



The Journal of Sex Research >

Volume 48, 2011 - [Issue 5](#)

1,686 52

Views | CrossRef citations to date

18

Altmetric

ARTICLES

Positioning the Booty-Call Relationship on the Spectrum of Relationships: Sexual but More Emotional Than One-Night Stands

Peter K. Jonason , Norman P. Li & Jessica Richardson

Pages 486-495 | Published online: 28 Jul 2010

 Cite this article  <https://doi.org/10.1080/00224499.2010.497984>

Sample our
Behavioral Sciences
Journals



>> [Sign in here](#) to start your access
to the latest two volumes for 14 days

 Full Article

 Figures & data

 References

 Citations

 Metrics

 Reprints & Permissions

[Read this article](#)

 Share

Abstract

Most research on human sexuality has focused on long-term pairbonds and one-night stands. However, growing evidence suggests there are relationships that do not fit cleanly into either of those categories. One of these relationships is a “booty-call relationship.” The purpose of this study was to describe the sexual and emotional nature of booty-call relationships by (a) examining the types of emotional and sexual acts involved in booty-call relationships and (b) comparing the frequency of those acts in booty-call relationships to one-night stands and serious long-term relationships. In addition, the manner in which sociosexuality is associated with the commission of these acts was also examined. Demonstrative of booty-call relationships’ sexual nature was individuals’ tendency to leave after sex and infrequent handholding. In contrast, the romantic nature of booty-call relationships was demonstrated through the frequency of

acts like kissing. The results suggest the booty-call relationship is a distinct type of relationship situated between one-night stands and serious romantic relationships.

[← Previous article](#)

[View issue table of contents](#)

[Next article >](#)

Acknowledgments

We thank Laura Madson and Pamela Izzo for reviewing an earlier version of this manuscript.

Notes

¹A booty-call itself “is a communication initiated towards a non-long-term relationship partner with the urgent intent either stated or implied, of having sexual activity and/or intercourse” (Jonason, Li, & Cason, [2009](#), p. 3).

²For an alternative perspective on booty-calls—one that does not involve evolutionary psychology—see Caruthers ([2006](#)) for an examination of how sociocultural factors may impact the development of such relationships.

³Unfortunately, we did not keep track of this and, therefore, cannot provide another estimate of the frequency of these relationships.

⁴In most research, women report fewer sexual and romantic relationships than men do (e.g., Jonason & Fisher, [2009](#)). This discrepancy, we suspect, is the result of the small sample size and not veridical differences.

Note. Comparisons among superscripts are significant at $p < .05$. The scale ranges from 1 (not at all), 2 (a little), 3 (moderately), 4 (much), to 5 (very much).

* $p < .05$. ** $p < .01$.

Note. Means and standard deviations were omitted to save space, and can be obtained by contacting Peter K. Jonason. Negative values mean women scored higher than men.

* $p < .05$. ** $p < .01$.

Note. Comparisons among superscripts are significant at $p < .05$.

*p < .05. **p < .01.

⁵This difference is on the small side and, thus, we urge caution in its over-interpretation.

Related research

People also read

Recommended articles

Cited by
52

[The “Booty Call”: A Compromise Between Men's and Women's Ideal Mating Strategies >](#)

Peter K. Jonason et al.
The Journal of Sex Research
Published online: 2 Oct 2009

[What's love got to do with it? Exploring the impact of maintenance rules, love attitudes, and network support on friends with benefits relationships >](#)

Mikayla Hughes et al.
Western Journal of Communication
Published online: 18 Feb 2007

[Unpacking the “Pleasures” and “Pains” of Heterosexual Casual Sex: Beyond Singular Understandings >](#)

Panteá Farvid et al.
The Journal of Sex Research
Published online: 6 Apr 2016

[View more](#)

Information for

[Authors](#)

[R&D professionals](#)

[Editors](#)

[Librarians](#)

[Societies](#)

Opportunities

[Reprints and e-prints](#)

[Advertising solutions](#)

[Accelerated publication](#)

[Corporate access solutions](#)

Open access

[Overview](#)

[Open journals](#)

[Open Select](#)

[Dove Medical Press](#)

[F1000Research](#)

Help and information

[Help and contact](#)

[Newsroom](#)

[All journals](#)

[Books](#)

Keep up to date

Register to receive personalised research and resources by email



Sign me up



Copyright © 2026 Informa UK Limited [Privacy policy](#)

[Cookies](#) [Terms & conditions](#) [Accessibility](#)

Registered in England & Wales No. 01072954
5 Howick Place | London | SW1P 1WG



Taylor & Francis
by informa