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Professional Matchmaking, Elite Dating, What's the Diff?

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So you've reached that point in your (professional) life where you're content and willing to settle down and look for someone to enjoy your hard-earned success with, made along the way. Taking their matchmaking suggestions don't sound the most appealing to you, so you try online dating, because it's the 21st century and you have absolutely no time to lose, which can only go two ways; meeting the One or meeting No One at all. Some are even traumatized by it, but some learn to fine tune their radars in discerning men.



Patricia*, a career woman in her late 30s, single mother and a frequent online dating site user says that online dating is of great convenience as she can select dates based on the chemistry of their chats, his profile and other information such as a career success and life goals. "This also allows me to use my precious weekend date nights in the most effective manner rather than the randomness and uncertainty of men you'd find at a bar."

If you don't mind spending the time, the matches this method generates can work. The volume of potential dates is a major difference between online dating and any other forms of dating. You can review and choose from and be paired with hundreds and hundreds of people on many online dating sites. For some people, this is the huge appeal of dating sites. When else would you ever meet this many different people in the regular world? It's not possible.

For some, however, the numbers are overwhelming. Merely narrowing down by age or important interests or success still leaves you with too many choices. This leads a lot of people to give up on online dating because it is just too hard to find someone. So what happens when you have a set time-frame in which you're looking to settle down?

Just as the term 'elite' in elite dating is self-explanatory, you can expect this method of dating to be the choice for women who have certain standards to be met. With elite dating, there is definitely a price to pay, and considering how exclusive you want the services to be; men of a certain net worth, academic background and career levels of course, the more you'd have to spend in order to go out on quality dates that aren't as easy to dispose of in comparison to average Joes you find on online dating sites. Through elite dating services like matchmaking, you know you'd be matched with someone who appreciates education, career success, family, fitness and philanthropy – the ultimate package that successful career women look for in a man.

Susan*, a career woman in her 40s, said that she would highly consider a matchmaking service as soon as she's ready to settle down after reaching a certain point in her career. "I wouldn't want to waste any time at all once I've made the decision, hence I believe that signing up and even paying to be matched by a matchmaking agency would be most convenient because I would already know what I'm looking for in a man at that point of my life."

You'd wonder how and why people would opt for matchmaking services when there's a multitude of online dating options in this tech-savvy era, however we often fail to think that some people prefer privacy and to maintain the sanctity of love. We managed to speak to Beverly Hills' most eminent mother-daughter matchmaking duo from Elite Connections International, Sherri Murphy and Tammi Pickle, on finding love, especially if you're a career-driven woman.



The Elite Connections VIP dating program presents a personalized approach which is designed to create quality matches between individuals who want to date 'elitely' and form a relationship with select partners. Elite Connections was started by Sherri, who was joined by her daughter Tammi, to enable singles who enjoy a high-level professional life and who are influential leaders in their businesses and communities to meet and date. The individualized matchmaking service allows the team to serve each client personally and ensure that each individual enjoys a high quality dating experience with like-minded partners.

"Online dating opened up people's eyes to a different way of meeting people. So it's actually helped our business. It's the new age "personal ad". That type of dating is not for everyone. Some people can't or don't want to post their photos and personal info online, especially when they're worth millions. Celebrities and high profile people come to us because they want privacy and personal care," Sherri says.

Sherri and Tammi's clientele are made of very successful people, both men and women, self-made and multiple business owners and because of that they prefer the exclusivity of elite dating.

"They either are burned out with online dating because of all the fake profiles and old photos, or they don't want their friends, family and employees seeing their info online. They want privacy and are used to hiring professionals to help with so many other aspects of their life, why not the most important issue of their lives?"

Sherri who started the business tells us the real reason behind her matchmaking business. "I started this business because I was very safety conscious. I'd been attacked by a serial murderer at 21, I was a single mom and doing real estate at that time. After that experience, dating online would have been an insane choice. I met my husband 22 years ago through a matchmaker and started my own company just a couple months later. I felt on my first date and still do that matchmaking is a safer way to meet quality people who are serious about finding love."

With 22 years of experience, Sherri has worked with, met and matched thousands of people. Some of these couples have dated for years, moved in together, got engaged and even got married. Of course with elite dating, people get to be as picky as they want because they're paying for it but one common mistake that Sherri and Tammi have noticed over the years that clients make is that by having a certain 'type'.

"Everyone is attracted to a different look and personality. There's usually a deep imprint from the past that keeps them searching for the same type. I always suggest they try to break that habit. If their type worked they would not have come to us for help in the first place, so we often try to match them up with someone out of their 'type' and it works!"

Before you think that it's just the matchmakers job to find you the One, you might want to be reminded that the effort and time is all yours. Of course it won't be as time-consuming as going out there on multiple dates to even find a decent one, but once you're matched with someone, it's all you to take the relationship to the next level. "We work with many very successful men and women, a lot of which live in multiple areas and out of the country. One of the main problems we see is that they simply don't have time to date. They constantly travel, have meetings, and family commitments that keep them busy. We tell everyone when they join that you must make time to date and make it a priority, just like you will have to make time to add someone into your life if you fall in love. You have to make having love in your life your focus if it's what you really want."

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