



Hite Report on Male Sexuality

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"A riveting document!"

NEWSWEEK

Over 7,000 men, ages thirteen to ninety-seven, speak out about: What they think of women--as wives, lovers, and friends; why a majority of men like marriage but are not faithful; what they think about love--and why they often distrust it; how they feel about giving women clitoral stimulation; why they often masturbate even with a regular sex life...and more.

Hite Report on Male Sexuality Details

Date : Published July 12th 1987 by Ballantine Books (first published 1981)

ISBN : 9780345352484

Author : Shere Hite

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Genre : Nonfiction, Sexuality, Psychology, Science, Glbt, Queer



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Ines Garcia says

Excellent! I learned so much and then some. No other Male Sexuality Book like it. I love how she asks questions after questions after questions from every possible angle surveying men from all walks and talk of life. I'm looking forward to purchasing the Hite report for female sexuality.

Adriana Correia says

After "The Hite Report on Female Sexuality", Shere Hite aims at understanding what is behind male sexuality and tries to keep pushing the same theory: intercourse is not the right and only way to define "sex".

Comparing with the female report, one cannot avoid noticing that the first work went to greater lengths to categorize sexual behaviors themselves, and one gets the impression that the thesis being pushed is something that arises naturally. In this work, there is a greater focus on the family and emotional life of men, way more than regarding sexual behaviors; also this is clearly trying to answer the question of "How do men see women?", because a lot of the questions regarding men's sexual feelings are framed in terms of "how do men experience women". To make justice to the full work of Shere Hite, these family and emotional questions from the perspective of women are explored in other books, which I think is more appropriate.

The reason why the emotional questions are explored here, in my opinion, is that, regarding men, those are the more taboo subjects, since men talk openly about masturbation. While in the women's case it was clitoral stimulation, here men's secret need for affection is the big central question. The thesis goes something like this: society tells men that the sex they should have is penetration, and this is what makes them true men. Needless to say this mindset doesn't help either women or men. Hite tries to back this up with testimony from men complaining about this pressure, and how sometimes they would like more foreplay for themselves, almost to the touching level of "Men are people too and they want to feel wanted too".

I still think that Hite presented only circumstantial evidence that men don't want to just "shove it in", but you would have to have a heart of stone not to consider this to be true. From that step to having men willingly stepping out from that role is a long jump. Still, it is enlightening to read that men feel oppressed by this.

Ultimately, I think that considering a world in which men want generally more from women than just "masturbating inside them" frees both men AND women, as it would allow for women to express themselves more freely too.

A honorable mention for the sections of "men having sex with other men" and "sexuality of older men", as they represent the least often honestly heard voices.

4 starts because there are a lot of topics covered but not with the depth that I was expecting.

Victoire says

Tended to be about gayness, camping holidays, sniffing other mens jocks/sox etc

Makes you able to talk with gay men better.

Read it then leave it.

Carl says

First of all it gives men a frame of reference as to how men think, feel and act sexually. Second, it gives women insights into how men think, feel and act sexually. I was surprised by how difficult men found it to express their feelings since, as a man I've never had any difficulty expressing my feelings to men or women. When you don't have difficulty with something it can be mystifying when others find it daunting.

In June, 2005, a new female friend told me that 'men don't read fiction' (with the possible exception of Tom Clancy et al) but she was an exquisite ironist and knew that I did.

At least one woman here suggested she enjoyed reading snippets at bedtime. Krafft-Ebbing's 'Psychopathia Sexualis' is an interesting bedtime read as well (since you already knew about Nin's Delta of Venus and Little Birds).

I enjoy reading the Hite Report on Female Sexuality at bedtime.

Sally says

Still relevant today, especially the many quotes from men responding to Hite's questionnaire.

Eun-kyeong says

It was published in 1987. The interviewee's way of thinking shown in this book may be old-fashioned, but some might be true. It made me curious about Female Sexuality.

elyse says

I picked this up for \$2 at the Newberry Library used book sale in Chicago and it now lives on my coffee table (except when my parents visit). When I feel goofy, I read passages to my boyfriend.

Gavin says

Just bad science. You can read about some of the deep, invalidating methodological problems here and here.

Not sure if it's bad enough to go on my "Actively Harmful" shelf.

Jess Scott says

Preferred this one ("Hite Report on MALE Sexuality") a lot more to "The Hite Report on Female Sexuality"--though both were very insightful and informative!

Cathy says

This book is not only about sex, but about men's FEELINGS, something that it is hard for them to talk about, and it gave me a greater understanding of what was happening in my own personal relationships that drives behavior.

Petra CigareX says

I don't really read these books on sexuality in a totally objective way. I always hope that there might be something a little spicy, a little stimulating to read before bedtime. But this wasn't a woman's book. Shame that.
