



A LETTER

EXCLUSIVE FaVE COLUMN!

FROM DAVID CASSIDY

Hi! I'm David Cassidy and each month here in FaVE, I'll be answering your questions. I want you to know that I'll try to read as many letters as

I can each month and then decide what you most want to know. Hope in the meantime you watch our show "The Partridge Family," every Friday

night on ABC-TV.

Send your questions to: Letter for David Cassidy, 1800 N. Highland Ave., Suite 600, Hollywood, Calif. 90028.

Are Looks That Important?

Hi—

I never thought that people put a lot of stock in looks but I'm learning how wrong I am! Maybe because I came from an acting family, I grew up on the idea that it wasn't what you look like on the outside but what you can do with your heart and soul that really counts. In fact, you'll be surprised to know that my family always taught me that being too good looking could be a terrible handicap—especially in acting because people would just look at you without hearing what you're saying or noticing that you're really putting yourself into a particular line or role.

When I received the letter I'm about to print for you, I sat down and really thought about the whole topic of looks versus personality. Anyway, here's a letter from a reader in New York named Kathleen Brenze:

"Dear David,

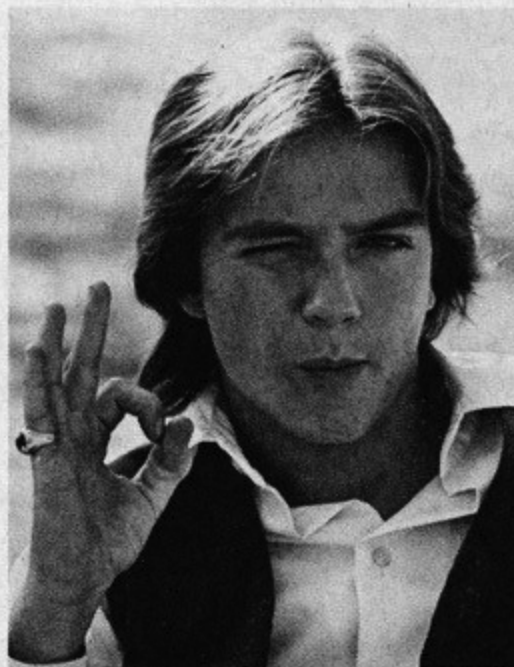
You're one of the cutest, handsomest, most good-looking guys around. My question is, do you feel at all conceited or "better" when you're around people—guys or girls—that aren't good-looking? Do you ever compare?

I think personality is a more important rating system, but what do YOU think?"

First of all, it really bothers me to have people tell me I'm cute or I'm good looking. I guess what my family taught me sticks in there and makes me afraid that people won't listen to me or will think that because they think I'm good looking, I'll be dumb or something.

I never really think about how I look. Really, I get up in the morning and I brush my teeth and I comb my hair out of my eyes so I can drive to

the studio and I throw on whatever shirt is handy and I really don't think about what I look like. When I meet a girl that I want to impress, I NEVER worry about being handsome enough or anything like that. I worry that I won't say the right things and she won't like me and before I leave the house, I'm concerned that my clothes are pressed and stuff like that... and that's all!



When I meet someone, I never stop to wonder if they're better looking than I am. I just don't think about it. I'm too busy trying to find out what's in their head, whether they're nice and thoughtful and kind and good to talk to or whether they're conceited or whatever. The same things you go through.

With girls, I guess it's a little different than when I meet a guy. In a girl, I look for what her features are... and I don't mean whether or not they're pretty. If I meet a girl who has a

pointed chin, I love to see how she's combed her hair down in tendrils to help make her chin look shorter. There's a girl named Marge who... if someone ever thought about it... has a very large nose. I love to see Marge because she's proud of her nose, she doesn't try to comb her bangs down to her chin to hide it. She's fascinating to me... and I'd rather date Marge any day than Miss Susie Q. Perfect. I never compare one girl to another.

Really, haven't you had days that you feel just great and you go out the door sparkling like a Christmas tree and people you meet tell you that you look great, you're beautiful, when you really know that you've got a chipped tooth and your ears are slightly too big? Sure you have! That's how beautiful or pretty or cute people get their reputation... it's all in their heads!

Personality is the ONLY rating system. Anyone who's in the entertainment business knows this. As proof, look at movie stars' wives. I can't name specific couples because I'd hurt feelings but think about it... none of them are really beautiful, are they? But believe me, they have personality! And how! They're sweet and kind and wonderful ladies.

Really, it's impossible to rate people one against the other unless you're so shallow yourself that you can't see any farther into a person than the features on their faces. And that's a trap... a real trap... because no matter how beautiful you are or someone else is, there's always someone who's MORE beautiful or MORE handsome. That kind of rating just doesn't work... for me or for anyone! Don't you agree?

David