they’re more willing to see how things go before declaring a state of “no chemistry.”

Of course, another way of putting this is that most guys just want to see how the sexual part goes before deciding. Women are a little quicker on the draw – so to speak.

But then this dissenting opinion came in:

*I got the chemistry brush-off from a guy on the first date. I thought we had great chemistry on the phone, etc. First date went very well and then didn't hear from him right away. Via e-mail he told me: "I didn't feel that instant tug-at-my-heartstrings feeling I'm hoping for."*

I’m happy to report that the correspondent also noted that she has since found a very nice prospect on eHarmony. Apparently the day and a half that it takes to fill out their questionnaire paid off in the form of a guy who is “nice, smart and good looking.”

Gee, if I knew *that* was all it took, I’d have applied for the position myself.

I’ll give you a moment to stop throwing up.

Perhaps if single men just followed

the advice of the Japan Doting Husbands Association, we’d all get along better.

Yes, I’m afraid that’s a real organization. They say the group was “initiated by middle-aged men who had come to think that good and sustainable marital relationship may very well lead to the world peace and preservation of the global environment.” ([www.aisai-ka.org](http://www.aisai-ka.org).)

I have to give them credit for one of their “five golden rules”: Call your wife by name rather than saying “you” or grunting at her.

That would go a long way toward explaining why some erstwhile SOs seem to object to my calling them “it” – “Would it like some more coffee?” or “What would it like to do this weekend?”

My personal lexical peccadilloes aside, I think what we’re all looking for is a nice way to indicate that the suitor or suitorette is not...um...suitable.

A few suggestions come to mind, depending on your frame of mind.

- “Get ye hither” (Elizabethan mode)
- “We’re going in a different direction” (business mode)
- “Entering Dumpsville, population: you” (hipster mode)
- “See ya...never!” (Valley-girl mode)
- “Returned mail: User unknown” (e-mail mode)

Just spare your un-dear John or Jean the lame “let’s just be friends” speech. And save the chemical analysis for your Significant It.

---

*James Roberts is an over 40-something Phoenix-based writer, author of “On Being Eight Again” and “The Tao of Coyote.” Divorced with no children, he has been exploring the dating scene and collecting tales of woe for many years. Need a guy’s perspective? Jot a note to Male Call at [jrobertspenn@aol.com](mailto:jrobertspenn@aol.com).*