

● UNFORGIVING AUSSIES

We're the jealous type

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Australians are jealous and unforgiving sexual partners, an international poll has found.

Almost three-quarters of Aussies were unable to forgive a cheating partner and 30 per cent of respondents even considered flirting with other people unacceptable, a recent survey of members of inter-

national singles dating website sk.com discovered.

Dating expert Alex Marks said attitudes towards sexuality in Australia were more conservative than those in South America or Europe.

"I think we are a little old school when it comes to dating and cheating in this country and I don't think that's a bad thing," he said.

"Aussies have a reputation as really relaxed and carefree but there are certain rules that we simply don't break."

Kissing another person while in a relationship was, perhaps surprisingly, seen as a worse form of cheating than having random sex partners.

Relationship expert Alex Marks said kissing could sometimes lead to a deeper romantic

involvement than just sex.

"The greatest fear in any committed relationship is that the other partner will leave and find someone else," he said.

"Sex can just be a mechanical act, but kissing suggests a greater level of intimacy."

Almost a third of Australians categorised flirting as cheating and even going out on the town with a friend of the opposite

sex was seen as unacceptable.

Marks said men often became jealous of other men hitting on their girlfriend.

"It can drive some men totally mad," he said.

The survey also found women were more suspicious, with 27 per cent of women admitting they monitor their partner's phone usage compared with only 14 per cent of men.