# Dating During COVID-19

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Sarina Abraham



College students have been known to focus greatly on social life, specifically dating. In fact, studies have shown that people aged 17 to 22 required and flourish through their social lives, especially romantic relationships. Because of this, dating apps have grown widely popular in the last few years, but especially this year due to COVID-19.



Dating is a very common part of college; whatever that dating looks like- hookups, coffee meet-ups, dinner dates- it is a prime aspect of the college experience. With social distancing, masks, and the anxiety of possible risk to the disease, college students are losing the opportunity of meeting new people. To combat this, dating apps have shifted their focus in order to continue functioning while attempting safety protocols. Dating apps have also adopted new settings to widen what dating looks like today. One of these new settings is expanded geography. Instead of matching with people nearby, where you can meet in person, apps are giving national or even global options. Now you can meet people around the world for free. You can now easily talk to people online that you would never have gotten the chance to meet! In a time where life revolves around social media, current college students are using their resources to meet new people that may have not been possible otherwise.

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Elon Junior, Ethan Ash, uses a dating app just for that reason. He was able to meet someone from Columbia! They were able to talk to someone that they never would have met. Often, on dating apps, people use bios to say what they are looking for. If they want to meet in person or just have someone to talk to virtually, they will put that in their bio.