**Honest Marriage**

When considering marriage, timing is EVERYTHING because there are so many moving parts being involved and they all happen simultaneously : Personal Development, The Baby Clock, and the Honesty Meter.

Personal development is pretty self-explanatory, i.e. “you can’t truly love someone until your love yourself.” Loving yourself is a slow and gradual process that some would argue is never at 100%, but it can get to a percentage, where you are able to accept and earn another person’s love. Loving yourself usually consist of: career goals, physical appearance, social status, finances, and fuck shit (I.e the stuff you just wanna do for the hell of it before you are responsible for others). It sounds pretty shallow, but you are working on your narcissism, so it’s supposed to be superficial.

Next is the Baby Clock. Contrary to popular belief, this is a man thing as much as it is a woman thing. Women have a biological clock in which fertilization becomes more complicated with age. For men it’s not necessarily biological, it’s more, “what kind of relationship do I want with my children?” Do you want to be the provider, or the friend? Do you want to be around and active as the child is an adult? What are your plans as the child is an adult? Are you wanting to retire and live peacefully, or is this your time to get out and live wild again? The answer to these questions will determine what age you want to have kids.

Lastly is the Honesty Meter. In this day and age especially, we have to sugar coat, and finesse our language to articulate our points and not hurt anyone’s feelings at the same time. I honestly believe that that is not our natural disposition and that it’s a skill you have to develop. When you are with the person you love, or your family, you having the best intentions should be assumed and proven. (unless the person shows a history of giving misleading and false information, and in that case you shouldn’t be with this person). Being frank or blunt is not necessarily a terrible thing as long as the opposing person understands how to receive this information. You don’t want to be fake or lie to the person you love, because when you do that, what separates them from anyone else you have to interact with on a daily basis?

Now the tricky part is that, all of these things have to line up perfectly for a marriage to work. You have to love yourself, by the time you are at the age to have children and further along in the relationship to where you can be honest with your spouse in terms of how you want to be love and how you will love them. The thing is Men love at face value, or “I love you for who you are, what you are, and what you are on track to be.” Women love at personal perception or, “I love the plan I have for you.”

With this dynamic, you have to ask yourself the question, “Why does this person love me?” If the answer you receive is, “I love you for you,” that’s complete BS unless they are your parents. The reality is that, there is something that you have/ will have that they want, or there is something that you do for them, that keeps them coming back and it’s usually tied to the three Keys. So knowing that, you have to figure out, what those things are and if you are willing to continue to do those things. Unfortunately, people change like the weather, and in that case you have to battle the storm to get to your destination.

All in all, marriage is great thing, and shouldn’t be taken lightly. I wish everyone I know success in their marriages or proposals, but I’m almost certain, if any of the keys are missing before the big day, the D day (divorce day) will be coming to a court near you.