Survey: Men grow up at age 43

By Gitte Laasby of the Journal Sentinel

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Talk about confirming stereotypes: A new survey commissioned by the British TV children's station Nickelodeon confirms what many of us (men included) already suspected: Men don't grow up until they reach 43. In fact, men remain immature well into their 30s and early 40s, according to the survey, referenced in the British The Telegraph.

By contrast, women on average mature at age 32. That's probably why about eight out of ten women believe men "never stop being childish." Men were nearly twice as likely to describe themselves as immature than were women. One out of every four men said they were immature.

Among the top complaints: Men still laugh at their own farts and burps, eat fast food at 2 a.m., play video games and drive too fast or race other cars at lights or on the highway. (Am I the only one with a dad who does a lot of this well past age 43?)

Here are the top 30 "maturity failings:"

- 1. Finding their own farts and burps hilarious
- 2. Eating fast food at 2 a.m.
- 3. Playing video games
- 4. Driving too fast or "racing" another car at the lights or on the motorway
- 5. Sniggering a bit at rude words
- 6. Driving with loud music
- 7. Playing practical jokes
- 8. Trying to beat children at games and sport
- 9. Staying silent during an argument
- 10. Not being able to cook simple meals
- 11. Re-telling the same silly jokes and stories when with the guys
- 12. Don't like talking about themselves/ having proper conversations
- 13. Hating books/reading because of short attention span/they're boring
- 14. Doing crazy dance moves

- 15. Mom still doing their washing
- 16. Having their mom still make them breakfast/any meal
- 17. Wearing sneakers to night clubs
- 18. Owning a skateboard or BMX
- 19. Not eating vegetables
- 20. Changing jobs regularly
- 21. Getting too excited over stag do's
- 22. Sometimes trying to do wheelies/stunts on their bike
- 23. Driving a modified car or one with a loud exhaust/boy racer
- 24. Showing off about how girls are attracted to them
- 25. Wearing pajamas, specifically cartoon pajamas
- 26. Using shady chat-up lines
- 27. Showing off about protein shakes, weight lifting and how much they "lift"
- 28. Littering
- 29. Wearing saggy-crotched jeans
- 30. Having a cartoon bedspread

To be fair, a lot of us women do at least a few of the top things on the list, too.

The perceived immaturity of men may not be a bad thing: Four out of 10 people thought immaturity is important in a relationship because it ensures the partnership stays fun and keeps things fresh.

The danger is that three out of 10 women said they have ended a relationship because they lost patience with the guy being too immature. And nearly half of women (46%) said they had a relationship in which they felt they had to mother their partner a bit too much.

The research was commissioned by Nickelodeon UK to mark the launch of the station's new show "Wendell & Vinnie," which features a 30-year-old bachelor who becomes the legal guardian of his very mature 12-year-old nephew.

Now, fess up: How many of these do you do?