

WESSEX  
SCENE

SEX  
ISSUE

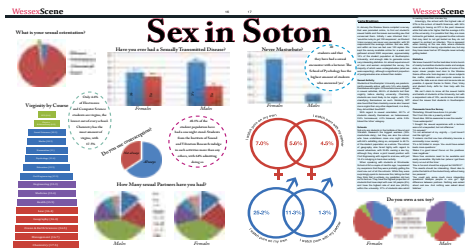




Sex Selection



Green Sex 10-11



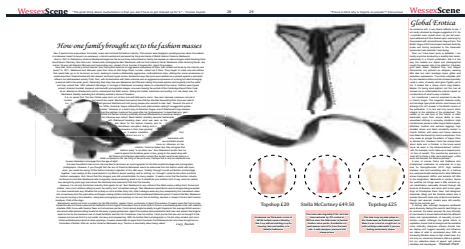
Sex Survey 16-17



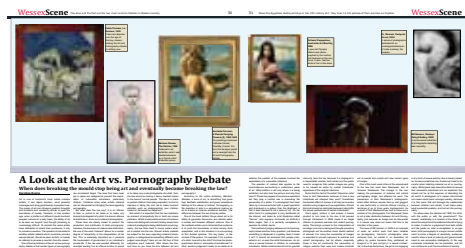
Sex Industry 18-19



Sex Abroad 26-27



Fashion 28-29



Art Vs. Pornography 30-31

# SEX



For many months, sex has dominated the Wessex Scene's editorial meetings. From whispering the word anal to openly discussing bizarre sexual practices described in Urban Dictionary, time has been the making of the editorial team. Despite this, or perhaps in spite of this, there have been many full-blown arguments in meetings. Some did not feel comfortable pursuing the sex angle, but by working through issues, everyone is still on board. Some thought abstinence had no part featuring in a sex issue, whilst others argued not having sex is as much of a sex issue as having it frequently. Should we include naked photos? Detailed descriptions of abortions?

It has taken us four months but we are proud of our efforts. Every article is included for a reason, and nothing unnecessary has been printed. This issue was always going to be controversial and divide opinion, but so is the issue of sex. It dominates the thoughts of many students and an open dialogue can inform readers of information they have never been able to access before.

We stem from a wide variety of backgrounds and have, at times, opposing beliefs, values and cultures. The team consists of religious Christians, atheists and Jews, homosexuals, heterosexuals, prudes, dominatrixes and exhibitionists. We now know far more than necessary about some team member's sexual habits and fetishes, and we held discussions I personally did not see ever occurring during the period of time I was editor.

### 20% of students masturbate daily

We have taken sex as a theme to explore through the medium of our usual sections. Each article was broadly categorized as fun, serious or feature, and we have a mixture of each. For the first time, Winchester School of Art, a satellite campus of the University of Southampton, have contributed to the paper and it has been great to work alongside some fantastic artists. Whilst trying to approach sex from as many angles as possible, it was easy to ensure it did not become a lad's mag; the challenge was preventing it from turning into a women's magazine. In order to prevent this we have provided detailed explanations of abortions and STI testing, as well as taking a few artistic risks.

Many student newspapers in America started a 'Sexzine' craze in the nineties, and while a few

are still in existence (Yale University has a Sex week each year, and a magazine is published for this purpose; Wesleyan University consistently push the boundaries of prescribed dignity and

### 27% of students have anal sex

acceptance, often publishing photos of naked students), the shock factor associated with these publications has diminished over time. Yet British universities have never quite reached the same heights, with the biggest shocks over the past couple of years being the inclusion of a page three girl in a few select institutions, notably at Oxford University. After several long discussions, where we considered the promotion of Porn magazines and some women's magazines, where sex underlies the content, we were surprised how little could be found in the public domain that interrogates the type of sex issues young people and students face.

Why do I know what Jenna Jameson looks like, the biggest sex myths (we all should have known that it was practically impossible for men to think about sex every six seconds) and the average female bra size, but not the intricate details of an STI test, an approximate number of rapes that occurred last year or the fact that 1 in 5 women are addicted to porn? Photos of naked women are commercially acceptable, as long as their legs are not open; male genitalia can be printed in most publications, as long as the penis is not erect - but open discussions about dental dams, the best condom / lube flavour combinations and the many

faces of the expanding sex industry are predominantly ignored.

We have printed adaptations of academic essays, features that have been researched for over three months, erotic literature and personal religious perspectives on the many sex issues that surround society. On top of that, we have compiled the results of a survey, uncovering Southampton students sexual habits and beliefs. With 10% of the student population completing the survey, compared to the average 30 responses such surveys usually garner, it validates our motives behind this edition while satisfying all your voyeuristic needs.

I will miss our regular 'sex' meetings and the freedom to learn and talk about issues considered taboo. I encourage you to continue to check our blog, and to contribute to it, either by commenting on posts or submitting your own. We remain a student publication for students, by students, and regardless of your perceived writing ability, we

### 48% have had a one night stand

encourage and welcome your articles and blogs on related issues that matter to you.

While we did increase the number of pages this issue, from 24 to 32, it was still never going to be enough, and there are features that we wanted to cover that would not have fit. With this in mind, please enjoy what we hope is a broad introduction to a variety of sex issues out there.

Carla Bradman  
Editor

## WessexScene

Editor Carla Bradman editor@soton.ac.uk  
Assistant Editor Lydia Teague

Section Editors Peter Apps, Polly Bennett, Gareth Brading, Sarah Colah, Caroline Evans, Dominic Falquero, Wendy Oloya, Jenni Palmer, Hannah Pratt, Jazmin Sherman, Emma Stuart, Daniel Webb, Charlotte Woods

Sub-Editors Lucy Austen, Toby Bakarave, Tristan Carlyle, Naomi Chetland, Nile Davies, Oliver Dukes, Michael Fisher, Alexander Segall, Nicola Stewart, Ruth Wallis

Contributors (Art) Jenny Babey, Chris Fisher, Todd Geary, James Harris, Jo Willoughby  
VP Media and Communications Jamie Ings



# what a (wes)sex scene



A welcome distraction from revision.



A very relaxed drink in the Stile.



Come play with us in the Stags!



We always work like this!



Who knew SUSU TV did this sort of filming?



It's hot at Surge Radio.



Naked journalism.



# Me and My STI

## Lydia Teague and Dominic Falquero

You can have an STI check with or without symptoms. In fact, chlamydia, one of the most common sexually transmitted infections amongst young people, often causes no noticeable symptoms at all, so it is a good idea to go for a check regardless.

It is a great idea to go with at least one friend, as it can feel a bit embarrassing sat in the waiting room. Take a few friends and get them to have a test too, then you're all in the same boat. In Southampton, the main Genito-Urinary Medicine (GUM) clinic is in the Royal South Hants Hospital. Clinic times and places can change, so before you go it is best to ring up and check when you can go. It's also a great idea to go as early as possible as waiting times can be horrendous. You can choose just to have a chlamydia check, rather than the whole exam, however if you are at all worried it is probably best just to have the whole thing done.

When you get there you'll either need to take a ticket and a form or speak to the receptionist, who will give you a form. You will then have to wait in the main waiting room. Men and women are all together here. The form contains questions about basic health, sexual health, symptoms and some more private questions including whether you could be pregnant, the number of sexual partners you have had, whether you have had unprotected sex and what types of sex you have had. The form then goes back to a receptionist (don't worry: everything is confidential) and you wait to be called to the next waiting room. You should be called by number from here; however this isn't always the case. It is extremely unlikely that you will bump into anyone you know though, honestly!

The next waiting room is single sex and from here you will be called by name. You will go over

the answers you have given on your information form with a doctor or nurse. You will first be asked a series of questions relating to your sexual history. Your answers to these questions will determine which tests you will be put through, but you are allowed to ask for more if you wish. After you have done this, the nurse will explain to you which tests you will have. Just be honest and don't get embarrassed. The staff have heard everything before! After that is the physical exam.

If you are female, a female nurse will always be present if the doctor is male. A friend or chaperone can also come in if you want. The doctor or nurse may ask if you mind a student medic being present for the exam. There is no need to be embarrassed if a student is present, but if you aren't comfortable with it just say no. For the exam a curtain will be drawn around the exam area and the doctor will leave you alone to remove all the clothes and underwear on your bottom half and sit in the examination chair. When the doctor returns your feet will be placed up on the stirrups and the doctor will perform a quick check of your whole genital area. Then, usually, a speculum is used to gently open your vagina; this might be a bit cold but it does not hurt, it will help if you relax though. Swabs from the vagina and cervix are taken and sometimes a swab from the urethra: none of this hurts either.

If you are male you will be asked to pull down your trousers and underwear, and lie flat on a surgical table. The nurse will sometimes examine your testes to check for lumps. If they do this, often a spotlight will be brought out to correctly illuminate your genitals. Your urethra will be swabbed, your urine tested and a blood sample is taken. If you are just being tested for Chlamydia only a urine sample will be taken. If it

is deemed necessary (depending on your sexual habits) you may have your mouth swabbed and your anal passage swabbed twice (sometimes they will do this with a special instrument to check the walls of your anal passage if you are at risk of damaging it). Whilst the urethral and anal swabs are not as painful as you would expect, they are quite uncomfortable, but the pain does not last for very long. For the anal swabs you will be asked to lie on the surgical table in the foetal position, and once again the nurse will gently swab your anal passage, the second swab will scrape slightly, though not painfully.

You will then be left to get dressed. The doctor can look at some of the tests under a microscope and give you a diagnosis before you leave the clinic. You will then go for a blood test to test for HIV and syphilis. You can choose to opt out of the test if you want. This test and any others not processed in department by the doctor are sent to the laboratory. The results can take a few weeks and the clinic will offer you a variety of ways to get your results, usually this is done by text. If you have not been immunised for Hepatitis B, they will often offer this to you at this stage. It is a course of 3 painless injections over the course of 6 months. Occasionally the arm will feel slightly dead the day after but this is just an immune response and is perfectly normal.

If you need treatment you will be given a prescription, the medicine will be free. You may also be asked to inform your partner or given a contact slip to give to your sexual partner(s), so that they can be tested too.

Going for a check-up will probably seem daunting and awkward but take a friend and remember that the doctors and nurses do this every day and are not judging you at all.

# The Chronicle of Broken Vaginas

## Polly Bennett

STIs may be a serious set of sexually-related infections and diseases, but the stigma attached makes it difficult for women with non-STI sex-related conditions to cope and speak out about their situation. There are many syndromes affecting the female genital area that are not infectious or caused/transferred by sexual intercourse, and are often the result of epithelial skin and nerve problems that come under the umbrella term vulvodynia.

These conditions are characterised by pain, discomfort and sensitivity of different areas of the vagina to a variety of stimuli, particularly touch. Vulvar vestibulitis is one such syndrome.

The major symptom of vulvar vestibulitis is pain of the vestibule, the entrance to the vagina, and is often accompanied by inflammation and redness. Pain and discomfort manifest themselves in a variety of forms: itching, burning, tenderness, creeping, etc. Pain can be enhanced by entry during sexual intercourse and even when inserting tampons. These discomforts can have huge emotional and psychological impacts including depression, anxiety, guilt and low self-esteem. This can be particularly problematic for relationships when women are unable to partake in sexual intercourse. Women of all ages suffer, from early childhood to post-menopause, and the syndrome can last from months to years with varying degrees of intensity. Although the cause remains largely unknown, symptoms are thought to increase if the woman suffers from candida (thrush) infections, human papilloma virus (HPV), chemical irritants (shower gel, bubble bath), and stress.

The south of England is extremely fortunate to have the GU medicine clinic at St. Mary's hospital in Portsmouth, whose nurses and doctors are genuinely concerned for the physical and personal welfare of their patients. As well as treating STIs, this clinic like so many others, is dedicated to treating sex-related conditions such as vulvar vestibulitis. Several women involved in the research of this article have expressed profuse thanks to those at the clinic for their relentless endeavour to provide the absolute and best possible treatment and care. If you think you may be suffering from some of the symptoms described and have tested negatively for STIs and thrush, ask your doctor about vulvar vestibulitis and vulvodynia-type conditions.



## Vulvar Vestibulitis Relief

The following websites provide good information about the condition and offer much support.

<http://vvssupport.wordpress.com>  
[www.vulvarvestibulitisrelief.com](http://www.vulvarvestibulitisrelief.com)



Todd Geary



# Got an Oral Fixation? Use the Rainbow Rubber Ratings

There are 8 good reasons to use a condom; HIV, chlamydia, genital herpes, genital warts, gonorrhoea, hepatitis B, syphilis and of course babies. In fact, in 2007 it was revealed that young people, aged 16 to 24, accounted for half of all newly diagnosed sexually transmitted infections though they make up only one-eighth of the population; students are clearly a group at risk. Whilst condoms may only have a 98% success rate (which are still pretty stunning odds by any measure, especially when this rate is partially lowered by people who use the condom incorrectly)

apart from abstaining from sex completely, they are the best way to prevent sexually transmitted infections.

Potentially first used over 15,000 years ago, the oldest claimed representation of condom usage dates back to a painting in the French cave 'Grotte des Combarelles', early condoms tended to actually only cover the glans of the penis. Originally manufactured from treated linen or animal tissue (and rather grimly, intended for re-use), the condom initially graduated to rubber in 1844, and became what we would recognise as a condom in the 1880s, but were not widely used until the 1920s when Young's Rubber Company began producing the latex condom. However, during this period, their usage was fraught with controversy. The Pope claimed their usage made the spread of HIV/AIDS worse, and when they first originated they were synonymous with prostitutes.

Whilst current attitudes towards condoms have improved greatly, many still remain perplexed as to why one would use a condom for oral sex. Many people prefer not to use condoms for oral

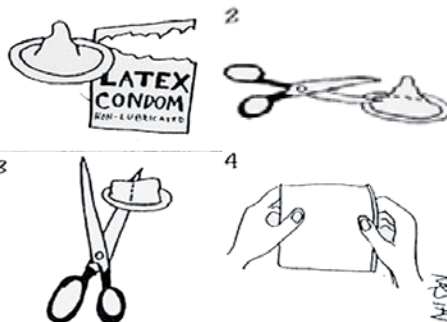
sex, citing the dampening of pleasure and lack of pregnancy risk, but rates of STI infection orally are surprisingly high. The NHS specifies that the STIs frequently caught through oral sex are chlamydia, gonorrhoea, genital herpes, and syphilis, most of which are particularly common amongst the student age group. Furthermore, it is possible to catch more serious infections such as HIV through unprotected oral sex, even though it is less likely. These risks can be easily avoided through the use of a flavoured condom.

Differing in two main ways from a standard latex condom, flavoured condoms are specifically meant for oral sex, vaginal or anal sex. Primarily, flavoured condoms are non-spermicidally lubricated, meaning that on the off chance a sperm escapes it won't be exterminated. Secondly, they are flavoured pleasantly (normal latex condoms are not the most tasty things), and hence designed for an area which contains taste buds. They can even easily be turned into dental dams, to provide safety during vaginal oral sex. It's vital to remember that oral sex is just as risky in both directions.

The fun doesn't stop there though. Since they can also be claimed for free from SUAIC (Students' Union Advice and Information Centre, located in building 40), in an effort to spread their use, I have meticulously tested and tasted as many varieties of flavoured condom and flavoured lube as I can get my hands on in the search for the best.

Safe oral sex doesn't have to be boring. Why not try some condom cocktails? There's nothing vanilla about playing it safe. You can tease your tongue as well as their...

## How to make a dental dam



# Warts Going on Down There? A Tale of Two Genitals

Almaz Ohene

Not long ago at all I was gossiping to an old friend of mine on the phone about this and that. Inevitably the mundane chatter turned into a lengthy analysis of tales involving scandal and intrigue, all described, as we women are programmed to do, in lurid detail.

"Ok, so you just won't guess what I've got, you probably don't even want to know, but the treatment involves getting my vagina sprayed with liquid nitrogen once a week. See if you can guess what crotch rot I have?"

I guessed at the usual suspects - herpes, crabs, gonorrhoea...

She went on: "Do you know what I'm most annoyed about? He doesn't have any symptoms, but I'm absolutely ruined down there. There I was, relaxing in the bath, having a little fun on my own - hoping for a happy ending, y'know - but it didn't quite feel right. All bumpy, especially that bit in between, the whatyamacallit - begins with a 'p'."

"I think its proper name is the perineum. Sounds real scientific and scary, doesn't it."

"Yeah, the perineum. Anyway, everything was all rough and bumpy. So I reached for the mirror and did the old one leg on the bath side, one leg on the floor trick and had a peer."

"What did you see? Apart from pink squishiness?"

"White spots. Some tiny, some bigger."

"Oh, doesn't sound good."

"No, it wasn't. I thought that maybe it was just some weird acne so put a bit of antiseptic cream on them for a couple of nights."

"I take it that didn't work. You fool. Woman, you should have just gone straight to the clinic."

"Yeah, well I know that now. They got bigger in fact. So I did the usual thing and did a bit of research on the Internet and I got it wrong. Always the hypochondriac, I thought it was syphilis or chlamydia."

"Man, scary shit."

"Yeah."

"Anyway, to cut a long and at times not very interesting story short, I trekked over to the hospital. I'm over the shock and have got used to the idea of me being one-of-them skanky-STI-birds."

"You, my friend, are not skanky. Haven't you only slept with about three guys or something?"

"Yep. And what's my reward for having morals. Genital warts." We both cackled heartily. I did wonder how her boyfriend had taken the whole thing but had to wait until our next riotous chin-wag to find out. A week later she was back on the blower.

"I went to the hospital again today for my second

Condom	Flavour	Longevity
EXS Orange Soda	9/10	8/10
Mates Blueberry	8/10	8/10
EXS Strawberries & Cream	6/10	9/10
Mates Strawberry	7/10	7/10
Passante Mint	8/10	5/10
Mates Banana	6/10	6/10
EXS Hot Chocolate	5/10	5/10
Mates Mint	4/10	4/10
EXS Blueberry Muffin	3/10	4/10
Mates Vanilla	2/10	2/10
EXS Ice Cream	1/10	2/10

## Condom Cocktails

An EXS Orange Soda, with real sherbert to really make it FIZZ?  
A Mates Strawberry but with real cream, could you whip up a real frenzy?  
Got a vanilla condom? Need more excitement? Try an ID chocolate and raspberry flavoured lube and enjoy a neopolitan.  
For the refreshing taste of chocolate mint, why not have a mint in your mouth along with a EXS Hot Chocolate flavour condom?

blast of liquid nitrogen. Do you know, they were already loads better just after one dose. They also gave me my test results. I don't have any other STI - my cervix isn't in the least cancerous - and to top it off genital warts don't even do anything. They're literally just like normal warts or verrucas, but on your fanny. Technically they don't even have to treat them, I just suppose it's more aesthetically pleasing for your partner if you don't have them. The only annoying thing is that, potentially, they could come back at any time, as there's no known cure for the wart virus. As I say, I've accepted it as one of those things. So as far as I know, I'm healthy and fertile. But yeah it was really scary initially, at least now, if any other rank dodgy stuff happens down below, I won't panic."

"What about the boyfriend?"

"Ex-boyfriend."

"Oh."

"Yeah. Well, he's a loser."

The partner in question just would not go and get checked because apparently he didn't have any symptoms. He was whining that he didn't want to get his willy out (Cue much guffawing and infantile jokes that went like 'that's not what you said last night') and look small,

flaccid and ultimately threatened and vulnerable. She yelled at him saying something along the lines of - "What kind of excuse is that? At least your genitals are on the outside of your body and easily accessible. Mine are tucked away, and the only way to get to them is for somebody to stick their head in and have a good poke about."

His unwillingness to confront his body hang-ups brought a loving relationship to an untimely end. She dealt with the situation as any sensible woman concerned for her sexual health would. But in his skewed view, the mere discovery of no immediate visible symptoms meant that he could shirk one of his key conjugal roles - taking responsibility for his own sexual health, and in turn hers.

If the thought of having your legs splayed open in front of doctors, nurses and med students (the prospect of seeing the med student around at uni / work / out socially sometime in the near future), being a real threat to your anonymity (or so you think) just doesn't bear thinking about and makes you put off a routine or, indeed, emergency appointment at the G.U.M Clinic... don't. Aside from risking potential infertility, there's also no point foregoing the opportunity of flashing your lady bits to hot doctors and nurses. So what if you're a bit manky down there at the moment, they'll be able to see past that, to the healthy you and the fun that could be had once you're healed and ready for action again!





# Having An Abortion-The Facts

## No bias, prejudices or opinions, just helpful information

**Lydia Teague**

There are a great deal of arguments, difficulties and contradictions surrounding the subject of abortion. There are arguments about whether it is right or wrong, for different reasons, at different times, from different religions and for different individuals. This article is not here to discuss these issues. Regardless of debate, some women have had or will have a pregnancy termination, for many reasons and at different times in their lives. The main purpose of this article is to inform. Unlike the moral debates surrounding the issue, the abortion procedure itself is not something widely discussed. Many women enter into the process with little previous knowledge and this can make the experience more upsetting and scary than it already is. This article will hopefully provide some information which will help if one day you need to make a decision about an unplanned pregnancy yourself or with a partner, or need to support a friend through the process.

Initially, and unfortunately, time is very important. If a decision is made to go ahead with a termination then the earlier in the pregnancy the abortion is performed, the safer and easier the procedure usually is. However, it is of course not a decision to be made lightly and it may be extremely helpful to have the father, a friend, partner or family member to discuss this with and to attend appointments.

As soon as the pregnancy is discovered an appointment should be made with a GP. It is usually best to go to the GP with an idea of whether or not a termination is the right decision. The GP will also talk about this choice. It is also possible to choose to visit a private health clinic, where the termination process will be similar.

In most cases the GP will then make a referral to a family planning clinic for an initial appointment and scan. This scan will check the health of the foetus and determine how far along the pregnancy is. Ideally you will be able to inform the medical staff of this yourself as well. If the decision to have an abortion has been made then the scan image won't be shown to the pregnant woman or her partner/friend, unless specifically requested. The different termination options available will be explained at this time. Usually a date will also be scheduled for another appointment.

At this next appointment, usually at a family

planning or Genito-Urinary Medicine clinic, there will be a general health check and a sexual health check, legal consent forms will be filled in, the type of abortion process will be determined and a termination appointment will be booked.

The different types of termination are mostly determined by how far along the pregnancy is. Abortion is legal in the UK until the 24th week of the pregnancy but most are carried out much earlier than this. An early medical abortion can be performed up until 9 weeks of the pregnancy. This is considered to be the safest and easiest termi-

nation early on in a pregnancy. It consists of a tablet taken on one day; it blocks the hormone which makes the lining of the uterus hold on to the embryo. This tablet makes some people feel a little unwell, but there are no major side effects. Two days later another medicine is given, usually inserted into the vagina using a tampon. There is no need to stay in hospital after this, however it causes the embryo and uterus lining to be lost, through the vagina, like a heavy period. This can be unpleasant and traumatic, especially if closer to the 9 week limit.

A medical abortion can also be used later on in the pregnancy, from 13 weeks, this causes what is similar to a late natural miscarriage. When closer to the 9 week threshold it may be preferable to choose the later method of termination, vacuum aspiration/suction termination, which is used for pregnancies from 7 to 15 weeks. The embryo is removed from the uterus lining using gentle suction. This procedure is usually performed under general anaesthetic but only takes about 10 minutes and an overnight stay in hospital is very rarely necessary. There will be a little bleeding

afterwards but this should not be excessive. Although many may be put off by the idea of a more surgical procedure, this can actually be a less traumatic experience than the medical termination for those later on in their pregnancy as the patient is asleep during the process and there is usually less bleeding.

After 15 weeks of pregnancy a surgical dilation and evacuation (D & E) would be performed. Forceps and suction are used, under anaesthetic and the procedure takes about 15-20 minutes. Again there is usually no need for an overnight stay in hospital and there will be some bleeding after the operation.

Late abortions, 20-24 weeks, can be performed in two ways. The first consists of two operations: one to stop the foetus' heartbeat and soften the cervix and then another is a D & E as with an earlier pregnancy.

The second method is medical and essentially induces labour and the foetus must pass out of the vagina. There is no general anaesthetic but pain medication is administered.

A doctor or nurse will advise that pregnancy test is done a few weeks after the termination. It is not uncommon for this test to come out positive, for a number of reasons. However, if there are any concerns a doctor's advice should be sought. It is not impossible to become pregnant again after an abortion.

Counselling is available throughout and after the termination and is recommended as even those who are sure about their choice may experience regret or be upset later on. If there is extreme pain, heavy bleeding or a high temperature after the procedure medical help should be sought. Crucially, it is important that no one should make this decision lightly or have to go through this process on their own, both for mental and physical reasons.



# History of Abortion

**Charlotte Woods**

Today, more than 40 years after abortion was legalised in the U.K, the morality, ethics and legality of abortion remain hotly contested subjects. Pro-Life campaigners argue that the foetus' life begins from the moment of conception, which, in practice, makes abortion a form of homicide. Arguments such as this are not new; opinions of the practice have altered throughout history and the relative statutes of the country in question have altered with them.

Abortions via various methods have been recorded since ancient times. The literature surrounding the various methods used and opinions mooted as to the legality of abortion are extensive throughout history. They range from women tightly binding themselves around the waist to expel the foetus, to the use of surgical instruments to 'hook' out foetuses which were unwanted or had already died. In both the US and the UK, abortion prior to 'quickening' (movement of the foetus inside the womb) was legal in common law until the nineteenth century. The first time in which abortion became a punishable offence in the UK was via the 1861 'Offences Against the Person Act', with abortion in the US also being effectively outlawed by the beginning of the twentieth century.

The outlawing of abortion in this way did not prevent medics from advertising pills and concoctions intended to 'regulate the menstrual cycle.' Others added 'miscarriage' in the list of side effects of taking their specially formulated medicine to maintain 'female regularity.' Abortion continued to happen via methods such as these, but given the high price of such concoctions, working class Victorian women were often forced to revert to more primitive and dangerous methods.

The twentieth century saw a deluge of new strands to the abortion debate, with Christianity and the second wave of feminism playing an important role in the argument.

Throughout the 1960s, laws in the US and UK were widely appearing which permitted abortion in specific circumstances. Most notable of the acts imposed was the Abortion Act of 1967, which legalised abortion in the UK, except in Northern Ireland.

The most recent abortion law to be imposed in the US was the 2003 'Partial Birth Abortion Ban Act,' which outlawed abortion in the second trimester by inducing early labour and ending the life of the foetus as it was removed from the mother.

Moral and legal concerns over abortion have repeatedly appeared throughout history, culminating in demonstrations and political activity at various points in the latter half of the twentieth century. In Europe, we are still far away from a resolute opinion on the most suitable laws regarding abortion, with some areas (like the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland) still upholding laws which proscribe abortion entirely, except in cases where the mother's health is threatened. Pro-life and pro-choice groups continue to demonstrate today and it seems that the day when either is willing to compromise on their moral, ethical and medical beliefs as to the rights of mother and foetus will not be a day in the near future.

MARIE STOPES

[www.mariestopes.org.uk](http://www.mariestopes.org.uk)



[www.bpas.org](http://www.bpas.org)



[www.nhs.uk/conditions/abortion](http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/abortion)

## Different Perspectives: Exploring pro-life and pro-choice beliefs

**Lucy Jenkison and Jazmin Sherman**

The abortion debate is controversial to say the least. On the one hand, there is the pro-life perspective, which is against abortion on the premise that it is taking away the right to life. On the other hand, the pro-choice perspective argues that making abortion illegal is denying a woman a choice, which, inherently, should be theirs.

For pro-life supporters, this is not the case. The pro-life stance is not about taking away a woman's choice when it comes to keeping their unborn child, but about making sure that they are informed about the different options available.

Pro-life campaigners want people to recognise that every life is unique, precious and has incredible potential – starting right from the moment of the foetus' conception.

The right to life is the most basic human right, but the pro-choice activists appear to overlook this fact when deciding to terminate a pregnancy. Pro-life activists believe that women are too quick to choose to have an abortion, and that people should take more responsibility for their actions. On the contrary, pro-choice activists believe that in some cases, particularly where there is a medical danger to the mother, having an abortion is the more responsible decision.

The pro-choice stance is simply that it is always the woman's choice when dealing with her pregnancy. This view does not promote abortion per se, however, it believes that the issue of abortion centres specifically around the issue of privacy. A woman's body is her own, and therefore it is a woman's decision whether to have an abortion or not. Moreover, the pro-choice view believes that the state should not interfere with a woman's decision to have an abortion.

As abortion is legal in the UK, perhaps we should be looking at what causes such high rates of termination, as opposed to ruling it out as a procedure altogether.



**Dave McKnee and Others****The Christian Union**

If I'm reading my e-mails right, what the Wessex Scene really wants to know is; "What do Christians think about sex?"

Christians love sex. After all, God made it. The important question for this feature is 'Why'? Why did God invent sex? And what are His plans for sex?

Firstly, sex does exist for procreation; God's first command was 'Be fruitful, and increase in number'. But that isn't all God intends for sex. He made sex enjoyable; not just a way of creating progeny, but an act that is desired, and is the ultimate expression of relational intimacy. And that is the crux of the matter of sex; it is about intimacy. The liberalisation of sexual behaviour often means that sex is no longer something special. Rather than expressing the love between husband and wife, sex has become a mere physical act, often between people who care little for each other, used to satisfy their own desires.

There is a whole book in the Bible which comprises a sexual conversation between lovers. Why is it there? Because it is a picture of our relationship with God. The level of faithful intimacy that we experience in sex with our marriage partners; is just a small picture of the far greater intimacy that God wants with everyone.

Because it symbolises our relationship with God, sex is intended to be within marriage. Just as He desires (and deserves) all that we have to give in faith, hope and love, so our husband or wife deserves all that we have to give sexually.

I have a friend who is getting married soon. He had sex before he became a Christian. And he's definitely looking forward to having sex again, this time with his wife. But more important to him than the sex is the love he shares with his wife-to-be, and the love he shares with God. Both of these relationships deserve his exclusivity, and his enjoyment.

**Elizabeth Busari****Afro-Caribbean Christian Fellowship**

In our hearts we have a desire for relationships and closeness with other people. This is shown through our inability to thrive successfully in isolation. Just look at prisoners when they're put in solitary confinement.

Sex is a way of having closeness with a person. It's an extremely intimate act where it's not just a physical joining of bodies, but it's also emotionally and spiritually binding. Non-Christian friends have told me that sex strengthens a relationship. Well, it's supposed to. Sex creates a soul-tie between the two people involved and soul-ties are good if they are made between the right people, for example, between a husband and wife, but when they are created between two people who have no future together then it can become a problem. This is why it's usually painful to get over someone when you split up from them, most especially when you've been having sex with them. God wants to save us from this hurt. Marriage was designed to be for life which means that there won't be a need to get over a person (or multiple persons) and there

**Kanwaldeep Singh****Sikh Society**

In Sikh philosophy, the soul in the human being is seen as a bride, forever wanting to marry her husband-lord (God). This metaphorical marriage of these two entities, ie reaching the stage of enlightenment, is the purpose of life in Sikhi. This is essential to understand when discussing any topic surrounding this philosophy. There are 5 "evils" that take the soul away from her husband-lord: Kaam (sexual desire/lust), Krodh (anger),

Lobh (greed), Moh (worldly attachment), and Hankar (pride). Sikhs are taught not to destroy them, since they are essential to live in the material world, but to keep them under control. When one is unable to control any of the 5 "evils", including sexual desire, the soul suffers as she is pulled further away from her ultimate goal.

Another basis of Sikhi is the idea of becoming enlightened whilst living in the material world and in a fully functioning family life. In this context, sex is seen as a spiritual bond between two bodies that have been made into one soul by the act of marriage. This way, sex outside of marriage tends to be frowned-upon due to the presumed lack of stability and commitment in the relationship without marriage.

**Thou Shalt Not?**

What does religion really say about sex?

**Frederick Levy****Jewish Society**

One of the greatest urban legends is having sex through a hole in a sheet to prevent contact between man and women in Orthodox circles. I am sure you can imagine the logistical nightmare of trying to do this...Anyway, Judaism says that sex is one of the HOLIEST acts we can perform. Fantastic! So that throws out the notion that sex is evil. Sex is really an expression of our deep desire for the ultimate unity: to connect with God. After all, sex creates life, which is a Godly act. This brings up the issue of what if you want contraceptive sex or sex before marriage?

Like all issues in Judaism, both are and have been subjects of great discussion. Relating to premarital sex, it is permitted only within the context of a marriage. The reasoning is that the requirement of marriage before sex ensures a

will not be any emotional scars.

Maybe the issue is not about sex outside of marriage; rather it's about the necessity of marriage. Some people may feel that being in a loving and committed relationship is enough and it's not necessary to get married. The misconception about Christians may be that we put emphasis on getting married just to have sex, which to some people is absurd. However, marriage is much more than a license to have sex, it's the highest form of commitment a man

sense of commitment and responsibility, and then a Godly act occurs. Yet, this is an Orthodox view and not one I share but respect; nonetheless, the Liberal rule is that sex is permitted. My interpretation is that the split between Orthodox/Liberal views is 20:80.

Sex between husband and wife, or Liberal couples, is permitted: in fact it's even recommended at times when conception is impossible, such as when the woman is pregnant, after menopause, or when the woman is using a permissible form of contraception as it is good deed. Yet as with all things in Judaism, if the couple have capability and desire, the action of creating or maintaining life comes first.

Both opinions converge on the importance of sexual ethics, a few examples being: sex is the woman's right, a man has a duty to give his wife sex regularly and to ensure that sex is pleasurable for her; sex without regard for the partner's pleasure is wrong and evil. Above all sex should only be experienced in a time of joy. Also the Talmud (our set of laws) specifies both the quantity and quality of sex that a man must give his wife as well as encouraging foreplay.

and a woman can have in a romantic relationship and this is God's standard of commitment. I believe this is the belief of Christians who don't want to follow their own fleshly desires but who want to follow what the Bible teaches about sex.

The Afro-Caribbean Christian Fellowship are running a programme entitled 'Covenant of Purity' on the issue of sex and relationships. Teaching sessions run from 10th to 24th February. For more information e-mail Elizabeth: ekblg08@soton.ac.uk

**Wendy Oloya****Roman Catholic**

Roman Catholicism teaches that the focal purpose of sex is to procreate. Consequently, many people would assume that Catholics believe sex to be purely mechanical; however this is not entirely true. Many Catholics view sex to be a beautiful and special expression of love that is exclusive to the matrimonial union of two consenting adults. The Catholic Church teaches that marriage is the best environment in which to bring up children, therefore procreation should only take place between two adults who have subscribed to the sacrament of matrimony. Genesis 1:22 states that all people should 'Be fruitful and multiply', which gives reason as to why the Roman Catholic Church encourages married couples to have as many children as possible (within their financial and social means). In terms of contraception, birth control is seen as a means of preventing conception. If the law that no sex outside of marriage is upheld then contraception should not be needed. Catholics believe that a sexual act between an unmarried couple is undoubtedly morally wrong. Those who have not had their union blessed by God should not indulge in any sexual acts. Having either sexual intercourse or partaking in any sexual activity before marriage is viewed as fornication. Catholics believe that sex is as much about the relationship you have with your own body as it is with the relationship you have with another's body. 1 Corinthians 6:18-20 encourages you to 'Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a man commits are outside his body, but he who sins sexually sins against his own body.' The danger posed by the temptation that can arise from any type of sexual activity is too great and that is why abstinence is greatly encouraged.

**Adam Waterhouse****Buddhist Society**

Opinions about sex are a quite important part of being religious, as all religions will hold a point of view on sexual morality. Sex is a subject that Buddhism deals with and tries to understand.

Buddhism doesn't say anything about marriage as such. There are many non-married Buddhist couples, as well as married ones. Buddhists consider sex between consenting adults wrong if either of them has a partner, or if the woman is pregnant. In the first instance this is because it will damage the relationship and cause the partner mental pain if they find out, and in the second because it causes the unborn child fear and distress.

As a Buddhist, I don't have a problem with contraception. It is better for women to be able to control when they get pregnant and to only do so if it is something that they want and are prepared for. In so far as contraception enables them to do that I would see it as a good thing.

I would imagine that there are certain views about sex that can result in the exploitation of women, such as the view that it is a woman's duty to always agree to her husband's sexual demands, regardless of how she herself feels at that time. As far as I am aware these views are held by most Buddhists.



# A Modern-Day Slave Trade

Is sex trafficking and prostitution a major cause for concern on a national and international scale? Gareth Brading talks statistics and psychological effects with Josephine Knowles

## Gareth Brading

Human trafficking is the fastest growing criminal industry in the world. Every year, the United Nations estimate that approximately 2.5 million people are trafficked across the world, both into slave labour and prostitution. Victims of trafficking are not normally kidnapped (although this does occur with children). Instead they are coerced through a combination of deception, fraud, and threats of violence. Although there is a wide glamourised belief that prostitution is an empowering personal choice, the truth is usually far removed from this idealised vision.

Victims are coerced through a combination of deception, fraud and threats of violence.

New United Nations estimates suggest that the number of trafficked victims per year entering the European Union may be as high as 270,000. High unemployment in countries such as Moldova and Ukraine often attract young women looking for work to seek it abroad. The usual process is that young women and girls are lured to the wealthier, Western countries. They are given heavy promises of money, work, education and a new or better life, only to be sold into prostitution and forced to work on the pretext of paying off incurred debts. Transportation happens usually by boat and lorry, with victims packed into awful conditions and provided with very little nourishment. Around two thirds of women annually trafficked for prostitution worldwide come from Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Bloc, with three-quarters of those having never worked as prostitutes before. Even more worrying, there are indications that these figures are on the rise.

A combination of a lack of government regulation and a general desire in society to wilfully ignore the vices of prostitution has indirectly lead to the substantial rise in trafficked persons.

Away from high profile figures, if the average person does not see it on the street, there is an underlying psychological desire to assume it does not exist. Behind closed doors however, continues to breed a combination of illicit lap dancing clubs, brothels and nude massage parlours, almost all fuelled through trafficking. The Home Office themselves only retains figures of people trafficked into the UK for the purpose of sexual exploitation, but does not collect any more general data.

Recently Premiership Football manager Avram Grant was exposed as having visited a brothel, but this revelation was largely met with indifference.

A 2007 survey by Barnardo's and London Metropolitan University stated that many victims of trafficking in the UK "[were subjected to] group sexual assault, and group rape, being locked in premises, picked up by unknown adults, being dragged and left on the street, injured and sometimes OD-ed." It was also suspected that,

"In some cases rape seems to have been used as an "initiation" after which the young people were sexually exploited." Drug and substance abuse amongst such victims is common, often used as a means of escape to block out harmful experiences. Barnardo's also reported instances of Stockholm Syndrome. This is where the victims express adoration and sympathy for their captors despite the victims traumatic conditions they are being held in. Other long-term psychological trauma is possible.

So far, there have been zero criminal prosecutions for internal trafficking within the UK.

This is in part because of the stigma surrounding victims of trafficking, who are scared to speak up against their tormentors. Further, the Police currently tend to investigate instances of trafficking in a reactive, rather than proactive manner, with the Serious Organised Crime Agency (SOCA) taking ultimate responsibility for any investigation. However, the welfare of the women involved can still fall by the way side.

With regards to prostitution, Josephine Knowles, a training manager for Beyond the Streets (a charity based in Southampton that works to end

sexual exploitation) has much to say about the glamourisation of the profession.

'The glamourisation of prostitution in the media succeeds in airbrushing out the realities of the women involved. These 'Belle de Jours' stereotypes are framed as representing an empowering 'choice' for women, who we are led to believe, promote prostitution as a quick fix to debt, poverty and unemployment. But what is really going on and who really benefits? Certainly there are a few examples of some women in the west making vast amounts of money; however some researchers say it is short term and has many strings attached'.

One study calculated that a prostituted woman received only 8% of her gross earnings after subtracting the substantial costs she was required to make.

## Global

On a global scale, the UN estimates that the global sex industry is worth \$31 billion a year, whilst pornography is estimated to be worth \$97.06 billion worldwide, a total which is more than Microsoft, Google and Amazon combined. In many instances the demand for such a vast industry as this preys on the young vulnerable and marginalised (girls as young as 9 have been found in brothels in India and Nepal). Although the kidnapping of adults is thought to be rare, varying degrees of force, threats, deception and coercion become intertwined with desperation for a better way of life. Girls and women therefore become the supply that meets the demand for sex tourism and 'adult entertainment' in all its forms.

## Southampton

Locally, the visible elements of the wider sex industry within Southampton are in the form of street prostitution, massage parlours and lap dancing clubs. Whilst popular opinion leans towards viewing prostitution as a choice that women have made, many of these 'choices' were probably decided upon when they were under 18 (52% of women in street prostitution were under 18 when they first started) Within this lifestyle, violence becomes an expected factor; high percentages (81% in one study) of those involved in prostitution have experienced some form of assault; including robbery, being threatened with a weapon, being held against their will, attempted rape, strangulation, kidnap and oral, vaginal and anal rape. Moreover the inherent harm associated with the selling of access to the female body has a negative psychological, physical and emotional impact for women, many of whom utilise substances to block out their experiences.

Whilst many perceive that prostitution is simply about sex, it is more accurately described as an abuse of power and the vulnerable circumstances of women in desperate situations, both in the UK and globally.

[www.beyondthestreets.org.uk](http://www.beyondthestreets.org.uk)

## Domestic Abuse

Nicola Stewart

When speaking to Claire, a worker for the Storeham Domestic Abuse Services, I was shocked to hear that one in four women in the UK experience domestic violence at some point in their lives, with the statistic being one in six for men. Furthermore, the Home Office has found that the police recorded 53,540 sexual offences in England and Wales in the year ending March 2008. The results of the British Crime Survey suggest that 'sexual assault is more likely to be committed by someone known to the victim'. This suggests that it is cases of domestic violence, as opposed to attacks that occur outside of the home, that are more prevalent.

It is Claire's job to offer support to those who have been a victim of this dominating form of abuse, but the vital work is demanding and challenging. Here Claire offers an insight into the delicacy with which cases of domestic abuse must be handled, and the sheer variety in the options available to those seeking emotional refuge.

Claire's role within the Domestic Abuse Services is as a 'project worker', helping both 'groups and individuals'. When asked how to define sexual domestic abuse, she explained that 'it can mean a multitude of things and is difficult to define. It involves a combination of experiences: physical, financial, sexual and emotional', later emphasising that it is the emotional side that can be the most damaging.

This is what makes Claire's job so personal to the client. When asked how many of the cases that she deals with are sexual, she replied that it is 'difficult to tell', explaining that victims are free to share 'as much or as little as they choose'. Although this in itself makes it difficult to pin-point the statistical difference between sexual domestic violence compared with non-sexual threats. It also means that those needing support are not under any pressure to talk about issues with which they do not feel comfortable.

The support that Claire offers is tailored to the personal preferences of the client. She explains that help can vary, depending on the person, from 'a phone call to meeting up', as some prefer the comfort of talking face-to-face. To those who feel in need of further support however, there is the option of 'refuge space, either locally or further a field', providing a direct means of escape and retreat to safety.

One reason why someone who has suffered from sexual domestic violence would need this, could be to recover from the scarring emotional damage that they have endured. Claire explains that 'the emotional side is longer lasting'. Adding that 'it's the emotional stuff that stays in your head', unlike any temporary physical injuries that may have occurred. It could perhaps be this belief in the serious impact of emotional scarring that makes Claire's advice and listening skills, ranging from a brief phone conversation to regular face-to-face meetings, so crucial in rebuilding the confidence of the abused.

As well as one-to-one support, the government has devised an 'Action Plan' in order to stop sexual violence. The overall aims of this plan include a drive 'to increase access to support and health services for victims of sexual violence and abuse', as well as 'improve the criminal justice response to sexual violence and abuse'.

The Domestic Abuse Services offer three refuges in Southampton, which are for women and children. Claire also offers a Wednesday night drop-in, from nine until twelve at The Edge.

## In Numbers

80,000

women are involved in prostitution in the UK

90%

suffer from a Class A drug addiction

70%

were coerced into prostitution

50%

of these became prostitutes when they were under 18

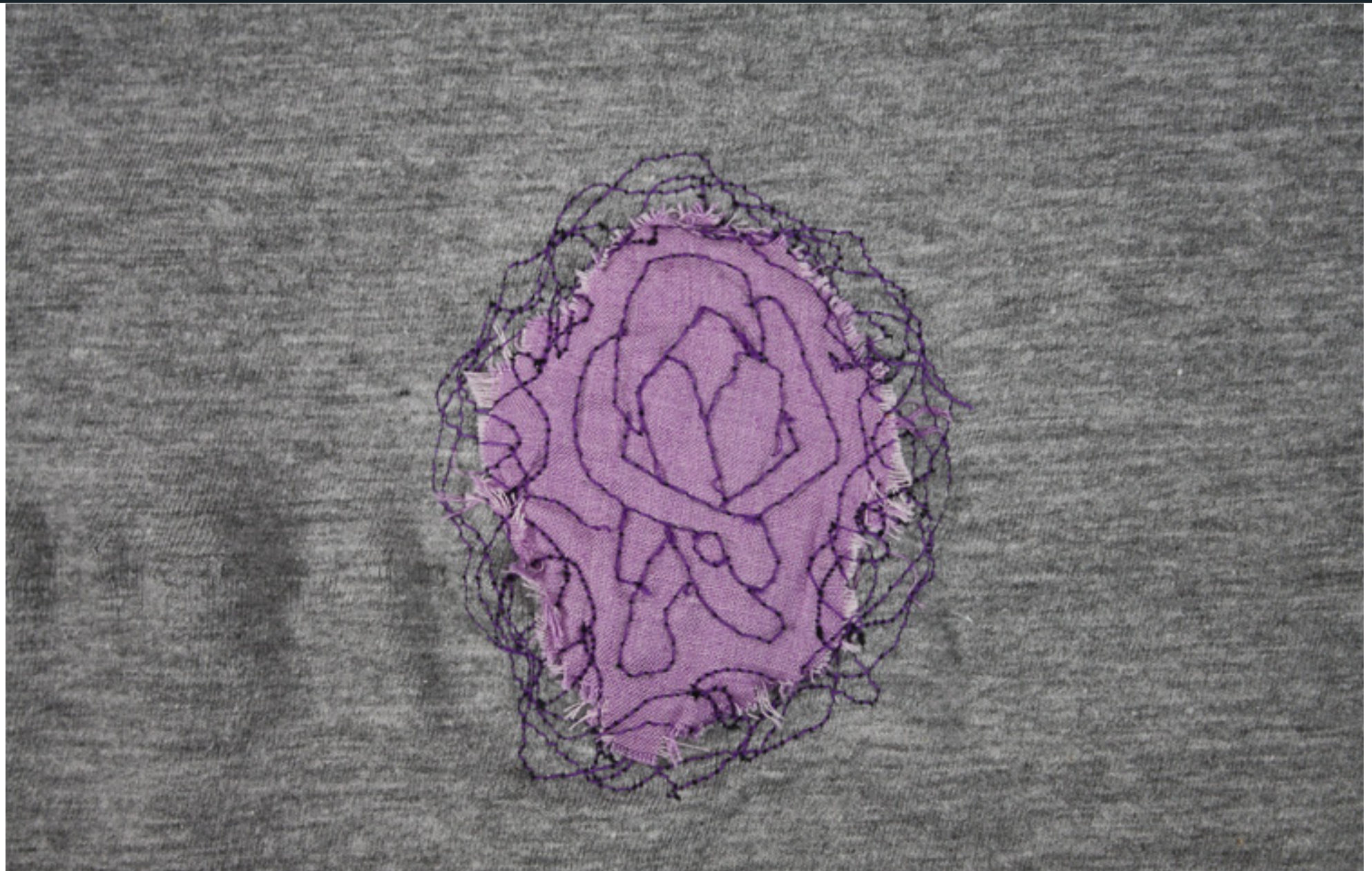
62%

of women involved in prostitution report being raped, according to a study covering five different countries

81%

of those involved in prostitution have experienced assault in relation to their profession





**We asked ten people on our editorial team how many people they knew had been raped. The combined answer was 19. This is a fictional account that has been written based on the experience of a close friend who was raped.**

**Jazmin Sherman**

I wandered off from the party, with nothing but some space in mind. After a small walk away I found myself near the parking lot next to a little area of grass and a few small trees. Suddenly, I jumped a little at the sound of footsteps, turned around and hoped it would be nothing but my imagination. Unfortunately this wasn't the case.

My chest tightened instantly. The tall man stood before me and began to tell me something. I heard what he said but didn't believe it. I stared at his lips, waiting for something else, anything else to come out. Stood nervously in front of him I did nothing because I couldn't, everything had stopped and I had no control anymore.

**Only 8% of reported rapes are committed by strangers**

"Take off your clothes!" he blurted at me. It sent alarming shivers up my spine and made me feel weak at the knees. My minds scrambled; was this really happening? How could this happen to me? He moved closer to me and grabbed my arm so tightly I squinted.

"I said take off your clothes," he said angrily under his breath. My choices were slim. To run would be silly as I wouldn't be fast enough,

to scream could help, but if this infuriated him anymore, my situation could become gravely worse. I could vaguely hear music in the distance. The party I was at not so long ago was still going on, only missing me.

**Approximately 55% of female rape victims are raped in their own home**

He grabbed my throat and demanded once again for me to take off my clothes. This was it. In that moment I knew, it was over. My chance of escaping had long passed and the likelihood of someone stumbling upon us was incredibly small. Shaking horrendously I lifted my blouse off and dropped it to the ground. To unbutton my jean shorts was a hard task, I took a deep breath and felt my eyes welling up. I undid my shorts and slid them off my nervous body slowly down my thighs, and then my knees and finally feeling them drop to my ankles. There I stood, in only my underwear and bra, confused, scared and yet completely emotionless. Before I was worried and even a bit hopeful for my luck to change. Now, I was trying my best to accept the horrid reality.

He pushed me so hard I hit the floor with a thump. My back ached already and felt bruised. He took off his trousers and layed on top of me.

His body was cold in comparison to my body, which was hot with unease and anxiousness. His chest pressed against mine, making it difficult to breathe. I was captured beneath him and could move no more.

His big, rough hands gripped my underwear and pulled them off. I flinched at the thought of what was coming next and closed my eyes so tightly it hurt. He grabbed my hips and pulled them under his erect penis. He entered my tense body with many thrusts that sent shudders up my spine and throughout my body. His deep penetration hurt everywhere, even all the way down to my toes and I could not bear it. I dug my nails into his back, not even with the intention to hurt him but just to release some of my pain. His weight pushed heavily against my tiny body. I let out a loud cry that contained my bottled pain and fear. He pinned my arms down next to my ears with his powerful hands and continued to pierce my previously innocent body.

Each movement hurt more. I clenched my jaw and squeezed my fingers into fists. I laid there weak and pathetic under his hard body with no choice but to take it. His force got more and more powerful with every deepening push and my suffering continued.

I moaned and attempted to push some of his weight off of me as it was beginning to get

unbearable but nothing worked. I continued to breath deeply to ease some of the pain. After one final motion inside of me, relief spread throughout my broken body as he pressed his body off of mine and eventually stood up. He put his clothes back on in a hurry and ran away without saying a word and without even a look.

**1 in 10 women say they have experience at least one instance of sexual vicimisation (including rape) since the age of 16**

I didn't move and nor could I. The shock had hit me so hard I didn't know what to do or how to do it. I slowly sat up, grabbed my knees and pulled them as far into my chest as they could go. Without a moment more the tears I had been holding back, burst and they gushed down my face uncontrollably. I was ashamed and distraught. There was no need for me to feel ashamed, as it was not my choice, but I did. I felt dirty and violated. There is a hard road ahead to recovery that words cannot explain. The thoughts and the questions ran through my head over and over again. There are no answers. The wounds he left are so much more than aches and bruises. His image will not escape me...no matter how hard I try.



# Coming with a Conscience...

## Go Green in your sex life with alternatives to the usual sex toys

**Emma Stuart**

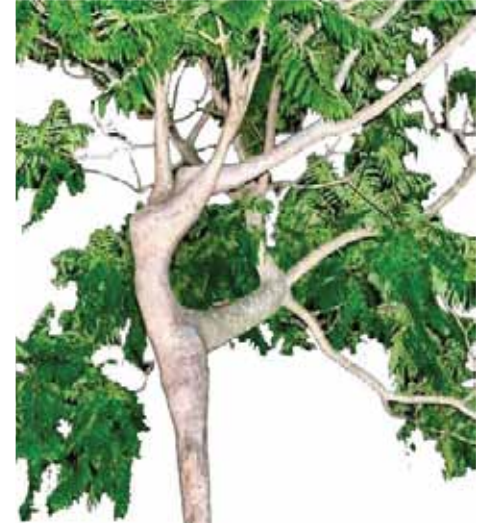
Are you always trying to do your part for the environment? Maybe you take your own plastic bags to Waitrose? Only drink Fairtrade coffee? Or always turn the light off when you leave a room? Well, how about going one step further in your quest to make a difference and extend that 'green' way of living beyond your bedroom door and into your sex life? It might not be the most obvious way to help our planet but 'green sex' is becoming incredibly popular amongst environmentalists!

According to planetgreen.com 20% of the adult population own a vibrator, with 2million purchased in the U.K. every year. Not only will we be left with landfills full of

sex toys, most of these vibrators also contain phthalates; toxic chemicals which pose a huge risk to our environment. Phthalates are added to plastics to alter their properties, they are easily released into the environment and there are a large number of health risks associated with their use. Fortunately, sex toy manufacturers have become aware of the danger of these chemical and phthalate-free vibrators are now widely available. (Check out some eco-friendly sex toys at [www.eartherotics.com](http://www.eartherotics.com)). Forget recycling all those plastic bags-how, about recycling your vibrator? To prevent those sex toy landfills of the future, you can join the Rabbit Amnesty at [www.lovehoney.co.uk/rabbit-amnesty](http://www.lovehoney.co.uk/rabbit-amnesty). Not only will they recycle your rampant rabbit and give you a brand new one for half the price, they will also donate £1 to the World Land Trust. All vibrators require batteries, but these contain heavy metals, which are major contributors to environmental damage. Possible ways you can combat this issue include purchasing The Earth Angel vibrator that never requires replacement batteries. Instead, it features a power core and a small handle; the motion used to turn the handle charges the power core and generates power. With just four minutes of cranking, the vibrator is fully charged and ready to go! (Have a look at: [www.theearthangel.ie](http://www.theearthangel.ie) for more information) Another option is to purchase a SolaVibe solar powered vibrator from Libida ([www.libida.com/sola\\_vibe](http://www.libida.com/sola_vibe)). This vibrator includes a small solar panel, that you fold out and leave in the sun for a few hours to charge in order to achieve maximal pleasure with a minimal carbon footprint!

Millions of condoms are improperly disposed of in the U.K. every year. Flushing a condom down the toilet runs the risk of clogging up the plumbing. Many condoms make it to sewage plants, where it is somebody's job to remove them.

Any condoms that are missed at this stage will end up as pollution in our rivers and seas. Not only is it important to remember to dispose of a condom correctly, it is also important to



think about the material condoms are made from. Most condoms are made of latex or polyurethane. Polyurethane is a non-biodegradable material so it is best to avoid these. Latex, on the other hand, is fully biodegradable, however it does not biodegrade under water, hence the importance of proper disposal. The latex used in condoms is generally synthetic and is often produced by manufacturers in developing countries with insufferable working conditions. Fairtrade condoms are available from French Letter Condoms ([www.frenchlettercondoms.co.uk](http://www.frenchlettercondoms.co.uk)), where the latex used in the condoms is completely natural and sourced from organic farms in India and Sri Lanka. With each purchase, the company also donates a percentage of the profit to help improve conditions for synthetic latex workers.

Many lubricants on the market are petroleum based. These lubricants are bad for the environment; liquid petroleum is a non-renewable fossil fuel. The use of these lubes damage the environment, and there are also concerns that they are incredibly toxic and harmful to our health. A wise alternative is to use organic lubricants, these can be water-based or plant oil-based and can be purchased at [www.yesyesyes.org](http://www.yesyesyes.org)

There are some easier ways to make your sex life greener without running out and buying all these environmentally friendly products. Save on the water bill and have a shower together or have sex with the lights off to reduce the amount of electricity you use!

*Organic Orgasms!*  
Spank, Wank, Slide  
and Ride Your Way to a  
Better Tomorrow

An anal dildo from NobEssence. Eco-friendly, fully recyclable and designed to last a lifetime.



£84  
[www.lovehoney.co.uk](http://www.lovehoney.co.uk)

This glass dildo is fully recyclable and releases no chemicals harmful to the environment or to your body. Heat it up or cool it down for some orgasmic greenhouse effects!



£19.99  
[www.lovehoney.co.uk](http://www.lovehoney.co.uk)





# Morality Pleasing Porn

**Carla Bradman**

If there is one word that confirms the ever-expanding fluidity of language, eco-porn may just be that. It has been defined by Urban Dictionary as 'a corporate advertisement that extols the company's environmental record or policies - usually by a company known to rape and pillage the environment as often as possible'. Referring it referred to, for instance, large oil companies who try and demonstrate a commitment to the environment in order to maintain and improve reputation and business, while usually continuing to ignore human rights abroad. Yet while many still don't know the original meaning of the term, a new explanation has been added to its etymology. Sex in the natural environment, for the natural environment.

In 2005, Norwegians Leona Johansson and Tommy Hol Ellingsen had sex on stage at a heavy metal music festival in their home country, and decided to capitalize on their fame. Yet instead of merely becoming a celebrity porn couple, they used their sexual desires and passion for nature as a charity venture, with the majority of the money garnered from their porn site (Fuck For Forest) going to charity projects abroad.

In 2007 they say they raised over \$120,000, of which 80% of profits went directly to environmental causes. Despite securing such a large donation for causes such as the World Wildlife Fund, they found trouble actually handing the money over. Unfortunately, some charities were fussy about where funds come from, and selling porn was not classified as a respectable fundraising outlet. Instead, the couple took the money directly to South America, including Costa Rica, and invested the money in local projects. It costs \$15 for 30 days of access, compared to £10.95 for a months access on the Playboy website, or £19.95 for Hustler's photos and videos. So for the erotically charged eco-warrior or a financially-savvy porn lover, Fuck For Forest is a preferable site. Better yet, submit your own videos to get free access to photos and videos of a wide range of 'idealistic lovers' (over 1400 to be exact.)

Membership also gives you access to live weekly shows and Leona's diary, and the porn is just as varied and graphic as any other mainstream porn. In the words of Leona and Tommy, 'watch all the beautiful Fuck For Forest activists as nature created them, enjoying life together, trying to save the last remaining wild nature, exploring the essence of life!'



OK, so not it's very eco-friendly, but it is green!  
Rabbit-induced satisfaction will drive all thoughts of global warming far from your mind.

£30  
[www.annsummers.com](http://www.annsummers.com)  
or in store

Fairtrade, made from sustainable wood, and recyclable!  
...Or you could just use your hands!  
Blushing buttocks eco-style.

£20  
[www.coco-de-mer.com](http://www.coco-de-mer.com)  
or in store



Intimate Organics' Personal Lubricants and Anal Relaxing Sprays are 100% natural derived, paraben free, glycerine free, and DEA free. The use a certified blend of extracts and aloe, conditioning and nourishing the skin. Organic slip and slide!

Water based lube £11.23  
Anal relaxing spray £18.38  
[www.blushingbuyer.co.uk](http://www.blushingbuyer.co.uk)



# Four Headed Penis?

**Polly Bennett**

The evolution of mating and sexual reproduction is a fascinating and often bizarre process in the Animal Kingdom. Here is a selection of the weirdest and best.

Leopard Slugs have perhaps the most beautiful of all sexual reproduction techniques. They are simultaneous hermaphrodites and therefore have both male and female organs. When one slug wants to reproduce, it leaves a pheromone soaked slime for other slugs to follow. Both slugs will head for a tree, or object with an overhang.



Mating begins with the two slugs entwining around each other for an hour before they slide down a rope of mucus hanging from the underside of a tree branch. The slugs then extend their male sex organs, lying just behind their heads, which grow longer and also begin to entwine. The translucent, bluish male organs fan out into a flower-shaped globe after which sperm is exchanged between the two individuals. Thus two slugs can be fertilised during the same act of reproduction.

Banana Slug mating lasts for hours and begins with head swinging and the biting of each other's bodies, particularly the genital openings. This is followed by insertion of the male organs into each other's genital openings. The bizarre and horrific twist in the process is that after sperm exchange and fertilisation one or both slugs may chew each other's male organs off if they don't retract them; a process known an apophallation. A PhD student in America recently found that after artificially inducing an erection in a banana slug it chewed its own penis off and ate it when it

couldn't voluntarily retract it.

The Fruit Fly (*Drosophila bifurca*) has sperm over 20 times the size of its body. *D. bifurca* sperm are 2.3 inches long, greatly coiled and around 1,000 times longer than human sperm. If a 6ft man produced sperm of a proportionate length to that of *D. bifurca* it would be 120ft long. The flies' testes account for 11% of body weight. They can have around 800 individual sperm in their body but are thought to release around 50 when mating.

Bed Bugs mate via a process known as hypodermic insemination. Male and female bed bugs do have genitalia for normal copulation but have bypassed this process during evolution. Instead, males pierce the abdominal wall of the female and ejaculate straight into the female body cavity. Female bed bugs have evolved a coping strategy by developing softened undersides to their carapace for easier injection by the male.

Argentine Lake Ducks have the longest bird penis in the world at 42.5cm. This is particularly interesting as most birds don't normally have penises per se but cloaca, which are posterior openings that are touched together in a 'cloacal kiss' for mating and exchange of sperm.

Mountain Gorillas are the biggest and most dominant of apes with the alpha Silverback seemingly the stereotype of everything male and testosterone-filled. Although he may have all control of and access to the females in a group, he pays for this in evolutionary terms by the lack of need for a large penis. Gorillas therefore have quite small penises for their size, at just 1.5 inches long. All men will be pleased to know that they have the largest penises of all primates, both in



proportion to their body size and in absolute terms.

Echidnas have a 4-headed penis but only use 2 heads during mating to release sperm; the other two 'shut down' just before ejaculation. The heads used for ejaculation swap each time the echidna has sex.

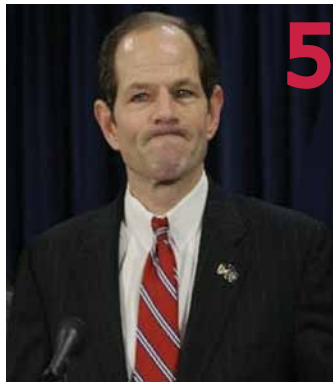




# Sex, Drugs and...Politics?



From the Whitehouse to the dog house and white picket fenced homes to the beds of Holiday Inns, scandals and politics go almost hand in hand. Here we count down the top 5 political sex scandals in the US and the UK and document the fall of grace by political elites as they go from making the laws, to breaking them. *Jazmin Sherman*



**5** The Eliot Spitzer scandal began after The New York Times reported in 2008 that the Democratic New York Governor had been patronizing a prostitution ring called The Emperors Club VIP. A FBI investigation discovered that Spitzer had spent about 80,000 US dollars for prostitutes' over several years, during both his roles as Attorney General and as Governor. During the investigation, wiretap recordings were found of Spitzer using the service and he was proven guilty. After the shocking reports, Spitzer resigned as New York Governor amid threats of an impeachment.



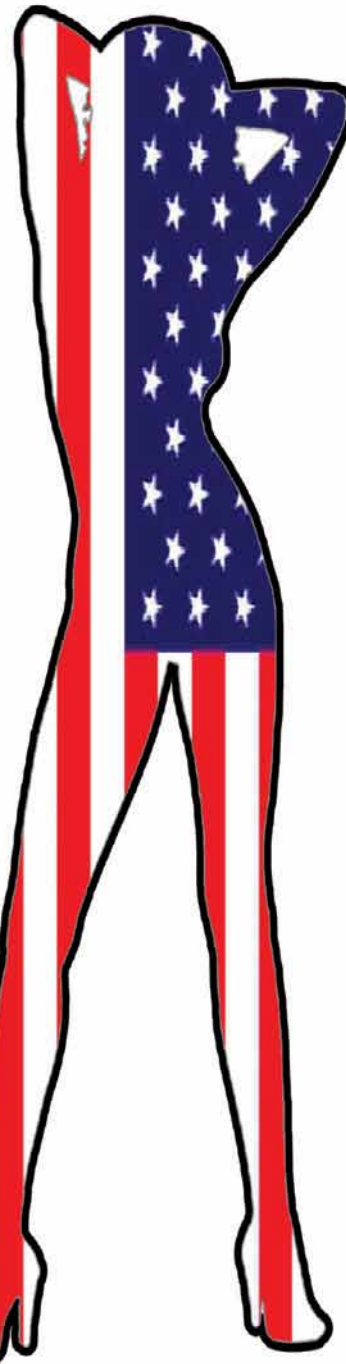
**4** After 18 years in the US Senate, 28 years in the Congress, Republican Larry Craig from Idaho, resigned after he pleaded guilty to disorderly conduct. According to the police report, a police officer sat in a bathroom stall as part of an undercover operation investigating complaints of sexual activity in a restroom in Minneapolis St. Paul International Airport. Whilst in the bathroom, Craig propositioned the officer by tapping his foot in the officer's stall.



**3** President of the National Association of Evangelicals, Ted Haggard was known as a good religious man who supported George W. Bush's election campaign in 2004. In 2006 however, the truth behind Haggard leaked and was splashed all across US newspapers. Haggard admitted to going on crystal meth binges and participating in homosexual relations with a male prostitute named Mike Jones. At first, Haggard denied even knowing Mike Jones but later confessed and said he committed "sexual immorality"



**2** In 2006 reports were published that Republican Congressman of Florida, Mark Foley, had been sending suggestive text messages and emails including some very lewd comments, to 16-year-old boys, who had formerly served as congressional pages. Ironically, as Chairman of the House Caucus on Missing and Exploited Children, he introduced legislation targeting online sexual predators. Allegedly, not only was Foley perverted, but the House of Leadership knew what Foley was doing and covered it up for a year.



Northern Ireland's 'First Lady', the wife of First Minister Peter Robinson has been forced to resign after it had been revealed that she had an affair with a 19 year old at the age of 59. To make things worse, the teenage lover of Iris Robinson faked cancer to end their relationship after she bombarded him with phone calls and love letters. Mrs Robinson promised Mr McCambley's cancer-ridden father Billy - with whom she also allegedly had an affair - that she would take care of his son. After he died, she started a sexual relationship with the teenager.



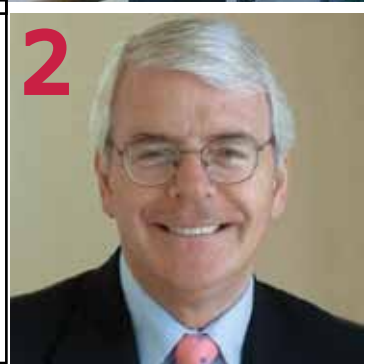
John Profumo embarked on a short-lived relationship with the model Christine Keeler, 27 years his junior, at the start of 1961. Keeler was also involved with a Russian agent, Yevgeny Ivanov, and the affair, taking place at the height of the Cold War, became politically explosive. Profumo denied the affair in the Commons, but three months later, in June 1963, he admitted he had lied and resigned from the government, the Privy Council and as an MP.



In 1987, the Daily Star newspaper alleged that Jeffrey Archer had slept with a prostitute, and was later found guilty of two counts of perjury, after lying in the 1987 trial, and two of perverting the course of justice, with a false diary the centre of the allegations. However, this scandal did not stop there. In 1986, the Daily Star accused the then Tory deputy chairman of paying £2,000 to Monica Coghlan, a prostitute the paper alleged he had slept with.



If his secret past had been revealed while he was Prime Minister, he might have had to resign. Between 1984 and 1988, Major and Edwina Currie had been lovers. The affair had ended when Major was promoted to the Cabinet. Miraculously, however, the story did not emerge until Edwina Currie published her diaries in 2002. The revelations took the nation by storm and Major said that the affair was the thing 'of which I am most ashamed of'. He stressed that his wife Norma had long known of his indiscretion.



## Clinton: "I did not have sexual relations with Monica Lewinsky"

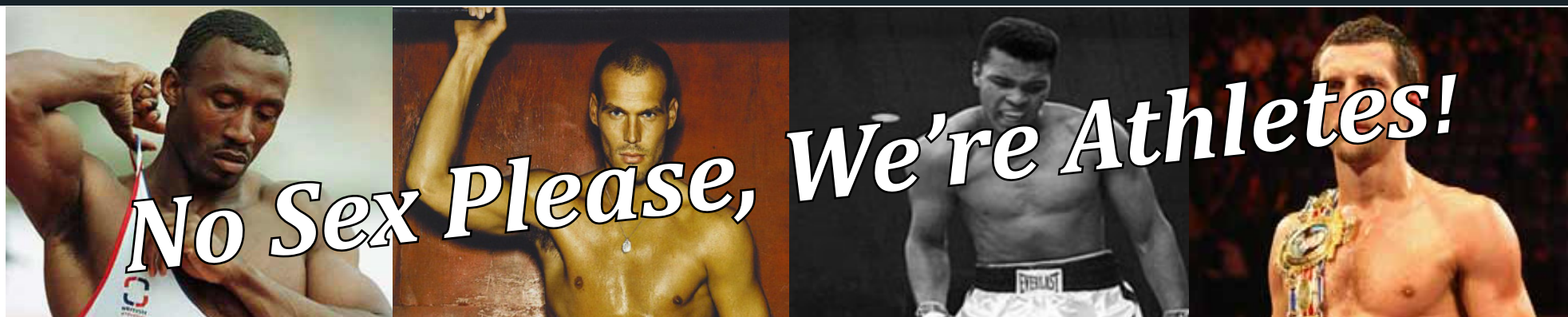
There is possibly no other scandal in presidential history that can equate to the Monica Lewinsky affair for pure sensationalism and absurdity. President Bill Clinton had an affair with Monica Lewinsky, an intern in the White House. She confided about the affair to her co-worker Linda Tripp, who tape-recorded their conversations, and then released them to Independent Counsel Kenneth Starr. President Clinton's sexual affair ultimately led to the second presidential impeachment in the history of the country. Although Clinton was ultimately acquitted of any crime, the affair became a source of national embarrassment and led to one of the most unusual documents in political history: the Starr Report, which intimately and often graphically described Clinton's entire sexual relationship with Monica Lewinsky.



## 'Two Jags' Prescott and his scandalous affair with his secretary

A favorite target of the tabloid press, dubbed "Two Jags", after the two official Jaguar cars he is meant to have had at one point. He admitted to an affair with former secretary Tracey Temple and was subsequently relieved of many of his duties. Prescott's former secretary, Tracey Temple, 43, has accused Prescott of having an affair with her, which included liaisons in his office and in a hotel room just before they joined Prescott's wife, Pauline, for dinner downstairs. Prescott issued a statement acknowledging having "intimate relations" with Temple and said, "I admit that I have acted stupidly and caused great distress to my wife and family." But he said many of the allegations Temple made in her paid newspaper interview were "simply untrue and are clearly motivated by a desire to maximize financial gain."





**Paul Jacobson**

In sport there is the popular belief that, for males, abstaining from sex before competition has a positive affect on athletic performance. Football coaches, Olympic athletes and even Muhammad Ali have advocated sexual abstinence. The most famous boxer and arguably the most famous sportsman of all time, Ali believed abstinence was helpful in that 'when you don't get sex for a while, it makes you a great warrior'.

Abstinence from sex is common practice in boxing with many fighters viewing the omission of all sexual activity as a vital element of their preparation leading up to a fight. Carl Froch recently abstained for 10 weeks prior to his WBC World Super Middleweight bout in which he defeated Andre Dirrell, and David Haye, who believes sacrificing 'rich food and sex' allowed him to overcome Nikolai Valuev and become the WBA World Heavyweight Champion.

Another sport where there has been a long-held belief that the practicing of sexual abstinence

before competition results in improved athletic performance is football, with many managers imposing sex bans on their players before big games. These include Berti Vogts, the former German national team manager and more recently, the current England national team manager Fabio Capello. However, not all sportsmen and coaches hold the belief that engaging in sexual activity prior to competition has a detrimental affect on athletic performance. Legendary New York Yankees player and manager Casey Stengel argued 'it's not the sex that wrecks these guys, it's staying up all night looking for it'.

For those individuals that do make the decision to abstain before competition, specific reasoning varies from person to person. Olympic Gold medallist Linford Christie, who practiced abstinence before racing throughout his career, explained his thought process behind this practice, citing similar reasons to Ali: 'not having sex makes you more aggressive. You need that aggression'. The factor influencing their decision appears to be founded in psychology whereas,

for other sportsmen, the reasoning is more physiologically-based. This is shown by an interview with the former Swedish international footballer Freddie Ljungberg who avoided sex the night before games because it made his feet 'feel like concrete'.

Studies have suggested that abstinence from sex results in increased testosterone levels, and that in turn, increased testosterone levels result in increased power and competitive aggression. The conclusions of this academic research, which specifically regarded competitive aggression, appear to correspond with the anecdotal evidence provided by Ali and Christie, which would lead to the assumption that abstinence does have a positive affect on athletic performance. However, the few studies that have assessed sexual abstinence's direct influence on athletic performance have been inconclusive in their findings. For instance, in 1995 T. Boone and S. Gilmore investigated the impact of abstinence on aerobic power, oxygen pulse and double product. They concluded that there was no significant relationship between

the two. Other scientists have looked into how abstaining from sexual activity affects VO2 max (linked to aerobic endurance), finding that there was no benefit to abstinence. It is also important to investigate the psychological affects of sexual abstinence considering the experiences of Ali and Christie and scientists' findings regarding competitive aggression. The majority of anger inventories measure trait anger, for instance general anger levels primarily governed by personality. The Clinical Anger Scale is found to be positively associated with several anger-related concepts including state anger i.e. an individual's level of anger at the point of taking the test. Using the CAS allows the extent of sexual abstinence's affect on anger to be gauged.

It would seem that there is no conclusive correlation at all between abstinence and athletic performance, although we do have scientific methods to help us to understand a possible relation. But it does seem likely that this urban legend will persist, and sport stars will continue to wait until after the big game to get past first base.

## A Brief History of 'Transsexual People in Sport'

**Andrew Osborne**

Since the case of the 18 year old South African athlete, Caster Semenya, in August 2009, there has been much talk of pressure being put upon sports organisations and governing bodies to develop procedures in order to resolve the issue of transgender and transsexual athletes within the sporting world.

Surprisingly, there is a long history of this subject within sport at the highest level and research shows that this can be traced back as far as the mid 1920's. There is nothing to suggest that this wasn't happening even prior to this.

Mary Edith Louise Weston was an English shot-putter and javelin thrower between 1924 and 1927. In 1936, Mary became Mark at London's Charing Cross Hospital. Less than two months later Mark married his close friend Alberta Bray. Discussing his athletic records before the transformation, Weston insisted that he believed at the time that he was a woman.

In the same year, another athlete, Hermann Ratjen, competed for Germany at the 1936 Olympic Games in Berlin as well as at the 1938 European Championships. Ratjen adopted the name 'Dora' as he disguised himself as a woman by tightly binding his genitals to his body while competing in the women's high jump. Ratjen's true gender was revealed after a train conductor informed the police of a man dressed as a woman in one of his carriages. A subsequent examination revealed that he possessed male genitals and never competed after that. In 1955 Ratjen openly confessed to cheating, but claimed that the Nazi youth movement had forced him to compete as a woman in a quest to produce Olympic winners.

One of the most successful female athletes of the 1930s was Stanisława Walasiewicz. Also known as Stella Walsh, she set more than 100 national and world records during an illustrious sporting career including a gold medal at the 1932 Olympics in Los Angeles.

**It was not until her death during an armed robbery in 1980 that uncertainty rose about her gender. An autopsy exposed that she had male genitalia.**

This instantaneously raised questions about the validity of her athletics achievements. The examination revealed that Walsh suffered from a condition called mosaicism, meaning that she had both male and female chromosomes. Nevertheless, many believe that she was cheating by posing as a woman. A quick glance at the faces and features of these athletes is enough to raise eyebrows and it is not difficult to see how doubts appeared about the gender of these athletes.

A similar surge of questionable athletes was seen throughout the 1960's. Tamara and Irina Press were sisters from the Soviet Union who were the subject of debate concerning their sex, which was stimulated further by their disappearance following the introduction of compulsory gender testing in 1966. This was followed by the Polish sprinter, Ewa Klobukowska who became the first athlete to fail a chromosome test and was subsequently banned from 1967 onwards.

One of the most influential incidents was the case of Renee Richards. A professional male tennis player, Richards was born as Richard

Raskind before undergoing a full sex change operation in 1975. Post surgery, Richards competed on the professional women's tennis tour before being banned from entering the US Open due to their 'women-born-women' policy. She appealed against the decision and the New York Supreme Court overturned the decision in 1977. The introduction of gender testing appeared to reduce the number of gender issues, although some emerged at the start of the new millennium.

Balian Buschbaum of Germany (born Yvonne) announced his retirement from pole vaulting in an attempt to pursue a gender reassignment. Problems lie with athletes who have been successful in their sport when opponents claim that they could have potentially won medals and this could have arguably changed the course of their careers. Mianne Bagger made history when she became the first male-born golfer to join the Australian Ladies Professional Golf Association. Bagger has since gone on to compete in numerous professional events and this has suggested that progress has been made in relation to athletes who have undergone sex changes becoming more widely accepted in the sporting arena.

The Department for Culture Media and Sport produced a document in conjunction with UK Sport in May 2005 entitled 'Transsexual people and sport – guidance for sporting bodies'. This document provides guidance in relation to the legal context of the matter, use of facilities by transsexual people and guidance from the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

On Wednesday 20th January 2010, the IOC recommended the establishment of special medical centres to deal with cases of athletes with ambiguous sexual characteristics. They have also

suggested that sporting bodies need to introduce their own rules to determine the eligibility to compete on a "case by case" basis for athletes whose gender is called into question.

The case of Semenya has helped focus the need for clarity on the issue of whether an athlete competes as a man or a woman. The IOC plans to consult with lawyers and athletes in an attempt to establish specific guidelines. A proposal to set up health centres whereby experts would diagnose and treat athletes with what are known as 'disorders of sex development' was one of the key outcomes of the conference. One of the major problems is that not all sports in all countries worldwide have the expertise required to set a level playing field.

In terms of Caster Semenya's future, the International Amateur Athletes Association (IAAF) has refused to confirm or deny media reports that tests indicate Semenya has both male and female sex organs, similar to the case of Stanisława Walasiewicz.

A further conclusion drawn from the conference was that it was agreed that a general rule is not the way forward. 'The rule needs to allow for a case-by-case evaluation. Each case is unique. They are not many. They are all individual' remarked the IOC medical commission chairman; Arne Ljungqvist.

Despite the IOC having officially stopped sex testing since 1999, it appears as though we will see measures being installed to finally resolve the perhaps surprisingly long history of sex verification in sport. This is reaffirmed as delegates also hinted that 'pre-participation health examinations' for aspiring athletes may be seen in the near future.



# Writing Sex in Critically Acclaimed Literature

"He stroked the silky slope of her loins, down, down between her soft warm buttocks, coming nearer and nearer to the very quick of her...She felt his penis risen against her with silent amazing force and assertion and she let herself go to him."

"A woman's a lovely thing when'er's deep to fuck, and cunt's good. Ah luv thee, thy legs, an' th' shape on thee."

D.H. Lawrence

## Lydia Teague

Mills and Boon eat your heart out? Reading these quotes, one might hazard a guess that they were from a piece of erotica, possibly the cheaper kind. In fact they are quotes from D.H. Lawrence's 1928 classic, 'Lady Chatterley's Lover'. Lady Chatterley's Lover is not a piece of pornographic literature; it is a lyrical, intelligently written novel about integrity and unity of body and mind. Yet, it is also a novel about a typical sexual fantasy; a bored, frustrated and rich housewife, shagging the young, rough gardener! The sexual content of the novel caused it to be banned, as did Lawrence's

use of the words 'fuck' and 'cunt'. It is usually the novel's sexual content which makes 'Lady Chatterley's Lover' such a widely recognized text.

Similarly, Henry Miller's semi-autobiographical novel 'Tropic of Cancer' is a text usually placed in lists of 'Top 50 Books' and is a frank and rich piece of modern fiction. It is about self-exploration, self-confession and life. Yet the novel is more commonly known for its explicit sexual content than for any other aspect of the text. This book was also banned because of its graphic descriptions of sexual encounters, something sure to attract the attention of even more readers!

Somehow, in spite of their graphic erotic content, these novels, amongst others, are respected classics. How is it that although these texts are perhaps recognised by a wider audience because of their sexual nature, they lose none of their literary power?

It is generally accepted that writing about sex in a 'serious' novel is extremely difficult to do.

A well-written sexual account should excite and arouse (or shock), regardless of whether this is the sole intention of the text as a whole. There is a plethora of ways in which a sex scene can go wrong. There is the danger that the encounter will sound like a sex scene from a piece of bad erotic literature:

'Zack tore the skirt from my body and then he was sucking at me – at my pussy – like I sucked at Wes. Ohhhhhh, Goodddd!' (Male/Female/Male, Kelly Carr).

The badly written sex scene could also become funny:

'What the fuck have you got back there? Professor you should have told me that your mother mated with a fucking horse' ('Bedtime Erotica for Men', Lexy Harper).

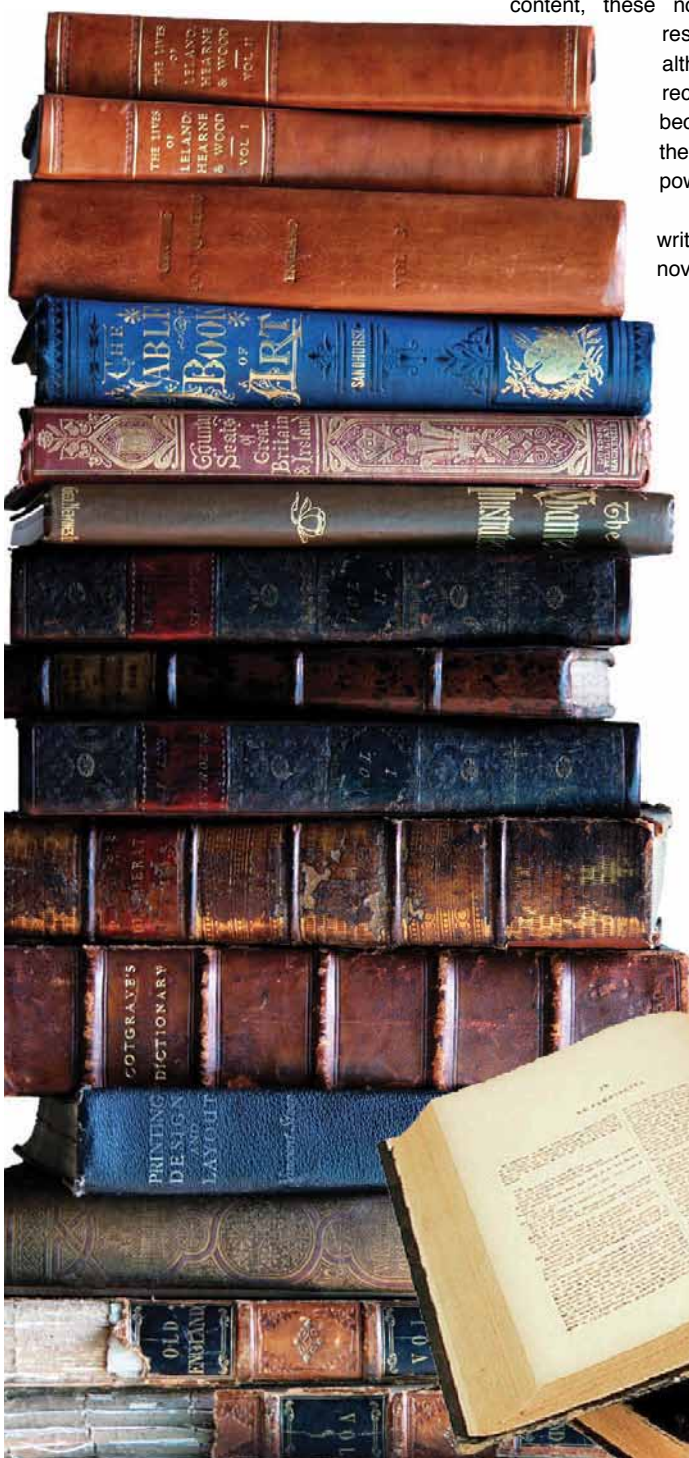
It can also be difficult to write a sex scene which both women and men can read, and have the same effect on all sexes, whatever orientation. Erotica is usually written specifically for men or women and with certain sexual preferences in mind, but with most novels this cannot be the case.

In short, in order for a book to contain a lot of

steamy content and still be considered a good novel by critics and readers, it would appear that sex needs to be as well written as the rest of the novel. Even taken out of context, the quotes from 'Lady Chatterley's Lover' given at the beginning of this article seem better written than the sentences from the erotica quoted later on. That the writing quality must be of a high standard might seem obvious but it is, as pointed out, harder to do than you may imagine. A sex scene may be written to provoke various emotions: lust or arousal, revulsion or fear, even humour. However, if a written sexual encounter arouses an unintended emotion it can have a disastrous effect on the novel.

'Tropic of Cancer', 'Lady Chatterley's Lover', and even the controversial 'Lolita', are novels containing much sexual content and yet each author has such command over language that, in spite of censorship, each novel is considered a great work, something which few works of actual 'erotica' are.

Have a go at putting your own sexual encounter or fantasy into writing and see how it turns out!



## Erotic Homework for the Frustrated Student

### Academic Action

D.H. Lawrence, *Lady Chatterley's Lover*

Henry Miller, *Tropic of Cancer*

William S. Burroughs, *Naked Lunch*

Jean Genet, *Our Lady of the Flowers*

### Late-Night Literotica

Penny Birch, *Slippery When Wet*

Ann Lethbridge, *Wicked Rake, Defiant Mistress*

Bob Vickery, *Cocksure*

Allan Aldiss, *Ursula's Revenge*

### Fast and Filthy

[sexstoriespost.com](http://sexstoriespost.com)

[cliterati.co.uk](http://cliterati.co.uk)

[stories xnxx.com](http://stories xnxx.com)

[nifty.org](http://nifty.org)



We asked students to write an erotic story in 140 characters...enjoy!

Cracking the whip I command him to get on his knees. He obeys, quivering with anticipation. As I stand above this bad boy he begs for mercy.

Last night I dreamt of your hands caressing me, stroking me into oblivion.



# Hartley Heat

## One late night revision session in the library, Anna takes procrastination to a whole new level

Anna yawned, pushed her legs out under the desk and stretched her arms up into the air. She had been in the library all day and had long since stopped caring about Anthropology theories. The only thing of any interest all day had been the cute guy in a rugby team jumper. Watching his forehead wrinkle sexily as he puzzled over a text book had kept her amused for forty minutes, but that was over two hours ago. She wondered if he was coming back and if he'd noticed her staring at him. Hartley was almost empty, it was getting late and everyone else had finished their exams already. "This is ridiculous, one last book and I'm going home."

Anna got up and headed off to hunt for the textbook. Typically, when she found it, it was on the top shelf and there was no way she could reach it. She stomped off to find a bucket step and dragged it back to the stack. Anna got on her tiptoes on the step and tried to wiggle the text out of the cramped shelf. Suddenly, she slipped and fell. Her head smacked, not against the hard opposite shelf she was expecting, but a firm, muscley chest! There were large, warm hands on her arms and when she looked up she was faced with the piercing blue-green eyes and sexily bent nose of her earlier male distraction. "Oh shit, sorry." Anna went bright red.

"No worries". Anna turned round to face her mystery man. He kept his hands on her arms, so she was forced to stay close to his chest. "I'm Jack, I saw you earlier". Anna was now really embarrassed, he must have seen her ogling him unashamedly. Although he didn't look embarrassed or disgusted, just faintly amused. Jack was still holding Anna up and she became very aware of how close their bodies were. The space between the bookshelves seemed very narrow all of a sudden and the library felt unnecessarily warm. Then, Jack seemed to be leaning towards her. Anna's heart started to race and she began to panic, not sure whether to run or stay put. His face was getting closer to hers and Anna realised that if she was going to move, she would have done so by now.

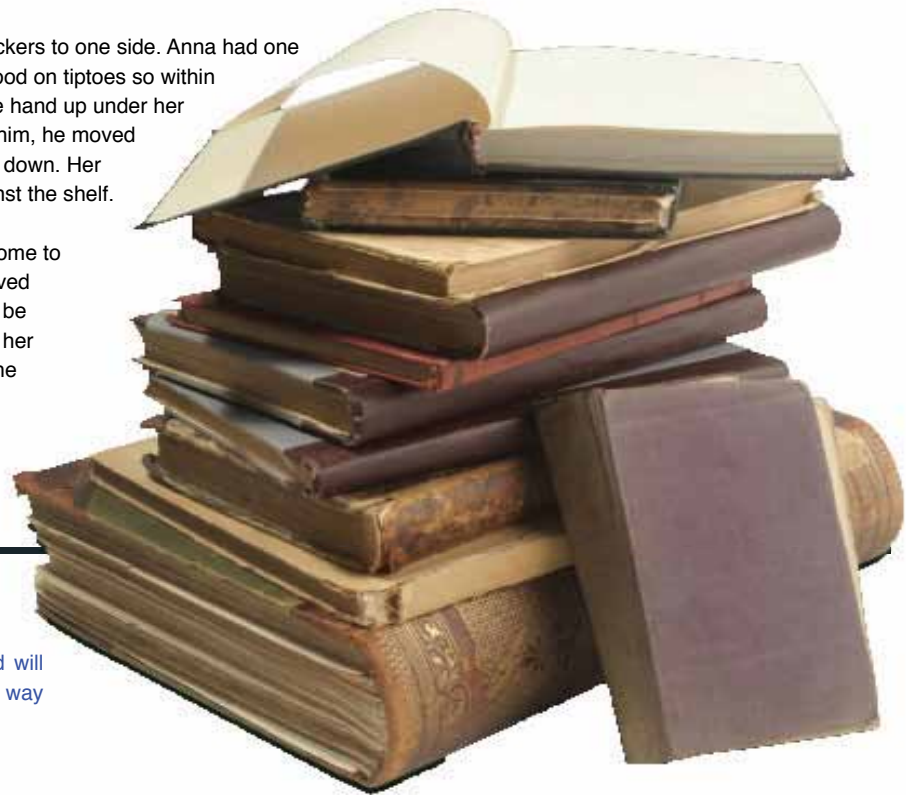
It felt like Jack was moving towards her in slow motion. Was he giving her time to stop him? Was she just imagining it? Now Anna just wished he'd hurry up and kiss her! Finally his lips were on hers, soft and gentle at first. Anna leaned into him and returned his kiss. She moved her arms around his neck, feeling his strong muscles under his clothes. Anna found herself desperate to run her hands up under his jumper. His kisses became harder and his tongue started to explore her mouth, softly searching for her tongue, sending shivers through her body. Anna couldn't help but moan. At that, their kissing became more urgent and Jack moved his hands from Anna's arms and started exploring her body.

Anna realised that they were in the library and that they could get caught any second. She also became aware of the fact that she didn't know anything about this guy, apart from his name and the fact that he probably plays rugby...and he is really good looking. Anna might have pulled away at this point but Jack's hands had found their way under her top and drove all hesitation for her mind. He unhooked her bra and slid his hands onto her breasts. Anna gasped and pushed herself harder into his hands. She leant into his neck and began kissing and biting him gently. Jack's fingers pinched her nipples, teasing them, making her wet. As though he could sense how turned on she was getting, Jack moved his hands slowly down to her body and up under her skirt, he began stroking her pussy through the thin fabric of her underwear. Anna ground into his hand and pushed her thigh against his crotch. She could feel him getting harder, straining against the fabric of his jeans.

Anna slowly undid his trousers and reached into his boxers. As she grasped his cock Jack moaned and moved his fingers inside her knickers so he could feel her wetness. He slid his finger up the length of her pussy and then began gently rubbing her clit. Anna pulled back from him and pushed his jeans and boxers. She bent down and let the tip of her tongue run up the length of his cock, then she licked the top of its head, teasing. Jack had his hands on the back of her head now and was trying to resist the temptation to push her head down, forcing her to take him the whole way down her throat. Anna got on her knees, looked up at him and deciding she'd teased enough, pushed her head down on him until his cock was right down the back of her warm mouth. She moved mouth slowly but firmly, letting his cock come the whole way out and then pushing herself back down the whole way so he was back down her throat. Jack leant back against the shelf and enjoyed the feeling of her wet mouth, her soft lips around him.

Then Jack pulled her up towards him again, pushed her up against the bookshelves and moved her knickers to one side. Anna had one arm around his neck and the other holding on to the shelf above, she wrapped one leg around him and stood on tiptoes so within seconds his cock was deep inside her. It felt amazing. Jack thrust inside her hard and fast. He pushed one hand up under her jumper and squeezed her breast, all the time moving hard inside her. Anna was close to coming, she told him, he moved faster. He pinched her nipple so hard she cried out in surprise and suddenly she couldn't slow her orgasm down. Her pussy tightened around his cock and he lost control, pushing hard into her as he came, ramming her against the shelf.

They stood there for a while and Anna began to wonder whether their encounter was about to come to a cliched end with the appearance of an angry library assistant. She began to giggle and Jack moved out of her and pulled up his trousers. Anna readjusted herself and wasn't sure whether to laugh or be really embarrassed about what had just happened. Luckily Jack looked at her, laughed a bit, gave her a kiss and asked sheepishly if he could have her number and take her out for a drink...start from the beginning maybe?



I drizzle the dark bitter liquid all over her, watching it slowly flow, following the contours of her quivering body. I yearn for its taste.

By the time you've read this message, my boyfriend will already have licked, sucked, kissed and caressed his way to a thank you blowjob.

She slowly nibbled the end, sliding her mouth around the rim. 'til she felt the smooth white inner trickle onto her tongue. Cadbury's creme egg, how do you eat yours?

His steady rhythm picks up pace sprinting to its end. He can barely contain himself as I move in time with him, body throbbing almost there.

You put your key into my lock, twist it round, but it doesn't fit. Try the back door for entry instead?

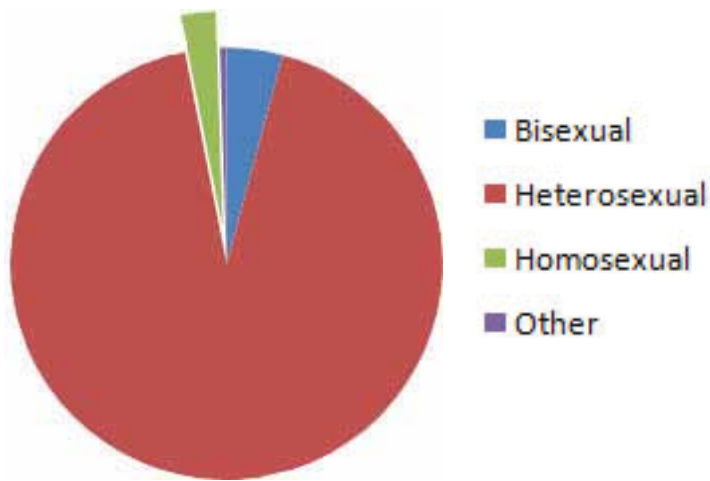
I'm so hard and desperate to get between your hot, wet, red lips.

His mouth searches my body finding ways into new undisclosed caverns of passion. My pleasure mounts until I give in and let out a long moan.

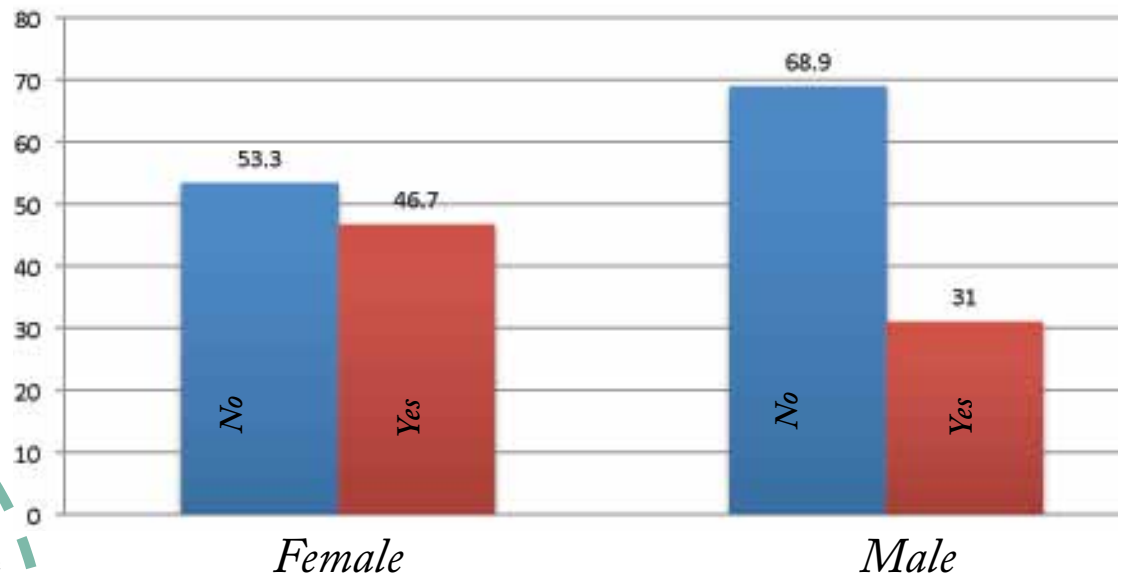


# Sex in

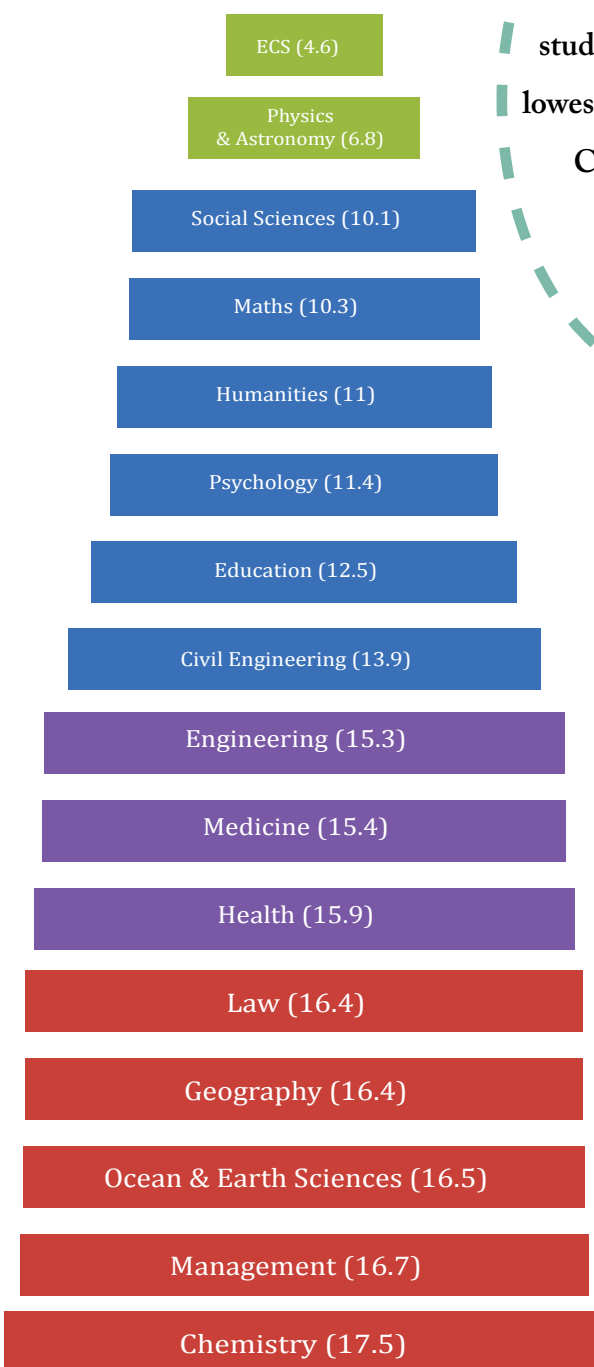
What is your sexual orientation?



Have you ever had a Sexually Transmitted Disease?

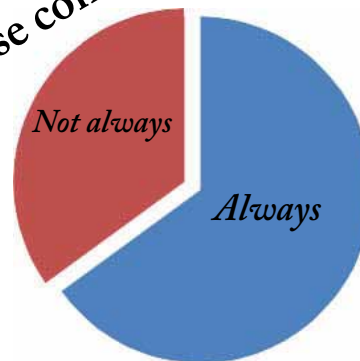


Virginity by Course



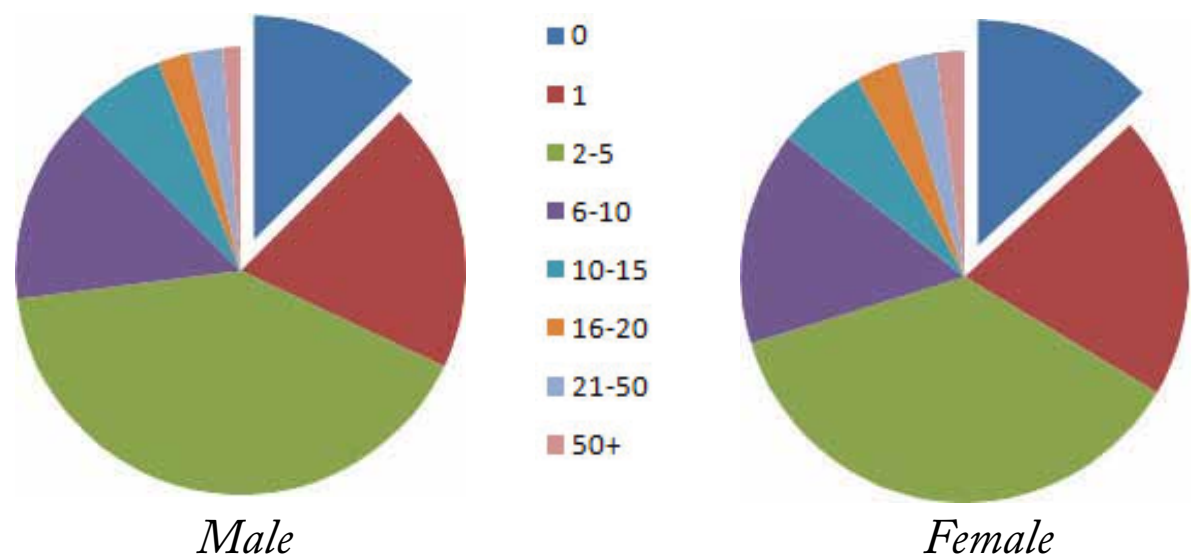
Only 4.6% of Electronics and Computer Science students are virgins, the lowest out of every school. Chemistry has the most amount of virgins, with 17.5%

Do you use contraception?



48.1% of the student population have had a one night stand. Students from the Institute of Sound and Vibration Research indulge in such activities more than any others, with 64% admitting doing so

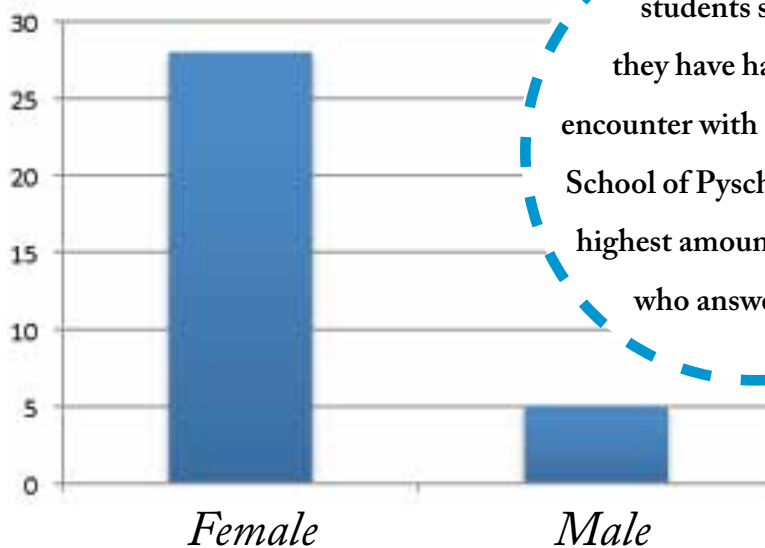
How many sexual partners have you had?



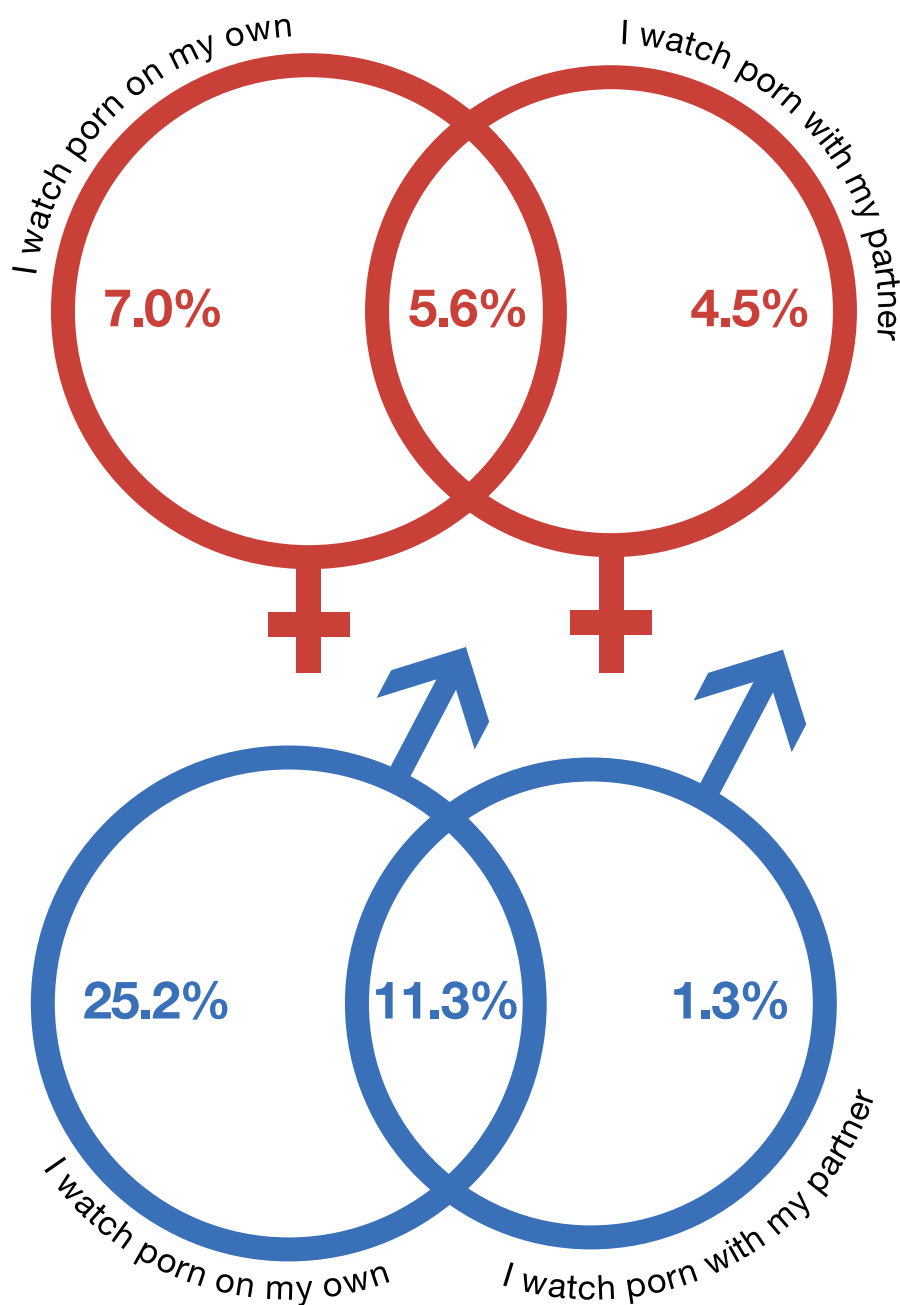


# Soton

Never masturbate?



40 students said that they have had a sexual encounter with a lecturer. The School of Psychology has the highest amount of students who answered 'yes'



## Carla Bradman

In January the Wessex Scene compiled a survey that was promoted online, to find out student's sexual habits and the issues surrounding sex that concerned them. Initially I was informed that I 'would be lucky to get 100 responses', as Student Union surveys are never very successful, with 30 respondents the average number. But sex sells, and within an hour we had over 100 replies. We kept the survey available online for a week and gathered almost 2000 responses, approximately 10% of the student population at Southampton University, and enough data to generate some very interesting statistics. An almost equal amount of men and women completed the survey, the majority of which were undergraduates (what we were expecting), although a significant proportion of postgraduates also entered their details.

### Sexual Activity

Students at Southampton University are predominantly sexually active, with only 14% who classify themselves as virgins. Of those who have indulged in sexual activities, 68.5% of students lost their virginity before starting university. Chemistry students are most likely to be virgins, with 17% classifying themselves as such. Similarly, MIT also found that their chemistry course also housed more virgins than any other department, in a study they did entitled Sex@MIT.

With regard to sexual orientation, 92.7% of students classify themselves as heterosexual, 2.6% homosexual, 4.2% bisexual, while 0.5% ticked the 'other' category.

### Schools

Not only are students in the Institute of Sound and Vibration Research the biggest wankers (35% masturbate daily), but they are also the school who have undertaken more one night stands, with 64% admitting doing so, compared to 48.1% of the student population as a whole. The school of geography also fared highly with regard to sexual adventure, with 25.8% owning a sex toy, although they share a joint lowest position with Civil Engineering with regard to anal sex, with just 16.4% indulging in back door activity.

When speaking with students at Winchester School of Art a couple of months ago, I expressed my suspicions that they were probably getting the most sex out of all the schools. While they were surprisingly quick to denounce this, telling me that they think that is unlikely, my prediction did turn out to be true. They have the highest proportion of students that have slept with over 50 people (6%) and have the highest rate of anal sex (46.6%) within the university. 27% of students also admit

to owning more than one sex toy.

Amusingly, the school with the highest rate of STIs is the school of Health Sciences, with 56% admitting to having an STI in the past. However while that rate is far higher than the average 4.6% at the university, it is possible that they are more inclined to get tested, as opposed to other schools that may tend to not get tested as they do not expect to contract an infection. This is apparent when looking at the raw data, where students have admitted to having unprotected sex, but say they have never had an STI despite never actually getting tested.

### Statistics

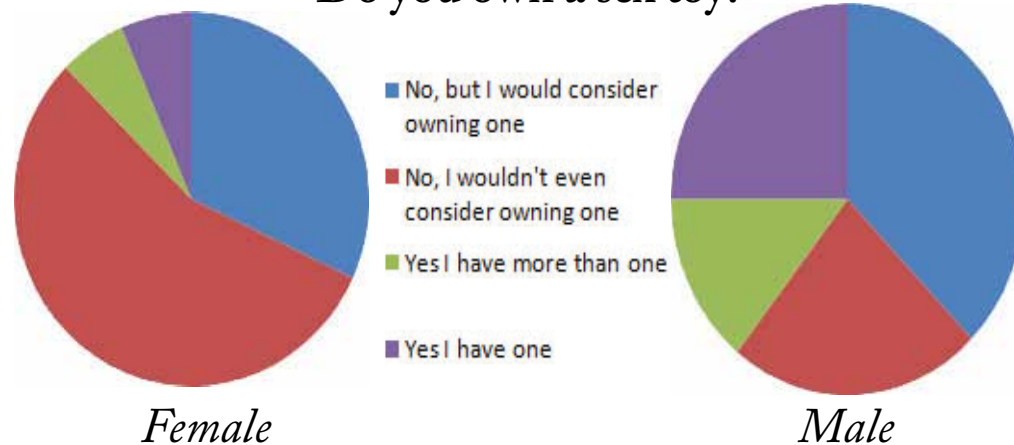
We knew it wouldn't be the best idea to let a bunch of mainly humanities students create and analyse data, so we enlisted the expertise of some of the super clever people next door to the Wessex Scene office who took degrees in clever subjects like maths, statistics and computer science to ensure the data was as clean and as accurate as possible. A special thanks to Robin, Paul, Vicky and student Andy Jeffs for their help with the survey.

We can't claim to know all the sexual habits and beliefs of students at the University, but with a respondent rate of 10%, we do know a bit more about the issues that students in Southampton face.

### Comments from the Survey

- 'Disturbing. Should have done it in private.'
- 'Don't turn this into a preachy article!'
- 'Good idea. Will be awesome to see the results.'
- 'I love watersports!'
- 'I thought the sexual experience with a lecturer was a bit unexpected, but not offensive.'
- 'I'm aroused.'
- 'I'm not ashamed of my virginity - I just haven't met the right girl.'
- 'It sickens me that sex has ultimately become a commodity in our society.'
- 'It's a bit limited in scope. You could have asked loads more questions.'
- 'Make it a good issue! Focus on the positives. Less negatives.'
- 'More free condoms need to be available and easily accessible. My halls bar (where I get them from) run out all the time.'
- 'Sex is fun and should be enjoyed but SAFELY!'
- 'The results should be interesting. Good idea to probe the habits of the student body without being too personal.'
- 'You could ask some much more interesting questions! Multiple people in one go? Age difference between partners. Nothing was asked about oral sex. And nothing was asked about fetishes.'

Do you own a sex toy?





Wendy Oloya

One Night In Glamour

Lap dancing clubs. Dark. Dirty. Sleazy. Unfair representation or justified description? Up until a few weeks ago I would have tended to agree with this description, regardless of the fact that I had never actually been to a strip club. I always thought that the positioning of lap and pole dancing clubs in popular culture was to accommodate the objectification of women and enable the realisation of a man's sordid desires. So after hearing that a few of my male friends had visited one of Southampton's lap dancing clubs, Glamour, I wanted to know what all the fuss was about. I dragged three fellow

that the girls are kept safe. "Just because the girls are dancers doesn't mean they are slags. We tell our customers you will treat them as you would any other girl." To enhance their safety, when the girls come into work they are required to tell management how they plan on getting home at the end of the night. If they drive, security will walk them to their car, and if they are getting a taxi, one will be called for them. The rules are expected to be followed by the dancers also. As well as not being allowed to touch customers or each other, when giving a dance in the nude they are expected not to spread their legs by more than 12 inches. Carl claims that defying these rules has resulted in the immediate dismissal of some girls. In one incident a girl was fired

of maintaining loyal staff. Phil Hayward, bar manager, comments: "one girl who came to work with us told me that in another club, she made £140 in one night, but went home with £40. A lot of clubs will try and rip the girls off." Phil, a University of Sussex graduate with a degree in Geography, takes a sympathetic approach towards students who decide to work in the sex industry in order to make ends meet. He recognises the flexibility of this type of work and how well it can "fit in and around their uni timetable."

Dancing Queen

The Lap Dancing Association does not view lap dancing clubs as part of the sex industry but rather as a "small but vibrant part of the UK entertainment industry." This attempt to disassociate the clubs with the sex industry appears flawed as shown in the actual performances given by the girls. I had never seen any form of lap

girls flounced around the tables and chairs, manipulating words to flatter, charm and guarantee their way to at least £19 cash in hand. This, more so than the dancing, is the most important part of clinching the deal. It has to be said however that this was not true for all the girls. It was two of the girls' first night working and they appeared both unsure and nervous. Paired up together, a practice that Carl claims helps in pleasing people's different tastes, a blonde and a brunette stuck together as they attempted to talk to customers. The blonde, although not as confident as the more experienced girls, desperately tried to converse with the men. However the brunette did not seem so comfortable. While her outfit and make-up suggested she was sexually overt, her body language suggested otherwise. Her back was hunched, her focus flickered between the floor, the bar and

The SEX Industry can be defined as commercial sex- anywhere but at the

guy she was supposed to be talking to. It was not that she seemed frightened, but more confused at what was going on around her. I was not fearful for her safety as much as I was for her emotional well being.

The cameras in every room of the club, the big burly security men and the long measures taken to protect the girls, were enough to convince me that the girls' safety is a main priority for the owners. Yet there was something quite sad about the look in her eyes that made me want to take her away from an environment that she clearly had no concept of dealing with. Her vulnerability meant she was unable to create an emotional distance between herself and her customers, of which the other girls seemed able to do. Clearly the issue of role playing which is an unwritten requirement of the job is not as easy as one may think. Carl emphasised that it is easy to forget that the dancers have body hang-ups. "I brought my wife down to help out with auditions when we first opened. It was only then, after being apprehensive about me working in this industry, that she realised the girls were just as, if not more, insecure about their looks."

Ladies Night

The introduction of the Licensing Act 2003 now means that lap dancing clubs are viewed in the same framework as bars and public houses. Many have argued that as a result of this, attitudes towards the sex industry, which assume that the women are exploited and are not willing participants in the exchange between offering and selling a sexual service, have now become lax and allowed for the normalising of lap dancing clubs. Consequently the Fawcett Society, a women's rights group, has called for lap dancing clubs to become licensed as Sex Encounter Establishments. If this happens, Carl fears for both the financial implications and the reputation of the club. "It will make the club sound dirty and seedy" he says. However, there is no getting away from the fact that in lap dancing clubs women are essentially treated as sexual objects. After insisting that they were in no way exploiting the girls who worked for them, I asked Carl how he would feel if his own daughter decided to work in the industry, "Well my daughter is only 3 years old so at that age all I think about is that she's my little girl. When she's 18 however it would be a different story." In their defence, bad attitudes towards the sex industry as a whole become problematised when you consider that there are lap dancers such

for meeting a male customer outside of work, and although she did not have sexual intercourse with him, the intention may have been there which would have damaged the club's reputation.

Let's Go In

Like all who venture into the club, we were escorted to our table by a member of security. Immediately I was taken aback by how plush and classy the interior was. The image clashed greatly with what I assumed would be mirrors on the ceiling and leopard print on the wall. None of the above was remotely evident. Once customers are seated, the dancers are required to spend ten to fifteen minutes at each table talking. On stage, depending how busy it is, a girl will dance for the duration of one song.

In the week girls are charged a set fee by the establishment of £35 and on weekends this rises to £50. With the cost of a private dance

dancing and always thought that if I ever did, I would feel both awkward and embarrassed. So as Glamour's most popular girl, Michelle\*, danced on and around the pole, grinding to 50 Cent and some other mainstream hip hop, using her legs of steel to spin around the metal device, I found myself in an immediate state of awe. Sheer awe. Thoughts of "I want to be able to do that" ran through my head the entire time. Rather than turning my head away I could not keep my focus off the way in which she enticed every person in the club albeit without making any eye contact with anyone herself. It did not matter that she, the person being gazed at was a woman, and I, the person doing the gazing was a heterosexual woman. It was not about sexual attraction but about appreciation of her physical strength.

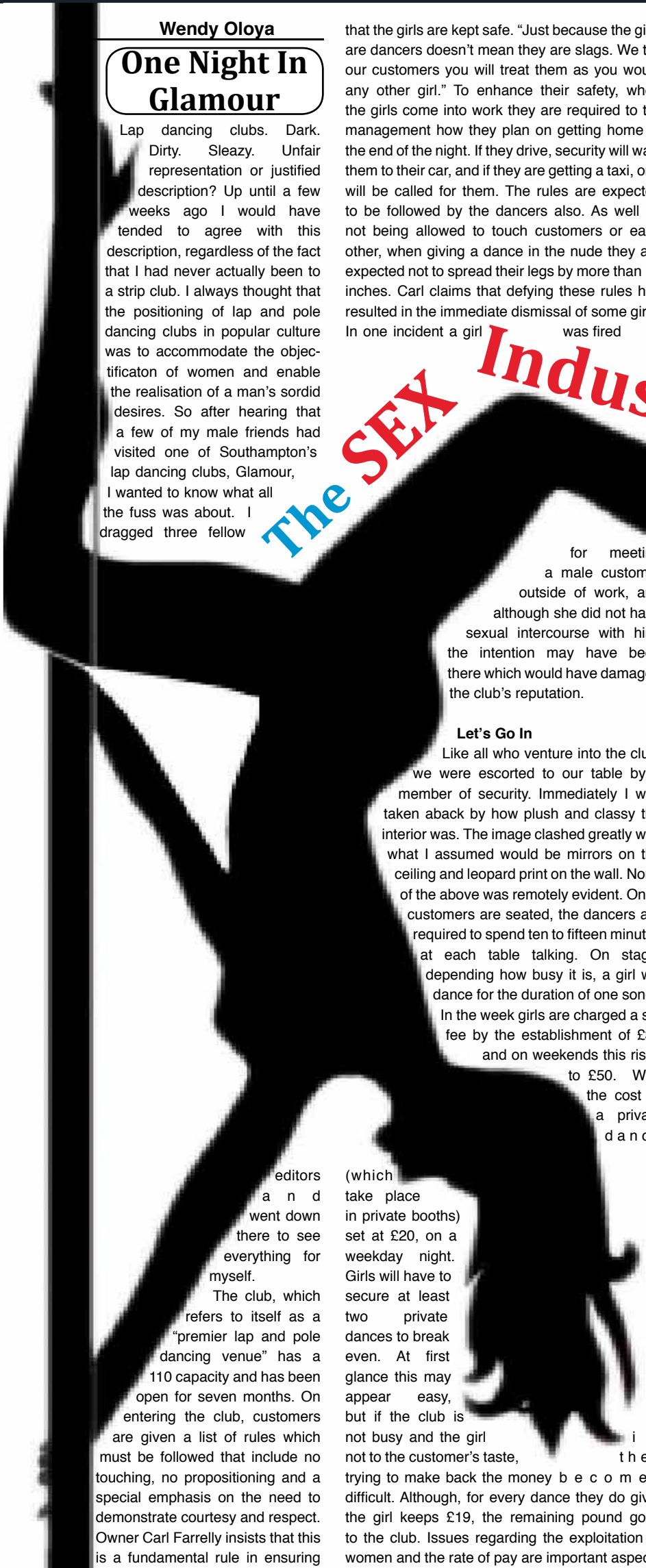
The type of clientele present proved interesting. There were two groups of young men, two girls and a few middle-aged men. Yet the customer who really caught my eye was a baby-faced boy. He could not have been any older than 19 and walked in by himself. This became my main concern. Why would anyone go into a strip club alone? Phil explains that this is not entirely weird, "Many of our customers include business men, who are alone in their hotel at night and come into the club not necessarily to receive a dance, but sometimes just for a drink and a chat." If this were to happen in any other club, say Oceana, the lone man in question would stand out like a sore thumb, being subjected to funny looks and labelled as a 'perve' or a 'weirdo.' The nature of any lap dancing club like Glamour, means that these types of men can come in alone, sit at a table with a drink and talk to one of the girls for ten minutes. This to me was incredibly unnerving. According to both Carl and Phil, most of these men just want someone to talk to. Carl says, "One guy comes in and talks about his campervans for hours on end. Meanwhile his campervan is sitting in the car park!" It would seem then that there are a specific group of men who visit lap dancing clubs looking for mental as well as physical stimulation.

Gift of the Gab

It was fascinating to watch how some of the

editors and went down there to see everything for myself. The club, which refers to itself as a "premier lap and pole dancing venue" has a 110 capacity and has been open for seven months. On entering the club, customers are given a list of rules which must be followed that include no touching, no propositioning and a special emphasis on the need to demonstrate courtesy and respect. Owner Carl Farrelly insists that this is a fundamental rule in ensuring

(which take place in private booths) set at £20, on a weekday night. Girls will have to secure at least two private dances to break even. At first glance this may appear easy, but if the club is not busy and the girl is not to the customer's taste, then trying to make back the money becomes difficult. Although, for every dance they do give, the girl keeps £19, the remaining pound goes to the club. Issues regarding the exploitation of women and the rate of pay are important aspects





as Michelle who are business savvy and view the sex industry as a lucrative sector, where they can take advantage of their looks and bodies to make a considerable amount of money.

Also, what happens when the dancers on stage are male? Is lap dancing still viewed as exploitative or does it suddenly become harmless fun? Glamour holds a 'Ladies' Night' every few weeks where all male dancers perform on stage for the duration of 20 to 40 minutes. Interestingly, most of the ladies who come to these nights are the regular dancers for the club. "The girls want to feel what it's like to be on the other side of things," says Phil, "what it's like to receive a dance." Ironically, according to Carl, they find that female customers are much harder to control than male customers, "Male customers pretty much do as they are told, whereas women usually don't." The same rules that apply on any other night still stand on 'Ladies' Night' with the customers not allowed to touch the male dancers and vice versa. In this case it seems that gender does not

readily determine who the exploiter is and who is the exploited. If we are so willing to claim that the female strippers are exploited then surely this reasoning has to be applied to the role of male strippers also.

## Chipping Away At the Dales

My experience with the Chippendales was simultaneously amusing and uncomfortable. I began by speaking to Lind Walter, one of the 22 contracted Chippendales in the world. The dark haired, blue-eyed 25 year old American, raised in a small town outside Pennsylvania began his modelling career in New York. One summer on a trip to Las Vegas he met long time Chippendale Kevin Cornell. He was offered a job and signed a contract there and then. 'I was chosen based on my looks and body' Lind says 'but the dancing was a lot tougher than I had anticipated'. After being a Chippendale for two years this summer, he is starting to feel the negative effects of the job. 'I have been living out of a suitcase for so long, and the job is so demanding that you don't really get any down time.' This does not take away from the endless benefits he receives. The countless magazine covers and t.v. he has done have increased his celebrity status. 'I'm really lucky to have this job, I get to go all over the world and every day is completely different to the last one.'

### Take it off! Take it off!

After the interview, it was time to see the show. The eager and almost desperate crowd ranged from 18 to 80 and the atmosphere in the theatre was buzzing. When the music hit, and the Chippendales finally appeared, the screams were deafening. There was a Chippendale for everyone. The hunky black one, the pretty boy, the rocker and so forth. I frantically tried to spot Lind and point him out to the girls, but to no avail. Throughout the night I was either laughing hysterically, sitting agape or feeling incredibly awkward. Under no circumstances did I ever feel that the men were being objectified or did I get the impression that they felt they were being objectified. This is for a number of reasons. The first being the borderline cocky attitude some of them seemed to have. The second being how the audience's reaction to them reaffirmed their sexual power. The third being

their dubious treatment of the women chosen as participants of the show.

One of the first acts, where a replica of Blind Date was set up, was harmless. Think a banana, a condom and Justin Timberlake's 'Sexyback'. Predictable, but humorous nonetheless. However, in a similar act towards the end of the show, things got awkwardly explicit. The same Blind Date set up was used, although this time the ladies' hands were tied up behind their backs. The Chippendales then proceeded to grope their breasts, grind on them and stroke their inner thighs. I felt really uncomfortable when one of the ladies, middle aged woman wearing a long sleeved top and a floor length skirt, had two Chippendales put their hands up her skirt. Following this, a scene was set up by where it was made to look like one of the Chippendales had just had a shower. The Chippendale in question

was Lind. Dressed only in a towel, he brought a girl on stage and gave her his underwear. It became clear that he wanted her to put it on for him. With his back to the audience, he opened his towel whilst she bent down and started to pull his briefs over his legs. She could not pull them up faster. He then grabbed her behind him sliding her hands all over his oily torso. Then, without warning, he thrust her hand down his underwear.

### This is weird

Good god I thought. Is that even allowed? Just because he owned the penis did not mean that she was a) in control or b) free from being humiliated. Caught up in the excitement of the moment, he had no perception of whether she wanted to do it or not. Of course she had every right to walk off stage if desired but, egged on by the rest of the audience, this was not presented as an option. I also found the impression I had formed of Lind earlier in the day was changing. The friendly and outgoing man I had talked to conflicted with the conceited and vain character presented in front of me. The all female audience never had the upper hand. In their willingness to become participants in the Chippendales' sexual games they became objectified. I am not saying that they were too naive to realise what was going on, as evident by the long queues formed to take pictures with the Chippendales at the end of the show, but there was something quite demoralising about the way in which the performers had complete control over the audience.

There were aspects that I did quite enjoy, however, mainly chief Chippendale Kevin Cornell. His corny sayings kept me amused whilst his dedication to swinging his long blonde Californian locks was to be applauded. The performance aspect of the show - the music, their out of time dancing and their cringe worthy costumes, I enjoyed greatly. Yet this did not soften my main gripe with the evening. The Chippendales had a finely tuned awareness of the way in which they are able to manipulate the audience's reactions. They were the puppet masters manoeuvring the audience's strings. I am very glad and grateful that I have had this insightful experience, however, I do not want nor need it again. I am deterred because of the apparent double standards in the industry. Why is it more socially acceptable to go and see the Chippendales, where in my experience there

is far more sexually explicit contact, than it is to visit strip clubs? Society has accepted one type of sexual entertainment but not another. Why is a Chippendale celebrated and a Glamour model denounced?

## Model Student

The 2009 Sunday Times Rich List stated that Katie Price was worth £30 million. Her source of wealth came not from modelling but from fashion, of which she has a hair care and lingerie range - an obvious example that the role of the glamour model has transcended from sexy pin ups of the 1950s to commercial product of the noughties. Nowadays, not only do they grace the covers of men's magazines, they endorse various products, are active participants in reality television, and hang off the arms of footballers. All of these factors assist in presenting and solidifying a certain stereotype of the glamour girl which is wholly negative. More importantly they have become a commodity, a special kind of commodity offering their explicit sexual prowess in exchange for a climb up the celebrity social ladder. However, when the girl in question is a student, this exchange dissolves quite considerably. Cue Ella\*, a student currently in her final year at the University of Southampton. A down to earth girl dealing with the usual aspects of student life, excited about imminent graduation and according to her, "my boy mates just see me as one of the lads." She also happens to be a glamour model.

### Getting spotted

Two summers ago, Ella was in nightclub 90 Degrees when a modelling scout spotted her. After initially feeling apprehensive and refusing to take the proposition seriously, she eventually agreed to partake in a photo shoot. Since then she has been featured in Nuts, Zoo and on various websites. A swimwear photo shoot made her £150 for three hours' work, which appears quite alluring considering you would have to work approximately five days in a retail store in order to make the same money. I am shocked as she tells me that magazines, unless you are a bonafide recognizable model such as Lucy Pinder, will not pay in monetary value but rather offer the chance of exposure. Of the photo shoots she has done, she insists they are fun and, in her own experience, the majority of the people she has met are down to earth and very professional, labelling many of the photographers "like brother figures." According to Ella a certain type of professionalism is maintained. When going for an audition or a photo shoot, references, a portfolio and various forms of identification are needed before proceedings can begin. I wonder if the atmosphere of photo shoots, of which you are standing semi-naked in front of a group of people you have only just met, is uncomfortable. Ella argues "standing in front of the camera means you can become a different person all together. It's fun to take on a role so far removed from the role you play in everyday life." Giggling, she says that she cannot pull out sexy poses and needs to be in full make up and costume before she can get into character. Hence why she never takes family or friends to photo shoots as she is strictly

against mixing business with pleasure. It cannot be denied that in all men's magazines women are objectified, defined by the size of their boobs and the length of their legs, though something is to be gained for the women themselves. In Ella's case, the photo shoots boost her self-confidence. "Whenever I wake up feeling ugly or like shit, I just look at my portfolio which reminds me of what I can look like! The feeling of empowerment I get is much better than the money!"

### Not all Fun and Games

Although she is happy to talk about all her good experiences, she is even more keen to talk about one experience in particular that presents the very dangerous side of the glamour modelling world. "A year ago I was at an audition to be a party girl. A party girl is someone who is hired to go to celebrity parties and stand there looking good, adding to the group of many good looking people at the party. The actual audition was to go out clubbing to show them how comfortable you are in that environment." Unfortunately the night didn't end as she had expected. The man for whom she was auditioning drugged her and attempted to rape her. It was only for the fact that she had not ingested enough of the drug to have been unconscious that she was able to escape. In hindsight there were warning signs that she admittedly should have picked up on, "In every other shoot I have done, I've always been encouraged to bring friends and family with me. In this case, when I asked if I could bring a friend down, they point blank said no. This meant I was in an area that I had never ever been to all by myself." The traumatic experience meant she had to take anti-depressants, which she no longer needs. The support of friends, family and the university helped her greatly, and Ella emphasises that if it was not for this network of people she would still be struggling with what happened to her today, "I think that if I wasn't at uni and had the life of a uni student to occupy my mind, I wouldn't have been able to get through it."

### University versus Modelling

"I am a university student first and foremost" she says with conviction. Interestingly she never once refers to herself as a glamour model but instead takes a realistic approach when talking about the doubling of her role as glamour model and student, "I do this strictly for financial assistance. I don't claim to be the most beautiful girl in Southampton, but I know I am attractive and I do not see the harm in taking advantage of the situation I have been put in." Her acute sense of self-awareness is surprising and refreshing. "I have no desire to continue in this line of work after I have graduated. My main focus at the moment is to finish university. I hope to work in Human Resources one day."

Whether you believe the sex industry to be entertaining or not, it is undeniable that the most important aspect is the girls safety. I am not here to sway your opinions, but rather offer my own experiences, which have indeed altered my own preconceptions. The stigma surrounding the industry will always remain unless we take an inquisitive approach to it. So the next time you are quick to either celebrate or condemn the sex industry, stop and pause. It is not as straightforward as you think.

Commercial trade in SEX and SEXually stimulating materials

A survey taken in 2005 found that 63% of girls would rather be a glamour model than a nurse.



# Porn: Desirable or a Downward Spiral?

Nicola Stewart

Although it has been reported that 33% of Internet users in the UK access porn, Britain being the 8th biggest producer of porn in the world, it is still very much a taboo subject, and has been associated with the deterioration of relationships. So why do so many men turn to the fantasy lands at the click of a button, despite theories that connect the seedy subject with a negative impact on their relationships? And what's more, why is this association made?

Porn has been described as highly addictive, to the extent that it has shockingly been likened to that of 'heroin'. Unlike the class A drug, porn is everywhere: magazines and the Internet being two major sources. Though early porn goes back as far as the 1660s; a 'pornographic pamphlet' stated that 'the several postures are necessary, because all do not affect one and the same

riding'. Needless to say, early porn was not quite as explicit as what's available today...

However, the impact it has today on relationships can be traced back through the centuries. Samuel Pepys married at 23 to a 15 year-old girl, though her illness put a strain on their sex life, turning him into what academic Lawrence Stone described as 'an insatiable voyeur of pretty women', a habit that can be paralleled to porn-viewing in the modern day. Pepys' pursuit for sexual pleasure, however, soon got out of hand, developing into physical contact with 50 women from 1660 to 1669, a potential distraction from his career problems.

Although this could be likened to today's situation to an extent, the problem of porn must surely be more multi-faceted than retreating to the realms of the Internet after a stressful day at work. Its effects on relationships have also been shown to be negative, some claiming that it makes men less physically attracted to their wives. Academics concerned with issues relating to gender and society have argued that porn teaches men that sex is merely physical,

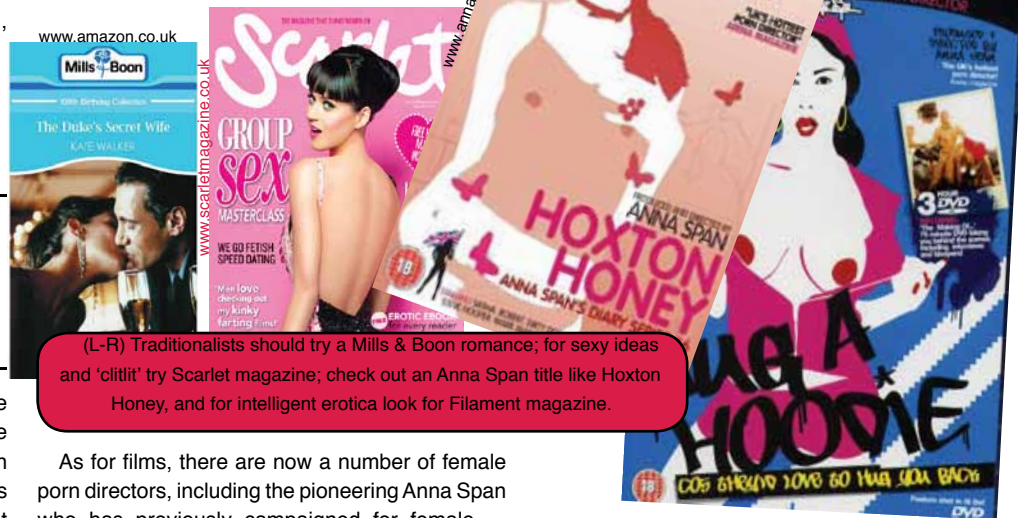


and, according to psychologist Paula Hall, could make women 'worry about being compared' to the women their partners watch for vicarious pleasure. This worry has the potential to evoke distrust and jealousy in the relationship. Ultimately encouraging insecurities in the women and leading to concerns over infidelity.

Even couples who choose to watch porn together could be kidding themselves that it is 'spicing up' their relationship in any way, despite Professor Brian McNair, from the University of Strathclyde claims that there exists a different type of porn suited to 'every taste and desire'. In the short-term, perhaps, but psychologist Estela Welldon dubs the so-called intimacy that watching porn together supposedly recreates as 'illusory', and the porn itself 'dehumanising'.

So although temporary satisfaction may only be a few clicks away, does the 'thrill' of a solitary session on your computer seem more fulfilling than the true intimacy of a real relationship? I somehow doubt it.

www.amazon.co.uk



(L-R) Traditionalists should try a Mills & Boon romance; for sexy ideas and 'clitlit' try Scarlet magazine; check out an Anna Span title like Hoxton Honey, and for intelligent erotica look for Filament magazine.

As for films, there are now a number of female porn directors, including the pioneering Anna Span who has previously campaigned for female ejaculation to be shown on screen. These films aim not to be exploitative but rather show women enjoying sex for their own gratification, not just their partner's. A number of female- and couple-friendly porn features, including Anna Span's Hoxton Honey, can be found in adult stores, including Anne Summers.

Ultimately, whatever the target audience, porn is still porn and comes with all the negative connotations that have become to be associated with it. It is certainly a positive step that women are given power in this industry, whether it is from behind a camera or through their impact as consumers. However, pornography as an industry still has many improvements to make before it will be fully acceptable and attractive to women.

TIP:

<http://hotmoviesforher.com/> is a porn site recommended by Marie Claire and postfem magazine Bust.

## Men and Pornography

Out of a questionnaire completed by 1000 men aged 18-65...

**23%** watch porn once a week, 20% of which admit to watching it in the office.

**40%** consider porn more acceptable than before.

**11%** from the East Anglian region claimed to watch it for educational purposes.

**25%** men who ticked the 'other' box, when asked what kind of porn they prefer, said that they prefer bondage.

**30%** admit to wanting to be in a porn film.

**48%** of the upper-class men asked, say that they prefer 'cheap / home-made' porn.

What Do You Think?

'Porn is so damaging for society. It makes women feel inadequate and men disappointed when they have the real thing.'

'People watch porn when they are going through puberty, and are confused about what they look like and what's normal.'

'I don't like boyfriends who are into pornography, rather than real women.'

# Porn for Women?

Jenni Palmer

The global porn industry is estimated to be worth between £7 billion to £10 billion each year, yet this hugely lucrative business is targeted mainly at men. However, gradually a market is beginning to emerge for pornography for women. Typing 'porn for men' into Google generates 79,500,000 search results while entering 'porn for women' produces 21,500,000.

In this age of gender equality, surely porn should be as popular amongst women as it is for men and women should be entitled to enjoy it if they wish. Or, in the words of a male second-year film student: "If it's okay for women to be objectified and leered at by men, it has to be the same the other way round!"

It has been assumed that women do not respond to the visual stimulation of erotic films and images in the same way as men, preferring raunchy stories. This would seem to be supported by figures from publishers Mills & Boon who claim that one of their books is sold every 3 seconds in the UK.

Scientific evidence has emerged however to dispute these theories. A 2006 study by McGill University in the United States found that their female subjects reached maximum arousal in 12 minutes while watching porn, only one minute after their male counterparts.

Furthermore, figures released in the March 2010 issue of British Cosmopolitan show that not only are women turned on by porn, but that a high percentage of women take time to watch it.

**87% of the 25-39-year-old women surveyed enjoy porn (more than use sex toys) and 13% of their participants had watched online porn at work.**

However, many women do not feel comfortable with the image of pornography that seems to be the norm: men exploiting women for their own pleasure. Several students gave comments damning pornography in general saying that they feel it is 'immoral' and 'has the effect of systematic objectification of the women involved and, as a consequence, women in general'. As for the pleasure-factor of watching porn, one female student gave a resounding thumbs down. 'I think it's quite disgusting to the point of being quite scary. It's far too vivid.'

Despite these views, there is a growing trend for visually erotic material targeted at women. In addition to a wealth of websites, and magazines that look more like coffee table books than Nuts for women have emerged. Filament magazine which promotes itself as 'a quarterly women's magazine inspired by the rocket science that women have brains and eyes' was launched in 2009 and showcases a range of men and contains 'intelligent, inspiring reading'. However, considering its status as an erotic magazine the pictures included are tame for the top shelf (see picture, right). Filament maintains that they are using research to create intelligent porn for women, or 'the thinking woman's crumpet'.

What Do You Think?

'I guess that male versus female porn suggests that men and women want different things when it comes to sex, when really doesn't everyone want the same thing?'

'Women should have just as much right to read or watch porn as men if they should choose to.'

'I'd probably watch porn for women, but it's not really available. I'd be much more likely to watch it if it were.'

Picture from www.revolutionaryman.com



# Cinema Sutra: Top Sex Scenes

Nine 1/2 Weeks (1986)



Wild Things (1998)



This much talked about film starring Mickey Rourke and Kim Basinger has been described as soft porn thanks to its numerous steamy sex scenes. The most famous scenes include Rourke blindfolding Basinger with a silk scarf and running an ice cube over her naked body and the 'food sex' scene where he spoon feeds her various foods in front of a refrigerator.

Sam Lombardo, played by Matt Dillon, is a high school counsellor who is accused of rape by two of his students, played by Denise Richards and Neve Campbell. In one scene, after having tried to drown each other, Campbell and Richards strip off and get into a swimming pool, where Dillon joins them for an impromptu threesome.

Gia (1998)



Ecstasy (1933)



Thought to feature the hottest lesbian sex scene in movie history, this television film catapulted Angelina Jolie to fame. She stars as a young, successful model who contracts H.I.V. from an infected needle. Jolie bears all for this raunchy scene with Lost actress Elizabeth Mitchell who plays her lover Lisa.

This controversial production is thought to be the first non-pornographic film to feature sexual intercourse and a female orgasm. The film was denounced by Pope Pius XII and when it reached America, censorship of Hedy Lamarr's orgasm was demanded by the U.S. customs authorities.

## Last Tango in Paris



Charlotte Woods

Sex and films have historically had a tense relationship. The debate over what is pornography and what is cinematic splendour has gone from extreme to extreme, from the attention Jane Russell received for revealing costumes in Howard Hughes' 'The Outlaw', to the controversy over the depiction of sexual acts between two gay cowboys in 'Brokeback Mountain'.

Many other films have caused major moral outcry and condemnation for their explicit sexuality, but perhaps none so much as the 1972 Marlon Brando picture, 'Last Tango in Paris'. 'Last Tango' follows Paul, (Brando) a middle-aged American, living in an apartment in Paris and his relationship with a 20-year-old Parisian stranger, Jeanne (Maria Schneider.) From the outset, the film is concerned primarily with the couple's sexual relationship and is interspersed with tragic monologues and desperate exaltations from Paul. Paul's wife has committed suicide after an affair with another man, an event which the entire film hinges on. His indulgence in a purely sexual, intensely honest yet fundamentally secretive 'relationship' with Jeanne is Paul's attempt to punish his wife and cope with his grief. The more he indulges in this destructive behaviour, the more he destroys his own soul in the process.

The depth of feeling felt by Paul as he mourns his wife and spirals into a drink and sex-driven depravity would be lost without the explicit sexuality. The fact that he has been driven to such violent and sometimes deplorable sexual impulses only emphasises the extent of Paul's madness and grief. Whilst many protested in anger and disgust over the scenes of sodomy and reference to bestiality, others, myself included, were moved to tears by this man's desperation, sado-masochism and pathetic loneliness.

The attacks on 'Last Tango in Paris' were broad-reaching and extreme. One critic referred to it as, "obsessive self-indulgence, catering to the lowest instincts of the libido, dominated by the idea of stirring unchecked appetites for sexual pleasure, permeated by scurrilous language... accompanied off screen by sounds, sighs and shrieks of climactic pleasure." Feelings resembling this were found across continents. In Italy, so much controversy was caused, that the film was banned and the director, Bernardo Bertolucci along with Brando and Schneider were all called to trial in Bologna. All parties were acquitted and the ban was lifted, but the controversy continued. By 1976, Italy's High Court of Cassation ruled that the film was 'obscene' and ordered all prints to be confiscated.

'Last Tango' is evidence of the way that explicit sexuality is sometimes necessary in films with powerful, emotional sentiments to convey. As Robert Altman, creator of 'M\*A\*S\*H' commented in 1972, "The level of honesty it achieved was fantastic. Not the sexual honesty, but the emotional honesty. My personal and artistic life will never be the same." To discard this film as pornography, as many viewers and critics have, is to deprive oneself of one of the most sensitive filmic expressions of the human condition ever made.

## The Dirtiest Word in Your Dictionary



Emma Stuart, 21

### Rainbow Party

A gathering where each woman wears a different colour lipstick. Each woman performs fellatio upon the males in attendance. If conducted in the right order each penis will resemble a rainbow in colour. Richard Of York Gave Battle In Vain, or perhaps Rebecca, Olivia, Yasmin, Georgina, Bella, Imogen, and... Violet?



Daniel Webb, 20

### Donkey Punch

When engaging in anal intercourse, the male is to apply a sudden burst of force to the back of the female's head. This causes her body to tense and enhance the pleasure of the experience to the male. Unsurprisingly, this act can be prosecuted as assault, and has on occasion led to deaths.



Caroline Evans, 20

### Flirt-gill

A term used by playwright William Shakespeare to imply a loose woman, referring not to the famed television starlets Coleen Nolan or Jane McDonald, but to a woman who is inclined to have multiple sexual partners. This type of woman selects her prey with very little discrimination, and is may be portrayed as having loose morals.



# Interview With Porn Star Connor Priesly

## Wessex Scene Editor Daniel Webb Interviews American Student On His Life As a Pornstar

At 18, American Connor Priesly became the youngest male porn star ever to be contracted by a major porn industry. Working for Venetian Productions more commonly known as Bang Bro's he spent a year living the life in Miami. Connor spent one year working as a contracted porn star and worked with over 40 women. **Daniel Webb** had the chance to catch up with him for a chat.

### So Connor, how did you come to find yourself in the porn industry?

Believe it or not it's what I always wanted to do. When I was about 14, in high school everyone was being asked what they wanted to do when they were older. I was the kid that said I wanted to be a porn star. So when I finally became old enough I simply googled it and before I knew it there I was.

### So what exactly appealed to you about it, apart from the girls and the money?

Well, obviously the lure of the girls, fame and money was a big thing, but really I just thought

it would be sweet if everyone knew me as a porn star.

### I understand your parents are still completely unaware that you were a porn star?

Yeah they still thought I was working for a modeling company, although my cousin did fall over a shoot of mine but I managed to keep him quiet.

### What was your first shoot like? Were you nervous?

My first shoot was meant to look like the girl and I were in a relationship and just happened to be video taping everything we did. So for 2 days me and her just fooled around on camera (and off) in our own luxury sweet on the beach in Miami. The director was away more than half the time so it wasn't too nerve racking and me and her got along pretty good so it was just fun and easy. All in all I gave them some good footage.

### I guess the job can be quite demanding did you ever suffer from 'performance' issues?

Once, when I had a girlfriend at the time and we got to having sex the night before, not knowing that five hours later at eight in the morning I'd be asked to do a shoot. So my ass gets up and drives over there has to pretend to be a Mexican worker and do a scene outside. So I'm already hot and sweaty and on top of that we had to do a stand up shower scene and I had to take all the girls weight while standing up in the most uncomfortable position ever. The combination of having sex, opening up for the camera and keeping a hard on was a little difficult to say the least. The director was getting aggravated but we made it through and the video came out good

### Being a porn star sounds pretty cool to most men, but in reality is it as fun as it sounds?

Not really, it's all acting and your not actually having sex. It's a bit uncomfortable having to do everything that the director tells you but I totally had the greatest times of my life being a porn star. I have endless stories and adventures, made tons of friends, got to smoke mad weed and go to all the crazy VIP parties and had the choice of nearly any girl I wanted...

Who am I kidding being a porn star is the shit!

### What would you say was your best memory as a porn star?

My best moment was definitely my second video. I got a blowjob from three girls at the same time. I had a smile on my face for weeks; that's always been my fantasy and I'll keep that memory forever.

### And your worst?

It's not really porn related but my worst moment would be when I got arrested for growing a weed plant in my closet, I was in jail and ended up missing one of my shoots. Venetian got pissed at me and deducted 500 from my weekly pay of 1400 so that really sucked, and then 1 week later I got my wallet stolen which had 2 grand in it. It was a bad month.

### It sounds it, I like how you managed to squeeze your pay in there too. On a lighter note I bet you have hundreds of funny stories, would you care to share one?

Erm... well one time we were doing a shoot at this guy's mansion, some people like to rent their houses out for shoots. Whilst me and the camera guy were chilling in the kitchen with a joint the girl was upstairs doing her pretty girl pictures, that's an industry term for all the naked photos taken before the shoot. Anyway, we were in the kitchen, smoking and the maid comes in and starts cleaning the house, just then the girl comes down stairs butt naked and the poor maid sees her, shrieks, covers her eyes and does this weird run towards the door saying "oh lord, oh lord, oh lord, oh lord", it was hilarious.

### I like the metaphor. What would you say you have learnt from being a porn star?

I've learned a lot, everything from running a business to film editing and acting. Plus you can't forget about all the sexual experience you gain.

### So you think you have improved your sexual

### performance since becoming a porn star?

I like to think it's still the same, if anything it just made me more confident with my performance.

### So you talk of fame, money and girls but what is being a porn star really like?

Being a porn star is just being a good actor; you have to be really comfortable with yourself and your abilities to have sex. It's not what a lot of people think because it is a business at the end of the day. Everything is very professional but half the time the girls you work with are bitches who are just there for the money and don't give two shits about you.

### So do you ever feel used?

Well yeah, I mean as a male porn star ultimately, your just used as a prop in the video, its all acting so they use you to have sex, just like McDonald's uses you to flip burgers.

### Have you ever just found it to be just a little to embarrassing?

I once had to do a foot scene; it's where the whole movie is based around sex with feet and nothing else. I don't like feet that much

### I guess there must be some negativity towards you when people find out you're a porn star?

I guess, I mean the way people look at you; I lie to a lot of people about it including my parents. It's also really hard as to find a girlfriend that's not a complete slut that will date a porn star. A lot of people criticize you saying that what your doing is immoral or unethical but these people are just haters that have been sheltered from reality. But at the end of the day one person's right is another person's wrong, that's just the way the world is.

### Lots of people think sex shown in porn is unrealistic, what's your view?

I couldn't agree more, you're constantly in an awkward position using a lot of muscles you wouldn't normally use. The girls you work with you have no intimacy with you and everyone knows girls don't really moan like they do in porn, but for the most part it is sex. I call it awkward sex.

### I see. I guess you have lived out a lot of men's fantasies already, does that take away from sex when it comes to real life?

Regardless of whether your getting a blowjob from three girls at once on camera or off camera your going to enjoy the shit out of it, especially off camera because you know that the girl is there for you and not the money.

### You have been profiled on some gay sites: being straight how do you feel about this?

I really don't care, I mean I know I'm straight and anyone that knows me knows I'm straight so as long as that's the way my life is then who cares.

### Finally, have you worked with any famous porn stars?

The most famous girl I ever worked with was Gina Lynn; she was the main girl in Eminem's music video, Superman. I've met Jenna Jameson too, and Ron Jeremy three times. We smoked some weed and got shit faced, he's a really cool guy.





# Go On, Shag Away Those Wobbly Thighs

Jenni Palmer and Lydia Teague

Who knew that there were more uses for sex than, well, sex? Scientists are coming up with more and more benefits to having regular sex. According to NHS Direct, sex burns about 300 calories an hour, using every muscle group and gets the lungs and heart working hard.

Not only is sex a vigorous workout but it could help you improve your body and stave off aging. Endorphins released during sex help to keep your hair shiny and your skin glowing and orgasms can help relax frown lines. A great tension-buster, sex also releases natural painkillers into the bloodstream which can help alleviate mild colds and aches and pains.

With all these benefits there is no wonder that a trend for 'sexercise' has developed over the last few years. There are two forms of sexercise. The first is known to be used by President Sarkozy of France: an exercise regime of cardio and stretches to improve sexual performance. For humans this means an energetic cardio session such as running (the choice of Monsieur Président) followed by stretches to improve flexibility and routines to improve pelvic floor muscles. For pandas this means walking on their hind legs to improve pelvic and hip muscles before watching other more experienced pandas practise the real thing, just so you know.

The other (more fun) type is exactly what the name suggests: sex combined with exercise. Certain positions can be adopted to improve strength, flexibility, balance and muscle tone. Also movements and stretches can be incorporated into the sexual act to achieve increased cardiovascular activity. Also don't forget that even with just a bit of imagination you can include sit-ups, push-ups, stomach crunches and even handstands in bed. Screw the gym, sexercise is the way to go!

## 1. Reverse Cowgirl



The woman places her feet flat either side of her man's hips and raises her body until she can swing in a figure of eight on his penis.

This position is a whole body workout for the woman, particularly toning calves and thighs. The bloke is in a supporting role here but it could work to tone the arms.

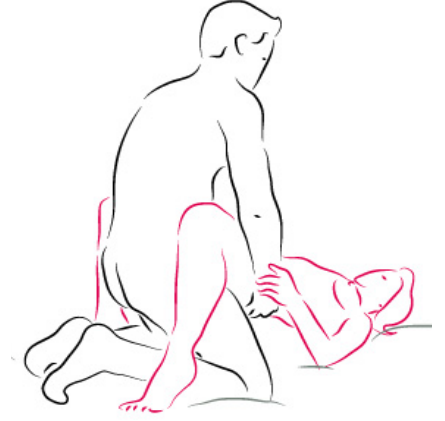
## 2. The Squat and Rock



Again the girl is doing most of the work here. She straddles her man with her back to him and, putting her weight on her hands and feet, lowers and raises herself on his penis.

This is another whole body workout, great for strength and stamina. Guys, just relax and enjoy!

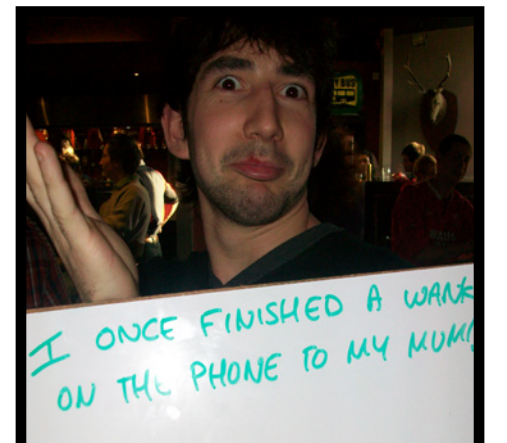
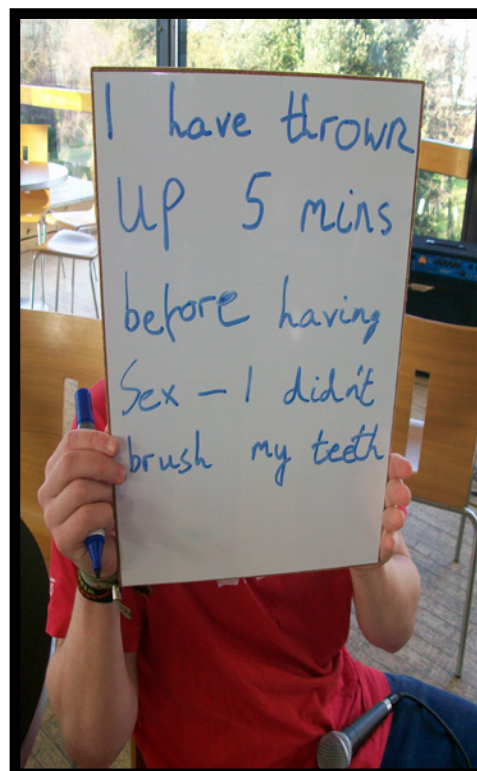
## 3. The High Rise



The man kneels between the woman's raised knees, lifts her legs, drops them over his thighs and thrusts away.

This is a great position for each partner. His thrusting should give him a great whole body workout and should also tone the woman's back and thighs. Plus, everyone looks great in the position, so great views for everyone!

## Whiteboard Confessional







The Stroke Association's  
**FIRE & 'ICE' WALK**

**FRIDAY 12th  
 MARCH 2010  
 FROM 6pm**

**WIDE LANE  
 SPORTS  
 PAVILION  
 EASTLEIGH**

**Take on the challenge!  
 Walk over hot coals and broken glass for charity**

Register now. Call us on 02380 720427 or email [olivia.thomlinson@stroke.org.uk](mailto:olivia.thomlinson@stroke.org.uk)  
 Registration fee: £15 (including food). Minimum sponsorship: £100

[www.stroke.org.uk/sotonfirewalk](http://www.stroke.org.uk/sotonfirewalk)

The Stroke Association is registered as a Charity in England and Wales (No 211015) and in Scotland (SC037789). Also registered in Isle of Man (No 945) Jersey (NPO 369) and in Northern Ireland.



# Student Travel Survey

**YOUR CHANCE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE AND  
 WIN EUROSTAR TICKETS!**

Everybody has a view about transport issues – so have yours now by completing the online travel survey about your journeys to Uni.

**1st Prize: A pair of Eurostar tickets**

**Runners up: 5 x £50 iTunes vouchers**



The survey is open NOW...

Find the survey at:

<http://www.planning.soton.ac.uk/public/Travelstudent/>



Last time the University ran this survey, over 2,200 students took part. Your involvement will help inform the University's travel plan and to see if travel habits have changed since 2007.

SUSU fully supports the aim of the University to reduce its overall environmental impact of travel to and from University sites. Reducing reliance on cars will in turn reduce congestion and pollution and help cut carbon emissions.

We will publish the results of this survey as soon as they are available.

Please find the time to complete the survey.  
 Steve O'Reilly President – Southampton University Students' Union



**you do  
 the math.**  
 school disco night  
 fri 22nd feb



sponsors the Wessex  
 Scene Sex Survey



Southampton University  
 Students' Union  
[www.susu.org](http://www.susu.org)



# Orgasmic Café

## You'll be coming again and again!

Can food really turn you on? People have believed in aphrodisiacs since ancient times. In fact the word 'aphrodisiac' comes from the Greek goddess of love and sex, Aphrodite. Certain foods are supposed to stimulate our sexual desire. Although not scientifically proven, some people swear by everything from rhino horns to crushed beetles to get them going! We thought we would bring aphrodisiacs down to earth and reveal the most suggestive, stimulating and sexy foods on the market and rate them on our sex-o-meter.

Now for the *intercourses*...

### Starter

#### Garlic bread

Serves 2

3 large garlic cloves  
100g softened butter  
2 tbsp finely chopped flat-leaf parsley  
1 ciabatta or 1 small baguette

Pre-heat the oven to 400F/200C/gas mark 6. Peel the garlic and finely chop. Mix with the butter and stir in the parsley. Using a sharp knife, make diagonal incisions about 3cm apart. Take a sheet of tinfoil large enough to parcel the loaf and place the loaf in the middle. Use a knife to smear the garlic butter between the slices, close up the parcel and bake for 10 minutes. Normally a no-no on first dates, garlic supposedly spices up more than the food. Only use if both of you are eating, otherwise expect rejection!

**Sex-o-meter:** A stinky 1/5

### Mains

#### Pasta with red wine and tomato sauce

2 portions of pasta  
1 tin tomatoes  
1 garlic clove  
5 leaves of basil  
Dash red wine

Boil the pasta until al dente. In the mean time, simmer a tin of tomatoes in a saucepan, and stir in finely chopped garlic. Add a dash of red wine and stir. Drain the pasta and spread the sauce evenly on top. Top with fresh basil, and serve. A little red wine relaxes you and stimulates your senses. Too much red wine and you will fall asleep before you get to the good part! So remember the golden rule: moderation.

**Sex-o-meter:** A seductive but sometimes counter-productive 2/5

It may be however that the experts and old wives tales have it wrong. Girls might like the thought of another good reason to eat chocolate as shown in a straw poll we conducted, but guys were unimpressed by all these supposed aphrodisiacs. So what do they find attractive? The general consensus: a big burger. Sexy.

At the end of the day, mutual attraction is key. Someone who is not so easy on the eye brandishing a banana is not going to make you want to jump on them! There is no conclusive scientific evidence about aphrodisiacs so it is down to the individual to experiment. As if you need any more encouragement, go enjoy (responsibly)!

### Desserts

#### Chocolate Fondue

2 bananas  
500g dark chocolate

Melt the chocolate gently in a saucepan. Serve in a dish as a sauce for dipping banana chunks. It is nearly impossible to watch someone eat a banana without some kind of innuendo flashing through your head. Not only for the immature, bananas contain potassium and B vitamins needed to produce sex hormones.

**Sex-o-meter:** A fully-phallic 5/5

#### Chocolate

Chocolate? Yes please! Not only is chocolate delicious but it contains the 'love hormone' phenylethylamine (PEA) and theobromine, a substance related to caffeine. In English, it is a marvellous pick-me-up. For added sexiness try it as fondue with aphrodisiac fruits such as bananas and strawberries.

**Sex-o-meter:** A yummy but less suggestive 4/5

#### Vanilla Icecream with Honey dazzled on top

Honey boosts levels of nitric oxide in the bloodstream, while vanilla has been known to cause sexual arousal in men.

**Sex-o-meter:** A sweet and gorgeous desert for your honey 5/5

### Drinks

#### Coffee

Not only does coffee shock you awake in the morning but it can also help awaken sexual desire. Studies have shown that coffee could produce an aphrodisiac effect for women who drink it infrequently. It is hard to see the sensuality of downing a cup of espresso, but if the shock of the new works who are we to complain?

**Sex-o-meter:** A rousing but less arousing 2/5

Jenni Palmer and Sarah Colah



# Top 5 Sex Museums in the World



Male Chastity Belt, Prague

## Sex Machines Museum, Prague

A fascinating museum in the heart of Prague packed, quite literally, to the rafters with erotic machines designed to enhance the pleasure of sex. The collection includes an electric anti-masturbation machine from 1915 France, several handle-operated vibrators from 1910 Germany, sex swings and a dildo see-saw. There is also a cinema where two black and white pornographic films from 1925 are shown, one of which, according to the museum director, includes the first 'lovmaking scene with three participants' in the history of pornographic filmmaking.



Dildo see-saw, Prague

## Erotic Heritage Museum, Las Vegas

For a trip with a difference visit this ambitious museum, whose principle aim is to preserve the heritage of erotic art. Exhibitions display 'art' rather than the out-right crude, although it is still pretty filthy stuff. It seems to have a particular penchant for homoerotic art such as that by Hector Silva, as well as street art. The museum is actively searching for erotic images, art and artifacts from private collections if anyone has any to sell.

## Icelandic Phallogical Museum

This one is weird. It proudly boasts an almost complete collection of phallic specimens from all mammal species found in a single country. Specimens on offer include those from 12 different species of whale, 1 from a 'rogue' polar bear, and 51 specimens from 16 species of land mammal. The museum has also recently received a legally-certified token for a future specimen belonging to the species Homo sapiens.



The major attraction of the Taga-Jinja Shrine, Japan

## Taga-jinja Shrine, Uwajima, Japan

Located in a small town on Shikoku's west coast is this world famous shrine dedicated to fertility. The chief attraction is a giant, penis-shaped log and an adjoining sex museum. The museum itself displays a variety of erotica from all around globe at different points in history. It supposedly was once a more common site to see shrines of this type in Japan, but after increasingly adopting Western customs, they were replaced with more 'moral' shrines.

## La

## Musée de

## l'Erotisme, Paris

The famous red light district of Montmartre in Paris, with The Moulin Rouge, would not be complete without an erotic museum to top it all off. This seven floor museum houses a truly fascinating and informative collection with exhibitions of popular, sacred, contemporary, and ancient erotic art and memorabilia. The second floor is dedicated to the photographs and evidence of the brothel industry in Paris from the late 19th century until 1946, when such establishments were closed down.



Modern Art from The Erotic Heritage Museum



Modern Art from The Erotic Heritage Museum



# Your Guide to Love & Sex in Europe's Hottest Destinations

## Almaz Ohene

Having lived for four months in Frankfurt let's just say that I know a thing or two about Germans and sex.

Unfortunately / Fortunately, whichever angle you want to look at it, the main front entrance to the Frankfurt am Main Hauptbahnhof (Frankfurt central station) leads straight onto Kaiserstrasse, which is the location of a Hostel that I lived in for an entire week (long story). As I found out, it is also the home to Frankfurt's Red Light District. The 'World of Sex' was my hostel's next door neighbour.

In Germany prostitution is legal. Brothels are standard registered businesses; they do not need a special brothel license if food and alcoholic drinks are offered. In the terms of the law, prostitutes are treated like any other worker; they're expected to pay income tax and have to charge VAT for their services. As a mostly cash in hand business, the government understands that not every working girl will fill in their income tax form correctly down to the last cent. Hence why there is a system where they pay their taxes in advance, a set amount per day, to be collected and paid to tax authorities by the brothel owners.

This liberal attitude only applies to brothels; pimping is illegal. As are admitting prostitutes under the age of 18 to a brothel and influencing persons under the age of 21 to take up or continue to work in prostitution. It is also illegal to buy sex from any person younger than 18. Cities have the right to zone off certain areas where prostitution isn't allowed (Sperrbezirk), and enforce this with fines. Women from countries outside the EU have to apply for a visa (obviously EU women don't) and a working permit before entering into business.

Sex shops with graphic fascias are on almost every corner, although you have to be 18 to enter, and most have cinemas attached showing erotic films. Tabloid newspapers regularly have pictures of naked ladies on the front page, as do the German editions of magazines such as Vogue and Elle. The age of consent is 14, but only as long as the other person isn't over the age of 21. If you are not into people your own age, you will have to wait until your sixteenth birthday. This being said, the teenage pregnancy rate is much lower than in the UK and to top it all off I found that sex is spoken about much more openly in Germany than in the UK.



Red Light District, Amsterdam

My very first class in Amsterdam began with me being asked to introduce myself and then to regale a story of my first sexual encounter in Amsterdam. Whilst desperately trying to think of what that might have been (the lecturer was helpfully imparting a tale of a sexual invitation from an older man to his younger self), I looked down at the course booklet: masturbation, the sexual revolution, bestiality, sadomasochism, paedophilia, hetro-sex, homo-sex, kinky sex – I decided I definitely lacked the maturity for such a course.

Whenever I told people I took this class, and after telling each weeks new stories from the lesson, our conversations often wandered to the subject of sex in our own countries. I learnt that the Dutch girls were most business-like in their approach to sex, preferring not to waste time on the film watching façade and instead cutting straight to the chase; that in America people really do go around sporting purity rings and preaching abstinence; that the Chinese youth embraced 'metrosexuality' along with a host of other new words; that Spain had recently undergone a sexual revolution; and that Italian girls were 'difficult' whilst Turkish men were 'dangerous'.

My biggest lesson however was that students are students and we all enjoy talking about sex. Despite this, even by the end of my course, I was still not ready to deliver a presentation on anal embodiment without blushing.

## Daniel Webb

There was simply no way a Wessex Scene bumper sex issue covering the ins and outs, the dos and don'ts, and the how tos and how not tos of sex, could be written without a brief mention of Amsterdam's famous Red Light District. So here is a break down of sex in Amsterdam.

### • Prostitution

The red light district would probably not even exist if it were not for legalised prostitution. It has been legal since 1830 and in 1988 prostitution became recognised as a legal profession. The Dutch believe that banning social phenomena only causes graver problems, and believe the legalisation of prostitution allows their authorities to have much more control over the industry, which they believe would exist whether they liked it or not.

### • Sex Shops

Amsterdam's red light district is famous for its sex shops with vast sexual accessories and memorabilia. Sex is viewed as a normal aspect of life and no moral judgement is passed on the industry. The only condition is that shops are a place meant for adults only and not minors. From sexy lingerie and sex toys to erotic literature and sex cinema, the red light district has all the sex paraphernalia you will ever need.

### • Sex Show

The Dutch are far less prude than us Brits and have whole stage shows where audiences can watch live couples having sex. Various sex tricks involving bananas, pens, vibrators and ribbons are all on show.

### • Sex Museum

Sex is not just for fun in Amsterdam, there is some serious history involved. Museums dedicated to the history of sex are scattered throughout the district.

### • Condomerie

Amsterdam also owns the worlds first ever Condomerie, a little shop located in the heart of the district. It has condoms of all shapes, sizes and colours, with hilariously designed condoms just for decoration.

## The Sexual Exploration of a Southampton Exchange Student

Studying abroad gave me an education in more ways than I could have ever expected; both academically and romantically. I learnt that the scenes in films are real; but what the films leave out is the complexity of it all. I want to tell you about the 'romance' scenes that played during a trip to Barcelona, and also about the ugly bits. I suppose this is a sexual confession.

I arrived in Barcelona expectant and excited but with no inclination of romance. There were so many other things occupying my mind. Looking back, the start just seemed liked one big blur of meetings, greetings, music and parties.

It all started the night I met Simone. His friend Chiara was looking for a housemate and I soon moved in and became part of their circle. Simone introduced me to people from his language course, including a French guy Adrien. The typical

address when meeting friends is to kiss them on the cheek. I did this with every friend of his I met, but Adrien always did this so slowly that our faces met closely. He made me nervous and excited. We met alone one night, taking a midnight skinny dip in the sea. Dripping wet, on the way back to his apartment we found ourselves suddenly kissing as he pushed me up against the lift wall. It was one of the hottest moments I have ever had.

### We met alone one night, taking a midnight skinny dip in the sea

Around the same time I met Simone's housemate Agustin. He was from Argentina, and in Barcelona to start a new life. It all started with sex; I felt free, like we connected. It all happened so quickly, that I didn't really know what I even

thought of him during those first days. But he called me often and we walked to the beach. We were together from then until the end of my stay. It was fun, intense and exciting; he taught me a lot. The ending is not so perfect.

A few weeks before Christmas he was due to go home and we took a trip to London before he went to Paris for the weekend with a friend. When he got back I asked to see his photos but he was really strange about the whole thing; he was usually so open. When he went to the toilet I grabbed his camera and looked through the photos, seeing him with this beautiful girl. I immediately suspected something but when I asked him more questions about Paris he never went into much detail. I left it at that, not wanting to know the truth, or to ruin my image of him when it was so close to the end.

About a week later my friends came to visit and

I just had to know the truth. On a trip through the supermarket I saw a girl staring at me, initially puzzled I then realised she was the girl from the photos. I dropped the tins from my hand and just felt sick. My friends went over to her and discovered that she was his 'other girlfriend'. I don't believe I have ever been so humiliated and hurt in my life.

### She was his 'other girlfriend!'

I think that although it hurt a lot and that I have remained cautious of men ever since, I would do it all again. Isn't life about learning? Barcelona feels like a crazy romantic destination. I have been rather pessimistic about men but I still believe in the film scenes. I experienced them; I just didn't get the happy ending.



## How one family brought sex to the fashion masses

Sex. It seems to be everywhere- the media, music and not least the fashion industry. This season sees designers parading women down the catwalk in underwear meant to be worn as outerwear, a trend invented and pioneered by the grand dame of British fashion Vivienne Westwood.

Born in 1941 in Derbyshire, Vivienne Westwood began her life as a primary school teacher, taking her classes on nature forages whilst teaching them about Noam Chomsky. She had a son, famed erotic photographer Ben Westwood, with her first husband, Derek Westwood. After divorcing Derek, she met an 18-year-old Malcolm McLaren and had another son, Joseph Corr , founder of lingerie firm, Agent Provocateur.

How then, does a primary school teacher from Derbyshire become an aggressive seductress of style, both vilified and loved by the industry and press? In 1971, Westwood and McLaren open their shop at 430 Kings Road, London, called Let It Rock. They began to make and sell clothes that would later go on to be known as punk, seeking to create a deliberately aggressive, confrontational style, utilizing the visual accessories of sadomasochism. Disenchanted with the relaxed, laid-back hippie culture, Westwood says that punk was intended as a protest against a saturated, affluent, but disinterested society. Punk, then, with its fascination with fetish costume was an aggressive expression of a strong but silent emerging presence within the urban youth. Renaming their shop Sex saw Westwood and McLaren taking the private sphere most explicitly into the public and they named their 1976 collection Bondage, in homage to Westwood increasing desire to understand the scene. Clothes were ripped, pinned, chained, buckled, zippered, adorned with pornographic images, one even bearing the portrait of the Cambridge Rapist Peter Cook, as an attempt on Westwood's part to understand the fetish scene. Taking the hidden subculture and putting it on the street was, for Westwood, literally restricting but ultimately evoked a sense of freedom.

It is no secret that The Sex Pistols were born out of Sex and with McLaren's vision, Sex soon became notorious not just in London, but around the world. Westwood has said of Sex that the clientele frequenting their shop was said to be

be

half genuine fetishists and half young people who wanted to look 'bad.' Towards the end of the 1970s, American Vogue criticised the punk phenomenon calling it 'exaggerated grotesqueries.' However, in a recent copy of American Vogue, one of Westwood's toga dresses from the eighties, made not ten years after her 'grotesqueries,' is described as a 'gem.'

Whilst the fashion industry publically damned Westwood's provocative designs, her influence was instant. Black leather suddenly became fashionable,

with Westwood breaking down what was seen as the last taboo for the fashion industry and its

mainstream corrupters. Being such a

presence in their lives growing

up, it seems inevitable

Westwood's

that

fascination with

sex and fetish should

have an influence on her

children. Vivienne states how they all agree that

fashion really "is all about sex." Ben Westwood recalls how he

used to spend his formative years in Sex, going to the sweet shop with

Sid Vicious and infamous dominatrix Jordan (the Jordan we all know today is a

kitten compared to the real thing of the punk era). Perhaps this is why he recollects how

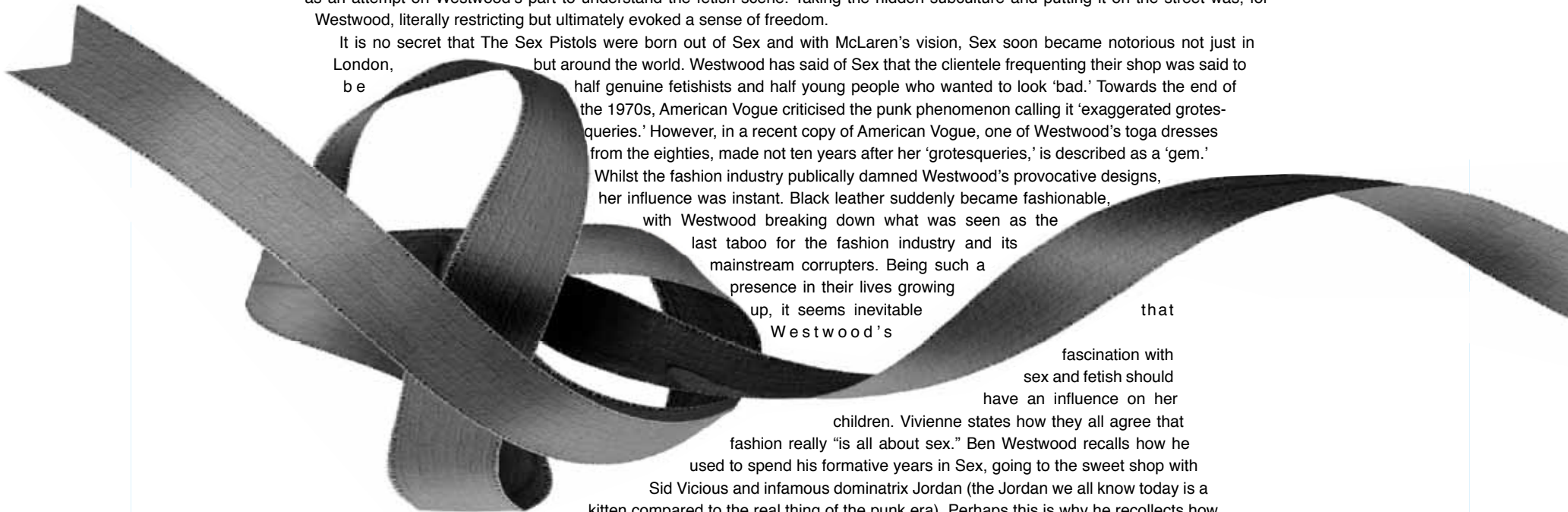
he was interested in bondage from the age of eight.

It is clear the affect it had on him. He now likes to be known as a pornographer for his often explicit bondage and pornographic photographs. However, if you thought that the son of Vivienne Westwood would be welcomed into the fashion world with open arms, you would be wrong. Of the fashion industry's rejection of him, Ben says, "Initially I thought I could put fashion and bondage together. I was seeing all the supermodels in my Mum's shows wearing next to nothing, so I thought I could do the same out-there fashion campaigns. But I found that this imagery was still uncomfortable for many people.' It seems ironic that the fashion industry continues to snub Ben Westwood who is arguably merely extending, albeit in an X-rated/hide your children kind of way, what his mother was doing thirty years ago and mirrors the treatment she received at first from the industry.

However, it is not only the fashion industry that rejects his art. Ben Westwood is very critical of the fetish scene, calling them 'formal and limited,' who in turn criticise calling his work 'too earthy' and 'not stylized enough.' Ben Westwood would like to see his images being accepted in a more mainstream way. Whether this is likely or not is another story. His other's designs were only truly accepted by the mainstream when she moved away from the punk ethos and began making clothes reminiscent of the neoclassical/Romantic period. It seems that Ben Westwood too may be moving in this direction, doing less pornography and working on his own line of clothing, stocked in Joseph Corr 's East London boutique, Child of the Jago.

Mainstream seems not to be a problem for his little brother, Joseph Corr , co-founder of Agent Provocateur. It seems clear that Corr  understands the allure of shock value and formatted this to turn Agent Provocateur from a small shop in Soho to a worldwide global chain with celebrity clientele. With his ex-wife Serene Rees as his business partner, Corr  almost single-handedly brought lingerie to the average British woman, who would otherwise be willing to wile her life away in greying bloomers. Agent Provocateur demonstrated to both men and women that lingerie need not be for the exclusive use of closet fetishists and the rich Parisienne. Like his mother, Corr  proves that sex can be brought to the masses and proves that it is not sordid, but sexy and empowering. With his brother Ben's photographs in Corr 's shop window and mum Vivienne Westwood present at store openings, it seems reasonable to argue that it has been the Westwood clan who have brought sex to the bodies of Britain. After all, as the Vivienne Westwood says, "fashion is eventually about being naked."

*Lucy Austen*





## Global Erotica

As someone with a very liberal attitude to sex, I am rarely shocked by images suggestive of it. So I surprised even myself when my jaw fell open, eyes widened and face flushed upon receiving my free present with Janvier/Fevrier Vogue Paris. The British Vogue SS10 trend report seemed distinctly prude and boring compared to the Swarovski sponsored nude calendar I was facing.

Now, as I have been quick to establish, I am hardly one to be shocked by a scantily clad model, particularly in a French publication. But it is the way the models are styled and photographed caught the squarer side of my attention. Calendar girls Iselin Steiro, Natasha Poly, and Raquel Zimmerman are pictured as strippers, wearing little else but neon bondage ropes, glitter and seductive expressions. The shots complete with dry ice, beaded curtains and rain showers possibly recall a vision of seedy, retro-glam Pigalle; yet to me, it looked like a cheap men's mag freebie. Maybe I'm being short-sighted, but this has all caused me to contemplate the cultural impact on constructions of what is sexy in fashion.

As I mentioned, I was not surprised to see tits in French Vogue. The magazine features nudity and bondage type photo shoots most issues and although this isn't unseen in the British version of the publication, it is rare and only occurs when integral to the storyline of the photoshoot. The certain je ne sais quoi of the French is often dependent upon their unique ability to wear sexualised clothing in everyday situations. High maintenance pieces in often risqué fabrics appear effortless. Leather and wet-look leggings, high studded shoes and black constantly remain in French fashion, with colour and heavy make-up look dated and tourist-try-hard in comparison. One only needs to google the editors of Vogue Paris to witness this. However, Paris has always been about taste and a Parisian in the know would never be seen in the aforementioned 'uniform' with, for example, much make-up or leopard print, for fear of overkill. The over-the-top sexiness is best left to those a little more south-east, a little more red blooded; the Italians perhaps?

It was, of course, Dolce and Gabbana who championed underwear as outerwear as a key look for Spring/Summer 2010. High waisted knickers, lace and something akin to a training bra, were paired with red lips and in other Milanese shows transparent chiffon and leotards left little to the imagination. Meanwhile in London, blame the weather but things were a little covered up, yet nonetheless, sensuality showed through silk textures at Burberry and skirts split to the upper thigh at Christopher Kane. New York designers Alexander Wang and the Rodarte sisters took a sportier take with clean cuts of denim and leather, though rest assured, models were still scantily clad for the summer sun.

If nothing else, although designers worldwide were obviously feeling the need to heat things up for summer, the sheer (excuse the pun) diversity of next season's shows demonstrates the different ideas and representations of sexuality of each fashion capital. Although the global nature of capitalism means that all designs will be available cross culturally, designers actively choose how we display and suggest sexuality and influence our ideas of what is considered sexy. With an increasing filtration down to high street level, it is not only our consumer decisions that are guided, but our collective ideas of sexual and cultural identities and stereotypes. *Hannah Pratt*



Topshop £20

Underwear as Outerwear is one of SS10s hottest trends (literally). Sex it up without slutting it up by layering lace and leather a la Natalia Vodianova.



Stella McCartney £49.50

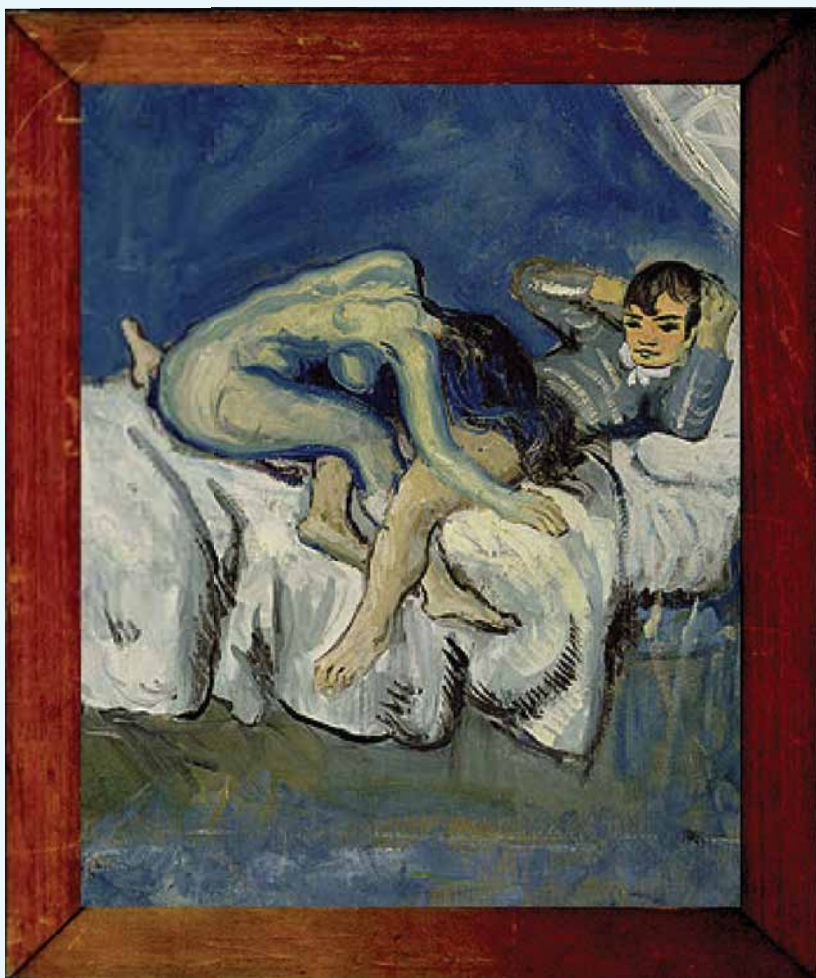
This cami was originally £165, and has been reduced by 70% online at OUTnet.com, the little sister of fashion fixation net-a-porter. A collection of past-season cast off's from the main site, it sells designer pieces at dirt cheap prices.



Topshop £25

This lace crop top also plays on the Underwear as Outerwear trend. Wear it over a bra for a night out, or with nothing underneath if you are feeling particularly risqué.





**Pablo Picasso, La Douleur, 1900**  
There are disputes over the age of this boy, demonstrating the Art and Pornography debate is nothing new.



**Annibale Carracci, A Cherub Carrying Flowers (2), 1560-1609**  
This painting is featured in Musée Condé, Chantilly, France. It is from the baroque period and is exempt from the Art and Pornography debate.



**Marlene Dumas, The Painter, 1994**  
Featured in an exhibition which was labelled obscene by a French child protection group.

# A Look at the Art vs. Pornography Debate

## When does breaking the mould stop being art and eventually become breaking the law?

**Caroline Evans**

Art is one of mankind's most visible creative outlets; it can depict emotion, send powerful messages and bring great beauty to peoples lives. The power of art can influence people's thoughts and emotions and constantly strives to push the boundaries of society. However, in this modern age, when a plethora of different inputs bombard peoples' senses on a daily basis, the ability of art to be seen as 'original' and thought provoking is increasingly difficult. To combat this some artists have attempted to shock their audiences, if only to provoke a reaction. The question to be asked is whether artistic material which could also provoke sexual interest, should be seen as illicit, or merely an attempt to provoke a reaction from the viewer.

One of the key features of the art versus pornography debate is that certain types of pornography

are considered illegal. The laws that have been put in place are designed to prevent the exploitation of vulnerable individuals, particularly children. Problems arise when artistic material can be interpreted as infringing the laws regarding pornography.

But what does the law say? It is an offence to take, or permit to be taken or to make, any indecent photograph of a child. It is also an offence to distribute or show such indecent photographs.

These laws are clearly meant to prevent the production and distribution of child pornography. However, the law does not make a clear distinction, the use of the word 'indecent' allows for a certain degree of subjectivity in the interpretation of the law. This is extremely important as it prevents the involvement of government in an individual's private life. If the law was worded differently, for example reading 'it is an offence to take, to permit

or to make, any nude photographs of a child', then the law would be having a heavy handed impact in the lives of normal people. The law is in place to protect children from being exploited, but not to interfere in family life, and not to make innocent activities such as photographing your children naked on the beach an illegal act.

But whilst it is important that the law maintains an element of subjectivity this in itself can cause problems. Whilst a reasonable amount of common sense can distinguish innocent holiday snaps from indecent photographs being distributed as pornography, the law finds itself in murky waters when art is added into the mix. Should artistic material be subject to the laws regarding indecent photographs, or categorised as something different, and judged accordingly? Here art can fall foul of that subjective word, indecent. Who draws the line, and how do you draw the line between art and

pornography?

According to the online dictionary Merriam-Webster, a work of art, is something that gives high aesthetic satisfaction and gives sensational feelings to the viewer or listener. Pornography, is the depiction of acts in a sensational manner so as to arouse an intense emotional reaction. The difference between the two is barely visible.

One of the most brilliant things about art is its ability to generate discussion and debate within a society and between different cultures. One of the methods artists use to stimulate their audience is to push the boundaries of what society finds acceptable, and in this situation it is unsurprising to find divided opinions. The key factor is the context of the picture. For example if it is a picture of a child, how old is the child? And has the photograph been taken in vulnerable circumstances? In other words a judgement needs to be made as to



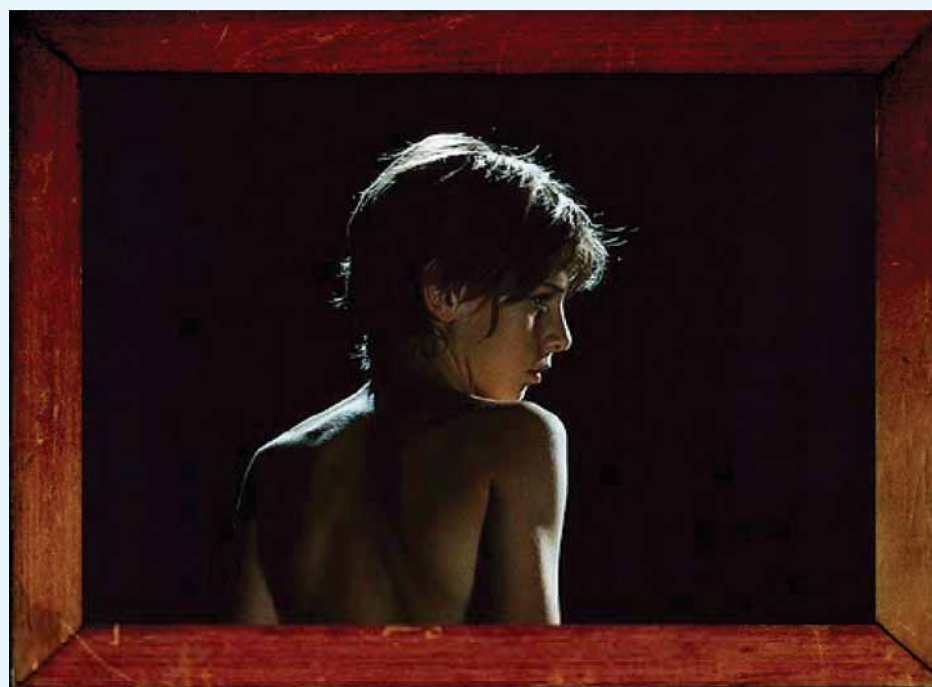


**Polixeni Papapetrou, Australian Art Monthly, 2008**

6 year old Olympia Nelson was photographed by her mother and featured on the July cover. It also had two shots of her in the issue.

**Dr. Sherwin Carlquist, Uncut, 2004**

A series of photographs dedicated to an underappreciated part of male anatomy; the foreskin.



**Bill Henson, Rosleyn Oxley9 Gallery, 2008**

A controversial collection of photographs depicting teen sexuality.

whether the creation of the material involved the exploitation of a vulnerable individual.

The question of context also applies to the circumstances surrounding a contentious piece of art. What matters is not only where it is being exhibited, but who took the picture and why they took it? These may appear to be obvious questions but they play a central role in dissecting the personality of a photo. If a photograph has been taken by a renowned artist with a good reputation and displayed in a gallery then the likelihood is that it was intended to be a piece of art. On the other hand if a photograph is only distributed on the internet, and taken by a fat Scotsman called "Dennis", who regularly comments on children's Bebo pages, then it is perfectly acceptable to question its artistic merits.

This method of judging between art and pornography raises another tricky question: just because something is displayed in a gallery does it make it art? It cannot be assumed that people interested in art, or even the artist themselves, do not have a sexual interest in children or vulnerable individuals. Artistic material should not be granted

immunity from the law because it is displayed in a respectable location, both artists and the public need to recognise that certain images are going to be viewed as erotic by certain individuals, regardless of the original intentions.

But is that the fault of the artist? Should an artist have to limit themselves because of how a few individuals will interpret their work? Sometimes the desired effect of a piece of art may be to evoke emotion using images such as exploitation. Should this kind of work be restricted because it also fulfils the sexual preferences of certain individuals?

Once again, without a real answer it seems prudent to turn back to the law. A bill passed through Parliament in 2008 made it an illegal offence to possess extreme and violent pornography. This brings us back to the interpretation of an image; one man's daring and thought-provoking photograph will be another man's sordid method of arousal. For many the censorship of images is essential to prevent exposure to extreme and violent pornography, but for others, especially those in the art community the censorship of images restricts their work and makes criminals

out of people who create and view certain types of images.

One of the most vocal critics of the amendment to the law has been Ben Westwood, son of Vivienne Westwood. The change in the law, making the possession of extreme and violent pornography illegal, has affected his work. The possession of Ben Westwood's photographs, which often feature women tied up and gagged, is now technically a criminal offence carrying a sentence of up to three years imprisonment. As a result of this Westwood has had to throw out a number of his photographs. For Westwood, there is not a clear distinction between Art and Pornography; just because an image can be interpreted in a sexual way does not mean that this is the intention of the piece.

The case of Bill Henson in 2008 is an example of when an artist's work had been labelled as pornography. Henson's photographs were removed from an exhibit in an Australian art gallery by police because they contained an image of a 13 year old girl in 'a sexual context'. Yet, in the disputed picture, the girl is not engaging

in any form of sexual activity; she is merely naked, as humans sometimes are. Audiences need to be careful when labelling material as art or pornography. Whilst great care should be taken to ensure that vulnerable individuals are not exploited, this should not be at the expense of alienating the art world. A photograph of a naked child should not cause moral panic amongst society, because it is this panic that will damage the relationship between children and adults, it will make every adult a potential predator, and turn art into pornography.

So where does the decision lie? With the artist, with the public or with the government? The answer, realistically is a mixture of the three. It's about the subject and the statement the art is trying to make. It calls for a judgement from both artists and the public on what is acceptable. In an age when child pornography is a major concern artists need to show a degree of sensitivity, audiences need to show a level of maturity and governments need to use censorship intelligently. In this way vulnerable individuals can be protected, and Art can continue to push the boundaries of society.



# WSX QUIZ

**How often would you like to be having sex?**

- a) as often as possible
- b) every now and then would do
- c) I'm not that bothered

**How do you like to be kissed?**

- a) hard, wet and all over
- b) gently on the lips
- c) butterfly kisses please

**Mostly 'A's**

You are kinky and wild in bed. Congratulations on being so comfortable with yourself and others! Don't forget that sex usually is more special in a fulfilling relationship.

**Do you initiate sex?**

- a) yes
- b) some of the time
- c) not really

**Lights on or off?**

- a) on, I want to see everything I'm enjoying
- b) only on if I'm really comfortable with my partner
- c) off, I don't want them to see every thing

**Mostly 'B's**

You love the closeness of sex with someone you care about. That feeling is amazing. Don't be afraid to make the most of that special bond when you find it and try some new things.

**Dogging?**

- a) I'll get the car
- b) can't we keep it between the two of us?
- c) aw I love animals!

**Whips and chains?**

- a) ...and masks!
- b) I might give it a go in a stable relationship
- c) urgh, why?!

**Dirty talk?**

- a) yes please
- b) I would if asked
- c) no way, far too embarrassing

**Mostly 'C's**

You are shy and not particularly sexually adventurous. You might be waiting for that special person or you may just not be that keen on sex. Don't ever feel pressurized to change, but don't rule out sex altogether, with the right person it can be magical.

