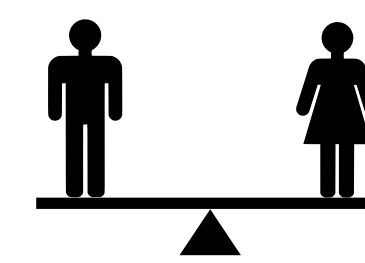


Philosophy of Compulsory Sexuality:

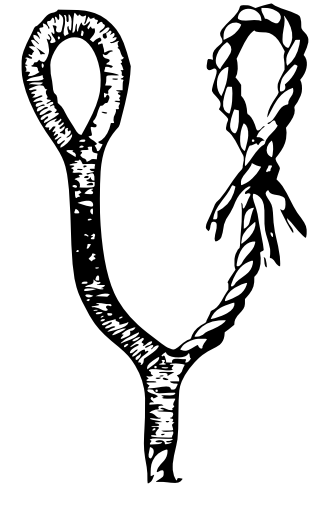
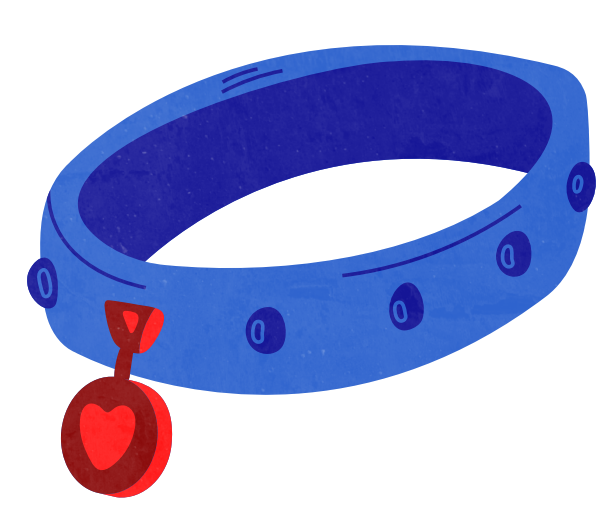
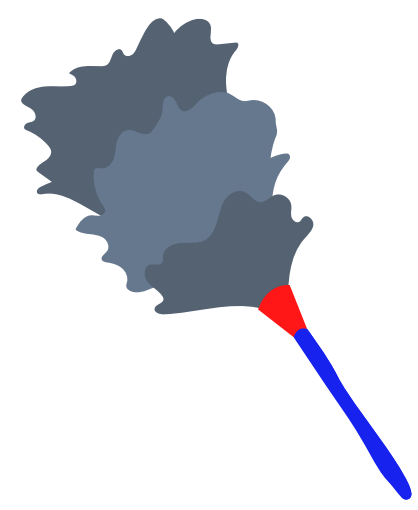
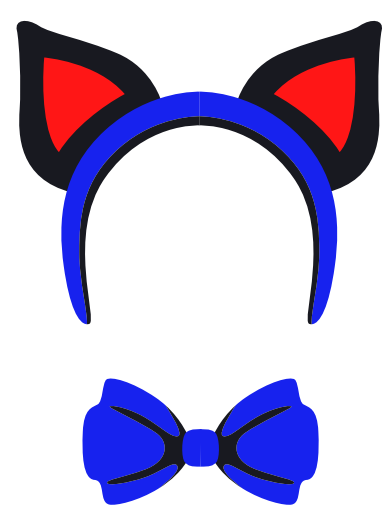
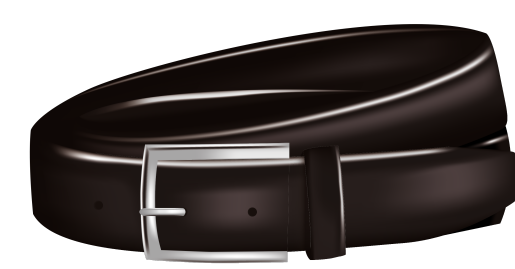
"A set of social attitudes, institutions and practices which hold and enforce the belief that everyone should have or want to have frequent sex (of a socially approved kind)." -Lisa Millbank, 2012

Kink vs. Compulsory Sexuality



Philosophy of Kink:

"The project of kink is inherently a communal one whose aim is most immediately the satiation of desire, but more broadly is the destruction of the socialization of what is sexually permissible." -John Altmann, 2017



Elements of Compulsory Sexuality

Allonormativity: Both sexual and romantic; an intimate relationship is presumed to have both sexual and romantic aspects to be legitimate. Sex without romance is shamed, as is romance without sex. Being in a relationship assumes eventual sexual and/or romantic consent. However, because negotiation and discussion are discouraged (see **Instinctual/Spontaneity**), any consent is suspect

Heteronormativity: Because compulsory sexuality is based on social norms, compulsory heterosexuality is baked in

Exclusivity: For relationships to be legitimate, they must be bounded and exclusive

Prescribed acts: Only certain acts "count" as sex, almost always including penetrative and genital acts

Frequency: There is an assumed amount of sex that people should be having, where too much and too little are both shamed

Virgin/Whore Complex: The status of being a virgin, particularly that there are only certain acts that change that status, and that people, particularly women, who are sexually active and not in romantic relationships are whores

Gender roles: Men or masculine people are presumed to want or need more sex, while women or feminine people are presumed to want or need less sex. Men/mascs are also presumed to be less concerned with romance than women/femmes

Fixedness: That people are always interested in the same amount and type of sex, and their identities around sexuality do not change

Instinctual/Spontaneity: That people know what to do sexually without needing to talk about it, and that discussions of sex "ruin" or lessen the experience of sex - negotiations are assumed rather than explicit

Legal: Some forms of sex are recognized and enshrined in law, while others are illegal. Some forms of sex create and are required for legal ties (eg, consummation of marriage)

Coupled: Sex is only legitimate between two people - alone or in groups either does not count or should be shamed

Fantasy: Fantasies must be aligned with compulsory sexuality and with the sex one is having or trying to have

Pleasure: That sex has to include a certain amount of pleasure for at least one person, usually an orgasm

Procreation: Procreation requires sex, and using alternative methods is only acceptable as a last resort

Just Bodies: Using anything to facilitate or add to sexual experiences besides bodies is seen as a failure of the participants. This includes toys, lube, accessories, or medical or chemical aids

Gold standard: Compulsory sexuality presents itself as ideal between able-bodied, conventionally beautiful people of similar ages, race, and social status

Author's Note: While this definition is a useful starting point, it does not account for those engaged in kink in non-sexual ways. Some people enjoy sensual aspects of kink, while others are interested in exploring power dynamics in ways that involve no physical contact at all. Because sexuality is a very subjective thing, kink can be and often is completely non-sexual.



Kink SMASH!

Consent & Conversation: Kink is a communal experience - it requires the consent and negotiation of all parties involved. This precludes any assumptions about actions and emotions involved, where actions or emotions are discussed rather than taken as a given

Before & After: Kink is about more than the individual acts that go into it - kink encourages both the negotiation before as well as the aftercare after any scene. Without those elements, the kink is incomplete

Actions Defined by those Involved: No act or dynamic can be assumed and/or prescribed in kink. Every individual practices kink in their own way, and has a right for that way to be seen and respected by others

Expanded Relationship Dynamics: Kink can take place within established intimate relationships or between people without any connection, as well as alone and in groups, monogamous or not

Identity Inclusive: Kink provides a space for participants to explore different elements of identity outside of societal expectations, including gender roles, power dynamics, age, orientation, or even species

Encourages Growth: Kink allows and encourages self-discovery, reflection, and change

Multidimensional: Kink employs all aspects of sexual, sensual, aesthetic and emotional experiences, including acts that are not sexual or sensual at all

Fantasy: Kink encourages the realization of fantasy as well as the act of fantasizing, even when unrealistic or impossible

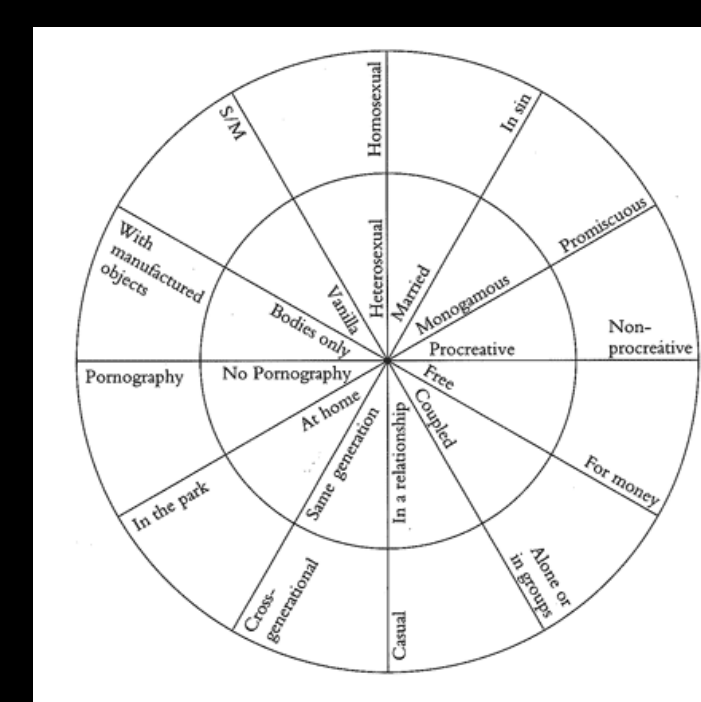
Experience: Kink values knowledge and experience and the responsibility to teach those who are new to the practice

Contracts and Rights: Kink recognizes body work as a legitimate service and respects any consenting adult's ability to define their own needs or boundaries in a contract

Goal: Kink has no assigned purpose or goal except for what participants want

Accessories: Props, toys, clothes, lube, and medical or chemical aids are welcomed if wanted

All Bodies are Valued: There is no "ideal" body type, and people of all ages, races, and abilities are welcomed



For more, see *Thinking Sex* by Gayle Rubin



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