# Young Londoners opt for non-monogamous relationships



In recent years, London has seen a rise in younger individuals engaging in non-traditional relationship structures, particularly within the gay community. This shift is epitomised by Tom Haynes, a 28-year-old millennial who has noticed the burgeoning trend firsthand. Haynes pointed out that a significant number of users on dating platforms like Grindr are involved in these alternative relationships, with several of his friends also adopting similar arrangements.

Haynes attributes this trend in part to the ongoing renting crisis in the city. The financial pressures of high rental costs and the challenges in securing mortgages and stable housing have made traditional milestones like owning a home and starting a family increasingly difficult for many millennials. "Loads of us in London can’t settle down and get mortgages and babies, which sort of lock you in, or at least give you something you can both work towards," he explained.

Moreover, Haynes noted that growing up with divorced parents or knowing several people with divorced parents has influenced his generation's views on long-term relationships. "We’re the generation where either our parents were divorced or we knew several people who have divorced parents, so we know the pitfalls of settling with one person just because we met and are still together at a certain age," he remarked. This awareness of the potential drawbacks of traditional monogamous relationships has encouraged many to explore more flexible and diverse relationship structures.

The rise of these non-conventional arrangements reflects broader societal shifts and changing attitudes towards relationships and commitment. For Haynes and his peers, seeking alternatives represents both a response to financial realities and a deliberate choice based on personal experiences and values.

As this trend continues to evolve, it offers a glimpse into how younger generations are redefining the concept of relationships in the modern urban landscape.