

An Attractive Partner

Imagine that you were married to the same partner for the rest of your life. Thinking of that, how do you feel about this being the same way it is going to be forever, the same person doing the same thing in the same old ways? Just the thought of it begins to sap the most devoted heart and we feel a desire to give up our will to live.


All of us will reach this point in our relationships, when it appears our partner starts to fail us. They no longer seem to meet our needs and we get the feeling we are trapped. A steady stream of articles in newspapers and magazines advises how to deal with this situation; some even advocate having an extra marital affair just to bring back the spice in our lives, or seriously question whether we need to end our relationship.

None of these solutions will bring us happiness, for if we have an affair we only create a growing level of deadness in our relationship and of course the guilt that goes with it. If we choose greener pastures then it is only a matter of time before we land up in the same situation, and we have to keep rebuilding our lives. And with all this we miss one of the most important lessons of a relationship.

If our partner starts to become unattractive to us, if our sex lives becomes boring, if our partner starts to fail in any way then we have stopped giving to them. We have stopped investing our energy in them and we are no longer supporting them. We have started to make ourselves and our needs more important than the relationship. We are heading in the wrong direction, the wrong direction for love, happiness and a loving and supportive marriage.

Our partner will flourish and blossom as we are willing to love and cherish them, just as we blossom when they love and cherish us. As we give to our partners, as we invest in them, they will appear to change. As they begin to blossom, we will benefit most as we are married to them. Your partner will grow and change and develop new gifts, new levels of sexuality, humour, and kindness, and for many of us the greatest gift of all, forgiveness.





There is a story a Vietnamese master tells about how we tend our vegetable gardens. He asks, 'when our plants are doing badly what do we do?' Generally, we look around to see if there is any way we can improve what we give to them, maybe more water, less light or just some feeding. So why is it we can take the exact opposite response to our friends and family? When they are doing badly how do we react, maybe ignoring, punishing, or attacking; would that not be the same as rampaging through our vegetable patch beating up a lettuce for growing too slowly?

Take some time today and look at your significant relationships, relationships with your partners, your kids, your parents. If any of them are appearing to fail then ask yourself, "in what area have I stopped giving to this person, how have I stopped supporting them and started to compete with them instead? How have I started to make myself more important than this relationship?"

No one is going to get any better if we complain about them, or if we turn our back on them; situations will only change as we give to them. Take a few moments and commit to start giving to those around you today, even the ones that seem to bug you the most, as this is the only sure way out of any situation that will open the door to happiness and peace.

For our lives will only improve once we fully understand that running away from situations will be no lasting solution; rediscover the attraction and beauty of those around you by giving to them instead.

With Love, Sue and Jeff