Self-evaluation analysed with Economics

I met a person in S3 and we became friends since we both did not have friends at that time. However due to my bad experiences in the past, I was scared to have relationships again and had lack of communication with him. At last, I told him that we could not be friends during a group project and we have not seen each other since S4.

Now I see him again in S5. My demand for him is perfectly inelastic. Firstly, I have no one to talk to at school now since I have no friends. There are no any substitutes for that person. Secondly, he was very good that he befriended me in S3, putting effort in our relationship at that time, helped me once even after S3 and still remembered me three months ago. He is irreplaceable by any substitutes.

Assume the price is the effort that I use to find him and quantity is the degree that I need him. As we are in different classes now, the percentage increase of effort needed to find him may be large; but the percentage change of degree that I need him is zero.

My consumer surplus from being friends with him is infinite since total benefit of being friends with him is infinite while total effort it takes to find him is finite.

I am discriminated in the competition of making friends. Originally, my market of making friends belonged to monopolistic competition. There were many people that I could choose to be friends with and they were all heterogeneous. Due to imperfect market information, I got to know their characters by interactions. But now my classmates think I talk less and they choose not to interact with me anymore, only he still wants to be friends with me. The market becomes monopoly. He has become the only supplier in the market with no close substitutes. Befriending him is the only chance that I can prevent from being totally discriminated in the competition.

I am so sorry that I thought I had absolute advantage in academic (I pretend to be useful to compensate for my loneliness) in S.3, so I kept doing all things in the group project. But I forgot about comparative advantages. By principle of comparative advantage, when a person specializes in a task which it has lower opportunity cost, then the total world output will increase. We would not have broken up if I had trusted him and practiced higher degree of division of labour.

Now we have not met for 2 years already. My opportunity cost in staying with him is nearly zero since almost nothing is sacrificed as I always stay alone during recess. But if he stays with me, he needs to sacrifices some parts of his own new life with his friends. There is opportunity cost for him to stay with me. Also he knows that I am a boring person and considering how I treated him in the past, my value to him may be lower than that in S3. He may not choose this option.

Our future is obscure. Hopefully I can see a light in the dark since I think he is good and I want a friend to make me feel less lonely.

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