

Does having “things in common” matter?

Everyone on a dating site has “things in common”. They want a relationship, they are open to a relationship, they do some things for work and some things for fun. The term “things in common” came from high-society social protocol training in older countries where it meant that certain people were from the same bloodlines and economic classes or not.

Most dates, dating periods and marriages end in divorce and break-ups. Those are mathematic facts. Most of those relationships started out with each person seeing “things in common”, which is, essentially, a checklist of matching factoids.

Dating sites are about checklists and computers and not actual experiences you share together. If decide to pick people to meet based on a checklist, the percentage of divorce and break-ups is much higher.

In reality, if you both have actual fun and rewarding experiences together, the things in common checklist often does not matter relative to past experiences.

If you collect stamps and your potential partner does not list “stamp collecting” on their dating site list of interests should you delete their profile? Have you considered that each person has had millions of experiences, enjoys millions of things and that there are billions of things in the world that neither of you have even experienced yet, together or apart?