In this paper, I will be discussing how texting is a flawed medium when acting as a main form of communication in a relationship. This paper is based on the theoretical framework of Dacher Keltner’s second principle of power and James A. Mackin Jr.’s takes on communication ethics. To understand the effectiveness and ethics behind these frameworks, I utilized scholarly articles and conducted a survey of over 100 participants to support my findings. These findings were categorized into strengths and limitations as they pertained to the overall happiness impacted from texting in romantic relationships. The strengths and limitations listed in this paper include: texts of affirmation, consideration and informative messages, interpretation of tone, conflict resolution, and accessibility between partners. After further analysis of these categories, I have concluded that texting in romantic relationships should be utilized with caution due to the complexity of romantic relationships. While living in a technologically advanced society, it is easy to overlook the potential harms that texting has in our romantic relationships. The sensitivity that exists between texting and romantic relationships has led me to conclude that texting provides ethical concerns when discussing the promotion of happiness in a romantic relationship.

Dacher Keltner’s Power Principle #2:
Power is in Every Relationship and Interaction

James A. Mackin Jr.’s: “The quality of communication affects the quality of the community and our ability to act together in common purpose.”

Texting is good for...
- Consideration Texts (Be there in 10 min, I picked up the kids, etc.)
- Texts of Affirmations (I love you, I miss you, etc.)
- Informative Texts (How many will be at the party?, When should I pick you up?, etc.)

Texting is not good for...
- Endless accessibility to your partner
- Misconcepton of tone in a message
- Conflict Resolution

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