

Loneliness and Promiscuity among MSM from Attachment theory perspective

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Promiscuity, sometimes referred to as unrestricted sexual behaviour, can be defined as a set of attitudes towards uncommitted sex, past behavioural experiences with different partners and heightened sexual interest. The level of promiscuity has often been associated with feelings of loneliness that can be characterised by deficiency of (certain) high-quality social relations and subjective negative experiences. As such, the two constructs were frequently investigated among men who have sex with men (MSM), yet the ideas of attachment theory have not been considered yet, when trying to explain the underlying processes. MSM are still a labelled part of our society, especially when it comes to sexual risk behaviour, which may cause the transmission of HIV and other sexual diseases that are prevalent in this population, so it seems important to approach the issue with proper psychological tools and data. In this study it is hypothesized that insecure attachment models of MSM are associated with

- i. higher loneliness scores, as well as
- ii. higher promiscuity scores.

Underlying motives, processes and prevention goals are discussed.

Since the study is still in progress, up-to-date results will be presented at the congress.

Keywords: loneliness, promiscuity, attachment, MSM

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