I Thought I Was Just a Late Bloomer: Exploring Asexual People's Experiences of Identity & Community

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Asexual and mixed-race identities were totally compartmentalized; likely due to different timing and influences

Methods

- Case study of an asexual mixed-race woman
- Following Deterding and Waters’ flexible coding process\(^1\), I produced nine major codes and twenty-five subcodes
- Used QDA Miner Lite software for analysis

Key Findings/Results

- In contradiction of earlier research, the participant was very open about her asexuality, while not considering it as salient to her identity.\(^3\)
- The participant’s racial and asexual identities were totally separate and did not appear to influence one another, likely because they developed in totally different ways; theoretically, they’re entirely compartmentalized.\(^2\)
- Unlike many asexual people, the participant faced no strong negative reactions when disclosing her asexuality, and is unconnected to the larger asexual community. She is supported by her friends and family, potentially because of their class-based resources.\(^4\)

References

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