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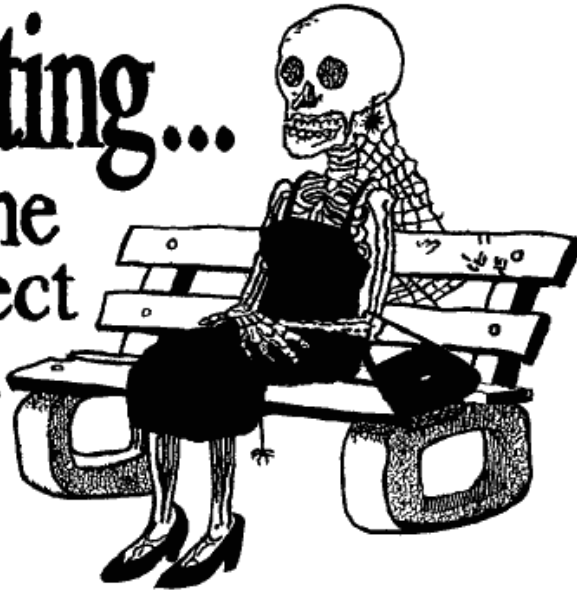


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TOM TOM ENGLISH

Waiting...
for the
perfect
man.



New image of the ideal man

VOCABULARY

Dubious =

Something you can't
rely on, doubtful

Poll =

A collection of
opinions on a subject

Boast =

To talk about yourself
with too much pride

Brag =

Similar to boast.

Discussion questions

1. What do you think about the Four Lows?
Are they good characteristics for a man to
have?
2. Women: Would you prefer to have a man
who has the Three Highs, or the Four
Lows? Why? Who not?
3. Men: Are a Three Highs or Four Lows
type? Why?
4. What other characteristics do women find
attractive?
5. Women: Tell us about your ideal man.
What kind of personality does he have?
6. Men: Tell us about your ideal woman.
What kind of personality does she have?

VOCABULARY

Swoon =

To faint from
excitement

Traditional =

Typical style for many
years

Masculinity =

The characteristics of a
man

Consumption =

Usage or spending

How can men attract women in Japan?
There is some very **dubious** advice out there.

But what exactly do women want? Of course different people have different answers. That's natural. But a recent **poll** of women in Japan found four key points.

In the past, many people thought that the ideal man had "The Three Highs:" a tall guy with a high salary and high academic **qualifications**. Recently though, some people prefer "The Four Lows", which are:

1. Low ego
(doesn't **brag** or **boast** when talking to a woman)
2. Low dependency
(doesn't rely on a woman to do housework)
3. Low risk
(has enough value to his company that he won't be downsized)
4. Low **consumption**
(is able to economize and save money)

Website My Navi Woman asked its users if they thought these things were attractive in a man. Most women said "yes, they are!"

"I'd feel totally secure being with a guy like that," replied one person. "He'd be perfect," said another.

Of course, romance isn't always about being the best person. It's also important for people to be a good match. One woman didn't **swoon** at the idea, but she accepted it: "I can understand the appeal," she said. "That's the kind of man you want in this bad economy."

Some women disagreed. 25.7% of the women in the poll said they didn't find them attractive:

"Those kind of guys just don't seem very manly, and I don't feel like I could rely on him," explained one. "I'd prefer a guy that has a bit more of a take-charge attitude".

But most women liked The Four Lows. "I totally want a guy with The Four Lows," said one woman. "In fact, if he doesn't have them, he has no chance with me."

Tough words! Perhaps the healthiest attitude was from a woman who said that her man doesn't need The Four Lows:

"Sure, from the female perspective, those are all nice qualities. But I can respect traditional **masculinity** too. I think it's best for a couple to have a balanced relationship instead of placing one above the other."