

of her friends have experienced their first kiss, she doesn't feel left out and is content with the fact that it hasn't happened yet.

For her, she said the best route is to be willing to wait.

"I'm patient about it," Purvis said. "If I were to be crazy about getting my first kiss, I would seem like a psycho. ... It's not that I'm even nervous about having my first kiss... it just hasn't happened yet; it will happen when it happens."

Most people, according to Purvis, tend to experience their first kiss in middle school. She said that she went through her "awkward stage" in middle school, and wasn't as confident talking to boys as everyone else seemed to be. According to her, as she gets older, she's noticed that boys tend to be reluctant of a girl who has never had her first kiss.

"[People] think it's uncommon to find someone that hasn't had their first kiss who is now a senior," Purvis said. "I was awkward in seventh and eighth grade. I will admit, I did not talk to guys; I was scared to. ... I think, as you get older, some people shy away from people who haven't had their first kiss yet. I think it kind of freaks them out. They [think], 'If you haven't had your first kiss yet, then why would I want to date you?'"

Though she is happy with her decision to wait until she's in a relationship, Purvis said that she still has her days when she is less confident. Feeling like the only one, Purvis said, is something she experiences often.

"I haven't been like depressed about it [but]... when you've never been in a relationship and your friends have, and they've had their first kiss and they've had experience with all that, you feel like a loser," Purvis said. "I've definitely had those days."

Jokes from friends are something that are targeted pretty frequently at the fact that she has not had her first kiss, Purvis said. According to her, most of the "making-fun" comes from her guy friends, and guys that she might be interested in who often label her as a "freezer" for not having her first kiss yet. For other people, Purvis said that kissing can happen on a day-to-day basis, which is very different from her mind set on kissing.

Being close to entering college, is something that Purvis said makes her more worried about not having her first kiss. Because it seems like most people who are in college have had their first kiss, Purvis said she is more nervous about being the only one.

"I mean, I'm okay that [my first kiss] hasn't happened, but I also wish that I would've had my first kiss [in high school] just because... you get experience in college, but at the same time, sometimes, a first kiss, you get nervous, and people in college would expect you to have already had your first kiss and to not be

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Having waited until her first kiss, Purvis said that she has had moments where she has come close to having her first kiss. Being adamant on her beliefs towards waiting, Purvis said these moments have usually come with a hint of awkwardness.

"There's been times where a guy has tried to kiss me, but it wasn't someone that I liked, it was a friend, so I shrugged it off or whatever," Purvis said. "It wasn't intimate, they were goofing around, ... and they would come up, and get really close to my face and try to kiss

me, but... I jokingly looked the other way."

Purvis said that most people place more importance in the fact that she hasn't had a first kiss then she does herself. According to her, she wants her first kiss, but it isn't of highest importance.

"I don't think [a first kiss] is a necessity," Purvis said.

"I don't think it makes you who you are. ... Whether you've had your first kiss or not, I don't think that determines what type of person you are. I kind of laugh at people who think that it's crazy that I haven't had my first kiss yet."

Most importantly, Purvis said that she is very proud of her decision to wait for her own special moment.

"I just want to wait until I find someone that I truly like to have my first kiss with," Purvis said. "It's not something you should be ashamed of. Let it happen with someone you like."

