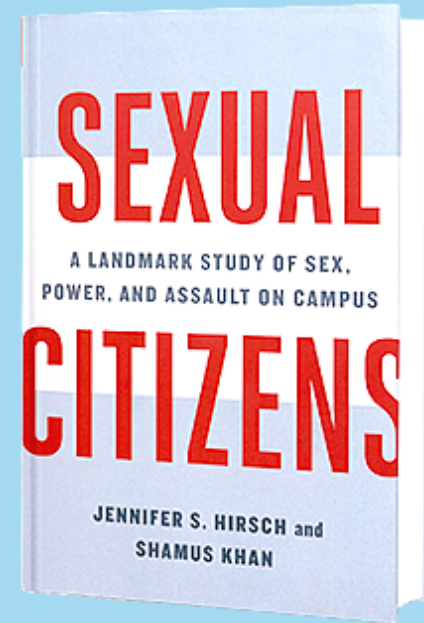


WINTER 2022

#TalkAboutItTUESDAY



**HOW DO
EXTERNAL
FACTORS IMPACT
OUR SEXUAL
PROJECTS?**

Our sexual projects are influenced by our...

gender +
sexuality

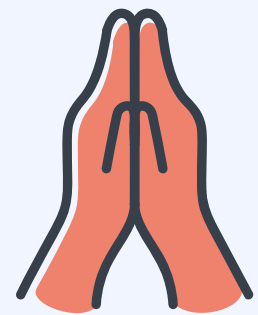


race +
ethnicity

religion



cultural
beliefs



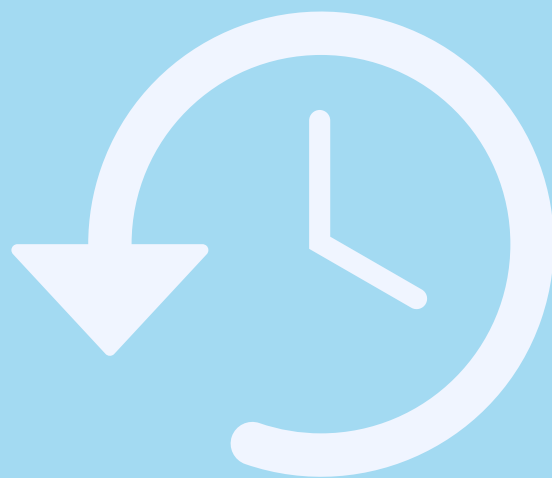
social
expectations

past
experiences



family + peer groups

PAST EXPERIENCES



Different people may have different wants or desires when it comes to sex because of **different life experiences**

This can include...

- past sexual experiences
- early sexual education
- household rules or expectations for sex
 - witnessing others' relationships
- media portrayals of sex and sexuality
 - past trauma and/or abuse



SOCIAL EXPECTATIONS AND NORMS



Social expectations and norms are another powerful influence on the types of sexual experiences what we want (or think we want).

Social expectations can come from...

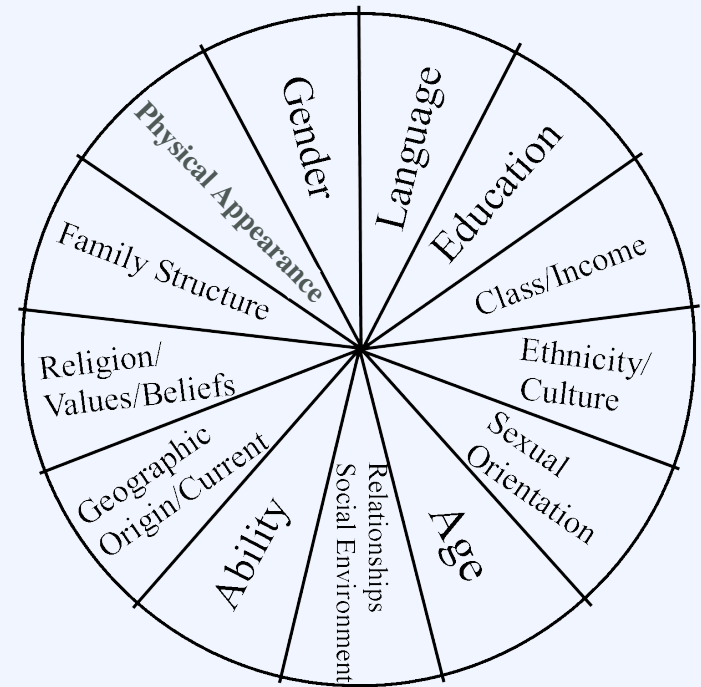
- family
- friends
- campus culture
- student organizations
- online / social media

They are often particularly influential due to our desires to fit in and be part of a group

POWER + IDENTITY



Our identity sits at the intersection of multiple socially constructed categories.



Based on our identity and the identity of those around us, we may hold more or less power in any given group or situation.

Power dynamics and identity can influence the ways we think about sex before any sort of activity occurs. We might feel that certain sexual projects are more or less available/accessible to us based on who we are.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- ★ All sexual projects deserve respect, regardless of one's reasoning.*
- ★ No one's reasons for having or not having sex are inherently better or worse than anyone else's.*
- ★ We cannot rid ourselves of past experiences, social norms, or power dynamics, but we can be aware of them and their influence.

*Disclaimer: This does not include sexual projects that rely on causing life-threatening and/or unwanted harm to another individual or oneself.