



Minor-adult sex becomes a contentious social topic: A summary of recent press activity and research

2018-2022: “Normalization of pedophilia” panic strikes America...

Over the last few years, aided by ample social media coverage, the [highly cited](#) term “Minor Attracted Person” (MAP - referring to [pedophiles](#), [hebephiles](#) and [ephebophiles](#)) has been generating plenty of heat. Right-Wing TV personalities and influencers such as **Tucker Carlson** and **Geraldo Rivera** are describing this new trend in activism and scholarship as the next “woke” frontier in social justice. The **LGBTQI+ lobby** have unsurprisingly attempted to distance themselves from their [former allies](#), as MAPs seek to become a movement in their own right.

Following the establishment of [Prostasia](#) Foundation (an unconventional, “sex positive” abuse prevention Organization), controversy has erupted over academics such as Allyn Walker ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#)), who are actively seeking to **destigmatize** adult attraction to minors, using “MAP”. Even established scholars such as the historian [Thomas Hubbard](#) have faced sometimes intense scrutiny and acts of violence for documenting historical facts about minor-adult relationships, such is the level of anxiety.

Newgon Organization has recently carried out [archive research](#), revealing their own role in popularizing “Minor Attracted Person” - which has its roots in the late 90s, contrary to recent claims of novelty. We have also witnessed sometimes inaccurate coverage of the very real [MAP Pride Flag](#).

2022: New peer-reviewed research shines a light on the topic...

Only very recently, [new research](#) has cast doubt upon the assumed traumatic qualities of sex between minors and adults. This latest analysis of Finnish survey data by **Bruce Rind Ph.D** has revealed what narrow, unrepresentative samples of self-identified survivors previously couldn't:

- The **vast majority (78%)** of boys liked their sexual contacts with significantly older people (age difference at least five years).
- The boys liked their sexual contacts with the significantly older person (age difference at least five years) about as often (78%) as their sexual contacts with their peers (77%).
- Girls liked their sexual contact with younger adults (age difference five to nine years) less often than their sexual contact with peers, but not by a wide margin (**52% as compared with 61%**).
- When the girls **initiated** sex with the adults, **79%** of them rated the sexual contact positively.

These findings come hot on the heels of further results from Finland ([Lahtinen](#), 2018), Denmark ([Larsen](#), 2007) and Ireland ([Rind](#), 2021), which revealed among other things that “most of the children reported these incidents as positive” (Lahtinen), “Only 1% of boys and 4% of girls felt that they “definitely” or “maybe” had been sexually abused” (Larsen) and that minors involved with adults “were not significantly less well adjusted than adults” (Rind). Rind has also carried out recent secondary analyses of the famous Kinsey Data, in a series of papers - results summarized below:

Comparing Minor-Adult sex with "Consenting Adult" sex: A comparison of "positive recall rate"

Kinsey asked adults about:	Straight Sex: Males with Females	Straight Sex: Females with Males	Gay Sex	Lesbian Sex
Experiences recalled as Minors ...with adults	63%	17%	70%	91%
Experiences recalled as Adults ...with other adults	44%	18%	68%	86%

1. Data was from the Kinsey Reports - the same data set used to thoroughly argue for Gay Rights, but not so far for Youth Choice.
2. Mean average ages during sex as a minor between 12.8 and 14 (with adults 24.3-30.5). Same-age relations all in the early 20s.
3. Emotional disturbance was also compared and was indifferent between the age groups.
4. To access secondary analysis papers: DOI: 10.1007/s10508-013-0186-x and 10.1007/s10508-016-0876-2 and 10.1007/s10508-016-0719-1 at your preferred academic repository.
5. Secondary analysis by - [Bruce Laurence RIND Ph.D](#)

Previous research: Approved by the APA, but condemned by congress!

This is not the first time Rind’s research has caused controversy. In 1998, [another paper of his](#), a meta-analysis (combined data) published with colleagues Robert Bauserman and Philip Tromovitch revealed there was [no significant psychological maladjustment](#) (intrinsic harm) to what other studies have termed “**Child Sexual Abuse**”. Despite being published and defended by the American Psychological Association the paper was publicly condemned by **US Congress** and conservative media personalities such as “**Dr Laura**”. The American Association for the Advancement of Science stated that they “saw no evidence of improper methodology or questionable practices by the authors”, and Thomas Oellerich described Rind’s work as “[Politically Incorrect, Scientifically Correct](#)”. As recently as 2021, Rind’s results have been reconfirmed by other authors, even when adjusting methods to account for common criticisms, or using brand new data ([Ulrich](#), 2005, [Daly](#), 2021).

For further background:

- The **Guardian**’s Jon Henley reviews this, and a broader range of research on minor-adult sex in [his article](#).
- Internet personality **Thaddeus Russell** discusses the topic with Philosopher Stephen Kershner in [this video](#).