

**ICH 2019****International Conference on Humanities****POLITENESS STRATEGIES OF CHINESE IN A TALK SHOW “IF YOU ARE THE ONE”**

Meimei Wu (a)\*, Jianning Wang (b)

\*Corresponding author

(a) College of Language and Communication, De La Salle University–Dasmarinas, Dasmarinas, Philippines, 4144, [wmmmary@l63.com](mailto:wmmmary@l63.com)

(b) Baoji University of Arts and Sciences, Baoji City, Shaanxi Province, P. R. China, 721013, School of Humanities, Universiti Sains Malaysia, 11800 Penang, Malaysia, [jianningwang@student.usm.my](mailto:jianningwang@student.usm.my)

***Abstract***

Based on discourse of a Chinese talk show, this study aims to test and verify Brown & Levinson's (hereafter B&L) theory of politeness. Politeness is culture specific, and in this respect, the term of “face” provides more evidence. Adopting descriptive text analysis, this study analysed the transcriptions of a popular Chinese TV show *If You Are the One* on a rhetorical level in the context of Chinese culture. The present study reveals that politeness strategies are prevalent in *If You Are the One*, with the majority of them being positive politeness strategies, which contradict with B&L's claim that people tend to select negative politeness as their preference, while bald on-record and off-record ones occurring rarely among the texts. The result shows that B&L's politeness model provides us directions about the affecting elements of Chinese interaction on its validity. Under positive politeness, the author added three subcategories, namely speaking, “approbation of L”, “showing gratitude”, and “saving face for L”. The original typology presented by B&L may reflect a western cultural bias, but necessitating validation efforts for each culture is research worthy. Chinese peculiar culture contributes a lot to the result, which hints a further research in the future.

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**Keywords:** Politeness strategies; positive politeness; negative politeness; text analysis.



## 1. Introduction

Pragmatic competence, according to Fraser (1983), is “the knowledge of how an addressee determines what a speaker is saying and recognizes intended illocutionary force conveyed through subtle attitudes” (p. 30), which is crucial for human beings’ effective and successful communication. Politeness is proved to be one of the essential components of pragmatic competence that promotes interpersonal relations and harmonize social interactions. In terms of politeness, there seems no agreement on its definition. Different researchers hold different approaches to it. Fraser (1990) outlines four approaches to an account of politeness: the social-norm view; the face-saving view; the conversational-maxim view; and the conversational-contract view. Majority of the research related to politeness since 1987 may be, to some extent, influenced by B&L’s theory (Watts, 2003). Broadly speaking, this paper adopts the face-saving approach, which puts emphasis on the face wants of interlocutors during conversations rather than on the interaction itself or the social rules.

Based on Goffman’s (1955) the politeness theory “On Face Work”, and the further development of face-related theories of Lakoff (1973) and Leech (1983), B & L conceptualize “face” as “the want to be unimpeded and the want to be approved of in certain respects”. And during interaction, face is “something that is emotionally invested, and can be lost, maintained, or enhanced, and must be constantly attended to” (Brown & Levinson, 1987, p. 66). Hu (1944) delineated the notion of ‘face’ in Chinese context, which is still assumed to be prevailing in contemporary China. However, in human interaction relationships, there unavoidably exists Face Threatening Acts (FTAs), interpreted FTAs in terms of two aspects: the recipients of FTAs in interaction and a particular face type being hurt. As a result, speakers will mitigate the threat with techniques including bald on-record, positive/negative politeness, off-record strategies. Supposing other factors being equal, the extent of above strategies are ordered from most to least threatening the hearer’s face. Furthermore, Brown and Levinson (1978) categorize positive politeness strategies into 15 and negative politeness strategies into 10 subcategories.

Since the theoretical frameworks of politeness theory are based on corpus from three languages, i.e. English, Tzeltal and Tamil, B&L’s politeness model has always been criticized due to the limited validity in non-western cultures. Thus, the universal applicability of B&L’s approach is defended by some researchers (Mills, 2009; Haugh, 2007; Chen, 2001, Gu, 1990; Mao, 1994; Yu, 2001). Among researches on employment of politeness strategies in verbal and written discourses in Chinese context, few studies have concentrated on a live talk show.

## 2. Problem Statement

The concept of politeness is culture specific to a certain extent, and in this respect, the term of “face” seems to provide more evidence. Actually, “face” nowadays has often been used as a metaphor in different cultures across the world. Furthermore, in linguistic sense, it seems to be a concept which is closely-related to but quite different from politeness. The paper only discusses the “face” in B&L’s sense, within the framework of politeness, a feeling of self-worth or self-image that every person has about himself.

### 3. Research Questions

Based on what has been mentioned previously, the RQs are as follows:

- (1) Considering the notion of (im)politeness, how is it manifested in the conversations of *If You Are the One*?
- (2) In what way does a discourse illustrate the politeness strategies of B&L?
- (3) Is B&L's typology of politeness strategies verified in Chinese perceptions?

### 4. Purpose of the Study

The article targets to test and verify B&L's theory of politeness in the context of Chinese culture. The author expects to find that B&L's politeness theory would provide approaches to study the social elements affecting Chinese interaction on its validity. It is of much significance to analyse the discourse from one of the most popular TV shows in Chinese culture, from which face is said to be originated.

### 5. Research Methods

#### 5.1. Data-gathering procedure

*Fei Cheng Wu Rao*, broadcast with the title *If You Are the One* in Australia and *Perfect Match* in Malaysia, is a Chinese dating talk show with the host being Meng Fei who has become more popular thanks to this TV show. Adopting the "Taken Out" format, the show is produced by Jiangsu Satellite TV and recorded in Nanjing. It was first put on the screen on Jiangsu Satellite TV on January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2010. The format of the show follows the below procedures: Single men (candidates) come on the stage one by one before a group of 24 ladies, who stands behind a podium with a light on it. After taking a quick look at ladies, the candidate is asked to pick one ideal and appealing lady (which can be seen by audience but is hidden from ladies). Then, through conversations with the host and three personal videos (VCRs), which usually include the impressions and evaluations from his friends, kinship members and colleagues, the candidate gradually unveils his hobbies, characters, private life, love experience and his preference and expectations in a future mate. At any moment, a lady can choose to turn off the light on her podium meaning she has no interest to the candidate. Ladies can also blast lights at any time to show their obsession towards him. If there is one or more light still on coming to the final step, the choosing right comes to the candidate. The candidate chooses his ideal lady and leaves the stage with her. If all lights are turned off, the candidate has no alternatives but leaving the stage alone.

The data gathering steps are video recordings and transcribing. First, download the target video. Second, transcribe. Since the TV shows broadcast in China were only with mandarin caption, the author searched the episodes with both English and Chinese captions on YouTube Website. Then, the author transcribed the English caption manually, with targeted transcription being presented in the appendixes. It is noted that the author used some simplified signals in analysis like "T=Transcript, Ln=Line, S=speaker, and L=listener".

Here listed Youtube LA of the selected sessions of *If You Are the One*:

- 1) [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9SVf-zUo\\_TY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9SVf-zUo_TY)
- 2) [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VpC\\_qpHHeBk](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VpC_qpHHeBk)

3) [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uB\\_UxsW9f04](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uB_UxsW9f04)

## 5.2. Data-analysing method

The study analysed the transcriptions used by candidates, host and consultants from different sessions of *If You Are the One* using text analysis. The transcriptions were categorized according to B&L's (1987) aforementioned four politeness strategies. The concrete subcategories of each strategy are as follows: the positive ones include: 1) noticing the listener (L); 2) exaggerating; 3) consolidating interest to L; 4) adopting in-group identity marker; 5) asking for agreement; 6) avoiding potential conflicts; 7) presupposing/raising/asserting common ground; 8) joking; 9) asserting/presupposing the speaker's concern for L's wants; 10) offering/promising; 11) being optimistic; 12) including both S and H in the activity; 13) giving/asking for reasons; 14) emphasizing reciprocity; 15) benefiting L at most; the negative ones are listed as follows: 1) being conventionally indirect; 2) questioning/hedging; 3) being pessimistic; 4) minimizing the imposition; 5) giving deference; 6) apologizing; 7) impersonalizing; 8) stating the FTA as a general rule; 9) nominalizing; 10) going on record as incurring a debt (the speaker shows his appreciation if the listener does what the speaker requests).

The analysis included identification and description of the pragmatic functions of utterances on a textual level. The author then went beyond the text itself to identify and categorize the choice of words and phrases which can be considered from the perspective of politeness strategies.

In this research, the author put priority on participants' utterances as the data, taking other non-linguistic modals like facial expressions, gestures, movements, etc. as complementary clues. As for the value orientation of a particular person and the TV show, it was far beyond the scope of this paper, and was neglected.

## 6. Findings

This study presented research results according to B&L's categories and under each category the author classified each politeness related discourse into its subcategories with detailed explanations to answer RQ 1 & RQ 2 and presented the related numbers and frequencies in tabular forms. While analysing the data and limitations of research, RQ 3 was answered.

### 6.1. Positive politeness

(1) Context: Immediately after the opening remark of the host and the presence of the first candidate named Zhang Jiaxing, Lady 18 turned off her light, showing she is not interested. The host asked her for the reason, and Consultant Lei Huang mediated for her and she also seized the opportunity to reserve the candidate's positive face. The author here put it into the "approbation of L" subcategory. e.g. (Ln 8-11, T; Under the same subcategory are there more examples, Ln 12-14, T1; Ln 53-56, T2; Ln 89-95, T2; Ln 288-292, T2; Ln 465-467, T2; Ln 492-498, T2; Ln 94-95, T3; Ln 150, T3; Ln 258-264, T3; Ln 410-411, T3.

(2) Context: After Candidate Jiaxin Zhang successfully found his matching girlfriend, they praised each other indirectly to intensify interest and good impression to each other in the post-interview. Surely, the dialogues below should stand into subcategory of "consolidating interest to L" of positive politeness

strategies. E.g. (Ln 180-181, T1). Another example: After the presence of Candidate Maoyuan Zeng, Lady 18 immediately expressed her appreciation for Zeng's personal expertise, and invited him to show his martial arts. Host Fei Meng also echoed Lady 18's invitation, partly out of politeness, partly for better effect of TV show. E.g. (Ln 43-48, T2); More similar examples can be seen in Ln 408-410, T2; Ln 412-414, T2; Ln 593-600, T2; Ln 61-65, T3; Ln 405-408, T3 and Ln 439-444, T3.

(3) Context: After Candidate Maoyuan Zeng encountered a tough question, he asked Host Fei Meng for help saying "I'm out of breath", with the illocutionary meaning being "I'm nervous". Here, the candidate wisely adopted the substrategy of "emphasizing reciprocity". E.g. (Ln 63-66, T2). Another example: Candidate Hanqi Li came to the stage for the second time, and his "favourite/ideal girl" remained the same lady, No.11. At this round, he came to the final step, a decisive moment whether Lady 11 would choose him or not. Consultant Jia Le asked him "Do you want me to help you, Lin Hanqi", and he responded: "Please do so. Thank you." Jia Le confirmed "Are you sure?", he answered firmly "Yes". The interaction operated just like that between brothers. In Chinese culture, more often when a man pursues a girl, there is no need of "help" from another male, except of his family members, who will surely say good words of him and persuade the girl to accept his approach or something like that. As a result, the example falls into the subcategory of "emphasizing reciprocity". E.g. (Ln 548-561, T3);

(4) Context: Lady 9 said what the candidate lacks was just what she could offer: "That IT world is rather dull, so I could lighten it up!" This claim sounded more powerful and persuasive than some silly words like "I love you". The subcategory of "asserting common ground" will be well interpreted with the following example. E.g. (Ln 145-152, T2); More similar examples can be seen in Ln 237-243, T2; Ln 268-279, T2; Ln 313-330, T2; Ln 530-539, T2; Ln 113-115, T3; Ln 129-132, T3; Ln 359-367, T3.

(5) Context: When Lady 18 asked the candidate "will you design a chip for your favourite girl", the candidate Changhui Hu answered: "A chip is too complicated as a present for her. I'd like to take her travelling and to go out". Although the candidate declared his attitude that he would treat his future girlfriend a trip instead of designing a chip for her. With this claim he tried to "seek agreement". E.g. Ln 169-171, T2; Ln 346-363, T2.

(6) Context: When a candidate named Changhui Hu asserted he was steward, Consultant Jia Le and Host Fei Meng advised to verify his strength by carrying one of 24 ladies. Lady 7 volunteered to be carried. But due to shyness (possible reason), the candidate offered to carry Jia Le, the quoted conversations below (Ln 182-186, T2) illustrated how Fei Meng redressed the candidate's FTA to Lady 7. The author here prefers to add a subcategory of "saving face for L". Another example can be seen in Ln 66-69, T1.

(7) Context: When Lady 23 successfully found her ideal boyfriend and was leaving the stage, she expressed her gratitude to host and consultants. "Showing gratitude" is also a universal politeness across the world, so the author personally adds this subcategory under positive politeness. E.g. (Ln 422-426, T2); More similar examples can be seen in Ln 18-20, T3 and Ln 530-531, T3.

(8) Context: When Victor (candidate) asked Lady 22 and Lady 24 "What colour is Spider-Man?" they gave their answers. But Victor said: "Let me tell you. It's white." And explained that the literally pronouncing way of the word "spider-man" told the colour, just for the effect of humour. This example comes to the subcategory of "joking" of positive politeness. E.g. (Ln 581-583, T2).

**Table 01.** Outcomings of Positive Politeness Strategies in *If You Are the One*

Sub-strategies of positive politeness	Location of utterance	Total number / frequency (%)
Approbation of L	Ln 8-11, T1; Ln 12-14, T1; Ln 53-56, T2; Ln 89-95, T2; Ln 288-292, T2; Ln 465-467, T2; Ln 492-498, T2; Ln 94-95, T3; Ln 150, T3; Ln 258-264, T3; Ln 410-411, T3	11 (29.73%)
Showing gratitude	Ln 422-426, T2; Ln 18-20, T3; Ln 530-531, T3	3 (8.11%)
Saving face for L	Ln 182-186, T2; Ln 66-69, T1	2 (5.41 %)
Consolidating interest to L	Ln 180-181, T1; Ln 43-48, T2; Ln 408-410, T2; Ln 412-414, T2; Ln 593-600, T2; Ln 61-65, T3; Ln 405-408, T3; Ln 439-444, T3	8 (21.62%)
Emphasizing reciprocity	Ln 63-66, T2; Ln 548-561, T3	2 (5.41%)
Asserting common ground	Ln 145-152, T2; Ln 237-243, T2; Ln 268-279, T2; Ln 313-330, T2; Ln 530-539, T2; Ln 113-115, T3; Ln 129-132, T3; Ln 359-367, T3	8 (21.62%)
Asking for agreement	Ln 169-171, T2; Ln 346-363, T2	2 (5.41%)
Joking	Ln 581-583, T2	1 (2.7%)
<b>Total: 8</b>		<b>37 (100%)</b>

Note: T= Transcript Ln=Line S=speaker L=listener

After analyzing the data, the most surprising results in Table 1 are as follows: among 8 subcategories of positive politeness strategies, the most frequently used strategy is “approbation of L” with the frequency of 29.73%, while “joking” receives the least frequency of 2.7%. Besides, “approbation of L”, “showing gratitude”, and “saving face for L” are three subcategories added to B&L’s list by the author, because identified positive politeness strategies in the transcripts cannot be put under any item listed in B&L’s typology. To some extent, it provides us with answer to RQ 3: “Is B&L’s typology of politeness strategies verified in Chinese perceptions?”

## 6.2. Negative Politeness

(1) Context: Lady 12 appreciated the candidate’s outfit, or she just wanted to build a more harmonious interaction with him through a cordial way. But the candidate did not give a positive response, rather showed his disagreement indirectly. As a result, it falls to the subcategory of “being conventionally indirect”. E.g. (Ln 17-18, T1); E.g.2 continued above case of Lady 6. After her hedging, she put forward her question: “You come from a good family. How do your family feel about your selecting girlfriend?” At this moment, Host Fei Meng inserted a question: “I will ask for her”, which illustrate the host’s splendid craft to make the communication more coherent and harmonious and to make the show more appealing. Coming back to the candidate’s response: “It really isn’t a problem. She looks 18-20 years old”, which was still a “being conventionally indirect” illustration. E.g. Ln 64-65, T1. E.g. 3: When Lady 19 asked the candidate “Am I pretty?”, his response was “This is very subjective”, which is unusual. Conventionally, a gentleman praises a woman’s charm even though the fact may be contrary. So, his first response actually hinted his negative appreciation toward Lady 19. But we can see from the following interaction that Lady 19 questioned closely two more times before she got the final praise: “You are pretty”. Actually, he was

reluctant to recognize her beauty, just for saving her face and keeping his gentleman image. A typical example of “being conventionally indirect”. E.g. Ln 214-224, T3.

(2) Context: When Lady 20 wanted to ask a question, she firstly praised him being handsome, which is universal in all cultures. So, it’s a typical example of “questioning/hedging”. E.g. (Ln 50-55, T1); Lady 6 successfully used the same communicative skill in Ln 60-63, T1, and it really led to a delightful interaction. More examples are listed below: Ln 58-62, T2; Ln 165-168, T2; Ln 574-577, T3.

(3) Context: At the final step, Lady 24 still remained her light for candidate Maoyuan Zeng, and just as mentioned above, she praised the candidate with “Ln 89-95, T2”, which was her last confession. But still, Maoyuan Zeng refused her but apologized offering an alternative of “we may become good friends.” This example falls into the subcategory of “apologizing.” E.g. (Ln 99-103, T2); More similar examples can be seen in Ln 203-220, T2 and Ln 289-292, T3.

**Table 02.** Results of Negative Politeness Strategies in *If You Are the One*

Sub-strategies of negative politeness	Location of utterance	Total number/frequency (%)
Being conventionally indirect	Ln 17-18, T1; Ln 64-65, T1; Ln 214-224, T3	3 (27.25%)
Questioning/hedging	Ln 50-55, T1; Ln 60-63, T1; Ln 58-62, T2; Ln 165-168, T2; Ln 574-577, T3;	5 (45.5%)
Apologizing	Ln 99-103, T2; Ln 203-220, T2; Ln 289-292, T3	3 (27.25%)
<b>Total: 3</b>		<b>11 (100%)</b>

Note: T= Transcript Ln=Line S=speaker L=listener

Table 02 shows that the identified subcategories in this study under negative politeness strategies are “being conventionally indirect”, “questioning/hedging” and “apologizing” with the frequency being respectively 27.25%, 45.5% and 27.25% in order. That is to say, in *If You Are the One*, a dating TV show, negative politeness strategies are far less used than positive politeness strategies.

### 6.3. Bald on-record

(1) Context: Now Lady 1, Lady 22 and Lady 24 still held light for Jiaxin Zhang, and there was only one opportunity. A gentleman conventionally does not disprove a lady directly. But this time, the candidate seemed to be “frank”. Shortly after this moment, when he had to turn off one of the three lights, he chose to knock out Lady 1, which proved his intention of this utterance. E.g. (Ln 152-154, T1); Another example: After the VCR of Candidate named Yang Yang, Lady 19 rudely commented the candidate’s inappropriate lifestyle. And the candidate responded like this “you look after beauty. I’ll take care of money.” E.g. (Ln 209-213, T3); More similar examples were as follows: Lady 10’s remark after the presence of the candidate: “... earn more money. It’s not worth it” in Ln 18, T2 and also in Ln 235-238, T3 and Ln 331-338, T3.

### 6.4. Off-record

(1) Context: Immediately after a candidate’s presence, Lady 9 turned off the light. When the host asked her reason, she said she was just immersed in the last guy’s perception. It seemed none of business of this candidate. It was an off-record FTA. E.g. (Ln 233-235, T2).

In this paper, 54 items in total were identified related to B&L's (im)politeness strategies, among which positive politeness strategies took up the largest part with the number and frequency being 37 and 68.52% respectively. Under positive politeness, the author added three subcategories, namely, "approbation of L", "showing gratitude", and "saving face for L". Hence, B&L's politeness model will serve to reveal some general characteristics of politeness patterns. The original typology presented by B&L may reflect a western cultural bias, but necessitating validation efforts for each culture is research worthy, which can be used to answer RQ 3 of this study.

## 7. Conclusion

From the face-saving approach, this paper analysed the discourse of a popular Chinese TV show *If You Are the One* on a textual level. The study reveals that the employment of politeness strategies is prevalent in it, with the majority of them being positive strategies, which contradict with B&L's claim that people tend to select negative politeness as their preference. Besides, the result shows bald on-record and off-record strategies occurring rarely in *If You Are the One*.

It is evident that B&L's work provides sufficient theoretical support to discourse analysis procedures. However, based on RQ 3, the results revealed in this study are not totally in accord with B&L's typology of politeness strategies, partly because the data collected is recorded lived interaction instead of realistic interpersonal relationship construction, partly because of the dating-oriented nature of the show. All ladies and candidates attended endeavour to positively impress the interlocutors and establish an ideal image. Besides, Chinese peculiar culture contributes a lot to the result, which hints a further research in the future.

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## Appendix

Code	Original Text
Ln 8-11, T1	<b>Fei Meng (Host):</b> Right now, she has turned off her button. <b>Lei Huang (consultant 1):</b> This is the rule, maybe she is scared. <b>Lady 18:</b> Yes, I am scared because he looks so handsome. I think being next to him would give me a lot of stress.
Ln 12-14, T1	<b>Lady 24:</b> Are you mixed-blood? <b>Jiaxin Zhang:</b> My grandparents. <b>Lady 24:</b> Very handsome !
Ln17-18, T1	<b>Lady 12:</b> It looks like you are dressed for a wedding. <b>Jiaxin Zhang:</b> I'm just here to find my match.
Ln 50-55, T1	<b>Lady 20:</b> First I want to say, you are so handsome. I have a question. A while ago you said you are patient. If your girlfriend is a foreigner... And you have been together for a long time... She has no way of returning to her country. Would you go with her or wait for her in china? <b>Jiaxin Zhang:</b> Actually right now it is really convenient. Just buy a plane ticket. It's not a problem. The important, thing is... If the 2 people get along.
Ln 60-63, T1	<b>Lady 6:</b> Hello! It just saw your video and it seems that your life is very happy and fulfilled. I feel that you have grown to be so handsome and maybe when you were younger you were naughty. You come from a good family. How do they feel about selecting girl friend?
Ln 64-65, T1	<b>Fei Meng (Host):</b> Her next question will be "What is the youngest and oldest age you would consider a girlfriend" I will ask for her.
Ln 66-69, T1	<b>Jiaxin Zhang:</b> It really isn't a problem. She looks 18-20 years old! <b>Lady 6:</b> So your meaning is my age is ok? <b>Jiaxin Zhang:</b> Of course! <b>Lady 6:</b> I'm happy!
Ln 152-154, T1	<b>Lady 1:</b> When i watch the video, I felt like your life is like living in a drama. I felt like I am in a love story in suburb. Do you understand? Like a king and queen. <b>Jiaxin Zhang:</b> Actually. I think I am very down to earth.
Ln 180-181, T1	<b>Lady 22:</b> He is the second man I have met who wears these. <b>Jiaxin Zhang:</b> I like a girl who reads and has good manners.
Ln 18, T2	<b>Lady 10:</b> I don't really like the way he came on. I prefer guys who are more mature.
Ln 43-48, T2	<b>Lady 18:</b> Hello. Such a good martial artist. Would you mind showing us some of your skills? <b>Fei Meng (Host):</b> Apparently, they want to see more. As you're wearing the costume, can you show us some actions? <b>Maoyuan Zeng:</b> All right. I'm sure there are martial artists in the audience. I haven't practised much for the lated six years. Please be lenient with me.
Ln 53-56, T2	<b>Lady 17:</b> You practise martial arts and you like Chinese music. I believe a Chinese American like you must have many American friends. Through you, they can learn about Chinese culture. You've played a big role in promoting Chinese culture. Well done!
Ln 58-62, T2	<b>Lady 24:</b> Your performance made me feel that you could made feel that you could give a girl security. Your explosive strength is impressive. Your action reminded me of "18 Ways of Conquering the Dragon". i have a question. You and your girlfriend, are walking down the street and someone tries to rob you. Will you choose to stop him yourself or call the police to arrest him? It can be very risky, you know.
Ln 63-66, T2	<b>Maoyuan Zeng:</b> Mr. Meng, I'm out of breath. <b>Fei Meng (Host):</b> I'll let him rest a bit. I can hear him puffing. I suppose it depends. If it's a thug committing minor offence, he can stop him. If it's a gang with machine guns robbing a bank, he'll call the police.
Ln 89-95, T2	<b>Lady 24:</b> I just want to say that I really appreciate responsible and caring men. I find you a kind-hearted man. Whether you'll take me or not, I'll support you. And, if there is any opportunity for us to be friends, I'll look after you sister with you. I'm a caring person and I like animals and children. If you can take good care of your sister, you must be a responsible family man. I'm sure you'll also be responsible for your own family. You're diligent at work and you're a very good family man. You have my support.
Ln 99-103, T2	<b>Lady 24:</b> I'm living in China, but may go to work in California next year. <b>Maoyuan Zeng:</b> My current thought is I'm not prepared for a long-distance relationship. And I don't want you to miss out on other opportunities. So I'll say I'm sorry for now. But if you're interested, we may become good friends. <b>Lady 24:</b> That'll be good. I'll support you regardless. Thank you, Mr Meng.
Ln 145-152, T2	<b>Lady 9:</b> I've never dated a science or engineering guy, or an IT guy. There are chips, but no girls in their lives. It would be good to date a guy like that. I could be the greatest joy in his life. <b>Changhui Hu:</b> Thank you. <b>Fei Meng (Host):</b> Be the greatest joy in his life. What an interesting expression! <b>Lady 9:</b> That IT world is rather dull, so I could live it up. That would give me satisfaction. <b>Fei Meng (Host):</b> Be a joy to each other.
Ln 165-168, T2	<b>Lady 18:</b> I'm very curious about guys with a PhD who are so capable. I have a friend who has a PhD in physics. He made an electronic plate in a heart shape for his girlfriend. Would you do similar things? For example, will you design a chip for your favorite girl?
Ln 169-171, T2	<b>Changhui Hu:</b> A chip is too complicated as a present for her. I'd like to take her travelling and to go out. <b>Lady 18:</b> Thank you.
Ln 182-186, T2	<b>Jia Le (consultant 1):</b> You can carry her first, then I can hop on her. You'd better carry her alone. <b>Changhui Hu:</b> Can I carry you? <b>Fei Meng (Host):</b> You don't seem to have a high EQ. The girl is right here. <b>Changhui Hu:</b> Would you like me to carry you ? Only as a token gesture.
Ln 203-220, T2	<b>Lady 16:</b> Hello, I have a question for you. Suppose you met me and you like me, so you want to ask me out. pretend you're calling me now. I want to know how you'll ask me and what you'll arrange. <b>Changhui Hu:</b> Hi. <b>Lady 16:</b> Hello. <b>Changhui Hu:</b> There's a new restaurant here. It's very good. would you like to try it? <b>Lady 16:</b> What type of food? <b>Changhui Hu:</b> It's a new restaurant. <b>Lady 16:</b> But I'd like sushi. Is that okay? <b>Changhui Hu:</b> Not a problem. I know a Japanese restaurant. It's very popular. <b>Lady 16:</b> When are we going? <b>Changhui Hu:</b> Any time, whenever you're free. <b>Lady 16:</b> But who are you? <b>Fei Meng (Host):</b> So you don't know who you go out with. <b>Lady 16:</b> I like men who are very decisive. So, if you want a date with me, i'd like you to tell me clearly when and where. So, I'm sorry. <b>Changhui Hu:</b> Not a problem.
Ln 233-235, T2	<b>Lady 9:</b> Actually I quite liked the last IT guy, but it's unlikely that I'll go to America. Now he's left, I'm feeling sad. He didn't use his hands to hold the girl. I think he's self-disciplined and has a sensible approach. I still recovering from the loss.
Ln 237-243, T2	<b>Lady 14:</b> I find him a lovely guy. I've noticed that has a habit of leaning forward. Am I right? So I think he would be a cautions person. That's my feeling. <b>Fei Meng (Host):</b> What's the connection? <b>Lady 14:</b> I myself am a cautions person. My friends often comment that I tend to lean forward. <b>Lady 14:</b> I like to see others through myself.
Ln 268-279, T2	<b>Fei Meng (Host):</b> Didn't you know that? Our director said he worked very hard. He's one of those most diligent men. He works 12 hours, leaving four hours for sleep. He flies around and doesn't know what jetlag is. Ten. <b>Lady 10:</b> I like doctors very much. I see that you're both an MD and a PhD. It must be hard. My ex-boyfriend studied medicine. He said there was so much to study that he felt sleeping was a waste of time. He slept on the floor to have more time for his studies. Did you have similar experience? <b>Maoding Li:</b> I only sleep five hours a day. So I have plenty of time. <b>Lady 10:</b> Me too, I sleep four or five hours. So you made time for your studies and work. <b>Maoding Li:</b> That's right.
Ln 288-292, T2	<b>Lady 13:</b> You've been fidgeting. <b>Maoding Li:</b> Yes, I'm very nervous. <b>Lady 13:</b> Some men carry themselves in a composed way. Other men can get nervous at critical moments. But I think men who get a bit nervous are more realistic. You can relate to them. I take that as a good thing.
Ln 313-330, T2	<b>Lady 23:</b> Can you relax? You look so nervous. We aren't like floods or wild animals. Medicine is a respected profession. You said your trip to Africa had changed your life. I appreciate your change of views. Sometimes when you go out to help other people, not only do these people benefit from your help, you also gain great satisfaction, which some people may not understand. I think a man with a loving heart deserves the love of a goof woman. If he cares for others, he'll also care for his woman. So I don't appreciate your ex-girlfriend's attitude. I hope you'll go from strength to strength in your profession. You're a man with social responsibility. <b>Fei Meng (Host):</b> Can i take it that he's the type of man you like? <b>Lady 23:</b> Yes, I don't mind if a man isn't handsome or tall. <b>Fei Meng (Host):</b> You mean he isn't handsome. <b>Lady 23:</b> He isn't. <b>Fei Meng (Host):</b> Are you pleased by what she said? <b>Maoding Li:</b> Of course, I'm pleased. She's very pretty. <b>Lady 23:</b> I also appreciate your view on money. Things such as assets, power or money can't go with you when you die. We came with nothing and will leave with nothing. Focus on living a full life. <b>Jia Le (consultant 1):</b> She's telling you that your views and her

	thoughts are exactly the same.
Ln 346-363, T2	<b>Lady 10:</b> You know I like doctors. <b>Fei Meng (Host):</b> We learned that last episode. <b>Jia Le (consultant 1):</b> Why do you like doctors? <b>Lady 10:</b> Because I'm a nurse myself. I love my profession. Like you, I enjoy helping patients, even though that's my job. I really enjoy looking after them, particularly when they're so pleased to have my help. That's it. <b>Lady 10:</b> I have a question for you. Do you mind that we're in the same profession? <b>Maoding Li:</b> So for I haven't dated a girl from the same profession. Because I think if we have to talk about the same things outside work, that could be rather boring. <b>Fei Meng (Host):</b> He means that you'll have to talk about the things at and after work. <b>Lady 10:</b> But what if I tell you that I'll go with you to Africa and we can set up a medical station. <b>Maoding Li:</b> If we get together, that would be an ideal situation.
Ln 408-410, T2	<b>Maoding Li:</b> I...(Go up to the girl and speak to her) I really touched. I really touched by her helping those children in Sichuan. Those children. Yes. I've noticed that she speaks in a simple and direct manner. I like her style.
Ln 412-414, T2	<b>Lady 23:</b> I've finally found a man who can share my thoughts and views. A man with loving heart deserves admiration. Those children in the remote villages will feel pleased for Teacher Meng. Can I ask the crew to show their pictures?
Ln 422-426, T2	<b>Lady 23:</b> My beloved Grandpa Meng, you've been like family to me on the show. I'm leaving now. And Mr Le Jia, I've been a bit afraid of you, as you can be fearsome. I hope every day will be a happy day for you. Ms Huang, I'll never be a graceful lady like you. I hope I can have your elegance in my next life. Thank you.Thank you all. 23 is leaving. Goodbye. Can I have a drink with you?
Ln 465-467, T2	<b>Lady 22:</b> First of all, he's very handsome. My first impression is very good. I'd like to know more. <b>Victor:</b> Thank you.
Ln 492-498, T2	<b>Lady 17:</b> You make replica guns. You also like race cars, motorbikes and snowboarding. All these interests of yours sound quite thrilling. These are risks there, particularly riding a motorbike. Can you say something to make us less anxious? You could say you actually love peace and the risk level is very low. Can you explain your profession so we can feel less concerned? <b>Victor:</b> It's just a matter of degree. It depends on an individual's self-control. If you lack self-control, you'd better keep away. <b>Lady 17:</b> Thank you.
Ln 530-539, T2	<b>Lady 8:</b> I'm sorry. I've had an eight-year relationship. Eight years. <b>Fei Meng (Host):</b> Then what happened? You didn't want to hold him back. <b>Lady 8:</b> It was a long-distance relationship. In the end, we split up. <b>Victor:</b> We met each other when we were young. We got together without really knowing it. <b>Lady 8:</b> Can I ask, do you believe in love at first sight or does love come with the pass of time? <b>Victor:</b> I'm too tired. If I meet a girl I dearly love, I would want to get married in three years. If you drag on for seven years, the feeling will be lost. <b>Lady 8:</b> I fully agree.
Ln 581-583, T2	<b>Victor:</b> Let me tell you. It's white. <b>Lady 22:</b> White? <b>Victor:</b> "Spider" sounds like "shi bai de." So, it's white.
Ln 593-600, T2	<b>Lady 22:</b> I'm so pleased. I had a good impression when I first saw him. I've wanted to find a tall guy who likes to smile and is cheerful. That's exactly what he is. So I kept observing him. <b>Victor:</b> When I first saw her, I found her very pretty. She has that kind of elegant vibe about her. I picked her at first sight. <b>Lady 22:</b> When I saw I was his favorite girl, I was so excited that I didn't know what to think. When he revealed his answer, I thought he was funny. I really like him; I've been waiting for him to come.
Ln 18-20, T3	<b>Qing Shui:</b> Out of 50000 who register for the show, openly one can come on stage. It's probably one out of 50000 who can come here again. I'm grateful for this opportunity today.
Ln 61-65, T3	<b>Lady 1:</b> When I was small, my mum liked dancing and taught me a few steps. Can you teach me? <b>Qing Shui:</b> You want to dance with me? <b>Lady 1:</b> Yes. <b>Fei Meng (Host):</b> Please come. Can you do it? Come over.
Ln 94-95, T3	<b>Lady 17:</b> When I saw One dancing, I also wanted to try. I admire you very much. Modern dance is not my strengths. I really admire you.
Ln 113-115, T3	<b>Lady 6:</b> In the video, you said you help the poor in Sichuan. I also went to help the poor in Guangxi. The children there really need our help. I hope you and I can go together to Sichuan and Guangxi to help those poor children.
Ln 129-132, T3	<b>Lady 6:</b> I watched you closely last time. <b>Qing Shui:</b> Really? <b>Lady 6:</b> Let's go for it. <b>Qing Shui and lady 6:</b> Go for it.
Ln 150, T3	<b>Lady 10:</b> I think your moustache looks nice.
Ln 209-213, T3	<b>Lady 19:</b> I think you're overworking. You set up four companies. You didn't sleep to earn more money. It's not worth it. <b>Yang Yang:</b> It was a young boy outside but I had a strong mind. I was alone overseas for 11 years. I didn't have much social life. So you look after beauty. I'll take care of money.
Ln 214-224, T3	<b>Lady 19:</b> Am I pretty? <b>Yang Yang:</b> This is very subjective. <b>Lady 19:</b> I want your view. <b>Fei Meng (Host):</b> It doesn't cost you money to praise her. <b>Lady 19:</b> Just tell the truth. <b>Yang Yang:</b> If I speak offhand, other girls will think I'm unreliable. <b>Lady 19:</b> Just tell the truth. <b>Yang Yang:</b> You're pretty. <b>Lady 19:</b> Thank you. <b>Fei Meng (Host):</b> Very good. <b>Lady 19:</b> Thank you.
Ln 235-238, T3	<b>Yang Yang:</b> To answer you, my current situation is better. My girlfriend is important to me. <b>Fei Meng (Host):</b> Are you happy with his answer, One? <b>Lady 1:</b> Sorry, thank you.
Ln 258-264, T3	<b>Audience 1:</b> I have a good impression of him. <b>Yang Yang:</b> Thank you for coming with me. <b>Audience 1:</b> I think no man is perfect. What Ms. Huang said is correct. You have your strengths. We can slowly get to know each other. Guangzhou is close to Shenzhen. <b>Yang Yang:</b> I'm happy to come over. As Ms. Huang said, I can slowly show my good side. Thank you for giving me the opportunity. She's nice and calm. She made me feel peaceful. Thank you.
Ln 289-292, T3	<b>Lady 15:</b> I'm sorry, candidate. I'm a bit short but you're very tall. If you talk to me, you'll lower your head and I'll lift mine. We'll both get stiff necks. For our own good, I pass. When I look up, I will see stars. Sorry, he has to look down and I look up, so we both suffer.
Ln 331-338, T3	<b>Lady 10:</b> Hi candidate. today you're coming across like a tame lamb. A leopard doesn't change its spots. What's happened to you in a few months? You're too tame. I have to be frank. I don't like your type. You are an angry bull. now you're a tame lamb. <b>Liangchao Chen:</b> I really changed in a matter of months. <b>Lady 10:</b> It's not a matter of moments. Your change is too huge. <b>Liangchao Chen:</b> I hope people can see I've changed. I've changed since i came on this show.
Ln 359-367, T3	<b>Lady 11:</b> Whether you've changed or not, i agree with you on one point. you said coming on this show is like having a mirror to check yourself with. I agree. Girls have become more certain of what they want and realize what kind of person they are. Especially when we stay here longer, we come across people who like us and who don't. I can share with my feelings with my new sisters here. if you're sincere in what you do, don't worry about defaming you. they talk about you but in fact defame themselves. when people patronize you, don't take yourself seriously. When we return to our daily lives, we are who we are. I'd like to share this with you. <b>Liangchao Chen:</b> TKS.
Ln 405-408, T3	<b>Lady 20:</b> Hello, I have a good impression of you. When you first came, I was sitting over there as a back-up girl. I found you were good. I watched you later on TV, too. So I'd like to know you more. <b>Hanqi Li:</b> Thank you.
Ln 410-411, T3	<b>Lady 22:</b> You're the type I like. In the first segment, i was falling asleep. When i see you, my blood is racing.
Ln 439-444, T3	<b>Fei Meng (Host):</b> 20 has blown up her light. Do you want to say something? <b>Lady 20:</b> I'd like to repeat what i said before. When i first came, i sat over there. I paid attention to you and i followed you on TV. Then Luo Qi and i were watching you on TV. I said to her that you were a reliable guy. So I hope today... I hope you can take me away this time. I really hope so. <b>Hanqi Li:</b> Thank you for your support.
Ln 530-531, T3	<b>Hanqi Li:</b> Thank you very much, 20. But when I came on stage, I'd already made up my mind. So I insist.
Ln 548-561, T3	<b>Jia Le (consultant 1):</b> Do you want me to help you, Lin Hanqi? <b>Hanqi Li:</b> Please do so. Thank you. <b>Jia Le (consultant 1):</b> Are you sure? <b>Hanqi Li:</b> Yes, I am. <b>Jia Le (consultant 1):</b> Can you stand back and let me talk? <b>Hanqi Li:</b> Thank you. <b>Jia Le (consultant 1):</b> I'd like to speak to Luo Qi directly. Among all our girls, I don't think Luo Qi is happy. On the contrary, based on my observations in recent months, sometimes I feel she's a bit pitiful. What I mean by pitiful is, she was brought up in a big family and I believe she is subject to pressure, constraints and rules from the family. She isn't allowed to do what she likes. To resolve this problem, she needs to find someone who is positive and has the power to help her draw from her inner self the natural qualities she possesses. Your character can inspire her to bring out what she needs. I'm finished.
Ln 574-577, T3	<b>Hanqi Li:</b> Can I...Let me ask you this. I already said it when I came last time. No matter what, feelings are important. No matter what your background is or where you live, feelings are important. How do you feel about me? <b>Lady 11:</b> I'm willing to go with you.