



SSTAR Society for Sex Therapy & Research

45th ANNUAL MEETING
SSTAR 2020

LET'S TALK ABOUT SEX: MEDIA AND COMMUNICATION IN SEX
THERAPY AND RESEARCH

Virtual Meeting April 23 & 24, 2020
Central Time Zone

Welcome to the 45th SSTAR Annual Meeting, which will be our first ever Virtual Meeting! In the midst of these extraordinary times, we have been working hard to move our in-person meeting online so that you still have the opportunity to engage with our outstanding speakers. While we're disappointed to miss seeing everyone in person, we're so happy to be able to bring you all together virtually. We hope that seeing some familiar faces while exploring and learning together will bring some comfort in these challenging circumstances.

Now, more than ever, we celebrate our commitment to excellence in the field of human sexuality—in research, clinical practice, education, and training—as well as our commitment to the principle that people from all ages and all walks of life have a right to a healthy sexuality, a right to sex therapy treatment, and access to scientific discovery informing their sexual health and wellbeing.

Workshops and invited talks will now be live-streamed using a video conferencing platform that allows for interactive chat and discussion between the speakers and attendees. Registration will include access to pre-recorded research presentations and data blitzes (i.e., submitted abstracts) that will be available on a private YouTube channel. Posters will also be available for viewing in PDF format accessible via Dropbox.

The presentations at this meeting will emphasize the myriad ways communication impacts our field – whether it be helping facilitate communication between partners around boundaries, consent, and deepest sexual desires, gaining proficiency in our communication of clinical skills to increase client motivation, or using different forms of communication to expand our research and collaborate across disciplines.

During our Virtual Meeting, we will have the opportunity to hear from many dynamic speakers across a variety of areas in clinical sexuality. We will explore the complexities of sexual fantasy and desire, delve into women's experiences of living with HIV/AIDS, gain insight from decades of experience in providing sexuality and relationship advice, and gain a greater understanding of navigating love, sex, and singlehood in the digital age.

This year's meeting will feature training and new scientific knowledge for all attendees, regardless of background:

- For those with an interest in more intensive clinical training in specialized areas, we are offering advanced pre-conference workshops for more experienced sex therapy clinicians by master clinicians in our field.
- In-depth research and clinical addresses, data blitzes, and posters will present exciting new sexuality research. As always, these sessions are a balance of invited and peer-reviewed talks that reflect a wide variety of topics and cutting-edge research in human sexuality and the treatment of sexual and relational difficulties.
- Our popular clinical case presentation will provide an exciting opportunity for discussion amongst our members on the treatment of a complex clinical case.

We look forward to seeing you online to engage in lively discussions, collegial debates and knowledge translation in sex therapy and research. The annual SSTAR conference provides us all with the opportunity to connect with one another and actively contribute to the continued growth and success of our organization. I'm sure we can continue this tradition as we participate from a distance. This conference also gives newcomers the chance to see firsthand what makes SSTAR so unique- the warmth, respect and openness we share with one another in our collective goal of improving lives through excellence in sex research and clinical practice.

Thank you so much for your continued support of sex therapy, research, and SSTAR! We're looking forward to welcoming everyone, including students and newcomers, to our ground-breaking first Virtual Meeting!

Morag Yule, PhD
2020 Scientific Program Chair

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

This program is designed for a broad range of medical and mental health professionals with an interest in the care of people with sexual concerns, as well as for sex researchers/scholars and trainees in sexology, psychology and other medical and mental health disciplines. The Society for Sex Therapy and Research is the premier international professional organization solely focused on sexual disorders.

REGISTRATION

Online Registration - Registration is available to all attendees online. Simply visit www.sstarnet.org. For questions email info@sstarnet.org

Thursday, April 23, 2020 – Central Time Zone

Preconference Workshops Advanced Practice in Special Subjects

8:00am-11:00am CT

Virtual Workshop #1: Adult Sexual Love: Definitions, Obstacles, Consequences, and Therapeutics Stephen B. Levine, MD, Clinical Professor of Psychiatry Case Western Reserve University
3 CME/CEs

11:00am-11:15am CT

Break

11:15am-2:15pm CT

Virtual Workshop #2: Chronic and Catastrophic Illnesses and Sexual Losses – A Treatment Model for Clinicians, Sabitha Pillai-Friedman, PhD, Associate Professor at the Center for Human Sexuality Studies at Widener University
3 CME/CEs

2:15pm-2:30pm CT

Break

2:30pm-5:30pm CT

Virtual Workshop #3: We're Just Too Busy: Conceptualizing and Communicating Sensate Focus Suggestions to Increase Client Motivation, Linda Weiner, MSW
3 CME/CEs

Friday, April 24, 2020 – 8:00am-5:30pm Central Time Zone

8:00am – 8:15am

Welcome

8:15am - 9:15am

Plenary 1: Evolutionary and Biocultural Foundations of Romantic and Sexual Relationships, Justin Garcia, PhD

9:15am – 9:35am

Young Investigator Award Presentation from the Journal of Sex and Marital Therapy

2020 Recipient: Jenna Marie Strizzi; Motives for Divorce in Denmark

9:35am – 9:50am

Break

9:50am – 10:10am

Sandra R. Leiblum Student Research Award Winner Presentation:

2020 Recipient: Beata Bothe, PhD, High Frequency Pornography Use May Not Always Be Problematic

10:10am - 10:40am

ISSWSH Presentation: Assessment & Management of Genital Dysesthesia, Rose Harzell-Cushanick, PhD, EdS, LMFT, CSF, IF

10:40am – 11:00am

Break

11:00am – 12:00pm

Plenary 2: Tell Me What You Want: How to Break the Sexual Silence and Express Your Deeper Fantasies and Desires, Justin Lehmler, PhD

12:00pm – 12:20pm SSTAR Health Professional Book Award Recipient: Lori Brotto, PhD

12:20pm - 1:20pm Lunch Break

1:20pm – 2:20pm Plenary 3: Remaking a Life: Identity, Desirability, and Overcoming Trauma in the Wake of the HIV Epidemic, Celeste Watkins-Hayes, PhD

2:20pm – 2:35pm Break

2:35pm – 3:35pm Plenary 4: Q&A with Dan Savage: Three Decades of Savage Love: What I Know Now

Presenter: Dan Savage, Author of Savage Love, Sex-Advice Columnist, Podcaster &Public Speaker

Moderator: Lori Brotto, PhD

3:35pm – 3:50pm Break

3:50pm – 5:20pm Clinical Case Presentation: Touch, Trauma, and High Heels: In Search (and in Fear) of Connection

Case Presenter: Stephanie Kuffel, PhD Case Discussant: Candace Risen, LISW-S

5:20pm – 5:30pm Closing Statements

Pre-recorded Research Presentations – link to be provided. Research recordings are included in registration pricing.

Research Presentations 1 (40 minutes)

TALK

1. Partner Responsiveness in a Positive Context: Associations With Sexual Desire and Sexual Satisfaction in Community Couples — Myriam Bosisio, BSc

DATA BLITZES

2. Gender/Sex Moderates Associations Between Attachment Orientation and Daily Sexual Talk — Kathleen Merwin, BScH
3. How Do Perceived Partner Support and Sexual Satisfaction Interrelate Over Time in Long-Term Couples? - Katherine Peloquin, PhD

Research Presentations 2 (30 minutes)

TALK

1. Positive Associations Between Women's Pornography Consumption, Sexual Flexibility and Sexual Functioning Nikola Komlenac, PhD

DATA BLITZES

2. Pornography Use and Romantic Relationships: A Dyadic Daily Diary Study — Marie-Pier Vaillancourt-Morel, PhD
3. A Large-Scale Comparison of Sexually Minoritized and Heterosexual, Cisgender Adolescents' Pornography Use Characteristics — Beata Bothe, PhD

Research Presentations 3 (65 minutes)

TALKS

- 1 Coping as a Couple: Sexual Well-Being and Dyadic Coping in Couples Seeking Fertility Treatment - Sawsane El Amiri, MA
- 2 What Explains Partners' Perceptions of Change in Sexual Satisfaction During their First Pregnancy? A Mixed- Method Study — Audrey Brassard, PhD
- 3 "If You Really Love Me". Sexual Coercion Among Couples From an Attachment Perspective - Raphaelle Pardis-Lavallee, PsyD
- 4 Perception of Sexual Interest in a Date Rape Analogue Task: Differences on Victim Blaming Between Men and Women - Kevin Nolet, PhD

DATA BLITZ

4. Baby On Board! Couples' Sexual Well-Being Trajectories During the Transition to Parenthood - Samantha Dawson, PhD

Research Presentations 4 (70 minutes)

TALKS

- 1 Using BDSM to Manage Endometriosis Pain: A Clinical Case Report — Kristina Brown, PhD, LMFT
- 2 Rebuilding Connections: Refining Our Understanding of Orgasm Function and Sexual Pleasure in Women Living with Spinal Cord Injury — Marina Gerard, PhD
- 3 Sex and Intimacy After Prostate Cancer — Jeff Albaugh, PhD
- 4 Taking Sexy Back: Helping Women Integrate the Erotic Self — Alexandra Solomon, PhD

DATA BLITZ

- 5 Predictors of Relationship Adjustment and Symptom Severity Among Individuals with Persistent Genital Arousal (PGAD) — Kayla Mooney, PhD

Research Presentations 5 (45 minutes)

TALKS

1. I'd Rather Have a Trans Kid Than a Dead Kid: Critical Assessment of Reported Rates of Suicidality Among Trans Youth — James Cantor, PhD
2. Bullying Victimization, Sexual Distress, and Sexual Satisfaction: The Mediating Role of Emotion Regulation — Alice Girouard, PhD

Research Presentations 6 (45 minutes)

TALKS

1. A Longitudinal Study of Suicidal Ideation in Sexually Abused Adolescent Girls: Depressive Symptoms and Affect Dysregulation as Predictors — Marianne Girard, BA
2. Are Child Sexual Abuse and Romantic Attachment Related to Sexual Coercion in Adult Couples? — Caroline Dugal, PhD
3. Sexual Compulsivity in Cumulative Childhood Trauma Survivors: the Mediating Role of Psychological Distress and Dissociation — Camille Andree Rassart, BA; Cloe Canivet

CONTINUING ED CREDITS OR ACCME ACCREDITATION

ACCME Accreditation

This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the accreditation requirements and policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education through the joint providership of The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists and The Society for Sex Therapy and Research. The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists is accredited by the ACCME to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)[™]

The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists designates this live activity for a maximum of 21.5 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits[™]. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

College Cognate Credit(s)

The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists designates this live activity for a maximum of 16 Category 1 College Cognate Credits. The College has a reciprocity agreement with the AMA that allows AMA PRA Category 1 Credits[™] to be equivalent to College Cognate Credits.

The breakdown of the number of credits for each day of the meeting is as follows:

Thursday, April 23 = 9 credits

Friday, April 24 = 6 credits

For questions regarding CE credits, please contact Arva Bensaheb, PhD at (702) 204-7513 or acitycbt@gmail.com.