

Personality and Sociosexuality Differences among Heterosexuals, Homosexuals, and Bisexuals

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Introduction

Sexual orientation is defined as the sexual attraction that an individual feels towards another. It can be classified in three categories: heterosexual, homosexual and bisexual. Social sexuality can be comprehended as one's lack of sexual restrictions. Nowadays there are three dimensions of lack of social sexuality restrictions that are taken into account, which are: sexual behavior, attitude towards casual sex and sexual desire (Asendorpf & Penke, 2008). Another group of important personal characteristics in social interactions are what we call the "big five" which are: Extroversion; agreeableness; conscientiousness; neuroticism and openness to experiences.

Aim

In this study, we aimed to test differences among homosexuals, heterosexuals and bisexuals for the three dimensions of the sociosexual orientation and for the big-five personality traits.

Methods

Participants

There were 4928 participants on this research, including 4227 heterosexuals, 348 homosexuals and 353 bisexuals. The mean age was 27.9 ($SD = 9.15$), and 47.7% were undergraduates, of which was mostly women (65.8%). The study was executed throughout the country, but mostly the state of Rio Grande do Sul (42%).

Procedures

The volunteers were invited by email and social media to answer an online survey.

Instruments

A questionnaire including age, sex and sexual orientation questions, and the following scales:

- SOI-R (Sociosexuality Orientation Inventory - Revised) Brazilian version (Natividade, 2015) from Penke e Asendorpf (2008) instrument: A nine items related to the three dimensions of sexual restrictions and restrictions, which are attitude, desire and behavior;
- Factorial Personality Battery – FPB (Nunes, Hutz, & Nunes, 2010): Consists of a scale with 126 items to assess the big five factors of personality.

Discussion

Comprehending the bigger sexual restriction of heterosexuals and their greater tendency to pro-social behavior, can be understood the importance of sexual differences for the study of love relationships and reproductive strategies. This tendency can help us understand why the agreeableness factor is important for understanding of why they show a higher probability of making a relationship last longer than the other groups. Other factors could help to explain the lower tendency of agreeableness in the non-heterosexual groups is the prejudice they suffer by the society. They don't mind to be agreeable to other people, so they have lower levels in this factors.

Results

We verified that homosexuals have higher levels on behavioral and desire dimensions of sociosexuality compared to other two groups. Regarding the attitudes dimension of sociosexuality, bisexuals showed higher level than other two groups. Concerning the big five factors, heterosexuals presented higher levels on agreeableness, and lower levels on openness and neuroticism compared to other two groups. Table 1 shows the results.

Table 1. Means, Standard-Deviations and Effect Size

Descriptives						
		Mean	Std. Deviation	het-homo (d)	het-bi (d)	homo-bi (d)
SOIbehavior	Heterosexual	2,95	1,91	- 0,86	- 0,45	0,41
	Homosexual	4,84	2,48			
	Bisexual	3,87	2,25			
SOIattitudes	Heterosexual	5,44	2,77	- 0,49	- 0,65	- 0,16
	Homosexual	6,68	2,28			
	Bisexual	7,03	2,14			
SOI desire	Heterosexual	3,73	2,28	- 0,65	- 0,63	0,06
	Homosexual	5,24	2,37			
	Bisexual	5,11	2,09			
Openness	Heterosexual	5,04	0,87	- 0,40	- 0,52	- 0,15
	Homosexual	5,36	0,72			
	Bisexual	5,48	0,82			
Extroversion	Heterosexual	4,58	0,99	- 0,04	- 0,10	- 0,06
	Homosexual	4,62	1,03			
	Bisexual	4,68	1,02			
Neuroticism	Heterosexual	3,64	1,16	- 0,28	- 0,36	- 0,08
	Homosexual	3,96	1,14			
	Bisexual	4,05	1,12			
Conscientiousness	Heterosexual	5,28	0,87	0,03	0,04	0,00
	Homosexual	5,25	0,85			
	Bisexual	5,25	0,89			
Agreeableness	Heterosexual	5,23	0,77	0,37	0,43	0,05
	Homosexual	4,94	0,80			
	Bisexual	4,90	0,76			

References

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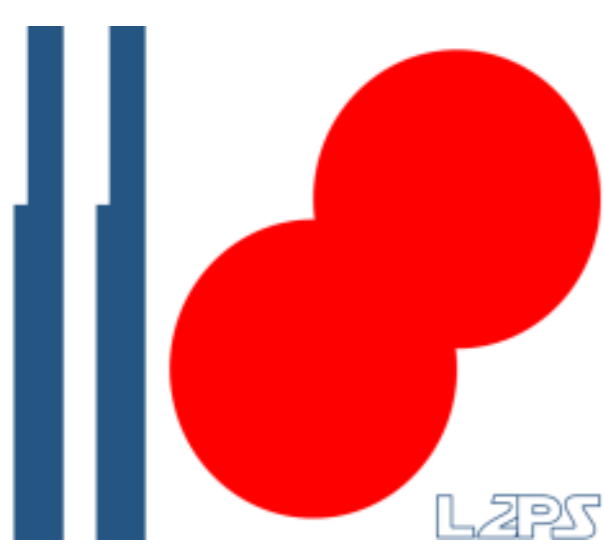
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