

## Summary:

Sexual self-concept is how we understand ourselves as sexual beings. It involves sexual desire, sexual satisfaction, sexual anxiety, and sexual agency and may affect other areas of our lives such as relationship satisfaction, self-esteem, and general well-being. There are also many things that affect whether our sexual self-concept is more positive or more negative. The goal of this research was to explore two of those factors and their relationship to sexual self-concept. One of the factors explored was personality, which includes how neurotic, extraverted, open, agreeable, and conscientious a person is. The other factor is the relationships we have with our parents. In this study the focus was on how we view our parent's level of warmth, autonomy support, and involvement. For personality, previous research has shown that people who are more neurotic, agreeable, and conscientious have negative sexual self-concept, and people who are more extraverted and open have positive sexual self-concept. The results of this study supported some of these findings in addition to supporting previous ideas that more neurotic and more agreeable individuals had more negative sexual self-concept, and more extraverted individuals had more positive sexual self-concept. For parent-child relationships, this study focused on how parents are viewed in terms of their warmth, autonomy support, and involvement. Some previous research supports the idea that these areas may affect sexual self-concept, while other research has found that other aspects of our relationships with parents may affect sexual self-concept such as communication, positive role modelling and attachment style. The results of this study did not show that parent-child relationships and sexual self-concept had any connections. This doesn't mean that there is not a relationship, but the relationship may be different than how it was measured. Perhaps a study looking at communication between parents and children would find a connection to sexual self-concept. Overall, this study adds to the knowledge we have around sexual self-concept and brings attention to the topic for possible future research. It may also help

us understand our own sexual self-concept and what influences there are in our lives that affect it. It supports results found in previous research and provides information on areas that can be improved in future research.