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## What are you looking at? Scientists find men and women really do look at things differently (and surprisingly, men look at the mouth while women focus on the body)

By [Mark Prigg](#)

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It is something many have always suspected, but scientists have finally settled one of the great arguments between the sexes.

Researchers at the University of Southern California have found that men and women really do look at things differently.

The team studied 34 participants as they watched videos of people being interviewed.



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**Look into my eyes:** Researchers found men and women focus on different things during a conversation - for men, it is the mouth, while women look at the eyes and body of the person they are chatting to

Distractions such as pedestrians, bicycles and cars passed in the background within the video frame.

The researchers tracked the movement of the participants' pupils as they looked at the screen, and found that men, when focused on the person being interviewed, fixed their eyes on the speaker's mouth, while it was women who looked at the eyes and body.

The researchers say it could actually help women to decode non verbal cues.



Don't look into the eyes - researchers found men focus on the mouth, while women look at the eyes and body

'If women are more able to decode nonverbal cues, then fixating [on] regions outside the mouth would yield more information about the speaker for women than men,' the researchers wrote in a paper in the journal Vision Research.

'Our current explanation is that women rely more on features relating to the social nature of the scene to direct attention, whereas men rely more on motion features.'

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