



# Oregon Psychological Association Webinar Series

**Let's Talk About Sex: Increasing Comfort and Reducing Bias Around Sexual and Gender Health Concerns**

**Presented by:  
Jennifer A. Vencill, PhD, ABPP**



Register at  
[www.opa.org](http://www.opa.org)

**4 HOURS OF CEU**

**MONDAY  
A P R I L**

**3**

**9:00am – 1:00pm**

## Workshop Description

Most mental health professionals have been well-trained and feel comfortable assessing mental health symptoms and histories, including difficult topics such as suicidality or trauma. But what about addressing a client's sexual or gender health concerns? Although clients commonly have concerns related to sex, sexuality, and gender, they often feel embarrassed, ashamed, and reluctant to discuss them. Many will struggle with sexual difficulties for years before seeking professional help. Compounding the problem, clinicians consistently report that they are uncomfortable discussing topics related to sex, sexuality, and gender, and feel inadequately trained to approach these client concerns. This workshop will address the importance of attending to sexual and gender health concerns in the therapeutic context. Participants will explore the role of mental health providers in assessing and treating sexual and gender health concerns, including sexual function difficulties (e.g., sexual desire discrepancies, sexual pain, anorgasmia) as well as clients' exploration of their sexual and gender identities.

## Workshop Objectives

By the end of this presentation, attendees will be able to

1. Explore the role of mental health providers in the promotion of sexual and gender health.
2. Compare and contrast evidence-based strategies for conducting an ethical, inclusive, and thorough sexual health history.
3. Assess personal biases/fears that have arisen (or might arise) related to addressing sexual and gender health concerns.
4. Identify and discuss potential ethical pitfalls in addressing sexual and gender health concerns.

## Speaker

### Jennifer A. Vencill, PhD, ABPP



Jennifer A. Vencill, PhD, ABPP, is an assistant professor, board certified clinical health psychologist, and AASECT certified sex therapist at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, where she spends the bulk of her time providing integrated sexual health care and educating fellows, residents, and medical students about the importance of sexual and gender health. Dr. Vencill's research focuses on sexual health and health disparities in marginalized communities. She sits on the editorial board of the International Journal of Sexual Health and Psychology of Sexual Orientation & Gender Diversity, and recently helped to revise and update the APA Guidelines for Psychological Practice with Sexual Minority Persons. Dr. Vencill also co-authored the popular press book, *Desire: An Inclusive Guide to Navigating Libido Differences in Relationships*.

**OPA has a new registration option. If you are unable to attend the day of the webinar, you can now register to receive a link to the recording, which will be emailed to you approximately one week after the webinar concludes.**