

Vocal Satisfaction of a Group of Brazilian Male to Female Transsexuals – Preliminary Data

Anna Paula Villas-Bôas^a, Karine Schwarz^b, Carla Cielo^c, Sabrina Santos, Briam Paim and Maria Ines Lobato^b

^aUniversidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil; ^bGender Identity Program, Hospital de Clínicas de Porto Alegre, Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul, Porto Alegre, Brazil; ^cDepartamento de Fonoaudiologia e Programa de Pós Graduação em distúrbios da comunicação humana, Universidade Federal de Santa Maria—UFSM, Santa Maria, Brazil; ^dPrograma de Pós Graduação em distúrbios da comunicação humana, Universidade Federal de Santa Maria, Santa Maria, Brazil; ^eGraduação em fonoaudiologia, Universidade Federal de Santa Maria, Santa Maria, Brazil

Introduction and objectives: Voice is an important gender marker in the transition process in personal and social acceptance of the new gender identity transsexual male to female (TMtF). The present study had as objective to evaluate the vocal satisfaction of a group of TMtF.

Methods and sample: We selected 30 TMtF participants from the gender identity program of the Hospital de Clinicas de Porto Alegre, Brazil, aged between 19 and 52 years, to answer questions about the voice. The two questions used in this study were: “What do you think of your own voice?” and “What do others think of your voice?” Adolescents were discarded due to vocal changes and individuals over 55 years of age due to possible laryngeal and vocal changes due to vocal function decline.

Results and discussion: Concerning the question “What do you think of your own voice?” it was verified that 33.33% of TMtF liked their own voice;

13.33% found their voice to be neutral and 53.33% did not like their voice. When questioned about “What do others think of their voice?”, 60% answered that others considered their voice female, 13.33% considered the voice to be neutral and 26.66% reported having their voices identified as masculine by others. In the present study, the majority of TMtFs were dissatisfied with their own voices, contrary to the percentage of TMtF that had their voices considered female, which suggests a great self-criticism by TMtF.

Recommendations: We recommend further studies on the subject, since it is a new field to be studied.

Keywords: Gender dysphoria, Voice, transsexual

Source of Funding: This study was financed in part by the Coordenação de Aperfeiçoamento de Pessoal de Nível Superior – Brasil (CAPES) – Finance Code 001

Conflict of Interest and Disclosure Statement: None

Track: 4. Basic Science

The Effect of Sexual Assertiveness on Attraction in Heterosexual Partnerships

Michèle Borgmann and Stefanie Gonin-Spahn

University of Berne, Institute of Psychology, Department of Health Psychology and Behavioral Medicine, Berne, Switzerland

Introduction & objectives: Previous research on sexual assertiveness has shown its relevance and fundamental role in sexual desire and sexual satisfaction. However, the effect of sexual assertiveness within a partnership has rarely been studied so far. The aim of this study is to examine the effect of sexual assertiveness on the affective and physical attraction of both the individual and their partner.

Method(s) & Sample: Between June 2018 and March 2019, a total of 126 heterosexual couples (average age 35 years) from Switzerland completed an

online questionnaire about sexuality, relationships and well-being. An Actor-Partner Interdependence Model (APIM) was calculated to test the effect of sexual assertiveness on both the individual’s (actor effects) as well as their partner’s attraction (partner effects).

Results: The APIM shows that only women’s sexual assertiveness has a positive effect on the affective and physical attraction of their partner. The men’s assertiveness shows no partner effects. The actor effects were predominantly significant, i.e., sexual assertiveness