

Unwanted Sexual Activity Among Males

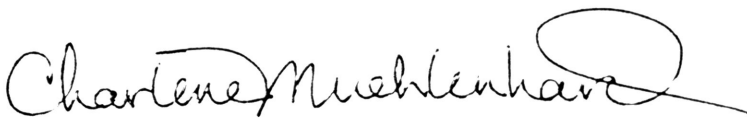
by

Stephen W. Cook

Department of Psychology

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Dr. Charlene Muehlenhard

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## ABSTRACT

Recent research has found that many women are being forced or persuaded to engage in unwanted sexual activity. Are men ever forced or persuaded to engage in unwanted sexual activity? If so, how often, and why?

In a pilot study, about 100 men completed open-ended questionnaires asking them to describe instances in which they engaged in sexual activity (kissing, petting, or intercourse) when they did not want to. Using their descriptions, we constructed an objective questionnaire that asked respondents whether they had ever engaged in unwanted sexual activity for any of 51 different reasons. This questionnaire was completed by 507 men and--for purposes of comparison--486 women. These subjects also completed several attitudinal questionnaires so that we could assess attitudes related to various reasons for engaging in unwanted sexual activity.

93.5% of the men and 97.5% of the women had engaged in unwanted kissing, petting, or sexual intercourse; 62.7% of the men and 46.3% of the women had been involved in unwanted sexual intercourse. A factor analysis was performed to divide the 51 reasons for unwanted sexual activity into 13 broader categories. Thirteen chi square analyses were done to compare the percentages of men versus women who had engaged in unwanted sexual activity or unwanted sexual intercourse because of the 13 factors. For unwanted sexual activity (which included kissing, petting, or intercourse), 7 of the 13 analyses were significant. Women experienced more unwanted sexual activity for five of these reasons, men experienced more unwanted sexual activity for only two of these reasons: peer pressure and popularity. Eight of the 13 analyses involving unwanted sexual intercourse were significant, with more men than women having unwanted sexual intercourse because of all 8 factors.

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## UNWANTED SEXUAL ACTIVITY AMONG MALES

Recently there has been much research done on the problem of sexual coercion against women. The different types of sexual coercion can be construed as lying along a continuum, with voluntary sex at one end and rape at the other end. Between these ends would lie reluctant sex obtained by lying, persuasion, and so forth (Koss and Oros, 1982). The literature in this area has almost without exception focused on men coercing women into having unwanted sex. Evidence has been found, however, that some men do have problems with being coerced to have sex when they would rather not.

The actual figures on unwanted sexual activity are difficult to obtain. It is estimated that among women only about 1 in 12 rapes are reported to the police (Russell, 1984). Because of stereotypes which will later be discussed, reports of physical coercion would seem to be especially unlikely in cases where men have been physically coerced into having sex. In addition, it seems unlikely that males would discuss psychological or physical coercion with others because of the fear of being ostracized from their peer group.

Some of this information concerning unwanted sexual activity among males comes from studies done to assess sexual aggression against women. In a study by

Muehlenhard and Linton (1986) dealing with males' aggression against females, some men spontaneously wrote about females coercing them to have unwanted sex. These men described situations in which the women used psychological and/or physical coercion. An example of psychological coercion was when the boss's wife wanted to have an affair with one of the boss's employees, who complied for fear of losing his job. An example of physical coercion was when a man reported that he was forced against the wall and kissed by a large woman.

In a survey of single adults conducted by Muehlenhard and Hewlett (1985), questions were included that asked men and women if they had ever been forced either psychologically or physically to have unwanted sex. Results showed that 35% of the males, compared with 69% of the females, said psychological force had been used against them; 9% of the males, compared with 50% of the females, said that physical force had been used against them in attempts to have unwanted sex. In addition, 17% of the women said they had used psychological force against men to try to force them to have sex, and 7% of the women said they had used physical force. The exact findings of this survey are questionable because of the small sample, but the point is that some men have been coerced to have unwanted sex with women and some women admit to coercing men.

There are more data that suggest that men have been physically forced to engage in sexual activities when they were unwilling. A study examining sexual assault among university students, faculty, and staff found that .8% of the males (n=3) reported being assaulted while on campus; 5.3% of the men (n=23) reported being assaulted while off campus. Most of these cases involved unwanted fondling, although there were two reported cases of unwanted penetration. The authors did not report the sex of the persons who had assaulted these men (Lott, Reilly, and Howard, 1982).

In addition to feeling pressured by females to have sex, males might feel pressured by internal or peer pressure to have unwanted sex. There exists a stereotype that all men want to advance as far as they can sexually with a woman if they are at all interested in her.

The man may be expected to make some sexual advances whether he feels like it or not. Both parties may consider him not only unmanly, but even ungentlemanly, if he does not give some indication that he finds his date attractive and desirable. If he does not make this perception of her very obvious, she may think that there is something wrong with him or with her. She may suspect that he is actually homosexual or that she lacks sex appeal. (Weis & Borges, 1973, p. 89)

Males who have incorporated such attitudes might feel that this is another source of pressure to have unwanted sexual activity.

In The Male Experience (1983), Doyle described several myths of male sexuality that men often believe. One myth is "The Other Guy's Is Better." Men believe that all other men are usually more experienced sexually and have fewer sexual problems than they do. This could lead men to try to gain more experience in order to be as experienced as they think their peers are. In talking about the myth of "A Man Can't Get Enough Sex," Doyle mentioned, "To suggest otherwise, that a man--a real man--may want to say 'no' or 'that's enough,' is just plain balderdash . . . . To refuse sex is something only a woman or a pansy would do" (p. 203). The man's masculinity is tied up in his sexual activity. While morally a man might believe it is wrong to engage in premarital sex, there is great pressure from society for a man to be sexually experienced before marriage. It is revealing to note that males who are virgins have actually been reported as having more "personal problems" and "hang-ups" than males who were not virgins (Komarovsky, 1976).

In The Male Machine (1972), Fasteau pointed out that males are under a "conquest orientation" which "makes men feel obliged to make some show of sexual interest in every woman they see . . . whether or not they are in fact drawn

to her" (p. 22). This obligation can create intense pressure for the male--so much pressure, in fact, that fears of sexual inadequacy were found to be a "very prominent" cause of suicide for boys and not prominent for girls (Transaction, 1970, cited in Fasteau, 1972).

The purpose of the present study was to answer three questions that apply to this relatively unexplored topic:

- 1) What is the incidence of unwanted sexual activity among men?
- 2) What are the reasons for this unwanted sexual activity?
- 3) Are there particular attitudes that characterize men who have experienced unwanted sexual activity?
- 4) Are there significant differences between men and women in the frequency with which they have experienced unwanted activity and in their reasons for doing so?

Unwanted sexual activity, as defined in this study, includes anything ranging from kissing, to petting, to sexual intercourse. Unwanted sexual activity could be anything as mild as feeling obligated to kiss someone after a date, or as severe as violent rape.

#### Method

A pilot study was first run in which about 100 men from introductory psychology classes at Texas A&M University completed open-ended questionnaires asking them

to describe instances in which they engaged in sexual behavior when they did not want to (see Appendix A). The four questions asked pertaining to the study were as follows:

1. Have you ever been pressured to engage in any kind of sexual activity (ranging from kissing to sexual intercourse) when you didn't really want to? If so, describe each event including: (a) what the other person said or did to get you to engage in this activity, (b) the situation, (c) the relation of the other person (e.g., casual acquaintance, girlfriend, stranger), (d) the outcome.
2. Have you ever engaged in some kind of sexual activity (ranging from kissing to sexual intercourse) when you really didn't want to, weren't pressured by the other person, but for some reason felt you had to? If so, describe each event including: (a) why you felt you had to engage in this activity, (b) the situation, (c) the relation of the other person (e.g., casual acquaintance, girlfriend, stranger), (d) the outcome.
3. Do you think guys ever engage in sexual activity (ranging from kissing to sexual intercourse) when they really don't want to but they do it anyway because they feel they have to? If so, describe

why they feel they have to.

4. Do you think girls try to get guys to engage in sexual activity (ranging from kissing to sexual intercourse) when the guys really don't want to? If so, how do girls get guys to engage in unwanted sexual behavior?

The anonymity of the men's responses was safeguarded in several ways such as: (a) spacing the subjects in seats that were far enough apart to insure that other subjects were not able to see their responses, (b) including additional questions that entailed a lot of writing regardless of whether the respondent had engaged in unwanted sexual activity or not, (c) mixing the pages of the questionnaire so that no one knew which question anyone else was answering, (d) telling the subjects about the previous safeguards that were being used, emphasizing that there were different versions of the questionnaire being handed out, and (e) making the questionnaire totally anonymous. This phase of the study helped us to define more narrowly the hypotheses and to identify the dimensions that were to be addressed in the second step.

The second step of the study consisted of an objective questionnaire constructed from the responses gathered in the first phase of the study (see Appendix B). This questionnaire listed 51 reasons for which subjects might have engaged in unwanted sexual intercourse. Each



of these reasons was prefaced with the phrase, "Have you ever engaged in sexual activities (ranging from kissing to sexual intercourse) when you didn't want to because . . . ." The subjects were asked to mark one of five possible responses: (a) they never felt this way or encountered this situation at all, (b) they felt this way or encountered this situation but never engaged in any unwanted sexual activity because of it, (c) they went as far as kissing for this reason, (d) they went as far as petting for this reason, or (e) they went as far as sexual intercourse for this reason.

To identify attitudes that characterize persons who have versus have not been involved in unwanted sexual activity, several attitudinal scales were administered. Traditional versus nontraditional attitudes toward women and sex roles were measured using the Attitudes Toward Women Scale (Spence & Helmreich, 1972). Attitudes toward male dominance in sexual situations were assessed using the Sexual Attitudes Survey (Muehlenhard & Felts, 1986). The attitude that males and females are basically adversaries in their relationships was measured by the Adversarial Sexual Beliefs Scale (Burt, 1980). We also asked men how physically involved they had ever been with another person: kissing, petting, sexual intercourse, or none of these.

This questionnaire was completed by 507 men and--for

purposes of comparison--496 women introductory psychology students at Texas A&M University. Again in this part of the study the participants were spaced far apart in their seats and were assured that their responses were totally anonymous.

### Results

A factor analysis was performed which divided the 51 reasons for unwanted sexual activity into 13 broader categories (see Table 1). These thirteen factors are listed in the order of the percent of variance accounted for by each factor. Items loading most strongly on each factor and their factor loadings are shown. The guidelines used for selecting which items loaded most heavily onto each factor were the following: Any item loading at least .5 on a factor was considered to load heavily onto that factor. This accounted for 38 of the 51 items. The remaining items were assigned to the factor onto which they loaded most highly. For ten of these items, factor loadings were .4 or greater; for the remaining 3, factor loadings were .3 or greater.

Based on the results of the factor analysis, thirteen new variables were created, one for each factor. For each respondent, the value of each new variable was set equal to the greatest degree of unwanted sexual activity the respondent had engaged in because of any reason loading heavily on that factor. These new variables, which

Table 1  
Factor analysis of reasons for unwanted sexual activity.

---

1. <u>Enticement</u>	
The other person started taking off their own clothes.	.751
The other person was trying to turn you on by touching you.	.738
The other person started taking off your clothes.	.724
The other person was flirting with you.	.724
Something about the person turned you on.	.702
The other person was teasing you.	.685
The other person dressed suggestively.	.633
The opportunity was there and you felt you should take advantage of the situation (e.g., parents left town).	.594
You thought, either correctly or incorrectly, that the other person wanted to, even though they didn't say so.	.577
You were curious.	.510
The other person made an advance, such as kissing, grabbing, etc.	.463
You were afraid it was "now or never" with this person.	.416
2. <u>Violence</u>	
The other person actually used physical violence (e.g., slapping, hitting).	.879
The other person threatened physical violence (e.g., slapping, hitting).	.875
The other person physically held you down.	.597
The other person threatened you with a weapon.	.501
The other person tries to physically detain you (e.g., they block your car door and make it difficult to leave, they won't let go of your hand).	.421
3. <u>Intoxication</u>	
You were so drunk and/or stoned that either you were unaware of what was going on or weren't able to stop the other person.	.793
The other person got you drunk and/or stoned and took advantage of the situation.	.784
You were drunk or stoned but later wished you hadn't.	.721
4. <u>Altruism</u>	
You knew your partner wanted to, and, even though you weren't in the mood, you wanted to satisfy your partner's needs.	.738

	The other person had made the first move and you didn't want to make the other person feel rejected.	.690
	The other person urged you to.	.414
5.	<u>Inexperience</u>	
	You felt inexperienced compared with other people that you knew.	.728
	You wanted to get experience.	.495
	You wanted something to talk about with other people.	.472
	You wanted to build your own self-confidence.	.415
6.	<u>Peer Pressure</u>	
	Someone else arranged a sexual encounter for you (e.g., paid for a prostitute or supplied a willing partner).	.682
	Your same sex friends talked you into it.	.551
	You were in a particular situation (e.g., party, double date) and other couple(s) were engaging in the same activity.	.548
7.	<u>Termination of Relationship</u>	
	The other person threatened to end the relationship if you didn't.	.772
	The other person said or implied that if you didn't satisfy them, they would find somebody else who would.	.752
	You were afraid that if you didn't, they wouldn't be interested in you anymore.	.440
	You wanted a future date with that person.	.347
8.	<u>Popularity</u>	
	You wanted to be accepted by a popular group.	.826
	You thought it would make you more popular.	.775
	The other person threatened to tell other people if you refused.	.345
9.	<u>Guilt/Inadequacy</u>	
	The other person said that everybody does it.	.700
	The other person questioned your sexuality (implied that you were impotent or frigid).	.644
	The other person made you feel guilty.	.518
	The other person said it was now or never	.369
10.	<u>Sex Role Concerns</u>	
	You were afraid to appear homosexual (gay).	.674
	You didn't want to appear shy or afraid.	.639
	You were afraid to appear unmasculine if you are male, or unfeminine if you are a female.	.575
	You were afraid to appear inexperienced to the other person.	.457

11. Reluctance  
You were with a person and you couldn't think of anything else to do. .563  
You wanted to make the other person feel attractive. .523  
You felt obligated to them for the money, time, and/or effort they had spent on you. .412
12. Partner's Threat of Self-Inflicted Harm  
The other person threatened to do bodily harm to himself/herself if you didn't. .712
13. Family Pressure  
A family member pressured you to with them (do not count nonsexual kissing or hugging). .771  
A family member pressured you to with another person. .631

reflected main reasons for engaging in unwanted sexual activity were used for the subsequent chi-square analysis.

The overall incidence of unwanted sexual activity and unwanted sexual intercourse for both men and women is shown in Table 2.

Thirteen chi-square analyses were then performed to compare the percentages of men versus women who had engaged in unwanted sexual activity or unwanted sexual intercourse because of each of the thirteen reasons (see Table 3). For unwanted sexual activity (which included kissing, petting, or sexual intercourse), 7 of the 13 analyses were significant. Women experienced more unwanted sexual activity for five of these reasons, while men experienced more unwanted sexual activity for only two of these reasons: peer pressure and popularity. Eight of the 13 analyses involving unwanted sexual intercourse were significant, with more men than women having unwanted sexual intercourse because of all eight reasons. Chi-square analyses were also performed which compared men and women who had unwanted sexual activity using as the data set only those subjects who had at least kissed. Men and women were also compared with respect to who had experienced unwanted sexual intercourse, using only those subjects who had ever engaged in sexual intercourse (see Table 4).

In addition, a Pearson correlation was performed

Table 2  
Incidence of unwanted sexual activity and unwanted sexual  
intercourse among men and women.

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	Men (n = 507)	Women (n = 486)
	-----	-----
Unwanted Sexual Activity	93.5%	97.5%
Unwanted Sexual Intercourse	62.7%	46.3%

Table 3  
 Comparison of self-report of unwanted sexual activity or unwanted sexual intercourse among men and women.

	Any Unwanted Sexual Activity		Unwanted Sexual Intercourse		
	Men	Women	Men	Women	
Enticement	39.9%	93.2%	57.4%	38.7%	***
Violence	23.5%	31.3%	6.5%	5.8%	
Intoxication	55.4%	60.3%	30.8%	21.0%	***
Altruism	72.4%	86.6%	34.9%	29.2%	+
Inexperience	65.7%	61.9%	33.5%	11.9%	***
Peer Pressure	52.1%	44.9%	10.9%	0.6%	***
Termination of Relationship	43.4%	56.6%	7.3%	9.1%	
Popularity	18.3%	13.0%	6.5%	1.0%	***
Guilt/Inadequacy	26.8%	34.0%	13.4%	11.5%	
Sex Role Concerns	48.5%	49.0%	13.4%	4.5%	***
Reluctance	54.4%	61.1%	17.0%	6.2%	***
Partner's Threat of Self-Inflicted Harm	3.2%	1.7%	1.4%	0.2%	*
Family Pressure	5.1%	3.9%	1.4%	0.6%	

+  $p < .10$ , \*  $p < .05$ , \*\*  $p < .01$ , \*\*\*  $p < .001$



Table 4  
 Comparison of self-report of unwanted sexual activity or unwanted sexual intercourse among voluntarily experienced men and women.

	Unwanted Sexual Activity (experienced)		Unwanted Sexual Intercourse (experienced)		
	Men	Women	Men	Women	
Enticement	91.1%	93.8	79.7%	64.9%	***
Violence	23.4%	32.0%	9.3%	9.9%	**
Intoxication	56.1%	60.7%	43.1%	34.0%	*
Altruism	73.0%	86.7%	48.7%	48.9%	***
Inexperience	66.3%	63.0%	46.2%	20.6%	***
Peer Pressure	52.4%	45.8%	15.2%	0.7%	***
Termination of Relationship	43.9%	57.4%	9.9%	15.3%	*
Popularity	17.7%	12.5%	8.7%	1.4%	***
Guilt/Inadequacy	27.4%	34.8%	18.6%	19.5%	*
Sex Role Concerns	49.4%	49.5%	18.3%	7.5%	***
Reluctance	54.9%	61.3%	22.8%	10.3%	***
Partner's Threat of Self-Inflicted Harm	3.3%	1.5%	2.0%	0.0%	*a
Family Pressure	5.3%	3.9%	2.0%	1.1%	a

+  $p < .10$ , \*  $p < .05$ , \*\*  $p < .01$ , \*\*\*  $p < .001$

a

50% of the cells have expected counts less than 5. Chi-square may not be a valid test.

which compared the 13 factors with the attitudinal scales which had been used. It was found that both men and women who had experienced unwanted sexual activity for any of several different reasons were more likely to believe that male-female relationships are adversarial and that women often say no when they really mean yes. Men, but not women, who had experienced unwanted sexual activity for any of several different reasons were likely to believe that leading on by a woman justifies force being used against them. Men who had experienced unwanted sexual activity were also more likely to believe that men should dominate women.

#### Discussion

The results of this study show that, contrary to popular belief, men do have a problem with unwanted sexual activity, especially unwanted sexual intercourse. While women seemed to experience unwanted sexual behavior more often than men, men reported a much higher incidence of unwanted sexual intercourse.

There were a few areas of this study that could be improved upon in subsequent studies related to this topic. One of the biggest problems was that the respondents might be unclear as to the meaning of "unwanted." For example,

the most cited reason for having unwanted sexual activity was enticement. If one looked at the reasons listed in this factor one might wonder if this sexual activity was truly "unwanted" at the time of the incident. The subjects might have become very aroused, engaged in the sexual activity, but felt a sense of guilt after they had engaged in that activity. There could also be different degrees of "unwanted." If a subject said that a particular sexual activity was unwanted, did that mean they never wanted to participate in that sexual activity with that person, or did it mean that they just did not want to engage in that particular sexual activity at that particular moment? It is suggested therefore that the term "unwanted" be more specifically defined in future studies.

Also in this particular study, no information was obtained on the sex of the aggressor. The questionnaires were constructed so that both men and women could take the questionnaire, and this hindered the ability to determine the sex of the partner. As far as unwanted sexual activity among men, many cases could have involved a male partner. Although the main intent of this study was to determine the incidence of any kind of unwanted sexual activity among men, in future studies it would be useful to determine the sex of the partner.

There could be several possible reasons for this

unwanted sexual activity among males. Much of this could be due to men trying to fulfill the stereotype of being the dominant or more sexually active member of relationships. This problem could also be due to miscommunication between partners. Men were found to have more unwanted sexual intercourse than women possibly because it is more of a stigma in society for men to say no to sexual intercourse than it is for women to say no. All these reasons could contribute to explaining the cause of unwanted sexual activity among men.

These results imply that therapists need to be sensitive to the problem of unwanted sexual behavior among men and that more research is needed on how to deal with such clients. Methods similar to those used in counseling women who have experienced unwanted sexual activity could be used with men who have experienced these types of problems. Therefore, steps should be taken to break the walls of miscommunication between men and women and to help those people who have become victims of unwanted sexual activity.

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APPENDIX A

What are the major influences on your attitudes towards sexual activity?

Have you ever been pressured to engage in any kind of sexual activity (ranging from kissing to sexual intercourse) when you didn't really want to? If so, describe each event including: (a) What the other person said or did to get you to engage in this activity, (b) The situation, (c) How the other person was related to you (e.g., casual acquaintance, girlfriend, stranger), (d) The outcome.



Do you think girls try to get guys to engage in sexual activity (ranging from kissing to sexual intercourse) when the guys really don't want to? If so, how do girls get guys to engage in unwanted sexual behavior?

Do you think guys ever engage in sexual activity (ranging from kissing to sexual intercourse) when they really don't want to, but they do anyway because they feel that they have to? If so, describe why they feel they have to.

What do you think is expected of you when you go out on a date?

Have you ever engaged in some kind of sexual activity (ranging from kissing to sexual intercourse) when you really didn't want to, and when you were not pressured by the other person, but for some reason you felt you had to? If so, describe each event including: (a) Why you felt you had to engage in this activity, (b) The situation, (c) How the other person was related to you (e.g., casual acquaintance, girlfriend, stranger), (d) The outcome.

APPENDIX B

## GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

Below is a list of reasons why some people might engage in sexual activities when they didn't really want to. By sexual activities we mean anything from kissing to petting to sexual intercourse.

Mark "0" if you have never felt this way or encountered this situation at all.

Mark "1" if you felt this way or encountered this situation but never engaged in any unwanted sexual activity because of it.

Mark "2" if you went as far as kissing for this reason.

Mark "3" if you went as far as petting for this reason.

Mark "4" if you went as far as sexual intercourse for this reason.

Write your answer in the box on the Scantron form and completely fill in the oval below it.

Read each question carefully because some might seem similar.

Your answers will remain completely anonymous.

### REMEMBER:

"0" - if you have never encountered this situation or felt this way.

"1" - if you have encountered this situation or felt this way.

"2" - went as far as kissing for this reason.

"3" - went as far as petting for this reason.

"4" - went as far as sexual intercourse for this reason.

Have you ever engaged in sexual activities (ranging from kissing to sexual intercourse) when you didn't want to because...

- 1) you felt inexperienced compared with other people that you knew?
- 2) you wanted something to talk about with other people?
- 3) your same sex friends talked you into it?
- 4) you were in a particular situation (e.g., party, double date) and other couple(s) were engaging in the same activity?
- 5) you knew your partner wanted to, and, even though you weren't in the mood, you wanted to satisfy your partner's needs?
- 6) the other person had made the first move and you didn't want to make the other person feel rejected?

REMEMBER:

- "0" - if you have never encountered this situation or felt this way.
- "1" - if you have encountered this situation or felt this way.
- "2" - went as far as kissing for this reason.
- "3" - went as far as petting for this reason.
- "4" - went as far as sexual intercourse for this reason.

Have you ever engaged in sexual activities (ranging from kissing to sexual intercourse) when you didn't want to because...

- 7) the other person threatened to end the relationship if you didn't?
- 8) the other person said or implied that if you didn't satisfy them, they would find somebody else who would?
- 9) you were afraid that if you didn't, they wouldn't be interested in you anymore?
- 10) you felt obligated to them for the money, time, and/or effort they had spent on you?
- 11) you were afraid to appear unmasculine if you are male, or unfeminine if you are a female?
- 12) you were afraid to appear homosexual (gay)?
- 13) you didn't want to appear shy or afraid?
- 14) you didn't want to appear inexperienced to the other person?
- 15) the other person threatened to tell other people if you refused?
- 16) you thought it would make you more popular?
- 17) you wanted to be accepted by a popular group?
- 18) the other person made a sudden advance, such as kissing, grabbing, etc.
- 19) the other person tries to physically detain you (e.g., they block your car door to make it difficult to leave, they won't let go of your hand)?
- 20) the other person physically held you down?
- 21) the other person threatened physical violence (e.g., slapping, hitting)?

REMEMBER:

- "0" - if you have never encountered this situation or felt this way.
- "1" - if you have encountered this situation or felt this way.
- "2" - went as far as kissing for this reason.
- "3" - went as far as petting for this reason.
- "4" - went as far as sexual intercourse for this reason.

Have you ever engaged in sexual activities (ranging from kissing to sexual intercourse) when you didn't want to because...

- 22) the other person actually used physical violence (e.g., slapping, hitting)?
- 23) the other person threatened you with a weapon?
- 24) you were drunk or stoned but later wished you hadn't?
- 25) the other person got you drunk and/or stoned and took advantage of the situation?
- 26) you were so drunk and/or stoned that either you were unaware of what was going on or weren't able to stop the other person?
- 27) because a family member pressured you to with them (do not count nonsexual kissing or hugging)?
- 28) because a family member pressured you to with another person?
- 29) because someone else arranged a sexual encounter for you (e.g., paid for a prostitute or supplied a willing partner).
- 30) because the other person threatened to do bodily harm to himself/herself if you didn't?
- 31) because you wanted to build your own self-confidence?
- 32) because you were afraid it was "now or never" with this person?
- 33) because the other person said it was now or never?
- 34) because you were with a person and you couldn't think of anything else to do?
- 35) because the opportunity was there and you felt you should take advantage of the situation (e.g., parents left town)?
- 36) because you wanted to make the other person feel attractive?



REMEMBER:

- "0" - if you have never encountered this situation or felt this way.
- "1" - if you have encountered this situation or felt this way.
- "2" - went as far as kissing for this reason.
- "3" - went as far as petting for this reason.
- "4" - went as far as sexual intercourse for this reason.

Have you ever engaged in sexual activities (ranging from kissing to sexual intercourse) when you didn't want to because...

- 37) you thought, either correctly or incorrectly, that the other person wanted to, even though they didn't say so?
- 38) because you were curious?
- 39) because you wanted to get experience?
- 40) because you wanted a future date with that person?
- 41) because the other person dressed suggestively?
- 42) because the other person was trying to turn you on by touching you?
- 43) because something about the person turned you on?
- 44) because the other person questioned your sexuality (implied that you were impotent or frigid)?
- 45) because the other person said that everybody does it?
- 46) because the other person urged you to?
- 47) because the other person made you feel guilty?
- 48) because the other person started taking off your clothes?
- 49) because the other person started taking off their own clothes?
- 50) because the other person was flirting with you?
- 51) because the other person was teasing you?

## ATTITUDES TOWARD WOMEN

The statements listed below describe attitudes toward the role of women in society which different people have. There are no right or wrong answers, only opinions. You are asked to express your feelings about each statement by indicating whether you (0) agree strongly, (1) agree mildly, (2) disagree mildly, or (3) disagree strongly. Please indicate your opinion by writing your answer in the box on the scantron and then filling in the corresponding oval. Please respond to every item.

(0) agree strongly    (1) agree mildly    (2) disagree mildly    (3) disagree strongly

61. Swearing and obscenity is more repulsive in the speech of a woman than a man.
62. Women should take increasing responsibility for leadership in solving the intellectual and social problems of the day.
63. Both husband and wife should be allowed the same grounds for divorce.
64. Telling dirty jokes should be mostly a masculine prerogative.
65. Intoxication among women is worse than intoxication among men.
66. Under modern economic conditions with women being active outside the home, men should share the household tasks such as washing dishes and doing the laundry.
67. It is insulting to women to have the "obey" clause remain in the marriage service.
68. There should be a strict merit system in job appointment and promotion without regard to sex.
69. A woman should be as free as a man to propose marriage.
70. Women should worry less about their rights and more about becoming good wives and mothers.
71. Women earning as much as their dates should bear equally the expense when they go out together.
72. Women should assume their rightful place in business and all the professions along with men.
73. A woman should not expect to go to exactly the same places or to have quite the same freedom of action as a man.
74. Sons in a family should be given more encouragement to go to college than daughters.
75. It is ridiculous for a woman to run a locomotive and for a man to darn socks.
76. In general, the father should have greater authority than the mother in the bringing up of children.

(0)agree strongly (1)agree mildly (2)disagree mildly (3)disagree strongly

77. Women should be encouraged not to become sexually intimate with anyone before marriage, even their fiances.
78. The husband should not be favored by law over the wife in the disposal of family property or income.
79. Women should be concerned with their duties of childrearing and housetending, rather than with desires for professional and business careers.
80. The intellectual leadership of a community should be largely in the hands of men.
81. Economic and social freedom is worth far more to women than acceptance of the ideal of femininity which has been set by men.
82. On the average, women should be regarded as less capable of contribution to economic production than are men.
83. There are many jobs in which men should be given preference over women in being hired or promoted.
84. Women should be given equal opportunity with men for apprenticeship in the various trades.
85. The modern girl is entitled to the same freedom from regulation and control that is given to the modern boy.

Indicate how much you agree with each of these statements. Put your answer in the box that corresponds with the question number and color in the oval.

1                    2                    3                    4                    5                    6                    7

AGREE  
STRONGLY

NEITHER AGREE  
NOR DISAGREE

DISAGREE  
STRONGLY

91. A man should fight when the woman he's with is insulted by another man.
92. It is acceptable for the woman to pay for the date.
93. A woman should be a virgin when she marries.
94. There is something wrong with a woman who doesn't want to marry and raise a family.
95. A wife should never contradict her husband in public.
96. It is acceptable for a woman to have a career, but marriage and family should come first.
97. It is better for a woman to use her feminine charm to get what she wants rather than ask for it outright.
98. It looks worse for a woman to be drunk than for a man to be drunk.
99. There is nothing wrong with a woman going to a bar alone.
100. A woman will only respect a man who will lay down the law to her.
101. Many women are so demanding sexually that a man just can't satisfy them.
102. A man's got to show the woman who's boss right from the start or he'll end up henpecked.
103. Women are usually sweet until they've caught a man, but then they let their true self show.
104. A lot of men talk big, but when it comes down to it, they can't perform well sexually.
105. In a dating relationship a woman is largely out to take advantage of a man.
106. Men are out for only one thing.
107. Most women are sly and manipulating when they are out to attract a man.
108. A lot of women seem to get pleasure in putting men down.
109. People today should not use "an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth" as a rule for living.

1            2            3            4            5            6            7

AGREE  
STRONGLY

NEITHER AGREE  
NOR DISAGREE

DISAGREE  
STRONGLY

110. Being roughed up is sexually stimulating to many women.
111. Many times a woman will pretend she doesn't want to have intercourse because she doesn't want to seem loose, but she's really hoping the man will force her.
112. A wife should move out of the house if her husband hits her.
113. Sometimes the only way a man can get a cold woman turned on is to use force.
114. A man is never justified in hitting his wife.

## SEX ATTITUDES SURVEY

Below is a list of statements regarding sexual attitudes. Using the scale below, indicate how much you agree or disagree with each statement. Please indicate your opinion by writing your answer in the box on the scantron and then filling in the corresponding oval. There are no right or wrong answers, only opinions.

(0) AGREE STRONGLY (1) AGREE MILDLY (2) DISAGREE MILDLY (3) DISAGREE STRONGLY

121. Guys should dominate girls in bed.
122. The man should be in control of the sexual situation.
123. Men should decide what should happen during sex.
124. A guy is justified in forcing a girl to have sex if she leads him on.
125. Girls generally want to be talked into having sex.
126. Girls think it is exciting when guys use a little force on them.
127. A guy should respect a girl's wishes if she says "No."
128. Girls often say "No" because they don't want guys to think they're easy.
129. When girls say "No," guys should stop.
130. When a girl toys with a guy she deserves whatever happens to her.
131. At any point, a girl always has the right to say "No."
132. Guys should have the power in sexual situations.
133. Girls really get turned on by guys who let them know who's boss.
134. Girls just say "No" to make it seem like they're nice girls.
135. Girls who tease guys should be taught a lesson.
136. By being dominated, girls get sexually aroused.
137. Even if a guy is aroused, he doesn't have the right to force himself on a girl.
138. Girls who lead guys on deserve what they get.
139. When girls say "No," they often mean "Yes."
140. Girls like it when guys are a little rough with them.

168) SEX: 0 = Male  
1 = Female

169 & 170) AGE: \_ \_

171) CLASSIFICATION: 1 = Freshman  
2 = Sophomore  
3 = Junior  
4 = Senior

172) RACE: 0 = Caucasian  
1 = Hispanic  
2 = Black  
3 = Oriental  
4 = Other

173) Which of the following would best describe your sexual preference?

0 = Heterosexual  
1 = Homosexual  
2 = Bisexual

174) DATING STATUS: 0 = Not dating at all  
1 = Dating infrequently  
2 = Dating several different people  
3 = Going steady  
4 = Engaged  
5 = Married  
6 = Divorced  
7 = Widowed

175) What is the most physically involved you have ever been with another person?

0 = None of the following  
1 = Kissing  
2 = Petting  
3 = Sexual intercourse

176) Outside of marriage, what is the most physically involved that you would allow yourself to become with another person?

0 = None of the following  
1 = Kissing  
2 = Petting  
3 = Sexual intercourse

177) In your opinion, have you ever experienced unwanted sexual activities?

0 = yes  
1 = no

APPENDIX C



Consent Form

1. Purpose. The purpose of this study is to find out more about people's attitudes toward dating and sex.
2. Procedure. You will be asked to fill out questionnaires about dating, sex, and male-female relationships.
3. Confidentiality. The questionnaires will be totally anonymous and thus totally confidential.
4. Risk or discomfort. If any part of this questionnaire causes you discomfort, you may skip that part. In addition, anyone who feels uncomfortable afterwards may talk to Dr. Muehlenhard at the phone number listed below.
5. Your right to participate or discontinue. It is your choice to participate or not. You are free to discontinue at any time without penalty and without losing the experimental credit you have earned to that point.
6. Answering your questions. After the experiment, you will be given a handout explaining the experiment. We will discuss it, and you can ask questions. If you have any additional questions, you can ask Dr. Muehlenhard at 845-2508 (work) or in 424 Academic Bldg.
7. A copy of this form. You are entitled to a copy of this form. If you want one, ask the experimenter.

I have read the above information. My signature below indicates that I am willing to participate.

Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

Student ID: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Experimenter's signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Debriefing Sheet

Recently there has been much research done on the problem of sexual coercion. The literature in this area has almost without exception focused on men coercing women into having unwanted sex. Evidence has been found, however, that some men do have problems with being coerced to participate in sexual activities when they would rather not. Some of this information comes from studies done to assess sexual aggression against women. In a study by Muehlenhard and Linton (1985) dealing with males' aggression against females, some men spontaneously wrote about females coercing them to have unwanted sexual activities when they would rather not. These men described situations in which the women used verbal and/or physical coercion. An example of verbal coercion was when the boss's wife wanted to have an affair with one of the boss's employees, who complied for fear of losing his job. An example of physical coercion was when a man reported that he was forced against the wall and kissed by a large woman.

In a survey of single adults conducted by Muehlenhard and Hewlett (1985), questions were included which asked men and women if they had ever been forced either physically or psychologically to have unwanted sex. Several men reported that psychological and/or physical force had been used against them, and some women admitted to having used psychological and/or physical force against men. The exact findings of this survey are questionable because of the small sample, but the point is that some men have been coerced to have unwanted sex with women and some women admit to coercing men.

In addition to feeling pressured by females to have sex, males might feel pressured by societal stereotypes to have unwanted sex. There exists a stereotype that all men want to advance as far as they can sexually with a woman if they are at all interested in her. A man might fear not to engage in sexual activity with a woman, because if he didn't, it would indicate to the woman that (a) he found her sexually unattractive and undesirable, or (b) he lacked manly qualities or was a homosexual.

The purpose of this particular study is to answer three questions that apply to this relatively unexplored topic:

- 1) What is the incidence of unwanted sexual activity among men?
- 2) What are the reasons for this unwanted sexual activity?
- 3) Are there similar attitudes among men who have experienced unwanted sexual activity.

The study will involve two steps: The first will be an exploratory study using anonymous questionnaires in which men would describe in detail the types of situations they have encountered. The second step will involve more objective questionnaires in order to gather data on the frequency of these situations. The relationships between males' reports of unwanted sexual activity and their attitudes toward women, sex, and relationships will also be assessed.

After all the data are analyzed, we will be able to find out if this is a problem for men. If it is a problem, data like you have provided on the reasons for unwanted sexual activity will provide insight into how this problem will be solved.

If you have any questions or comments about this study, or if you would like to find out the results, contact Dr. Charlene Muehlenhard, 424 Academic Bldg., 845-2508.

Thank you very much for participating in this study.