

# REALationships 101:

## Unlikely Friendships



BY ERICA SPALTI | Online Editor

Last year I was asked to go and report on the Central Washington University's ROTC award ceremony. The ROTC was being awarded a prestigious award and it was a huge ceremony, and I did NOT want to go (I know, what a terrible attitude to have). However, I went to the ceremony, and let me tell you, I am glad I did.

On one note, it made me have a lot more respect for our ROTC program. They bust their butts and it pays off. On another note, I met someone there who turned out to be one of closest friends and someone who has truly changed my life.

After reviewing my notes, I realized that there was a really important person I needed to talk to who had won Cadet of the Year for 2009. Being a reporter, I knew I should talk to him to make my story perfect. I went into the interview thinking I would come out of it with a great interview and the perfect end to a story - not a friend.

After the story I talked to my new friend a lot and we hung out once over the summer. Knowing I was afraid of heights and that I wanted to cross off "doing something crazy" on my bucket list; he took me cliff jumping. I realized that day that he had become one of my closest friends over the past few months.

He forced me to face a fear, and whenever I had a problem with work or friends or even family, he always pushed me to be myself and to never change for anyone. I had never met anyone that could generate an intelligent conversation that frustrated me so much.

My friend recently reported to Fort Benning, Ga. and saying goodbye was really hard. Here is my advice to all you readers: think that person at your work or in your class isn't your type of friend? Think again. You never really know a person and how they will change your life until you take a chance on them.

I wish my friend the best of luck and safe travels in all of his military adventures.

X.O.X.O.

Erica

Got a relationship problem and you need some outside advice? Send me an e-mail at [cwuobserveronline@gmail.com](mailto:cwuobserveronline@gmail.com).



## Deep Thoughts

BY QUINN EDDY | Thinker

My friends,

A wise man once said, "My car has so much dog hair in it it's like riding in a dog."

That crappy feeling you get in your stomach before you talk in front of a large group is a lot like the feeling you get after burning a pack of Marb menthols.

It's a sad day when you're talking to a cat and you realize it's a rock.

The boys at Ice House's Plank Road brewery know their stuff.

I'm getting sick of people thinking it's weird I want to have a dog party.

I think my car is cleaner on the outside than most of the dishes in my cupboard.

Some kid in my advanced advertisement writing class came up with the idea of naming a moped company "Skeet-skeet." I suggested he might as well call it "Semen-semen." I wouldn't buy a scooter for my youngster from a company called "Semen-semen."

It's hard to train your dog to make sounds like Chewbacca.

If you don't get cookies every time you go into Subway, I don't want anything to do with you.

Honestly, who gets heartburn from Honey Nut Cheerios?

Sometimes it feels really good to just lay down a fat middle finger at one of your good buddies and shake loose the cobwebs.

It's awesome how when Central Softball wins their game against Western in overtime with a home run, they crank up the Boston.

I honestly thought quaaludes were a type of bird.

Its tough to not be creepy when you fall for a girl the second you meet.

Last week I couldn't come up with a vocabulary enrichment so this one is a special one. Cha (n.) - slang term used in lieu of pronouncing the full term, chewing tobacco. Used in a sentence, "Bro, Cha is the new Burn."



# JEREMY'S JURISDICTION

## The KFC Double Down smack down!

BY JEREMY VIMISLIK | Opinion Editor

So, half due to my lack of reader contribution, half due to my procrastination, I've decided to take a reprieve from my usual political turmoil updates. After reading Quinn's bit last week about the KFC Double Down (DD), I decided to take the plunge. I admit, the first time I saw an ad for the DD I thought it was a joke. When I knew it was legit, I checked it out online and found that the caloric count stacks up to a mere 540 for the crispy chicken version, 460 for the grilled! Just off the top of my head, that is pretty much less than any Burger King or McDonald's combo. Although I really like the grilled KFC line, I decided to take one for the team and go with the original recipe, for the sake of my research for this article.

Looking down at the greasy goodness, my mind began to wander.

I began to think of one of my favorite boredom-browsing sites: [www.thisiswhyyourefat.com](http://www.thisiswhyyourefat.com). It has user-contributed pictures of creative (usually deep-fried), concoctions somewhere between nightmarish and mouth-watering. I browse the site when I feel fat after eating something health officials warn is horrible for my body. It makes me feel like I'm in pretty good standing compared to some people in the world, just like when I watch COPS.

So I was sitting there, sobbing because the cheese running down my chin made me imagine my arteries congealing into a viscous sludge. This brought me to another revelation. The KFC Double Down is the epitome of American ideals. We want results. We want a lot for a little. And we want it fast. Well, the DD is just that. Fast food is about as efficient as it gets, but what next? REMOVE THE BUN! Even better.

Now if you extrapolate that to a deeper significance, the DD is why most of the rest of the world hates Americans. We drive our SUV's

half a mile from our houses to the 7-11 just to pick up a Slurpy. The Slurpy cup is made from petroleum products that we likely will not recycle. The SUV used about a gallon of gas (just a guesstimate).

I spent six years growing up in Japan, and it's pretty awesome over there. All of the trashcans are accompanied by several recycling bins. Every time you need to throw something out, you separate and recycle - that way it isn't even a second thought.

Reminiscing about my youth spent in the land of the rising sun, I began to think about the rising sun. To work off this sandwich, I'll probably need to hit the gym for two or three hours at least. That got me thinking about all the people I know that complain about their weight. Now, it is one thing to complain about how your daily diet and exercise regiment is not working - it is quite another to complain about your weight after hitting the gym for 20 minutes a week and eating a whole bag of chips every few days.

Now, I will be the first to admit I am not exactly the most svelte man on campus. That being said, I'm okay with that realization. Really. I want to lose weight and gain muscle, but I am not willing to spend hours everyday grunting at my biceps in the mirror and I do not have the fortitude to cut my caloric intake in half. So, I exercise and eat healthy (ish), but I am definitely not on my way to the beach while eating this sandwich.

Wiping the crumbs (of batter, not bun) off my lips, I am overwhelmed with a sense of accomplishment. I just had a double-negative open-faced sandwich. Congrats Jeremy. I admit, I didn't think you had it in you. What a thought-provoking meal. (For the record - yes. I do suggest trying it at least once).



## Ask Tina Sparkle:

A colleague of mine, who's real name shall not be given but will be referred to simply as Jimmy-Dean, and myself had differing opinions on the definition of seduction. He believes it's the act of using charm to invoke acts involving physical contact but not necessarily sexual actions. I define it as being more exclusive in the sense that it requires sexual interaction in order to be considered seduction. Without the more intimate behaviors involved, I pose that it simply becomes charming or enticing the person. What do you consider to be seduction?

Sincerely, Dr. Ramsey

Dear Dr. Ramsey,

Personally, I find seducing someone a lot different from charming them. It sounds like what this Jimmy-Dean is talking about is more about charming the ladies, especially since he used the word "Charm" in his definition. You see, when you are defining something, you need to use words that ONLY pertain to the meaning of the word being described. You can't describe an apple and then use a banana in the description, because bananas have nothing to do with apples (besides them both being fruits).

Charm is more of a "wooing" factor to catch someone's eye and let them know you're there, where as Seduction is a more about sexual appeal, and you use it to bring about sexual intercourse or lead someone on to get something else out of them. Many people nowadays don't know the difference and use these terms interchangeably, because most of our younger generations like to use words in place of other words (much like the all demeaning "that's so gay" instead of "that's so stupid." My come back for this saying is, "I don't think it's very sparkly and fabulous, it's rather stupid if you ask me," or "That's so straight!").

People need to start learning the difference of words and when to use them. As for your friend, I'm sure he just wasn't aware of what the word meant and thought it sounded right in the sentence he was using. It's nothing to worry about, but if it comes down to who was right and who was wrong, take a look at [www.Dictionary.com](http://www.Dictionary.com)'s answer:

"Seduction: (v) To enticing someone astray from right behavior, or an act of winning the love or sexual favor of someone."

So you would be right, it does involve sex or "love" (as the kids call it these days).

The way I remember the difference from Charming people and seducing people is seducing starts with "SE" just like SEX. And Charm starts with "CH" just like children's play.

I hope this helps.

LOVE ALWAYS, \*Tina Sparkle\*

Dear Readers,

I apologize for not having an article last week, I am busy working on my "Ru Paul Drag Season 3" audition. So far I'm pretty far in the audition process, and it's looking like I might be going to Hollywood soon enough, so wish me luck and don't forget to write in! [asktinasparkle@yahoo.com](mailto:asktinasparkle@yahoo.com)