

ABSTRACT

In evolutionary psychology, the concept of jealousy is explained as the result of selection pressures causing individuals to develop certain mental tendencies in order to maximize their own viability and reproduction ability. Romantic jealousy is one of such tendencies; for men ensuring their fatherhood certainty, for women the maintenance of their partner's resources.

Results of previous studies using the evolutionary approach pointed out that there are specific gender differences in the perception of jealousy; men generally show more anxiety associated with sexual infidelity, women, on the other hand, with emotional infidelity. Studies dealing with jealousy between homosexual individuals show that gay men tend to express more anxiety regarding emotional infidelity (similar to heterosexual women) while homosexual women express more concerns regarding sexual infidelity (similar to heterosexual men). These studies suggest that the type of jealousy (emotional / sexual) depends on the sex of the respondent's partner and not on the sex of the individual in question.

The aim of this proposed study was to examine the experience of jealousy, its perception and attitudes to it from the perspective of heterosexual, homosexual and bisexual men and women and further explore whether it will be different sexual / emotional jealousy, depending on the respondent's sex partner using a quantitative questionnaires. The research sample consisted of 137 men (mean age 27.8, SD = 5.88) and 149 women (average age 25.07, SD = 5.32). All participant completed anonymous set of questionnaires aimed at the partner's jealousy along with questionnaire focused on partner's investments and partner adjustment. The results of this study showed that there is a difference in the experience of jealousy between men and women, regardless of sexual orientation. Furthermore, it was found that men experience more sexual jealousy if they are in a relationship with a woman, and that women experience more sexually jealousy when they are in a relation with a woman.

Key words: jealousy, sexual orientation