



Love is in the Air at School---even Secondary

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Dating and romance: something constantly revolving around us, something the mass media has been feeding us information of. They seem fantastical, enchanting, luring us to imitate and have a taste of them.

Nowadays, many teenagers as young as secondary one students, have ventured into this surreal world of dating. In my opinion, S1 students are not mature enough for dating yet, therefore, secondary one is not an appropriate time for dating.

First and foremost, as a S1 student myself, we have just started our secondary school life with various roles and responsibilities ahead of us. Many may hope to achieve satisfactory or outstanding results in different aspects, such as academic and sports. It absolutely requires much time for students to develop these skills and take up different posts at school. However, dating may serve as a distraction or barrier for some to accomplish these goals. Those in a 'relationship' may spend too much time dating, and constantly thinking about it, ending up not being able to fully focus and concentrate on their studies.

Furthermore, I believe financial situation of S1 students is also an area of concern. When dating, couples often tend to dine out or enjoy a movie, which will incur costs one way or another. Unfortunately, S1 students' main source of 'income' is often from pocket money or scholarships, which really cannot be regarded as a "steady income", therefore is not a reliable and strong financial support to handle all the expenses involved in dating.

Last but not least, secondary one students are not mature enough to handle multiple relationships and tricky sexual issues. They may not understand how to deal with arguments and disputes, and may end up with a broken heart and a torn relationship. Moreover, as most secondary students are still naïve and young, dating at such an early age could lead to unsolicited pregnancy at fifteen or sixteen, and may bring about a string of serious consequences e.g. dire illnesses related to indiscriminate sex.



Therefore, considering the above reasons, I do not think I am ready for a relationship or romance yet. I am still an innocent child who lacks knowledge, time and money to handle a date properly. As is, a suitable time for dating, to me, is maybe after secondary education, or for some, the gap year taken before entering university ---- a period when you have more free time, a time to undertake multiple part-time jobs for a little more money to spare, and hopefully to have acquired the knowledge to allow us be better prepared and more capable in dealing with dating and relationship issues.

In conclusion, despite how attractive and exciting dating may seem to us, we must always bear in mind that those are only artificial and processed images brought to us by the media, thus have much to concern about while dating in real life. That is why I disagree that S1 students should be dating at such a young age.

Having said that, if students are conscientious enough and concentrate on their studies throughout the secondary school years, it is likely that as they mature and develop into a responsible person, they will be able to find their perfect dates in the future. Therefore, I strongly believe that it is absolutely unnecessary to hurry and get a date in secondary.

