Romantic love is the most important relationship people can have! It's worth dying for! It completes you! Romantic love is EXCLUSIVE! If it's real, you won't find anyone else attractive or get crushes on anyone else. Obsession, jealousy and possession are natural and okay. When it's real, it will last forever and should lead to marriage and happily ever after. Compete with others to gain romantic attention from desirable partners. Women must be sexually willing and adventurous to keep men, but if a woman enjoys sex or pursues it she's a slut. Women should give up everything for their kids and husbands or they are selfish. To get romance, women must be skinny, sexy, and able to perform every cultural fantasy about femininity and submission, yet also independent and confident.

WHAT THE ROMANCE MYTH FEEDS
Dependency & resentment, cheating, & domestic violence. 30% of relationships, queer and straight alike, include domestic violence. Research shows that 80% of women are unhappy with what they see when they look in the mirror. That makes sense because the current media ideal for women's bodies is achievable by less than 5% of women in terms of weight and size. Top models weigh 23% less than the average woman. Eating disorders are the third most common chronic illness among women. 81% of 10-yr-old girls in the US have dieted at least once. The single largest group of high school students considering or attempting suicide are girls who feel they are overweight. Insecurity and obsession with beauty and weight loss. One partner is coerced into unpaid domestic labor, and often can't get out of the relationship because of loss of job experience and earning potential. Economic vulnerability (especially for women)

$38,000,000,000 hair industry
$33,000,000,000 diet industry
$40,000,000,000 wedding industry
$24,000,000,000 skincare industry
$18,000,000,000 makeup industry
$15,000,000,000 perfume industry
$13,000,000,000 cosmetic surgery industry

WHO BENEFITS FROM THE ROMANCE MYTH
All the bosses and corporations who get the benefit of unpaid domestic labor that makes it possible for paid laborers to come to work because their food, emotional, childcare, sexual and other needs are met at home. Men. Of course, these dynamics are also true in lesbian and gay relationships, and not all men are in relationships that match these standards, but for the most part men still do less dishes, 

Dispell the Romance Myth!