

# Hooking Up: Sex, Dating, and Relationship on Campus

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## Introduction

The book “Hooking Up: Sex, Dating, and Relationship on Campus” by Kathleen Bogle gives a review of the cultural concept of “hooking up.” The primary focus of the author is to address the recent behavior trends in Campuses and Universities about the uncommitted sexual encounters that are being experienced in these institutions (Bolge, 4). These sexual encounters are replacing traditional dating procedures and scripts. Therefore, the book gives a better explanation of the behaviors, results, and emotions associated with sexual interaction. The author uses interviewing research methods to collect her data. Thus, she asked her interviewers questions to try to deduct common characteristics in the hook-up experiences among her respondents. The researcher conducted interviews from one small campus and a large state university (Bogle, 6). Thus, the main objective of the interviews is to understand the term hook up. Hence, Bogle allowed her respondents to define the word hook up in their own words. The respondents’ definition of the word hookup demonstrated the ambiguity of the term since participants offered different definitions. Some termed it as kissing, while others referred to it as sexual intercourse. Thus, she suggested the term “hooking up” may be deliberately unclear, as it enables readers to interpret it in their own words. Bogle outlines several themes of hook-up culture that have emerged in today’s campus life. These themes include sex, dating, and relationships. Therefore, the purpose of this paper is to describe the themes outlined by Kathleen Bogle.

## Sex Behavior Theme

### Sex Differences

One of the main themes in Hook Up is the sex differences identified from the author’s interviews. Through the interviews, one can identify that there is the existence of a sexual double standard for men and women in campus society. Therefore, men and women are held to different opinions and views due to their sexual conduct (Bogle, 96). Thus, men are praised and acknowledged for their heterosexual contacts, while girls are stigmatized for the same behaviors (Bogle, 97).

## Sexual Engagement

Once partners start to interact in a Hookup encounter individually, they determine how far they are willing to go regarding sex. Thus, a person's moral beliefs and values factor into how one's actions towards sex life (Bogle, 72). Therefore, understanding sexual behavior in the hookup context is difficult since hookup involves a wide range of sexual conduct. For instance, it is normal for some to relate hook-up to "just kissing," while others consider hook-up as "sexual intercourse (Bogle, 75)." Thus, the sexual culture norm of hookup is determined by the individuals involved in it.

## Relationship and Hook-up Theme

### "Hookup" Relationship

A relationship is another theme in Bogle's book. A hookup encounter could lead to different results. First, the highest outcome probability of hookup is "nothing (Bogle, 127)." Therefore, most likely, the individuals involved in hookups are away after they have encountered one another, and their relationship remains the way it was before. Thus, if the people in hookups spare friends, their relationship remains the same, and if they are acquaintances, they become friendlier in their next meeting (Bogle, 133).

The main aspect of the Hookup relationship is that there are no strings and feelings attached. The guys involved in hookup relationships remain intact. The research illustrated that they might feel awkward after the encounter. Although the outcome of hookup is nothing, it doesn't prevent the partners from hookup again. Moreover, the repeated hookup doesn't always imply that the guys might be in a relationship (Bogle, 137). Occasionally, people involved in the hookup are likely to meet only on the weekend.

### "Seeing Each Other" Relationship

Another relationship that is the outcome of hookup is known as "seeing each other." This type of relationship is released when there are several repeated hookups. In this type of relationship, the guys in hookups organize hang-outs several times to talk with each other. There is no commitment, and this type of relationship is short-lived (Bogle, 137). The women indicated that the men's commitment determines the relationship's continuity. The lowest probability of the hookup outcome is a real relationship.

# Dating Theme

## Traditional Dating

College students have abandoned the traditional norm of dating. They have recognized the traditional dating method is not a current mechanism that one could use to have a partner (Bogle, 158).

Therefore, nowadays, relationships start by hooking up. The dating and date terms are still used on campuses without as much weight as they held before. Dating is used by individuals who are in a “seeing each other” relationship (Bogle, 159). The students in this bracket do not go for dinner or date as it was under traditional dating.

## Dating Vs. Hooking Up

Dating and hooking up have different norms of behavior, although sometimes the similarities might occur they are very distinct (Bogle, 158). Dating occurs when men request an interested woman to go out with them. The man would request in advance and give the lady time to prepare. Hookups are unplanned interactions, while a lady or man can start the interaction.

## Conclusion

The primary focus of the study is the understanding of the concept of hooking up in relation to sex behaviors, dating, and relationships in campuses and universities today. These sexual encounters are replacing the traditional known dating procedures and scripts (Bogle, 163). Therefore, the book gives a better explanation of the behaviors, results, and emotions associated with sexual interaction. The author uses interviewing research methods to collect his data. Thus, she asked her interviewers questions to try to deduct common characteristics in the hook experiences among her respondents.

## References

Bogle, K. A. (2008). *Hooking up: Sex, dating, and relationships on campus*. NYU Press.