

ROMANCE SCAMS

Romance scams cost Americans over \$210 Million a year.

Famous words:

- With you I ignored the warning signs.
- I have never done this before.
- What is your account number and I will wire you some money.
- I am lost without you.
- I cannot believe I finally found my soul mate.

How Could I Be So Deceived?

Scammers are professionals at getting people to fall for their romantic tactics. When you combine the loneliness a person feels by the illusions of a full life that others reflect on social media, it is not uncommon to feel you are the only one left out. Filtered pictures uploaded with the perfect setting and poses reveal something is missing in your world.

The thought that peoples lives are perfect together and I am all alone as you sit, scrolling on

your phone, waiting for the ideal person to “friend you” so your life will be filled with perfect poses too. We all feel we are smarter than the average person, and a scam will never happen to us because we can see right through it.

Admitting there is something wrong with this relationship.

We need to be honest with our close family and friends about romantic relationships with anyone, in person or strangers over the internet. Scams can happen anywhere.

We tell children to be careful and don’t talk with strangers, yet people move to our best friend because they ask to “friend” us. Romantic relationships need to go through the tried and true test: How well do I know this person? What time and personal sacrifice have they truly invested in our relationship? Are they always asking for something?

“I have always been told the truth is in the details. When someone is lying to get their way, they will always have the ability to change the story each time they tell it. If the truth keeps changing, it is no longer truth!”



Time has a wonderful way of showing us what really matters.

For further information, click on the following links.

https://www.equifax.co.uk/resources/identity_protection/how-to-spot-and-avoid-romance-scams.html

<https://www.cid.army.mil/romancescam.html>

<https://www.bbb.org/article/news-releases/17057-online-romance-scams-a-bbb-study-on-how-scammers-use-impersonation-blackmail-and-trickery-to-steal-from-unsuspecting-daters>

<https://callforaction.org/romance-scams-take-time-to-evolve/>

<https://www.scamwatch.gov.au/types-of-scams/dating-romance>

<https://www.fbi.gov/news/stories/romance-scams>