



SEXUALITY

Pre-Marital Sex Exercise

Adapted from Teaching eHRAF *Exercise 1.21, Exercise VI. Sexuality* by Carol Ember



*"Ampelpärchen" in Vienna, Austria. By Qaswed
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In this activity, you will
conduct basic research on
the diversity of social
attitudes towards
premarital sexual relations
across the globe.

CROSS-CULTURAL SEXUALITY: PREMARITAL



EXERCISE DETAILS

TIME: 35 minutes

MATERIALS REQUIRED:

- HRAF Access
- Worksheet and pen or other materials for recording answers

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

At the end of this assignment, you will be able to:

- describe five distinct social perspectives on premarital sexual relations
- Critique notions that certain human sexual behaviors or attitudes are universal, and/or natural/unnatural
- construct effective and efficient search strategies in eHRAF in order to retrieve data relevant to a specific topic/assignment.



Societies vary markedly in their attitudes towards sexuality. There are innumerable social answers that human societies proffer for such questions as...

Zulu couple at traditional wedding ceremony in South Africa. By Azekhoria Benjamin CC by SA 4.0 via Wikimedia Commons



NO SEX. By Hiroo Yamagata CC by SA 2.0 via Wikimedia Commons

What is sex?



Villagers from Kontali, Djibouti perform a traditional wedding dance during a cultural festival at the Kontali schoolhouse. The wedding dance was the final element of a three-part presentation, which included dances about a marriage proposal and a battle over a beloved woman. Photo by Sr Airman Jared Denton. Public Domain Image via Wikimedia Commons

Who should engage in it, and under what circumstances?

When, where, and between whom is sexual behavior permissible?

18th Century Japanese print of a man with his young male lover sneaking a kiss with a female prostitute. Nishikawa Sukenobu, Druck, Kyoho-Ara (1716-1735). Public Domain Image





Silver-bound hinged cowrie shell containing a painting of a man unlocking the chastity belt of a reclining woman. Wellcome Images. CC 4.0

What authorities manage sex and sexuality and how?



In this assignment, you will compare attitudes towards premarital sexual relations across several societies, observing and analyzing differences in general social permissiveness and restriction towards sexual behavior

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ASSIGNMENT

ASSIGNMENT PART 1

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Compare the following societies on their attitudes toward premarital sex. Use subject “Premarital Sex Restrictions” and the culture names listed below in an eHRAF Advanced Search. (15 minutes)

Society	Pre-Marital Sex Restrictions
Trobriands	
Copper Inuit	
Kanuri	
Libyan Bedouin	
Pawnee	



ASSIGNMENT PART 2

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1. Which societies hold similar attitudes towards premarital sex? (3 minutes)
2. Which societies are the most different in their attitudes towards premarital sex? (3 minutes)

A couple dancing closely at a wedding. By Kevypizza CC BY-SA 4.0 via Wikimedia Commons

1. Which society is the most restrictive of premarital sexual behavior?
 - What sorts of social reasons do they have for being restrictive? (e.g. moral reasons, familial reasons, pragmatic reasons?) (5 minutes)
2. Which is the most permissive?
 - What sorts of social reasons do they have for being permissive (e.g. moral reasons, familial reasons, pragmatic reasons?) (5 minutes)

ASSIGNMENT PART 2

Lovers pose for a classic photograph on an old bicycle in Zimbabwe. Photo by Malante September 2015. CC by SA 4.0





RESOURCES

Assignment Rubric, Tips, References



RUBRIC

➤ The following rubric is suggested for evaluating responses:

	Unsatisfactory (0%)	Needs Improvement (25%)	Satisfactory (75%)	Outstanding (100%)
Assignment Part 1: <u>Data Table</u>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i> ➤ Table for premarital sex restrictions is absent.	<i>Needs Improvement</i> ➤ Table for premarital sex restrictions is only partially completed.	<i>Satisfactory</i> ➤ Table for premarital sex restrictions is partially complete and some cells contain citations.	<i>Outstanding</i> ➤ Table for pre-marital sex restrictions is almost entirely complete and contains citations.
Assignment Part 2: <u>Questions 1-2</u>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i> ➤ Answers are absent or mostly incomplete	<i>Needs Improvement</i> ➤ Answers are only partially completed and/or inaccurate	<i>Satisfactory</i> ➤ Answers are paritally complete and refer back to table.	<i>Outstanding</i> ➤ Answers are almost entirely complete and refer back to table
Assignment Part 3: <u>Questions 3-4</u>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i> ➤ Major points are not clear. ➤ Specific examples are not used.	<i>Needs Improvement</i> ➤ Commentary on research findings is not comprehensive and /or persuasive. ➤ Major points are addressed, but not well supported. ➤ Responses are inadequate or do not address topic or response to the questions ➤ Specific examples do not support topic or response to the questions.	<i>Satisfactory</i> ➤ Evaluation and analysis of research findings is accurate. Major points are stated. ➤ Responses are adequate and address the question at hand. ➤ Content is accurate ➤ A specific example from the research is used.	<i>Outstanding</i> ➤ Evaluation and analysis of research findings is accurate and persuasive. ➤ Major points are stated clearly and are well supported. ➤ Responses are excellent and address questions ➤ Content is clear. ➤ Several specific examples from the research are used.

FURTHER READING

- For more exercises and teaching resources related to human societies past and present, explore [*Teaching eHRAF*](#).
- For a more detailed version of this particular exercise with additional questions and activities check out [*Exercise 1.21, Exercise VI. Sexuality*](#) by Carol Ember
- Check out the [*Advanced Search Tutorial*](#) for detailed instructions on conducting searches in eHRAF World Cultures.