Men in Relationships Study  
Preliminary Findings  
March 30, 2004

Here are statistics from the Men in Relationships Study: Participants were gay-identified men either (a) in a serious relationship with another man, or (b) recently in a serious relationship with another man. Reports about a “current” or “primary” partner refer to the current relationship or to the previous serious relationship. Usually when reporting an “average” finding we will report the mean score (the total of all participants’ scores divided by the number of participants). In some cases we will also report the “median” (that is, if you were to line up all the scores, in order, in a row, the median would be the one exactly in the middle). When there are extremely high or extremely low scores in a given response to a question, the median is usually the best estimate of “central tendency” or the typical participant’s score.

Participant Demographics
Total number of participants: 41
Age range: 18 to 63 years
Mean age: 30.8 years

Sexual Orientation
Gay Male/Homosexual: 98%
Bisexual: 1%

Race/Ethnicity
Caucasian/White 88%
Latino/Hispanic 10%
Multi-Ethnic 2.5%

Religion
Catholic 25%
Protestant 20%
Spiritual 22%
Agnostic/Atheist 17%
Jewish 10%
Other 7%

Area of Domicile
City/Urban 65%
Small Town 25%
Suburb 5%
Rural 5%
Living Situation
With partner 42%
Live alone 32%
With roommates 22%
With parents 3%
Work full time 56%
Full Time student 42%

Relationship Information
Percentage of participants currently in a relationship: 71%
Current (or most recent) relationship length: 4.7 yrs. (longest 26.5 years)
First sexual/romantic relationship: Mean 15.5 years (range: 7 to 28 yrs. of age)
Longest relationship: Mean 4.8 years (longest 26 years)
Number of lifetime sexual partners: Mean 102; Median 15.5 (range 0-1000 partners)

Current/Recent Sexual Behaviors

Frequency of Sex
Once a month or less 13%
2-3 times/month 13%
1-6 times/week 60%
Once a day 13%
More then 1/day 0%

Regularly use condom with primary partner?
Yes 24%
No 76%

Engaged in at least twice w/primary partner
Deep Kissing 94%
Oral Sex 100%
Anal Sex 89%
Oral/Anal (rimming) 54%

Number of sexual partners in past year
Male partners: Mean 5 (Median = 2; range: 0-40)
Female partners Mean .11, Median = 0 (4 participants had one female partner each)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Relationship Agreement</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Closed/Monogamous</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open w/rules about outside sex</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open without rules</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No agreement, not discussed</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disagree about outside sex</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

37% **never** had outside sex while in relationship
40% had outside sex while in an **open** relationship
46% had outside sex while in a **closed** relationship

Number of **outside** partners while in a relationship: Mean = 4, Median = 1 (range: 0-25)
Number of **outside** partners in last 12 months: Mean = 2, Median = 0 (range 0-25)

Has your partner had outside sex while in the relationship?
- No 40%
- Yes 35%
- Don’t know 25%

Have rules about outside sex been violated?
- By you 25% yes
- By your partner 35% yes

Study contact information:
Principal investigator: Steve Forssell
Email: MCRS@gwu.edu
D.C. Phone: 202-994-6323
Denver Phone: 303-596-2244
Website: [http://home.gwu.edu/~forssell](http://home.gwu.edu/~forssell)