

**Press Release from the Marriage Foundation**

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**Swipe Right for Love – Nine in 10 Tinder and Grindr users now in a relationship want to marry, finds new poll**

Contrary to the image of Tinder and Grinder app users only looking for casual short term “hook ups”, a new poll finds that nine in 10, who say they are in a relationship, want to marry.

The survey, carried out by One Poll for the Marriage Foundation, asked 2,000 young unmarried adults aged 18-30 about their attitudes towards tying the knot and their relationship status.

Of those who said they were in a relationship and had met using a ‘casual dating app’ such as Tinder and Grindr, nine in 10, (89 per cent) said they wanted to marry and four in five (80 per cent) expected to marry “at some point”. This compared with 84 per cent and 77 per cent respectively among those who met through long-term dating apps.

Harry Benson, Marriage Foundation's Research Director commented: “These counterintuitive results (casual dating apps marginally out-performing long-term relationship apps) puts a sword to the lie that young people have fallen out of love with the idea of marrying - Quite the contrary. As this survey finds those aged 18-30 overwhelmingly believe in and support the institution of marriage, regardless of whether they are looking for reliable love using relationship apps like e-harmony and bumble, or hook up sites like Tinder and Grindr.

“It also suggests that young people are perhaps less promiscuous than many of us imagine, with many looking for reliable love in the form of a stable and long-term relationship, just like everybody else.”

The survey found that meeting online remains the number one way young couples meet. Of the 955 men and women in the survey who reported being in a relationship, three in 10 (29 per cent) said they met online, one in four (24 per cent) met in a ‘domestic’ setting and one in five (21 per cent) met through ‘educational’ settings – school, college or university. A further 15 per cent met in a bar or other social setting and 11 per cent met through work.

Sir Paul Coleridge, founder of Marriage Foundation commented: “Some people might find these survey results surprising, but they confirm that marriage, the most stable form of a long-term relationship, continues to enjoy near universal support, including among the young, whether they are in a relationship or those looking for love.

“This survey and the growing body of research around this area should act as rebuke to those who have falsely claimed that marriage is no-longer relevant and simply does not matter. The truth is very different, the truth is that marriage continues to matter and young people recognise this and understand its importance.”

Mr Benson concluded: “These findings are good news for marriage. As our previous work using the latest ONS data identified, during this time of national stress and strain, most married couples have weathered the COVID storm reasonably well with fewer considering divorce and substantially lower levels of regrets. Importantly young people get this, which is why they overwhelmingly want to get married.”

**ENDS**

**About Marriage Foundation**

Marriage Foundation was founded in 2012 by Sir Paul Coleridge, a High Court judge who was moved by his personal experience in 40 years as a barrister and judge specialising in family law. The think tank seeks to improve public understanding of marriage and to reduce the numbers of people drawn into the family justice system – some 500,000 children and adults each year. It has established itself as a leading voice on marriage issues in the UK.

Sir Paul Coleridge, Harry Benson and Michaela Hyde from the Marriage Foundation are available for comment and for interviews linked to these new findings.

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