

Presentation 6.

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INDEX

- No means no
- Only "Yes" means "yes"
- *The need for Communicative Acts*
- *Types of Communicative Acts*



-
- Is it enough?
 - Can you “say no” without words?
 - And when you say nothing?
What does it mean?
 - Is it always possible to say no?

NO
MEANS
NO



Fundação de Amparo à Pesquisa do Estado de São Paulo



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- Can I “say yes” without words?
- Do I have to ask for a “verbal yes” constantly?
- What about **the “coerced yes”**?



<https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2020.00092>

Contributions From Psychology to Effectively Use, and Achieving Sexual Consent

Ramon Flecha¹, Gema Tomás² and Ana Vidu^{2*}¹Department of Sociology, University of Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain, ²School of Law, University of Deusto, Bilbao, Spain

Psychology related to areas such as gender, language, education and violence has provided scientific knowledge that contributes to reducing coercive social relationships, and to expanding freedom in sexual-affective relationships. Nonetheless, today there are new challenges that require additional developments. In the area of consent, professionals from different fields, such as law, gender, and education, are in need of evidence differentiating human conditions that coerce. Up to now, an example, “no means no,” or “anything is consent on verbal language is a very ir most of the issues currently raised, like

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<https://doi.org/10.1007/s12119-023-10115-w>Sexuality & Culture
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ORIGINAL ARTICLE



Do People Comment on Social Networks About Sexual Consent in TV Series? Rethinking Consent (or not) in Real Situations: Contributions from Debates in Social Media

Cristina Pulido¹, Paula Cañaveras^{1,2}, Gisela Redondo-Sama², Beatriz Villarejo-Carballido^{1,4}Accepted: 18 June 2023
© The Author(s) 2023**Abstract**

Scientific evidence has established that sexual consent can be expressed with more than only speech acts. Moreover, scientific analysis of other elements beyond speech acts reveals that coercion can be clearly indicated. Theories on communicative acts contribute to this debate, introducing three situations where these elements can occur: ones of physical, institutional, or interactive power. However, the public comments on these situations on social networks (Instagram, Twitter and Reddit) has not been analysed before. Within the framework of the Spanish competitive project Consent (PID2019-110466RB-I00), we conducted a novel study on the comments and reactions made around the communicative acts that prevent or facilitate the identification of sexual harassment manifestations for a large group

<https://doi.org/10.1177/11033088231198600>

Original Article

Consent? At the Start, You Do Not Even Think About It. Coercive Discourse in the Awakening of Affective-Sexual Relationships in Young Women

Elena Duque¹, Marifa Salceda², Roger Campdepadrós-Cullell³, Guiomar Merodio⁴ and Lidia Puigvert-Mallart⁵**Abstract**

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Contributions of young people in dialogue with scientific evidence on sexual consent

Elena Duque¹, Paula Cañaveras¹, Sandra Racionero-Plaza^{1,5} & Blas Ortuño¹

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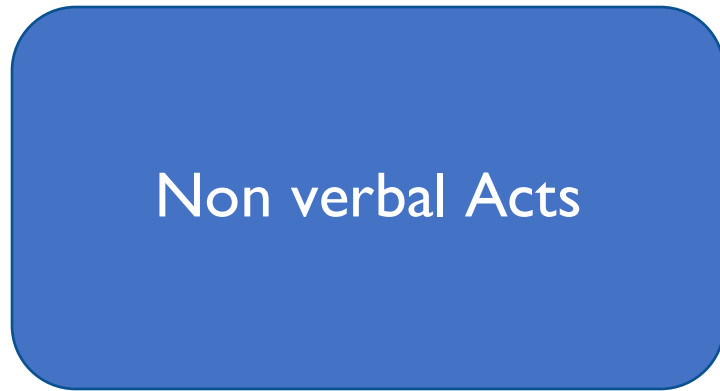
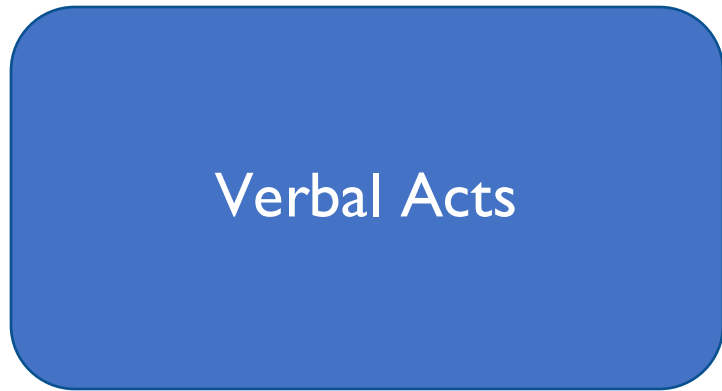
The Affirmative “Yes”. Sexual Offense Based on Consent

Ana Vidu
Universidad de DeustoGema Tomás Martínez
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The gang rape case that occurred in Spain during a 2016 famous festival placed the trial against its five aggressors on an unprecedented media and social scale in Spain. The court that ruled for sexual abuse and not for rape sparked a huge and prompt social rejection of the current legislation. To overcome revictimization and give voice to survivors, the consideration of consent has been raised. This new paradigm has deeply spread in society and social networks to the point that the Spanish government has expressed its interest in modifying the Criminal Code to base sexual crimes on consent. In our duty to provide scientific knowledge for this issue, this article frames the debate on sexual harassment and focuses on the crime against sexual freedom and the context under which consent can neither be asked for nor conceived. This article analyzes the aggravating crime factors while basing consent

Communicative Acts

- Other elements beyond the words "yes" or "no" must be taken into account.
- It is necessary to introduce "communicative acts", i.e., not only what is said or the non-verbal language, but also the context in which interactions take place.



- “No means No”
- “Only yes means yes”

- Non verbal cues
- Silence does not imply consent
- Threat overrides consent

- Verbal cues
- Non Verbal cues
- Social context of the interactions
- Intention of the speakers
- Responsibility in communication

Communicative Acts in Sexual Consent

COERCION

Power Communicative Acts

Physical Power

Institutional Power

Interactive Power

CONSENT

Dialogic Communicative Acts

Free of Physical power

Free of Institutional power

Free of Interactive Power

Power Communicative Acts

- **Physical Power:** A person says “yes” to a sexual proposal under threat of a knife.
- **Institutional Power:** A person who is in a hierarchically superior position in a given context (in the workplace, academia, etc.) makes a proposal taking advantage of his or her position.

An employer in a hiring interview proposes a date to a candidate with a non-verbal language that clearly indicates that his/her recruitment depends on his/her acceptance or not.

- **Interactive Power:** A girl feels pressured after having previously refused on several occasions and finally gives in to the pressure of the context.

If you push and push and push in the end... he who follows gets it. (...) It's not like that. The one who follows it, for your own security you say "okay, well, that's it, I'll do it and that's it". (...) I do it and that's it, but that doesn't mean that it's because the other person wanted to. (...) Because if a person has said no to you 15 times... the 16th time is not going to be that they have change their mind and say: "oh, yes, now I really want to do it" (Young woman, 21 years old)

Identify and discuss this elements for the citations from the next slides:

- Verbal acts: No and Yes. Is there a Coercitive YES?
- Identify communicative acts: verbal and non verbal discourse, context, intentions..
- Can you identify the *coercive discourse*? Where is it coming from?
- Identify physical, institutional and interactive power
- What do you think the impact of coercion might be for each of the people involved in this case (girl, boy, friends present)?
- Can you imagine a similar situation of coercion in a different context, such as a setting that is more familiar to you? Example: between adults, in a company setting, etc. Please, explain.
- How could the influence of this coercive discourse in general be prevented or diminished? Which interactions can act in prevention? How could it be prevented from the peer group in particular?





Original Article

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YOUNG
1–17
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Elena Duque¹, Marifa Salceda²,
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and Lidia Puigvert-Mallart⁵

Abstract

Extensive scientific evidence suggests that peer interactions influence sexual and affective relationships. Coercive discourse in some peer interactions has also been shown to adversely affect consent in those relationships. However, more research is needed to understand how consent (or the lack of it) is internalized during life trajectories, specifically in the awakening of sexual relationships in young women. In the research project CONSENT framework, 36 women between 18 and 25 years of age participated in interviews and communicative groups. This article presents results related to the role of consent in their life trajectories.

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- *Something that we talk about a lot between us is that I think that **almost none of us remember our first sexual relationship as something....** That is, most of us do not remember it as **something pleasant for us, it was like a procedure to go through**, and it happens at that moment as it could have happened in another moment and with another person.... Well, that is **a process that we enjoy rather 0 or even negative as it has been for most of us. So we don't have a good memory at all.***

25-year-old young woman

- *Yes, cases of friends, cases of girls younger than me who are somewhat under pressure, right? Or **they feel less for not doing it, and then they end up giving in and doing things they didn't want to do.***

23-year-old young woman



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- ***I didn't think I would give or take consent because I had a lot of pressure to make boys like me. (...) I had to be a porn actress on demand with the boy I was hooking up. And I also felt very validated about that, and I even preferred to feel a lot of physical pain just to please the other person, and I did not consider that.... So I was more compensated by the approval of the other person, being sexy ... being liked ... than my physical and emotional well-being***

24-year-old young woman



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- *No, that's completely tough. I think that if you already get into it, it's like, if you already put yourself in the lion's den, then I guess you just go along, right? But because you already know it's going to go that way, you know? And you don't really give in. Because you already know what's coming. But yeah, when you're already there, I mean, even in the car... It's really hard to say no. Yes, it's true. At some point, you feel indirectly pressured, you know, but it's like... I don't know, I'm already here, right?*

Communicative daily life story. Young woman, aged 20.



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- I think that's what it is, that when you give in to something like going to the car or going upstairs... you know that 90% is going to be for... for that and I think you are already a bit aware that you know what you are getting into. That obviously you can say NO at any time and that's fine because you decide what you do, right? But really indirectly it's like: wow, I'm already in here, right? (...) you feel a bit of social pressure to say: "well, since I'm here"... Or really when it's time to have the first relationships: yes... well... I'll have it... And that's it. Even though I'm not very interested in that person either. But it is true that there is also indirectly a social pressure to say: well... I do it and that's it.*

Communicative daily life story. Young woman, aged 20.



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I think the most critical moment might be the first time, when you lose your virginity (...) because you feel more pressure (...) You feel that pressure from your friends asking you... like, when are you going to do this and that... when did you do this... They want you to tell them everything... because it happened to me the first time... (...) Yes. And if nothing happens, it's like... I don't know how to express it... It's like you're a shame! It's either a shame for you or wow... she rejected you... I don't know... (...) And yes, I did feel that pressure of saying, oh, she said no, this and that... and then, after 2 s, it's like: "Come on, now try with her!" (...) And yes, the group would say, "Well... you should have taken advantage... since you were with her, you could have done something... enjoyed yourself"

Communicative daily life story. Young man, aged 21.



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More scientific articles

Sexuality & Culture
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s12119-023-10115-w>

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Do People Comment on Social Networks About Sexual Consent in TV Series? Rethinking Consent (or not) in Real Situations: Contributions from Debates in Social Media

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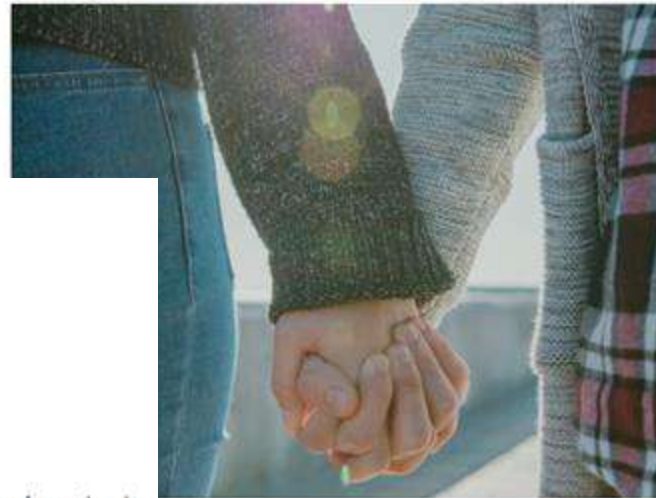
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