Topics in PsycINFO of Relevance to Sexuality & Gender Identity

PsycINFO is a research database published by the American Psychological Association. Clinicians can find information to guide them in treating patients with a variety of needs, and researchers can delve more deeply into the psychological and behavioral underpinnings of sexuality and gender.

Sample Searches in Sexuality & Gender Identity

**Scenario:** A therapist needs to learn more about gender identity and the psychological development of sexual identity in teenagers.

**Search:** Gender Identity AND Psychosexual Development, use the Age Group limiter to select Adolescence (13-17 yrs)

**Results:** Articles on supporting GLBTQ youth in schools and other settings, research on hormone therapy for treatment of gender identity disorder, and studies of sexual behavior and sexual orientation in youth.

**Scenario:** A nurse in a college health services office would like to find some scholarly literature that discusses the impact of sex education on students.

**Search:** Sex Education AND College Students

**Results:** Articles exploring what college students do and don’t know about sex, influence of previous sex education on their sexual behavior in college, and various examinations of students’ decision making about sexual activity.

**Scenario:** A doctoral student is interested in learning what types of studies have investigated the experiences of the partners of transgender individuals.

**Search:** Transsexualism AND Sexual Partners

**Results:** Studies examining the sexual fluidity of individuals whose partners are transitioning or transgender, as well as articles looking at social and community support for them.
Selected Search Terms

The search terms provided here are just a few excerpts from the many relevant terms in PsycINFO’s thesaurus. If you aren’t sure how to use these terms (called Subject Terms, Subject Headings, or Index Terms depending on your interface), check with your librarian or consult the PsycINFO Quick Reference Guide you may also have received at the same time as this handout.

Sexual Orientation
• Bisexuality
• Gender Identity
• Heterosexuality
• Homosexuality
• Lesbianism
• Sociosexual Orientation
• Transgender
• Transsexualism
• Transvestism

Social and Cultural Issues
• Hate Crimes
• Same Sex Couples
• Same Sex Marriage
• Sex Discrimination
• Sex Education
• Sex Offenses
• Sexual Harassment

Sex and Sexuality
• Cybersex
• Eroticism
• Orgasm
• Psychosexual Development
• Masturbation
• Psychosexual Behavior
• Reproductive Health
• Safe Sex
• Same Sex Intercourse
• Seduction
• Sex Drive
• Sexual Abstinence
• Sexual Attraction
• Sexual Arousal
• Sexual Fantasy
• Sexual Partners
• Sexual Risk Taking
• Sexualization

Clinical & Therapeutic Applications
• Gender Identity Disorder
• Genital Disorders
• Hermaphroditism
• Infertility
• Klinefelters Syndrome
• Sex Change
• Sex Chromosomes
• Sex Hormones
• Sex Therapy
• Sterility

Relationships
• Marital Conflict
• Monogamy
• Relationship Termination
• Sex Roles
• Social Dating