

A Man's Love is expressed differently from a Woman's Love

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I realize I am going to draw your attention to someone else's book, rather than my own, with this article; but I cannot help myself. Steve Harvey's *Act Like a Lady, Think Like a Man* is genius! I highly recommend it. Between now and when you get your hands on it, though, let me share the most profound information I got from reading it.

Men show their love for their women differently than women show their love for men. If we women could really grasp this fact, relationships all over the world would improve.

Women show men they love them in warm, mushy ways. We talk to our men, we share everything (or at least as much as he'll tolerate listening to), we provide nurture and support. We want to be romanced because romantic touches are how we say, "I love you." Men are very different and we know this already. The problem is we have spent centuries judging them for it instead of receiving it as the display of love it is. So when our new man gets past the courting phase, becomes solidly committed to us, and the romance begins to fade, we join the legion of sisters who complain either with humor or bitterly about how he just doesn't measure up to our ideal of what a real man is and how a real man loves.

Let me tell you, at this point the relationship is in danger of ending and it ain't his fault! Complements of Steve Harvey let me share how a real man loves and see if you can't begin to look at your fellow through a kinder lens and a heart warmed by just how very much he actually does let you know he loves you.

There are three ways a man clearly and definitively shows his love and affection for his lady. I cried as I learned this from Steve and I am a relationship expert!

The first thing a real man does when he knows he loves you and is ready to commit to the relationship is he professes who you are in his life to everyone he knows. He calls you "his lady," "girlfriend," or "partner." He calls you by a special name with his words and with his body language. You can see it in the eyes and body language of the folks in his world you are introduced to. You see that spark of recognition that this one (you) is different from the other women he has introduced to them. His claim on you is obvious.

Once he is ready to take the relationship to the next level, he may no longer be interested in midnight conversations that go on for hours. He doesn't want to be treated like your best girlfriend. The profession he makes about you is significant for him and, if you are aware of its meaning, it can be significant for you too. In fact, it can be a big turn on.

The second thing a real man does when he knows he loves you and is ready to commit to the relationship is he provides for you. Now, not every man has the means to buy you expensive things, but to the degree he is able, he will provide for you. One of the examples Steve uses is if you have car trouble and ask him for help, he will do everything within his power to assist you in getting it fixed. One man might be able to afford to

replace the car while another gets his cousin who is a car mechanic to fix it. A real man in love wants to provide for you. Every single weekend might not produce a perfectly romantic outing, but in any way he sees he can provide for you and is able, he will. So, for instance, the year I completed graduate school, my husband provided me with a big, fancy digital camera and a printer to print the photographs I would take. He knew I was wary of making the switch from film to digital. He knew I needed to be provided with what is essentially a dark room to make the switch as convenient and delightful as possible. With these gifts he provided for me the means to enlarge my life and my creative expression. It was a deeply romantic gesture which I very much appreciate.

The third thing a real man does when he is head over heels in love is he protects his woman. No one is allowed to hurt, insult, or disrespect her. He will not be able to tolerate her life or her spirit being in danger. In my own experience, I have observed two important things about a man's desire to protect his woman. He will attempt to protect her from herself. This is why a man can become infuriated with some of the choices his woman makes because, as a man with his logical thinking, he could have told her this or that choice would be a big mistake. How could she have put the woman he loves most in the whole world (herself) in harm's way?

The other thing I have observed is that a real man in love will sacrifice himself to protect you from himself, if you require it. If you cannot abide him being who he is, expressing himself as a man, he will shrink inside, becoming less effective as a lover and as a partner as he attempts to protect you in the way you say you must be protected. He will not do this indefinitely. At some point, the pressure to express himself as a man will pop and you will lose him. One way or another you will lose him. However, if you find you are no longer invested in exploring the marvelous mystery he is, you might take a look at whether or not you really love him. Because asking him to stifle his masculinity is the beginning of the end.

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There is a secret to relationship success that is direct, simple, and effective. We and others have used it to transform marriages that felt burdensome and hurtful into marriages filled with love and satisfaction.

You can discover this secret for yourself in the e-workbook called *Creating the Love You Want: Five Unique Steps to Improve Your Marriage*. Go to <http://www.CreateTheLoveYouWant.com> and order your copy right now. With it, you can begin making a difference for yourself tonight!