Eddie Murphy doesn't distinguish 'Gentleman'

TICKETS PLEASE

JOHN MONAGHAN

In the Capra classic "Mr. Smith Goes to Washington" Jimmy Stewart naively thinks he can serve his neighbors as a senator. He soon realizes that he's simply a patsy for sleazy politicians out to feather their own nests.

Eddie Murphy's character in "The Distinguished Gentleman" heads for D.C. minus such lofty goals. Pure and simple he's in it for the money. He eventually realizes the error of his ways and sets out to, as the ads subtly put it, "do to Congress what they've been doing to us."

What might have been a timely and funny update of Smith's story turns into the worst movie I've suffered through this season. Not that I was expecting much.

Murphy is the only thing distinguishing "Gentleman" and he's his own worst enemy. He joins the ranks of other "Saturday Night Live" alumni who have failed to ripen or mature from film to film. They've simply grown stale and moldy — caricatures of their own limited personalities.

So it's no surprise to find Murphy as wiseguy Thomas Jefferson Johnson, who wins a seat in Congress strictly on the strength of his last name. When veteran congressmen Jeff Johnson (James Garner) dies while diddling a blonde staff aide, the new Johnson gets his votes.

Slick. Smart-alecky. Street wise. Homophobic and sexist. Murphy could play this part in his sleep and probably has in most of his films. Like his Congressman Thomas Jefferson Johnson, Murphy's in it solely for the paycheck and perks.

That's what makes the message of "The Distinguished Gentleman" so hard to swallow. When Johnson has his predictable change of heart, it's not only trite but hypocritical. You can almost view this as a summing-up of Murphy's career, since he's become such a mindless, methodless cog in a filmmaking machine he has more than enough political power to change. No happy ending.

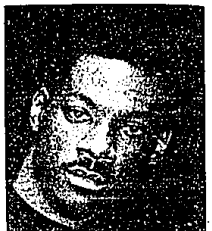
"The Distinguished Gentleman" opens at a time when freshman lawmakers prepare to take their own government seats. Yet the movie does little with this topical subject beyond dredging up the same stereotypes of goodness and avarice that were already shopworn back in Smith's day.

Watching Murphy shoot political fish in a barrel isn't funny or clever, especially when he gets his biggest laughs in a simple-minded litany of political slogans borrowed from presidents Roosevelt, Truman, Kennedy and Bush. "Ask not what your country can do for you," he says during an acceptance speech. "If you can't stand the heat, get out of the kitchen. And one last thing: read my lips."

This Mulligan stew of much better movies is released by Hollywood Pictures, a Disney subsidiary that creates calculatedly populist pictures that could easily be written by computer. An upcoming Hollywood Picture called "Swing Kids" finds disenchanted Hitler Youth obsessed with jitterbugging and Benny Goodman. Go figure.

"The Distinguished Gentleman" only serves to remind us that superstar Murphy doesn't know how to entertain beyond cheap gags where swaggering "beat yo ass" profanity is usually both set-up and punchline. Even the easy-to-please preview audience of Murphy fans had to admit that their boy was not in top form.

If you have a comment, question or suggestion, write to John Monaghan, Street Scene, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150, or call him at 953-2047, mailbox number 1866, on a touch-tone phone.



Headed for D.C.: *Eddie Murphy is a freshman congressman for the wrong reasons in his latest film, "The Distinguished Gentleman."*

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620 Men Seeking Women

AAS-SALAAM-ALAIKUM
Muslim seeks wife to help me become a millionaire and 100% minister in the new nation of Islam etc.☎ 44341

Absolutely enthused attorney, 33, seeks white female 20-31, attractive, fun, open-minded, like sports, travel, serious relationship. Kids OK. Attitude is everything! ☎ 44740

ACTIVE blue eyed 50's professional, 5'10", 170 lbs., seeks athletic, vibrant, attractive, self confident, non-smoking gal who likes golf, food, passion. ☎ 44731

ADVENTUROUS white lady sought by attractive black man, 40. Try it- you'll like it! ☎ 44651

AFFECTIONATE caring, understanding professional white male seeks female unhappy with current situation for discreet relationship. Age/status unimportant! ☎ 44643

AFFECTIONATE, Professional degreed white male, 27, who enjoys hiking, outdoor activities. Non-smoker, no dependents seeking white female, 23-29 w/same interests, relationship minded. ☎ 44655

AFFECTIONATE, sexy white male, 43, clean, attractive, slender, non-smoker, drug free seeks similar black female for occasional, discreet satisfying relationship.☎ 44616

AFFECTIONATE, SEXY, white male, 44, clean, slender, drug-free, non-smoker seeks similar black female for passionate, discreet relationship. ☎ 44598

ALL AMERICAN MALE seeks bright, attractive female, age 24-33. I'm divorced, white, business owner with 2 children. Must have a positive & healthy attitude toward life.☎ 44756

ALL-American, single white male, 32, 6'6", he-man build, healthy, M.B.A., financially secure, kind, caring, compassionate. Enjoy outdoor sports, motorcycles, music & dancing - tired of Bar scene. Need special lady for long term. Must have family values & drive for success.☎ 44682

ALL I WANT for Christmas is a cute, young, loving, non smoking/drinking live-in lady companion liking country life, antiques, cozy fires, cuddling. Westland. ☎ 44702

ALL MEN AREN'T THE SAME
I'm a single white male, 25, 5'8", 155 lbs. with dark brown hair & blue eyes. Honest, caring, affectionate & easy going. ☎ 44711

AM RISE'S seeks AM rendezvous for discrete but loving caring interludes with warm passionate female 30-50. Lets heat the winter. Loves to kiss-cuddle ☎ 44729

AN UNINHIBITED Single black male seeks Uninhibited single white female for private pleasurable secret relationship. ☎ 44342

ARE YOU An attractive white lady, in your 40's-early 50's, would you consider a fling with a 32 year old white male. ☎ 44592

ARTISTIC, romantic, white, male, 49, 5'10", trim-beard, non-smoker. Seeks trim, spontaneous, passionate woman (30-40), likes movies, dancing, photography, & walks ☎ 44464

A SLIM, TALL handsome male (38), financially secure looking to meet an attractive female for on-going relationship and romance with possibility for more. ☎ 44141

620 Men Seeking Women

ATTRACTIVE, honest, factory worker, 38, seeks fun-loving wild lady! ☎ 44611

ATTRACTIVE, physically fit, neglected married white male, 29, seeks married female for daytime sensuous encounters. Age unimportant. ☎ 44542

ATTRACTIVE, physically fit, 5'7", 30, white male, seeks 24-32 caring, pretty & slim woman who likes outdoor activities. No divorced or w/ kids. ☎ 44755

ATTRACTIVE, Professional, honest, caring male, 26, loves pumping iron, rock'n & rolling thru the night. If you've got the stuff, then let's rock! ☎ 44608

ATTRACTIVE white male, 5'10", 165 lbs., average build brown hair & eyes is seeking single white female, 20-28 on slender side, without children. ☎ 44355

ATTRACTIVE, young looking black male, 50+, 5'6", 150 lbs. Secure, easy going, shy but romantic. Seeks open minded female, slender, 40-35, unattached for on going relationship. ☎ 44451

AVERAGE JOE seeks Plain Jane. Single white male, 32, 5'7, 135 lbs. fit non-smoker desires normal relationship with single white female, compatable age/size. ☎ 44659

BLACK BROTHER seeks white sister for fun times. Call today for the excitement of your life! ☎ 44595

CAN'T FORGET HER...met at Kick's in July. Blonde, wavy hair, 20's, adorable. Her name is Cindy? Kris? Lives, works for a couple in Royal Oak. Any information appreciated. ☎ 44598

CHEERFUL, Professional, 5'10", 160lb. Enjoys travel, movies, dining, sports, good conversation. Interested in meeting a physically fit non-smoking lady, 29-45 yrs. ☎ 44595

Communicative, affectionate single white male 37, 5'8", 168 lbs. fit, professional, Catholic, likes jogging, walks, music, films, reading, thinking, seeks trim single white female willing to share interests. ☎ 44735

CREATIVE - degreed good looking smart Irishman, 34, 5'8", 150lbs. Single but bored, needs stimulus of pretty woman with wit & wisdom ☎ 44670

DISCRETE White male with free time daily. Financially secure. Interested in meeting with white female, 24-38, attractive, attentive, nurturing, for interludes. ☎ 44658

DIVORCED white father of 3, 6', 185lbs, blue eyes, warm honest, smoker, seeking attractive, feeling white female to share friendship & romance. Garden City. ☎ 44702

DIVORCED, white male 47, entrepreneur, 44, 6'3",230lbs, traveler, RVer, Harleyer, racer, tennis, gently autocratic yet supple, seeks trim, fit, carefree, docile female.

DOWN TO EARTH, passionate, kind-hearted, tall, well built single white male early 30's, looking for sweet, easy going attractive female, 25 - 38, for fun, good times & honest, caring relationship. ☎ 44674

HANDSOME, professional white male, 5'10", 170 body building lbs. Successful, good looking, easy going, fun; seeks a physically fit body building female for long-term relationship and romance with possibility for more. ☎ 44175

620 Men Seeking Women

DIVORCED white male, 46, secure, drug free, blue collar, looking for female companion, 30-40, slim, attractive, likes dogs. Yelts, country music, quiet evenings. ☎ 44652

DOMINANT, SENSUAL, passionate white male, 39, tall, dark, handsome, seeks adventurous submissive lady for friendship, passion. Will answer all! ☎ 44068

EXTRA ORDINARY Unique Entrepreneur, California transplant. Looking for extremely attractive, vivacious, sexy, financially confident female for adventure. ☎ 44721

FIREPLACE, Dance Club, ski slopes & in your heart is where I want to be. I'm a good looking, single white male, 22, 5'11". Give me a shot ☎ 44704

GOOD LOOKING, rugged yet gentle Outdoorsman, sandy hair, blue eyes, 5'11", lime 175 lbs. Successful, loves life. Late 20's. Would appreciate a sweet friend. ☎ 44094

HELP!!! Tall attractive 45 yr. old divorced white male, executive, seeking a dinner companion for business functions. Very legitimate-references available!. Would like model-type woman with outgoing personality & sense of humor. If you want an occasional night out with no strings attached-please call. ☎ 44604

HONEST, sincere, single white male, 41, 6'2", educated professional, athletic-build, enjoys sports, movies, plays, romance, seeking trim, attractive woman, 30-42. Rochester area. ☎ 44594

I HAVE MET many nice women through the ads since April, but not that special person. I am 53 yrs. old, white, widowed, 5'7", 150 lbs. decent looking. Westland homeowner, afternoon worker. I have humor, love my job, movies, books, dining out. I would love to meet a than attractive 40-52 yr. old white woman, similar interests. Inner beauty is more important than outer. ☎ 44782

IMAGINATIVE ATTRACTIVE educated easy-going different stroke white male seeks attractive, blonde, different stroke white fe. ale. Guess? Let's talk. ☎ 44547

LADY IN WAITING? Dynamic, tall, educated single white male, seeks your companion! Attractive 30 year old, seeks attractive single white female for possible relationship. ☎ 44776

NICE GUY, 28, white, tall, slim, professional, enjoys sports, movies, concerts, travel, quiet evenings, seeks oral drinker, non-smoker. Seeks 23-28 female, similar interest. ☎ 44681

NICE, HANDSOME, affectionate single white male, 29, seeks a single Asian female who wants a fun, romantic long term relationship. All replies answered. ☎ 44672

NIGHT WORKER seeks lady for discreet daytime delightful dalliances & dickering. Race unimportant ☎ 44764

NO MORE GAMES!!! Single white male, never married, sincere, caring, very romantic, seeks a single white female, 21-28, for relationship. ☎ 44630

PROFESSIONAL, moral, never married white male, 40, seeks relationship minded female. Enjoy dinner, movies, plays, sports. ☎ 44458

PROFESSIONAL - single white male, brown hair, brown eyes, 28, 5'9", 190 pounds, physically fit, easy going, fun; seeks a physically fit body building female for long-term relationship. ☎ 44175

620 Men Seeking Women

SINGLE White Male, 6'2", 180 lbs. blonde, 30 yrs., seeks single white female, smoker, social drinker, enjoys partying, possible commitment, must be trim, healthy, bubbly & not money oriented. ☎ 44760

SOUTHERN gentleman, 33, white male, non-smoker, drinker or drugs, seeking 20 to 35 year old female. Must be open, honest and very sweet. ☎ 44684

SUBMISSIVE - obedient, eager to please white male 44, clean, attractive, slender, discreet, seeks dominate female for occasional pleasure filled relationship. ☎ 44671

SWEAT - is sexy! Single white male 37 seeks single white female under 40 with a passion for running or triathalons. Sense of humor a plus! ☎ 44663

WELL-ENDOWED Man seeks well-endowed Woman. ☎ 44640

WHITE MALE, 45, educated, seeks female who does not kick-box in anger, nor shaved in fear, but around in awareness. ☎ 44438

WORKS NIGHTS, very good looking white man, 33, 6', 175 lbs., brown hair, hazel eyes, (smoker). Seeking a single white woman, 25-33, slim-medium build, to spend some serious time with. ☎ 44657

YOUNG, 51 year old, divorced Dearborn area, educated, white male with love of all seasons, golf, skiing, theatre, travel. Seeks friend, lover, wife, with up beat attitude. ☎ 44629

34 YEAR OLD White single male, financially secure, enjoys movies, dinner, sports, looking for compatible female for fun & romance. ☎ 44654

621 Women Seeking Men

AFFECTIONATE, uninhibited, professional, white female, 40's, social drinker, seeking white male 45-55 for fun-loving relationship. Maybe more. Let's talk. ☎ 44730

ARE YOU A white widower, divorced, 50 and older, needing a housekeeper, cook, companion, 40-47, white, divorced, needing a good man. Let's talk. ☎ 44559

ARE YOU TALLY Reasonably trim, 50+, white, single, educated, sensual, enterprising & desire sex partner with a fastidious epicurean woman who enjoys walks, humor, theatre, wines, fireplaces. ☎ 44699

ATTENTION; Fireman & Policeman attractive revered haired single white female, medical professional, 30, desires to date man in uniform. 5'9", non-smoker, loves classic rock, concerts, camping. ☎ 44584

ATTRACTIVE BLACK FEMALE 30 something searching for a best friend to talk with and share the joys of life, between 30-40, race not an issue. Let's talk. ☎ 44559

ATTRACTIVE, blond, single white female, 53, 5'7" medium build, pregenious, playful, smoker, non-drinker, seeks tall male 48-58 for a playful relationship. ☎ 44547

ATTRACTIVE, black female, 47, 5'3", full figured & full of life, needs Christmas cheer all the year with someone nice for the rest of their life, 47-65. Lets talk! ☎ 44784

ATTRACTIVE, PETITE fun loving blond, social drinker, seeks tall, professional, good looking secure male 44-54. Race no barrier. ☎ 44644

621 Women Seeking Men

ATTRACTIVE Single female looking for someone who loves life, works hard, likes to be up in the UP and loves children. 24-32. ☎ 44588

ATTRACTIVE, Single, white female, 27, career minded, seeking serious relationship. Interests include: exercise, travel & romantic movies. Lets hope something nice happens between us. ☎ 44628

ATTRACTIVE, Spiritual, Black Female, 40, 5'3" trim, seeking friendship with professional 35-53 who loves life, God and people. All races considered beautiful. ☎ 44100

ATTRACTIVE, TALL, classy, passionate white female, 40's, seeks white male, 45-55, w/same qualities, sense of humor & adventure. Detest serious relationship. ☎ 44506

ATTRACTIVE, SEXY, super, full-figured white female, 39 who's romantic, playful, sincere, honest, passionate, fun & enjoys life, music, attraction, movies, sense of humor ☎ 44407

BEAUTIFUL, busty, bright, 6ft, 270lb single white female of 1, seeking serious Goodman teddy bear type for romance, sports, cooking & possible relationship. ☎ 44627

DEAR SANTA: I've been a good girl all year so please bring a single white male, professional, over 5'10", 48-58, Oakland County, non-smoker, for an attractive, educated, slim, 5'6" single white female who enjoys 12 oz ski football, theatre, travel, water, cuddling. ☎ 44776

DIVORCED WHITE female 37, 5'3" 140 lbs. blond, very attractive, fun loving. Looking for responsible caring man 32-45 for relationship & possible marriage. ☎ 44784

DON'T SPEND The Holidays Alone! Single white female 45, widow is search of non-smoking employed white male 40-60, who enjoys dining out, travel, dancing, movies. Seeking a friend first possibly more. One on one relationship. ☎ 44128

DOWN TO EARTH Pretty, humorous, 33, white female seeks handsome down to Earth guy 32 and up, race is not the issue. Friendship/relationship. ☎ 44660

EDUCATED - employed black female seeking established, employed educated male who is understanding, honest, and affectionate. Race no barrier. ☎ 44753

FM NEW to the country. Would you like to be my guide? I'm 36, slim & tall, enjoy chamber music, opera & ballet, long walks, good conversation. ☎ 44784

EVELY, bubbly gal, circa 1950's, not a size 8, but not an 18. Prefer power tools over flowers. Positive outlook. Are you? Looking ahead. Non-smokers. ☎ 44641

PRETTY, very successful, entrepreneur, 5'5", very loving, giving, full figured, seeking male, 46-late 60's, who can love me for the person I am. ☎ 44616

PRETTY, 30 year old black female, 5'6½", full figured & a great joy to behold, is ready for new endeavors with a new stable gentleman, 30-39, friend first...who knows!! ☎ 44788

PROFESSIONAL white female, 55, 5'3", prefer casual, country living, non smoking, non drinking atmosphere. Value openness, optimism, education, families. Enjoy gardening, grandchildren, pictures, walks, hugs ☎ 44701

621 Women Seeking Men

EUROPEAN LADY - 25 yrs. old wants to meet gentleman from 30-40 yrs. old. Married or single. Must be well educated & generous ☎ 44745

EXCITING - attractive blond professional, 36, single parent seeks handsome, professional, financially secure, 35-45 for friendship-possible lasting relationship. ☎ 44669

FEMALE with children ready for a new beginning. Pretty blonde lady bear seeking friend, outgoing male, 30-40, for friendship leading to romance. ☎ 44786

5' PRETTY WHITE FEMALE is seeking date for New Years Eve. Non-smoking, truthful & fun. ☎ 44715

HOW DO The Elite Meet? Sweet trim, beautiful blonde seeks her equal in a handsome, fit, affluent gentleman. 47ish, degreed, global world traveled. Golf a plus. ☎ 44087

PROFESSIONAL ATTRACTIVE caring single white female, 24, 5'7", loves music, sports, movies, theatre, travel. Seeking unattached white male, 23-32 with similar attributes for relationship. ☎ 44725

QUICT, mature black lady seeks honest decent family man for relationship, 48-63. Must be sincere, good sense of humor, like sports, music, travel, dining out. ☎ 44645

SINGLE - black female, 28, 5'10", 180 pounds seeking aids, disease, prison & drug free. Over 6' 5", 29-40, western Wayne county. Attractive single white male for friendship & romance. ☎ 44751

SINGLE white female, 42 looking for male 35-45. My likes - funny movies, garage sales, auto races, spectator sports. Social drinker, friends first. ☎ 44082

SOPHISTICATED BLACK - Single female, professional, 40, enjoys fishing, traveling, cooking. Seeks single employed male. Race open. I will answer all calls. ☎ 44340

SOPHISTICATED, CULTURED, attractive petite jewish female professional, seeks loving, sincere educated male non-smoker, 44-56, who enjoys concerts, theatre, movies, travel, romance, traditional values. ☎ 44703

STRIKING, beautiful divorced white female late 40's catholic, traditional values, seeks considerate, divorced white gentleman 50-65, 5'10" or taller for friendship. ☎ 44355

WELL-blossomed Italian Rose, 38, divorced, 1 child, seeks white male, 33-45, non-smoke, who likes quiet eves & romance, looking for friendship first, friendship, romance. ☎ 44592

WHITE single parent, tactful straight forward, sense of humor, I like the outdoors, animals, garage saving & auto racing. 34,5'7", seeking friendship first. ☎ 44743

WILLOWY, very attractive, trim blonde, professional woman. I am caring, humorous, energetic, very bright & fun-loving. I am eager to meet a physically-fit, tall, successful, professional gentleman 48-60, who is cultured, interested in music, art, theater, travel, but most important, is willing to talk about feelings & is seeking a close & committed relationship. ☎ 44656

YOUR FRIENDS can't understand why a "great guy" like you is alone. Me either, as you have integrity and humor, are a 42-48, tall, professional, Catholic and loving. ☎ 44758

621 Women Seeking Men

TOUGH skin, soft heart, brown eyed beauty, 34, bohemian lifestyle. Seeks strong, honest, free man to handle imaginative, humorous, XL woman, plain on friendship ☎ 44589

VERY ATTRACTIVE, 38, blue eyed blonde, single, mom, 1 dependent, college degreed, nice figure, seeks professional, financially secure, for friendship, possibly more. ☎ 44609

VERY PASSIONATE, open, happy, busy, fun loving, full figured white female, 29, seeking a serious committed relationship with an honest, happy man. For details. ☎ 44636

WELL TRAVELED, intelligent, artistic lady seeks healthy, active gentleman. He must be positively oriented. ☎ 44733

622 Sports Interests

SINGLE - female 33 enjoys sports racquetball, wallyball. Travel Chicago, Austria. Dining: Milches. Movies. Seeking single, easy going, male to enjoy above and more☎ 44747

WHITE MALE, 32, handsome, athletic, passion for women, seeks friendship with single or who seeks other outlets for Nirvana. Daytime perfect & discretion preferred. Birmingham ☎ 44631

623 Seniors

ATTRACTIVE Sincere young at heart, non smoker, blonde, single white female, likes dancing & cards, seek handsome, tall, fun loving single white male, 60-70. ☎ 44700

CARING AND Sincere professional female late 50's. Young and fit with pleasing personality, wide interests wishes to meet educated counterpart, 60-67. ☎ 44717

HELLO, I'm 66, 'conservative', white divorced & full figured, semi-retired & prefer relaxed casual lifestyle. If you're a secure white male looking for friendship call ☎ 44736

SOPHISTICATED BLACK - Single female, professional, 40, enjoys fishing, traveling, cooking. Seeks employed male. Race open. I will answer all calls. ☎ 44340

SOPHISTICATED, CULTURED, attractive petite jewish female professional, seeks loving, sincere educated male non-smoker, 44-56, who enjoys concerts, theatre, movies, travel, romance, traditional values. ☎ 44703

STRAWBERRY BLONDE, 5'4", trim, non-drinking/smoking, Caucasian, Christian from Bloomfield Hills would enjoy meeting gentleman friend early 60's in my area ☎ 44642

624 Travel Companions

JET SETTER! Beautiful blonde with brains seeks her equal in a single, white, cultured, tri shape fine features gentleman, mid 40's, for 1st class world traveling. ☎ 44158

LADY - would be fantastic travel, work companion, have passport, enjoy amenities, social graces. I'm 50, 5'7" medium build non smoker ☎ 44749

TWO WHITE men seek female for discrete bi-monthly or annual weekends, must be attractive & sharing. Race open, we love you all. ☎ 44727

VERY ATTRACTIVE, sensual, passionate white couple, 35 & 31 seeking single lady for friendship, traveling & exploring common interests ☎ 44476

WHITE married couple, early 30's, life is exciting, looking for fun & friendship. ☎ 44730

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Be creative, honest, include age range, lifestyle, self description, interests and the type of person you are looking for:

Ad copy (Please print clearly) 5 words per line.

_____

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5 DIGIT BOX NUMBER HERE

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☐ Women seeking men ____621 ☐ Seniors ____623