

There is, of course, another exclusion that is made via the cultural model for "bachelor." If men become "eminently marriageable" when they stay unmarried beyond the usual age, then this can only be because we have assumed that after that age there is a shortage of "desirable" men and a surplus of women who want them, women who aren't "eminently marriageable," or, at least, not as "eminently marriageable" as the men. Hence, we get the most common cultural model associated with "spinster." But this word is not used in terms of a definition, but rather against a set of social and cultural assumptions that constitute a cultural model.