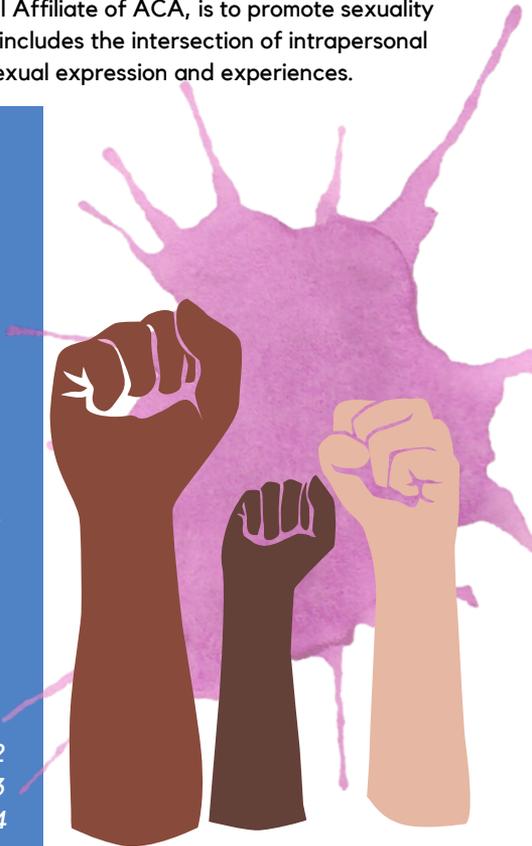


# ACSSW Summer 2021 Newsletter

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 Summer 2021 Issue of the ACSSW Newsletter Focuses on Advocacy & Social Justice.**

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# *From the ACSSW President...*

## Salutations and Welcome!

By Angela Schubert, PhD, LPC, ACSSW President

I am so excited to share with you all that on March 4th, 2021, the ACA Governing Council approved the ACSSW Organizational Affiliate application. On behalf of the ACSSW Executive Council, I wanted to thank you for your membership and participation, as we could not have done this without you. Although ACSSW is still in its infancy, we have accomplished a great deal in just a few years, and that is largely due to the volunteers who continue to dedicate their time and energy to the mission of ACSSW. It has been an especially grueling year for us all and yet, we have remained steadfast in our pursuit to see ACSSW bloom.

To highlight some of our milestones – the *Journal of Counseling Sexology & Sexual Wellness: Research, Practice, and Education* was launched in 2019 and has been downloaded a total of 11,442 times. The *ACSSW 2021 Webinar Series: The Fundamentals of Sexual Wellness for Mental Health Professionals* was launched in January of this year and each webinar has been well received so far with attendance of upwards of over 150! The next webinar is scheduled for July 16th 10-12pm. Dr. Patricia Arredondo, one of ACSSW's trustees, who will be presenting, "Sexuality and Cultural Worldviews". More information on the ACSSW Webinar series can be found on the ACSSW website, [www.counselingsexology.com](http://www.counselingsexology.com). The podcast, *Let's Get Uncomfortable*, is working on its second season and will be out soon! Lastly, we have published a quarterly newsletter, with articles and resources related to current sexual health and wellness topics.

All of that to say, we are *walking the walk* in terms of what we envisioned three years ago; and we couldn't be more excited to be on this adventure with you all. Now our vision is being recognized by ACA leadership, as stated in the excerpt below from the ACA approval letter from ACA President, Dr. Sue Pressman:

**We [ACA Governing Council] understand and support ACSSW's interest in promoting research and training for counselors on the areas of sexual health and recognizing sexuality as a universal human experience that deserves perspective in the counseling field. We applaud the growth you've achieved and investments you've made in the last three years by providing a network to counselors who are interested in resources and community.**

This statement alone marks a huge accomplishment for the field of mental health professionals and specifically, the counseling field. Beyond our membership, I want to personally thank the ACSSW Executive Council and the ACSSW Trustees for their commitment to the field and for making sure this milestone for ACSSW was achieved.

Now that we have become Organizational Affiliate, we have two major goals: 1) to become a division of ACA, and 2) publicly highlight social justice elements of human sexuality as it pertains to mental health education and training. In order to qualify as a Division of ACA, ACSSW will need to obtain a minimum number of 500 ACA members – and we are so close. Please consider sharing this information with peers and colleagues whom you believe would appreciate and enjoy what ACSSW has to offer. Becoming a division will support our mission as we would be the only division to exclusively focus on the development of counselor competencies around human sexuality through education and training. Toward our second goal, part of the mission of ACSSW is to focus on education and training as well as supporting research which focuses on the development of critical consciousness, specifically the role that oppression and privilege play in our society related to human sexual expression. As an organization we are dedicated to shining a light on sexual health and wellness as an essential aspect of the human experience.


*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!



As you may know, **ACSSW** was recently approved as an **Organizational Affiliate of the American Counseling Association!** The next step is Division status, which we hope to attain in the coming year. As we move toward that goal, we are **actively filling our open leadership positions.** In accordance with the ACSSW Bylaws, these positions can be filled by appointment until ACSSW's first election, which will be held in 2022. As such, the Executive Council is calling for applications for the open positions. **The term for these positions will end June 30, 2022.**

→ **WE NEED YOU!** ←

The first position the Executive Council is seeking to fill and is crucial to our endeavor to attain Division status with ACA, is a **Chairperson for the Promotion & Membership Committee.** In addition to overseeing the activities of the Promotion & Membership Committee, the chairperson **will work closely with the ACSSW President as ACSSW works toward Division Status.** The Promotion & Membership Committee is responsible for membership-related issues or special projects that requires discussion, research, and recommendations for association membership business which includes building ACSSW membership, membership dues, and the promotion of ACSSW in the counseling and counseling-related fields. Additionally, the Promotion & Membership committee:

- Promotes the benefits of ACSSW membership to the counseling profession
- Identifies issues important to members
- Evaluates and promotes ACSSW current and potential products and services
- Oversees ACSSW social media
- Responsible for disseminating all promotional materials, including brochures, membership notifications, newsletters, and other information to members as well as the larger community

# *Student Leaders Needed!*

The second position the Executive Council is seeking to fill is the **Student Representative for the ACSSW Board of Directors**. The ACSSW Board of Directors is responsible for the overall organization, direction, and operation of ACSSW. The person in this position must be a current graduate student in a counseling or counseling-related program as of July 9, 2021. This position is a voting position on the ACSSW Board of Directors, which meets once a year (during the ACA Annual Conference and Expo) or more if requested by the ACSSW President. The Board may also be requested to vote electronically on other exigent matters as they arise and as identified by the ACSSW Executive Council.

If you are interested in either **Chairperson of the Promotion & Membership Committee** or the **Student Representative** position, complete the application process at this link: [http://unf.col.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_2lxa\\_kjUasRcwuCW](http://unf.col.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_2lxa_kjUasRcwuCW) before 5pm EST on July 8th, 2021. We request a brief letter of interest as part of the application. If you have any questions about the position or the application process, please feel free to contact Robert Zeglin, ACSSW Honorary Past President, at <mailto:r.zeglin@unf.edu>.



## ***Building Competency Regarding Sexual Minoritized Communities***

*Christina McGrath Fair, PhD, LMHC (she/her)  
Department of Counseling, Recreation and School Psychology,  
Florida International University*

In the counseling profession, there are situations in which we may find ourselves in over our depths or feeling as though we are not the appropriate provider to care for our client's issues. Certain diagnoses or presenting issues require a specialist or at a minimum, some level of specialized training. In the area of sexuality, gender, and sexual well-being, there certainly are situations in which it is best to refer or defer to a certified sex therapist or trained sexologist (Buehler, 2016). However, when it comes to working with clients who hold various affectional and sexual orientations and gender expansive identities, we are called to maintain competency and practice humility (American Counseling Association [ACA], 2014).

We have had experiences within our profession where individuals and groups have challenged this responsibility when it comes to working with the LGBTQ+ community. In *Keeton v. Anderson-Wiley* (2010) and *Ward v. Wilbanks* (2010, 2012), counseling students, Keeton and Ward, claimed that it impeded on their values and beliefs to work with clients from this community and that they should not be required to do so. As we know, the American Counseling Association's Code of Ethics prohibits counselors from engaging in discrimination based on protected classes (ACA, 2014). While this may cover protected classes such as affectional and sexual orientation, it is much less clear on whether this covers other sexual minorities such as those in the kink, BDSM (Bondage/discipline, Dominance/submission, SadoMasochism), and polyamorous communities. The argument that these are chosen sexual behaviors rather than sexual orientations may lead many to assume these would not be covered in the protected classes. While some may consider these lifestyle choices and practices, however, others consider them to be identities and therefore, they would be covered as a protected class (Henrich & Trawinski, 2018).

Clients who identify in these communities will often seek counselors who state that they are "kink-aware" or "poly-affirming," amongst other phrases. Many counselors are unlikely to state these affirmations due to a lack of knowledge or experience with the communities or perhaps because of value-based conflicts. Currently, only two states require a sexuality course for counselors-in-training

leading to a lack of education on these communities in many practitioners. We live in a largely monogamous culture that continues to tout puritanical views that do not align with the practices that may be present in these communities. Counselors who do not agree with polyamory or practice kinky sex may struggle with keeping their own biases in check, even when presenting issues are not directly related to the client's sexual lifestyle. Clients from these communities often state that counselors have tried to connect their presenting issues with their sexual lifestyles and believe their counselor was trying to sway them from these practices (Henrich & Trawinski, 2018). However, the ACA Code of Ethics states that we are not to impose values that are inconsistent with the client's goals (ACA, 2014).

In our role as counselors, we engage our clients with empathy. In our empathic stance, we feel into another person's experience (Young, 2021). We strive to experience the client's world vicariously, not necessarily through our own lived experience. In other words, we are a different person from our client, with different experiences, beliefs, and values. Therefore, we cannot counsel or guide our clients from our own perspectives and desires rather, we must counsel and guide them based on their own perspectives and desires. While we may not be able to completely grasp another's reality, we can communicate to our clients that we are struggling to understand and care enough to try (Young, 2021). Approaching clients from a place of humility and desire to learn about them and their experiences allows them to engage without fear of judgment or shame. If we choose to engage with our clients from a place of empathy, we could avoid viewing them from the lens of our own values and be less likely to feel the weight of a value-based conflict between ourselves and our clients.

Kocet and Herlihy (2014) created a decision-making model that focused on assessing value-based conflicts within the counseling profession as a guide to navigating these dilemmas for counselors). In their article, Kocet and Herlihy state that a value conflict is present when a counselor is unable or unwilling to provide a service due to their own beliefs and value systems (2014). It can then be argued that an unwillingness to provide services to clients from kink, BDSM, and polyamorous communities, for example, is an unwillingness to engage in the empathic process, that which is one of the core components of the counseling relationship. It is allowing your own beliefs and values to get in the way of your clients' well-being. The question becomes, how can counselors work toward being more competent and affirming in working with these communities?

Henrich & Trawinski (2016) found that counseling concerns from polyamorous clients fell primarily into three categories: insufficient knowledge, client marginalization, and therapist bias. The authors suggest counselors develop "the metaskills of acceptance, curiosity, open mindedness, celebration of diversity, and willingness to explore" (Henrich & Trawinski, 2016, p. 387). Those skills build a foundation for trust, empathy, and optimism, fostering a space of growth for the client. In addition, counselors need to recognize that client issues are often a result of "community and world issues, social pressures, prejudice, and discrimination" rather than the identities themselves (Henrich & Trawinski, 2016).

Counselors also need to consider the ACA Code of Ethics, which calls for us to do no harm, to not engage in discriminatory practices, and to refrain from placing our values onto our clients (ACA, 2014). Referring our clients to other counselors should be done in cases where the counselor's continued interactions with the client could potentially create harm due to lack of competency in areas of specialization and not when counselors disagree with their clients' lifestyles, identities, or beliefs. Counselors can be open to referral if the client requests a counselor with lived experience or that is more well-versed in working with individuals who hold their identities. Counselors need to recognize that biases are often not obvious and can be hidden. With that said, counselors should be engaging in reflective practices to increase self-awareness of biases and ways in which the biases may be creating a barrier to client well-being. This can potentially prevent counselor bias from negatively impacting the client.

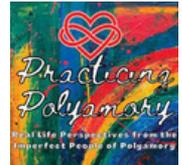
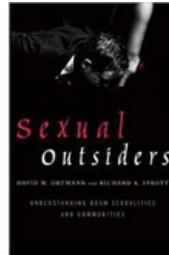
Finally, counselors should be working to increase their knowledge and competencies of other cultures, belief systems, identities, and practices including sexual minoritized communities. This increased knowledge will prevent situations where counselors have misinformation or where clients are in a teaching role with their counselors. Counselors will need to continue to approach clients from a place of humility, however, they cannot place the onus on the clients to educate them. In addition, clients will likely feel an increased level of trust in the counseling relationship when they know their counselor is doing the work themselves. Additionally, supervision and consultation are imperative for professional and competent practice for counselors experiencing active and ongoing biases towards clients.

There are numerous resources available for counselors to educate themselves on the kink, BDSM, and polyamorous communities. Counseling and other mental health organizations are beginning to offer continuing education, webinars, and other informational sessions on these topics such as ACSW (Association of Counseling Sexology and Sexual Wellness) and SAIGE (Society for Sexual, Affectional, Intersex, and Gender Expansive Identities), both associated with the American Counseling Association. In addition, there are organizations that offer education and resources on their websites, such as the National Coalition for Sexual Freedom (<https://ncsfreedom.org/>) and The Affirmative Couch (<https://affirmativecouch.com/>). Podcasts have grown in number and popularity and there are several focused specifically on being a part of or working with individuals in these communities, for example, *Practicing Polyamory Podcast*, *Multiamory*, *Erotic Awakening*, *Sexology*, *Sex from A to Z*, and *Let's Get Uncomfortable*. Finally, there are many helpful books to increase your knowledge, such as *Love's Not Color Blind: Race and Representation in Polyamorous and Other Alternative Communities* by Patterson and Johnson, *Polysecure: Attachment, Trauma, and Consensual Nonmonogamy* by Fern, and *Sexual Outsiders: Understanding BDSM Sexualities and Communities* by Ortman and Sprott.

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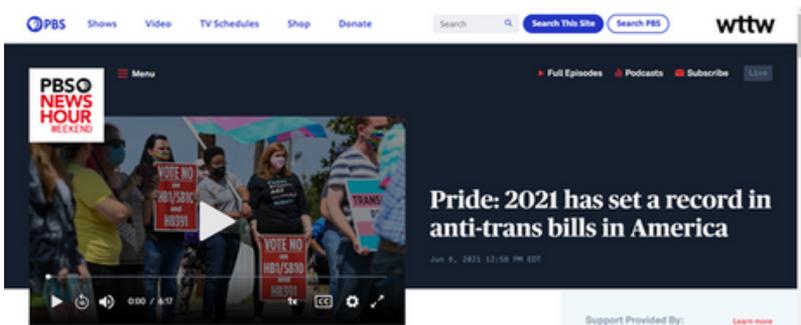
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# Advocacy & Social Justice Committee Report 2021

Submitted by Frances McClain, PhD, LCPC, NCC  
Advocacy & Social Justice Committee Chair

One of the cornerstones values of the Association of Counseling Sexology & Sexual Wellness (ACSSW) is to be an advocate for social justice issues related to sexuality. Given that human sexuality covers a broad spectrum is issues across the lifespan this is a daunting task. The **Social Justice & Advocacy Committee** is responsible for providing organizational leadership related to issues of social justice as it pertains to sexuality and sexual wellness. This edition of the ACSSW Newsletter will focus on current social justice issues related to sexuality. Unfortunately, there is no shortage of topics to choose from across the U.S. and globally. Listed here are some important social justice issues and new initiatives in 2021 ACSSW members should be aware of:



<https://www.pbs.org/newshour/show/pride-2021-has-set-a-record-in-anti-trans-bills-in-america>

**We are in a new defining moment to reshape the narrative around sexual violence and its impact on Black survivors.**

Black survivors have been a key part of defining moments to call out sexual violence. Yet, as movements to address sexual violence have emerged, Black survivors' experiences and stories have gone underexamined—and worse, Black survivors have been silenced or received backlash when they speak out.

We, As Ourselves is a call-to-action to center the voices and experiences of Black survivors and to create the cultural conditions for Black survivors to be heard and supported.



LEARN MORE

<https://weasourselves.org/>



<https://siecus.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/SIECUS-2021-State-of-Sex-Education-Legislative-Overview.pdf>

## Sexual Health Care for Older LGBTQIA+ Adults | 2021



<https://www.lgbtqihealtheducation.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/LGBTQIA-Older-Adults-Sexual-Health-Brief-2021.pdf>

### U.S. states making 2021 moves on abortion rights and access

by Krista Bollen | [@kristabollen](#) | Thomson Reuters Foundation  
Published: 20 Feb 2021 11:28 GMT



<https://news.trust.org/item/20201231112641-qfynt/>



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#### PRESS RELEASE

### Share of Children Among Trafficking Victims Increases, Boys Five Times; COVID-19 Seen Worsening Overall Trend in Human Trafficking, Says UNODC Report

2 February 2021

<https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/press/releases/2021/February/share-of-children-among-trafficking-victims-increases--boys-five-times-covid-19-seen-worsening-overall-trend-in-human-trafficking--says-unodc-report.html>



WORLD.

## International Sex Workers' Day: Theme is Access to Justice; history and significance

The day acts as a platform to demand equal rights for sex workers

FP Trending | June 02, 2021 10:56:13 IST



Image via Shutterstock/Ryna Kalamurza

<https://www.firstpost.com/world/international-sex-workers-day-theme-is-access-to-justice-history-and-significance-9676971.html>



Good reproductive health policy starts with credible research



DONATE NOW

OUR WORK

TOPICS

REGIONS

ABOUT



## Research and Policy Resources: COVID-19's Impact on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights

<https://www.guttmacher.org/covid-19-resources>

### Media Contacts

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# Global Sexuality News Map 2021

by Katrina Ramirez  
Assistant Editor



- |                                  |               |               |
|----------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| 1 United States of America (USA) | 4 Mozambique  | 7 Japan       |
| 2 Spain                          | 5 India       | 8 Philippines |
| 3 Switzerland                    | 6 South Korea | 9 Global      |

- 1 X' Passports in US Mark Shift Toward Respecting Gender Diversity**  
<https://www.hrw.org/news/2021/06/30/x-passports-us-mark-shift-toward-respecting-gender-diversity>
- 2 Spain Moves Step Closer to Gender Self-Identification**  
<https://www.usnews.com/news/world/articles/2021-06-29/spains-government-approves-first-draft-of-gender-self-identification-bill>
- 3 Swiss Court Rejects Temporary Sex Workers' Access to COVID-Related Compensation**  
<https://www.usnews.com/news/world/articles/2021-06-25/swiss-court-rejects-temporary-sex-workers-access-to-covid-related-compensation>
- 4 Mozambique Investigates Sexual Exploitation of Women Inmates**  
<https://www.hrw.org/news/2021/06/25/mozambique-investigates-sexual-exploitation-women-inmates>

- 5 **Landmark Ruling in India for Survivors of Sexual Abuse with Disabilities**  
<https://www.hrw.org/news/2021/06/01/landmark-ruling-india-survivors-sexual-abuse-disabilities>
- 6 **South Korea has a huge problem with digital sex crimes against women says Human Rights Watch**  
[https://www.theregister.com/2021/06/17/human\\_rights\\_watch\\_south\\_korea\\_digital\\_crime\\_against\\_women\\_report/](https://www.theregister.com/2021/06/17/human_rights_watch_south_korea_digital_crime_against_women_report/)
- 7 **Japan: Global Firms Back LGBT Non-Discrimination Act**  
<https://www.hrw.org/news/2021/06/01/japan-global-firms-back-lgbt-non-discrimination-act>
- 8 **Time for a different approach to online child sexual exploitation in the Philippines**  
<https://news.trust.org/item/20210603007011022-ltrlk/>
- 9 **The Right of Everyone to Sexual and Reproductive Health: Challenges and Opportunities During Covid-19**  
<https://www.hrw.org/news/2021/06/10/right-everyone-sexual-and-reproductive-health-challenges-and-opportunities-during>



# *Sexual Pleasure & Social Justice 2021*

The following are excerpts from the ACSSW 2021 Webinar Series: The Fundamentals of Sexual Wellness for Mental Health Professionals 5th Webinar of a 12-part Monthly Series offered by ACSSW & TCSPP which was titled, **"Pleasure Advocacy: A Sexual Wellness Model"** presented by **Frances McClain, PhD, LCPC, NCC** and **Lisa Salvadore, MSW, LCSW, CADC**. The goal is to shine a light on the critical role of sexual pleasure within the context of sexual rights and sexual health. Historically, there have been barriers to sexual pleasure, especially for women, BIPOC, and other marginalized communities. The World Association for Sexual Health (WAS) has been a leader in acknowledging the relationship between sexual pleasure, sexual rights, and sexual health. The WAS Declaration of Sexual Pleasure (2019), both affirmed sexual pleasure as a sexual right but also urged governments, educational institutions, and the public to educate and support the right of sexual pleasure for all people.

## **The Realities Around the World....**

- Sexual minorities continue to experience higher rates of sexual violence worldwide (Ford et al., 2019).
- In the countries worst affected by HIV, adolescent girls are 8x more likely to be living with HIV than adolescent boys (UNAIDS, 2019b).
- Study in Mexico found one third of transgender adults had used hormones without medical supervision (Robles et al., 2016).
- Sexuality, sexual desire, and sexual pleasure remain subjects of shame and stigma in many parts of the world, with sexual health programs that focus on the unwanted consequences of sexual behaviors, sexual morbidities and "normalized" heterosexual practices further contribute to stigmatization (Gruskin et al, 2019).

## Historical Highlights

(Ford et al., 2019)

1975



World Health Organization (WHO) defines sexual health.

1994



Programme of Action of the International Conference Development affirmed sexual & reproductive health as a fundamental human right & emphasized empowering women & girls is critical.

1995



Beijing Platform for Action from the Fourth World Conference on Women Declaration stated that women can make decisions "related to their sexuality, free from coercion, discrimination and violence."

2008

2014

2019



World Association for Sexual Health includes sexual pleasure to sexual rights and develops the Declaration of Sexual Pleasure.

2018



Gutmacher Commission inclusion of sexual pleasure as a basic human right, an essential requirement for a healthy, happy, and productive life.



### Blueprint for Sexual and Reproductive Health, Rights, and Justice

# SEXUAL PLEASURE...

- Newest to arrive on the sexual health & sexual rights policy landscape.
- The study of sexual pleasure generally has a narrow, heteronormative bias, addressing pleasure through a default focus on adults within marriage.
- Organizations focused on sexual health are now urging governments, international agencies, academic institutions, and society to recognize sexual pleasure as a component of holistic health and wellbeing.
- To integrate sexual pleasure as a component of holistic health would require research, policy and service delivery, as well as viewing sexual rights not only as being "free from violence" but viewing sexuality from a positive perspective.

Gruskin et al., 2019

## BARRIERS TO SEXUAL PLEASURE

None or inadequate sexual education

Sexual pleasure is structured and influenced by gender inequality

Inability to access resources such as medical & surgical treatments for sexual minority populations

Laws, policies & practices are outdated and/or influences are not representative of the majority of the people in the community

Stigma & social cultural taboos associated with LGBTQIA+ community are oppressive & impact sexual health and pleasure

People viewed as disabled are infantilized through laws & policies & prohibited access to sexual rights & sexual pleasure

Lack of healthy models for people from marginalized groups

Research consistently documents ways that sexual pleasure serves to reproduce and maintain structures of status & power!



Meaningful concern for sexual health requires attention to political currents, and social movements, within countries as well as at regional and global levels, as these influence health, legal and policy standards, and the impacts these all have on people's lived experience of their sexuality, sexual health, sexual rights, and sexual pleasure.

Gruskin et al., 2019

## PLEASURE ADVOCACY



The Importance of Sexual Pleasure:  
A New Declaration

Sex education focuses on disease, fear, and shame. Sex education programs ignore pleasure, considering it a superfluous topic of privilege. This is especially true in low-income settings.

Pleasure is missing link between informed decision-making and sexual wellness.

Putting sexual pleasure at the forefront of these educational conversations will allow for a more holistic understanding of sex in terms of love, communication, and consent, natural human desire, and safety and contraception.

Female pleasure is consistently deprioritized in sexual encounters, exacerbating gender inequalities.

Larsson, 2019



## Mexico City World Congress of Sexual Health DECLARATION ON SEXUAL PLEASURE

The participants of the 24<sup>th</sup> World Congress of the World Association for Sexual Health:

### RECOGNIZE that:

Sexual pleasure is the physical and/or psychological satisfaction and enjoyment derived from shared or solitary erotic experiences, including thoughts, fantasies, dreams, emotions, and feelings.

Self-determination, consent, safety, privacy, confidence and the ability to communicate and negotiate sexual relations are key enabling factors for pleasure to contribute to sexual health and well-being. Sexual pleasure should be exercised within the context of sexual rights, particularly the rights to equality and non-discrimination, autonomy and bodily integrity, the right to the highest attainable standard of health and freedom of expression. The experiences of human sexual pleasure are diverse and sexual rights ensure that pleasure is a positive experience for all concerned and not obtained by violating other people's human rights and well-being.<sup>1</sup>

### DECLARE that:

1. The possibility of having pleasurable and safe sexual experiences free of discrimination, coercion, and violence is a fundamental part of sexual health and well-being for all;
2. Access to sources of sexual pleasure is part of human experience and subjective well-being;
3. Sexual pleasure is a fundamental part of sexual rights as a matter of human rights;
4. Sexual pleasure includes the possibility of diverse sexual experiences;
5. Sexual pleasure shall be integrated into education, health promotion and service delivery, research and advocacy in all parts of the world;
6. The programmatic inclusion of sexual pleasure to meet individuals' needs, aspirations, and realities ultimately contributes to global health and sustainable development and it should require comprehensive, immediate and sustainable action.

<sup>1</sup> Adapted from: Global Advisory Board for Sexual Health and Wellbeing. (2016). Working definition of sexual pleasure. Retrieved from <http://www.gab-shw.org/our-work/working-defin-ition-of-sexual-pleasure/>



**URGE** all governments, international intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, academic institutions, health and education authorities, the media, private sector actors, and society at large, and particularly, all member organizations of the World Association for Sexual Health to:

- A. **Promote** sexual pleasure in law and policy as a fundamental part of sexual health and well-being, grounded in the principles of sexual rights as human rights, including self-determination, non-discrimination, privacy, bodily integrity, and equality;
- B. **Ensure** that comprehensive sexuality education addresses sexual pleasure in an inclusive, evidence-informed and rights-based manner tailored to people's diverse capacities and needs across the life span, in order to allow experiences of informed, self-determined, respectful, and safe sexual pleasure;
- C. **Guarantee** that sexual pleasure is integral to sexual health care services provision, and that sexual health services are accessible, affordable, acceptable, and free from stigma, discrimination, and prosecution;
- D. **Enhance** the development of rights-based, evidence-informed knowledge of the benefits of sexual pleasure as part of well-being, including rights-based funding resources, research methodologies, and dissemination of knowledge to address the role of sexual pleasure in individual and public health;
- E. **Reaffirm** the global, national, community, interpersonal, and individual commitments to recognition of the diversity in sexual pleasure experiences respecting human rights of all people and supported by consistent, evidence-informed policy and practices, interpersonal behavior, and collective action.



# 2021 Webinar Series

## Association of Counseling Sexology & Sexual Wellness 2021 Webinar Series: The Fundamentals of Sexual Wellness for Mental Health Professionals

12-part Monthly Series offered by ACSSW & The Institute for Professional and Continuing Studies

Attendees who attend all 12 webinars in the series will receive a certificate of attendance from ACSSW

ACSSW Members attend and receive CEs free! Go to [counselingsexology.com](http://counselingsexology.com) to join ACSSW!



**July 16**  
**10am-12pm**

Patricia Arredondo, EdD

*Sexuality and Cultural Worldviews*

**August 20**  
**10am-12pm**

Christian Chan, PhD, NCC

*Intersectionality and Sexuality*



**September 17**  
**10am-12pm**

Richard Siegel, PhD,  
LMHC, CST-S

*Addiction & Counseling*



**October 15**  
**10am-12pm**

Amanda Tashjan, PhD,  
LPC, LCPC

*Universal Sexuality: An Inclusive Approach to Sexuality and Disability*

**November 19**  
**10am-12pm**

Tanisha Sapp, EdD, LPC,  
CST, NCC, ACS, CPCS,  
MAC, SAP &  
Cheryl Walker, MA, NCC,  
APC

*Deconstructing Sex Education: The Whole Truth & Nothing but the Truth*



**December 17**  
**10am-12pm**

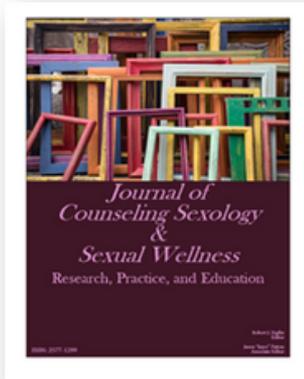
ACSSW Leadership

*Panel Discussion on Sexuality Competencies for Mental Health Professionals*



Questions? Contact the Institute for Professional and Continuing Studies at [officeofce@thechicagoschool.edu](mailto:officeofce@thechicagoschool.edu)

# *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.

*Accepting submissions for Spring 2022 Issue through October 15*

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

# *ACSSW Leadership*

## **Executive Team**

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### *President*

Angela Schubert

### *President-Elect*

Frances McClain

### *Secretary*

Shannon Shoemaker

### *Treasurer*

Tanisha Sapp

### *Honorary Past President*

Robert Zeglin

### *SWIC Representative*

Cheryl Walker

## **Trustees**

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Mark Pope

Patricia Arredondo

## **Committee Chairs**

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### *Promotion & Membership*

Position Vacant

### *Education & Training*

Angela Schubert

### *Research & Scholarship*

Robert Zeglin

### *Social Justice & Advocacy*

Frances McClain

## **ACSSW Newsletter**

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Frances McClain, *Editor*

Katrina Ramirez, *Assistant Editor*

# 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