

SEXUALITY QUESTIONNAIRE

The Institute for Medicine, Psychology & Religion

This set of questions is about parents' and teenagers' attitudes towards sex and sex education. The first section of the questionnaire asks you to provide general information about your background, and later sections about your experiences with sex education (as a child and/or parent) and reactions to the teachings you received. We are hoping that the information we obtain from this survey will help us understand attitudes towards sex and sex education held by teens and parents in America today and the impact of childhood and adolescent sex education on sexual identity and practices of teens and adults. More information is available online at www.inmpr.org.

Confidentiality: Your participation in this survey is voluntary and all answers will be kept confidential. If there is a question that you do not wish to answer, you can skip it and move on to the next question.

Thank you for returning your completed survey to The Institute for Medicine, Psychology & Religion, P.O. Box 380958, Cambridge, MA, 02238

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

1. Age: _____
2. Birthplace (CITY, STATE, COUNTRY): _____, _____, _____
3. Gender (Please check one):
 - a. Male _____
 - b. Female _____
4. Sexual Orientation
 - a. Heterosexual _____
 - b. Homosexual _____
 - c. Bisexual _____
5. Marital Status:
 - a. Single _____
 - b. Married _____
 - c. Separated _____
 - d. Divorced _____
 - e. Widowed _____
 - f. Committed Relationship _____
6. Race (Please check all that apply):
 - a. Caucasian _____
 - b. African _____
 - c. Asian _____
 - d. Native American _____
 - e. Hispanic _____
 - f. Other (please specify): _____
7. Religion:
 - a. Atheist/ Agnostic _____
 - b. Buddhist _____
 - c. Christian _____
 - d. Hindu _____
 - e. Jewish _____
 - f. Muslim _____
 - g. Other (please specify): _____
8. Childhood household (Please check all that apply):
 - a. One-Parent _____
 - b. Two-Parent _____
 - c. Same-sex Parents _____
 - d. Foster Parents _____
 - e. Extended Family _____
9. Caregivers' marital status (if coupled) when you were a child:
 - a. Married _____
 - b. Unmarried _____

10. How would you describe your income level?

- a. Poverty _____
- b. Below Average _____
- c. Average _____
- d. Above Average _____
- e. Student _____

11. What is the highest level of education that you have received?

- a. Some Elementary /Primary School _____
- b. Graduated Elementary /Primary School _____
- c. Some Middle School _____
- d. Graduated Middle School _____
- e. Some High School /Secondary School _____
- f. Graduated High School _____
- g. Some College _____
- h. Graduated College _____
- i. Post-College _____

CULTURAL EXPERIENCES/HISTORY

12a. Ethnicity (e.g., half-Japanese, half-American) _____

12b. Nationality (e.g., American) _____

13. Have you lived in the United States your entire life?

- a. Yes _____
- b. No _____

14. If from an immigrant family, how long has your family been living in the U.S.?

- a. 0 - 5 years _____
- b. 5-14 years _____
- c. 15-29 years _____
- d. 30-44 years _____
- e. 45 years or more _____

15. If, during the course of your lifetime, you have lived in different social settings or to belonged to different groups (socioeconomic, national, cultural etc.), have you observed differences or similarities in prevailing attitudes about sex when moving from one setting or group to another?

- a. Yes _____
- b. No _____

First Group: _____ General attitude towards sex in the first group: _____

Second Group: _____ General attitude towards sex in the second group: _____

16. Would you say that you identify fairly strongly with your cultural background(s)?

- a. Yes _____
- b. No _____

In what ways do you identify? _____

17. Have your cultural values influenced your sexual behavior?

a. Yes _____ b. No _____

Please feel free to elaborate _____

18. Do you feel that your cultural values enhance your ability to enjoy your sexuality?

a. Yes _____ b. No _____

Please feel free to elaborate _____

19. Do you feel that your cultural values and sexual behavior are often in conflict?

a. Yes _____ b. No _____

Please feel free to elaborate _____

RELIGION AND SPIRITUALITY

20. Do you consider yourself a religious or spiritual person?

a. Yes _____ b. No _____

Please feel free to elaborate _____

21. Do your religious practices influence your sexual behavior?

a. Yes _____ b. No _____

Please feel free to elaborate _____

22. Do you feel that your religious values enhance your ability to enjoy your sexuality?

a. Yes _____ b. No _____

Please feel free to elaborate _____

23. Do you feel that your religious values and sexual behavior are often in conflict?

- a. Yes_____
- b. No_____

Please feel free to elaborate _____

SEXUAL EXPERIENCES/HISTORY

24. Are you sexually active?

- a. Yes_____
- b. No_____

Which of the following for you defines sex? (Check all that apply)

- a. Kissing ____
- b. Oral Sex ____
- c. Anal Sex ____
- d. Fondling ____
- e. Mutual Masturbation ____
- f. Intercourse ____

25. How did you feel after your first sexual experience? _____

26. Have you ever engaged in sexual activity without being a fully willing participant?

- a. Yes_____
- b. No_____

27. Did you experience sexual abuse or violence as a child? a. Yes_____ b. No_____

If so, how do you feel those experiences influence your present sexual behavior?

28. Have you experienced sexual abuse or violence as an adult? a. Yes_____ b. No_____

If so, how do you feel those experiences influence your present sexual behavior?

SEXUAL MATURATION

29. Who/What prepared you for puberty?

Source of Information	
Nature of Information	
Age given	

Females:

30a. When did you experience body changes?

Body Changes	Age	Comments
Menstruation (or Period)		
When breasts began developing		
Appearance of pubic and auxiliary hair		
Do you think puberty came early or late?		

Males:

30b. When did you become aware of body changes?

Body Changes	Age	Comments
Appearance of pubic hair and auxiliary hair		
Change in voice		
Nocturnal emissions (wet dreams)		
Do you think puberty came early or late?		

DISCOVERING SEX

31. Did your family's values influence your sexual behavior?

a. Yes _____ b. No _____

In what ways? _____

32. What did your parents teach you about sex?

Which Parent	Your Age	Nature of Questions	Answers Given	Feelings About Exchange

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33. Please discuss how you learned about each of the following topics and how you would discuss each of these with your child.

Topic	Which Parent	Your Age	Explanation Given	Feelings About Such Learning	How Do You Feel Discussing These With Your Kids?
Intercourse					
Masturbation					
Sex Play					
Pregnancy					
Birth					
Nocturnal Emissions					
Menstruation					
Homosexuality					
Venereal Disease					

34. Do you have children? a. Yes_____ b. No_____

 If so, how many? a. Male_____ b. Female_____

35. Do you find it difficult to talk to your kids about sex?

 a. Yes_____ b. No_____

 If so, what do you find to be difficult? _____

36. How would you want your children to learn about sex?

37. Who would you like to guide them?

CRITICAL REFLECTIONS ON SEX EDUCATION

Personal Reflections

38. Who were your sources for sex education? _____

39. What was helpful? _____

40. What was unhelpful? _____

41. Discuss the roles of the following on your education

A. Parent(s) _____

B. School _____

C. Religious Group _____

D. Others (Please specify) _____

42. What could have improved your sex education experience?

43. Have sex education programs been useful in your life?

44. What are your recommendations for designing more effective sex education programs?

45. Would you encourage your children to take sex education courses at school?

a. Yes _____ b. No _____

Why or why not? _____

REFLECTIONS ON THE ROLES OF PARENTS, SCHOOL, AND GOVERNMENT

46. What should the family teach kids about sex education?

47. How can parents work with schools to improve sex education?

48. What do you think should be taught about sex in the classroom?

49. Should parents or government (or both) be responsible for regulating sex education?

50. Further Comments:

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