

# They love me, they love me not, college relationships may seem complicated



**KATIE VORDERSTRASSE**

You leave behind friends, family and significant others. You begin to realize what it's like to be independent, not having to report to your parents of what you are currently doing or planning on doing. Your freedom increases, as well as the choices and decisions that you are forced to make. One of the most challenging decisions that you are going to face is choosing the person you are going to be in a relationship with.

simply indicated the person you "liked" at the time. It was who you were going to take to your school dance. This person could have also been the one to take you to the movies so you wouldn't be the awkward third wheel. High school relationships were more of a popularity contest, a challenge to see who could date the hottest person.

We all have that person we dated throughout high school that our parents were completely against. I know I did. It was during my sophomore year, and we dated for just over nine months. We ended up breaking up during the summer before my junior year because of continuous arguments. My parents strongly disliked him from the very beginning and were relieved when we broke up.

more like an experiment. It was an eye opener to discover different personalities and morals. We learned more about ourselves during these relationships and break ups. By the time we graduated, we had a better understanding of the type of person we would want to date.

When we got to college, we took our ideas about relationships to the next level. We began to look beyond the label to the person that we want to spend most of our time with. We began to realize that we will eventually have to settle down with one person and get married. We learn to look past the imperfection of the person, and learn to cherish what they were blessed with. We do this by taking a look beyond their appearance into the inside, into their personality.

In a relationship you should be 100 percent positive that you want to be with a person. There is nothing more frustrating than if one is unsure of what they want. Honesty and communication are the keys to any relationship. Being able to trust your significant other creates a successful relationship. It is important to trust until there is a reason not to.

No one likes being cheated on. When I was in high school, I found out the guy I dated for nine months had cheated on me the whole time we were dating. I didn't find this out until after we broke up. It completely broke my heart. He had no idea how much pain he caused. This made me a stronger person. If cheating on that person is your idea of fun, you shouldn't have

even been in the relationship to begin with. It's important to stay faithful. Treat others the way you would want to be treated.

I don't have a boyfriend, and am not worried about it. My prince in shining armor will come along. I believe at times it's better to be single and focus more on you. That way you can do what you want to do, when you want to do it, and how you want to do it. You won't have to worry if your lover is happy with it.

It's important that you are 100 percent happy with yourself before making a commitment to another individual. You can't make someone else happy if you're not happy. Try and make the best out of every situation.

Maybe relationships aren't

your thing. They are just a waste of time. That is completely fine. We all go through those time periods. Sometimes it's better just to date around before getting too serious.

Being friends before you become official is always a good thing. Women tend to find it easier to get along with men rather than with other females. It is important to spend time with the person before taking the friendship to the next step.

Throughout your life, your past relationships make you the person you are today. My suggestion is not rushing into anything to serious. Remember, you are only young once. Enjoy it while you can.

*Katie Vorderstrasse is a freshman majoring in communications. You may e-mail her at katie.vorderstrasse@sckans.edu.*

## Word on the Hill

How should we honor veterans?

By Alissa Sheppard



"Write a story about their life."

**Anthony Tasento**  
history education  
freshman



"Shopping spree with unlimited meals."

**Brianna Helton**  
elementary education  
freshman



"Having a social event for veterans."

**Jack Mitchell**  
athletic training  
freshman



"A big parade."

**Taylor Fogle**  
biology  
freshman



"Make it more personal, more about them."

**Jennifer Nicholson**  
resident director of Cole



"Give them flowers."

**Brandon Hatch**  
chemistry  
freshman

## Glitches in technology lead to non-effective teaching methods in classrooms

**ERIN MORRIS**

I hate to sit here comfortably in the library on a cold and blustery Wednesday night and criticize your flaws, but truth be told, I'm not in that great of a mood. Let me tell you why.

Tomorrow morning I will wake up and trudge to my first class. Does this drudgery have to do with the fact that I have to get up? No. Does it have to do with the fact that I hate the subject matter? No. It has to do with the fact that it's a completely pointless class. And nothing makes me mad like when somebody wastes my time.

The class is pointless because there is no instructor. When I registered for this class, there was indeed a name listed next to the class schedule, but imagine my dismay when I walked

in the first day to discover that she would never in fact grace our class with her presence. I had unknowingly signed up for a computer class taught through Skype.

Being the optimistic sort of person that I am, I decided it might work out and sat down with a heart full of hope. Since then, that hope has vanished and I have to argue with myself every morning because half of me is a somewhat responsible student who knows she should go to class and the other half is a frustrated college kid who just wants to sleep in.

I respect Southwestern College for trying to keep up with the times and technology of the day, but there are some things that cannot be replaced. A qualified professor is one of them.

I am not questioning the aptitude of my teacher, but she is

not very effective over a slow internet connection. There are those days when our school's connection is so slow that she can't teach at all and I'm paying good money for this. I feel I'm completely justified in thinking that the outrageous tuition prices here should at least guarantee me a quality education. After all, you get what you pay for. At least I thought that's how the world was supposed to work.

There are other problems as well. The sound is not quality, another side effect of the slow connection. I understand enough of what she says to get by, but many times my class has to ask her what she said because it comes in muffled over our speakers. It wastes time and is an unnecessary hassle.

A teacher in the room also means I can have face to face conversations with him or

her. The professor can see everything I can. Our Skype instructor cannot look over our shoulders to see where we've gone wrong, and in a class that is based on copying computer coding, mistakes are easily and frequently made. Plus, what if, God forbid, the problem isn't

our coding? She has no way of knowing what problems our computers are having. Skype is simply an ineffective way to teach a class.

Southwestern, please understand that I don't say this because I hate you. On the contrary, I think you're pretty

swell. In fact, I admire your desire to stay in the loop technologically, but you should leave the Skyping to homesick students. Thanks.

*Erin Morris is a sophomore majoring in professional communication. You may email her at erin.morris@sckans.edu.*

### Put in perspective: Are skype classes an effective teaching method?



**TAMI PULLINS**

The beauty of technology for learning is that it allows us to expand our boundaries beyond Winfield and Kansas. It's a big

world out there and we tend to forget that when we don't have or take the opportunities to get off campus.

Technology like Skype allows us to "go" anywhere and tap into resources we don't always have in our own back yard. It's clear from the popularity of social networks that relationships can be formed and maintained via the internet so I think it is possible for students to engage with their instructors online.

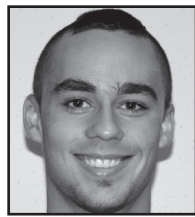
Enough tools exist, like Blackboard, that allow students and instructors to share resources, even if they aren't in the same room to exchange more traditional paper handouts. Sites like

XPlana, that allow for mashups of course material and other information, also can be useful technologies in circumstances where the teacher and students are not in the same place.

Finally, in many areas outside of higher education (business and medicine, for example), this type of relationship building has been happening for some time. I think it is important for students to develop such skills that are necessary to survive in a virtual environment. Skype classes give students that practice.

*Tami Pullins is the associate vice president for advising and student success.*

## Leaving audiences terrified, newly released sequel ties mystery together



**DALTON CARVER**

You know those moments when you desperately want to close your eyes, but you just can't bring yourself to? That's when your curiosity gets the best of you, and before you know what's going on, that curiosity turns into a dull, dreading fear.

That's the main emotion I felt throughout almost all of Paranormal Activity 3, the prequel to Paranormal Activity 2, which was a prequel to the original Paranormal Activity. Yes, a confusing order to organize the series around, but it definitely makes you watch all of them to understand what's happening.

The film, directed by Henry Joost and Ariel Schulman, is based around the childhood of the main characters of the first two films, Katie and Kristi, played by Chloe Csengery and Jessica Tyler Brown respectively, and the paranormal events

they experienced during this time.

The movie is set in 1988, many years before the events of the other two films. The two girls live with their mother Julie, played by Lauren Bittner and her boyfriend, Dennis, played by Christopher Nicholas Smith, who just happens to be in a profession where he uses a video camera every day.

Everything seems to be fine and dandy with the family until an earthquake shakes the home. During the quake, the camera, set to film some intimate action between the adults in the house, happens to catch some dust that seems to fall upon a figure standing in the room. Dennis discovers the mysterious action while reviewing the film and is convinced there's something going on in the house. Cue the crazy guy setting up cameras over every single inch of the house.

From this point, as viewers familiar with the series know, everything goes downhill. The movie is set up between a day and night cycle, and needless to say, I felt much more comfortable with the day sections. As I watched the film, I dreaded the progression back into night for

fear of what might be caught on the camera. Unlike the other movies, the action really amps up quickly, making you wonder what horrible scene could possibly follow the terrifying one that came before it.

As well as the original static cameras placed around the home, Dennis invents a mounted one that pans back and forth across the room. As it moved to and fro, I was filled with dread of what I might discover that wasn't there ten seconds ago.

The film uses this camera very well, as dread is the movie's main fear mechanism. However, the film still plays "I Spy" with you, making you search desperately for what could be going wrong with that particular night. Luckily, the activities get more and more noticeable as the film progresses to its extremely creepy climax. Of course, if you were never a fan of first-person view types of movies, like Cloverfield or the Blair Witch Project for example, then this production definitely won't sway you to suddenly loving them.

Despite Dennis being the cameraman, the instrumental character is Kristi, the younger

of the two sisters. Not unlike a lot of young children her age, she has an imaginary friend named Toby. The parents thinking nothing of it, play along with Kristi and pretend that Toby exists. Shortly after the cameras are set up, they catch Kristi getting out of bed and speaking with Toby. When asked what Toby says to her, Kristi simply replies that she cannot reveal her imaginary friend's secrets. This connection between Toby and Kristi definitely does a good job of setting up the other two films.

However, some of the frightening scenes shown in the trailers didn't appear in the movie, leaving me to wonder if the film could've been even scarier. I won't give the entire movie away, as I think the film should be experienced in person, but the movie exceeds the first two on the fright meter by a large amount. The trailer warns that the last 15 minutes of the film will "mess you up for life".

I can't say that my psyche is permanently damaged, but I will say that I'm having a bit of trouble sleeping nowadays.

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