

Chemistry to explain what happens when we fall in love

LOCATION: Seville

DURATION: 1'31''

SUMMARY: Physical attraction, infatuation and affection are the three main phases of love. Not all relationships go through the, but there's a series of chemical phenomena that explain why love is a drug. The Seville House of Science, an institution under the CSIC, has organised a workshop to explain what love is and why we fall in love.

VTR:

Men fall in love through their eyes and women through their ears, although smell is also important for both of them. The more different they are, the greater the differences between their immune systems will be, and the result is a stronger offspring. That's the base of physical attraction. But, why do we fall in love?

CAROLINA BAYO
Science disseminator

"It's something biological and we can't escape from biology. There isn't much we can do to get rid of it."

In this workshop organised by the Seville House of Science, which is under the CSIC, people learn what love is. Because as no one can escape from it, it's better to know what are we facing. What we think that is controlled behaviour is defined by chemistry as a state of mental derangement that, fortunately, is only temporary.

CAROLINA BAYO
Science disseminator

"No one can be in love for eternity. It would be completely exhausting. We wouldn't have enough energy to do anything else."

The end of the infatuation phase is the beginning of another that is only experienced by humans: attachment.

"It was very interesting to find out that... Well, I take after my husband pretty much."

Participants

"The truth is that the functioning of the body is very curious."

Despite the fact that it has been proved that, biologically speaking, humans aren't monogamous, the affection phase can make love last for eternity. However, maybe those who don't know this third phase are more familiar with this feeling:

CAROLINA BAYO
Science disseminator

"Your heart breaks. In fact, the pain is very similar to what is experienced by someone who suffers a heart attack."

Love as an excuse to spread science. Because, in the end, it is all about chemistry.

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