

# Setting a sexuality research agenda

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# developmental tasks

- Identify the biomedical and psychological developmental tasks to be achieved in childhood, adolescence and adulthood on the way to human sexual and erotic maturity.

# definitions and frameworks

International human rights instruments:

- International Conference on Population and Development 1994, World Conference on Women 1995, World Health Organization, including International Classification of Diseases 10, World Association of Sexology, American Psychiatric Association, Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders 4, Kinsey Institute, others)
- Sex, sexual health, sexuality, reproductive health and rights, sexual identity and orientation, gender identity and its disorders, puberty and adolescence, psychopathologies of sex, sexual dysfunctions

# historical-cultural representations

- Perceptions and constructions of sex, gender, love, body image, affection, friendship, erotic love, and divine love (Greco-roman, Judeo-Christian), power and sexuality models (middle-eastern, African, Victorian/Freudian) sense and sensibility models (exoticism, esotericism, orientalism) cult of (female) virginity, ideals of chastity.

# sexual life course

- Specificity of sexuality in adolescence,
- in disability,
- in older age

# sexual constructs

- Document dissemination of culture-specific sexual constructs in hand with historical and current colonial attitudes to indigenous practices and rites.

# religion

Verification of the record of human sexuality and eroticism in faith-based values, such as:

- Allegory for divine-human interaction,
- good gift,
- curse,
- duty.

# human rights

Uses and abuses of sex in

- poverty,
- conflict,
- captivity,
- exile.



# commerce of sex

- Prostitution,
- commercial sex work
- sex for favours,
- pornography
- use of sexual imagery in advertising.

# health models

- Views of health, illness, death and dying associated with sex (thanatos and eros)
- sexually transmitted infections and HIV/AIDS.
- Associated understanding of sexual therapy, counselling, guidance and reconciliation.

# sexuality education

- Comprehensive sex education as moral or religious obligation.
- Social, community, parental or family duty and role in its content and delivery.

# gender and genitals

- Place of gender and age specific genital practices and their effects on social and personal attitudes.
- Gender identity disorders
- Gender reassignment

join the debate

[www.gfmer.ch/Forums/sexualhealthresearch](http://www.gfmer.ch/Forums/sexualhealthresearch)