

### Prequel to the sexual revolution

- The Baby Boom
- Boomer babies hit adolescence in the 60s and the 70s.
  - The number of 18-24 year-olds increased 50%.
- Social consciousness among adolescence grew exponentially.
- Civil-rights, women's movements, gay liberation, anti-war, anti-establishment.
  - Rejected their parent's eager embrace of conformity.

### Sexual Revolution

- A significant element of the sexual revolution was to liberate female sexuality.
- What is liberated sexuality?
- Dominant androcentrism frames women's sexuality as "suppressed" and men's sexuality as "normal".
- Sexual expression for women meant entering into a male dominated sphere.
- Sexual encounters conform to men's desires.
- Women, excited by greater opportunity for sexual expression and resentful to find continued presence of sexism.

### Doing Sexuality

- Just like "doing gender" there are a number of considerations and intersections that come into play with doing sexuality.

### Doing Sexuality - The Erotic Marketplace

- People are organized and ordered according to their perceived sexual desirability.
- Erotic capital - a cultural value system that attributes more worth to some bodies vs. others.
  
- Three-quarters of single people have used online dating sites.
- OkCupid has well over 7million active users.

### The Erotic Marketplace and Gender

- Men are more likely to message women who are judged to be above-average attractiveness compared with women who are of average or less-than-average attractiveness.
- “Very attractive” women receive 5 times as many messages as average attractive women and 25 times as many as the least attractive.
  
- Men can make up for mediocre looks by being funny, smart, or rich.
- Men’s value in the erotic marketplace is less tied to how they look and more tied to who they are and what they do.
- As women gain more in income, education, prestige, age, height, weight, and strength their value in in the erotic marketplace is put at risk.
- Men are meant to earn more, be more educated, have more prestige, be older, taller, bigger, and stronger.

### The Erotic Marketplace and Gender

- Gender and Age
  - Average 30 year old male states that he is interested in women between the ages of 27 and 35.
  - Average 30 year old woman states that she is interested in men between the ages of 27 and 37.
  - Average 40 year old male will maintain the lower end of the bracket at 27.
  - As women age they will accept 5 years in either direction of their age.

### The Erotic Marketplace and Race

- Race
  - Being a black male is a double-edge sword.
    - Hyper-masculine (endowed and sexually skilled).
    - Too sexual or sexually frightening.
  - Asian men are seen not masculine and therefore sexually deficient.
- Race and Heterosexual Inquiries - **Men**
  - White men are the most likely to get a response from an inquiry.
  - Black men and East Indian men are the least likely.
- Race and Homosexual Inquiries - **Men**
  - Middle-Eastern men are the most likely to get a response from an inquiry.
  - Black men are the least likely to get a response from an inquiry.

### The Erotic Marketplace and Race (Continued)

- Race and Heterosexual Inquiries - **Women**
  - Middle Eastern women are the most likely to get a response from an inquiry.
  - Black women are the least likely to get a response from an inquiry.
- Race and Homosexual Inquiries - **Women**
  - East Indian women are the most likely to get a response from an inquiry (63 percent).
  - Black women are the least likely to get a response from an inquiry (47 percent).

### Doing Sexuality - Sexy and Sexual

- Sex education in schools
- Sex education in families.
- The media sells the sexy in sex.
  - **Heterosexual Male Gaze** - Sexual content is directed at the hypothetical heterosexual male.
- **Sexual Subjectification** - A prescription as to what a heterosexual male's internal thoughts and feelings should be.
- **Sexual Objectification** - The reduction of a person to his or her sex appeal.
- **Self-objectify** - Internalizing the idea that physical/sexual attractiveness determines worth.
- **Sexual spectating** - Watching one's sexual performance from the outside.
  - "How is this looking to him (or her)?"
- Sexual spectating is an effort to be "sexy".
- Spectating is a consequence of androcentric objectification.
- Men or women, heterosexual or homosexual will engage in a sexual "looking-glass self".

### Doing Sexuality - Sexy and Sexual

- The varying degrees to which an individual engages in sexual spectating effects the experiencing of their own sexuality.
- Ultimately resulting in an “out-of-body sexual experience”
- Focused on how sex “looks” as opposed to how sex “feels”.
  
- This may be “sexy”... but it is not “sexual”.
  
- Who said this?
  - “You get tired of being used... I was nothing but this little receptacle... It wasn’t reciprocal... I need to feel like some attention is to me and I’m not just this machine... It just makes me an object”.

### Doing Sexuality - Sexual Script

- Rules that guide sexual interaction.

### Sexual Script - Sexual Assault

- Men, according to the script, are meant to initiate sexual activity.
- **Push-and-resist dynamic** - Men press sexual activity and women are meant to stop or slow down, when he’s gone “too far”.

### Sexual Script - Sexual Assault

- This does not make all or even most men semi-rapists.
- Most men, no matter how strongly they embrace their role as the initiator, will never commit a violent or coercive sexual crime.
- **Push-and-resist** provides cover to the small proportion of men who are responsible for the majority of sexual assault.
- **Rape Culture** - An environment that justifies, naturalizes, and even glorifies sexual pressure, coercion, and violence.
- Campaigns aimed at reducing sexual assault used to perpetuate blaming the victim.
  - Focusing on what women should do to reduce their risk.
- This reinforced the idea that women could stop sexual assault if they just made better choices.
- In 2014, California passed “yes means yes legislation”.

### An Emerging New Script

#### The Orgasm Gap

- Heterosexual women report fewer orgasms than heterosexual men.
- It is sometimes argued that this is physiological.
- Our physiology is the result of evolutionary “wins” in the species.
- Those predecessors, both male and female, who enjoyed intercourse more, made more intercourse enjoying off-spring.

### The Orgasm Gap

- In pre-colonial Polynesia, women had 3-4x as many orgasms as men.
- Pocket women in Kenya expect and achieve orgasm.
- Physiologically women are physiologically wired with a wide range of orgasmic possibilities.
- The orgasm gap is largely due to the sexual script, gender norms, and gender inequality.

### The Orgasm Gap

- Socially constructed elements of the orgasm gap:
  - Spectating
  - Androcentrism
  - Wonderful wife/mother
  - Heteronormative institutions
  - The script puts men and women at odds
  - Double-standards
  - Male power
  - Taboo
  - Third-shift / chore-list

## Hookup Culture

- What is it?
- Casual sex is not as common on college campuses as the media would lead us to believe.
  - The average number of “hookups” for a graduating senior is \_\_\_\_\_ while in college.

## Hookup Culture - Lisa Wade

### Hookup Culture

- Hooking up makes some sense... relationships can be demanding...
- Hookups offer a way for young people to gain sexual experience and “blow off steam” while they ride out their extended adolescence.
- Extended adolescence is an example of the intersection of class and gender/sexuality.

## Bystander intervention programs