



### Media Coverage

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英文虎報

# Four professions have hard time dating

**Sophie Hui**

Teachers, social service helpers, retailers and construction workers are the professions where employees have the toughest time finding dates, a poll by the Christian Family Service Center's Vital Employee Service Consultancy has found.

It surveyed 872 people in November and December, and found that the jobs of 77.4 percent of respondents had a negative impact on dating. Around 56.9 percent said they work too much and can't set aside enough time to date.

Just under a third said they earn too little to be able to date, and about one quarter can't date due to their work schedule. Some 22 percent said their job image isn't appealing.

It also found teachers and those in social services, import and export, wholesale and retail find it difficult to have a love life. Those in construction feel their work does not give off a positive image, signifying confidence issues.

Principal consultant Suen Lap-man said heavy workloads are one of the main reasons why such people opt to get married later in life.

He also said long working hours may hinder some people's desire to date.

"We have seen cases where people changed their jobs, or even worked in a different industry that doesn't require them to work in shifts, or have long working hours," Suen said.

He suggested employers be aware about workloads, pressures and social and familial needs, or their employees may start to feel depressed and unmotivated, and even quit their jobs.

Suen encouraged workers to join in activities like running, hiking and photography to meet more people of the opposite sex.

He said dating apps are convenient, but can't replace a traditional date, as people need face-to-face communication to understand each other.

Around 45.9 percent of respondents don't even attempt to meet new people of the opposite sex.

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