



Greetings!

Not even the sweltering summer sun would stop me from writing to you here on my special page in TEEN WORLD. And speaking of summer, while most of you are just beginning your vacation, mine is just ending. "The Partridge Family" resumes filming in July, so I'll be getting back to work just about the time you're reading this. July has to be the hottest month in California—and is really an unlikely time to go back to work. I can't complain though—I just finished the most wonderful vacation of my life in Europe.

We went to several different countries and saw a lot of things that were fantastic. I was really impressed by the respect that Europeans have for their parks and national monuments. You would *never* find an Englishman littering Trafalgar Square or a Frenchman defacing a statue in the Tuilleries Gardens or a Netherlander throwing garbage into a canal. Part of their upbringing includes a respect and pride in their country and its appearance. Littering and vandalism is something that just isn't done.

Even the poorer neighborhoods are well-kept. Friends of mine drove me through an area which they termed "the roughs" right outside of London. The houses were very modest and the few cars I saw were several years old. But all the houses were freshly painted, each window had fresh curtains hanging in it, geraniums and ivy grew lavishly from window boxes. Instead of defacing these poor residences with curse words scrawled in chalk, the neighbors used their energies to make the most of what they had. This is an attitude I find admirable in our friends abroad—and a lesson I took home with me.

Not to say that everything is better in Europe. Europe's lovely parks hide muggers and robbers, just like ours back home. And speaking of back home, one of the first things I noticed when I got back home was a stack of letters waiting for me. For instance:

**Dear David:**

**I would like to know how you would entertain a shy girl on a date? I'm a member of your fan club and I think you're great!**

**Skye Hatchell  
Myrtle Beach, S.C.**

**Dear David:**

**When you were young and in grade school, did girls go crazy over you like they do now,**

**or did they just treat you like an average normal person?**

**Marty Knauf  
Euclid, Ohio**

**Dear David:**

**I think "The Partridge Family" is great. I want to know what kind of girls you like best. What do you like your dates to wear?**

**Anthony Caronia  
Monterey, Calif.**

Well, first of all let me say that I think that a certain amount of shyness can be an asset in a girl—not a liability. I—and a lot of guys I know—tend to be turned off by aggressive, pushy chicks. If a girl is pushy and loud, she may as well have a "poison" label on her, as far as I'm concerned. If I see that a girl is shy on our first date, I try to bring out the best in her to make her feel more relaxed. I find out what her interests are and encourage her to tell me about herself. Usually if a shy person sees that you're really interested in them, they will relax and begin to feel at ease.

When I was in grade school, I guess I had my share of little classmates passing me notes and things like that, Marty. But I don't think I drew an awful lot of attention—no more than other guys my age did.

No, Andre, although I do date a lot I haven't found that Special Miss yet. As to what kind of girls I like—I'm attracted to long-haired, sweet smiling, personable girls who are nice to look at, fun to be with and interesting to talk to. Doesn't every guy?

What do I like my dates to wear? Something comfortable. Something that they'll feel at ease in and won't be worried about "messing up." My favorite outfit is still a pair of broken-in jeans and a shirt. I like when my date and I can both look casual and feel relaxed together, because we don't have to worry about something as trivial as what we look like. Then we can both concentrate on having a good time—which is what you're supposed to do on a date anyway.

Till next issue . . .

This is YOUR page, too. You can write to David, ask him anything you want to know about "The Partridge Family," himself, members of the cast, his past or future, his opinions—anything! Send your letters to:

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Then keep watching this column for your letter—and David's own personal answer!

