

ACSSW Winter Newsletter 2022

The mission of ACSSW, an Organizational Affiliate of ACA, is to promote sexuality as a central aspect of being human that includes the intersection of intrapersonal and interpersonal influences on sexual expression and experiences.



What's Inside:

From Our President.....2

Welcome New Officers.....5

Call for Nominations:

2022 ACSSW Elections.....7

SWIC Report.....8

2022 ACA Conference:

ACSSW Executive Council Panel

ACSSW Meet & Greet & Annual Meeting.....9

Honoring Black History Month.....10

Article:

Hail Satan: The Intersection Between Sexual and Reproductive Autonomy in Satanism.....11

Worldviews: Spirituality & Sexuality
by Katrina Ramirez, Asst. Editor.....16

ACSSW 2022 Webinar Series.....18

ACSSW News & Resources:

Journal of Counseling Sexology & Sexual Wellness.....19

ACSSW Leadership.....21

Sexuality Resources.....22



The Winter 2022 Issue of the ACSSW Newsletter focuses on sexuality and spirituality.

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From the ACSSW President...


by Angela Schubert, PhD, LPC, ACSSW President

The Birth of a New Year and Reflection!

A new year is upon us and with that, a time for reflection. 2022 marks the second year in what we have all come to understand as, the COVID pandemic. Two years of uncertainty, tragedy, and the ever-evolving uprooting of all we considered "normal." I personally identify these past two years as "The Great Transition." I think it would be hard to identify one aspect of life that wasn't impacted by the pandemic. Regardless if we were prepared or interested, the pandemic forced us to slow down, pause, and pivot. No one was protected from this involuntary upswing in life, and it hit us on every front – from employment to academic to social situations to personal. Marriages ended. Lives were lost. Businesses shut down. Estrangement, isolation, and loneliness increased at a global level. Yet, although so much loss occurred, we have seen some continued growth as a community – for the purpose of this story, the queer community.

Regardless of a pandemic, the evolution of sexual and gender expression and interests persevered, unapologetically, with greater representation. Perhaps it has everything to do with the fact that the younger population came out of the womb with a smart phone and a web-based sense of community and representation. When I think of representation, I think of all races, ethnicities, abilities, religions, gender, gender expressions, orientations, ages, professional types - all together to represent personal and professional perspectives on a particular topic. In this case, human sexual and gender expression. Why is this important? For some, representation offers the opportunity for folks to feel validated, heard, and seen. Moreover, it allows for others to hear from perspectives they may not have otherwise heard from. When the perspectives are those from sexually minoritized communities, representation is absolutely necessary.

When I was growing up, representation from the queer community was practically non-existent. I had **Anybodys** from *West Side Story* who was bullied by his peer group for whom he desperately wished to belong. Ellen DeGeneres came out on national television as a lesbian. I saw my first same sex kiss on public television between Britney Spears and Madonna (I personally appreciate Madonna's unapologetic attitude toward sexuality). Tom Hanks played someone with AIDS in the movie, *Philadelphia*. And, of course, being a curious, closeted queer femme that I was, I stayed up late to watch any kind of erotica, trying to find myself represented there. What I found was *Ode to Billy Joe* (1976).



A movie about a boy whose first same sexact was internalized with personal religious admonishment, which ultimately ended with the boy jumping off a bridge to his death. As a 10-year-old, this movie felt 'too close to home'. Growing up aspiring to understand God, I was immediately challenged to reconsider every impulse and desire to entertain any sexual thought, let alone, one that specifically spoke against the teachings of the bible.

I am soooo thankful it is not so hard to find sexual and gender diverse representation now. As Jules from Euphoria explained, "queerness is infinite." Certainly not something I heard on television as a teenager. Not to say folx in the queer community, and especially BIPOC queer folx, are not without struggle; there is something to be said about community where one feels seen and heard. Folx might choose to leave their own rural town or religious background to find new family but the idea of it does not seem so far away when compared to past generations. As I reflect on the current representation of sexual and gender diversity, I have a new sense of instilled hope. In the future I hope to see more from BIPOC authors, researchers, and scholars on the topic of sexuality and gender. I yearn to see the white, heterosexual, dominant voices, especially, heterosexual, cisgender, male voices, take a back seat to the world of sexuality and disability, sexuality and race, sexuality and gender. Representation matters across all these fronts. BIPOC voices matter. Folx from all marginalized communities' matter. In the words of bell hooks, "No black woman writer in this culture can write "too much". Indeed, no woman writer can write "too much"... No woman has ever written enough."

Reflecting on representation and growth, I most certainly see that in ACSSW, in our membership, in our leadership, in our journal, and we can only get better. In addition to our overarching mission to promote research and education on sexuality and sexual wellness, our goal is to support and advocate for minoritized and oppressed communities inclusive of the LGBTQ+ and other sexual minoritized communities, being mindful of the intersectionality of age, race/ethnicity, gender and gender expression, sexual orientation, religion, physical abilities, and socioeconomic status. The fall issue of the Journal of Counseling Sexology & Sexual Wellness (JCSSW) has female author representation in every article. Moreover, Dr. Megan Speciale took over the position of Associate Director of JCSSW. Tanisha James came on board as Membership & Promotion Committee Chair of ACSSW. Dr. James Wadley joined trustees, Dr. Mark Pope and Dr. Patricia Arredondo. We have elections coming up for student representative and president-elect and we are so excited to see the turnout!

As we continue to grow, I also wanted to share our mission to become a division of ACA. This will happen! It is not a matter of "if" but "when". We can do this because of our ever-growing membership (nearly 1000) of incredibly diverse and amazing members! Members are writing insightful articles for the newsletter, showing up to the ACSSW webinars, spreading the word of ACSSW, and joining the ACSSW committees. All of this to say, thank you. We want to hear from you. Submit your articles to JCSSW. Write an excerpt for the newsletter. Join the committees: social justice and advocacy, education and training, and research and scholarship, and participate in the change you wish to see when it comes to human sexuality.



Become a Member!

ACSSW is now an Organizational Affiliate of ACA. As we begin our journey to become an ACA division we need ACSSW members who are also ACA members in good standing. Please visit <https://www.counselingsexology.com> for more details!

Welcome New ACSSW Officers!



Tanisha James LCSW, LCAS, CSI
*ACSSW Membership & Promotion Committee
Chair*

Tanisha R. James, LCSW, LCASA holds a Bachelor's degree in Psychology from Queens University of Charlotte and a Master's in Social Work from UNC-Charlotte. Licensed since 2007, she has enjoyed working in a variety of therapeutic settings to include private practice, military installations, and community mental health. Other practice interests include clinical supervision, training on ethics in counseling, and licensure exam preparation. She has received advanced training in Emotionally Focused Therapy since 2016 and enjoys helping couples recover from affairs, increase intimacy, and improve their sex lives. Ms. James is currently an Adjunct Faculty at Fayetteville State University and enjoys teaching the next generation of social workers. In addition, she enjoys giving back to the community and the profession by providing volunteer counseling services for military servicemen and their families through the nationally recognized Give an Hour program. Ms. James is excited about being the Membership & Promotion Committee Chair for ACSSW and is looking forward to connecting with members and sharing information about sexuality.



Cameron Chaikin
ACSSW Social Media Coordinator

Cameron Chaikin is in her first year of her Masters in Clinical Mental Health Counseling program at The Chicago School of Professional Psychology, where she is also a student ambassador. She is a Chicago native and completed her undergrad degree at The University of Denver with a dual degree in Theatre and Psychology. During her time at DU, Cami stage managed 15+ live and virtual shows. She was also the marketing director for The Actor's Mind, a podcast hosted by two of her undergrad professors. She is excited to start her journey to be a counselor and be a part of ACSSW as a way to get involved and stay busy working towards subjects she is passionate about.

Call for Nominations ACSSW 2022 Election

by Frances McClain, President-Elect

As the President-Elect, I am honored to announce the first ever call for nominations for the Association of Counseling Sexology & Sexual Wellness (ACSSW), an Organizational Affiliate of the American Counseling Association (ACA), for positions to be voted on for the upcoming 2022-2023 year. Pursuant to the ACSSW bylaws, as the President-Elect, I am charged with seeking and selecting nominees for each of the positions to be elected for the next term. I will submit a slate of candidates/nominees for approval by the Board at the annual meeting which will take place at the ACA conference in Atlanta, GA in April 2022.

Positions Open for Nomination ARE...

President- Elect:

The President-Elect shall perform the duties of the President in the absence or incapacity of the President as determined by the Board. The President-Elect shall assume the Presidency of ACSSW upon the death or resignation of the President. The President-Elect shall coordinate the nominations process for all elections except those expressly excluded by the Bylaws. The President-Elect, subject to confirmation by the Board, shall appoint members of committees and the Treasurer, in accordance with and except as otherwise specified in ACSSW Bylaws, policies and procedures. The term of office for the President-Elect is July 1st through June 30th. After which time the President-Elect will become President and serve a one-year term of July 1st through June 30th.

Graduate Student Representative:

The Graduate Student Representative is a voting member of the ACSSW Board of Directors. The Board meets a minimum of once per year, usually during the ACA Annual Conference. The Graduate Student Representative must be a graduate student in a counseling-related field as of July 1, 2022. The Graduate Student Representative may graduate during their term without losing their title, role, rights. Their term of office for the Graduate Student Representative is a one-year term of July 1st through June 30th.

The deadline for submitting nominations is Tuesday, March 15, 2022. Nominees for both the President-Elect and Graduate Student Representative must be members of ACSSW as well as members of ACA in good standing. Please be sure to confirm this prior to making the nomination. Additionally, you will need to provide the nominees email.

If you are an ACSSW member in good standing and wish to nominate someone for either or both of the open positions, click on the link below:

https://unf.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9FbCw62t5XGJ75Y

Sexual Wellness in Counseling (SWIC)

SWIC (Sexual Wellness In Counseling) is on the lookout for ideas and input. SWIC invites you to share your resources and time with us. If you value connections and want to pay it forward, this is the group for you.

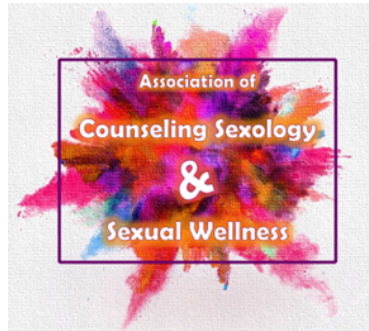
One key aspect of SWIC entails "support and guidance to professionals and students that recognize the imperative nature of sexual wellness." Our approach to this combines relationships and technology to communicate opportunities for growth, education, and exposure. We would love for your help and talents in our endeavors.

For more information:

- <https://www.counselingsexology.com/swic>
- <https://www.counseling.org/news/aca-blogs/aca-member-blogs/aca-member-bloggers/sexual-wellness-in-counseling>

**Please contact the co-moderator,
Cheryl Walker (cheryldwalker@comcast.net) for more details.**

*Join ACSSW
at the
2022 ACA Conference*



Meet & Greet followed by the ACSSW Annual Meeting

**Association of Counseling Sexology & Sexual Wellness
ACA Organizational Affiliate
Thursday, April 7, 2022
11:00am-12:00pm
Omni Atlanta at CNN Center
Juniper Room**

**The ACSSW Executive Council will be presenting:
Human Sexuality is Not an Elective, It Is an Ethical Imperative**

Format: 60-Minute Education Session

Date: Saturday, 4/9/2022

Time: 10:30a - 11:30a

Angela Schubert, President

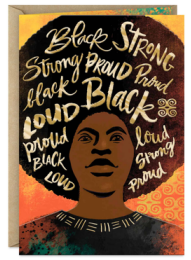
Robert Zeglin, Honorary Past President

Frances McClain, President-Elect

Shannon Shoemaker-Kakkar, Secretary

Tanisha Sapp, Treasurer

In Honor of Black History Month...



We would like to highlight **The Association of Black Sexologists and Clinicians** and the **Journal of Black Sexuality and Relationships**. We are also honored to highlight our own **ACSSW Trustee, Dr. Wadley**, who had a founding role in creating both the journal and the association.



The Journal of Black Sexuality and Relationships is devoted to addressing the epistemological, ontological, and social construction of sexual expression and relationships of persons within the African diaspora. The journal seeks to take into account the transhistorical substrates that subsume behavioral, affective, and cognitive functioning of persons of African descent as well as those who educate or clinically serve this important population.

The Association of Black Sexologists and Clinicians

promotes the sexual health of individuals, couples, families, and communities by advocating for culturally sensitive research, informed clinical practice, and culturally sensitive educational curricula. The organization seeks to foster ongoing dialogue in an effort to reduce and or prevent adverse sexual health outcomes. As a welcoming and affirming organization, we advocate for sexual, racial, and gender equality.



Dr. James Wadley, ACSSW Trustee

Our own Dr. Wadley, ACSSW Trustee, is the founding editor of the scholarly, interdisciplinary journal, the *Journal of Black Sexuality and Relationships*. He is also the founder and Principal of the Association of Black Sexologists and Clinicians. In 2018, Dr. Wadley co-edited *The Art of Sex Therapy Supervision*. The book won AASECT's 2019 Book of the Year Award. His newest book is titled, *The Handbook of Sexuality Leadership: Inspiring Community Engagement, Social Empowerment, and Transformational Influence*.



Hail Satan: The Intersection Between Sexual and Reproductive Autonomy in Satanism

Hannah S. Bland PhD, LPC, NCC

Department of Clinical Mental Health Counseling, Spalding University

Women's sexual and reproductive rights related to sexual intercourse outside of the marital relationship and access to safe and legal abortions have been an ongoing debate amongst major religious groups (Masci, 2016; Abdelhadi et al., 2021). Currently, five major world religions exist and include Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, and Buddhism (University of Cambridge, 2022). Judaism, Christianity, and Islam generally believe that sexual activity prior to marriage is sinful or shameful in some manner and that abortion is a sinful act that kills an innocent life (Masci, 2016). These beliefs deeply influence society and the laws enacted by society. With ever changing laws and beliefs regarding a woman's right to her own bodily autonomy, it is important to consider safe spaces in which women can be heard and protected. In particular, it is important to consider inclusive and welcoming religious spaces for women who may not otherwise have a support system. The following will discuss the relationship between mental health and religious identity, Satanism as a religion, including its views on sexual and reproductive autonomy, and the ways in which individuals who suffer bodily oppression can seek refuge among the Satanic community.

Decades of research has gone into understanding the complex relationship between religious identity and mental health. Current findings indicate that positive religious experiences and personal religious identification are associated with lower rates of depression, anxiety, suicidal behavior, and substance abuse (Koenig, 2018). Additional research indicates that those who regularly attend religious gatherings, such as communal worship, rate higher on psychosocial well-being outcomes when compared to those who do not; outcomes include positive affect, life satisfaction, social integration, and life purpose (Chen et al., 2021). While some research has indicated the positive impact of religion on mental health, there is research that has shown religion may have a determinantal impact on mental health, especially as it relates to women. In fact, a strong religious identification can be associated with negative religious coping, increased misunderstandings and negative communication patterns, and negative beliefs (Weber & Pargament, 2014). When looking specifically at women, religion contributes to gender inequality and oppression as well as a decrease in sexual self-esteem (Abbott et al., 2016; Bartkowski & Shah, 2014). Women's religious commitment is associated with

decreased sexual activity, poor sexual satisfaction, and sexual guilt; these associations were connected to the beliefs that God viewed sex negatively and that sex would bring negative moral judgment (Abbott et al., 2016).

While some of the aforementioned studies paint a negative picture of religion in relation to women's sexual and bodily autonomy, a relatively new religion has been established that advocates for the autonomy of all. Satanism is a non-theistic religion that was formally established in 1966 by Anton Szandor LaVey in San Francisco, California (Laycock, 2020). LaVey's church, named The Church of Satan, is a religious group that focuses on indulgence and gratification, wisdom and knowledge, and kindness and responsibility to those who reciprocate those same attitudes (LaVey, 1969). LaVey is the writer of *The Satanic Bible*, which lays out in detail the practices of the Church of Satan (LaVey, 1969). Since the inception of formalized Satanism, variations of the religion have developed and include organizations such as The United Aspects of Satan, The Minnesota Left-hand Path Community, LORE:SCNYC, FAUST: The Satanic Federation, and The Satanic Temple (Laycock, 2020). Though these groups do vary in their religious beliefs and rituals, it is important to note commonalities among the groups in order to dispel common myths and stereotypes surrounding the religion. Satanism is a non-theistic religion. Satanists do not believe in a literal Satan, instead Satan is used as a metaphor for knowledge, wisdom, and rebellion against tyrannical authority (The Satanic Temple, 2022).

However, some Satanists, such as LaVeyan Satanists, will self-deify (LaVey, 1969). Satanists are vehemently against human and animal sacrifice of any kind; to engage in this type of behavior would be in direct opposition to Satanic beliefs related to bodily autonomy and doing no harm to others (Laycock, 2020). It is also important to note that the majority of Satanic organizations are active in their communities and seek to engage in rituals that improve the quality of life for those around them. For example, the Satanic Temple's congregations engage in community service activities that provide feminine hygiene items to local domestic violence shelters, run drives to collect blankets and warm weather clothing for the homeless, and even offer educational after school programs for children (The Satanic Temple, 2022).

The Satanic Temple, established in 2013, is a nontheistic religious organization whose mission is to "encourage benevolence and empathy, reject tyrannical authority, advocate practical common sense, oppose injustice, and undertake noble pursuits" (The Satanic Temple, 2022). The Satanic Temple is growing rapidly and currently has 25 formal congregations both nationally and internationally; many informal congregations are currently going through the process to become formal members (The Satanic Temple, 2020). The religion ascribes to its Seven Fundamental Tenants and utilizes these tenants as its framework for religious practice. The Seven Fundamental Tenants are as follows:

1) one should strive to act with compassion and empathy toward all creatures in accordance with reason; 2) the struggle for justice in an ongoing pursuit that should prevail over laws and institutions; 3) one's body is inviolable, subject to one's own will alone; 4) the freedoms of others should be respected, including the freedom to offend; to willfully and unjustly encroach upon the freedoms of another is to forgo one's own; 5) beliefs should conform to one's best scientific understanding of the world; one should take care to never distort scientific facts to fit one's beliefs; 6) people are fallible; if one makes a mistake, one should do one's best to rectify it and resolve any harm that might have been caused; and 7) every tenet is a guiding principle designed to inspire nobility in action and thought; the spirit of compassion, wisdom, and justice should always prevail over the written or spoken word (The Satanic Temple, 2022, About us section, para.2).

These tenets, in particular tenets two and three, are integrated into their advocacy and ritual practices related to autonomy.

Currently, The Satanic Temple is engaging in advocacy efforts to protect the reproductive rights of women who identify as Satanists. Abortion bans are in direct opposition to the deeply held religious beliefs of Satanists, thus they vehemently reject abortion restrictions that prevent women from having full bodily autonomy (The Satanic Temple, 2022). Their Religious Abortion Ritual is focused on exempting congregants from "unnecessary and unscientific regulations when seeking to terminate their pregnancy" (The Satanic Temple, 2022). Though many have been vocal about their contempt for this ritual, the Satanic Temple is determined to provide autonomy for their members; the religious organization has even gone as far as to provide legal services for members who are denied the ability to access safe abortions (The Satanic Temple, 2022).

This new religious perspective on autonomy has the potential to have a profoundly positive impact on women's sexual self-esteem. Research indicates that a positive sense of autonomy is associated with increases in regularity of orgasm, enjoyment of receiving oral sex, and enjoyment of performing oral sex (Galinsky & Sonenstein, 2011). Having a safe religious environment in which women can have power over their sexual and reproductive rights may allow for the shedding of guilt, shame, and stigma related to being a woman who is also a sexual being. Though more research will need to be done in this area, it is important to start questioning how this new religion may impact the ways in which we view the relationship between religion and sexual wellness. As counselors, we should be mindful of Satanism as a religion, its advocacy efforts, and how we can incorporate these principles into practice with our Satanic clients. Additionally, it is also important for us to consider the culture and religious climate in which we were raised and currently reside. This self-reflection, in conjunction with continued professional development, may help in better understanding and addressing our potential biases related to Satanism.

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Assistant Professor, Clinical Mental Health Counseling Program
Spalding University

**WE ARE NOW ACCEPTING MANUSCRIPT
SUBMISSIONS FOR THE ACSSW SPRING
NEWSLETTER.**

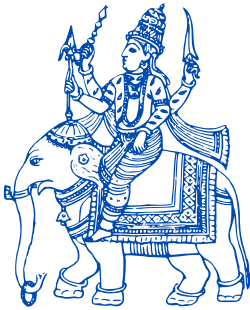
THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS IS APRIL 15, 2022.

Submissions must be no more than 1500 words, grounded in peer-reviewed research/content, and may not have been previously published, nor be forthcoming in an archival journal or book (print or electronic). The ACSSW newsletter is not a peer reviewed journal, but we do have editors who review the submissions for grammatical errors and ensure the article is in keeping with ACSSW principles and guidelines. We will publish articles that promote sexual wellness, research studies, and conceptual articles. The ACSSW newsletter editorial team requires that all authors follow the most current ACA Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice. All manuscripts must conform to standards detailed in the most recent edition of the APA Publication Manual. The newsletter supports the use of gender-neutral pronouns, including the singular “they.” Manuscripts should be concise, yet with enough detail to provide clarity.

***Send submissions to Frances McClain at
fmclain@thechicagoschool.edu***

Worldviews: Spirituality & Sexuality

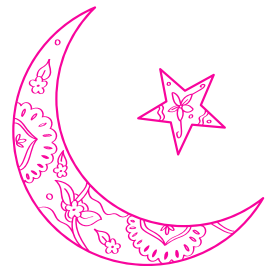
By Katrina Ramirez
Assistant Editor



In Hinduism, acknowledges a third gender called Tertiya-prakriti. Gender in Hinduism is based off of physical and psycho-social aspects of a person (Fanning, 2018).

The Kamasutra is a Hindu text infamous for its depictions of sex positions. It was created to aid others in achieving better relationships and moral standings. Some chapters include information about courting, pleasure, and duties as a partner (Trust In God Odudu, 2017).

In Islam, sex is viewed as a gift from Allah and is acceptable when done through marriage (Shibi, 2020). In the time of the prophet Muhammad, there were verbal contacts for sex with couples who were not married (Siraj al-Haqq Kugle, 2010).

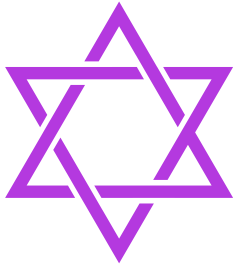
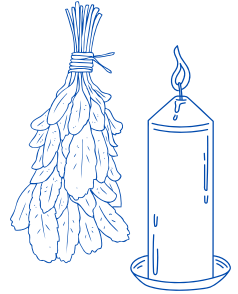




In Catholicism, celibacy is encouraged before marriage (Runkel, 1998).

In Christianity, rules around sex and sexuality within the church have changed with time as new information comes out about others and their cultures (Burke, 2022).

Within Paganism, there is a ritual called the "Great Rite" in which a Wiccan has sex with a Priestess/Priest who is embodied with the Goddess of Fertility (Wagar, 2016).



In Judisam, the Torah reflects on the importance of sexual pleasure and need for companionship (My Jewish Learning, 2022).

In the Talmud, it is encourage to not use contraceptions unless certain circumstances allow it (i.e. mother being pregnant; My Jewish Learning, 2022).

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Webinar Series

WE'RE DOING IT AGAIN!

ACSSW 2022 Webinar Series

**"Human Sexuality Is Not an Elective:
Sexuality Knowledge & Skills for Clinicians"**

TOPICS INCLUDE...

Spirituality & Sexuality
Couples/Relationships, & Sexuality
Current Counseling Sexology Literature
Differently Abled & Sexuality
Competent/Ethical Practice w/LGBTQ+
Ethical Decision Making in Sex Therapy

The 3rd Friday of every month in 2022 from 10a - 12p ACSSW will be partnering with The Chicago School of Professional Psychology again offering 12 new educational webinars for mental health professionals, educators, and students.

The webinars are free for ACSSW members plus CEs!

The Office of Continuing Education (OCE) and the
Association of Counseling Sexology & Sexual Wellness (ACSSW)
present

**Mapping Sex Therapy Across the United States:
Who, What, & Where Sex Therapy is Happening**

Presented by Frances McClain, PhD, LCPC, NCC, and Dylan Amlin, MA

Friday, March 18, 2022

8:00am-10:00am PT/10:00am-12:00pm CT/11:00am-1:00pm ET

Event held online via Zoom.

<https://events.eventzilla.net/e/mapping-sex-therapy-across-the-united-states-2138816773>

Program offers 2.0 CEs for Psychologists, 2.0 CEUs for Illinois State Counselors and Social Workers, 2.0 NBCC Clock Hours for Counselors, and 2.0 BBS California CEUs for LPCCs, LPSW, and LMFTs.

Journal of Counseling Sexology & Sexual Wellness



Editor:

Robert J. Zeglin, University of North Florida

Associate Editor:

Megan Speciale, Palo Alto University

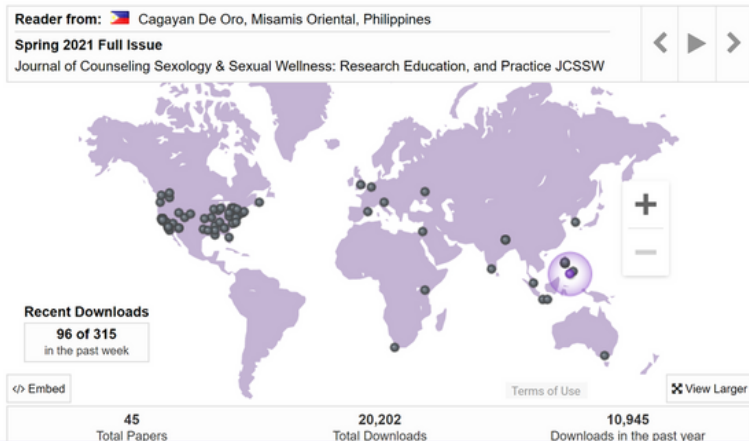
The Journal of Counseling Sexology & Sexual Wellness: Research, Practice, and Education is a new peer-reviewed journal focusing on all domains of sexuality and counseling sexology including sexual identity, pleasure, gender issues, sexual health, theories of sexology, and sexual exploitation issues relevant to counselors, counseling educators, and counseling supervisors. The Journal of Counseling Sexology & Sexual Wellness: Research, Practice, and Education will publish two issues per year: Spring and Fall.

Check it out at <https://digitalcommons.unf.edu/jcssw/>

THE JOURNAL OF COUNSELING SEXOLOGY AND SEXUAL WELLNESS (JCSSW) HAS EXCITING NEWS!

We are releasing a special summer issue on the sexual health and wellness priorities across the counseling specialization areas, including clinical mental health, marriage and family, rehabilitation, career, addictions, and college counseling. The goal of this special issue is to help counselors and educators learn new ways to integrate sexuality topics throughout their counseling practice and/or coursework. Stay tuned for the JCSSW Special Issue on Sexuality Competencies Across Counseling Specializations this summer!

The map below shows readership activity for the *Journal Of Counseling Sexology & Sexual Wellness: Research, Education, and Practice* across the world!



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Sexuality Resources

<https://www.zurinstitute.com/resources/human-sexuality-resources/>

Human Sexuality

- [American Association of Sex Educators, Counselors, and Therapists](#) – AASECT members common interest is in promoting understanding of human sexuality and healthy sexual behavior.
- [American Sexual Health Association](#) – ASHA programs include: the ASHA Research Fund, HPV Cervical Cancer Prevention Resource Center, Cervical Cancer Prevention Project, ISALSA! (STDs, Adolescents and Latinos: Sexual Health Awareness), Herpes Resource Center, ASH-Net (Adolescent Sexual Health and the Internet), Herpes Foundation, and Viral Hepatitis Education and Training.
- [American Society of Reproductive Medicine](#) – ASRM is an organization devoted to advancing knowledge and expertise in infertility, reproductive medicine and biology.
- [Association of Reproductive Health Professionals](#) – AHRP is a multidisciplinary association of professionals who provide reproductive health services or education, conduct reproductive health research, or influence reproductive health policy.
- [Foundation for the Scientific Study of Sexuality](#) – FSSS' mission is to promote funding for conducting scholarly, scientific research related activities to further the understanding of all aspects of sexuality.
- [The Alan Guttmacher Institute](#) is focused on sexual and reproductive health research, policy analysis and public education.
- [The International Society for the Study of Women's Sexual Health](#) is an academic and scientific organization that provides opportunities for communication among scholars, researchers and practitioners about women's sexual function and experiences, and supports high standards of ethics and professionalism in research, education and clinical practice of women's sexuality.
- [Kinsey Institute](#) – The Institute's mission is to promote interdisciplinary research and scholarship in the fields of human sexuality, gender, and reproduction.
- [Sexuality Information and Education Council of the US](#) – SIECUS develops, collects, and disseminates information, and promotes comprehensive education about sexuality.
- [The Society for the Advancement of Sexual Health](#) provides information about sex addiction for lay persons as well as clinicians.
- [The Society for Sex Therapy and Research](#) is composed of a range of professionals who have clinical or research interests in human sexuality. SSTAR aims to facilitate communications among clinicians who treat problems of sexual identity, sexual function, and reproductive life.

Gender Identity

- [The World Professional Association for Transgender Health](#) – The Association is devoted to the understanding and treatment of gender identity disorders, and provides opportunities for scientific interchange among professionals through its biennial conferences and publications.
- [International Foundation for Gender Education](#) – IFGE is an advocate and educational organization for promoting the self-definition and free expression of individual gender identity.
- [Intersex Society of North America](#) – The ISNA's "Medical Treatment of Intersexuality" page includes recommendations for treatment of intersexed children.

Sexual/Affectional Orientation

- [American Academy of Family Physicians' Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Information](#) – This page contains links to sexual orientation sites for physicians and their patients.
- [Association for Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Issues in Counseling](#) – The mission of the Association for Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Issues in Counseling is to educate mental health service providers about issues confronting gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender (GLBT) individuals.
- [Association of Gay and Lesbian Psychiatrists](#) – The AGLP provides networking and support for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered psychiatrists, and education and advocacy on GLBT mental health issues.
- [Gay and Lesbian Medical Association](#) – GLMA members include lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered physicians, medical students, and other health care professionals, as well as patients throughout North America.
- [National Association of Lesbian and Gay Addiction Professionals](#) – The Association is dedicated to the prevention and treatment of alcoholism, substance abuse, and other addictions in GLBT communities.
- [National Gay and Lesbian Task Force 2000 Census and Same-Sex Households](#) – The Census 2000 reporting statistics released by the US Census Bureau have continued to show an increase in the number of reported same-sex partner households across the United States.
- [Society for the Psychological Study of Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Issues, Division 44, American Psychological Association](#) – Division 44's goals include: advancing the contribution of psychological research in understanding lesbian, gay, and bisexual issues; promoting the education of psychologists in matters of lesbian, gay, and bisexual concerns; and informing psychologists and the general public of relevant research, educational, and service activities. The site includes a newsletter, Guidelines for Psychotherapy with Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Clients, and a list of member's publications.
- [It Gets Better](#) – TAKE THE PLEDGE: Everyone deserves to be respected for who they are. I pledge to spread this message to my friends, family and neighbors. I'll speak up against hate and intolerance whenever I see it, at school and at work.

Sexual Abuse

- Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers – ATSA was founded to foster research, further professional education and provide for the advancement of professional standards and practices in the field of sex offender evaluation and treatment.
- Child Welfare Information Gateway – Child Sexual Abuse: Intervention and Treatment Issues – This manual is intended to address the needs of professionals who encounter child sexual abuse in the course of their work.

Sexual and Reproductive Health

- CDC's Reproductive Health Information Source – Resources cover: assisted reproductive technology reports; unintended pregnancy; women's reproductive health; men's reproductive health; surveillance and research; racial and ethnic minorities; scientific and technical assistance.
- Consortium for Improvement in Erectile Function – CIEF is a membership organization comprised of multidisciplinary healthcare practitioners who share an interest in developing and participating in a variety of educational and interactive programs designed to enhance the clinical outcomes of erectile dysfunction therapy.
- The National Vulvodynia Association (NVA) is a nonprofit organization created in 1994 to improve the lives of individuals affected by vulvodynia, a spectrum of chronic vulvar pain .

Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs)

- AIDSInfo – Links to regional training centers; cultural and gender resources; management of HIV complications; maternal-child transmission; information for exposure to HIV and how to prevent it; and treatment consultation.
- American Foundation for AIDS Research – AmfAR's mission is to prevent HIV infection and the disease and death associated with it and to protect the human rights of all people threatened by the epidemic of HIV/AIDS. amfAR has active programs in basic and clinical research, public and professional education, public policy, prevention science, and global initiatives.
- Center for AIDS Prevention Studies – CAPS conducts interdisciplinary research on methods to prevent HIV infection and its consequences. The site includes a list of current research projects, links to model prevention programs, intervention curricula, and survey instruments.
- HIV/AIDS Bureau – Health Resources and Services Administration – oversees the CARE Act, which funds primary care and support services for individuals living with HIV who lack health insurance and financial resources for their care.
- HIV InSite – Medical Issues includes information on epidemiology, diagnosis, management, transmission and prevention, treatment resources, antiretroviral management, interactions database treatment guidelines, treatment access & advocacy, patient fact sheets, conference abstracts and summaries, and links to medical newsletters for clinicians.

- NIH – Division of Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome – “Research Resources and Programs” cover AIDS-related data sets; a database for anti-HIV compounds; an HIV / OI therapeutics database; an HIV sequence database; an HIV molecular immunology database; the NIAID/NCI inter-institute program for development of AIDS-related therapeutics; the NIH AIDS research and reference reagent program; a resource guide for the development of AIDS therapies; and links to reagent programs and repositories. Click on “Resources for Patients, Physicians, and Investigators”
- STD Prevention – Centers for Disease Control provides national leadership through research, policy development, and support of services to prevent sexually transmitted diseases and their complications. The site contains information on funding, program guidelines, research, surveillance, statistics and treatment guidelines.

Journals

- Archives of Sexual Behavior
- Canadian Journal of Human Sexuality
- Contemporary Sexuality
- Culture, Health & Sexuality
- Gender & History
- Gender and Development
- Gender and Society
- Gender Issues
- Gender, Work, and Organization
- Journal of Counseling Sexology & Sexual Wellness
- Journal of Gay & Lesbian Psychotherapy
- Journal of Gay & Lesbian Social Services
- Journal of Homosexuality
- Journal of Sex and Marital Therapy
- Journal of Sex Education & Therapy
- Journal of Sex Research
- Journal of Women’s Health & Gender-Based Medicine
- Perspectives on Sexual and Reproductive Health
- Psychology, Evolution & Gender
- Sexual Addiction & Compulsivity
- Sexual Science
- Sexuality & Culture
- Sexuality and Disability
- Sexually Transmitted Infections
- Studies in Gender and Sexuality
- Theology & Sexuality

Other electronic Journals

- Electronic Journal of Human Sexuality