

## Webinar Q&A

(All responses provided by Dr. Alan Hawkins)

### The Dating Recession: Insights from the 2025 National Dating Landscape Survey

**Q: Do you think it's becoming a trend to go through pregnancies at a young age?**

A: Not sure. But I know that the teen pregnancy rate is down dramatically over the past 25 years. I don't see that trend reversing in the near future.

**Q: The survey highlighted that many young people still value relationships and marriage, but report low confidence in basic dating and communication skills. For organizations already implementing relationship education curricula like Love Notes with teens ages 14–19, what specific skill areas or delivery approaches do you believe are most critical to strengthen in response to this 'dating recession'?**

1. Learn basic strategies for meeting people who could be potential dates (something beyond swiping apps).
2. Learn how to approach someone you're interested in and how to express interest, "flirt," etc.
3. Learn how to absorb rejection and bad dating experiences without getting down on yourself or on the dating scene. I think peer educators who are "dating masters" will be the best curriculum designers for this!

**Q: What were the demographics of the folks surveyed in terms of race and income and region?**

A: This was a nationally representative sample, so the basic demographic profile was pretty close to the national profile, including race and income and region.

**Q: I'm looking to start programming, but thought to only use men. Do you think mixed gendered groups would be better?**

A: I've thought about this. Overall, I think mixed-gender groups in RE work best. But for dating education, I can see some potential value in a program having both mixed- and same-gender groups. We need to experiment with this!