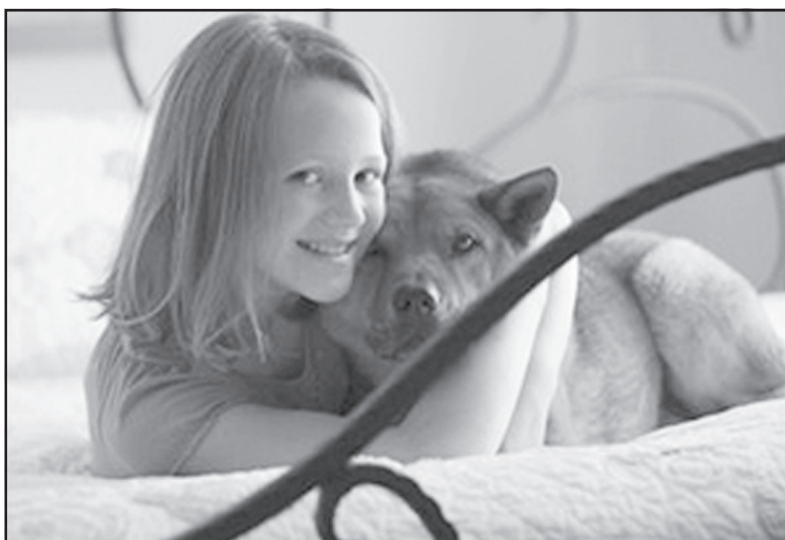


Pet allergies make hay fever worse: Study Deafness can break marriages: Survey

Mumbai : A new study has revealed that being allergic to dogs or cats may worsen your ragweed allergies. The study has also suggested that once allergy season is in full swing, those symptom differences subside.

The team, led by Anne Ellis of the Queen's University, exposed 123 participants to ragweed, and noted that pet allergy sufferers reported symptoms differently than their non-animal allergic counterparts. Dust mite allergic patients also developed symptoms more quickly after ragweed exposure. "The study results helped us develop a theory of 'pre-priming'. "If you have ongoing symptoms from perennial allergies, as soon as you add another allergen into the mix your symptoms develop much faster, and you may have a harder time



dealing with it than others," said Ellis.

Ellis said that ideally patients with animal allergies should find alternative homes for their pets, or at least minimize their exposure by not allowing animals access to

the bedroom of the allergic individual. This becomes even more important in the case of children suffering from asthma, and could prevent the development of irreversible lung damage due to ongoing allergic inflammation.

London : A new survey about the social consequences of hearing loss (SAT) has indicated that deafness can lead to heated arguments between couples and even marital breakdown.

The hard-of-hearing partner often feels upset that their spouse does not understand what it is like to suffer from the condition, the poll found.

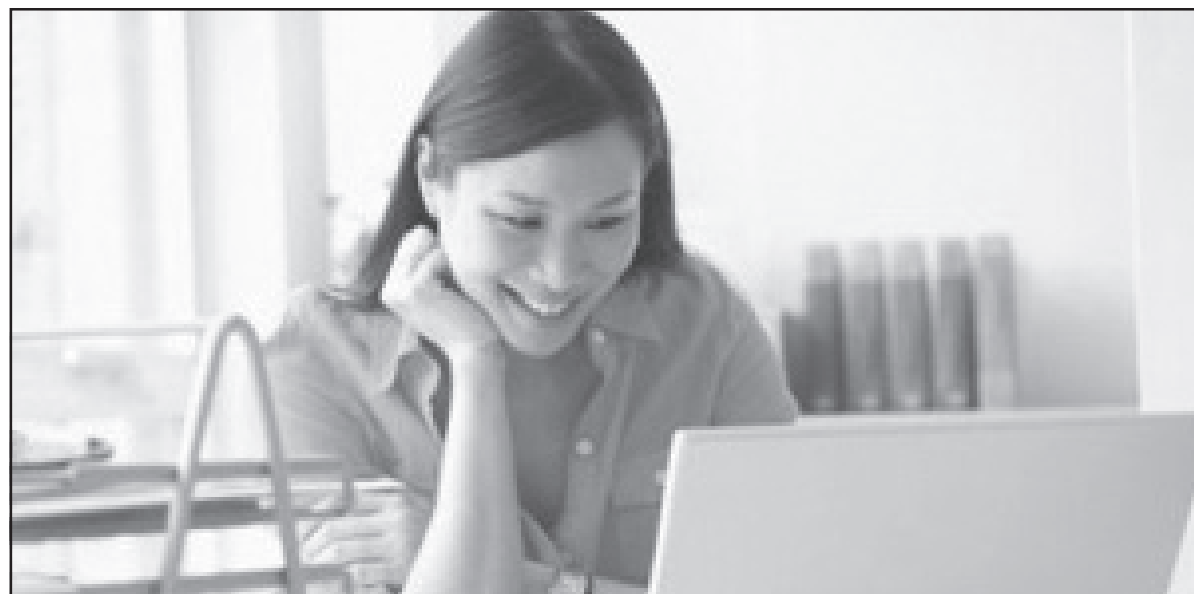
But the deaf person's reluctance to recognise their condition and do anything about it is also a major source of stress. A third of respondents to the study, which questioned more than 1000 people with deafness over 40, said their inability to hear properly had led to arguments with the

family. And one in 16 said their partner had even threatened to leave or divorce them unless they got their hearing sorted out. Joan McKechnie, an audiologist with the firm HearingDirect.com, which carried out the survey, said the problem was that many people were "in denial".

"It can be a real shock for many people in their middle age who begin to experience hearing loss, as they do not like the idea of wearing a hearing aid, which has a real stigma associated with 'disabled' and old people," the Telegraph quoted McKechnie as saying.

"Instead, they battle on in denial trying to cope as best they can," she added.

Women prefer modern 'gentlemen' who text regularly and take out rubbish



Mumbai : A new survey has revealed that women of today no longer expect a gentleman to pay for dinner, instead they prefer men who text regularly and also take out the rubbish. Pulling out chairs and opening doors once used to be the traits of a gentleman, but now making a cup of tea for a woman in the morning, and looking after her when she has a hangover is what is expected. According to the survey of 3,000 women by Austin Reed, an ability to cook and an understanding manner when a woman is suffering from PMT are some of the essential traits for a modern gentleman. The

survey also revealed that a third of women no longer demand traditional behaviour such as asking for a dance or requesting her hand in marriage. Instead, one in ten women believe a modern gent should send his wife or girlfriend romantic text messages, and one in 20 think he should make regular posts on her Facebook wall. But more than two thirds of women think it would be impolite for a man to text on a date, and still want a man to carry heavy bags and hold their hand.

Forty-two percent of women said a true gentleman would never refer to the love of their life as "the other half" or "The Missus".

Youthful looks, height 'define beauty' in women

Washington : Regardless of cultural differences, the common traits that define beauty in women are youthful looks, tall and narrow waists with long arms, says a new study.

An international team, from the University of New South Wales, Hong Kong Polytechnic University and Tianjin Polytechnic University, claims it is the most comprehensive analysis yet made of the effect of body shape and fat deposition on female attractiveness.

"Most studies of attractiveness have focused on torso, waist, bust and hip measurements. So, the finding that the length and girth of arms are also important adds weight to the view that it is the 'whole package' that determines attractiveness," Prof Rob Brooks, who led the study, said.

He added: "Physical attractiveness is an important determining factor for

evolutionary, social and economic success. The dimensions of someone's body can tell observers if that person is suitable as a potential mate, a long-term partner or perhaps the threat they pose as sexual competitor."

The team used body scanning technology to produce three-dimensional images of the bodies of 96 Chinese women, aged between 20 and 49. The images were altered to remove clothes and physical traits like facial features, skin colour, hair colour and texture to avoid racial or cultural bias. The images were then shown to a sample of 92 Australian adults -- 40 men and 52 women -- aged between 18 and 58 and mostly of European descent.

Their attractiveness ratings were compared to those of a group in Hong Kong, again to avoid cultural bias. Both sample groups were asked to rate the models' attractiveness on a seven-point scale.

Professions with highest and lowest divorce risk revealed

London : Ever wondered if your job was coming in the way of your marriage? A new study has revealed that the nature of your job might determine if the chances of your divorce are higher.

The top ten jobs with the highest relative divorce rates are massage therapists, bartenders, dancers and choreographers, health diagnosing and treating practitioners, physicians and surgeons, reports

overcomingbias.com. Others in the list are gaming services workers, mathematicians, fish and game wardens, pile-driver operators, and first-line supervisor of gaming workers.

On the other hand, religious workers, audiologists, first-line enlisted military supervisors/managers, shuttle car operators, optometrists, clergy, transit and railroad police have the lowest relative divorce rates.

