

Would You Stay Friends With Someone That is a Cheater?

October 27, 2022 | 24 upvotes | by [anonymous-platypus1](#)

You have a close friend of a few years. You've been there to see your friends LTRs. In the last couple of years, they've gotten a new partner and have out of nowhere started cheating. Their partner was great (in your opinion), but for some reason your friend find the excitement brought on from cheating as fun. You see your friends relationship and actions as none of your business. You still hangout with your friend and their partner but remain silent about the situation outside of telling them your initial feelings.

Your partner finds out that you know about the cheating, and threatens to breakup with you because "you are who you surround yourself with." And if you think your friends cheating is okay, then you're probably also more likely to cheat.

What do you do?

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Comments

Interested_Redditor • 28 points • 27 October, 2022 01:07 PM*

In my 40 something years of life I've learned a few things. One of those things just happens to be that, to a certain extent, you are who you surround yourself with.

I don't think your SO is super far of with this line of thinking. Certainly you are not your friend and shouldn't be held to account for their behavior but it does show a bit of your character.

If your friend was molesting minors, would you find that behavior repugnant enough to make a big deal out of it? If the answer is yes, then you can see the line of thinking that your SO may have made that cheating isn't really a big enough deal for you to worry about. That is a real problem for some people.

You need to ask yourself, which relationship is more important to you. It seems like you can't continue having both of them in your life.

That__EST • 8 points • 27 October, 2022 01:25 PM

If your friend was doing something illegal like molesting minors, you absolutely should stop being friends with them. Someone cheating on their partner and someone doing something as illegal and horrifically harmful as molesting minors are two completely different things.

I think that this OP is kind of weird though. How many people would you be close friends with for years, and now in a new relationship, they're just cheating for the heck of it. That seems really weird to me. It seems like a massive part of the story is missing. But to answer the OP, I wouldn't really judge someone for having a hard time overcoming sexual temptation. Especially if they're just cheating on the person they're dating, I might encourage them against it, but it wouldn't change our friendship at all. That's not to say that nothing could change our friendship. But cheating is so insanely common that it'd be nearly impossible to avoid.

anonymous-platypus1[S] • 6 points • 27 October, 2022 01:30 PM

This is just a question! No story to go along with it. No details are missing or anything! Would you judge your friend if their cheating continued for a longtime? Would it get frustrating trying to keep their secret?

That__EST • 2 points • 27 October, 2022 01:35 PM

I wouldn't really keep it a secret. I wouldn't care. I just wouldn't talk about it. If they were just dating, I'd say "hey, in the future you will look back at today and wish you'd ended it now. Do not wait for this to become marriage and kids"

Like I completely understand why someone who is married and trying to keep their kids life stable would cheat. That makes perfect sense. But you're just dating? No. Doesn't make sense. You're wasting your own time because you COULD be with the one you really wanted with minimal loss and you're not doing it.

anonymous-platypus1[S] • 7 points • 27 October, 2022 01:37 PM

So my thing is, if you're that close, and you knew about the cheating, you'd have to lie to. It's your friend, and you'd have to look their partner in the face and pretend like you don't know anything. Then your partner would also have to lie if they found out.

That__EST • 2 points • 27 October, 2022 01:40 PM

I mean are they grilling me on whether or not my friend is cheating? If they were, I'd tell them

to bring it up to their partner and say "all I can tell you is that they're not cheating with me."
And if my friend is cheating on their partner, why would I tell my partner? Why would they care about that?

Seriously. The conversation would be my friend telling me that they're cheating and me being like "oh ok" and then me never bringing it up again.

anonymous-platypus1[S] • 3 points • 27 October, 2022 02:27 PM

Your partner found out about the cheating. You didn't tell them. The didn't sneakily find out, maybe just saw your friend out with another person.

Mostly that if you're close friends with the cheated then you probably hangout as couples quite a bit. And it would follow that your friend has used you as an excuse to cheat at least once. And even if they didn't, if you know about the cheating would you be able to sit in the partners face, listening to your friend lie, and be able to not say anything?

That__EST • 2 points • 27 October, 2022 03:09 PM

The didn't sneakily find out, maybe just saw your friend out with another person.

Then my friend is getting sloppy. But then again, how do we know that this is a cheating scenario? What exactly did my partner "catch" them doing?

And even if they didn't, if you know about the cheating would you be able to sit in the partners face, listening to your friend lie, and be able to not say anything?

Yes? I mean what are they saying? How can I really vouch that they aren't doing what they said they did? Are they saying "no I would never cheat on you?" I mean why would theybe having a conversation that I'd need to jump in and "correct" my friend? Who is this person that I'm dating and what should be my motivation for caring about them so much? If they break up, the ex probably won't want to be my friend.

I don't really see the delimma here. I would just say "stop wasting your time cheating on someone your dating. You can leave free and clear."

[deleted] • 1 point • 27 October, 2022 03:34 PM

If you knew your friends partner was cheating on your friend, would you tell your friend?

That__EST • 1 point • 27 October, 2022 03:36 PM

How would I know and what would my proof be?

I've seen people seriously bump their heads doing stuff like that and end up losing a friendship. That's something I would seriously tread carefully on.

Honestly no. Unless they came to me and asked and I had irrefutable proof.

Help_Support-Account • 23 points • 27 October, 2022 02:32 PM

Ended a friendship with my second best friend because he cheated on his girlfriend. Betraying someone that close to you means that no one is safe from his selfishness.

Making good and moral decisions is easy, he chose to be evil.

lovelythecove • 13 points • 27 October, 2022 03:11 PM

Well put. If my friend is willing to harm and betray their spouse, then they're willing to harm and betray a friend for sure. People make mistakes, sure, but someone who is a habitual cheater or someone who expects their friends to hide their lies... is not a good person, good partner, or good friend.

domdomdom333 • 2 points • 28 October, 2022 10:08 AM

Word, put it far better than I could.

hungrychick404 • 12 points • 27 October, 2022 01:20 PM

If my friend doesn't regret the time they cheated or understand that it was selfish and wrong to cheat, I wouldn't be able to be friends with them. However, if the friend regretted it and told their partner in a timely manner, I would probably still be friends with them, just maybe keep a little bit of distance.

lady_ven0m • 16 points • 27 October, 2022 01:17 PM

Cheating is huge character flaw in my opinion, so no, hard pass on that.

hungrychick404 • 13 points • 27 October, 2022 01:31 PM

Yeah I feel like if you lack morals around cheating you may lack them in other areas too

lady_ven0m • 4 points • 27 October, 2022 01:34 PM

Yup, exactly. I don't hang out with people who steal, have gambling or addiction issues, or are known to be violent or problematic either. Keep my circle real small.

lovelythecove • 6 points • 27 October, 2022 03:07 PM

Plus your SO being around someone who normalizes cheating then potentially makes it less of a big deal to your SO. And you know your SO's friend/s won't tell you.

mvnnyvevwofrb • 12 points • 27 October, 2022 01:36 PM

I wouldn't look at them the same way after. I don't like cheaters, they are manipulate and self-important and they lack empathy.

It's the same thing with anyone, once you see the dark side of their personality, then you're not thinking about them the same way anymore. Maybe still be friends, or maybe not. Doesn't really matter at that point.

tinny36 • 3 points • 27 October, 2022 01:09 PM

This is a tricky one because it's an ongoing thing and you're hanging around with them together, while she is cheating on him.

First, as a truly close friend, you would care about their overall well-being and encourage them to talk about why they are doing something so out of character for them. You would warn them they are being unkind and this will end badly, etc. Also, you should express that you won't be put into a situation where you have to lie, and it does make you uncomfortable to be around them both. You could opt out of hanging out with them together, for example.

But ditch them altogether? I would say no, unless this behaviour is ongoing and you feel other things are maybe making you 'less close', like other life choices, etc. But as a true friend, I would try being there for her first. And tell your partner all of this as well. Reassure them that you do find the behaviour wrong, and while you

absolutely disapprove of her choices, you are still trying to be a good friend and helping her through this.

[deleted] • 4 points • 27 October, 2022 02:38 PM

Yeah I have a friend who I grew up with and dude isn't the best boyfriend... like at all he cheated on basically every girl he has. Like this boy had 3 girlfriends and once they found out they all kept letting him hit it. Other than that though he's a really good friend. He's always been there for me, had my back, and really supportive

freespirit1963TJ • 4 points • 27 October, 2022 06:40 PM*

I have a very good friend, in fact I characterize him as my best friend. He is a serial cheater, he has been married for 38 years and has been cheating for most of it. My friendship with this guy didn't originate or was based on the fact he was married, had a family etc. Each family dynamic has its idiosyncrasies. His wife has been aware that this has been going on for at least 25 years. They had kids, a mortgage etc. There was a point about 19 years ago, I was confident they were getting divorced, they didn't. Their kids are all grown, out of the house and have kids of their own. I'm not sure if they have an arrangement for an open marriage or what. It has never been a topic of conversation. Short answer long, no it hasn't impacted our friendship. The whole, your partner finds out and wants to break up; that sounds like someone who is insecure with who they are. Someone's trust, or distrust in you should have ZERO to do with how a friend behaves. I have a couple of friends who don't believe in relationships who utilize sex workers. I'd never dream in million years to hire one.

Laytheblameonluck • -1 points • 28 October, 2022 09:48 AM

Is it possibly things changed 25 years ago, and she totally lost interest in sex?

freespirit1963TJ • 1 point • 30 October, 2022 06:40 PM

I'm sure after a number of years she figured out that he wasn't going to change. She is/was a very attractive woman, so I find it hard to believe she's going without. I don't have any hard facts that she's not.

PlatypusPolka • 3 points • 27 October, 2022 03:12 PM

I honestly don't know. I think it would depend on the friend and the situation - are they a serial cheater, did they do it once and regretted it, was it a mistake (maybe when out drinking) or was planned out, are they repentant or are they defiant. How long have I known this person and have they really come through for me in the past, do they need my support through a rough time or do they think it is NBD? And what are my opinions on my friend's partner? I have stopped being friends with someone who was a cheater when I was close to the other partner as well, though.

If my partner threatened to break up with me over someone else's actions I would find that extreme and bewildering. And a little controlling.

madsskayyy • 4 points • 27 October, 2022 05:56 PM

Personally I don't care what people do in their free time, as long as they don't impede or impose their lifestyle choices on me. So I suppose I would be fine

anonymous-platypus1[S] • 1 point • 27 October, 2022 08:38 PM

Even if you have to hangout with the partner and act like nothing is wrong?

madsskayyy • 1 point • 28 October, 2022 03:08 AM

None of my business regardless, especially if the other SO isn't my friend.

Thehebben • 4 points • 27 October, 2022 02:38 PM

I think cheating is wrong so i want to tell and even from my own perspective a friend that cheats isn't loyal. So he can't be a good friend

childish_badda_bingo • 6 points • 27 October, 2022 01:12 PM

By remaining silent, you are aiding and abetting a cheat. That makes you an accomplice to their bad behavior. The statement you are making is it's fine to cheat.

baiser_vole • 4 points • 27 October, 2022 12:56 PM

Close friends, absolutely not. Acquaintance, possibly.

tinny36 • 2 points • 27 October, 2022 01:04 PM

That's weird, that seems backwards.

hungrychick404 • 4 points • 27 October, 2022 01:15 PM

I think they mean that they wouldn't keep that friend as close to them as they used to, but they would still be acquaintances with that former friend

tinny36 • 2 points • 27 October, 2022 01:21 PM

Ah. Gotcha. Thanks :)

Impossible_You_8555 • 1 point • 27 October, 2022 02:14 PM

I do and would

gofigure62 • 4 points • 27 October, 2022 01:40 PM

I'm at the age range where people can start "acting out" due to life crisis. If it was out of character for my friend to cheat, then I'd be concerned about their mental health and over all wellbeing.

My friends are essentially my family, so I can't say that I'd immediately reject them for cheating. I'd attempt to talk about it with them, reason with them, try my best to convince them to stop, and do right by their partner. But at the end of the day, people are people.

If my friend was a reliable, dependable, and supportive friend throughout our friendship, I wouldn't drop them just because my significant other wanted me to. So That would more than likely terminate my own relationship.

If my friend was simply an acquaintance that I only hung out with but wasn't close to, then I'd drop them at the request of my significant other.

lovelythecove • 1 point • 27 October, 2022 03:10 PM

Agree with this. People are people and we all make mistakes. I'd be much more inclined to talk to my friend about what's going on, than simply dump them forever. But I wouldn't condone continuing to cheat, I wouldn't help them lie or hide it, and I wouldn't keep hanging out with them if they were going to keep doing it or if they weren't planning on coming clean to their partner.

bigapple4am • 1 point • 27 October, 2022 05:47 PM

Cheating is a choice not a mistake though

lovelythecove • 2 points • 27 October, 2022 05:55 PM

I agree. Sometimes people make bad choices.

Ohyarlysmiles • 4 points • 27 October, 2022 04:08 PM

I hope so, because I've cheated a lot in the past.

And you're asking about a partner giving an ultimatum about something that essentially isn't really their business --- sounds like a shitty partner.

DerekMorganBAU • 3 points • 27 October, 2022 01:05 PM

Yes why wouldn't I? It's none of my business.

Not like you don't have skeletons in your closet so who are you to judge?

He who is without sin cast the first stone

anonymous-platypus1[S] • 5 points • 27 October, 2022 01:23 PM

You wouldn't think if it as an issue though? They are cheating on their partner, you're still hanging out with them AND the partner like everything is normal?

DerekMorganBAU • 1 point • 27 October, 2022 01:52 PM

Why is it an issue if I don't know the full story? Who am I to judge?

People here on Reddit will virtual signal for karma but here's the truth - unless you are without sin you have no right to judge others because you haven't walked a mile in their shoes. That's just the way it is.

anonymous-platypus1[S] • 4 points • 27 October, 2022 01:54 PM

Personally, I would feel super uncomfortable if I found out and my friend continued to being their partner around me while still cheating. It would make me have to lie too.

DerekMorganBAU • -1 points • 27 October, 2022 02:08 PM

But again, it's none of your business lol so how can you feel anything. It doesn't affect you in any tangible way.

It just bothers people because they see themselves as righteous and just when they're not. They're flawed just like everyone else.

People always want to have the moral high ground over something or someone.

anonymous-platypus1[S] • 5 points • 27 October, 2022 02:13 PM

If does affect me if I have to lie to their partner face. Its not me being self-righteous. Its about my friend already being so messy that I found out, and now I am required to keep up their lie or else not be a good friend? I'd just rather not have them as a friend, especially if I've become friends with their partner over time.

DerekMorganBAU • 0 points • 27 October, 2022 02:31 PM

See now you're making it about you.

"This affects me because I have to keep it up"

Doesn't matter because the lie was already KEPT up. Nothing has changed.

And it's not your responsibility to tell. She could not believe you and your friend will think it wasn't your place to tell her, so now you've lost two people.

Sounds like you just would feel good cutting them off because you're convinced it's the right thing to do and it's something that you can pat yourself on the back for.

“Look at me I cut off people who cheat” lol get a grip it has nothing to do with you. Just say nothing because it’s not your place to say anything.

anonymous-platypus1[S] • 4 points • 27 October, 2022 02:33 PM

I’m not saying I’m telling anyone. I’m saying I don’t want to have to lie to anyone so I’d just cut off my friend, (assuming they were cheating just to cheat and had no other reason for not just breaking up). I don’t want to pat myself on the back for cutting off a friend, I also don’t want to be around someone that’s cheating left and right though. Especially if it was already so messy that I found out.

It’s not my business to tell. So that means I’m gonna have to sever ties with the person. If I tell my friend she can’t bring her partner around me if she’s cheating on them, then that’s also going to cause issue.

baresquad • -1 points • 27 October, 2022 02:08 PM

I mean yeah it’s uncomfortable but at the end of the day it’s not me nor my relationship.

januaryphilosopher • 2 points • 27 October, 2022 01:10 PM

If it's not affecting me, it's no reason to not be friends, although of course I'd make my opinions on the matter known. I'm not so naive as to think any of my friends have never hurt anyone.

MistyMaisel • 2 points • 27 October, 2022 03:12 PM

I think you let that friendship go. Not because of your partner, but because that person is doing something extremely wrong and put you in a bad position. But honestly, I'm not the sort who would keep quiet about that. I'd tell the person being cheated on if I had that level of access to them. Wrong is wrong, if someone knew my man was being unfaithful, I'd want them to tell me immediately so I could begin my revenge.

Now, if this was a relationship of 5+ years, it's a little different. I would certainly distance myself from them and explain why directly. But, I'm prepared to maintain light contact and return to full friendship once they've ceased what they did and shown some signs of regret or never doing it again.

huhwhatokok • 1 point • 27 October, 2022 01:39 PM

Na everyone has flaws, my 2 good friends cheat consistently on their LTRs.. Love those dudes tho.

anonymous-platypus1[S] • 3 points • 27 October, 2022 01:40 PM

So do you help lie to their spouses? Or perpetuate the lie rather? Would it also be fair if your partner (if you had one) to think less of you?

huhwhatokok • -3 points • 27 October, 2022 01:42 PM

I stay out of it. And yes, my partner should believe in my character and not judge me based off my friends. If my friend murders someone am I now more likely to murder someone?

anonymous-platypus1[S] • 5 points • 27 October, 2022 01:43 PM

You’re not going to stay friends with the murderer though.

Barneysparky • 3 points • 27 October, 2022 02:48 PM

Yes, if you hang around with murderers you are more likely to be a murderer yourself.

toasterchild • 1 point • 27 October, 2022 01:28 PM

Just because you stay friends doesn't mean you think that all of their choices are ok. I have known friends who were cheating, never once did I think "oh boy that's a great idea, I should totally try it sometime."

anonymous-platypus1[S] • 2 points • 27 October, 2022 02:24 PM

Meh I disagree, if my partners was friends with a racist or something I'd definitely feel like he was being complicit in his beliefs.

Impossible_You_8555 • 1 point • 27 October, 2022 02:13 PM

I have yes

He's my friend, I have male and female friends who have

LiLaLauneLain • 1 point • 27 October, 2022 02:34 PM

I am not responsible for other peoples actions and as long as they are nice, open and honest to me i don't care what they do to their partners as long as i am not also friend with them...

anonymous-platypus1[S] • 2 points • 27 October, 2022 02:36 PM

You wouldn't care if your friend was being abusive to their partner?

lovelythecove • 1 point • 27 October, 2022 03:12 PM

Habitual cheating is abusive imo. Those who are cheated on can get betrayal trauma and even PTSD from their partner's sexual acting out.

LiLaLauneLain • 1 point • 28 October, 2022 04:02 PM

Abuse is a crime, cheating is not. Huge difference.

Backyouropinion • 1 point • 27 October, 2022 03:16 PM

I've had married acquaintances who I knew prior to getting married, who cheated. Being married and having kids, I felt sick to my stomach for people I knew were married and serial cheaters, especially with kids.

Neptune-Jr • 1 point • 27 October, 2022 04:47 PM

I'd stay friends with them. I wouldn't help with there cheating though. (Like lying that they were over my house.) I might even secretly warn their partner before things get serious. But I'd stay friends with them.

pinktuliplover • 1 point • 27 October, 2022 06:50 PM

If you can't be loyal and honest to the person you love and are committed to, why would I think you would be loyal and honest towards me? Hard pass.

hypotenoos • 0 points • 27 October, 2022 01:02 PM

If I got rid of friends for each of their poor life choices I wouldn't have too many friends.

I think it's your place as a friend to express your concerns but you can't live their life.

Vegetable-Rub3418 • 0 points • 27 October, 2022 01:12 PM

Sure. Some people change

anonymous-platypus1[S] • 0 points • 27 October, 2022 01:24 PM

What do you mean?

[deleted] 27 October, 2022 01:47 PM

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anonymous-platypus1[S] • 3 points • 27 October, 2022 01:48 PM

Swinging is completely different: you usually have your partners consent at that point.

[deleted] 27 October, 2022 01:54 PM

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anonymous-platypus1[S] • 2 points • 27 October, 2022 02:11 PM

Did they not agree to swing? You usually aren't swingers unless you agree to it. And if they did it to appease your siblings, without actually being interested in it, it's different. Still not cheating if they had permission.

demidevil • 0 points • 27 October, 2022 02:52 PM

Make sure my partner leaves their keys on the way out.

[deleted] • 0 points • 27 October, 2022 02:57 PM

Some of my friends are cheaters and while I have not excommunicated them, I do give them shit for it, coz it's pathetic.

Stunning-Potato-1984 • 0 points • 27 October, 2022 03:41 PM

That hypothetical would never happen.

anonymous-platypus1[S] • 1 point • 27 October, 2022 03:47 PM

It's not far fetched at all.

Stunning-Potato-1984 • 0 points • 27 October, 2022 03:50 PM

In my relationship? Yes.

Connect-Industry-702 • 0 points • 27 October, 2022 04:39 PM

I'm going through this right now.

I told my friend, they have 2 weeks to break it off with their partner. I don't support or condone cheating. My friend has agreed to end their relationship.

We'll see what happens.

bigapple4am • 0 points • 27 October, 2022 05:45 PM

I never used to, I always had the "its not my business" train of thought until one of my then friends cheated on his wife, had been lying to her for years, also lied that I wanted to sleep with him. I found out how much of a damn liar he was. I dropped him so fast. Cheaters tend to be liars and they don't often feel bad for doing said things, I rather not be around ppl like that. I know that now, I just had to learn the hard way.

Teflon08191 • 0 points • 27 October, 2022 06:30 PM

I'd tell them I'm not a mistrustful control freak despite being with them, thereby disproving their assertion that

"you are who you surround yourself with".

Then I'd break up with them, because I'm not interested in mistrustful control freaks.

anonymous-platypus1[S] • 1 point • 27 October, 2022 08:37 PM

But if your partners friends were all cheating it wouldn't make you feel someway that your partner was still friends with them?

Teflon08191 • 1 point • 28 October, 2022 01:01 AM

Whatever feelings it might make me feel, they wouldn't compel me to go slinging around ultimatums regarding who they are or aren't allowed to be friends with.

growandappear • 0 points • 27 October, 2022 07:20 PM

Don't have experience with real friends, only a drinking buddy type, but no. It speaks to character.

I would be extremely surprised by a true good friend of mine cheating. I'd have to watch very carefully how they rationalize the events, because that's where you find out they might be bad news for you too.

DumbWordsmith • -1 points • 27 October, 2022 01:37 PM

Depends on how close I was with them.

If it's a close friend, I'd put some distance between us until he showed that he was genuinely sorry for what he did.

Even amazing people make really bad mistakes. I want to leave that door open so that they have a chance to redeem themselves.

LoomingCrimson • -1 points • 27 October, 2022 01:40 PM

Based on how you've described the situation, your partner sounds like they're delivering an ultimatum.

Perhaps I'm misreading that, but if my partner, or any significant person in my life did that to me, I'd throw them directly out of my life and laugh while doing it.

Now addressing whether or not to be friends with a cheater. This depends. Am I friends with both?

Based on the situation you've described, you're friends with the cheater, not the one being cheated on. If I think my friend is really doing a good person dirty, I may intervene, but it'll risk and maybe cost myself the friendship. Depending on how good of a friend I am with them, I may overlook it.

anonymous-platypus1[S] • 2 points • 27 October, 2022 01:43 PM

So, I thought of this from a tik-tok that asked a man if he'd date a girl whose friends partied a lot, and then was asked if he'd stop talking to an friend that was a cheater.

The answer about the women was "no because who you are friends with reflects back on you. And if they are partying a lot then the women probably also parties a lot."

LoomingCrimson • 0 points • 27 October, 2022 01:50 PM

So are you posing this scenario as a hypothetical then?

anonymous-platypus1[S] • 2 points • 27 October, 2022 01:50 PM

I mean yeah? I don't suppose all of you here have been through this personally.

LoomingCrimson • 1 point • 27 October, 2022 01:54 PM

Yeah, I just wasn't sure if this was fully hypothetical or if it was something you were experiencing personally. You posed it hypothetically but a lot of people do that even in scenarios personally affecting them.

Either way, the essence of how I'll respond to someone cheating or doing other morally ambiguous acts is: Calculating how much it affects me and weigh that against what I'm willing to risk/change in my relationships if I disagree with someone I care about on moral grounds.

AutoModerator[M] • 1 point • 27 October, 2022 12:50 PM

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neetykeeno • 1 point • 27 October, 2022 02:22 PM

I might lose a friend but I can probably force my partner to in return stop seeing the most problematic member of his social circle. That guy who makes those sexist jokes ..bye!

anonymous-platypus1[S] • 1 point • 27 October, 2022 02:23 PM

Wait what?

neetykeeno • 2 points • 27 October, 2022 02:27 PM

Well if a person is the people they surround themselves with and I, who previously have not believed that decide to accept that argument from him, obviously this change in my thinking must now be applied to my partner and the guys he hangs out with. So. Imma do an appropriateness audit of his social circle.

Frailiul • 1 point • 27 October, 2022 03:25 PM

I would. It's not my business. Nor am I in a position to be picky and throw people away. I don't have a partner anyway so I wouldn't lose anything personally.

jackeds00n • 1 point • 27 October, 2022 04:07 PM

Yeah sure

howdoiw0rkthisthing • 1 point • 27 October, 2022 04:08 PM

I mean I'd love to say I wouldn't but I'm still friends with someone who might be genuinely racist so... realistically yes.

Flightlessbirbz • 1 point • 27 October, 2022 04:14 PM

Probably not at this point in my life since I prefer to avoid drama. It would be awkward hanging out with their partner, and I might have trouble trusting my friend. However, it wouldn't make me want to cheat myself, and I am not sure I would be willing to end a friendship just because my partner wanted me to. That would make me a little uncomfortable too. So really, it's a tough call.

Barely-moral • 1 point • 27 October, 2022 05:14 PM

I go to our agreement. The only way she has a say in my friendships is if the friend in question is a woman.

If the cheater friend is a woman, she can decide that I am no longer friends with her for any or no reason. If the cheater friend is a man she gets no say.

If she wants to leave, she is free to leave.

Laytheblameonluck • 1 point • 27 October, 2022 05:36 PM*

A partner who's trying to stop you cheating is a partner who's hiding knowledge as to why they consider that you will cheat.

Your partner finds out that you know about the cheating, and threatens to breakup with you because "you are who you surround yourself with." And if you think your friends cheating is okay, then you're probably also more likely to cheat.

What do you do?

Nothing.

If they want to break up with you over that, let them.

If they don't break up over it, they'll learn a valuable lesson.

The threat didn't work.

The bigger question is where does this insecurity regarding cheating stem from, it's either:

1. A projection of their own situation, they are concerned you'll do the same back.
2. Mate-guarding because they secretly recognize their lower libido in the relationship, so want to reduce your options

anonymous-platypus1[S] • 1 point • 27 October, 2022 08:40 PM

Where did the lower libido thing come in?

Laytheblameonluck • 1 point • 28 October, 2022 03:55 AM

It comes at 6-30 months into the relationship.

h1shman • 1 point • 27 October, 2022 08:03 PM

Years ago I would have said yes I'd stop being friends. Now I surround myself with HVM. Hunters, achievers, business owners, physically in shape etc. These men tend to live very wolf of wallstreet lifestyles. I respect them for their ambition and discipline, not so much morality.

anonymous-platypus1[S] • 1 point • 27 October, 2022 08:36 PM

Like the jail time for fraud and coke benders included? Or you just mean they make money?

h1shman • 1 point • 27 October, 2022 09:24 PM

No fraud haha but plenty of drugs, money, and women.

InfamousBake1859 • 1 point • 27 October, 2022 09:46 PM

I would question it. Most likely, not. I may make some exceptions but nothing really justified cheating.

Edit: after reading your post - i would not be friends with them. If they were in some abusive relationship and started cheating or accidentally got into an emotional affair but trying to pull away, maybe.

Bad_texter • 1 point • 27 October, 2022 09:51 PM

I have a close friend, who has been tempted to cheat. I am not friends with her husband. In fact, i think he's an abusive POS. Even then, i discourage cheating.

However, if she does cheat, i would remain her friend but i think it would be super unwise to cheat for multiple reasons.

1. Normaly it's the lack of respect for your partner - but given he's a POS, whatever.
2. Lack of respect for yourself.
3. Lack of respect for the other person - either you are lying to them, or they don't care you are a cheater (which makes them also trash).

anonymous-platypus1[S] • 1 point • 27 October, 2022 09:53 PM

For me if people choose to have open relationships, that's completely different than cheating, and that would be okay if the other person is enthusiastically consenting to it. Cheating require duplicity and lying.

Bad_texter • 1 point • 27 October, 2022 09:57 PM

Yes. I am aware. I have nothing against open relationships. Mine is semi open (i'm bi - my husband has no issues with me having another girl.) but i was referring to my friend cheating

[deleted] • 1 point • 27 October, 2022 10:40 PM

Tell my SO to fuck off. I would've avoided being in the company of my friend's partner anyway to begin with.

anonymous-platypus1[S] • 1 point • 28 October, 2022 12:53 AM

You don't hangout with your couple friends?

[deleted] • 1 point • 28 October, 2022 07:11 AM*

I've never particularly enjoyed hanging out with my friends' girlfriends or wives.

My last girlfriend had one couple we would hang out with from time to time but I wouldn't say they were my friends, they were her friends.

And I'm not saying I'm rude or have an awkward relationship with any of these people, but it's never crossed my mind that their relationship is really any of my business

Ppdebatesomental • 1 point • 28 October, 2022 12:23 AM

I have stayed friends with both a male and two female cheaters. I don't approve, cherish my own monogamous relationship, but life is messy, no one is perfect and I kind of understood why they cheated.

BlackPorcelainDoll • 1 point • 28 October, 2022 12:30 AM

Duh! Who gives a fuck. I have all kinds of friends. Gold diggers, assholes, cheaters, genuinely kind people,

religious freaks, etc. I get on with everyone, love people unless they hate me first.

roastpork99 • 1 point • 28 October, 2022 12:35 AM

This thread is....revealing lol.

Firstly, to answer the question about if my hypothetical partner threatened to break up with me because I knew about my friend cheating but kept quiet about it....well my first thought would be that it's a little bit extreme to break up with someone just because of this, especially if otherwise your relationship is really good.

Let's say for example it was my partner's friend that cheated and my partner knew about it; just because my partner knows about their friend cheating, doesn't mean they approve of it necessarily? I wouldn't expect my partner to suddenly cut off their friend either, because whilst cheating is definitely wrong there are a myriad of circumstances that can lead someone to cheat.

People are imperfect and make mistakes and don't always intend to hurt others, but sometimes things happen. Plus at the end of the day, the ultimate responsibility is down to the person that cheated, and it's up to them to tell their partner what occurred. I couldn't hold my own partner in contempt when they didn't do anything wrong but were unfortunate to find out about the infidelity.

And the scenario is too black and white as well, it makes the assumption that knowing about cheating and not doing anything about it automatically makes someone bad but the world just doesn't work like that.

anonymous-platypus1[S] • 1 point • 28 October, 2022 12:52 AM

It's not because you know, they are threatening to leave because you know AND you are continuing on with the friendship as if nothing is wrong.

roastpork99 • 1 point • 28 October, 2022 12:58 AM

Yeah but then the obvious next question would be, how would my partner know that I haven't spoken to my friend about it? Or encouraged my friend to admit their fault?

And how could my partner come to a conclusion about how I've portrayed my feelings about the cheating to my friend? Just because we continue on as if nothing is wrong doesn't necessarily mean I've not spoken to them?

For argument's sake, let's say I didn't say anything about it at all to my friend, we then continued on as if nothing happened. The ultimatum would still be off from my partner imo. It's one thing for my partner to question me about it, and encourage me to speak to my friend, which would be a reasonable approach to the situation. It's something completely different to give an ultimatum.

[deleted] • 1 point • 28 October, 2022 04:03 AM

It depends on the cheater is he sorry for cheating and willing to change and took full responsibility for his actions or is it someone who blames their partner for their actions, doesn't take responsibility, and outright mocks their partner they cheated on. The former I can be friends with the latter I cannot

Meihuajiancai • 1 point • 28 October, 2022 05:05 AM

Yes. I have and I will continue to do so. I'm not dating them

scwizard • 1 point • 28 October, 2022 05:49 AM

I don't have any close friends where I'm not also friends with their other half.

So yeah I'd tell their partner right away and see where the chips fall.

EBZ1722 • 1 point • 28 October, 2022 06:56 AM

I've cut off friends who've gotten divorced and ruined their families because it's fundamentally incompatible with my worldview, I don't believe in divorce. I would certainly cut off a friend over cheating because it's degenerate bottom feeder behavior.

KikiYuyu • 1 point • 28 October, 2022 09:10 AM

If I knew someone who was a cheater, I am throwing them all the way under the bus. Any time someone asks my why we aren't friends anymore, I'm telling them exactly why. If their partner they're cheating on doesn't know, I'm going to be the one that tells them the bad news.

I'd never be in the scenario you describe. If I had a partner who sat back and did nothing about their cheating friend I'd be super pissed off. If they don't consider cheating to be as grave as I do, that's concerning for our relationship.

domdomdom333 • 1 point • 28 October, 2022 10:11 AM

There's a reason there's a saying that you're a reflection of all your friends. Sooner or later your friends behaviours to take an effect, especially on the way you think.

Constant repetition of something can slowly makes it feel fact. If a buddy of mine's gonna be a cheater, I won't stand the next 10 years of him justifying why it's not a bad thing.

ViolentTakeByForce[] • 1 point • 28 October, 2022 10:33 AM*

Being my friend does not mean I would necessarily agree with a host of decisions that you make. There are definitely lines that shouldn't be crossed(murder, rape, etc) that would cause me to drop a friend but I do not find cheating to be one of them.

And if my partner gave an ultimatum(never had this issue)... there's the fucking door lol. Not even kidding.

I would actually take the request slightly seriously if it was also an issue of a person being a deadbeat, so being a man with no job, abandoning their child. But it better be a request of reflection to me, not an ultimatum. If it was a female friend doing the cheating, the females in my circle don't really influence me. I would cheat because I wanted to not because they are doing it.

If you are only friends with someone because they have exactly the same beliefs as you or in this case your girlfriend, I don't think you are a great friend. It should be based on whether or not you can depend on the person despite their flaws and their actions towards you. Again barring major crimes.

Freevoulous • 1 point • 28 October, 2022 10:53 AM

Absolutely do not care.

Monogamy is just weaponised jealousy, genital socialism. Fuck that noise and people who worship it.

The only issue I have with cheaters is that they do not have the guts to just openly admit to not being monogamous.

If my SO had a problem with me tolerating a cheater, especially an IDEOLOGICAL problem about it, she would be single and homeless 30 seconds later. I have zero tolerance policy for such idiocy, let alone for THREATS.

bluestjuice • 1 point • 28 October, 2022 04:18 PM

I'm too old to have anything be absolutely black and white, so, it would depend. It would certainly color my assessment of that friend and their ethical framework and quite possibly could cause me to pull back the closeness of our friendship.

NationalistGoy • 1 point • 29 October, 2022 04:52 AM

The general rule for men should be "you are not friend of your buddy's gf/wife". The only reason why a man interacts with a taken woman is because he is friends with her man. If the friendship with the man ends, the friendship with the woman also ends.

Here is my personal experience.

I met my friend's girlfriend, the three of us spent so much time together, we went out dozens of times, he have dozens of pictures together, we shared a lot, so a bond was formed between me and her.

My friend at the time cheated on her, physically abused her, mentally abused her, among other things. Since I have this sort of bond with her, I took his actions personal and I wanted to exact revenge on him for being so shitty to her.

But the thing is, that's their problem, it's not my relationship, it's theirs. I cannot punish the guy for what he does within his relationship.

I ended the friendship because of the things I mentioned above. I have been seeing some other friends and I recently met their gf/wives, and I treat them with courtesy and respect, but that's it. I do not add them on social networks, I don't have their phone numbers, I do not text with them, I am not friends with them.

Egibson89 • 1 point • 29 October, 2022 01:13 PM

Probably... not

EasternToe3824 • 1 point • 31 October, 2022 11:52 AM

A threat of breaking up shows the relationship is already damaged. I'd show her the door.

Also I would have a heart to heart with my friend and if he really cheats only for excitement, well he'd be out as well.

anonymous-platypus1[S] • 1 point • 31 October, 2022 03:38 PM

See the threat of breaking up is only because the person is being okay with the cheating. If it was the situation as you described where you'd have a heart to heart, then I think you showed your partner that you were not morally okay with cheating. The issue here is that, in the hypo, you remained silent about the cheating and continued on with your friend as if nothing had changed