

Foreword

We encounter the topic of sexuality everywhere: in films and books, in advertising, in press and on the internet. But how is the situation of sexual health in Germany? Although the scientific interest in masculine sexuality has grown over the last few decades, data that is reliable for many aspects is missing.

The present Third Men's Health Report, which was developed in collaboration with the Men's Health Foundation and the Institute for Applied Sexual Studies at the Merseburg University of Applied Sciences, provides a current insight into the diverse facets of the sexuality of men from both social and medical perspectives. 40 experts from various disciplines have analyzed in 31 contributions the state of progress achieved, presented deficits and suggested recommendations for action.

The contributions are bundled into five chapters:

1. Male sex and male sexuality (sexualities – past and presence)
2. Sexual health in the course of life
3. Heterogenous masculinities
4. Medical stress factors for male sexuality
5. Sexuality and boundaries, sexual offences

Extensive recommendations for action, which include the need to catch up on research and health care, as well as a wide range of recommendations for marginalized groups, are the subject of discussion and political consensus building.

The Survey »Men's Health: Perceptions from around the Globe«, carried out in summer 2016 in 8 countries (Australia, France, Germany, Italy, Poland, Sweden, United Kingdom and United States) with 16,000 male and female participants (commissioned by Sanofi) showed interesting results regarding men's behaviour towards health and especially towards sexual health. »Men remain reluctant to seek help for a range of sexual health problems and are still deterred

by embarrassment and a belief that the problem will go away on its own« (Foreword: Men's health: Perceptions from around the globe, www.gamh.org).

The survey underlines the concern of the third Men's Health Report.

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