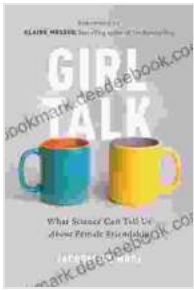


# What Science Can Tell Us About Female Friendship

Female friendship is a complex and fascinating topic. It is a relationship that can be both rewarding and challenging, and it can have a significant impact on our lives. Science has begun to shed light on some of the factors that contribute to female friendship, such as shared experiences, personality traits, and social norms. This article explores the latest research on female friendship and discusses what it can tell us about this important relationship.



## Girl Talk: What Science Can Tell Us About Female

**Friendship** by Jacqueline Mroz

★★★★☆ 4.2 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 1276 KB
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Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
X-Ray	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 271 pages



## Shared Experiences

One of the most important factors that contribute to female friendship is shared experiences. Women who have gone through similar experiences, such as raising children, going through a divorce, or dealing with a serious illness, often develop strong bonds with each other. These shared

experiences can create a sense of understanding and support that is difficult to find elsewhere.

For example, a study by the University of California, Berkeley found that women who had given birth were more likely to have close friends who had also given birth. The study also found that the strength of these friendships was related to the amount of time the women spent talking about their experiences with childbirth.

## **Personality Traits**

Another factor that contributes to female friendship is personality traits. Women who are similar in terms of their personality traits are more likely to become friends. For example, women who are both extroverted and outgoing are more likely to form friendships than women who are introverted and shy.

However, it is important to note that not all friendships are based on similarity. Some women are friends with people who are very different from them. These friendships can be just as rewarding as friendships between people who are similar, but they may require more effort to maintain.

## **Social Norms**

Social norms also play a role in female friendship. In some cultures, it is more common for women to have close friendships with other women than it is for men. In other cultures, friendships between women are less common. These social norms can influence the way that women form and maintain friendships.

For example, a study by the University of Michigan found that women in the United States are more likely to have close friends than men. The study also found that women in the United States are more likely to talk to their friends about personal problems than men.

## **Friendship Formation**

The process of friendship formation is complex and can vary depending on the individual. However, there are some general steps that are involved in the formation of most friendships.

1. **Initial contact:** The first step in friendship formation is initial contact. This can happen in a variety of ways, such as through work, school, or a social event.
2. **Getting to know each other:** Once initial contact has been made, the next step is to get to know each other. This involves spending time together and talking about various topics.
3. **Developing a sense of liking:** If the two people get to know each other and develop a sense of liking, the next step is to develop a sense of friendship. This involves feeling a sense of connection and support for the other person.
4. **Maintaining the friendship:** Once a friendship has been formed, it is important to maintain it. This involves staying in touch, spending time together, and supporting each other through both good times and bad.

## **Friendship Maintenance**

Maintaining a friendship requires effort from both parties. There are a number of things that friends can do to maintain their friendships, such as:

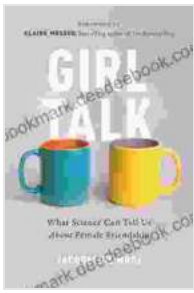
- **Staying in touch:** Friends need to stay in touch on a regular basis. This can be done through phone calls, text messages, email, or social media.
- **Spending time together:** Friends need to spend time together in person. This can be done through activities such as going out to dinner, going to the movies, or taking a walk.
- **Supporting each other:** Friends need to be supportive of each other. This means being there for each other through good times and bad.

## Friendship Dissolution

Unfortunately, not all friendships last forever. There are a number of reasons why friendships can end, such as:

- **Growing apart:** Friends can grow apart over time as their interests and values change.
- **Conflict:** Conflict can lead to the end of a friendship. This can be caused by a variety of factors, such as misunderstandings, hurt feelings, or betrayal.
- **Life changes:** Life changes, such as moving to a new city or getting married, can lead to the end of a friendship.

Female friendship is a complex and fascinating topic. Science has begun to shed light on some of the factors that contribute to female friendship, such as shared experiences, personality traits, and social norms. This article has explored the latest research on female friendship and discussed what it can tell us about this important relationship.



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