

## **Tinaya Brown- “Playing Your Position”**

Recently, I analyzed something that I think most men or women never really look at. When you're in a relationship, the boundaries are very few indeed. Don't cheat, don't flirt, and don't do anything you wouldn't want the other to see. But what about when you're "talking" to someone? What are the boundaries when you are just "cuffing" after hours? If a person knows a guy likes her, is it ok for her to get another number? I mean why wouldn't it be if she is still a single woman? Does she have the right to ask you where you are after 12 a.m.? Playing your position is the hardest thing for men and women to do. Here is my personal take on how to play your position, even if it's not the position that you want.

Ladies, in terms of playing our position: play it well. A man will be a man. Not to say that men are dogs, but the way you carry yourself as a female ultimately determines what a man sees in you. If you start off the relationship as bed buddies, then start to develop feelings while still carrying yourself as a bed buddy, you will always be his bed buddy, let's be honest. If the situation starts off strong and he feels that you are too much too soon, he will run, and run quickly. This happens ALOT with our species because we are naturally emotional creatures. Ninety percent of men younger than the age of thirty are scared of the C word. A man will not commit under pressure. So calling him, questioning his every move, or not speaking to him because he's speaking to another woman, will only result into you becoming a bed buddy. Nothing more, nothing less. If a man doesn't ask you to be his girlfriend, don't react like a girlfriend. There is a happy medium you have to find with pleasing a man to make him see potential in settling down with you, and not coming off as a psycho jealous female. And lastly, sometimes you might think that he wants you to play your position, when in all reality, he doesn't want you on his team. He just might not be that into you. You might read the signs wrong and think he likes you, when in reality, he's being nice. Take the L, suck it up, and focus on someone who notices and appreciates your team efforts.

Now males, what you guys fail to realize is that a smart female will not wait for you to play your position right. In this day in age women are wising up. Do not ignore the fact that she might be talking to someone else, no matter how well she treats you. A friend of mine once told me that she's really into the man she is dealing with, but she will not count all her eggs before they hatch. At times you are so concerned with not telling a female how you feel when you feel it, that you fail to realize, we are NOT mind readers. You can take a girl to dinner every day, buy her every gift in the world, but if you don't TELL her you like her, she won't know you like her. So if someone else shows her interest, and you have yet to tell her that you are feeling her, she will give in to that attention. You have no idea how three text messages a day can keep us happy. Let us know we're on your mind. A part of playing your position men, is setting the bar in a sense. If you don't want anything, tell her you just want to have fun. If you feel she's moving too fast, TELL HER! Men constantly make the mistake of ignoring women when a simple, lets just chill and see how this goes, will take you far. You scorn a woman by letting her imagination come up with the reasons why you weren't into her and make things worse for the next guy that comes along. Let her know what it is, honestly, and if she can't handle it, then don't waste your time. If she has wifey potential, don't let that go under you radar. Do not wait until she plays her position elsewhere to realize what she could be, and you're sitting there singing "Emotional" by Carl Thomas. Play her close, you never know, that could be the love of your life. And last but not least, don't be disrespectful and play your position with her, her friend's sister, and her roommate. You lose major points when you play your position with two girls you really like and they know each other. What's that about? She will not be able to trust you because she will see you around other females and think the worse of you.

Playing your position on both sides requires for one to know who they are as a person, what they want in a significant other, and honesty! But whatever position you do or don't choose to play, choose wisely.

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