Factors in Choosing A Mate

Part I: Biographical Data	
 Age: Sex:(male or female) Religion: Marital status (please circle): single datin Class or year: Number of brothers: Number 	
 Part II: Evaluative Section 1. At what age would you prefer to marry? 2. What age difference would you prefer betwee Whom would you prefer to be older (please 3. Please evaluate the following factors in choose 	een you and your spouse?years circle): self spouse
indispensable, give itimportant, but not indispensable desirable, but not very important irrelevant or unimportant	2 points
(1) Good cook and housekeeper	(10) Desire for home and children
(2) Pleasing disposition	(11) Favorable social status or rating
(3) Sociability	(12) Good looks
(4) Similar educational background	(13) Similar religious background
(5) Refinement, neatness	(14) Ambition & industriousness
(6) Good financial prospect	(15) Similar political background
(7) Chastity (no previous experience	(16) Mutual attraction—love
in sexual intercourse)	(17) Good health
(8) Dependable character	(18) Education & intelligence
(9) Emotional stability & maturity	· · ·

Age:	Sex: M F	Married: yes no
Preferences Concer	rning Potential Mates	
Instructions. Below are listed a set of characteristics that might be present in a potential mate or marriage partner. Please rank them on their desirability in someone you might marry. Give a "1" to the most desirable characteristic in a potential mate; a "2" to the second most desirable characteristic in a potential mate; a "3" to the third most desirable characteristic; and so on down to "13" for the 13 th most desired characteristic in a potential mate.		
Rank These 13 Cha	aracteristics From Mos	st (1) to Least (13) Desired in a Mate
kind	d & understanding	
relig	gious	
exci	iting personality	
crea	tive & artistic	
good	d housekeeper	
intel	lligent	
good	d earning capacity	
wan	ts children	
easy	going	
good	d heredity	
colle	ege graduate	
phys	sically attractive	
heal	thy	

Source of instrument:

Buss, D. M. (1989). Sex differences in human mate preferences: Evolutionary hypotheses tested in 37 cultures. <u>Behavioral and Brain Sciences</u>, <u>12</u>, 1-49.

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