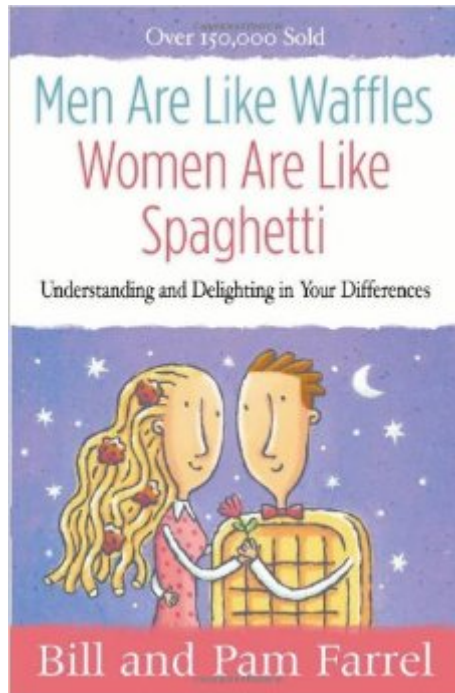


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# Men Are Like Waffles--Women Are Like Spaghetti: Understanding And Delighting In Your Differences



## Synopsis

Reduce the Stress in Your Most Important Relationships! (Love and Marriage) With over 300,000 copies sold, bestselling authors Bill and Pam Farrel help you find the humor in yourself as you gain biblical wisdom, solid insight, and workable skills to help your relationships flourish --all served up in just the right combination so that readers can feast on enticing ways to keep communication cooking! Let gender differences work for--not against--them help each other relieve stress, achieve fulfillment in romantic relationships, coordinate parenting so kids get the best of both Mom and Dad. The Farrels explain why a man is like a waffle (each element of his life is in a separate box) and a woman is like spaghetti (everything in her life touches everything else). End-of-chapter questions and exercises make this unique and fun look at the different ways men and women regard life a terrific tool for not only marriage, but also for a reader's relationships at work, at home, at church, and with friends. Rereleased with new cover

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This is an engaging read that held not only my attention, but my husband's as well. The book provides even more insight than the well-known tour of the planets and is also much more humorous. We're in our third decade of marriage and still learned much from the creative ideas and colorful stories. A great find for couples' Bible studies and fellowship groups.

I think this book is fine if you need basic relationship advice and have a marriage based on very

traditional gender roles and want a pretty quick, cute read. The problem is that the authors present the different gender traits of men and women as fact and ordained by God, rather than recognizing that gender roles have changed over time and vary considerably by culture. Thus, to say men are "this way," and women are "that way," and this is how God intended it, does not take into account the many, many women and men who aren't "that way." By making these blanket statements about how men and women are, it raises the question of whether something is wrong with me as a woman, or with my husband, as a man, if we aren't how these two authors say we're supposed to be. Are my husband and I somehow deviant from God's plan if I'm the one who thinks spatially and reads maps better and he doesn't compartmentalize his life the way men are "supposed" to. Their approach is simplistic... simplistic to the point of almost being meaningless. We started this book in our adult Sunday school class today, and everyone who had a comment about the book (well over half the class) thought that the book missed a real opportunity to help us build stronger relationships by not focusing on differences (based on each individual's strengths) and how to work through them, and instead couching these differences narrowly in how men and women are supposed to act. The book can't really "help" me if I don't see myself and my individual gifts recognized in its pages. Lastly, the biblical references in each chapter are minimal. If you're looking for a Bible study that helps you build a stronger marriage, keep looking. If you're looking for a simple "marriage help" book with a few cute stories and a couple of references to God and a one or two verse quotation from the Bible, you've found your book.

Excellent book! I have read several relationship books and this is the FIRST one that I have totally agreed with. It's amazing. They've described the workings of my relationship with my girlfriend perfectly. (now she's my wife) It has done wonders. I know I will never totally understand her, but at least now I understand why she sees things the way she does. Also, it's almost worth buying just for the humorous sections. :o) Thanks Bill and Pam Farrel!

I have to say this book has one of the best explanations for the working of the male and female mind that I could have asked for. My marriage counselor recommended my husband and I read *Men are from Mars Women are from Venus*. When I went to the bookstore to purchase the book I found this one instead. It looked so much more interesting. I changed my mind on which one to buy. When I went back a few weeks later I discussed the book at length with my counselor and she was really impressed with how much the *Waffles and Spaghetti* had really helped me. This was probably the first time I had really understood my husband's need to watch NASCAR. He has a

really stressful job and works six days a week, for the first time I understood why he didn't want to spend the seventh running all over town with me. In addition, the Farrels put in some great problem solving tips. I am also trying really hard to get my husband to agree with some of the other tips they write about including planning weekends and code words. There were some things that I did disagree with. First, I was unaware the book was a faith based publication. The authors are ministers and spend a lot of time pushing God. This isn't a bad thing, but I found it distracting at times. I felt that they were spending too much time telling readers to place everything in God's hands and not enough about doing things for yourself. I also objected to their statements that a married person shouldn't have a personal conversation one on one with a person of the opposite sex. Both my husband and I have jobs that require us to spend large amounts of time alone with people of the opposite sex. Part of his responsibilities require him to probe for personal information and form close contact with men and women of the opposite sex. The Farrel's seem to believe this will only lead to an affair. I really have to disagree with that. Overall, this book is excellent. The advice is for the most part practical and I don't think you should expect to agree with everything you read in a self-help book. I would recommend the book to anyone looking for an insight to the mind of the mind of the opposite sex.

The premise of this book is that men are like waffles- they think in boxes, that is, they can only efficiently think about one subject or category at a time; and that women are like spaghetti- they think about everything in an interconnected manner. Before I say anything else, reader be warned that this review is based on my own tastes and preferences, and is not necessarily unbiased. I hate generalizations and this book is full of them, from the title to the marriage jokes. The extent of generalizations made me actually physically angry at several points. However, I do like new ways of looking at problems and this book has that, if presented in a limited manner. If you can get beyond the assumption that all men are waffle-thinkers and all women spaghetti-thinkers, I believe this book can lead to a thought provoking discussion on how different styles of thinking can interrupt communication, especially between marriage partners.

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