

"WOMEN HAVE A HARD TIME ACCEPTING THAT WHEN YOU SAY NO, YOU MEAN NO."

—ROD JOHNSON, 37; HEALTH NEWS PRODUCER

Johnson: It's also that whole rejection thing. They can't take it...And they have a hard time believing you when you say that it's over...It's like they are in denial, maybe because of what they might have invested into the relationship...however, lots of times the signs were

always there.

Winchester: Women need to learn how to let go once we say that the relationship is over. Don't try to tag along. Especially when that man enters into another relationship.

"THE MORE POWERFUL THE WOMAN, THE WEAKER A LOT OF THEM LIKE THEIR MEN."

—CHRIS COKLEY, 38; AUTHOR OF WHY CAN'T YOU SEE ME? GOOD MEN DO EXIST! (LOVE LIFE PUBLISHING)

Are you referring to desperate women when you say that some would rather date an ex-criminal than date one of you?

Cokley: He's not a threat to her. He won't say what I would say, which is, 'If we are going to be together, we're moving into my house...See a prison guy ain't gonna say, 'Move into my house.' He ain't got no house. He's going to come right to her house...and if she ever gets fed up, she can put him out. See, she can't put me out, 'cause I ain't never moving in. So when you start talking about a man at a certain level for women who get to certain levels of power, it don't necessarily make her desperate. A lot of women have determined that they are going to maintain their control over their life...And the only way to [do that] is to let the man in who will do the things [she] wants him to do, but not

threaten [her] power position.

Temple: Even though I feel that black women are the strongest on the planet, sometimes it's hard for them to tone down their independence when it comes to having relationships with black men.

Derek Garrett: When both partners try to take charge in the same position, they bump heads and oftentimes can't reach a compromise. With this [modern] sense of independence, many women feel they don't need a man to do anything for them. This leaves no opportunity for black men, or any man for that matter, to build a relationship with them.

Whittley: A woman doesn't [understand submission]. They don't know what it means. Not only do they not know what submitting means, they don't know how to submit. They don't want to submit, they don't know how. They can't.

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