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LADIES, DID YOU KNOW THAT YOUR MAN CAN SCREW HIS EARS OFF?

DEAR DIARY, I've been friends with Melvin for about 25 years. We get on like a house on fire because we've established our boundaries. He knows I'm not his emergency sex friend and for that reason, he can be totally honest and open with me and I can do the same and we're not going to fall out because of complex sexual bullsh*t. In fact, I love him like a brother and if he were to catch a bout of madness and decide to try it on with me, I'd slap his face and tell him to pull himself together, this isn't The Ricky Lake show and I don't do incest! A swift open-handed slap in the mouth is just the right kind of shock to make a man remember his place. That's what my gran used to say anyway.



I was talking to Melvin yesterday about how and why men and women talk two different languages and why women often say in 36 words what men say in 4. Us women can be on the phone to one of our girlfriends for an hour and a half and men will speak to another man for about 7 minutes and to him, that's quite a lengthy conversation.



Because women use so many words, it appears that we nag, but we're only trying to make our point crystal clear and we try to cover every eventuality with one conversation so that we don't have to repeat ourselves. But what we end up doing is repeating ourselves about the same thing for the next 45 years because Mr Husband chooses not to listen.

Melvin said that women are wasting their time repeating themselves and going on about insignificant crap because when a man decides that he's not going to listen to anymore shite, he subconsciously screws his ears off. I said screws his ears off and he said yep, screws off his ears!

He said women need to learn that men like simple language. Men don't do hints, hidden meanings, high pitch nagging or beating about the bush. He said even gay men get right to the point. But oh no, women want to draw a diagram, project a PowerPoint slide-show on the living room wall, call a family conference, create theatrical drama reminiscent of Phantom of the Opera and put on an Oscar winning performance about how traumatised leaving the toilet seat up has left them.



The AUGUST MAYFIELD Diaries

Melvin said it's been essential to evolution for men to learn the art of screwing one's ears off. In fact, most men's ears, if they're not being screwed off, will just fall off by themselves when women start droning on and on and on.

For instance, ears will come flying off for the following reasons:

- a) Women going on about things a man has no interest in i.e. periods, female tittle-tattle, dress size and shopping.
- b) If you start telling him off like he's a little boy and you're his mother.
- c) If you criticise *anything* about him.
- d) They'll definitely come off if you dare to give him directions in the car or ask him to stop someone to get directions.
- e) He'll probably never put them back on again if you criticise his sexual performance – be prepared to have a deaf man living with you for the rest of your life.

Melvin said he would have topped himself by now if he didn't learn the knack of screwing his ears off. He learnt the skill from his best friend Brian. Brian is a Christian and his wife is a Muslim and they live in conflict most of the time and Brian had the whole ears-off thing down to a fine art and said that if Melvin didn't learn the art soon, he'd be reaching for a Smith & Wesson to use on his girlfriend and then on himself. So every day, Melvin practiced the art of mental removal by reaching for his ears, quietly unscrewing, pulling his arms down slowly, placing the ears in his pocket, focussing on the woman in question's mouth, nodding intently and then waiting for the mouth to stop moving and then silently replacing his ears, often just in time to catch the rest of CSI. He said it damn near saved his life!



August Mayfield