



Dental Practices Heat Up When Coworkers Date

One in five dentists admits to having an office romance in a recent Wealthy Dentist survey. Though getting involved with a coworker is generally unprofessional, risky and likely to lead to heartbreak, a few dentists do find their lifelong partners working at their dental practice.

San Francisco, CA, February 11, 2008 --(PR.com)-- One of five dentists admitted to dating a coworker or employee at their dental practice (other than their spouse) in a recent Wealthy Dentist survey. Most caution against mixing business with pleasure, but a few happy marriages have been born in the dental office.

Office Affairs Can Be Bad for Business

Though office romances sometimes work out well, few actually advise getting involved in such a relationship. "Don't mix business with pleasure," advised a New York pediatric dentist. A Maine dentists seconded the feeling, saying, "Never get involved with someone who has less to lose."

Some were regretful after the fact. "I won't ever do it again. It cost me my marriage!" exclaimed a Florida orthodontist. "Stupid," agreed a periodontist.

Gender played a distinct role in a dentist's experience with office romance. One in four male dentists acknowledged having a romantic relationship with a coworker, while only one in ten female dentists did.

Those who do become involved with an employee must be careful to avoid charges of sexual harassment, discrimination, or other legal woes. "It's the best way to demoralize the rest of the staff, and a great way to open the door for sexual harassment if it doesn't work out," said a New York dentist.

Finding Love at Work

No matter how uncomfortable it may make other team members, the fact remains that many romances do begin at work - and dental practices are no exception. "I'm neutral. Sometimes good, sometimes bad. Most of the time it's best to keep that kind of stuff out of the office," offered a Florida dentist.

Some office romance stories do have happy endings. "It happened more in the old days," wrote a Florida dentist in practice for 37 years. "During the 70's and 80's it was quite common for office affairs to take place. My best experience occurred when my receptionist of 2 years put the moves on me. She was 20 years younger than I was. We were married and have 2 great children."

Heartbreak in the Office

Office relationships can be a shortcut to heartbreak. "Fourteen years ago I fell in love with my hygienist during a midlife crisis," said a Texas dentist. "As a result, my marriage ended in divorce. Three years later the hygienist broke off the relationship due to guilt. I was devastated. The emotional damage to my



children and ex-wife was significant. Some aspects of my relationship with my children are permanently damaged. The temptation can be extremely powerful, but the result will be harmful to everyone involved! I turned my back on God and family and am responsible for the consequences."

"It's no great surprise to me that dentists sometimes get involved with their coworkers," said Jim Du Molin, dental consultant and founder of The Wealthy Dentist. "But I didn't expect so many to admit to it!"

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Visit www.thewealthydentist.com/surveys.htm to see the results of other Wealthy Dentist surveys on topics such as [cosmetic dentistry](#), dental implants, sedation dentistry, dentures, braces, and more.

The Wealthy Dentist is a sister site of the Internet Dental Alliance. IDA provides dentists and dental practices with dental web sites, internet dental marketing campaigns, email patient newsletters, and find a dentist directory services.

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