



Presentation 4

IDEAL LOVE



**SCIENTIFIC
EVIDENCE**

**Love
does not
kill**



Love does not kill

SCIENTIFIC ARTICLE: Valls, R., Puigvert, L., & Duque, E. (2008). Gender violence among teenagers: Socialization and prevention. *Violence against women*, 14(7), 759-785.

<https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/1077801208320365> Puigvert, L., Gelsthorpe, L., Soler-Gallart, M., & Flecha, [...]

HOAX:
Romantic love
generates
gender
violence



Romantic Love is Revolutionary

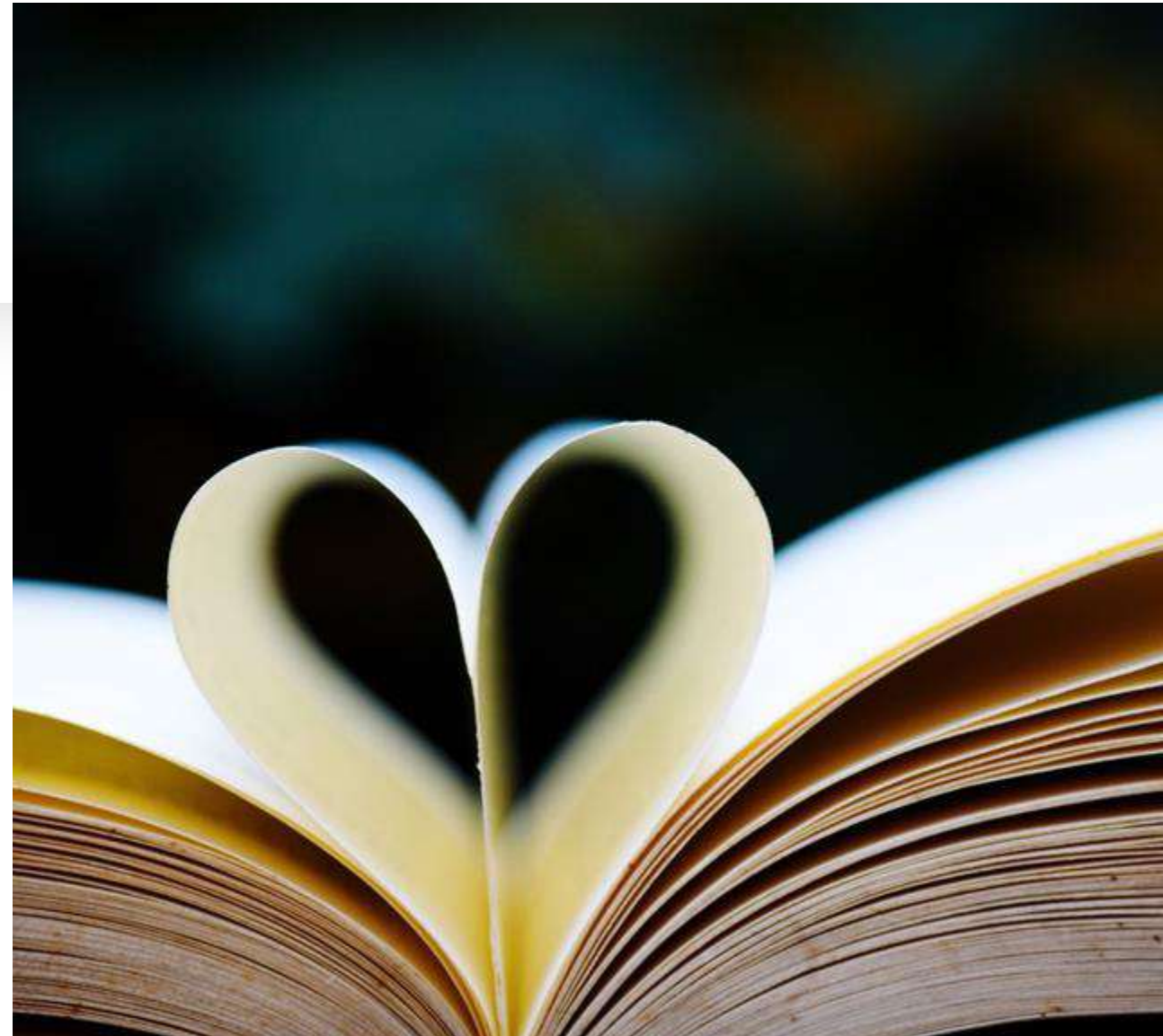
"My freedom is as boundless as the sea, and as deep as the sea is my love. The more I give you, the more I have left, because one and the other are infinite"

(Romeo & Juliet)



Scientific literature about love

1. Romantic love is a historical breakthrough. From interest-based relationships to love-based relationships
2. There are traditional gender roles consistent with the historical context not necessarily linked to gender-based violence.
3. Non-existence of gender-based violence in the imaginary of ideal love.



It is unusual to speak about "ideal love" among teenagers

"I can't really talk to my friends about intimate and deep things, I can't talk to them about anything..."

(Youth focus group)

"We don't usually talk about that, mostly because my friends are more or less like that... pimps and.... "I fuck three girls" and every time different."

(Interview with teenage boy)

Research: IDEALOVE&NAM. Preventive Socialization on gender violence (2015)
funded by Spanish Ministry of Education, Science and Sport

The concept of 'ideal love' is the opposite of gender-based violence

"Well, no, obviously. Neither gender violence nor... (...) but it is no longer, it is no longer ideal. Even if it had started ideal and ended badly at the beginning, it would not have been ideal"

(Teenage girl Interview)

"Not at all, I mean, totally the opposite. Any person who can try to control you, manipulate you, go over your head... I don't know, it's totally contrary to the idea that I put forward (of ideal love)"

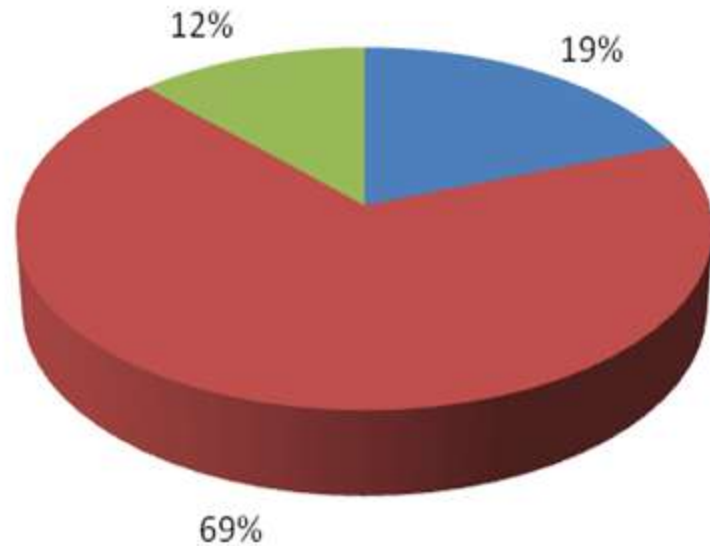
(Interview Young woman)

"Evidently it has nothing to do with violence, on the contrary ehm... a relationship is precisely the opposite of any kind of violence (...). Since when is love violence? It is illogical. They are opposites"

(Interview Young Man)

Research: IDEALOVE&NAM. Preventive Socialization on gender violence (2015) funded by Spanish Ministry of Education, Science and Sport

Why do people stop believing in love?



- Because some adults tell them that they are grown up and don't have to think about nonsense
- Due to disappointments in love, bad experiences
- Other

Research: IDEALOVE&NAM. Preventive Socialization on gender violence (2015) funded by Spanish Ministry of Education, Science and Sport

The violent relationships one suffers lead one to stop believing in "ideal love"

"And then they get older, older, older, they go out on the street, they meet boys, they fall in love with people who don't give them love but maybe even abuse them, psychologically and even physically, there are many cases, and then they fall out of love, don't they? There are many girls, many girls who say I don't believe in love and I will never, never be able to fall in love with a man because all the men, all the boys they have been with have hurt them. They haven't known how to find or because they haven't helped them, or they haven't had an education where they know who to choose".

(Discussion group Young women)

Research: IDEALOVE&NAM. Preventive Socialization on gender violence (2015) funded by Spanish Ministry of Education, Science and Sport

The problem is not "love" but the person you choose

If it comes from the wrong person, yes, it can lead to suffering

(Interview Teenager boy)

So, the problem is to choose the wrong person first.

(Interview Young women)

Research: IDEALOVE&NAM. Preventive Socialization on gender violence (2015) funded by Spanish Ministry of Education, Science and Sport

21st Century Ideal Love

We propose the "ideal love" of the 21st century as diverse and plural. Ideal love is not associated with any particular sexual choice or form of relationship, nor with a specific time span, and it does have one common feature: the absence of gender-based violence. Socialisation in the desire for "ideal love" contributes to preventing gender-based violence, as it combines the absence of gender-based violence with sexual freedom and freedom of choice in relationships.

Concept of Ideal Love in the 21st Century by Ramón Flecha and Lidia Puigvert is distributed under a Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivs 4.0 International License.. <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/> Basada en una obra en <http://amieedu.org/debate/index.php?topic=101.msg492#new>

Dreaming of love

So if you know any relationship, that they are very good, that they have fallen in love throughout their lives, do you think that this...?

- Charles: I don't think that this generates suffering, on the contrary. That is, it is something that you can see that both of them love each other very much, and that they are together and then that is something that makes you happy.

(Interview teenage boy)

So in this sense, do you believe that dreaming of an ideal love helps? Is it positive?

- Yes of course, because I also believe that to want "something", you also have to think about it, you also have to dream and imagine it, because otherwise you don't have a reference of what you want, that is to say, I think about what I want and from here I look for it. If I don't think about it, I can't look for it. "Well, that's the same, if I don't dream about my ideal love I will never find it.

(Interview young woman)

Research Project: Miratge de l'Ascens i Amor ideal. [Mirage of upward mobility 6 Ideal Love] Funded by the Catalan's Women Institute (2010-2011)





Sappho: Gender Scientific Evidence Platform



EXPLANATION OF THE POST

I usually listen to different public debates that love kills, but when I checked the scientific evidence, there is clear evidence that this statement is a hoax that increases significantly gender violence. This pseudoscientific statement is contrary to four clear scientific evidences: 1) The violence or non violence in a sporadic or stable relationship depends on the partner being violent or not. 2) There is violence and non violence in both stable and sporadic relationships. 3) It is more frequent to have sporadic sex with violent partners than in stable relationships and it is much more normalized 4) This pseudoscientific statement is used even with underage people in order to press them not to fall in love and to have what is considered "free" relationships ignoring the violence in many hook-ups.

SCIENTIFIC ARTICLES

- Armstrong, E. A., Hamilton, L., & England, P. (2010). Is hooking up bad for young women?. *Contexts*, 9(3), 22-27. <https://doi.org/10.1525/ctx.2010.9.3.22>
- James, W. H., West, C., Deters, K. E., & Armijo, E. (2000). Youth dating violence. *Adolescence*, 35(139), 455.
- Puigvert, L., Geisthorpe, L., Soler-Gallart, M., & Flecha, R. (2019). Girls' perceptions of boys with violent attitudes and behaviours, and of sexual attraction. *Palgrave Communications*, 5(1), 1-12. <https://doi.org/10.1057/s41599-019-0262-5>
- Torres-Gómez, E., Puigvert, L., Aielo, E., & Khalilou, A. (2020). Our right to the pleasure of falling in love. *Frontiers in psychology*, 11, 3068. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2019.03068>
- Valls, R., Puigvert, L., & Dugue, E. (2008). Gender violence among teenagers: Socialization and prevention. *Violence against women*, 14(7), 759-785. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1077801208320365>

Manuel Garcia on February 14, 2021 at 10:58

COMMENT:

Romantic relationships are not the root cause of gender-based violence, but they can be decisive in helping to prevent future violent relationships. In my personal experience I had a long and romantic relationship with my first girlfriend, many years later she told me that due to that relationship we had, she has been able to clearly distinguish violent attitudes in boys who have claimed to have a relationship with her.

OTHER SOURCES:

James, W.H.; West, C.; Deters, K.E. y Armijo, E. (2000). Dating Violence. *Adolescence*, 35(139), 455-465.
Oliver, E.; y Valls, R. (2004). *Violencia de género. Investigaciones sobre quiénes, por qué y cómo superarla*. Barcelona: El Roure.

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Log in to Reply

daniela pinilla sepulveda on October 11, 2021 at 11:01

Thinking about every romantic experience I have had throughout my teenage years, I have also come to the conclusion that "Love does not kill". Due to a lack of maturity or experience, teenagers (and specially girls) tend to choose romantic partners who are also immature, uncaring and even aggressive. These relationships usually lead to showing these boys some kind of tolerance that they do not deserve, and it even makes them feel powerful and superior due to their behaviour not being punished.

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READ AND DISCUSS

<https://periodicoeducacion.info/2023/02/14/love-is-the-most-revolutionary-act-we-can-choose/>



PE
Periódico
Educación

"In spaces where love is tinged with hoaxes that taint it so much, loving is precisely the most revolutionary and transformative act we can choose, for ourselves and for others."

Alba Crespo

If you have more time... you can read and discuss

Power or love, violence or beauty

<https://periodicoeducacion.info/2023/09/25/power-or-love-violence-or-beauty/>

Para combatir la violencia de género “traigamos al activismo feminista el espíritu del amor” <https://eldiariofeminista.info/2018/07/27/para-combatir-la-violencia-de-genero-traigamos-al-activismo-feminista-el-espiritu-del-amor/>



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