

Sexuality Survey

1. Name

'B'

2. If you're open to a follow-up interview, please share your email address

[Redacted for anonymity purposes]

3. Age

32

4. Location

London, UK

5. Ethnicity

Greek

6. Gender Identification

Cis Woman

7. Sexual Orientation

Queer/Lesbian

8. Where did you go to University / College / Higher Education Institution

[Redacted for anonymity purposes]

9. Where did you go to Secondary School / High School?

[Redacted for anonymity purposes]

10. Where did you go to Primary School / Elementary School / Preparatory School?

[Redacted for anonymity purposes]

11. What do you do?

Writer, cultural worker, Press & Comms professional

12. Relationship Status

Just moved to a room of my own after co-habiting with my girlfriend for two years

13. How old were you when you received sex and relationships education (if any)?

I've never received any

14. Is there anything you can remember that sparked your sexual / intimate desires?

So many things it's hard to enumerate

15. Roughly, at what age were you when this happened and how did it feel?

I was 5-6 in the first relevant memory I can recall

16. How old were you when you had sex with someone else for the first time?

17

17. How many significant relationships have you been in? (if a casual sexual arrangement was significant to you in some way, please do include those types of relationships here!)?

Five (I've counted more or less long-term 'important' relationships)

18. Do you have guilt or shame around desire / sex / pleasure? Please explain why / why not?

No, but it took me many years to realise that I've always been attracted by women so I was suppressing myself due to internalised homophobia

19. Do you enjoy sex?

Yes

20. Please can you explain your answer to the above question

I orgasm when I have sex without having to try hard to "achieve" it (this is what I was doing in previous sexual relationships with men)

21. If your answer to question 19. was "No", what is stopping you from enjoying sex?

N/A

22. How do you think your own sexuality is perceived by others (e.g. do you think people perceive you as a sexual being? Do you think people see you as someone who is / isn't very into sex?)

People perceive me as a sexual being mainly in periods where I'm good with my sexuality (when I have sex without overthinking it)

23. Have you ever taken steps to gain more of an insight into your sexuality?

No

24. If your answer to question 23. was "Yes" how useful was this?

N/A

25. Do you have children?

No

26. If your answer to question 25. was “Yes”, at what age did you first speak to them about sex and relationships (if at all)?

N/A

27. If your answer to question 25. was “No”, do you think you’d like children in the future?

No. I don’t want to be a mother but I’d be very glad to help raise kids (of a partner for example).

28. Do you support compulsory sex and relationships education? Why? / Why not? NB. The ‘Relationships and sex education (RSE) and health education’ curriculum became compulsory for all schools in the UK from September 2020.

Yes in theory but it’s very important to me to be taught from the “right” people, otherwise it can be quite damaging. I haven’t read the curriculum yet.

29. Any other comments that come to mind? Do share!

She Dares To Say is so good! Very insightful and interesting, I’m a major fan.

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Sexuality Survey

1. Name

Almaz

2. If you're open to a follow-up interview, please share your email address

N/A

3. Age

32

4. Location

Appolonia City, Ghana

5. Ethnicity

Mixed Black West African and White British

6. Gender Identification

Female (she/her)

7. Sexual Orientation

"Pansexual" is probs the term that's closest

8. Where did you go to University / College / Higher Education Institution

University of Southampton, UK

9. Where did you go to Secondary School / High School?

Dronfield Henry Fanshawe School, UK

10. Where did you go to Primary School / Elementary School / Preparatory School?

St Andrews Primary School, UK

11. What do you do?

Multi-disciplinary Writer and Creative

12. Relationship Status

Single.

For the last six months I've not been dating/sleeping with anyone, which is the longest I've ever gone in my adult life in without partnered physical intimacy. It can sometimes feel like a significant part of my selfhood has retreated and I'm still unsure

as to how other parts of me can ultimately fill the gap. The lack of touch has been incredibly hard for me, and I've had to give myself space to grieve for that loss.

I'd like to think that I'm open to being in some form of committed partnership, but since making a conscious decision back in October to take myself out of the marketplace to focus on my own healing and growth, I've been fairly content in my alonement.

13. How old were you when you received sex and relationships education (if any)?

10 or 11 (in the final year of primary school). Had already been given a *Where Do Babies Come From* book by my mum at the age of 7. I read it with interest and astonishment. And took it to school to show all my friends. From what I remember they were interested and astonished too.

14. Is there anything you can remember that sparked your sexual / intimate desires?

That Jack and Rose scene in *Titanic*.

15. Roughly, at what age were you when this happened and how did it feel?

About 9. I got a fluttery feeling in my tummy and couldn't look away, but also was confused as it seemed that in the film it was something that they weren't supposed to be doing. But they seemed to really like it, and were brought closer together by doing the things they did in the car.

16. How old were you when you had sex with someone else for the first time?

One week shy of 19.

17. How many significant relationships have you been in?

Urm...

Romantic involvements, 2. Significant sexual arrangements, like, maybe 7, so probs 9. Fulfilling hook-ups, around 50. Dozens of encounters which were a complete waste of everyone's time too.

18. Do you have guilt or shame around desire / sex / pleasure? Please explain why / why not?

No. But as a teen I sometimes tried to initiate sexual encounters with the peers that I fancied. I was often met with fear and confusion, which then led to a bit of shame. But when I left school I found lots peeps who were interested in sharing sexual pleasure with me. The last time I felt guilt around desire / sex / pleasure was in 2007.

19. Do you enjoy sex?

Absolutely, 100%

20. Please can you explain your answer to the above question

I believe that we all have an tremendous capacity for pleasure, but sadly, the weight of conservative social norms and existing sexual scripts have done a good job of preventing us from fully enjoying this innate part of ourselves. I think I'm really lucky in that I was able to shake off all that baggage at the beginning of my sexual career. I've had many truly transcendental physical experiences and hope that others have, too.

21. If your answer to question 19. was "No", what is stopping you from enjoying sex?

N/A

22. How do you think your own sexuality is perceived by others (e.g. do you think people perceive you as a sexual being? Do you think people see you as someone who is / isn't very into sex?)

Because of my work, I'm perceived as someone who's very into sex, which is true. But sometimes it can feel like there's lots of pressure to be "excellent" at sex. Sometimes I can be really turned on and attracted to someone, but the energy between us is somehow a bit off, so the physicality can feel forced rather, than natural and flowing.

23. Have you ever taken steps to gain more of an insight into your sexuality?

Yes. In 2019, I attended a three-hour group Tantra workshop with someone I was dating.

24. If your answer to question 23. was "Yes" how useful was this?

It was a wonderfully eye-opening experience and was more about intuition, intention and authentic communication, than physical intimacy.

25. Do you have children?

No

26. If your answer to question 25. was "Yes", at what age did you first speak to them about sex and relationships (if at all)?

N/A

27. If your answer to question 25. was "No", do you think you'd like children in the future?

Yes, but I'm not sure how it would be possible within the current confines of mono-heteronormativity.

28. Do you support compulsory sex and relationships education? Why? / Why not? NB. The 'Relationships and sex education (RSE) and health education' curriculum became compulsory for all schools in the UK from September 2020.

Yes. However... Despite the three-year drafting process (which saw input from a public consultation where over 40,000 people contacted the Department for Education)

the new curriculum still gives undue precedence to the marriage model centred in Western Anglo-based cultures.

The catalyst for its update was a campaign run by Laura Bates (of Everyday Sexism fame), one of the most influential UK voices on sexismⁱ. However, as always the way when it comes to British changemakers her activism has centred voices like hers: Bates is a privileged, Caucasian, University of Cambridge alumna. I can't help but imagine what the curriculum could look like if alternative sexual identities and sexual experiences weren't minoritised by the elites.

29. Any other comments that come to mind? Do share!

Everyone should have more solo sex! Obligatory caveat: But not so much that it becomes a problem.

ⁱ The Everyday Sexism Project is a website founded on 16 April 2012 by Laura Bates, a British feminist writer. The aim of the site is to document examples of sexism from around the world. Entries are submitted directly to the site, or by email or tweet. <<https://everydaysexism.com/>> [accessed February 17 2021]

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Sexuality Survey

1. Name

'C'

2. If you're open to a follow-up interview, please share your email address

[Redacted for anonymity purposes]

3. Age

38

4. Location

London, UK

5. Ethnicity

White British (1/4 GRIT)

6. Gender Identification

Male

7. Sexual Orientation

Straight

8. Where did you go to University / College / Higher Education Institution

[Redacted for anonymity purposes]

9. Where did you go to Secondary School / High School?

[Redacted for anonymity purposes]

10. Where did you go to Primary School / Elementary School / Preparatory School?

[Redacted for anonymity purposes]

11. What do you do?

Brand storytelling

12. Relationship Status

Single

13. How old were you when you received sex and relationships education (if any)?

Very basic at primary 6/7 maybe?

**14. Is there anything you can remember that sparked your sexual / intimate desires?
e.g. a certain person / a film / a song / an advert?**

This art house short porn film that was on channel 4 late at night when I was 13 about a motorcycle that is possessed by an ancient African spirit that makes love with its rider but also becomes jealous of them

15. Roughly, at what age were you when this happened and how did it feel?

13 very aroused

16. How old were you when you had sex with someone else for the first time?

15

17. How many significant relationships have you been in? (if a casual sexual arrangement was significant to you in some way, please do include those types of relationships here!)?

6 serious relationships, probably a similar number of other more casual ones that were significant in their own way

18. Do you have guilt or shame around desire / sex / pleasure? Please explain why / why not?

Not so much anymore. Feel like I've worked thorough a lot

19. Do you enjoy sex?

Yes

20. Please can you explain your answer to the above question

But in many casual encounters it's not that fulfilling. It's best when there's an emotional, mental, spiritual connection

21. If your answer to question 19. was "No", what is stopping you from enjoying sex?

N/A

22. How do you think your own sexuality is perceived by others (e.g. do you think people perceive you as a sexual being? Do you think people see you as someone who is / isn't very into sex?)

I think people see me as popular with women and a man about town but to some of my more kink positive friends are surprised I haven't gone as far as them in some areas

23. Have you ever taken steps to gain more of an insight into your sexuality?

Yes

24. If your answer to question 23. was “Yes” how useful was this?

Very useful and I enjoyed intimacy more

25. Do you have children?

No

26. If your answer to question 25. was “Yes”, at what age did you first speak to them about sex and relationships (if at all)?

N/A

27. If your answer to question 25. was “No”, do you think you’d like children in the future?

Yes I'd love to be father with the right person and it's a high priority for me

28. Do you support compulsory sex and relationships education? Why? / Why not? NB. The ‘Relationships and sex education (RSE) and health education’ curriculum became compulsory for all schools in the UK from September 2020.

Yes having none is harmful IMHO

29. Any other comments that come to mind? Do share!

N/A

Sexuality Survey

1. Name

'D'

2. If you're open to a follow-up interview, please share your email address

[Redacted for anonymity purposes]

3. Age

25

4. Location

Accra, Ghana

5. Ethnicity

Ewe & Fante

6. Gender Identification

Cis Male

7. Sexual Orientation

Gay

8. Where did you go to University / College / Higher Education Institution

[Redacted for anonymity purposes]

9. Where did you go to Secondary School / High School?

[Redacted for anonymity purposes]

10. Where did you go to Primary School / Elementary School / Preparatory School?

[Redacted for anonymity purposes]

11. What do you do?

Journalist, Producer

12. Relationship Status

Single

13. How old were you when you received sex and relationships education (if any)?

15

**14. Is there anything you can remember that sparked your sexual / intimate desires?
e.g. a certain person / a film / a song / an advert?**

Shirtless Male models on magazine covers, classmates

15. Roughly, at what age were you when this happened and how did it feel?

6

16. How old were you when you had sex with someone else for the first time?

19

17. How many significant relationships have you been in? (if a casual sexual arrangement was significant to you in some way, please do include those types of relationships here!)?

3

18. Do you have guilt or shame around desire / sex / pleasure? Please explain why / why not?

No. Sex and sexual desire are 100% natural.

19. Do you enjoy sex?

Yes

20. Please can you explain your answer to the above question

I approach it unapologetically, and choose my sexual partners according to my sexual needs/preferences

21. If your answer to question 19. was "No", what is stopping you from enjoying sex?

N/A

22. How do you think your own sexuality is perceived by others (e.g. do you think people perceive you as a sexual being? Do you think people see you as someone who is / isn't very into sex?)

I can't tell

23. Have you ever taken steps to gain more of an insight into your sexuality?

No

24. If your answer to question 23. was "Yes" how useful was this?

N/A

25. Do you have children?

No

26. If your answer to question 25. was “Yes”, at what age did you first speak to them about sex and relationships (if at all)?

N/A

27. If your answer to question 25. was “No”, do you think you’d like children in the future?

Yes. I like to nurture. I want to create more love and bonding

28. Do you support compulsory sex and relationships education? Why? / Why not? NB. The ‘Relationships and sex education (RSE) and health education’ curriculum became compulsory for all schools in the UK from September 2020.

Yes. It is a fundamental right to have education in such a significant aspect of your existence and that of those around you.

29. Any other comments that come to mind? Do share!

Good work!

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Sexuality Survey

1. Name

'K'

2. If you're open to a follow-up interview, please share your email address

[Redacted for anonymity purposes]

3. Age

54

4. Location

Dublin, Ireland

5. Ethnicity

Irish

6. Gender Identification

Female

7. Sexual Orientation

Straight

8. Where did you go to University / College / Higher Education Institution

[Redacted for anonymity purposes]

9. Where did you go to Secondary School / High School?

[Redacted for anonymity purposes]

10. Where did you go to Primary School / Elementary School / Preparatory School?

[Redacted for anonymity purposes]

11. What do you do?

Fashion/homemaker

12. Relationship Status

Married 29 years

13. How old were you when you received sex and relationships education (if any)?

15

**14. Is there anything you can remember that sparked your sexual / intimate desires?
e.g. a certain person / a film / a song / an advert?**

Jimmy Osmond

15. Roughly, at what age were you when this happened and how did it feel?

10 years. Aroused

16. How old were you when you had sex with someone else for the first time?

17

17. How many significant relationships have you been in? (if a casual sexual arrangement was significant to you in some way, please do include those types of relationships here!)?

2

18. Do you have guilt or shame around desire / sex / pleasure? Please explain why / why not?

No because it's a natural instinct

19. Do you enjoy sex?

Yes

20. Please can you explain your answer to the above question

Yes because orgasms are amazing and I have a very generous lover

21. If your answer to question 19. was "No", what is stopping you from enjoying sex?

N/A

22. How do you think your own sexuality is perceived by others (e.g. do you think people perceive you as a sexual being? Do you think people see you as someone who is / isn't very into sex?)

I think I am not perceived as a sexual person because I've kept my sexual life very private

23. Have you ever taken steps to gain more of an insight into your sexuality?

No

24. If your answer to question 23. was "Yes" how useful was this?

N/A

25. Do you have children?

Yes

26. If your answer to question 25. was "Yes", at what age did you first speak to them about sex and relationships (if at all)?

Around Age 8

27. If your answer to question 25. was “No”, do you think you’d like children in the future?

N/A

28. Do you support compulsory sex and relationships education? Why? / Why not? NB. The ‘Relationships and sex education (RSE) and health education’ curriculum became compulsory for all schools in the UK from September 2020.

Yes

29. Any other comments that come to mind? Do share!

N/A

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