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Perceptions on Sexuality among Female University Students in Slovenia

The paper will deal with the question to what extent young women's perceptions of sexuality are influenced by existent sexual cultures (the dominant 'permissive', the residual 'traditional' and the emergent 'subversive' sexual culture). The starting idea is that main social context that shapes young people's perceptions of sexuality is a culture of reflexive individualism, under which they construct their perceptions of sexuality. The paper will present the results of qualitative study carried out in 2008 by focus groups with female university students. It is assumed that reflexive understanding of sexuality (based on a permissive sexual culture) functions more as an ideal (to be achieved). Sexuality of young people is on the other hand influenced by various traditional discourses and imperatives (especially male sexual drive discourse and coital imperative) that mix well with the permissive sexual culture and its discourses and imperatives (especially orgasmic imperative and the pseudo-reciprocity discourse).