

Apr 22nd, 3:00 PM

## **Do Nice Guys Finish Last?: Perceptions of Kindness in Mate Attraction**

Gabriela Carmona  
*Northeastern Illinois University*

Mario Cruz  
*Northeastern Illinois University*

Simone Gipson  
*Northeastern Illinois University*

Mayra Lucero  
*Northeastern Illinois University*

Lizahira Nuñez  
*Northeastern Illinois University*

*See next page for additional authors*

Follow this and additional works at: <https://neiudc.neiu.edu/srcas>

---

Carmona, Gabriela; Cruz, Mario; Gipson, Simone; Lucero, Mayra; Nuñez, Lizahira; Serrato, Karina; and Slate, Thomas, "Do Nice Guys Finish Last?: Perceptions of Kindness in Mate Attraction" (2021). *NEIU Student Research and Creative Activities Symposium*. 4.  
<https://neiudc.neiu.edu/srcas/2021/s29/4>

This Event is brought to you for free and open access by the Conferences and Symposia at NEIU Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in NEIU Student Research and Creative Activities Symposium by an authorized administrator of NEIU Digital Commons. For more information, please contact [h-owen3@neiu.edu](mailto:h-owen3@neiu.edu), [wallis@neiu.edu](mailto:wallis@neiu.edu).

---

**Presenter Information**

Gabriela Carmona, Mario Cruz, Simone Gipson, Mayra Lucero, Lizahira Nuñez, Karina Serrato, and Thomas Slate

## **DO NICE GUYS FINISH LAST?: PERCEPTIONS OF KINDNESS IN MATE ATTRACTION**

Gabriela Carmona, Mario Cruz, Simone Gipson, Mayra Lucero, Lizahira Nunez,  
Karina Serrato, Thomas Slate

Department of Psychology, Northeastern Illinois University, Chicago, IL 60625

Previous research has reported that women respond more positively when observing a random act of kindness than do men, suggesting that women may be more attuned to kindnesses (Baskerville et al., 2000). Although an increasing number of studies have revealed the advantages of acts of kindness, there is insufficient literature on gender differences in how kindness can influence preference in a romantic partner. Some research has shown that men who are perceived as possessing Dark Trait Personality characteristics may be preferred for short-term relationships (Marcinkowska et al., 2015). Further, kindness was found to be associated with other attributes such as courage which could drive perceptions among men and women in regards to dating preferences (Pury, Kowalski 2007 ). It is important to take into consideration how individuals perceive a potential partner across various variables such as strength, competence, and warmth. This study aims to discover whether there are gender differences in preferences of kindness and its perception as a desired trait in a romantic partner. A Qualtrics survey will be used to collect participants' perceptions of four hypothetical individuals of the gender they prefer to date. The hypothetical individuals will differ in levels of kindness. Participants will indicate how strong, attractive, warm, and competent they find each individual as well as how likely they would be to date them. Past research has shown that kind males are perceived more negatively than controls; however, this pattern might not apply to judgments of men when considering them as romantic partners.