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DEMOGRAPHIC FACTORS, SEXUAL IDENTITY AND SEXUAL FUNCTIONING OF TURKISH HETEROSEXUAL MALES

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study was to investigate males' perspectives on sexuality. Sexual identity, demographic factors and sexual functioning in males are important to examine how they perceive and understand when it comes to sexuality before and after the marriage. Few studies were conducted on male sexuality in Turkey. A total of 78 healthy heterosexual males volunteered in order to collect data for this research. Due to the potential insufficiency for the necessary number of participants, they were selected with the snowballing data collection technique. Their ages ranged between 23 and 57 years old with an average of 30. Most of them (61%) were either married or being in a relationship. They agreed to participate in this study and responded the items in two questionnaires, demographic data form, and sexual history questionnaire. Questionnaire items included biological sexual identity and sexual orientation questions. The items on both forms were semi-structured, prepared by the researchers with implementing related previous studies. Findings showed that most of the participants had a sexual interest in others including the girlfriend, neighbor, schoolmates, and relatives during adolescence and adulthood times. Their sexual functioning was sexual intercourse during these periods. They mainly masturbate, prefer coitus at home at least twice a week, and highly satisfied with their sexual life. According to our results, like masturbation habits, Turkish males showed similar sexual behaviors and functioning compared to their international counterparts. Their sexual behaviors transform into adulthood, from erotic fantasies to physical sexual activities. Several males (70%) continued masturbation

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after marriage, which was an unexpected result. 23% of the male participants normally don't expect extraordinary desires from their partners and almost none of the partners expect them, either. They hold thoughts of sexual fantasies more than partners.

STRUCTURED ABSTRACT

Sexuality is a long-term issue for fundamental human functioning due to its consequences on the lives and richness involving being happy, success at work and family life, and being healthy both physiologically and physically. Several more studies were conducted on women sexuality (Dennerstein et al., 1994; Kinzl et al., 2001; Valadares et al., 2008) and very limited on men sexuality. Lately, more and more studies have been investigating both males' and females' sexuality as modern societies started having optimistic to inquire their sexual characteristics and looking for treatments for the issues.

Investigating male sexuality in Turkey is one of the most difficult and challenging areas that a researcher should want to conduct. This is mostly due to the fact that heavy cultural and societal pressure especially on young males and females. Many Turkish people consider and understand human sexuality as mythical and sacred therefore it is very difficult to discuss about it with them. For such reasons, this study was intended to explore Turkish heterosexual males' sexuality. Specifically, the purpose of this study was to investigate heterosexual males' sexual life during adolescent and adult periods. It was conducted since few studies exist on relationships among sociodemographic factors, sexual identity and functioning of Turkish males. Midlife sexuality has a significant responsibility for adults, especially for women (Fraser, Maticka-Tyndale, & Symlie, 2004) due to a critical period. Fraser and colleagues (2004) investigated more than 15.000 Canadian women 35-49 years of age in terms of the influence of sociodemographic, lifestyle, and health factors on their sexual intercourse activity. Their findings indicated that investigations of older people sexual functioning play an important role in determining younger human beings'.

The main goal of this study was to explore Turkish males' sexuality compared with their demographic characteristics including gender, age, education level and employment. Specifically, their sexual perspectives, tendencies, functioning and untold stories were investigated to reveal their secrets about how males consider sexuality and coitus. This is very important because in general people believe in myths and legends when it comes to sexual relationships. It is more difficult if males and females weren't eager to speak up their thoughts and beliefs.

The participants for the research was included with the snowball sampling method and volunteer participation. 78 male subjects were interviewed to obtain the study data. They responded several items considering their biological sexual identity, gender identity, and sexual orientation as well as some sociodemographic characteristics including age, marital status, education level, employment status. The questionnaires consisted of items on their sexual functioning their

adolescent and adult periods. They had complete biological structure and sexually active during the data collection.

For data collection purposes, one compact inventory that consisted of two separate data collection tools, was utilized with a total of 86 items. It contained several Likert-scale items and some open-ended questions. The researchers developed it by utilizing previous inventories (Master & Johnson, 1966; Shover et al., 1979). Such inventories were developed, their reliability and validity were examined. The first form (*Sociodemographic Data Form*) includes 17 questions regarding socioeconomic information of the participants, including consisting of age, gender, education level, and employment status. The second data collection inventory (*Sexual History Questionnaire*) had 59 items regarding the sexual identity, sexual behavior, sex life (sexual intercourse), and sexual functioning. Specifically, the items consist of the statements on sexual functioning, foreplay, coitus, and post-coitus as well as questions about social gender and sexual orientation.

Preliminary results of this study displayed that many participants don't usually request unusual sexual desires from their partners and almost all of their partners asked for any unusual desires. They shared having more sexual fantasies. They are also more disposed to to practice uncommon coitus. This is accepted as taboo for women, and they don't like to discuss about them, however most males desire similar fantasies since they are open talk about them with their friends throughout their adulthood (Ellis & Symons, 1990; Dawson et al., 2016).

Regarding Sexual Functioning, Table 2 indicated that most of the participants took sexual interests towards various individuals during adolescence including girlfriend (20%), a classmate (19%), and friend or neighbor (19%). Some of the participants answered this question with 'other' such as porn stars, relative, father's secretary, and older women (e.g. teacher). Such individuals included. Foreplay time is an important part of sexual intercourse for nearly all participants (97%) and the partners (97%) as indicated in Table 6. It also shows that participants also said that about 92% of their partners spend enough time for foreplay. Most of them (70%) specified spending at least 10 minutes for foreplay during coitus.

The participants mostly experience coitus at night times and that was surprising since men testosterone levels peak in morning hours. That could be explained due to their partners' preferences, work or other reasons. Also, this might be due to the fact that social learning and traditional family cultures of sexuality in the crowded family structure of the night could have been an instructive factor. Nearly, all of them prefer sharing sexual issues with their partners. They experience coitus at least once a week. Two-third of them expressed 8 or above (out of 10) levels of sexual satisfaction.

Men and women typically prefer spending additional period regarding foreplay. The participants indicated that the partners spend enough time for foreplay with at least 10 mins and an average of 16 mins. Such a result was found to be around the average foreplay time when compared with other studies conducted in other countries. The participants also indicated penetration time with at least 5 mins and an

average of 7 minutes. They mostly (85%) end with an orgasm. Also, many couples praise each other's body or coitus following it. This is very important for the couples to fire up their sexual life. Also, it strengthens their partnership in life and prolong their marriage.

Since this study could be considered as one of its kind that examined sexual behaviors and functioning among Turkish males, from a teenager into adulthood, it is very important to follow it up and gather more information regarding males' sexuality. More profound and comprehensive investigations should be conducted to explore what other reasons lie behind some particular behaviors found in this study. More in-depth investigations should be conducted for such purposes.

Keywords: Male sexuality, sexology, sexual functioning, heterosexual males, sexual identity.

HETEROSEKSÜEL TÜRK ERKEKLERİNDE DEMOGRAFİK FAKTÖRLER, CİNSEL KİMLİK VE CİNSEL İŞLEYİŞ

ÖZET

Bu araştırmanın amacı, erkeklerin cinsellik hakkında sahip oldukları bakış açıları incelemektir. Erkeklerde cinsel kimlik, demografik faktörler, cinsel işleyiş, evlilik öncesi ve sonrasında cinsellik algılarını incelemek açısından önemlidir. Türkiye'de erkek cinselliği üzerine az sayıda çalışma yapılmıştır. Araştırma için gerekli olan veriler, çalışmaya katılmaya gönüllü ve heteroseksüel olan 78 sağlıklı erkek bireyden sağlanmıştır. Katılımcıların seçimi, çalışmanın hassaslığından ve yeterli sayıda olmama tehlikesinden dolayı kartopu veri toplama tekniği ile gerçekleştirilmiştir. Katılımcıların yaşları 23 ile 57 arasında ve ortalaması 30 olmuştur. Bireyler, çalışmaya katılmaya ve demografik bilgi formu ile cinsel öykü anketinde yer alan soruları cevaplandırmaya gönüllü olmuşlardır. Anket maddeleri, biyolojik kimlik ve cinsel yönelim soruları içermektedir. Her iki formda bulunan maddeler, daha önce yapılan çalışmalardan yararlanılarak araştırmacılar tarafından yapılandırılmıştır. Araştırmadan elde edilen bulgular arasında, katılımcıların çoğunun ergenlik ve yetişkinlik dönemlerinde kız arkadaş, komşu, okul arkadaşları ve akrabalarına cinsel ilgi gösterdiği belirlenmiştir. Aynı dönemde en yaygın cinsel işleyiş, cinsel ilişki olarak belirtilmiştir. Yetişkinlik dönemlerinde mastürbasyon ve cinsel ilişki tercih etmekte; cinsel hayatlarından oldukça memnun olduklarını ifade etmektedirler. Ayrıca, seks fantezilerini partnerlerinden daha fazla düşündüklerini belirtmişlerdir. Araştırma sonuçlarına göre çalışmamıza katılan Türk erkekleri diğer ülkelerde yapılan çalışma sonuçları ile benzer davranışlar göstermişlerdir. Örneğin, cinsel davranışları yetişkinlik dönemlerinde erotik fantezilerden fiziksel cinsel aktivitelere dönüşmektedir. Pek çoğu (%70) evlilikten sonra da mastürbasyona devam ettiklerini belirtmişlerdir. Erkeklerin %23' ü kendilerinin ve partnerlerinin neredeyse tamamının birbirlerinden olağandışı cinsel istekler talep etmediklerini ifade etmişlerdir. Ayrıca, erkeklerin kadınlara oranla daha fazla cinsel fantezi taleplerinin olduğu yapılan araştırma ile tespit edilmiştir.

Anahtar Kelimeler: Erkek cinselliği, seksoloji, cinsel işleyiş, heteroseksüel erkekler, cinsel kimlik.

1. Introduction

Human sexuality has started since the beginning of the human race, but corresponding studies weren't conducted until the 1900s (Bullough, 1990). Early researches primarily focused on initial factors such as sex and gender. Sexuality is defined as the manifestation of sexual sensation and related intimacy among human beings. Psychologically, it is the means to display the fullness of love between couples. Of all studies on human sexuality, the ones that focus on sociodemographic issues including age, gender, and environment drew more attention.

Human sexuality is one of the most important and fundamental human functioning, because its effects reflect on the lifestyles and richness involving being happy, success at work and family life, and being healthy both physiologically and physically. Additionally, more studies were conducted on women sexuality (Dennerstein et al., 1994; Kinzl et al., 2001; Valadares et al., 2008) and limited on men sexuality. For such reasons, this study was intended to explore Turkish heterosexual males' sexuality. Specifically, the purpose of this study was to investigate heterosexual males' sexual life during adolescent and adult periods. It was conducted since there were few studies exist on relationships among sociodemographic factors, sexual identity and functioning among Turkish males.

Sexual identity is proposed to possess four components: biological sex, gender identity, social sex-role, and sexual orientations (Shively & De Cecco, 1977). There existed theories about each one of them and were discussed in early studies that focused on sexual identity. Social sex roles involve femininity and masculinity.

A recent study conducted on sexual orientations showed that regardless of the ethnicity, most adolescents grow at developmentally appropriate ages in males (Dubé & Savin-Williams, 1999). The researchers (Dubé and Savin-Williams, 1999) explored how ethnicity affects the sexual development of adolescents. They investigated 139 sexual-minority male youths' sexual identity developments based on developmental milestones, the disclosure of sexual identity, and hidden homophobia. Their results revealed no significant difference between sexual development and cultural characteristics. They also found relatively low levels of internalized homophobia. However, differences based on the ethnicity were found in timing and sequencing of certain milestones, the disclosure of sexual identity and romantic and sexual involvement with females.

Sexuality at midlife plays an important role for adults, especially for women (Fraser, Maticka-Tyndale, & Symlie, 2004) due to stepping into a critical period. Fraser and colleagues (2004) investigated more than 15.000 Canadian women 35-49 years of age in terms of the influence of sociodemographic, lifestyle, and health factors on their sexual intercourse activity. Their findings indicated that investigations of older people sexual functioning play an important role in determining younger human beings'.

164 sexual minority young adults participated, in an investigation by Savin-Williams and Dimond (2000), to explore gender differences according to sexual identity development, self-labeling, timing, milestones, and disclosure. According to their results, adolescent males had an earlier onset of all milestones except disclosure. Female participants were emotionally oriented and male subjects were sexually oriented for sexual identity milestones. In conclusion, gender was not significant in achieving sexual identity milestones.

Kinsey, Wardell, and Martin (2003) investigated social behaviors among the human males. Their study was one of the many studies conducted on older males' homosexuality. They explained the convergence, resulted in the study, owing to family, cultural and environmental challenges. In a

similar study, Remafedi et al. (1992) explored patterns of sexual orientation in a representative sample of 35.000 high school students. Most (88%) of the subjects described themselves as predominantly heterosexual. No gender difference existed but responses to sexual orientation items varied with age, religiosity, ethnicity, and socioeconomic status. They concluded that sexual orientations depend on sexual experience and demographic factors.

Several studies have been conducted on other factors related to sexuality involving female sexual functioning (Yeni et al., 2003), premarital sex (Eşsizoglu et al., 2011; Aras et al., 2007; Ayotte, 2000; Pelin, 1999; Sakalli-Ugurlu & Glick, 2003), self-consciousness (Celik, 2013), sexual dysfunction (Sadock et al., 2000; Oksuz & Malhan, 2006; Kadioglu et al., 2005; Cayan et al., 2004; Yaylali et al., 2010; Kettaş et al., 2008; Dogan & Dogan, 2008; Thompson, 2005) around the world.

Although various studies have been conducted around the world, it is different in the case of Turkey. Sexuality has been accepted as secrecy and taboo in Turkey until recently. Sexual studies and the topic sex of ordinary people weren't explored in great detail. Few studies were conducted especially on male sexuality in Turkey (Yeni et al., 2003; Eşsizoglu et al., 2011; Aras et al., 2007; Pelin, 1999; Sakalli- Ugurlu & Glick, 2003; Oksuz & Malhan, 2006; Kadioglu et al., 2005) and some on females' sexual behaviors and sexual identity (Celik, 2013; Eliuz, 2011; Kaderli, Z., 2017; Usluer, 2007). This may be due to males' unwillingness to share their sexual intimacy with others. In fact, males are less prone to openness in sexuality than females no matter what their marital status is (Oksuz & Malhan, 2006).

2. Method

Participants

The research sample was constructed by the snowball technique and volunteer participation. 78 male subjects were interviewed to obtain the study data. They were asked about their biological sexual identity, gender identity, and sexual orientation as well as some sociodemographic characteristics including age, marital status, education level, employment status. The questionnaires involved items on their sexual functioning their adolescent and adult periods. They had complete biological structure and sexually active during the data collection. Following the approval by the ethical committee and related institutions, the data collection process was initiated.

Table 1. Demographic information of the participants

		<i>N</i>	<i>%</i>
<i>Marital Status</i>	Single	25	32
	Married/Engaged	41	48
	Lover	10	13
<i>Education Level</i>	Elementary	14	18
	High School	47	60
	College and up	6	8
	No response	11	14
<i>Employment</i>	Employed	55	71
	Unemployed	12	15
	No response	11	14

Some major demographic characteristics of the participants are illustrated in Table 1. The participants who were involved had ages between 23 and 57 with an average of 30 years and a standard deviation of 6.5. Of them, 41 (53%) were married or engaged, 25 (32%) were single and 10 (13%) were couples but not married. Most of them (N=47, 60%) were high school graduate and 12 were middle school graduate. 55 (71%) had a job and 12 (15%) were unemployed during the data collection process. Rest of them didn't respond to this question.

Data Collection Tools

For data collection purposes, one inventory, that consists of two parts, was utilized with a total of 86 items. They contained Likert-scale items and some open-ended questions. The researchers developed it by utilizing previous inventories (Master & Johnson, 1966; Shover et al., 1979). Such inventories were developed, their reliability and validity were examined.

The first section (*Sociodemographic Data Form*) of the form includes 17 questions regarding socioeconomic information of the participants, including consisting of age, gender, education level, and employment status.

The second part (*Sexual History Questionnaire*) of the form covers 59 items regarding the sexual identity, sexual behavior, sex life (sexual intercourse), and sexual functioning. Specifically, the items consist of the statements on sexual functioning, foreplay, coitus, and post-coitus as well as questions about social gender and sexual orientation.

3. Findings

This study was designed as a descriptive field investigation and participants' responses were evaluated with the use of frequency distributions. Demographic information was analyzed according to critical issues. They were classified and grouped for tendencies. The results of the main parts, sexual functioning, foreplay time, coitus, and post-coitus periods, were specified in terms of their significant relationships and effect on male sexual behaviors'. The results revealed central structures and relationships between the participants' sociodemographic information and sexual behaviors, and functioning.

3.1. Sexual Functioning

As shown in Table 2, 75 (96%) indicated that they had any sexual interest towards some individuals in adolescence. Such individuals included girlfriend with 20%, a classmate with 19%, and friend or neighbor with 19%. 26% of the participants answered this question with 'other' such as porn stars, relative, father's secretary, and older women (e.g. teacher).

Table 2. Sexual functioning in adolescence

		<i>N</i>	%
<i>Any sexual interest in adolescence</i>	Y	75	96
	N	2	3
	NR	1	1
<i>To whom...</i>	Girlfriend	16	20
	Friend/neighbor	13	17
	Schoolmate	15	19
	Teacher	5	6
	Other	20	26
<i>Sexual behavior...</i>	NR	9	12
	Erotic influence	10	13
	Masturbation	36	46
	Coitus	14	18
	Other	14	18
	NR	4	5

Above table also indicates that most participants responded girlfriend, neighbor or classmate to the question 'whom they had a sexual interest in adolescence'. They mainly experienced masturbation or similar approaches to ejaculation and intercourse for their sexual behaviors. Another important finding of sexual functioning was regarding whom they had a sexual interest in adolescence. 26% of them chose other option and the ones who responded mostly indicated girlfriend (20%), schoolmate (19%), and friend/neighbor (17%). In terms of sexual behaviors, almost half of them indicated masturbation as their leading sexual activity preference.

Table 3. Sexual functioning in adulthood

		N	%
<i>Did you have any sexual interest in someone during adulthood?</i>	Y	73	94
	N	1	1
	NR	4	5
<i>To whom did you have sexual interest during adulthood?</i>	Wife/Partner	11	14
	Girlfriend	32	41
	Fiancée	1	2
	Friend/Neighbor	11	14
	Other	11	14
	NR	12	15
<i>Sexual Behavior</i>	Erotic influence	2	3
	Masturbation	4	5
	Coitus	61	78
	Other	3	4
	NR	8	10

The subjects responded similar questions about their sexual life in adulthood in above Table. Approximately all of them (94%) denoted that they had had a sexual attraction towards opposite gender during adulthood. They noted experiencing sexual interests typically in girlfriend (41%), spouse (14%), and friend/neighbor (14%). Most (78%) of them did have coitus for sexual behavior during adulthood.

Table 4. Sexual fantasies of the participants

		N	%
<i>...your unusual desire?</i>	Y	59	76
	N	18	23
	NR	1	1
<i>...partners' unusual desires?</i>	Y	6	8
	N	72	92
<i>...your sexual fantasies?</i>	Y	64	82
	N	13	17
	NR	1	1
<i>...partners know fantasy?</i>	N	6	8
	Y	15	19
	Together	43	55
	NR	14	18
<i>...partners' fantasies?</i>	Y	37	47
	N	37	47
	NR	4	6
<i>...know partners' fantasies?</i>	Y	23	29
	N	14	18
	Together	24	31
	NR	17	22

The participants mostly (82%) had sexual fantasies and majority of them (74%) felt comfortable sharing their sexual fantasies with their partners. In the case of their partners, only half of them had sexual fantasies and only 49% of them shared them with the participants. 59 (76%) of the participants indicated that they considered unusual sexual desires with their partners (Table 4). Also, majority of them (92%) said that their partners did not have unusual sexual desires.

Sexual functioning was additional issue for the participants. 70% of them mentioned masturbating and ejaculating with other approaches (Table 5). In terms of sexual activities with their partners, they prefer bedroom (55%) or different rooms (25%) in the house for coitus. Above table also shows that half of them (44%) spend their time during night hours on sexual activities. Some of them said (28%) it is variable and instantaneous. Nearly all of them (94%) talk sexual issues with their partners. Regarding coitus frequency, they are mostly involved in sexual activities at least once a week. When asked about sexual satisfaction based on 10 points Likert scale, most (76%) said 8 and above out of 10 being most satisfied.

Table 5. General information about sexual functioning

		N	%
<i>Do you masturbate?</i>	Y	54	70
	N	24	30
<i>The time period for sexual activities</i>	Morning	9	11
	Evening	7	9
	Night	34	44
	Variable	28	36
<i>Sexual activity places</i>	Bedroom	43	55
	Different rooms in the house	19	25
	Open places	3	4
	Other	12	15
	NR	1	1
<i>Do you share sexual issues with your partner?</i>	Y	73	94
	N	5	6
<i>The frequency of sexual intercourse</i>	Once a day	6	8
	Twice a week	29	37
	Once a week	11	14
	Once a two-weeks	10	13
	Once a month	6	8
	Once a few months	9	11
	None	6	8
NR	1	1	
<i>Overall satisfaction with sexual intercourse</i>	1-4	5	7
	5-7	22	27
	8-10	51	66

3.2. Foreplay Time

Foreplay is an important part of sexual intercourse for nearly all participants (97%) and the partners (97%) as indicated in Table 6. It also shows that participants also said that about 92% of their partners spend enough time for foreplay. Most of them (70%) specified spending at least 10 minutes for foreplay during coitus.

Table 6. Foreplay process

		N	%
<i>...interested in foreplay?</i>	Y	76	97
	N	2	3
<i>...partner interested in foreplay?</i>	Y	76	97
	N	2	3
<i>...partner spend enough time?</i>	Y	72	92
	N	5	7
	NR	1	1
<i>foreplay time (min.)</i>	0-5	6	8
	6-10	17	22
	11-20	33	42
	21-30	16	20
	31+	6	8

3.3. Sexual Relationship Process

When the penetration time of the participants' sexual functioning was examined, 66 (66%) experiences at least 6 minutes or longer (Table 7). Also, 66% of them said that their sexual intercourse ends with an orgasm or ejaculation.

Table 7. Penetration time for sexual functioning

		N
Penetration t. (min.)	<1	7
	2-5	20
	6-10	35
	11+	16
Does your coitus end with an orgasm?	Yes	66

3.4. Post-Coital Process

As shown in Table 8, the participants were asked about post-coital behaviors for themselves and their partners. Some (27%) praise their partners, coitus or say love words. Half of them (44%) did say other but not specified what they were. When the same question was asked about their partners, 26% of them reacted with praising sexual intercourse or showing intimacy. Interestingly, most of them (57%) had other responses.

Table 8. Post-Coitus Behaviors

		N	%
Your behavior...	Praise partner or coitus	15	19
	Love words	6	8
	Request to meet again	5	6
	Sleeping	8	10
	Shower	6	8
	No reaction	4	5
	Other	34	44
Partners' behavior...	Praise partner or coitus	17	22
	Love words	3	4
	Sleeping	5	6
	Shower	4	5
	No reaction	5	6
	Other	44	57

4. Discussion and Conclusion

This study was structured to examine sexual functioning, sexual tendencies and sociodemographic properties of a group of middle-aged Turkish men prior and following marriage in a central Anatolian city. The first stimulating result was as follows: their sexual functioning didn't change as they grew up into adulthood. However, their interests transformed from girlfriend and neighbor (e.g. platonic) into sexual relationships with wives, partners and lovers. Such a finding could be accepted as typical behavior for men after getting married, because Turkish traditions and culture prohibit premarital sex and being a virgin is considered as a taboo (Civil & Yıldız, 2010; Bleys, 1996; Aras et al., 2007). For this reason, Turkish males should sexually recognize their spouses and partners as well as share fantasies. Such disputes could be solved if health courses related to human sexuality functioning are offered at pre-college schools.

Correspondingly, male sexual behaviors change following adulthood, from erotic fantasies to physical sexual behaviors. Another finding showed that many (70%) continued masturbation after marriage, an unexpected result. This result might be explained that they don't get enough sexual

satisfaction with their partners, easier to get sexually satisfied or easy alternative when their partners were not in the mood (Carvalho et al., 2015; Leitenberg et al., 1993).

Most men (76%) don't have any unusual sexual desires from their partners and more than 90% of the partners never asked for any unusual desires. They have more sexual fantasies than their partners. They are also more prone to experience unusual coitus. This is a taboo for women, and they don't like them, but men desire such fantasies because they easily talk about them with their friends when growing up (Ellis & Symons, 1990; Dawson et al., 2016).

The participants mostly experience coitus at night times and that was surprising since men testosterone levels peak in morning hours. That could be explained due to their partners' preferences, work or other reasons. Also, this might be due to the fact that social learning and traditional family cultures of sexuality in the crowded family structure of the night could have been an instructive factor. Nearly, all of them prefer sharing sexual issues with their partners. They experience coitus at least once a week. Two-third of them expressed 8 or above (out of 10) levels of sexual satisfaction.

Concerning foreplay, both men and women mostly prefer spending additional period. They believed the partners spend enough time for foreplay with at least 10 mins and an average of 16 mins. That result was around the average foreplay time comparing other nationalities studied in previous studies (Fraser et al., 2004). The participants also indicated penetration time with at least 5 mins and an average of 7 minutes. Most (85%) ends with an orgasm. Additionally, most couples praise each other's body or coitus.

This study was one of its kind that examined sexual behaviors and functioning among Turkish males, from a teenager into adulthood. More in-depth and comprehensive studies should be conducted to explore what other reasons lie behind some particular behaviors found in this study. More in-depth investigations should be conducted for such purposes.

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