

Does it bother you if your significant other finds someone on TV or in a movie attractive?

By Constance Dunn

Short answer: No. But like most things of this sort, the final verdict would rest on style. Style of selection and style of execution. Let me demonstrate. I happened to be watching CNBC's Closing Bell with Maria Bartiromo the other day. "Man," I thought but did not say. "That is one good-looking woman."

First, let me remind that I am a straight female who observes such things about other females, particularly really smart ones with more than a passing resemblance to Sophia Loren in the face.

But even if I were a man sitting next to his lady, this would still be a kosher scenario. This is because a.) Maria Bartiromo is class and b.) any and all displays of how class she is were kept under wraps. Nothing was shouted from the rooftops or couch. No whistles were emitted.

Who a man finds attractive in TV and movie land – and how he goes about expressing it – reveals a couple of important

tidbits about him. The first is a reveal of taste and the second, of his gent quotient.

A man drawn to the doe eyes of a young Natalie Wood or Audrey Hepburn, the moves of Brigitte Bardot in *And God Created Woman* or even, to bring it into the slimmer pickings of this century, the comely profile of a 2001 Angelina Jolie in *Original Sin* has the kind of taste that inspires confidence.

It puts a man champagne leagues above the guy who drools over an overly stuffed, spray tanned TV figure of today with little evidence of a working cerebellum. And whose idea of a good time is pulling the hair from other women's head in bars.

Discovering that this is the kind of creature who floats my guy's boat would produce a TKO punch of disappointment along with an internal monologue of: "Really? *That's* what he finds hot? What in Sam Hill is he doing with me? More important, where is the nearest exit?"



Good taste or low, how a man expresses his affinity for media figures he finds alluring, particularly while in the company of his real-life lady, is telling. And a woman should listen.

A gentleman possesses the rather beautiful combo of self-awareness, empathy and restraint, which tune him into knowing when, where and how to execute on the behavior front. Clumsily volunteering information to a woman you are involved with on how sexy or pretty you find so-and-so is not a demonstration of this sensibility. It telegraphs an oblivion to her feelings. Or worse, that you never thought about them in the first place.

This is not to say a man should feign ignorance to the fact that there are scads of pretty women running around on TV and in movies. Far from it. I rather like that my guy likes women, since I happen to be one. But he is always wise in his display of this knowledge. That's what makes him my leading man.