



ACSSW Late Fall 2021 Newsletter

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.

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The Late Fall 2021 Issue of the ACSSW Newsletter Focuses on Consensual Non-Monogamy (CNM).

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From the ACSSW President...

by Angela Schubert, PhD, LPC, ACSSW President

Look at Us Soar!!

In 2020, the ACSSW executive committee met, as we do every month, feeling all the "feels" of COVID and the isolating reality that was experienced by each of us as a result of the pandemic and social climate. From this conversation there grew a slow rumble, a hunger, to educate and connect with other mental health professionals. As a result, we came up with the *ACSSW 2021 Webinar Series: The Fundamentals of Sexual Wellness for Mental Health Professionals*. We collaborated with the most amazing sexual health counseling leaders in our field!

Our very own Dr. Rob Zeglin started the series off with a sex positive informed ethical decision-making framework to help mental health professionals appropriately address sexual concerns in counseling. Dr. Shannon Shoemaker Kakkar highlighted sobering findings surrounding the education and preparedness of mental health counselors to address sexual concerns in session. Dr. Joy Whitman, Jennifer Gess, and Kathryn Susik explored how to incorporate relational cultural theory to address sexual health concerns of women who have sex with women. Dr. Frances McClain and Lisa Salvadore addressed pleasure advocacy and sexual wellness. Drs. Stacey Litam and Megan Speciale provided a comprehensive presentation on how to become kink competent in session. Dr. Patricia Arredondo offered an enriching presentation on cultural world views sexual health and wellness. Dr. Christian Chan delivered with his mission to expand on the intersectional reality of sexual wellness as it pertains to mental health and individual client needs. Dr. Ricky Siegel addressed the need to critically evaluate diagnosis, pathology, and treatment of those with impulse issues and hyperarousal/hypersexual desires. Dr. Amanda Tashjan expounded on the ethical imperative of mental health professionals to address and advocate for the sexual needs of clients with disabilities.

In the November webinar, Dr. Sapp and Mx. Walker described how the colonization of sexual behaviors influences the clinical assessment, education, and the treatment of clients. Last, we will wrap up the series with a panel discussion by ACSSW leadership. Where we plan to go with our mission. How we aim to expand the training and research of sexual counseling training for our field. We got this! And we hope you plan to attend! For more information on the webinar, please go to www.counselingsexology.com/events to register for the upcoming webinar.

I am personally grateful for each presenter mentioned above! Early on in my master's program, I came to the realization that if I wanted to learn about sexual wellness and health in counseling, I had to create it myself. At the time, there was practically nothing beyond that of discussing sexual orientation and sexual abuse in the classroom. It is the very reason why I leaped into gear after meeting with Robert and Fran! They too experienced the same thing I did. Now look at us soar?! We are surrounded by incredibly gifted mental health professionals who desire nothing more than to provide sex-positive informed education and training to the field of counseling and to the entire mental health field.

What is to come?!

Although you will hear us talk further about the next webinar series at our panel discussion, I wanted to give you a preview! As we embark on a new year, we chose to honor the feedback we received from the webinars. We heard the EXCITED needs of our attendees and as a result, identified six specific topics to explore in relation to sexual health and wellness: education and training; rehabilitation counseling and disabilities; spirituality and religion; sexual diversity; marriage and couples; and social justice and advocacy. We will be presenting on these topics every other month starting in February 2022. In addition to the six webinar topics identified above, the latter month webinars will focus on highlighting current research in the sexology world published in the Journal of Counseling Sexology & Sexual Wellness.



Become a Member!

ACSSW is now an Organizational Affiliate of ACA. We are looking for more Members! Please visit <https://www.counselingsexology.com> for more details!

Welcome Our New ACSSW Officers!



*Dr. Megan Speciale,
ACSSW Representative for
ACA General Council*

Dr. Megan Speciale is an Associate Professor of Counseling at Palo Alto University. Megan has worked as a professional counselor and advocate in a variety of community settings, focusing primarily on sexuality health and wellness and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, and asexual (LGBTQIA+) children, adolescents, adults, and their families. Her research includes feminist and queer perspectives of counseling and counselor education, sexuality counseling and education, and issues related to intersectional LGBTQIA populations. Megan is currently the Editor-in-Chief for [The Thoughtful Counselor Podcast](#) and the Associate Editor for the [Journal of Counseling Sexology and Sexual Wellness](#).



*Dr. James Wadley,
ACSSW Trustee*

Dr. James Wadley is Professor and Chair of the Counseling and Human Services department at Lincoln University. As a scholar-practitioner, he is a licensed professional counselor and maintains a private practice in the States of Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

He is the founding editor of the scholarly, interdisciplinary journal, the *Journal of Black Sexuality and Relationships* (University of Nebraska Press). He is also the founder and Principal of the Association of Black Sexologists and Clinicians and his professional background in human sexuality education, educational leadership, and program development has enabled him to galvanize scholars and practitioners in the field of sexology worldwide. His research and publication interests include sexual decision making among young adults, masculinity development and conceptions of fatherhood by non-custodial fathers, and HIV/AIDS prevention. He has written undergraduate and graduate courses and authored twenty-two courses for the Master of Science in Counseling program for Lincoln University (PA). In addition, he recently co-authored thirteen doctoral level courses for the Theological Seminary of Puerto Rico. In 2015, Dr. Wadley earned his NBCC-International Mental Health Facilitator certification after spending time with Rwandan therapists discussing the impact of genocide and trauma in the early 1990's. In 2016, he helped develop curricula and conducted a sexuality education course at the University of Muhimbili in Tanzania for the nursing and midwifery program. Later that year, he developed and taught an applied research methods course at Cape Peninsula University of Technology in Cape Town, South Africa. In 2017, Dr. Wadley's work and advocacy domestically and abroad enabled him to complete his first documentary, *Raw to Reel: Race, Drugs, and Sex in Trenton*, New Jersey, which captures some of the challenges that emerge in addiction and recovery. Finally, in 2018, Dr. Wadley co-edited *The Art of Sex Therapy Supervision* (Routledge) which is a book devoted to the clinical experiences of supervisors and supervisees in the field of sex therapy. The book won AASECT's 2019 Book of the Year Award. His new book, *The Handbook of Sexuality Leadership: Inspiring Community Engagement, Social Empowerment, and Transformational Influence* (Routledge) carves a new path for sexuality educators, counselors, and therapists in that it serves as an invitation for re-conceptualizing the consultative roles that sexuality professionals engage in.

Dr. Wadley received his Doctorate of Philosophy degree in Education from the University of Pennsylvania with a concentration in Educational Leadership and Human Sexuality Education. He earned a Master of Science in Education degree in School Psychology from the University of Kentucky after completing his B.A. in Psychology from Hampton University. He holds a clinical postgraduate certificates from Thomas Jefferson University/Council for Relationships in Philadelphia. In 2020, Dr. Wadley also earned a Performance Leadership Certificate from Cornell University and has helped leaders engage in courageous and transformative dialogue about corporate social responsibility and strategic change. He is an AASECT Certified Sex Therapist Supervisor. These credentials, and a wealth of domestic and international clinical experiences, have catapulted him to be one of the nation's best marriage, family, and sexuality clinicians.



**L. Allen Crosby, LMHCA, LPSC,
Doctoral Candidate,
ACSSW Student Representative**

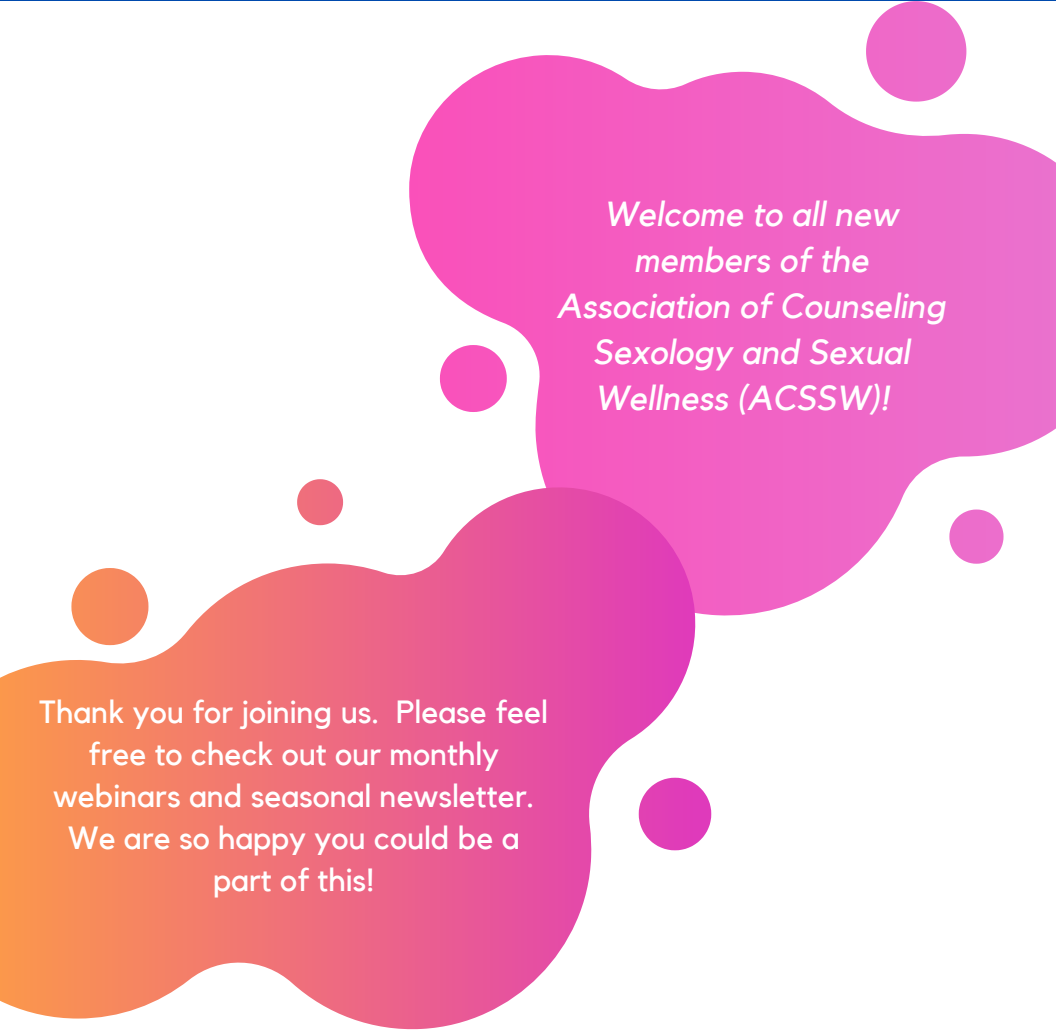
"L" Allen Crosby is a Licensed Mental Health Clinical Associate in Washington State and a Licensed Professional School Counselor in the District of Columbia. "L" earned her B.A. in English with a minor in African American Studies from the University of Maryland University College. She earned her M.A. in Clinical Mental Health Counseling from Trinity Washington University in Washington, DC. "L" is currently a doctoral candidate at Walden University where she is earning her Ph.D. in Counselor Education and Supervision. Her research is focused on the Empowerment of Black Women, Trauma-Informed Schools, Black Mental Health, and Black Sexuality.

"L" has over 20 years of experience working with underserved and underrepresented communities. As a clinical mental health professional, counselor educator, school administrator, social justice advocate, and mentor, "L" is passionate about mental health access for the Black community.

"L" currently serves as the Co-President and Professional Development Chair of Walden University's Chi Sigma Iota – Omega Zeta Chapter, is a member of the American Counseling Association and several divisions, and is happy to serve as the Student Rep for ACSSW!



Welcome New ACSSW Members!



*Welcome to all new
members of the
Association of Counseling
Sexology and Sexual
Wellness (ACSSW)!*

Thank you for joining us. Please feel free to check out our monthly webinars and seasonal newsletter. We are so happy you could be a part of this!



Consensual Non-monogamy: Proposed Models for Counseling Sexual, Affectional, and Relational Expansive Relationships

B. L. Varga

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Abstract

Although Marriage, Family, and Couples Counseling theories and treatment are often offered in graduate counseling programs, application to diverse sexual, affectional, and gender-expansive relationships is overlooked. This article highlights suggested techniques currently being discussed in the literature and special considerations relevant to the treatment of this unique population.

Introduction

The counseling profession asserts that cultural sensitivity and awareness are essential steps in developing competent practitioners (CACREP, 2015). However, there is very little guidance in the family, marriage, and couple counseling curriculum on working with diverse sexual, affectional, or relational identifications (Kolmes & Witherspoon, 2017). Without guidelines and recommendations, the non-heteronormative population is left without proper care (Bettergarcia, 2021).

Consensual Non-monogamy

Defining Polyamory

Polyamory (from the Greek πολύ [poly, meaning many or several] and Latin amor [love]) is the practice, desire, or acceptance of having more than one intimate relationship at a time with the knowledge and consent of everyone involved (Henrich & Trawinski, 2016; Johnson, 2013; Katz & Graham, 2020; Kissler & Lock, 2019). Polyamory is consensual, ethical, or responsible non-monogamy (CNM) (Kissler & Lock, 2019). People who identify as polyamorous, or CNM, reject the view that a person only has the capacity to create a deep, committed, long-term, loving relationship with only one person at a time (Johnson, 2013; Katz & Graham, 2020; Kissler & Lock, 2019). Open relations are commonly mistaken as synonymous with polyamory, but there is a significant distinction. Polyamory, or romantically open relationships, refer to multiple intimate, romantic connections. Open relationships, on the other hand, refer to a couple that engages in more sexually focused acts with other partners. In general, persons engaged in a non-monogamous relationship style fall under the consensually non-monogamous (CNM) label. However, for this article, a CNM relationship will specifically refer to individuals who are engaged in polyamory, whether it begins as a group of singles or a couple who welcomes in one or more singles.

Those who are open to, or emotionally ready for, CNM may seek these connections when single, in romantically and sexually monogamous, or either sexually or romantically open relationships. Sex is not typically the primary focus in CNM relationships. Instead, it usually consists of people seeking to build long-term relationships with more than one person under agreed-upon terms (Henrich & Trawinski, 2016; Katz & Graham, 2020; Kissler & Lock, 2019). Similar to heteronormative relationships, sex is only one aspect of the relationship. Other things include love, non-sexual intimacy, friendship, emotional connection, child-rearing, careers, and life-building (Moors et al., 2017).

CNM Arrangements

Johnson (2013) states that CNM encompasses a spectrum of arrangements and relational connections. CNM relationships can include various partners, each holding a unique gender, sexual, and affectional identity (Berry & Barker, 2014; Katz & Graham, 2020; Kissler & Lock, 2019). Each partner can have differing levels of connectedness, from wholly committed to no contact. Each relationship, each connection, may have a unique set of boundaries and rules to define their relationship (Berry & Barker, 2014; Frank & DeLamater, 2009; Johnson, 2013; van Tol, 2017). In other words, no two relationships, monogamous or non-monogamous, are the same

The Choice of CNM

While there are many reasons an individual or couple engages in CNM relationships, one of the major themes in the literature is the distress of unmet needs (Moors et al, 2017). Individuals may possess different levels of sexual, intellectual, and emotional interests and needs from their romantic relationships (Johnson, 2013). For example, one partner may not have the ability to engage in sexual practices due to physical limitations, lack of interest, or inexperience, which leaves the other partner unfulfilled. Similarly, the first partner may have a depth of knowledge or communication style unmatched by the other. Rather than let go of their existing connections, CNM practicing individuals search for others to fill in what is missing. Individuals have complex parts of themselves that may only find understanding from more than one partner (Johnson, 2013; Katz & Graham, 2020; Kissler & Lock, 2019). Some individuals have more to give than can be contained in one partnership.

Counseling Concerns

Research has found that most individuals often equate the mention of extramarital intimacy or sex with infidelity (Frank & DeLamater, 2009; Girard & Brownlee, 2015; Johnson, 2016; Katz & Graham, 2020). This stigma can extend into training, promoting mononormativity, deeming monogamous relationships the only healthy, normal relationships (Berry & Barker, 2014; French & DeLamater, 2009; Henrich & Trawinski, 2016; Johnson, 2013; Kissler & Lock, 2019; van Tol, 2017). CNM persons engaged in non-monogamous relationships may fear the shame and stigma from counselors, reducing the likelihood for this population to openly discuss problems outside of their relationship dynamic (Girard & Brownlee, 2015; Henrich & Trawinski, 2016; Johnson, 2013; Katz & Graham, 2020).

here is a misconception that the primary struggle for individuals in CNM relationship is the dynamic itself. These systems face similar issues as other couples, such as inadequate communication and jealousy amongst partners (Girard & Brownlee, 2015; Henrich & Trawinski, 2016; Katz & Graham, 2020; Kissler & Lock, 2019). Unfortunately, there is minimal literature or counselor training to guide clinicians in treating the individuals engaged in CNM relationships who are experiencing these difficulties (Girard & Brownlee, 2015; Henrich & Trawinski, 2016; Katz & Graham, 2020; Kissler & Lock, 2019; Kolmes & Witherspoon, 2017). The next section will highlight two proposed frameworks that have shown some potential in advocating for the unique needs of this population.

Proposed Treatment

Gottman & ETF

Kolmes and Witherspoon (2017) suggested an approach blends elements of The Gottman Method and Emotionally-Focused Therapy (ETF). Gottman specifically uses The Sound House Theory to overcome conflict through empathy, intimacy, and meaningful communication between partners. Counselors using ETF techniques explore injury and attachment, believing emotion is the agent of change (Johnson & Brubacher, 2016). This method works to interrupt unhelpful cycles of interaction between partners to overcome attachment difficulties. Gottman and ETF methods both emphasize communication patterns that lead to relationships dissatisfaction and conflict.

Kolmes and Witherspoon (2017) constructed a framework for a 20-session combined process that works to collectively and individually define the current state of the relationship, explore attachment and injury factors, and finally reframe communication to promote healthier interactions amongst partners. While both frameworks have been primarily used with monogamous couples, studies have shown that they could effectively treat CNM relationships (Kolmes & Witherspoon, 2017). The Gottman Method and ETF target the issues most couples, monogamous or non-monogamous, face: dysfunctional communication amongst partners that can be influenced by unresolved threats to their emotional safety.

Existential Sex Therapy

Berry and Barker (2014) propose a second approach through existential sex therapy, a non-pathologizing approach that views sexuality on a continuum of diversity. In this lens, sexual identity and behavior are subjective choices rather than core aspects of the self, and labels have little use beyond communicating the choice. Existential sex therapy aims to assist clients in exploring and making meaning of their sexuality as it relates to their view of intimacy across partnerships at different times in their life (Berry & Barker, 2014).

An existential sex therapist steps into a nonjudgmental, unassuming role, to promote understanding and openness towards the clients throughout their relationship. To achieve this position, counselors utilize specific techniques to remove themselves from their biases. The first is bracketing, in which a counselor sets aside their preconceived notions,

assumptions, beliefs, or personal values (Berry & Barker, 2014; Henrich & Trawinski, 2016). Bracketing assists in effectively utilizing informed naivety so that a counselor can stay genuine while allowing the clients to define themselves in their subjective context. Finally, the counselor will also utilize equal affirmation, providing understanding and value to all the clients' perspectives (Berry & Barker, 2014).

Through existential sex therapy, people within CNM systems can feel free to express themselves and their dynamic in ways that make sense. There is no pressure to focus on the CNM dynamic as the problem; instead, the goal is to solve meaning-making. This approach encourages counselors to set aside their own beliefs and allow clients to lead, reducing bias and stigmatization (Henrich & Trawinski, 2016, Johnson, 2013).

Transactional Analysis

While the TA framework appears to have a gap in suggestions for marriage and couples therapy, van Tol (2017) has suggested it could help treat CNM relationship, stating "put simply relationships are relationships" and can experience similar problems regardless of a monogamous or non-monogamous dynamic. The tools of TA, script matrices, games, and scripts may lend themselves well to treating those involved in a CNM relationship (van Tol, 2017). Each of these interventions can be applied to a relationship that includes multiple partners. There is not much research in this area, but it could be a notable approach to consider in counseling the CNM community.

Conclusion

Stigma and bias from all levels of society have resulted in the counselors mishandling the CNM community, couples, and families. It is clear that CNM relationships are greatly misunderstood and suffer from the absence of knowledge, training, and understanding within the teaching and practice of counselors. Fortunately, recent literature has surfaced that offers new guidance and frameworks that have been shown to benefit this unique community. Further research should be conducted in order to determine the short and long-term benefits of the theories proposed in this article. For the counseling community to stand by their dedication to multicultural awareness, future counseling curriculum and training need to reduce their mononormative assumptions and offer guidance on competently serving all sexually, affectionally, and gender-expansive relationships.

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B. L. Varga would like to thank Angela Austin and Justina Gazso for their help with the literature search and blessings to submit this work. I also thank Dr. Amy Williams, Dr. John Rainey, and Dr. Josh Castleberry for the opportunity and encouragement to complete this work

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

**THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS IS FRIDAY, JANUARY
21ST.**

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



Article Review

By Katrina Ramirez
Assistant Editor

Adults' Identities, Attitudes, and Orientations Concerning Consensual Non-Monogamy (Stephens & Emmers-Sommer, 2020) looks at the relationship between emerging adults' identities, relational or sociosexual orientation, and their attitudes towards consensual non-monogamy (CNM). Stephens & Emmers-Sommer (2020) define CNM as an "umbrella term" that encompasses multiple types of open relationships such as swinging, polyamory, monogamish, and open relationships. When surveying emerging adults between the ages of 18-29, Stephen & Emmers-Sommer (2020) examine how each identify (i.e. sense of self-meaning) and their relational or sociosexual orientation. The purpose of the study regards exploring connections between identify, sociosexual orientation (i.e. CNM), and attitudes towards CNM.

The participants were emerging adults (n=450) from the university and from Reddit (Stephens & Emmers-Sommer, 2020). There were three scales used: Aspects of Identity Questionnaire-IV (AIQ-IV), Sociosexual Orientation Inventory-Revised (SOI-R), and Consensual Non-Monogamy Attitude Scale (CNAS). The AIQ-IV measures self-concept with a 45 item 5-point Likert scale.

The SOI-R was revised in 2008 by authors Penke & Asendorpf. It is used to look at orientation towards uncommitted sex (Stephens & Emmers-Sommer, 2020). It is a three-item survey including a 5-point likert scale. The CNAS is an eight-item survey with a 7-point Likert scale examining attitudes towards CNM and has a supported reliability from previous studies (Stephens & Emmers-Sommer, 2020).

Results of the study supported Stephens & Emmers-Sommer's hypotheses and research questions, creating more foundational research for CNM. The following hypotheses were supported though the study: H1: A significant relationship exists between emerging adults' relational orientation and aspects of their identity. H2: A significant association exists between relational orientation and attitudes toward non-monogamy. H3: A significant association exists between emerging adults' sociosexual orientation and their relational orientation. H4: A significant relationship exists between emerging adults' sociosexual orientation and their attitudes toward non-monogamy." (Stephens & Emmers-Sommer, 2020, p,472-473).



The first research question asked, "Is there a significant association between aspects of identity and emerging adults' attitudes toward CNM?" (Stephens & Emmers-Sommer, 2020, p.472). The study supports relational identity and positive attitudes toward CNM are positively correlated compared to collective identity is negatively correlated with positive attitudes towards CNM (Stephens & Emmers-Sommer, 2020). The second research question asked, "Is there a significant association among aspects of emerging adults' identities and their sociosexual orientation?" The study supports a positive correlation between relational identity and behavior orientation and between social identity and sociosexual desired orientation (Stephens & Emmers-Sommer, 2020). Stephens & Emmers-Sommer (2020) relate findings to more diversity and acceptance around the LGBTGEQIAP+ community. It was also noted that 47% of participants identified as CNM which may not be representational to the population of the United States of America due to majority of participants attending a university. Additional limitations mention changes in language compared to language used (Stephens & Emmers-Sommer, 2020).

Upon reading the study, it appears to not only have through operational definitions but a multitude of considerations for limitations of the study. Stephens & Emmers-Sommer attempt to gain a foundational understanding of emerging adults' identities and attitudes around CNM. As language and social acceptance change with time, it may be easier to gain more research on emerging adults' attitudes and better gauge the change that happens generationally. Overall, this study was a well thought out study to lay grounds on more research into CNM.

References

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Consensual Non-Monogamy Definitions

by Katrina Ramirez
Assistant Editor



Consensual Non-Monogamy or Ethical Non-Monogamy (CNM/ENM) is an umbrella term used to describe a relationship that involves more than one sexual/affectional partner (Moors, Ramos, & Schechinger; 2021).

Swinging is a type of CNM in which couples may engage in sexual intimacy on each partner's own or together (Sullivan, 2019).

Monogamish is a type of CNM in which couples are generally monogamous but allow for certain exceptions (i.e. Hall Pass).



Polyamory is a form of CNM which couple has a main partner but can have other partners both sexually and/or romantically. Additional partners may also join the main partnership (i.e. Triad).

Monogamy or Strictly Monogamous is defined as only having one sexual/romantic partner. (Moors, Ramos, & Schechinger; 2021)



Webinar Series

WE'RE DOING IT AGAIN!

ACSSW 2022 Webinar Series

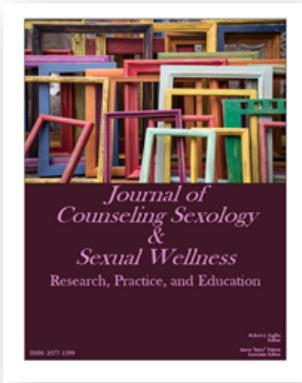
TOPICS WILL INCLUDE...

Spirituality & Sexuality
Competencies with LGBTQ+ Clients
Couples/Relationships & Sexuality
Current Counseling Sexology Literature
Differently Abled & Sexuality
Sex Therapy Across the U.S.

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!

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/>

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Frances McClain

ACSSW Newsletter

Frances McClain, *Editor*

Katrina Ramirez, *Assistant Editor*

ACSSW Election of Officers 2022

See Announcement Below
Regarding Election of Officers in
2022 Per ACSSW By-Laws:

SECTION 3: NOMINATIONS AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS

- *In January of every year, the ACSSW President-Elect shall seek and select more than one nominee for each elected position (when feasible) to be elected for the next term, and submit a slate of candidates/nominees for approval by the Board at its annual meeting.*
- *ACSSW, in conjunction with ACA, shall conduct the election of officers by ballot in the time between the Board's annual meeting and June 1*
- *In the event of a tie on the official ballot, a run-off election shall be held to break the tie.*

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