



DONNY

Donny always smiles whenever he talks of subjects dear to his heart. And since friendship is the topic here, the famous Osmond grin can be seen.

"I really can't see why people act so surprised when they learn about a boy and girl being just friends," Donny smiles. "Usually, other people always try to make more out of the situation

than there really is. I bet that's one of the reasons why there aren't more simple, non-dating, boy/girl relationships—because the kids are afraid people are going to assume there's more to their friendship than there is!

"It doesn't seem fair somehow that friendship should be restricted to just members of your own sex. This would seem to cut down on the variety of people you would get to know!"

CHRIS KNIGHT

Susan's sigh is echoed by Chris Knight. "I think guys really feel funny at first when they meet a girl they'd like to be friends with. Only because

it's hard trying to think of things to talk about. But if they just take their time and become relaxed, soon it's such a great thing. Some of my closest 'pals' are girls—they make really wonderful friends!"



SUSAN DEY

"I think it's a real shame," Susan says as she brushes her hair out of those beautiful eyes. "Can you imagine all the happy times—real happenings when two people exchange ideas and stuff like that—that we miss just because we're hesitant to go up to guys and say, 'Hey! I think you're a really nice person—let's be friends!'"

Is it because girls feel that a guy will think she's chasing him if she makes the first gesture of friendship?

"I'm not sure if that's exactly it, either. Partly, maybe, but I think it's more that a girl is afraid that a friendship with a guy might put them both on a spot by feeling obligated to start dating! Isn't that silly—but that's the way it is!"

DAVID CASSIDY

"Afraid that people will label them as a 'couple,' fear of having to become romantically involved, fear of having nothing to talk about—these are some of the reasons it seems there aren't more boy-girl friendships. Those simple relationships where two people happen to meet, discover they like each other, and call each other 'friend.' And it can end there—why do people feel there has to be more?"

"I don't like giving advice—especially on how people should act," David's glance shows his reluctance to speak. "But in friendships, it is silly to worry about what other people are going to say if we choose to have friends of the other sex. It's no crime—and it isn't a crime to be just friends—with no dating or love involved! The love is there for a friend—someone whom you care about, wish nothing but happiness for—but this doesn't mean that you want to marry them!"

That's really what it's all about. Friendship can be between any two people—two people who have discovered they like to be around each other—that they can trust each other. It doesn't have to go further than that!

Who is better at telling a guy what he should do on that first date with his secret special love than a best friend who's a girl? And, what can beat having a good friendship with a guy who happens to be on the same football team as that darling boy who sits behind you in math class?

Do you agree with David, Donny, Chris and Susan that boys and girls can be great friends and never feel "romantic" about each other? We think friendship knows no boundaries—what about you?

