

Academics, American Black Women's accounts, and the podcasts by Black female sex educators, doulas, and sex workers, I started to make connections between slavery, miscegenation law enforcement, religion, dating, sex work, and contemporary music.

During slavery in the United States, enslaved Black women were treated as their masters' property and, as such, forced into sexual and marital relationships with either or both their masters and black men. As pathways to freeing oneself emerged, the selection or strategic influence of a romantic partner became one way for Black women to work toward agency (bodily and financially). Though eventually manifesting as marriages and therefore mirroring 'normal' romances, these types of relationship#ipe

relationships (aimed at ending ~~the~~ marriage) and paid companionships (sugar babies, escorts, and some other forms of sex work). I looked for black women's views on how both ought to operate and how they aid or limit the American Black woman. By looking at these two romantic arrangements, I untangled how they serve as str . By

The Black women within both roles (sugar baby, escort, etc. and girlfriend/wife) are required to perform romance and devotion to men, which calls for emotional, physical, and psychological labor. Despite being separated by how women get paid for their labor, I was deeply interested in how they intersected and influenced each other. Sites of intersection and influence included Black Feminist Academic's recognition of the aforementioned requirements as labor and labor worthy of financial compensation, Black sex workers recounting Black Feminists thought **w**