

maleCall

A few *Tatumettes* have asked me to find out "Where The Boys Are."



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Lo and behold: a live one. He's 30, single, master's degree and says he works hard. Goes to the gym, plays a little poker, churchgoer, Mensa member, rock climber. Dang, if I swung that way I'd keep him for myself!

Where does he hang out? Look for him on the rocks, at the gym, Martini Ranch. And, apparently, at work. A lot.

But in the meantime, it seems he has a question: Where are all the "normal" women?

Ruh roh. I think we've just come full circle.

I'm shocked, just shocked to hear that some women are mainly interested in money and wearing skimpy outfits to the gym.

"Where," he laments, "are the women who want a normal, attractive, down-to-earth, semi-successful, active guy who isn't rich or famous?"

He's not on Match.com because he's uncomfortable looking for a date the same way you shop for a used car.

I don't know about you, but when I shop for a used date I almost always want to talk to a guy in a short-sleeve shirt, tobacco breath and a lot of "product" in his hair.

In the other meantime, I just got a note from a friend who's been busy updating her own Match.com profile: "I like to change it around to see what type of guy responds to what type of profile."

She says, "When I had stuff about how stable my life is I got guys e-mailing me who were looking for 'down-to-earth' women. Probably because the men were boring. Some mentioned that their wives had left them. I decided that my profile was drawing boring, uninteresting men.

"I took out the height requirement.

Now I get e-mails from midgets."

Then there are the "mudslingers": throw enough against the wall, some is bound to stick. She says she gets the same e-mails over and over from them. "They're written sort of like a horoscope - they could apply to anyone. Stuff like, 'Hi, I read your profile and feel like we may have a lot in common. Here's my number.'"

Another woman writes: "I find it increasingly challenging to try to maintain my faith that there are actually adult males out there whose idea of dating and relationships has matured since high school. I met several men who are not divorced and, in one case, not even separated. There seems to be a fear of spending even one minute without a significant other, so they begin searching before the dust has even settled on the last relationship."

Fact is, guys don't seem to need the recovery time that women do. I've talked to women who've literally said: "I'm not really ready for dating again...it's only been a year since my break up." Whereas a guy might think, "It's already been a few weeks, time to screw up a new relationship."

But that doesn't mean the guy doesn't take the break-up hard. We just don't like a lot of dust settling on everything.

But seriously, I'm thinking I could make some money with a new concept in Internet dating. I'm going to call it Mismatch.com®. The idea would be to match you up with exactly what you say you're not looking for. That way, you can both lie all you want and then when you do meet for coffee, each of you will be perfect for the other.

NEXT MONTH:

How To Break Up While You Sleep

James Roberts is a significantly 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 jrobertpenn@aol.com.