

Dating And Relating: The Last 25 Years - MTP441

Edroy Odem: live from the mist and shrouded mountaintop fortress that is X and Y Communications headquarters, you're listening to the world famous Mountain Top Podcast. And now, here's your host, Scot McCay.

Scot McKay: Aw. how's it going, everybody? Welcome to another episode of the Big Show. My name is Scot McKay.

Emily McKay: And I'm Emily McKay.

Scot McKay: And since this is our first show of the year 2025, we want to wish you all happy New Year.

Emily McKay: Happy New Year, everybody.

Scot McKay: And appropriately enough, this is the first of two parts. We'll be following this show up next week with another show. This time we're going to be talking about dating and relating the last 25 years, what it was like in the year 2000 up until now. And then next week, of course, we'll.

Emily McKay: talk about the next 25 years and what to expect.

Scot McKay: Yeah, Only makes sense, right?

Emily McKay: That's right.

Scot McKay: We love futurism around here, so it's gonna be a good show. I'm looking forward to that, but we've got plenty on our plate to discuss today. Emily, remember 25 years ago? Well, I guess 25 years ago and a week, everybody was worried about Y2K. All the computers are going to blow up. The entire world is going to end because the, embedded systems in computers aren't going to know what to do with a date that has a 20 in front of it instead of a 19. Remember that?

Emily McKay: I remember people were buying water bottles and making sure they had plenty at home. They were getting everything ready, thinking that their mortgages were going to somehow get messed up.

Scot McKay: Well, you know what, that's the thing though. Mortgages were already amortizing fine in 1999.

Emily McKay: Oh, yeah, they already hit that year 2000. Probably a few decades in advance.

Scot McKay: Yeah, you know, it was really only a big marketing gimmick. All the tech companies made hand over fist money making sure everybody was Y2K ready. And I remember the first plane that reported landing in the year 2000 was actually a Lufthansa plane that landed in Namibia or something in like Windhoek, Namibia. And everything was fine. So they figured the planes aren't gonna fall out of the sky. I'm not sure how they distilled that down to one flight, One Lufthansa flight. I mean, there must have been lots of planes in the air when it all happened. But, you know, it was pretty funny watching Australia. I guess the first place on earth that turns the new day is Tonga, right? In the Pacific Ocean. Yeah. So it became the year 2000, Tonga. And then there was no problem. And then the rest of us pretty much felt okay, I guess it's gonna be

allgh. And by the time the ball dropped in Times Square, people were pretty much over themselves. There were little bits, remember were. There were somet times every once in a while you'd get a date or see something in a computer program or whatever where it was the year 1900, but certainly nothing catastrophic. Right?

Emily McKay: No, everything was pretty. Pretty easy going. Pretty. Not much to report when it came to that.

Scot McKay: Yes. I mean, you know, that was the first thing that comes to mind when you think of Y2K as well Y2Keah. We all partied like it was 1999, 25 years ago. It was a lot of fun. For those of us who are probably older than say 35.

Scot McKay: It was so weird to have a date with a 2000 in the front of it. That seems so futuristic, right?

Emily McKay: Yes. Yeah. So you see movies about that all the time growing up and now we're in it.

Scot McKay: Right. Remember, if you wanted a really futuristic forward thinking brand like last century, you would call your computer like Gateway 2000.

Emily McKay: Right.

Scot McKay: Everything was something 2000.

Emily McKay: Yes.

Scot McKay: Yeah.

Emily McKay: Even movies.

Scot McKay: Yeah.

Emily McKay: Thousand.

Scot McKay: Right. 2001, A Space Odyssey was a long time ago. I mean by now, my goodness, the back to the future date has come and gone like five years ago, right?

Emily McKay: something like that, yeah.

Scot McKay: Insane. Yeah. So what were we thinking? Well, that's a great question to ask ourselves at any given moment. Right. But 25 years ago, if you look back at what was going on in the world of dating and relating 25 years ago, okay. Dating was a thing. People were actually going out on dates. I mean hookup culture was already kind of happening. People were really promiscuous.

Emily McKay: Yes. But they were still wanting to make a connection.

Scot McKay: Yes. And people were actually going out on dates. They weren't simply just by default hanging out like people do nowadays. I mean it's almost unheard of for people to go on an actual real date nowadays. Although Emily, women still really crave it deep down, don't they?

Emily McKay: Oh yeah. Some women do still crave that. But a lot of us still crave having

a connection. I think that's just a human element. Even in today's culture where we still do hookup culture, we still crave having to connect with another human being.

Scot McKay: Crave having to do it. Not like we get to do it, we have to do it.

Emily McKay: Something like that.

Scot McKay: Well, you know, I'm making fun of the diction you chose, you know, the way you worded it. But we live in such a convenience culture of immediate gratification that that's really what it's come down to. It started out with the

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Scot McKay: immediate gratification. I don't want to go through dating and courtship. I just want to get laid.

Emily McKay: Right, right.

Scot McKay: But now it's all just too big a hassle. I mean, look at men's tailored clothing and getting dressed up. I mean, if you look back at the 60s, like the mad Men era, right? Men were wearing fedora hats and suits just to be social. People dressed up to get on an airliner.

Emily McKay: People dressed very classy.

Scot McKay: Right. Women actually wore dresses and looked beautiful and took the time. Nowadays, people wear their PJs to go out grocery shopping.

Emily McKay: That's right. all the way from children, teenagers, and, single people and every. Even those who are married. I mean, yes, we don't bother to get dressed and fix ourselves up. I call it self care, and I think it's still important.

Scot McKay: Well, self care is important. You, know, taking care of ourselves, hygiene, this, that and the other. But I really think it's is about convenience. People just don't want to be bothered having to get all gustied up anymore. Now, you know, in the past, we've talked about this on the show. Old ladies used to go out in their curlers. You don't see that anymore.

Emily McKay: No, we don't. Thank goodness. That's one thing I can do without.

Scot McKay: But, you know, then again, kind of rolling your hair up in Curors has gone out of style anyway.

Emily McKay: Oh, thank goodness. I hated that. I dread it every time I had to put my hair in curlers. Thank goodness we don't have that anymore.

Scot McKay: I'm glad I didn'tms.

Emily McKay: Remember the perms?

Scot McKay: Oh, m. Man, the frizzy perms. Yeah, absolutely.

Emily McKay: I do miss those.

Scot McKay: now our daughter is painting her hair red.

Emily McKay: Oh, boy. Oh, yes. Hair color is a thing nowadays.

Scot McKay: That used to be people who were counterculture, like into punk, a new wave. Nowadays, it's everybody, everybody make your hair red, purple, green. You know, especially if you're in the NBA. I noticed that, like, a lot of the players make their hair look like Dennis Rodman. Nowadays, just for the heck of it, Right. Back then, Dennis Rodman was a huge statement. Yeah, right. It was. Absolutely. So, the fashion has changed.

Emily McKay: Oh, desperate. Oh, dramatically. Yeah.

Scot McKay: It is kind of dire, I will give you that. I actually am very pleased to see women out who make an effort like wear a sweater or wear a dress. It catches my attention because it's so darn rare nowadays everybody has gotten so casual and yet makeup artistry and cosmetics have gone to a whole new level. So you have frumpier women with prettier faces'n'az.

Emily McKay: We want to accentuate the beautiful parts.

Scot McKay: Of us, accentuate the positive and, you know, cover that mom bought up or that dad bought up. Right?

Emily McKay: Something like that.

Scot McKay: Yeah. Right.

Emily McKay: That's not so much a bad thing sometimes.

Scot McKay: Has our taste in men's and women's appearance changed?

Emily McKay: I don't think so. I still like my guy to look pretty sharp and handsome. And I would imagine men like to see their women still look attractive and do their best.

Scot McKay: Well, all right, let me give you an example of what I'm talking about. In the year 2000, okay. Having a smooth chest was considered in vogue and having a hairy chest was gross.

Emily McKay: Right.

Scot McKay: Whereas 10 years earlier having hairy chest was cool.

Emily McKay: Right.

Scot McKay: Nowadays I think having a hairy chest is back. But men either have a hairy chest or a smooth chest.

Emily McKay: Right.

Scot McKay: Two. You are. another thing, back in the year 2000, men were spending hand over fist money trying not to be bald.

Emily McKay: I think that's still a thing.

Scot McKay: It is still a thing. But I think more men than ever either shave their head bald or get it very closely cropped like a crew cut. Back in the year 2000, having a crew

cut wasn't a very cool thing to do. Close. Cropped hair really wasn't all that cool.

Emily McKay: No, it wasn't. And guys back then had lots of different types of hairstyles. Now it's basically just one hairstyle.

Scot McKay: Yeah. You know, we used to have a lot of fashion changes very quickly all the way through the 90s. But nowadays it seems like if you're dressed 2000, you probably aren't going to stick out like a sore thumb.

Emily McKay: Well, if you're addressessed2000, it could mean anything because now anything goes.

Scot McKay: Yeah.

Emily McKay: Really Go to the thrift shop and buy anything and it, it works like.

Scot McKay: Changes in fashion style aren't nearly as profound as they used to be.

Emily McKay: Right.

Scot McKay: Like if you were dressed like you were still in the 70s and 1982, my goodness, you know, you would have no friends. People would just laugh and point. And if you dress 1982 and 1992, same thing.

Emily McKay: Right.

Scot McKay: You know, everybody in their cavaricis would.

Emily McKay: Make fun of you, make fun of.

Scot McKay: Your preppy handbook looking self. Right. Right now it seems like none of that ever really came back. But this kind of generic casual dress as you please. Yeah. From 2000 on probably has sort of just stuck.

Emily McKay: I kind of like that because if I wanted to dress from the 60s, that'd look pretty sharp.

Scot McKay: Well, some of the 60s stuff has come back, but not like bell bottoms and like looking like you're off Soul.

Emily McKay: Train or anything, right? No, that's true. There are certain things that never made it back, although they've tried.

Scot McKay: And the music, remember music kind of stopped evolving in the mid-90s.

Emily McKay: Right.

Scot McKay: So nowadays, you know, we've got our own kids listening to like Led Zeppelin and like Marty Robbins. Stuff we thought was like uncool because it was too old school for us, is now fair game with younger people because, hey, good music is good music. There's no such thing as my music and

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Scot McKay: my parents music anymore. It's like the whole, I guess you would call it the

generation gap is a thing of the past. I mean, parents can even be cool now.

Emily McKay: Oh yeah, definitely. You can turn on the radio and pick almost any station and it will play anything from several decades.

Scot McKay: Yeah, for sure. And you know what, along with that, keeping it on topic here, dating and relating stuff, people look a lot better older.

Emily McKay: I do, don't they?

Scot McKay: Like 60 year old women can look like 32 and men, you know, we're looking pretty sharp into a more mature, advanced age. Right. You know, when you watch movies from the 70s, the stars looked old.

Emily McKay: Oh, they did. well, I.

Scot McKay: Bad teeth.

Emily McKay: People being in their, you know, our age or older and thinking, well, back then people, people look older faster, they incredibly fast.

Scot McKay: Right.

Emily McKay: And you were thinking, ew, gross. But nowadays people, as they get older, they are not getting old like they used to. They still keep their youth, they still keep their vitality, they're still doing active things in sports and they're just full of life in every way possible.

Scot McKay: That's right. You know, you can watch a movie and look at one of the stars in the movie and google how old they were at the time that movie happened.

Emily McKay: Right.

Scot McKay: and you can amaze yourself because the guy was only like 38 and he looked 60 and the women the same thing. Really?

Emily McKay: Yes.

Scot McKay: Right?

Emily McKay: Yeah. And now we can google other famous actresses and actors and you're thinking, well, you know, they're not that old. And you're like, wow, that person's actually 65 or 70 and they don't look anywhere near that. And like, wow, that's. They look amazing.

Scot McKay: Yeah, you got a 75 year old Sylvester Stallone in Tulsa, King kicking ass, believably. You know, it's crazy. But you know, my point here is when you take this idea of a generation gap being none existent nowadays, the music is still cool. the culture from that era is still cool. And combine that with people aging so well, you're seeing more and more younger people dating older people.

Emily McKay: Well, you can now, because a lot of them tend to be on the. The same level of energy and, vitality.

Scot McKay: That's right.

Emily McKay: And there's no longer this gap, of, well, you're acting old and boring, that. I don't want to date somebody who's like that.

Scot McKay: Y. if you're old and boring nowadays, you're dateless, which is weird because a lot of people are lazy and a lot of people don't take care of their health so much and they eat the wrong foods. We got more chemicals in our food than ever. There are more crazy ways to be unhealthy than ever. Yet if you do take care of your health and you do look good for your age, you're going to find that people younger are looking to date you because you have that level of wisdom and maturity. Even older women dating younger men is, a bigger thing than it ever was.

Emily McKay: Yeah. I mean, there's a whole category for.

Scot McKay: It that was still weird and kind of gross 25 years ago.

Emily McKay: Yeah. And now it's the norm.

Scot McKay: Yeah.

Emily McKay: None of my friends that way.

Scot McKay: None of my friends in 1995, 2000 looked at women 15, 20 years older than us and said, I want a piece of that.

Emily McKay: Right.

Scot McKay: Never happened.

Emily McKay: Now we got the famous word milfs.

Scot McKay: Yeah. Oh, yeah, absolutely. That came around Sometime probably around 2003. Ish.

Emily McKay: Somewhere around there.

Scot McKay: Yeah. Right. Yeah, exactly. And then you have mom bot and dad bott. I mean, what do we, do we like thicker, chunkier people?

Emily McKay: I think we do.

Scot McKay: I think we've admitted we do. And I think you can pretty much credit that I'm going to use that word to porn because you have an anonymous Internet who is making their choice and what they're looking at. And the next thing you know, we kind of like chunkier chicks then we were told we should by the modeling industry and the cosmetics industry.

Emily McKay: Well, that mom bod is very mature.

Scot McKay: Oh, I think it's sens.

Emily McKay: Very. Yeah. Very nurturing.

Scot McKay: I think moms and dads appreciate matronly bodies or fatherly bodies more.

Emily McKay: Yeah.

Scot McKay: Yeah. I mean, it isn't such a crime of children if you're a woman. Although nowadays it's starting to feel like it's a crime if you want children. But, you know, we can talk about that.

Emily McKay: next week.

Scot McKay: Yeah, we'll talk about the future there. But, you know, let's look at the whole idea of baby making oay 25 years ago versus now. not to get too political, but we're go going toa go there anyway. Abortion was something that was seen as an unfortunate situation. That was legal, but ra nowadays it's a viable form of birth control. Have we cheapened once again our view of our own human race, Emily?

Emily McKay: Well, it also makes it easier to be more promiscuous because there's no consequences.

Scot McKay: Well, let's talk about birth control. Now, when I first met you, you were on something called a nuvarator and having sex with you. I could catch that thing and it would hurt, especially if I caught it, like lengthwise.

Emily McKay: Right.

Scot McKay: That was bad birth control. You know, that thing's still on the market. It's just not very popular. But, 25 years ago we had reliable birth control. You know, you could screw like rabbits if you want to. But there's another factor. People forget. We were all afraid of AIDS.

Emily McKay: Oh,

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Emily McKay: that's right. STDs and things like that, we were afraid of.

Scot McKay: Well, we were certainly more concerned about them back then than we are now.

Emily McKay: Right. And it's not that those things have gone away, it's just that we stopped thinking about them.

Scot McKay: Well, AIDS is treatable. ###ES HIV is treatable.

Emily McKay: Right.

Scot McKay: genital herpes is pretty much controllable. You can take a drug and keep it in remission so that you don't shed virus to other people and other people don't catch it. But hepatitis is still there. Warts, genital warts. Now you have for human papillomavirus. You do have vaccines for women that keeps the really dangerous version, especially for women, at bay. That kind of causes cervical cancer.

Emily McKay: Right. There's a lot of advancements there.

Scot McKay: Yeah, but the zeitgeist back then was, you know, you could die or have something incurable from having sex. Right.

Emily McKay: Or you'd be afraid that no one's going to want to touch you after you've caught something, right?

Scot McKay: Yeah, yeah, absolutely. And nowadays people don't think about that as much anymore. So you've got inexpensive and very effective and widely available birth control. You have much less fear of STDs than we used to. I mean, obviously we should be safe about things, right?

Emily McKay: Absolutely.

Scot McKay: And yet it's almost like a red badge of courage to have had an abortion. It's really strange.

Emily McKay: Yeah, it's really changed a lot. in the scene of Things over the last 25 years.

Scot McKay: Now, let's talk about dating advice. Because the Internet was still pretty much pre broadband. Unless you lived in a really amazingly technologically advanced area like a Bay Area or somewhere like that. Most people were using dial up in the year 2000 still. Okay. Online dating was in its infancy. Apps were nine or ten years away because smartphones were seven or eight years away. Right. And any online dating people were doing up until. Even when you and I met online, which was five, six years into the new millennium, it was stigmatized.

Emily McKay: Yes. It still had a little bit of a, ah, stigma that if you're online dating that you were somehow a loser or that only, you know, rejects of society or online.

Scot McKay: Yeah. It was kind of tantamount to posting a personal ad in like your local indie newspaper. Or it just gross. Right.

Emily McKay: Or that you might end up with Ted Bundy from there.

Scot McKay: Yeah. Like you're an SWF 34. Right. Looking for, you know. Oh, yes, that's exactly. Yeah. And of course you know the whole Rupert Holmes song. Do you like pina coladas getting caught in the rain.

Emily McKay: Right.

Scot McKay: actually the name of that song is Escape. Did you know that?

Emily McKay: I did not.

Scot McKay: It's not the Pina cla song. The pina cluda song is parenthetically added later so people would know what the heck the record was. But I remember back when I first started online dating in 2003, probably a third of the ads talked about pina coladas and getting caught in the rain because people didn't know what else to write.

Emily McKay: Yeah. Now we have AI.

Scot McKay: Yeah, exactly. Right now Chat GPT can just help you fake your way through it. Remember, people didn't even have pictures.

Emily McKay: Oh, that's right.

Scot McKay: Because digital photography was still not ubiquitous yet.

Emily McKay: Yeah. To find a way to either download one, copy one, somehow get it on

your computer to get it into your dating profile.

Scot McKay: But I'll tell you what, by 2004.

Emily McKay: 2005 it was easier. Your phones 10 that had that technology.

Scot McKay: Right. It was a bad excuse if you did not have a picture. You needed a real, real good excuse. No one was going to write you by 2004, 2005 if you didn't have pictures.

Emily McKay: Yeah. I remember having the Motorola flip phone, with its first camera on there. And that was pretty for its time. It was really amazing.

Scot McKay: Yeah, right. There were no smartphones yet when you and I met. There were no apps yet when you and I met.

Emily McKay: That's right. There were none of that. Closest thing to that was that little Game called Snake and it would just kind of go around and you push your buttons up and down.

Scot McKay: That was the closest thing to a dating app.

Emily McKay: Not a dating app, but just an app app.

Scot McKay: Oh, you mean like a game?

Emily McKay: Anything. Not even a dating app, but just an app of any sort. That was the

closest thing we had.

Scot McKay: Do you remember hot or not.com.

Emily McKay: I do not. Never heard of it.

Scot McKay: You never heard of Hot or Not?

Emily McKay: No.

Scot McKay: Hot or not was an addictive web page and they would show you pictures of people and you put thumbs up or thumbs down. Are they hot or they not? And after you clicked, you would see the persons ranking from 1 to 10.

Emily McKay: Oh boy.

Scot McKay: And so people were putting their pictures up there to see what the anonymous Internet thought of them. Yeah, and it was addictive and it was really the beginning of people being addicted to swiping left, swiping right.

Emily McKay: interesting. Yeah, you'd have to put up a gl. I would have to put up a glamour shot for that one.

Scot McKay: Well, glamour shots, remember it was harder to fake pictures.

Emily McKay: Oh yes. That wasn't a thing back then.

Scot McKay: No, I mean it took Instagram and Snapchat to bring us filters where it was really easy for the mainstream to modify their pictures.

Emily McKay: Yes.

Scot McKay: You know, you pretty much looked like your bad pictures back in the day.

Scot McKay: Yeah, it was a lot easier to tell who was being fake and who was being real in the online dating world back in 0304 05.

Emily McKay: As long as the old pictures weren't posted, right?

Scot McKay: Yeah, see that's the thing. It still wasn't free of complication because people would post

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Scot McKay: old pictures, you know, 40, 50 pound to go pictures righturry.

Emily McKay: pictures, 20 year younger pictures, right.

Scot McKay: Yeah. There were still ways people could fake it. But man, for all the complaining we did back in the day, man, we didn't see it coming, did we?

Emily McKay: Oh no, we didn't see this coming.

Scot McKay: Nowadays it's easier to be fake than real.

Emily McKay: Yeah.

Scot McKay: Chat GP and women and men both filtering their pictures. You don't even know who you're meeting.

Emily McKay: On live video at that. You have a filter. While're, while you're still videoing, you're looking amazing and you know, 20 years younger in a video.

Scot McKay: Well, let's talk about the whole technology of communication. 25 years ago, texting was in its infancy.

Emily McKay: Oh, I remember that. Yes.

Scot McKay: I read something that said by the end of the year 2000. Okay. Which would fit the window of what we're talking about here. People were sending on average 35 texts a month if they had texting service. Because remember, each one of them costs like 60 or 70 cents.

Emily McKay: They were not cheap. No.

Scot McKay: You couldn't just go, yes. No. All right, see you there. Cool. Sounds good. You couldn't do that. You're already down 10 bucks.

Scot McKay: Yeah. So really, you couldn't go around texting each other?

Emily McKay: No. And not everybody had a cell phone to text with. Oh, they were expensive or most lines were landlines. So if you got a, a phone number from someone,

it usually wasn't tied to the ability of texting and then answering machines.

Scot McKay: Oh my God. If you're asking a woman out, you're calling her on the phone and you don't know her very well. You were put on the spot, man.

Emily McKay: Oh yeah, that's right.

Scot McKay: You know, and you hope if you mess it up, it'll give you the opportunity to, maybe erase and re recordd. Remember that?

Emily McKay: Oh yeah. But you usually didn't have that option.

Scot McKay: You didn't know because you didn't know what carrier they were on. Like Sprint had it at and T didn't. So you just had to pray that you had another shot if you screwed it up.

Emily McKay: Right, right.

Scot McKay: It was awful, man. It put men on the spot big time. Texting, of course, took care of having to think of something immediately that was so wonderful and so sharp and so smooth, but it also took all nonverbal communication out of it. Remember, we had friends who were infamous for screwing up every relationship they had because they were treating texting like they were going to be understood word for word when they were taken wrong and out of context all the time.

Emily McKay: And using texting as the substitute of real conversation.

Scot McKay: Oh, I was very much against it.

Emily McKay: Oh, both of us were. And we still are. That hasn't changed.

Scot McKay: Oh yeah. That shows you how long we've been in the dating advice business, folks. I still get ragged on by people who say, I can't believe you don't believe in texting. I go, dude, you're reading something from the year 2007. Okay, I've evolved my thinking. It wasn't like, you know, I've changed my mind. The world has changed around me. Texting is here. It's not going anywhere. Video video conferencing was wonky at best. Most people didn't even want it.

Emily McKay: Right.

Scot McKay: And now, of course, we have video zoom and video sex. And during COVID people were going on video dates. All that was. We were afraid that was coming, more than hopeful that it was coming, weren't we still are.

Emily McKay: A lot of times we still don't want to be on Zoom. I mean, if you're at work and you have to be on a Zoom call, you're like, oh man, do I have to like, put on my makeup just for, you know, just to be on the screen?

Scot McKay: Yeah, exactly. I mean, it was kind of fun to get naked with people over video before you met them, I guess. But even before broadband, that was going to be wonky at best. Yahoo. I am Messenger Chat in real time.

Emily McKay: M

Scot McKay: That came after texting.

Emily McKay: All of that long long.

Scot McKay: I mean, literally, if you wanted to ask a woman out back then, you picked up the phone and called her or you did it in real life.

Emily McKay: Yeah.

Scot McKay: And then you were faced with the dreaded voicemail.

Emily McKay: That's right.

Scot McKay: Now, all of that said there wasn't a whole lot of dating advice. Remember we started to talk about that if you were a guy with no game, you were basically in the dark. In the dark. You were out of luck. You were wondering how other guys did it.

Emily McKay: Yeah. You needed a best buddy to come and help pull you out of it.

Scot McKay: Right. The PUA movement was underground. It was in like, chat rooms. Remember chat rooms? Yeah.

Emily McKay: And no one went to admit it either.

Scot McKay: Right. Everybody wasn't admitting who they were. They were trying to trick women into bed. Man, the dating advice thing has evolved so much. In 25 years around us, we've had to bend and flex and change how we do things. A lot happened when the

smartphones came into play. Came into play.

Emily McKay: The different apps, the swiping and the quick gratification, all those things have really changed the way people date and interact and, relate to one another.

Scot McKay: Social media, Facebook and Twitter. All of a sudden people could interact who hardly ever even saw each other or hadn't met each other or hadn't seen each other since high school. 20 years ago. All of a sudden, we were all.

Emily McKay: Friends again, reigniting new flames.

Scot McKay: Right.

Emily McKay: Destroying other ones.

Scot McKay: Right, Exactly. All of a sudden, people were cyber cheating. Y that never happened before the year 2000.

Emily McKay: Yeah. Didn't

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Emily McKay: have the possibility of it.

Scot McKay: Right, Exactly. Yeah. I mean, that was, something that's this century. And all of that cyber communication and texting and video is so normal nowadays. It's kind of like we forget the way it used to be. Like before microwaves, you had to open up a

can of soup and heat it in a pot.

Emily McKay: Right?

Scot McKay: Yeah. It's like we forget about those days. So then with the smartphones and the Social media came, people in their echo chambers. Next thing you know, met too movement. Men going their own way.

Emily McKay: Yeah. Guys being afraid to talk to women for fear that they might be viewed as a predator.

Scot McKay: Right. Women who have been victims of predators now in groups together. And what happened when these echo chambers of people formed is it began to feel like everybody in the world was as passionate about your cause and your thing as you were. And certainly women being sexually assaulted is a horrible thing and they need a support group. But when that echo chamber starts being all about hating all men and believing all women and no women can do any wrong, and it kind of starts spiraling out of control, that's when the problem started. That led to a lot of social issues at large, fomented by relatively small groups of people online. And of course, the Me Too movement is only one example. There are many others as well.

Emily McKay: Right. And then you fail to realize that you're no longer a victim, but that you could actually become victorious over your situation. But in an echo chamber, it unfortunately, instead of feeding something positive and helping turn a bad thing to something good, it created a lot of negative, A, lot of negative responses.

Scot McKay: Right. And it kept going on that way until people really were just very angry

with each other. And behind the anonymity of the Internet, again, people could just be rude and mean to each other. I mean, There was no YouTube in the year 2000. Imagine that's right.

Emily McKay: There wasn't.

Scot McKay: No. There wasn't broadband yet. Right. Instagram influencers, you know, everybody having their own private channel and becoming famous out there. Unheard of.

Emily McKay: That was still another 10 years out.

Scot McKay: Yeah, exactly. Now women can all be basically supermodels out there and have guys chase them. Right, right, exactly. But with the wokeness came more pressure on masculinity. There was always pressure on masculinity, and I believe that's a power struggle. And so that was nothing new. All the seeds for what's nowadays known as wokeness have been planted for decades. But finally, after social media became huge, I think those echo chambers of people could really wield their opinions like a weapon and really have a broad, reaching voice together. And you know, natural entropy says that that became the realm of complainers. People who were upset.

Emily McKay: Right. And those who were happy were quiet known little corner making no noise. So the only people we heard was those complaining about things.

Scot McKay: Right. You know, the family law system was already biased against men. You know, if a woman divorced a man, the woman could say, I want the kids, he's a jerk. And Basically, the judge would always agree with it. Nowadays, I think that's softening

up a little bit.

Emily McKay: Oh yeah. Well, now we have women who are afraid of losing their kids.

Scot McKay: Well, because they're crazy. We've seen enough crazy women out there and women who are kind of unhinged that people are wise to it and people are wise to all these unhinged people. We'll talk about that more next week. The future of the unhinged.

Emily McKay: Well, I think even the normal women are afraid of that.

Scot McKay: Oh yeah. I think women are afraid of each other.

Emily McKay: Well, I mean, I think the legal system has in many ways come full circle and is trying to be more fair and kind to both the father and the mother or the husband and the wife.

Scot McKay: Yes. People I know who are in the know seem to be saying that. The last thing I want to cover before we close this particular episode is it used to be that if you were anything other than straight, it was stigmatized.

Emily McKay: Oh, yes. Big time.

Scot McKay: In the year 2010, it was okay to make fun of gay people in movies and on tveah.

Emily McKay: Yes.

Scot McKay: No longer.

Emily McKay: That happened pretty quickly. People start to be more kind and not give people with other lifestyles a hard time.

Scot McKay: Yeah. People are flabbergasted when they find out that Donald Trump was the first president who was for gay marriage. On the day he was inaugurated, it was an T. Obama. People are amazed by that. But it shouldn't be because this has been a very rapidly progressing movement nowadays. Being a kid in school and being gay is cool. I mean, you wanted to be in the closet in high school. Back when I was in high school, if you were gay, the trans movement, it was extremely rare in the year 2000 to know anybody who was trans. Like if there was a hostess at a restaurant who was trans, everybody talked about them. Transvestites were a thing. Cross dressers. Now you don't hear about crossdressers as much anymore. I'm sure people will email us and tell us that, ah, transvestates are alive and well out there. But you hear a lot more about being transsexual than you hear about being a transvestite nowadays.

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Emily McKay: Yeah, well, there's just so many different labels and so many different ways to make a lifestyle that it's hard to keep up with.

Scot McKay: Yeah. You know, being bisexual for women is not stigmatized. Neither is it for men. Alternative lifestyles. Being a swinger I think is still pretty outside the mainstream. But in terms of sexual preference and.

Emily McKay: Sexual orientation, there's been a lot of changes in 25 years.

Scot McKay: Right. The sky's the limit. But you saw about four or five years ago, the likes of match.com trying to impose upon straight men to be open to dating trans women, and that backfired. So I think we've come full circle to where, hey, whatever your sexual orientation and. Or your sexual preference is, it's okay. It's got to be okay. And that's where we are nowadays.

Emily McKay: Well, at least society.

Scot McKay: At least society is. I mean, there may be certain outlying people out there who are still judgmental, but that's where society is nowadays. There's more pressure on the birth rate than ever before. We've talked about that in previous shows. But people want to have fewer babies. People are having fewer babies. Next week, you know, we'll talk about what track a society really on.

Emily McKay: Well, you know, that's going to be a great conversation next week because the whole idea with children and everything really makes a unit for a family and how that relates to dating and relationships and all that good stuff. It makes a difference. And there's a lot to be said about all of that.

Scot McKay: Yeah. I'm looking forward to next week's conversation.

Emily McKay: Yes.

Scot McKay: But this has been a fun conversation that took some twists and turns I didn't see coming. Yeah. I hope and trust you all. I've enjoyed looking, you know, into the wayack machine with, us back at the year 2000 up until now. And, man, we really have changed,

Emily McKay: A quarter of a century.

Scot McKay: Quarter of a century. Hey, you know What? The year 2025 is here. The rest of the century is ahead of us.

Emily McKay: That's right. We have lots to look forward to.

Scot McKay: And if you would like to enter this year and the rest of the century with a much better grip on finding the right person in your life to have a relationship with or maybe spend the rest of this century with. We want to talk to you.

Emily McKay: We do. We want to hear from you.

Scot McKay: If you're a guy listening to this feed, go to mountainoppodcast.com commt get on my calendar. You can talk to me for free for 25 minutes. If you are on the X and Y on the fly feed and you are a man or a woman, you can go to Scot and emily.com podcast. Get on our calendar there, too. We appreciate every one of you, man. As we talk about being 25 years into this century, we've been podcasting for 19 of them.

Emily McKay: Yay. We should celebrate when we hit 20 years.

Scot McKay: Yeah.

Emily McKay: We should do something special.

Scot McKay: Oh, you know, we will.

Emily McKay: Oh, yes, absolutely.

Scot McKay: Absolutely. So, once again, thank you for listening to this particular episode on dating and relating the last 25 years. And we look forward to talking to.

Emily McKay: You next week when we cover the next 25 years.

Scot McKay: And until then, my name is Scot McKay.

Emily McKay: And I'm Emily McKay.

Scot McKay: Be good out there and have fun.

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