

Men better at making up after a fight

7th August, 2016



A new study shows that men are better than women at making up after a fight. The research was conducted by a team from Harvard University in the USA. It looked at the differences between how men and women made up with each other

after same-sex sporting events. Lead author of the research, professor Joyce Benenson, concluded that men spend a longer time and put more effort into making up with their male sporting foes than women did with their female opponents. The researchers analysed recordings of tennis, table tennis, badminton and boxing involving men and women from 44 countries. They found that men spent considerably more time than women shaking hands and physically embracing.

Professor Benenson said she was surprised by her findings, especially at how women spent so little time making up with their rivals. She said: "What you'll see is that many times, females brush their fingers against each other....You're expected by the sport to do something but [with women] it's so frosty." This was in great contrast to men. Benenson observed that: "With the males, even with a handshake, you can see the warmth, the tightness of it." She added: "I expected this would be the least strong in boxing because you try to kill the other person, but it's the strongest in this sport. There really is this sense of love for your opponent, which is beyond my understanding."

Sources: *BBC.com / Independent.co.uk / inverse.com*

Writing

Men are better at accepting defeat than women. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

fight / sporting events / effort / opponents / recordings / boxing / shaking hands / surprised / rivals / brush / fingers / contrast / warmth / sense of love / understanding

True / False

- The research into men and women was carried out by Oxford University. T / F
- The researchers looked at recordings of 14 different sports. T / F
- The research looked at men and women in 44 countries. T / F
- The study found that women spent more time shaking hands. T / F
- A professor was not surprised by what she found out. T / F
- The study says women brush fingers in a frosty manner. T / F
- A professor said you can see the warmth in men's handshakes. T / F
- A researcher does not understand how boxers can show each other love. T / F

Synonym Match

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1. study | a. conclusions |
| 2. conducted | b. hugging |
| 3. involving | c. unfriendly |
| 4. considerably | d. noticed |
| 5. embracing | e. carried out |
| 6. findings | f. feeling |
| 7. frosty | g. a great deal |
| 8. observed | h. presumed |
| 9. expected | i. report |
| 10. sense | j. including |

Discussion – Student A

- How good are you at making up with other people?
- What surprised you about what you read?
- Why do you think men are better at making up?
- Are men better at making up with partners in a relationship?
- Can you give examples of men making up with sporting rivals?
- What do you fight with other people about?
- Is it always best to be the first person to try and make up?
- Has there been anyone you didn't make up with?

Phrase Match

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. same- | a. effort into |
| 2. put more | b. you can see the warmth |
| 3. female | c. more time |
| 4. men spent considerably | d. by her findings |
| 5. physically | e. opponents |
| 6. she was surprised | f. contrast to men |
| 7. females brush their fingers | g. sex sporting events |
| 8. This was in great | h. embracing |
| 9. even with a handshake, | i. understanding |
| 10. beyond my | j. against each other |

Discussion – Student B

- Why do women put such little effort into making up with opponents?
- Why are women so frosty to their opponents?
- Are men better at making up in other areas of life?
- Why do boxers seem to love each other so much after they fight?
- Should points be awarded to sports stars for the best making up effort?
- What's the best way to make up?
- Should there be rules for making up?
- What questions would you like to ask the researchers?

Spelling

- onectducd by a team from Harvard
- lead turhao of the research
- female psenpoton
- nrviliogv men and women
- men spent banodrisycle more time
- physically iagcenrmb
- making up with their aivrls
- You're xtepdece by the sport to do something
- with women it's so trfyso
- This was in great toacnstr to men
- Benenson esovdber that
- bondye my understanding

Answers – Synonym Match

1. i	2. e	3. j	4. g	5. b
6. a	7. c	8. d	9. h	10. f

Role Play

Role A – Flowers

You think giving flowers is the best way to make up. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their ways. Also, tell the others which is the least effective of these (and why): a restaurant meal, a hug or saying, 'I'm sorry'.

Role B – Restaurant meal

You think a restaurant meal is the best way to make up. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their ways. Also, tell the others which is the least effective of these (and why): flowers, a hug or saying, 'I'm sorry'.

Role C – Hug

You think a hug is the best way to make up. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their ways. Also, tell the others which is the least effective of these (and why): a restaurant meal, flowers or saying, 'I'm sorry'.

Role D – Saying, 'I'm sorry'

You think saying, 'I'm sorry' is the best way to make up. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their ways. Also, tell the others which is the least effective of these (and why): a restaurant meal, a hug or flowers.

Speaking – Men/Women

Rank these with your partner. Put the things men/women surpass women/men most at doing at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- | | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| • reading maps | • saving money |
| • playing sports | • driving |
| • telling jokes | • keeping secrets |
| • cooking | • singing |

Answers – True False

a	F	b	F	c	T	d	F	e	F	f	T	g	T	h	T
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.