

**Sexuality, masculinity and technology: men and intimacy in the digital age
(Men, Sex & Intimacy)**

The research is being carried out by the following researchers:

**Dr Andrea Waling
Dr Alexandra James**

Role	Name	Organisation
Chief Investigator	Dr Andrea Waling	Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health & Society School of Psychology & Public Health La Trobe University
Research Officer	Dr Alexandra James	Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health & Society School of Psychology & Public Health La Trobe University
Research funder	This research has received \$406, 649 from the Australian Research Council Discovery Early Career Researcher Award (DECRA), DE200101539.	

1. What is the study about?

You are invited to participate in a study about young men, masculinity, and sexuality. We hope to learn about how young men understand intimacy and sexual relationships with women

Your contact details were obtained from the contact form on our recruitment website, or, because you emailed us directly requesting more information about this project.

2. Do I have to participate?

Being part of this study is voluntary. If you want to be part of the study we ask that you read the information below carefully and ask us any questions.

You can read the information below and decide at the end if you do not want to participate. If you decide not to participate this won't affect your relationship with La Trobe University or any other listed organisation.

3. Who is being asked to participate?

You have been asked to participate because you are:

- A cisgender man or cisgender woman
- Heterosexual/straight
- 18-35
- Reside in Australia
- Are currently dating and engaging in casual sexual activity, or have in the past

4. What will I be asked to do?

If you want to take part in this study, we will ask you to:

- Be asked to attend an in-person mixed or single gender focus group via Zoom technology
- Be asked a series of questions about romantic, dating, and sexual expectations in a group discussion format

It will take approximately two hours of your time to be part of this study.

5. What are the benefits?

The benefit of you taking part in this study is that you will help support a greater understanding of how young men and women are experiencing sex, dating and relationships, and be offered an opportunity to reflect on your own practices. The expected benefits to society in general include a greater understanding of men and women's lived experiences of technology, masculinity and sexual intimacy. This will also directly benefit people working in policy development, masculinity studies, men's health, gender equality and sex education.

6. What are the risks?

With any study there are (1) risks we know about, (2) risks we don't know about and (3) risks we don't expect. If you experience something that you aren't sure about, please contact us immediately so we can discuss the best way to manage your concerns.

Name/Organisation	Position	Telephone	Email
Dr Andrea Waling, La Trobe University	ARC DECRA Fellow	03 9479 8765	a.waling@latrobe.edu.au

We have listed the risks we know about below. This will help you decide if you want to be part of the study.

- There is a potential minimal risk of emotional harm in discussing dating and sexual experiences
- There is some potential risk of experiencing embarrassment or regret in discussing dating and sexual experiences; however, we hope that this research will provide a safe forum in which you feel comfortable to share your experiences with the focus group and facilitators without any fear of judgement.

7. What will happen to information about me?

We will **collect** information about you in ways that will not reveal who you are.

We will **store** information about you in ways that will not reveal who you are.

We will **publish** information about you in ways that will not be identified in any type of publication from this study.

We will **keep** your information for 5 years after the project is completed. After this time we will destroy all of your data.

The storage, transfer and destruction of your data will be undertaken in accordance with the [Research Data Management Policy](https://policies.latrobe.edu.au/document/view.php?id=106/) <https://policies.latrobe.edu.au/document/view.php?id=106/>.

The personal information you provide will be handled in accordance with applicable privacy laws, any health information collected will be handled in accordance with the Health Records Act 2001 (Vic). Subject to any exceptions in relevant laws, you have the right to access and correct your personal information by contacting the research team.

8. Will I hear about the results of the study?

We will let you know about the results of the study by sending you a 2-3 page lay summary on the completion of the study, as well as a technical report down the track when it is made publicly available.

9. What if I change my mind?

You can choose to no longer be part of the study at any time until [four weeks] following the collection of your data.

You can let us know by:

1. Completing the 'Withdrawal of Consent Form' (provided at the end of this document);
2. Calling us; or
3. Emailing us

Your decision to withdraw at any point will **not** affect your relationship with La Trobe University or any other organisation listed.

When you withdraw we will stop asking you for information. Any identifiable information about you will be withdrawn from the research study. However, once the results have been analysed we can only withdraw information, such as your name and contact details. If results haven't been analysed you can choose if we use those results or not.

10. Who can I contact for questions or want more information?

If you would like to speak to us, please use the contact details below:

Name/Organisation	Position	Telephone	Email
Dr Andrea Waling, La Trobe University	ARC DECRA Fellow	03 9479 8765	a.waling@latrobe.edu.au

11. What if I have a complaint?

If you have a complaint about any part of this study, please contact:

Ethics Reference Number	Position	Telephone	Email
HEC20110	Senior Research Ethics Officer	+61 3 9479 1443	humanethics@latrobe.edu.au

12. Support Services

If this research has brought up upsetting memories or emotions, please contact the following organisations for support:

- **Lifeline:** Crisis Support (www.lifeline.org.au) – Ph: 13 11 14
- **BeyondBlue:** Mental Wellbeing (www.beyongblue.org.au) – Ph: 1300 224 636
- **Men's Line:** Men's counselling service (www.mensline.org.au) – Ph: 1300 78 99 78
- **Women's Information and Referral Exchange:** Generalist information, support and referral service (www.wire.org.au) – Ph: 1300 134 130
- **Melbourne Sexual Health Clinic:** Free sexual health testing and treatment (www.mshc.org.au) – Ph: 03 9341 6200
- **Sydney Sexual Health Centre:** Offers testing, treatment and management for STI's and HVI (www.sshc.org.au)
- **NSW Sexual Health Infolink:** Telephone and internet based information and referral service (www.shil.nsw.gov.au) – Ph: 1800 451 624
- **SA Regional Counselling:** Telephone and online information and counselling service- (saregionalaccess.org.au)- Ph: 1300 032 186 (South Australia)
- **Aboriginal Counselling Services:** Counselling services for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people-Ph 0410 539 905 (<https://www.aboriginalcounsellingservices.com.au/>) (All states and territories, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples)
- **Victorian Centres Against Sexual Assault:** provides support and intervention to women, children and men who are victim/survivors of sexual assault (www.casa.org.au/contact-us/)
- **1800 Respect:** national sexual assault, domestic family violence counselling service available 24/7 (www.1800respect.org.au/) – Ph: 1800 737 732
- **Sexual Assault Crisis Line Victoria:** a state-wide, after-hours, confidential, telephone crisis counselling service for people who have experienced both past and recent sexual assault (www.sacl.com.au) – Ph: 1800 806 292
- **NSW Rape Crisis Centre:** a 24/7 telephone and online counselling service for anyone in NSW – men and women – who have **experienced or is at risk of sexual assault** and their non offending supporters (www.nswrapecrisis.com.au) – Ph: 1800 424 017
- **Suicide Call Back Services:** Crisis support (<https://www.suicidecallbackservice.org.au/>)
- **Safe Steps:** Family violence response centre (www.safesteps.org.au) – PH 1800 015 188
- **Relationships Australia: Relationship support services** (www.relationships.org.au) - PH 1300 364 277
- **Domestic Violence Resource Centre:** Supporting workers and families to stop family violence PH-(03) 8346 5200 (<https://www.dvrcv.org.au/>)
- **Kids Helpline (up to age 25):** Free, private and confidential 24/7 phone and counselling for young people 5 to 25 (<https://kidshelpline.com.au/>) PH- 1800 55 1800
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Consent Form – Declaration by Participant

I (the participant) have read (or, where appropriate, have had read to me) and understood the participant information statement, and any questions have been answered to my satisfaction. I agree to participate in the study, I know I can withdraw at any time until [four weeks] following the collection of my data. I agree information provided by me or with my permission during the project may be included in a thesis, presentation and published in journals on the condition that I cannot be identified.

I would like my information collected for this research study to be:

- Only used for this specific study;
 Used for future related studies;
 Used for any future studies

I agree to be audio recorded as part of the focus group.

I would like to receive a copy of the results via email or post. I have provided my details below and ask that they only be used for this purpose and not stored with my information or for future contact.

Name	Email (optional)	Postal address (optional)

Participant Signature

I have received a signed copy of the Participant Information Statement and Consent Form to keep

Participant's printed name	
Participant's signature	
Date	

Declaration by Researcher

- I have given a verbal explanation of the study, what it involves, and the risks and I believe the participant has understood;
 I am a person qualified to explain the study, the risks and answer questions

Researcher's printed name	
Researcher's signature	
Date	

* All parties must sign and date their own signature

Withdrawal of Consent

I wish to withdraw my consent to participate in this study. I understand withdrawal will not affect my relationship with La Trobe University of any other organisation or professionals listed in the Participant Information Statement. I understand the researchers cannot withdraw my information once it has been collected as part of a focus group.

I understand my information will be withdrawn as outlined below:

- ✓ Any identifiable information about me will be withdrawn from the study
- ✓ The researchers will withdraw my contact details so I cannot be contacted by them in the future studies unless I have given separate consent for my details to be kept in a participant registry.
- ✓ The researchers cannot withdraw my information once it has been analysed, and/or collected as part of a focus group

***if you have consented for your contact details to be included in a participant registry you will need to contact the registry staff directly to withdraw your details.*

I would like my already collected and unanalysed data

- Destroyed and not used for any analysis
 Used for analysis

Participant Signature

Participant's printed name	
Participant's signature	
Date	

Please forward this form to:

CI Name	Dr Andrea Waling
Email	a.waling@latrobe.edu.au
Phone	03 9479 8765
Postal Address	ARCSHS, Building NR6, La Trobe University, Bundoora, VIC, AU, 0386