

Demography of sexuality

The socio-spatial distribution of same-sex couples in the Paris area. An approach based on the French Census

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The appeal of cities, and even more so of international metropolises, has long been highlighted in studies on LGBTQ minorities. However, until the end of the 2010s, the possibilities for accurately quantifying this specific relationship to large cities in France remained limited. After identifying the obstacles to such quantification (1), this paper presents, for the first time, a residential geography of same-sex couples in France (2). Based on population census data, which includes a considerable number of same-sex couples and an unprecedented level of detail regarding their locations, this approach establishes that the spatial distribution of women and men in same-sex couples is highly specific, with their concentration being very heterogeneous across the country and quite different for women and men in same-sex couples. Finally, the communication focuses on the Paris region (3), where same-sex couples are significantly overrepresented compared to the rest of the country. The approach reflects the stronger presence of these couples in central areas characterised by social diversity and in urban areas undergoing gentrification. Conversely, highly segregated areas, whether involving the segregation of the working classes in the north-east of the region or the self-segregation of the upper classes in the western half of the Paris region, which has been growing for several decades, are relatively avoided by same-sex couples. While having children and socio-professional category have a strong influence on where people live, these factors do not shape the residential geography of same-sex couples in the same way as they do for different-sex couples.

The role of internalized homophobia in the coming-out process and mental well-being of homosexual individuals in Turkey

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This study investigates the role of internalized homophobia in shaping the coming-out processes and mental well-being of homosexual individuals in Turkey. The primary research questions are: (1) Does internalized homophobia negatively affect psychological well-being? and (2) Does it delay the coming-out process? Drawing on minority stress theory, the study hypothesizes that higher levels of internalized homophobia are associated with lower mental well-being and later disclosure of sexual orientation.

Work-life balance, life satisfaction and sexual activity: A comparative study using GGP data

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Sexuality is central to human well-being, relationships and health. Previous studies have shown that having regular and satisfying sex is linked with a wide range of physical and mental health benefits, as well as greater relationship satisfaction and stability. Yet, people today are having less sex than a few decades ago. In addition, there has been a rise in the proportion of “sexless” couples across different countries. Potential explanations to this trend include the intensification of work-life conflict and other related social, economic and technological developments. However, these explanations have not been studied systematically. The present study uses data from 15 countries included in Round 2 of the Generations and Gender Programme. The data is analysed using the two-step approach to hierarchical data to explore the relationship between couples’ working arrangements and likelihood of being sexually active, as well as the role of country-level factors in shaping sexual behaviour. It is found that dual-earner couples are more likely to be sexually active compared to other couples. However, in countries with longer working hours the proportion of sexually active couples is lower. Moreover, average life satisfaction at the country level is strongly correlated with increased sexual activity. These findings contribute to our understanding of the relationships between sexual behaviour, work-life balance and general well-being.

Religion, not gender? Religiosity, sexual attitudes, and sexual behaviour among Turkish university students

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Both gender and religiosity are well-established predictors of sexual attitudes. A substantial body of research documents gender differences in sexual permissiveness, the sexual double standard, and courtship expectations (Endendijk et al., 2019; Ludwig et al., 2023), while religiosity consistently predicts conservative sexual attitudes and reduced sexual risk-taking across diverse populations (Ahrold et al., 2010; Luquis et al.,

2012). However, the relative explanatory power of these two factors has rarely been directly compared, particularly in Muslim-majority societies where both operate with distinctive force. Turkey presents a theoretically compelling case as a constitutionally secular state with deep Islamic cultural roots and where political polarization around religion coexist. Turkish research on university students' sexual attitudes has largely centered gender as the primary organizing variable (Aşkun & Ataca, 2007; Gelbal & Duyan, 2008), with religiosity included as a covariate rather than a competing predictor, despite evidence that it may be the stronger force (Sümer, 2015). This paper directly tests whether religiosity or gender better predicts sexual conservatism, traditional dating norms, and sexual behavior among 372 quota-sampled university students across six faculties at a Turkish university. Using validated composite scales, linear and logistic regression, and interaction models, I examine whether religiosity dominates gender as a predictor of both attitudinal and behavioral outcomes, and whether its effects differ by gender. Findings are discussed in relation to Turkey's secular/religious tension, sexuality-related policies, and the modeling of sexuality in Muslim-majority demographic contexts.