The Circles of Sexuality

Sexuality encompasses nearly every aspect of our being, from attitudes and values to feelings and experiences. It is influenced by the individual, family, culture, religion/spirituality, laws, professions, institutions, science, and politics.

Sensuality involves our level of awareness, acceptance and enjoyment of our own or others' bodies.

Sexuality involves the use of sexuality to influence, control, and/or manipulate others.

Intimacy is the experience of mutual closeness with another person.

Intimacy is how we perceive ourselves as sexual beings.

Sexual identity involves the level of awareness, acceptance and enjoyment of your own or others' bodies.

Sexual identity is how we see ourselves as sexual beings.


advocatesforyouth.org, based on the original work of Dennis M. Dailey, Professor Emeritus, University of Kansas.