Japanese men and women changed after having conducted the interview. In particular, it also discusses five interview cases in depth to understand how sexlessness was influenced before and after marriage, before and after childbirth, and before and after divorce. These cases are then put into context with the changes that have partly occurred in the sexless relationships after the initial interview research.

It got clear that despite a given tiredness from work, a lack of sexual desire post-childbirth and sex perceived onerosity of sex, other factors are also important which cause sexlessness. Namely, the interviewees argued to have an image of taboo to talk about or to share their own sexual desire within the relationship.

It is seen that some interviewees have started to cope with the sexless situation and had learned to redefine their own sexuality and sexual life in the relationship. The goal of this presentation is to challenge the strong idea of not having any solution to change the sexless situation and to rethink the concept of sexlessness through a micro-perspective.

**Keywords:** Sexless couples, Sexuality in contemporary Japan, Sexual intimacy

Conflict of Interest and Disclosure Statement: None

## Perceptions on Masculinity and its Relationship with Verbal Sexual Harassment

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**Introduction and Objectives:** Throughout history, masculinity and its development have been linked with violence. Various studies have focused on physical aggression but few explore micro-aggressions such as cat-calling as a means to assert power over others. This study aims to explore the perceptions of Portuguese youth on the meaning of masculinity and its relationship with such actions. The study was based on masculinity theories, its evolution throughout history, and its relationship with violence.

Methods & Sample: 17 individual interviews to male and female students between the ages of 18 and 25 were conducted. A semi-structured guide along with videos having content related to the theme were used for the realization of the interviews. A deductive thematic analysis of the interviews gave rise to two general themes: perception of masculinity and verbal sexual harassment.

**Findings and Discussion:** The vision of masculinity, its definition and its characteristics are in a process of transformation. A less deterministic concept gives way to a more fluid one. Personal individuality and

acceptance of male actions and attitudes is longed for. Diverse opinions regarding how masculinity is linked to cat-calling were observed: from acceptance and rejection; considered both violent and not; but, still deeply connected to the traditional concept of masculinity and its demonstration. Masculinity as a concept continues to prove difficult to pinpoint accurately, having its definitions perceived differently by people. Moreover, it was perceived that cat-calling's acceptance is also polarized within society by both men and women, this may largely depend on the victim's experience as well as the words uttered. Overall, catcalling is described as a tool to demonstrate masculinity within a group, a normalized mechanism to exert dominance and power over someone.

**Recommendations:** Further investigation in other contexts should be made to confirm and/or deny the perceptions revealed in this work.

**Keywords:** Masculinity, Sexual Harassment, Adolescence

Conflict of Interest and Disclosure Statement: None