

LOVE v/s money

What would you do when life takes you to a point when you have to choose between love and money?

ANKIT AJMERA

IT is said Love and wealth are two essential ingredients of a happy life that no one can do without. But just in case if you were ever asked to choose between the two, which one would be more important for you?

Prachi Kumar, an architect, believes that love certainly has more importance in life than money. "If I am living with a man just for money then I will not feel right about it. Where as if I am with a man for love, there is no feeling better than that," she says. Ad professional Arundhati Gupta also keeps love on a higher pedestal than money. She says, "If I have to give up my higher standard of living for a family member, I won't regret it because there is great love and affection in that relationship. Where as, if I choose money over my family, I may never be able to enjoy that money. I will never forgive myself."

However, there are others who believe that love automatically follows money. Rahul Sharma, a char-

tered accountant faced difficulty in marrying the love of his life because he stayed in a rented apartment and did not have his own house. "It was a big struggle for me to convince my father-in-law that I will be able to keep his daughter

happy without a house of my own. Eventually he agreed to give me some time. And now when I have bought one, he has happily agreed for my marriage. It's strange but it has made me believe that love follows money," he says.



“Love is an over powering emotion and can thrive freely when other basic facets of life are taken care of. Life needs a balance of both in adequate measure to bring happiness.”

Varkha Chulani,
Clinical psychologist

VJ Yudi thinks if money is coming to you at the cost of your love then it's not worth it. He is incidentally hosting a TV show which also addresses the topic of love and money. One of the incidents which happened on the show really surprised him. "A couple who were madly in love with each other participated in the show. But when the time came to choose between money and love, the boyfriend conveniently ditched the girl. The girl was hurt but she decided to come back on the show for the second time. She has the chance to revenge her boyfriend. But she decided to choose him over money. I was stumped. Love is strange sometimes," he remarks.

Clinical psychologist Varkha Chulani questions why should people choose love or money and why can't it be love and money? "Life is not all about shades of black and white. You can certainly not underestimate the value of money. It is capable of making life easier. But it is not capable of buying love. Love is an over powering emotion and can thrive freely when other basic facets of life are taken care of. Life needs a balance of both in adequate measure to bring happiness," she ends.

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Living alone is lots of fun

The independence that one enjoys while staying away from home is something that youngsters miss once they return home after studies or an outstation

VISHAKHA AVACHAT

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SAMIKSHA BHAGAT, 24, went to Scotland four years back to pursue her masters in biotechnology. She returned to India last year as her parents wanted to prepare for her marriage.

Samiksha is happy to be with her parents but unhappy with the restrictions of family life.

"When I was in Scotland, I didn't have any restrictions—either financial or social. The work atmosphere was also very different from here," she says. She would love it when she would come home on vacations and her parents would pamper her. But the thought of moving permanently was worrisome as it meant leaving her job in Scotland and starting afresh here says Bhagat,



Staying away from home is fun as when becomes financially, economically and socially independent; Samiksha Bhagat chilling out with friends in

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Samiksha Bhagat
research assistant

who worked as a research assistant at the University of Abertay & Dundee.

For 23-year-old Dnyanda Gokhale, it isn't so different



was in the UK to pursue my higher education, I had a tough time adjusting back home. "When I

justing there. My family is pretty open and I am allowed to take my own decisions," she says. She just regrets her financial independence and says, "I got my first job there and was happy to manage my finances on my own. I would plan my own trips and learnt new things like cooking and other household chores."

Clinical psychologist, Natasha D'Cruz says that when a person is staying with the family, the family is very protective and caring towards him/her. "When a person stays away from the family, he/she becomes financially, emotionally and socially independent. He/she is not answerable to the parents on a day to day basis," she says.

But when the person returns to the family, he/she has grown up as a person but parents may fail to understand this and continue to be protective.

When 24-year-old Rohan Agashe returned home after a year in Bangkok where he learnt automotive engineering, Rohan realised the value of the support from his parents. "When you stay alone, you don't really bother about the money. But parents tend to ask, on what have you spent so much money," he says.

Gokhale says, "When at home, I have to meet certain people or go out visiting relatives even if I don't want to."

sudoku

Download SUDOKU on your mobile for Rs 99 per game. SMS -SDK- to 57575. Only on GPRS WAP enabled mobile sets.

Yesterday's solution

How to play

Fill each of the blank boxes with the number grid from 1-9, and the letter grid from A-I with no letters or numbers repeating in vertical, horizontal rows or 3x3 grids. Do not repeat any letters in a line. Each puzzle has only one solution.

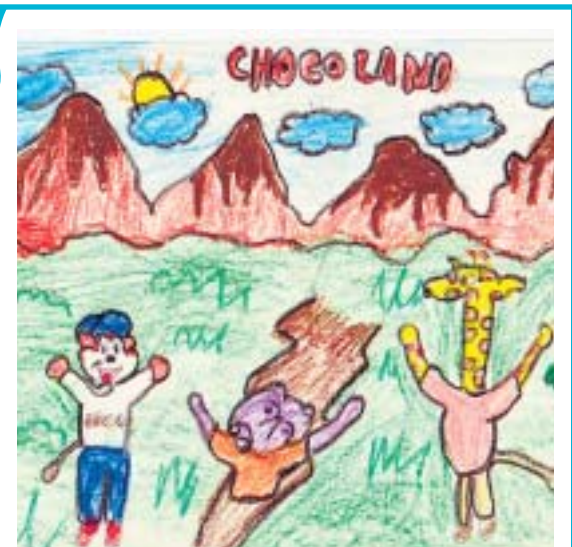
9	8	2	4	7	5	6	3	1
4	3	5	6	2	1	9	7	8
7	1	6	8	3	9	2	4	5
5	2	9	7	6	3	8	1	4
8	7	3	1	4	2	5	9	6
6	4	1	9	5	8	7	2	3
1	9	4	5	8	7	3	6	2
3	6	8	2	9	4	1	5	7
2	5	7	3	1	6	4	8	9

E	H	A	G	D	B	F	I	C
I	F	D	E	A	C	H	B	G
B	G	C	H	F	I	E	A	D
F	C	H	D	E	A	B	G	I
G	I	B	F	C	H	A	D	E
D	A	E	I	B	G	C	H	F
C	B	G	A	I	E	D	F	H
H	E	F	B	G	D	I	C	A
A	D	I	C	H	F	G	E	B

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E								

ya! CORNER

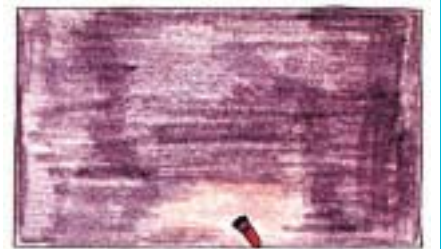


Siddhi Reddy, 8 years

SHIMMER PICTURES

GET TOGETHER

- Foil wafer packet
- Kite paper in different colours
- Gum paste mixed with water
- Black strips of paper
- Glitter (optional)



PUT TOGETHER

1 Cut a large square or rectangle out of a foil packet. This will be your canvas.

3 Brush the gum mixture over the shiny silver surface of the packet.



2 Decide what picture you want to make. Cut or tear the kite paper into the shapes you need for your picture.

4 Place the cut out shapes on it to form your picture and brush the gum mixture over the shapes. You can decorate your picture with a little glitter. Just sprinkle it over the already sticky picture.



5 Use strips of black paper to make a frame for your picture. Now leave your shimmer picture to dry before putting it up on your wall.

Starting young

They may be born with a silver spoon, but celeb parents reveal that they'd never allow that to spoil their children

ISMAT TAHSEEN

While children may look cherubic and cute and it's a pleasure to spend time with them, it's also important to inculcate rules so that they grow up to lead good lives. It is true that all through one's life one has to go by a set of rules. It is at the onset (at childhood), that discipline comes in. Here's what some parents say...

Says Lavinia Hansraj, "My son Ethan is just four but I started disciplining him from the age of one. He knew that if he had dropped a chocolate or candy wrapper, he had to pick it up and throw it in the dustbin. I also make sure I put a limit on what I can give him and



The Hansraj family

let him know he can't always have what he wants. It's important to explain these things to kids and I do so every now and then." She says it's important to be firm. "Chetan (her hus-

band), tends to spoil Ethan at times but he doesn't interfere with my bringing him up, after all your child must know that you are firm and that he can't get his way. Jewellery designer

Farah Khan-Ali is mother to son Azaan (8) and daughter Fiza (5). She maintains that there is no age that marks the start to disciplining kids and providing them the guidelines. "The



The Khan family

earlier the better," she says. "I don't believe in sparing the rod. Kids are like computers and absorb things like a sponge so one must start the teaching process soon." She shares a few tips on being a firm parent. "I have set up a time-table for my kids and ensure they stick to a schedule, for instance they eat at a certain time and are in bed by a certain time. When you do this it becomes easier for them to go through life. My moth-

er was very strict with me and I love her for that," she smiles.

Psychologist Varkha Chulani emphasises that setting rules for children is important. "In fact, we underscore its value completely. If we do not discipline them we set up pathological problems in the future. Ideally, one shouldn't look at punishment but at reinforcement, which is rewarding good behaviour."

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3 mistakes I won't make ANGAD BEDI,



TV host, model
Lie to my partner: Honesty and trust are the main pillars of a relationship. One must make sure that at no point should trust be breached.
Lose communication: Communication is the most important thing in a relationship. A communication gap is disastrous. I'll keep my partner informed about all day proceedings. Women can get pretty upset if they are not kept in the loop.
Take her for granted: I'll never take my partner for granted. I won't assume anything for her. Assuming can lead to many problems. I'll appreciate her for all that she does. Women love it when men ask them a question instead of telling them something. Like, "Which restaurant shall we go to?" rather than, "Let's go to XYZ restaurant."
—As told to Ismat Tahseen