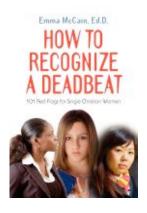
Emma McCain, Ed.D.

HOW TO RECOGNIZE A DEADBEAT

101 Red Flags for Single Christian Women





Professional Counselor and Educator, Dr. Emma McCain, believes that genuinely godly men lead lives that could serve as an antidote for women who have been abused and emotionally wounded by deadbeat men! In her book, How to Recognize a Deadbeat, she shares tips with single Christian women of faith on how to become more sensitive to the early warning signs of potentially damaging relationships, and encourages them to reap opportunities for meeting godly men.

How to Recognize A Deadbeat

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How to Recognize a Deadbeat

101 Red Flags for Single Christian Women

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First Edition

THE SEXUALLY UNDISCIPLINED

According to the sociologist, Thomas J. Sullivan (2009), a sexual revolution has occurred in America. There have been profound changes in the acceptance of premarital sex by a society that pledges to be "one Nation under God." According to Sullivan, premarital sex had a 20% approval rating in 1960, but 50% of Americans find it acceptable today. So women who do not approve of sex before marriage are not only becoming a minority, but are actually seen as odd or eccentric.

I once received a somewhat comical email that was forwarded to me and several other single ladies. On the one hand, I could appreciate the humor of the email, but at the same time felt saddened by the man who sent it, as he actually thought he was giving sound advice. The email was entitled, "Ladies in Waiting," having what appeared to be two ladies with their backs turned dressed in wedding gowns. When the email was fully opened, what appeared to be two ladies were actually two skeletons, with an email note attached: "Ladies, don't go to your graves trying to marry before getting with a man!" Such an email could be very tempting for single Christian women who are waiting for Mr. Right to just go out and join the societal band-wagon and give up the self-sacrificing task of living a godly lifestyle. Such encounters by sexually undisciplined men are not uncommon to single Christian women. But I caution that we learn to be more observant of the diminished life goals and assets of deadbeat men who make such gestures.

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For example, I once had the gruesome opportunity of working with a former priest, who was once my college professor. I don't know why he left the halls of academia or why he gave up his duties of the cloth, but I could tell that he no longer chose to live a godly lifestyle. Although he was once someone whom I held in high-esteem, he had become a man whom I loathed to encounter on a daily bases.

Since he had been a prominent figure with status and authority over me in college, he sought to transfer that influence over me in the secular realm of the work-place, when in reality, he was just my co-worker. This did not stop him from desperately trying to flaunt what I call *illegitimate* authority and a sense of power and influence over me on a daily bases. To make matters worse, his goal was to try to dissuade me from reaping the benefits of the godly lifestyle that I had chosen.

"What would you do," he argued, "if you lived your whole life in a godly manner...not having sex as a single woman...or getting drunk every now and then and having a boogie woogie good ole' time like the rest of us...only to die and find out that God is a scientist and not concerned about morals and holy living...that you could have had all the sexual pleasure you wanted and could have gotten a bang out of life and God would still be pleased?" After feeling a bit sorry for him, I replied, "Then God would be pleased to know that I did get a bang out of life!! In fact, I lived a life that was fully alive and empowered through knowing Him and basking in his GREATNESS!"

How to Recognize a Deadbeat

Research shows that men tend to be more unfaithful than women in relationships (Sullivan, 2009). Men who are sexually undisciplined have difficulty remaining faithful to a partner. The above encounters are typical of men who are sexually undisciplined. They don't view their bodies as the temple of the spirit of God and don't care that their actions could be offensive to a Holy God. Men who are sexually undisciplined frequently try to persuade women to become like-wise sexually undisciplined.

Yet genuine Christian single women have these three things in common: (1) they love God and don't believe He approves of pre-marital sex; (2) they want to live a life that is pleasing in God's sight; (3) they seek His spiritual help daily with dying to the flesh while waiting to meet the right man. The encounters they face in the meantime demonstrate a need to be spiritually adept at recognizing the warning signs of sexually undisciplined deadbeat wolves in sheep clothing. If a sexually undisciplined man is given the opportunity to cheat, he would be as vulnerable as a thirsty man finding water in the desert.

10 Red Flags That Warn He Will Cheat on You

- 21. **History of Having Affairs in Previous Relationships:** When he makes excuses that his cheating was in some way his partner's fault, beware; it may be YOUR fault next time!
- 22. **He wants to cheat on his wife or girlfriend with you:** You may indeed be more beautiful than Cinderella and his wife or girlfriend may be worse than the witches from Oz, but if he wants to sneak around in the dark…he's a deadbeat!
- 23. Face-to-face and Phone Conversations Focused on Sex: He has difficulty having a normal conversation without sexual overtones. He tells jokes with frequent sexual punch lines.
- 24. **Has several children out-of-wed-lock:** Although it takes two to tangle and everybody makes mistakes, several mistakes of this nature pose a strong alarm signal.
- 25. **Always Horny:** His sexual appetite is never satisfied. He has difficulty experiencing emotional warmth with a woman without wanting to jump right into bed.
- 26. Has Difficulty Accepting the Word, "NO" From a Woman: He becomes angry or defensive at a woman's refusal to have sex or thinks the woman does not view him as sexually attractive.
- 27. Attempts to Change a Woman's Worldview About Sex to Accommodate His Physical Needs: This attempt is especially directed toward single Christian women who take the Bible literally.
- 28. **Others Tell You He is a Whore:** This might not necessarily be true, but worth investigating.

- 29. **Obsessed with Pornographic Media:** These could be movies or magazines that feed the inner man the most sexually explicit and graphic thoughts. Whether actively cheating on you or not, he would be cheating with his spirit!
- 30. Always Uses Sexual Overtones When Referring to Women in General: Any sexual remarks made regarding another woman's physical appearance, especially the size of her derrière. If he is a song-writer, he may write lyrics that have graphic sexual overtones.

In the face of secular encounters and challenges aimed at influencing single Christian women to join the sexual revolution, I understand what the Psalmist David meant when he said, "I would have fainted and lost heart, unless I had believed that I would see the goodness of God in the land of the living" (Psalm 27:13). It is with this spirit that I thank the godly men of this world who have shown Christian women the goodness of God through the lives they live. Such godly men show us every day that Christian women don't have to settle for deadbeat men who choose not to glorify God with their bodies.

HEAR the word of the Lord as revealed to the writer of I Corinthians:

What? know you not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which you have of God, and you are not your own? For you are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's (I Corinthians 6:19-20).

THE MONEY HUSTLER

Have you ever been invited to a friend's home, only to find out that you really have been invited to an elaborate pyramid scheme opportunity? While you were thinking this would be a genuine opportunity to get to know someone, you are put on the spot to invest money in a product, which by selling, your potential friend would receive the most benefit financially?

In the spiral of economic downturns that we have experienced globally in recent years, everyone would like to find ways to make their incomes grow. However, we all resent being around someone who has a dollar sign (\$) on the brain at our expense. It becomes even more despicable when the chaser of the almighty dollar does so in less than ethical ways.

Much like the "kept man," the money hustler is fueled by a set of enablers. These enablers can be young girls with low-self esteem who feel they must look and act like the product (the "bitches and hoes")in the hustler's rap video scenes (Porter, 1992) or they can be victims of scams run on unsuspecting and naïve persons who trust and believe that they are just doing a good deed. At times, it is the *greed* of his prey that enables the money hustler to make a profit. From the pulpit to the pool hall, to the rap studio, the *deadbeat* who is a money hustler is never without an unethical get-rich-quick scheme up his sleeves.

I am reminded of such a scheme that a female Christian friend and I experienced. Yes, we both were victims of *greed* who fell for the get-rich-quick scam. The scenario went like this. A mutual male friend offered both of us an opportunity to benefit financially due to his having financial connections in the community. He claimed that he wanted to use these connections to help his Christian sisters to benefit from opportunities to which only the more wealthy public had access. He offered us a credit card that we would receive in the mail within two weeks. Our credit would not be checked, and we would be given a maximum credit limit of \$10,000 just by paying \$200.00. Because he had clout in the community and was someone we trusted, we each quickly gave him our \$200.00 (\$400.00 total).

Needless to say, we never received a credit card in the mail, and the friend never refunded us the \$200.00. Because we were godly women and were reminded that our greed was also a factor, we chose not to pursue litigation to get our money back and just decided to pray for this man while repenting ourselves.

As we reflected back on the situation, we were actually allowing this man to continue with such scams. Men of this caliber bring contemptible interactions and consequences to those who trust them. Whether he's your pastor, your boss, your brother, your cousin, or especially if he's your man, watch out for money hustlers and the scams they run.

10 Warning Signs That He Is Unethical Concerning Money Matters

- 71. **Consistently Tries to Make a Buck from Anyone:** He has difficulty interacting unless ways to make money is at center stage. Sermons are tainted with gadgets for sale; family dinners become a market for elaborate get-rich schemes.
- 72. **Reputation of Borrowing Money From His Friends and Never Paying Them Back:** The intent to repay often gets lost in the frequency of borrowing. The person who is the lender is only an object and enabler of his greed.
- 73. **Uses Church Treasury for His Own Benefit:** If you are aware of this being done in secret, know that what's done in the dark will come to the light of the *inquiring media*. Don't be in the lime-light with this Judas when it does.
- 74. Receives or Sells Bootleg Items on a Consistent Basis: Greed by the seller and the receiver is at the root of this habit Don't be a receiver!
- 75. **Takes Bribes & Pay-Offs:** A man who can be bought is not to be trusted with your future.
- 76. **Cheats on His Income Taxes**: Claims dependents that don't belong to him and other non-taxable deductibles.
- 77. **Runs Unethical Scams on Unsuspecting People:** Presents money offers as a trick, knowing they have no merit.
- 78. **Devalues Women in Rap Music:** Will use words like "bitches" and "hoes" to promote a product (Porter, 2001).

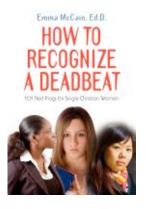
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- 79. **Would Commit Serious Crimes for Personal Gain:** The ultimate hit-rock-bottom behavior of the money hustler.
- 80. *Is Generally a Habitual Liar & Unethical Person:* The life of money hustling has become so ingrained in his moral fiber that he lies even in situations that don't involve money.

Getting rich quickly is not in itself a bad thing, but our attitude concerning getting rich or being rich should be engraved with good character and grace. Getting over on others or using demeaning words to devalue women are signs that the almighty dollar rules!!

HEAR the wisdom of God's from the writer of Luke that can be shared with the money hustler:

If you have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon, who will commit to your trust the true riches. And if you have not been faithful in what is another man's, who will give you what is your own. No man can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot server God and mammon. Luke 16:10-12).



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