

Perceived Gender Roles and Sexual Fantasies of College Women

by

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This thesis for honors recognition has been approved for the Department of Psychology.

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Abstract

The relationship between traditional or non-traditional perceived gender roles and dominant or submissive sexual fantasies was investigated. The subjects were 32 college women with a mean age of 19.6, ± 2.8 . The participants completed a two-part survey which measured their perceptions of traditional or non-traditional gender roles for men and women and their preferences for dominant or submissive sexual fantasies. The results indicate that women with traditional perceived gender roles are more likely to have submissive fantasies ($p < .01$), while women with non-traditional perceived gender roles are likely to have both dominant and submissive fantasies ($p < .01$). These correlations suggest that college women's perceptions of gender roles carry over into their sexual fantasies.

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Preface

My honors thesis began as a vague idea that I wanted to study something in the field of psychology related to gender issues. When I finally chose to investigate a possible connection between gender and sexual fantasies, I thought that the process of narrowing my topic was nearly complete. Little did I know that many months later, even after administering my survey, I would still be refining the ideas I wanted to address. In fact, a clear picture of my topic did not exist in my mind until I had completed the first draft of my paper. It was then that the stacks of journal articles, the pages of data, and my scattered notes all finally grew together into a single, coherent concept.

In retrospect, I realize that if I had been more specific in defining my topic at the beginning, my project would have been easier to complete. A little more initial effort in narrowing my ideas, choosing my variables, and establishing my hypothesis would have saved me a great deal of time and frustration later. However, I do not regret that this project proceeded down a less focused and direct path than perhaps it should have. This “scenic route” allowed me to explore ideas that were indirectly related or tangential to my topic, and to gain a general understanding of more than just one aspect of gender roles and sexual fantasies. I was able to witness the entire development of an idea, from its conception to its culmination in a completed paper. Although working in this manner required great investments of time and energy, I believe the experience I gained through the process was invaluable.

Introduction

The manner in which a woman behaves toward other men and women is necessarily affected by her perceptions of gender roles. Most likely, she will act in a way that she believes is acceptable for a female, and will expect others to behave appropriately for their sex. It is less clear, though, how these perceptions of gender roles may affect her sexual fantasies. Will her fantasies be consistent with the gender roles she perceives in everyday life, or will they be unrelated to these boundaries? Ellis and Symons (1990) suggested that fantasies may actually be more revealing than overt behavior of her underlying psychological mechanisms, because fantasies are private and not constrained by social rules and expectations.

The possibility of a connection between gender roles and sexual fantasies was the focus of my research. A group of college women completed questionnaires which assessed their perceptions of traditional masculine and feminine roles and their preferences for dominant or submissive fantasies. I expected to find that women's views of gender roles would in fact carry over into their fantasies. ✓

Literature Review

Although the literature contains a few indirect references to a relationship between fantasies and gender roles, no prior author has addressed this topic specifically. However, the results of a few studies on related topics can be applied in a general manner in order to provide a basis for my research. I will begin by summarizing the pertinent results of these studies, and will then explain how they relate to my topic and how they led to my hypothesis. First of all, Keating and Over (1990) studied heterosexual and homosexual

men and found that the subjects were more aroused by and more frequently experienced fantasies that were consistent with their own sexual orientation. In other words, homosexual men tended to have homosexual fantasies, while heterosexual men tended to have heterosexual fantasies. Also, Leitenberg and Henning (1995) cited a number of researchers who have determined that people usually fantasize about topics with which they are familiar and activities that they have experienced.

Second, Hariton (1973) discovered that women whose personalities included more masculine characteristics had different types and frequencies of fantasies than did women with more feminine personalities. Women who showed masculine characteristics and lacked typical feminine characteristics had more sexual fantasies, while women who seldom fantasized tended to have more feminine personalities. These results agree with those of Brown and Hart (1977), who found that independence and liberal views toward women correlate with more frequent fantasies, while dependence and traditional views toward women correlate with fewer fantasies. Hariton (1973) also reported that women who had recurrent fantasies of forced sex tended to be passive, dependent, unobtrusive, and conformist.

Third, when the fantasies of men and women were compared, several different researchers obtained similar results regarding the patterns of activity or passivity present in each sex. According to Mednick (1977), females were more apt to imagine themselves as the recipients of sexual activity, while males tended to fantasize that someone else was the recipient. Wilson and Lang (1981) reported that women were much more passive in their fantasies than men and that men were slightly more active than women. These results

were replicated by Zimmer, Borchardt, and Fischle (1983). They found that 54% of men, compared with 31% of women, rated themselves as predominantly active in their fantasies, while 62% of women and only 28% of men considered themselves to be predominantly passive.

Finally, the influence and importance of one's perceived gender roles on one's attitudes and behaviors must be made clear. Kagan (1964) and Kohlberg (1966) both reported that a highly sex-typed individual (one who perceives strict boundaries as to what is appropriate for her or his sex) is motivated to keep her or his behavior within these guidelines. The individual accomplishes this control by suppressing any behaviors which she or he perceives as inappropriate for her or his sex.

Each of the aforementioned pieces of research has contributed an important concept to the foundation of my hypothesis. The work of Keating and Over (1990) and the review by Leitenberg and Henning (1995) established that one's fantasies usually resemble one's behaviors and characteristic patterns of interactions with others. These findings suggest that fantasies would also be consistent with one's perceptions of gender roles. The findings of Hariton (1973) and Brown and Hart (1977) involved personal masculine and feminine traits rather than perceptions of the roles of males and females, but they demonstrate that masculinity and femininity are important determinants of fantasy characteristics. The studies by Mednick (1977), Wilson and Lang (1981), and Zimmer, Borchardt, and Fischle (1983) dealt with differences between the sexes rather than within a group of women. However, it can be inferred that these same patterns would occur among women who vary in the degree of masculinity and femininity they attribute to each

sex. For example, a woman who believes women can possess a number of masculine characteristics may take on a more masculine--and therefore active--role in her fantasies. Finally, based on the research of Kagan (1964) and Kohlberg (1966), a woman who attributes certain characteristics to women in general would be motivated to match her own attitudes and behaviors to these characteristics.

Because previous researchers have not specifically investigated a connection between perceived gender roles and sexual fantasies, the goal of this study was to determine if such a relationship exists. Rather than defining gender roles as the compilation of traits of the subject herself, I chose to examine the characteristics the subject believed men and women in general were likely to possess. Therefore, in the context of this paper *perceived gender roles* refer to the belief of the subject that men and women are characterized by and behave in certain manners. These perceived gender roles can be either traditional or non-traditional. *Traditional* refers to the perception of women as having primarily feminine traits and men as having primarily masculine traits. *Non-traditional* refers to the perception that women may have masculine traits and that men may have feminine traits.

Sexual fantasies are divided into two classes: dominant and submissive. *Dominant* fantasies are those in which the subject is active, aggressive, forceful, in control, confident, and superior in her interactions with her partner. *Submissive* fantasies are those in which the subject is passive, acquiescent, weak, powerless, unsure, and inferior in comparison to her partner.

The findings of previous researchers imply that a woman's perceptions of how men and women usually act would be consistent with the roles of men and women in her sexual fantasies. More specifically, the degree to which she believes men and women have traditional or non-traditional roles should be related to her preference for submissive or dominant fantasies. Therefore, my hypothesis was as follows:

H1: Women with traditional perceived gender roles will tend to experience submissive sexual fantasies.

H2: Women with non-traditional perceived gender roles will tend to experience dominant sexual fantasies.

Method

Subjects

The sample of 32 women was recruited in the fall of 1995 through introductory psychology courses at the University of Montana in Missoula. Students signed up voluntarily to take the survey in exchange for class credit. Both males and females were originally recruited; of the 60 surveys returned, the 20 completed by male respondents were eliminated. The surveys of eight more subjects were not used because their questionnaires were incomplete. One subject indicated that her sexual fantasies were primarily about people of her own sex. However, subjects were instructed to consider only their heterosexual fantasies when completing the survey, so I assumed that she followed these directions, and included her results in the study. Subjects ranged in age from 18 to 33, with a mean age of 19.6, ± 2.8 .

Materials

The survey used in this study was an original instrument, and included two sections: one dealt with sexual fantasies and the other addressed perceived gender roles (see Appendices A and B for a complete copy of the survey). Each of these sections is discussed in detail below. The survey was distributed as a single packet, including instructions and the two parts. The order of the fantasy and gender role sections was alternated in every other packet.

The fantasy survey. The first page of the fantasy survey instructed the subjects to write out their most recent sexual fantasy about an opposite-sex partner. The next portion of the fantasy survey consisted of 72 Likert-type items, each of which described a scenario which could occur in a sexual fantasy. Examples of a dominant item and a submissive item, respectively, are “you seduce someone of the opposite sex,” and “your partner removes your clothes.” The subjects were instructed to consider the scenarios only in relation to fantasies about someone of the opposite sex. The subjects were to rate each scenario on two scales. The first scale dealt with the frequency with which the scenario occurred in the subjects' fantasies. Answer choices ranged from 1 (never) to 5 (always). The second scale addressed the level of arousal the subjects experienced from fantasies including the scenario. Answer choices again ranged from 1 (not arousing) to 5 (extremely arousing) (see Appendix A).

Each subject received four scores from this section: Dominant frequency, Dominant arousal, Submissive frequency, and Submissive arousal. These scores were obtained by totaling the subject's responses on each scale for the dominant items and for

the submissive items. Each scale was a continuum, and was independent of the other scales. Subjects were not classified as either "dominant" or "submissive;" instead, they were rated with regard to both extremes, and were simply considered "more dominant" or "more submissive." For example, subject #19 received the following scores, and would be referred to as "more submissive:"

Dominant frequency: 68
Dominant arousal: 87
Submissive frequency: 98
Submissive arousal: 119

Because I was unable to locate an existent instrument which specifically addressed the factors in which I was interested, this survey was an accumulation of ideas and information gathered from a number of sources. For example, the decision to have subjects rate each scenario on both frequency and level of arousal was based on the opinion of Meuwissen and Over (1991) that frequency ratings alone do not address the primary function of sexual fantasies, which is to mediate sexual arousal. Also, Keating and Over (1990) found that the fantasies men reported as the most arousing were not necessarily the ones they experienced the most frequently. The actual fantasy scenarios themselves were inspired by lists of possible fantasies provided by Meuwissen and Over (1991), Wilson and Lang (1981), and Sue (1979), and by the descriptions of fantasies in the works of Friday (1980, 1991). In order to eliminate subjectivity, I used only those scenarios that were clearly classified by past research as either dominant or submissive.

The perceived gender role survey. This portion of the survey consisted of two pages, each of which provided a list of 52 personality characteristics. The same characteristics appeared on each page, but in random order. The subjects were to imagine

that they were about to meet someone for the first time. On one page the person was described as a "typical heterosexual adult male," and on the other page as a "typical heterosexual adult female." The subjects were instructed to use a scale of 1 (not at all true of this person) to 5 (extremely true of this person) to rate each of the personality traits in regard to the extent to which they believed the imagined person would possess the characteristics. Half the subjects received the instructions about the male first, and half received the instructions about the female first (see Appendix B).

Each subject received six scores on independent, continuous scales; once again, the scores were not used to group the subjects, but only to determine if their perceived gender roles were "more traditional" or "more non-traditional." The six scores are listed and explained below:

Traditional male score

total of scores on masculine traits when the imagined person was male

Traditional female score

total of scores on feminine traits when the imagined person was female

Traditional total

total of Traditional male score and Traditional female score

Non-traditional male score

total of scores on feminine traits when the imagined person was male

Non-traditional female score

total of scores on masculine traits when the imagined person was female

Non-traditional total

total of Non-traditional male score and Non-traditional female score

On this section of the survey, subject #19, whose perceived gender roles were "more traditional," scored as follows:

Traditional male score: 94

Traditional female score: 74
Traditional total: 168
Non-traditional male score: 55
Non-traditional female score: 63
Non-traditional total: 118

The personality characteristics included in this survey are drawn almost directly from a list of stereotypic sex-role items derived from the research of Broverman, Vogel, Broverman, Clarkson, and Rosenkrantz (1972). In their list, the items appeared as masculine and feminine extremes of a single characteristic. Where they used the same root word for the masculine and feminine poles (for example, “not at all aggressive” and “very aggressive”) I simply removed the qualifiers, so the item on my survey was “aggressive.” Where the two poles used different words to describe the characteristic (for example, “very passive” and “very active”) I removed the qualifiers and used both extremes, creating two items on my survey: “passive” and “active.” The instructions to imagine meeting a person for the first time were derived from the work of Rosenkrantz, Bee, Vogel, Broverman, and Broverman (1968).

Procedure

The packets were distributed to potential subjects by a professor at the university. He told the participants to take the survey home and to wait at least 24 hours before returning the completed packet. Written instructions on the first page of the packet told subjects to proceed through the packet in order and to answer every question. Demographic data regarding the subjects' sex and age were collected, and subjects were asked to indicate if their fantasies were primarily about people of the same or opposite sex. I provided the necessary information to contact me in case the subjects had questions

or concerns about the survey or the nature of my research. The respondents were also given an option for debriefing and receiving the results of the study; however, none of the subjects have made use of either of these offers.

Because of the very personal nature of the questions contained in the survey, special precautions were taken to ensure that the subjects' responses remained confidential and anonymous. The survey did not ask for any identifying information and subjects were given an opportunity to request that their responses not be used as examples in this paper. The professor who administered the survey provided a box outside his office, where the subjects were to anonymously return their completed packets. Subjects then signed a separate sheet of paper in order to receive class credit for their participation. Once all surveys had been collected, the professor mailed them to me. I was responsible for all aspects of the scoring and data analysis, and was the only person who had access to the subjects' responses. Upon completion of this project, the original surveys will be destroyed.

During the scoring process, the completed surveys were screened for any indications that they had not been completed accurately or honestly. Although the survey itself did not contain any internal controls for validity (such as duplicated or reworded questions), I checked for intentional patterns of responses and blatant inconsistencies among answers to similar items. All of the surveys appeared to be valid, and none were eliminated at this stage.

Results

A Pearson product-moment correlation reveals several significant positive correlations at the .01 level of error, with 30 degrees of freedom. These correlations, which are summarized in Table 1, involve the Dominant and Submissive scores, and the Traditional male, Traditional total, Non-traditional male, and Non-traditional total scores (see Table 1).

Table 1

R Values of Perceived Gender Role Scores and Sexual Fantasy Scores

	Dominant frequency	Dominant arousal	Submissive frequency	Submissive arousal
Traditional total	.45	.37	.49*	.43
Traditional male	.44	.29	.60*	.54*
Non-traditional total	.49*	.51*	.50*	.54*
Non-traditional male	.50*	.56*	.46*	.51*

Note. Only those correlations which are relevant to the hypothesis are shown here. A complete correlation matrix and a list of the means and standard deviations of all variables are available in Appendix C.

* $p < .01$

The correlations between the frequency and arousal scores are also highly significant. For dominant fantasy scenarios, $r_{(30)} = .90$ $p < .01$, and for submissive fantasy

scenarios, $r_{(30)} = .89$ $p < .01$. There is no significant correlation between Traditional male and Traditional female scores, $r_{(30)} = .40$ $p > .01$, or between Non-traditional male and Non-traditional female scores, $r_{(30)} = .32$ $p > .01$.

Discussion

The statistically significant correlations obtained from this study support the first part of the original hypothesis, which states that women with traditional perceived gender roles will tend to experience submissive sexual fantasies. The data pertaining to the second part of the hypothesis--that women with non-traditional perceived gender roles will tend to experience dominant sexual fantasies--are less clear in their implications, because some of the correlations support the hypothesis, while others seem to contradict it. However, a more in-depth analysis of past research reveals that the data which apparently refute the hypothesis may actually be construed as further support.

First of all, the Dominant frequency and Dominant arousal scores correlate positively with the Non-traditional total and Non-traditional male scores. As stated in the hypothesis, this correlation demonstrates that women with more non-traditional perceived gender roles are likely to have dominant sexual fantasies. Second, Submissive frequency and Submissive arousal scores correlate positively with Traditional total and Traditional male scores. Once again, this finding supports the hypothesis: women whose perceived gender roles are more traditional tend to have submissive fantasies. Interestingly enough, in both of these cases the Traditional female and Non-traditional female scores do not reach significance when correlated with Submissive fantasy and Dominant fantasy scores, respectively. The lack of statistical significance here is conspicuous; of the three types of

Traditional and Non-traditional scores (male, female, and total), the female scores are the only ones which are absent from the significant correlations. This result implies that although perceived gender roles and types of fantasies are clearly linked, the connection is more dependent upon the woman's perceptions of the *male* gender role than upon her perception of the *female* gender role. This is an area of research that is worthy of further investigation.

The finding that women's fantasies tend to be congruent with their perceived gender roles makes sense when it is considered in relation to their life experiences. It is reasonable to assume that women's perceived gender roles are shaped by their observations of and interactions with the men and women around them. According to Frey (1978, in a personal communication with Stock and Geer, 1982), women who are discouraged from taking an active or initiating role in sexual interactions--as is common in our society--will fail to be aroused by their own active sexual behavior. In the context of my study, women with traditional perceived gender roles will be less likely to be aroused by fantasies in which they take on non-traditional (in this case, dominant) characteristics. Stock and Geer (1982) stated that women who have been discouraged from being the initiators of sex would necessarily have little experience with this role; because people usually fantasize about topics with which they are familiar (Leitenberg & Henning, 1995), it would be unlikely for these women to have dominant fantasies. Finally, Lentz and Zeiss (1983) found slight support for the idea that frequently experiencing one type of fantasy reduces the ability to be aroused by other types of fantasies. Therefore, this pattern of

having fantasies consistent with one's perceived gender roles would seem to be self-perpetuating.

The results of this study which appear to contradict the hypothesis are those in which Submissive frequency and Submissive arousal scores correlate positively with Non-traditional total and Non-traditional male scores. According to part two of the hypothesis, women with non-traditional perceived gender roles should not show a preference for submissive fantasies.

The relationship between non-traditional perceived gender roles and submissive fantasies could be interpreted as support for the argument that fantasies are unrelated to, and may in fact contradict, one's attitudes and beliefs in real life. McCarthy (1988) asserted that "fantasies operate outside the system of rational modes of thought" (p. 154) and suggested that we should not try to understand them in the same manner in which we explain our everyday experiences. He also stated that it is normal for fantasies occasionally to contradict one's ethics and belief system. Grimshaw (1993) also defended this point of view and cited the example of a woman who is strongly committed to sexual equality, but at times fantasizes scenes of domination, humiliation, or rape by a man.

These arguments provide one explanation for my finding that women with non-traditional perceived gender roles enjoy submissive as well as dominant fantasies. However, neither of the authors mentioned here provided examples of experiments which supported their assertions. There is another interpretation of my results which appears to be based more soundly on scientific evidence and is also more consistent with my original assumptions and hypothesis. As stated in the introduction, Hariton (1973) discovered that

women with masculine personalities had more frequent fantasies than women with feminine personalities; in addition, women with masculine traits also had more *varied* fantasies. So, women with non-traditional perceived gender roles (who would believe women to have more masculine traits) may be able to have a variety of fantasies--including those in which they are submissive.

Hariton (1973) also offered another way of looking at the supposedly submissive fantasies in which women see themselves being overpowered or raped by one or more men. In some of these fantasies, the women imagine that they are extremely desirable, and that the men around them cannot resist or help themselves. Consequently, submissive fantasies can actually be viewed as fantasies of sexual power; the women are the dominant partners because their incredible beauty and sexual appeal control the men. According to Hariton's argument, then, the correlation between submissive fantasies and non-traditional perceived gender roles would be expected (because the submissive fantasies are functioning as dominant fantasies), and would actually lend further support to the hypothesis.

Other results obtained from this study are not directly related to the primary topic of investigation, but are still worthy of a brief discussion. There is a very high correlation between the frequency and arousal scores on both dominant and submissive items (.90 and .89, respectively), which means that the most arousing fantasies are also those which subjects experience the most frequently. This is interesting since other researchers have not always obtained a high level of congruence between these two methods of rating fantasies. Of course, these are not perfect correlations, so there is still a certain amount of

discrepancy between the frequency of the fantasy and the level of arousal that accompanies it. The r values resulting from the correlations between Traditional male and Traditional female scores ($r = .40$) and between Non-traditional male and Non-traditional female scores ($r = .32$) are of interest because of their lack of statistical significance. These findings suggest that women who perceive females as traditional or non-traditional do not necessarily perceive men according to the same pattern. For example, a woman who believes that men usually possess a number of stereotypically feminine qualities may not allow women the same freedom to have masculine characteristics, or vice versa. It is also possible that she perceives many of the same characteristics (feminine traits, for instance) in both sexes; according to my classification system, her view of men would be non-traditional, while her view of women would be traditional. This is another area that warrants further exploration.

Conclusion

This study presents evidence in favor of the argument that women's perceived gender roles carry over into their sexual fantasies. However, this investigation is most accurately viewed as a pilot study for several reasons. The sample of subjects was small, was not randomly selected, and represented a limited population and age distribution. The data were gathered through self-report measures, and their accuracy cannot be verified. Also, the survey is untested; continued use of the instrument would serve to determine its reliability and validity, and to refine its ability to probe the desired variables. Therefore, in addition to greater investigation into the topics previously mentioned, the

weaknesses of this study should be addressed and it should be replicated before definitive conclusions are drawn.

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Appendix A: Fantasy Survey

In the space below, please describe your most recent sexual fantasy about someone of the opposite sex. Use as much detail as possible. A sexual fantasy may include anything from briefly imagining someone naked to creating an elaborate erotic script in which every detail is important. A fantasy may involve real or fictional people. Some fantasies focus solely on sexual activity, some are only about romantic scenes with no obvious sexual behavior, and some combine both erotic and romantic elements. Sometimes people fantasize about things they would like to actually do, and sometimes they fantasize about things that would be frightening, embarrassing, or not arousing in real life. The only guidelines for what you write here are that you describe your most recent fantasy (not a real experience) and that it primarily involves an opposite sex partner.

Your sex: Male Female

Age:

Religious preference: (circle one)

Catholic	Lutheran
Episcopalian	Presbyterian
Methodist	None
Baptist	Other _____

Are your sexual fantasies primarily about

- people of your own sex
- people of the opposite sex

I will be using a few examples of subjects' answers in my paper (without any identifying information, of course). If you do not want your answers to be used, please indicate this here.

_____ Please do not use my answers as examples in the paper.

Now that you have described your most recent fantasy, please think about *all* of your sexual fantasies. The following survey will ask you how frequently you fantasize about particular situations, and how arousing these fantasies are to you. Do not worry about whether or not you would like to do these things in real life--I am only interested in your opinion of them as fantasies. This survey is completely anonymous and confidential, so please be honest. Research has found that it is very common to have fantasies about all of the following situations.

Please consider each of the situations on the following pages in relation to your fantasies about opposite-sex partners. Even if most of your fantasies are about same-sex partners, answer this survey with regard to those fantasies that *do* include a person of the opposite sex. Same-sex fantasies are very common, and I do not wish to exclude those of you who have them; however, this research focuses specifically on opposite-sex fantasies. Also, please note that unless the scenario specifically mentions intercourse, "sex" is used as a generic term for any type of sexual interaction.

On Scale #1 (Frequency), indicate how often your fantasies include the situation. On Scale #2 (Level of Arousal), indicate how arousing a fantasy including this scenario is to you. Answer the questions in order, and circle one number on each scale for each question. Use the following explanations to help you decide which numbers to choose.

Scale #1 Frequency (How often your fantasies include this kind of situation)

- Never
- Rarely
- Sometimes
- Usually
- Always

Scale #2 Level of Arousal (How arousing a fantasy including this kind of situation is to you)

- Not Arousing
- Slightly Arousing
- Somewhat Arousing
- Quite Arousing
- Extremely Arousing

	Scale #1	Scale #2
	Frequency	Level of Arousal
1. your opposite-sex partner inflicts pain on you	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
2. your partner is a virgin	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
3. your partner is less sexually experienced than you	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
4. your partner is sexually aggressive and confident	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
5. you focus entirely on the pleasure of your partner; your own pleasure is unimportant	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
6. your opposite-sex partner treats you as a sex slave	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
7. you show off your body and your partner finds you very sexually attractive	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
8. you are physically stronger than your partner	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
9. your partner rapes you	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
10. your partner is completely in control of the interactions between the two of you	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
11. your partner wakes you from sleep to have sex	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
12. you set the tempo and rhythm of intercourse	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
13. your partner can do anything to you that she/he wants	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
14. you are the pleasure-giver, and you enjoy watching your partner receive pleasure	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
15. your opposite-sex partner makes you wait for and beg for pleasure	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
16. you wake your partner from sleep to have sex	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
17. your partner is on top during intercourse	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5

	Scale #1	Scale #2
	Frequency	Level of Arousal
18. you focus entirely on your partner's actions (what is being done to you), and you do not take an active role	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
19. you can do whatever you want to your opposite-sex partner	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
20. your body is soft, yielding, and pliant	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
21. your partner is younger than you	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
22. you had never been able to enjoy sex until your partner awakens you to the pleasures of sex	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
23. your partner removes your clothes	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
24. your opposite-sex partner ties you up	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
25. you are on top during intercourse	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
26. your partner is physically stronger than you	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
27. your partner is your sex slave	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
28. you make your partner wait for and/or beg for pleasure	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
29. you allow a stranger to fondle you without protesting	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
30. you control the entire interaction between you and your partner	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
31. your opposite-sex partner is timid and insecure	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
32. your partner makes you have an orgasm	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
33. your partner forces you to have sex	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
34. your partner is the pleasure-giver, and enjoys watching you receive pleasure	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
35. you make your partner have an orgasm	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
36. you are humiliated by your opposite-sex partner	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
37. your partner is older than you	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5

	Scale #1	Scale #2
	Frequency	Level of Arousal
38. you are sexually aggressive and confident	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
39. you undress your partner	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
40. you learn something about sex from your partner	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
41. your partner abandons him/herself to you	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
42. you confidently pursue the person whom you desire	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
43. you focus entirely on your own pleasure; your partner is there only to bring you pleasure	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
44. you are desired and sought after	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
45. your opposite-sex partner is more sexually experienced than you are	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
46. your partner is soft, pliant, and yielding to your touch	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
47. your partner complies with all of your wishes	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
48. you touch or fondle a stranger who does not protest	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
49. you do anything your partner asks you to	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
50. you rape a person of the opposite sex	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
51. you teach your partner something about sex	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
52. your partner had never been able to enjoy sex until you awaken her/him to the pleasures of sex	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
53. you are highly aroused and need to be satisfied immediately	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
54. you humiliate your partner	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
55. your partner makes the first move	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
56. you completely abandon yourself to your partner	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
57. you inflict pain on your opposite-sex partner	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5

	Scale #1	Scale #2
	Frequency	Level of Arousal
58. you are a virgin	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
59. your partner displays his/her body; you admire it and are aroused	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
60. you make the first move	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
61. you are powerless as your partner gives you pleasure	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
62. you seduce someone of the opposite sex	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
63. your partner is powerless as you give him/her pleasure	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
64. you focus entirely on your own actions (what you are doing to your partner) without regard for his/her response	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
65. you force your partner to have sex with you	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
66. your partner seduces you	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
67. you tie your partner up	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
68. your partner tells you how she/he wants to be touched	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
69. you tell your partner how you would like to be touched	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
70. you are highly aroused, but can make yourself wait to be satisfied	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
71. your partner sets the rhythm and tempo of intercourse	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
72. you are more sexually timid and insecure than your opposite- sex partner	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5

Appendix B: Perceived Gender Role Survey

Imagine that you are about to meet someone for the first time. The only thing you know about this person is that it is a typical **heterosexual adult male**. Please indicate to what extent you believe this person will have each of the following characteristics. Use the scale below to rate each item.

- 1=Not at all true of this person
 2=Slightly true of this person
 3=Somewhat true of this person
 4=Fairly true of this person
 5=Extremely true of this person

Please indicate your choice on the line next to each characteristic. Complete the characteristics in order. For example, if you believe this person would usually be fairly emotional, put a 4 on the line next to "emotional."

- | | |
|---|--|
| _____ 1. independent | _____ 27. neat in habits |
| _____ 2. able to separate feelings from ideas | _____ 28. illogical |
| _____ 3. aggressive | _____ 29. never cries |
| _____ 4. thinks women are superior to men | _____ 30. uncomfortable about being aggressive |
| _____ 5. gentle | _____ 31. knows the way of the world |
| _____ 6. passive | _____ 32. subjective |
| _____ 7. competitive | _____ 33. conceited about appearance |
| _____ 8. feelings easily hurt | _____ 34. loud |
| _____ 9. dependent | _____ 35. easily expresses tender feelings |
| _____ 10. submissive | _____ 36. can make decisions easily |
| _____ 11. acts as a leader | _____ 37. talks freely about sex |
| _____ 12. self-confident | _____ 38. emotional |
| _____ 13. hides emotions | _____ 39. dominant |
| _____ 14. quiet | _____ 40. active |
| _____ 15. excitable in a minor crisis | _____ 41. sneaky |
| _____ 16. objective | _____ 42. enjoys art and literature |
| _____ 17. rough | _____ 43. home-oriented |
| _____ 18. tactful | _____ 44. easily influenced |
| _____ 19. cries easily | _____ 45. adventurous |
| _____ 20. thinks men are superior to women | _____ 46. aware of feelings of others |
| _____ 21. blunt | _____ 47. skilled in business |
| _____ 22. strong need for security | _____ 48. ambitious |
| _____ 23. direct | _____ 49. talkative |
| _____ 24. uses harsh language | _____ 50. interested in own appearance |
| _____ 25. logical | _____ 51. worldly |
| _____ 26. religious | _____ 52. likes math and science |

Now, imagine the same situation, but the person you are going to meet is a typical **heterosexual adult female**. Once again, use the scale below to indicate to what extent you believe the person will have each of the following characteristics.

- 1=Not at all true of this person
 2=Slightly true of this person
 3=Somewhat true of this person
 4=Fairly true of this person
 5=Extremely true of this person

Please indicate your choice on the line next to each characteristic. Complete the characteristics in order. For example, if you believe this person would usually be fairly emotional, put a 4 on the line next to "emotional."

- | | |
|--|--|
| _____ 1. can make decisions easily | _____ 27. logical |
| _____ 2. illogical | _____ 28. worldly |
| _____ 3. loud | _____ 29. thinks men are superior to women |
| _____ 4. direct | _____ 30. sneaky |
| _____ 5. talks freely about sex | _____ 31. rough |
| _____ 6. quiet | _____ 32. uncomfortable about being aggressive |
| _____ 7. religious | _____ 33. excitable in a minor crisis |
| _____ 8. likes math and science | _____ 34. uses harsh language |
| _____ 9. hides emotions | _____ 35. emotional |
| _____ 10. acts as a leader | _____ 36. feelings easily hurt |
| _____ 11. talkative | _____ 37. able to separate feelings from ideas |
| _____ 12. enjoys art and literature | _____ 38. easily influenced |
| _____ 13. independent | _____ 39. adventurous |
| _____ 14. thinks women are superior to men | _____ 40. dependent |
| _____ 15. aggressive | _____ 41. cries easily |
| _____ 16. subjective | _____ 42. competitive |
| _____ 17. neat in habits | _____ 43. submissive |
| _____ 18. conceited about appearance | _____ 44. passive |
| _____ 19. tactful | _____ 45. knows the way of the world |
| _____ 20. active | _____ 46. blunt |
| _____ 21. ambitious | _____ 47. objective |
| _____ 22. gentle | _____ 48. home-oriented |
| _____ 23. interested in own appearance | _____ 49. dominant |
| _____ 24. never cries | _____ 50. self-confident |
| _____ 25. strong need for security | _____ 51. skilled in business |
| _____ 26. aware of feelings of others | _____ 52. easily expresses tender feelings |

Correlation Matrix

Appendix C: Statistical Tables

	Dominant frequency	Dominant arousal	Submissive frequency	Submissive arousal	Traditional total	Traditional male	Traditional female	Non-traditional total	Non-traditional male	Non-traditional female
Dominant frequency										
Dominant arousal	0.90*									
Submissive frequency	0.77*	0.73*								
Submissive arousal	0.69*	0.80*	0.89*							
Traditional total	0.45	0.37	0.49*	0.43						
Traditional male	0.44	0.29	0.60*	0.54*	0.77*					
Traditional female	0.33	0.31	0.28	0.24	0.89*	0.40				
Non-traditional total	0.49*	0.51*	0.50*	0.54*	0.26	0.27	0.18			
Non-traditional male	0.50*	0.56*	0.46*	0.51*	0.52*	0.33	0.51*	0.74*		
Non-traditional female	0.33	0.31	0.37	0.38	-0.03	0.13	-0.13	0.87*	0.32	

* p < .01

Means and Standard Deviations

<u>Variable</u>	<u>Mean \pm S.D.</u>
Dominant frequency	88.75 \pm 24.50
Dominant arousal	103.75 \pm 25.95
Submissive frequency	102.88 \pm 23.18
Submissive arousal	112.25 \pm 28.14
Traditional total	177.34 \pm 17.77
Traditional male	92.94 \pm 8.67
Traditional female	84.50 \pm 12.22
Non-traditional total	138.72 \pm 15.95
Non-traditional male	64.00 \pm 8.10
Non-traditional female	74.81 \pm 11.33