A qualitative study of men’s perspectives on contraceptive decision-making.

Brief outline of project

This Honours project will use qualitative methods to explore men’s experiences and perceptions of contraceptive decision-making. Evidence suggests that women in heterosexual relationships in Australia still take the majority of the responsibility for contraception decision-making. Current clinical and public health guidelines recommend that Long Acting Reversible Contraceptives (LARC) are the preferred, most efficient methods that should be recommended by health professionals. Given that these modes are all physically located in women’s bodies, widespread promotion of such methods could reinforce dominant discourses about contraception being primarily a woman’s responsibility. This project will identify the impact of such discourses on men’s sense of wellbeing in relation to their own sexual health and that of their partner(s), as well as developing a deeper understanding of how agency is negotiated in personal relationships through contraceptive decision-making.

NB: This project could be tailored to the students’ interests. For example, they might like to focus on:

- Lifecourse approach, using narrative analysis of men’s reproductive/sexual life stories
- Comparison between different age cohorts of men
- Experiences of men from a specific Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) cohort
- Men’s views on women’s use of synthetic hormonal contraception specifically

Key references (up to 3)


Location of project:

Sturt Buildings, Bedford Park Campus