

Kenneth R. Hanson

Assistant Professor of Sociology

Academic Positions

University of Wyoming

2022-Present Assistant Professor of Sociology
Department of Criminal Justice and Sociology

Education

University of Oregon

2022 PhD, Sociology
Certificate New Media & Culture

Kent State University

2017 MA, Sociology

Seattle University

2015 BA, Sociology (with Honors) *magna cum laude*

Areas of Interest

Sexualities, Social Psychology, Deviance and Social Control, Technology, Sex Tech, Gender, Digital Sociology, New Media, Contemporary Social Theory

Refereed Publications

Articles

- forthcoming Hanson, Kenneth R., and Nicholas Theis. "Networked Participants, Networked Meanings: Using Networks to Visualize Ethnographic Data." *Sociological Methodology*.
- forthcoming Hanson, Kenneth R. "A Methodological Reckoning for Love and Sex Doll Owner Scholarship." *Journal of Future Robot Life*.
- Award** 7th International Congress on Love and Sex with Robots, David Levy Best Paper Award
- 2023 Hanson, Kenneth R. "What Does the Personification of Love and Sex Dolls Explain about Doll Owners?" *Deviant Behavior*, 44(6):823–840.
- Journal Impact Factor* 1.716 (2021)
- Select Media Coverage* *GQ Magazine, U.K.*
- 2023 Hanson, Kenneth R., C.J. Pascoe, and Ryan Light. "'It's Getting Difficult to Be a Straight White Man': Bundled Masculinity Grievances on Reddit." *Sex Roles*, 88(3–4):169–186.
- Journal Impact Factor* 3.812 (2021)
- 2022 Hanson, Kenneth R. "Sex: Click Here to Upgrade." *Contexts*, 21(4):24–29.
- 2022 Hanson, Kenneth R., and Chloé C. Locatelli. "From Sex Dolls to Sex Robots and Beyond: A Narrative Review of Theoretical and Empirical Research on Human-like and Personified Sex Tech." *Current Sexual Health Reports*, 14(3):106–117.
- Select Media Coverage* *Yahoo! News, Houston Chronicle, The Conversation*
- 2022 Hanson, Kenneth R. "Collective Exclusion: How White Heterosexual Dating Apps Norms Reproduce Status Quo Hookup Culture." *Sociological Inquiry*, 92(S1):894–918.
- Journal Impact Factor* 1.690 (2021)
- 2022 Hanson, Kenneth R. "The Silicone Self: Examining Sexual Selfhood and Stigma within the Love and Sex Doll Community." *Symbolic Interaction*, 45(2):189–210.
- Award** University of Oregon Department of Sociology, Graduate Student Research Award for Publication,
- Honorable Mention** Society for the Study of Symbolic Interaction, Herbert Blumer Award for Best Graduate Student Publication
- Journal Impact Factor* 1.615 (2021)
- Select Media Coverage* *VICE News*
- 2021 Stacey, Clare L., Kenneth R. Hanson, and Meghan A. Noviksy. "From Doers to Donors: Sociology Students' Perceptions of Experiential Philanthropy." *Sociological Focus*, 54(2):153–166.
- 2021 Hanson, Kenneth R. "Becoming A (Gendered) Dating App User: An Analysis of How Heterosexual College Students Navigate Deception and Interactional Ambiguity on Dating Apps." *Sexuality & Culture*, 25(1):75–92.

Book Chapters

- forthcoming Hanson, Kenneth R., and Alexis Smiley Smith. "Cybrothel: A Case Study of Kokeshi, The World's First Analog A.I. Sex Worker. In Eds. Barton, Bernadette, Barb Brents, and Angela Jones, *Sex Work Now*. New York, NY: NYU Press.

Award 6th International Congress on Love and Sex with Robots, Best Presentation Award

Non-Refereed Publications

Essays

- 2021 Lindner, Andrew M., Jenny L. Davis, Tyler Burgese, Phoenicia Fares, Kenneth R. Hanson, Tyler Leeds, Rocio Leon, and Muyang Li. "Now More than Ever: CITAMS's Contributions to A Pandemic Society." *Information, Communication & Society*, 24(5):627-632.
- 2017 Hanson, Kenneth R. "Aging Toward Disaster." *Contexts*, 16(4):74-76.

Book Reviews

- 2022 Review of the book *What is Sexual Capital?* by Dana Kaplan and Eva Illouz. *Social Forces*. Online only.
- 2020 Review of the book *Masculinities, Sexualities and Love* by Aliraza Javaid. *Gender & Society*, 34(5):873-875.
- 2020 Review of the book *Camming: Money, Power, and Pleasure in the Sex Work Industry* by Angela Jones. *Men & Masculinities*, 23(3-4):791-793.

Works In Progress

Underlined names are undergraduate co-authors

- in preparation Hanson, Kenneth R., and Nicola Döring. "Exactly How Hyper-gendered Are Sex Dolls? Comparing Sex Dolls' Measurements to A Representative Sample of U.S. Adults."
- data analysis Hanson, Kenneth R., and Hannah R. Bolthouse "Replika removing ERP is like Grand Theft Auto removing guns or cars:" Analyzing r/Replika Discourse After Controversial Changes to Replika's Erotic Role-Play Feature.
- data analysis Hanson, Kenneth R., and Chloé C. Locatelli. "An Exploratory Analysis of Racialized Sex Tech Designs."

Grants & Awards

- \$3,600 University of Oregon General University Award, 2022
- \$750 Research Award for Data Collection and Presentation, 2020
- \$1,000 Lawrence Carter Graduate Student Research Award, 2020
- \$2,500 Marquina Graduate Grant, 2019

Invited Presentations

- 2022 Hanson, Kenneth R. "Why Do Some Sex Doll Owners Personify Their Dolls?" International Academy of Sex Research Expert Webinar Series, "Sex Tech, Sex Dolls, and Sexbots."
- 2022 Hanson, Kenneth R., and Alexis Smiley Smith. "Cybrothel: A Case Study of Kokeshi, The World's First Analog A.I. Sex Worker." Rhonda Balzarini's Remote Human Sexuality Course. Texas State University.
- 2021 Hanson, Kenneth R., and Alexis Smiley Smith. "Cybrothel: A Case Study of Kokeshi, The World's First Analog A.I. Sex Worker." Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality: Pornography, Technology, and Sex Work Special Interest Group. Hybrid Conference.
- 2021 Hanson, Kenneth R., and Alexis Smiley Smith. "Cybrothel: A Case Study of Kokeshi, The World's First Analog A.I. Sex Worker." 6th International Congress on Love & Sex with Robots. Virtual Conference.

- 2021 Hanson, Kenneth R. "Do People Dream of Silicone Soulmates?" New Media & Culture *Omeka* panel. University of Oregon.

Select Professional Presentations

- 2022 Hanson, Kenneth R. "A Methodological Reckoning for the Empirical Study of Sex Doll and Sex Robot Issues." 7th International Congress on Love & Sex with Robots. Virtual Conference.
- 2022 Hanson, Kenneth R. "Understanding Transgressive Sex Practices through a Sex Hobby Framework." American Sociological Association Annual Meeting. Los Angeles, CA.
- 2022 Hanson, Kenneth R. "Why Do Some Sex Doll Owners Personify Their Dolls?" The Chicago Ethnography Conference. Virtual Conference.
- 2021 Hanson, Kenneth R. "The Silicone Self: Sexual Fantasy, Desire, and Self-Conceptualization." American Sociological Association Annual Meeting. Virtual Conference.
- 2021 Hanson, Kenneth R. "The Silicone Self: Sexual Fantasy, Desire, and Self-Conceptualization." University of Oregon Department of Sociology Colloquium.
- 2020 Hanson, Kenneth R. "The Dating App Situation." American Sociological Association Annual Meeting. Virtual Conference. **Cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic**
- 2019 Hanson, Kenneth R. "Little Things: What Dating App User Preferences Reveal about Authentic Self-Presentations." Pacific Sociological Association Annual Meeting. Oakland, CA.
- 2018 Hanson, Kenneth R. "Reality Virtual: Exploring Sexuality as a Contest for Truth about Masculinity on Reddit." Pacific Sociological Association Annual Meeting. Long Beach, CA.
- 2017 Hanson, Kenneth R. "Why Talk When You Can Swipe? A Qualitative Investigation of College Heterosexuals Using Smartphones to Hookup and Date." Pacific Sociological Association Annual Meeting. Portland, OR.
- 2016 Hanson, Kenneth R. "Monogamy Commitments and Contradictions among Young Heterosexual Men." 5th International Conference on the Future of Monogamy and Nonmonogamy. Berkeley, CA.

Undergraduate Courses

Deviant Behavior
Sex & Society
Self & Society
Sociology of Religion
Sociology of Mass Media

Additional Pedagogy Experience & Training

University of Oregon Teaching Engagement Workshops

- 2020 Difficult Dialogues
2019 Writing an Effective Teaching Statement
2019 Teaching Toward Inclusion and Belonging
2018 Making the Most of Midterm Feedback

Dept. of Criminal Justice and Sociology, A&S Building 208 – Laramie, WY 82071

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2018 Teaching as Sole Instructor

Service to the Discipline

American Sociological Association

2021–2022 Sexualities Section Journal Task Force

Society for the Study of Symbolic Interaction

2022–2023 Best Graduate Student Paper Committee

Pacific Sociological Association

2020 Panel Organizer, "Academic Jargon or Mainstream Terminology? A Discussion of Terms Related to Sex, Gender, Race and Technology." **Cancelled due to COVID-19 pandemic**

2018 Presider, "Sexualities: Identities and Practices III."

2017 Presider, "Sexualities: Dating."

Love and Sex with Robots Congress

2023 Organizing Committee

2021 Panelist with Markie Twist, Kino Coursey, and Lara Karian, "Plastic Futures." Moderated by Simon Dubé. 6th Annual International Congress on Love & Sex with Robots.

Service to the Institution

University of Wyoming

2022–2023 Bylaws Committee

University of Oregon

2018–2020 Graduate Advocate

2017–2018 GTFF 3544 Steward

Public Sociology

#SexTalkTuesday

2023 Guest Moderator for 6/13/2023 episode

[Twitter Link](#)

Sex & Psychology Podcast with Justin Lehmillier

2023 Episode 195: [Inside a Sex Doll Brothel](#)

2023 Episode 194: [Sex Dolls, Sex Robots, and Chatbots](#)

GQ Magazine, U.K.

2023 Interviewed by Brit Dawson for ["The deeply human love stories of people and their sex dolls."](#)

Inside Higher Ed

2022 Interviewed by Colleen Flaherty for ["Peer-review crisis creates problems for journals and scholars."](#)

The Society Pages — Council on Contemporary Families Blog

2022 [Why some people choose synthetic partners over human ones](#)

Select Media Coverage [VICE News](#)

Future of Sex

2021 Consultant

Future of Sex Bylines

2021 [2022: A Call to Action for Sex Tech Industry Leaders](#)

2021 [AI Sex Dolls Are Not Embraced by Everyone in the Love Doll Community](#)

The Baltimore Watchdog

2020 Interviewed by Travis Armbruster and Roshan Davis for "[More Isn't Always Better: Dating App Users Face Swiping Fatigue.](#)"

The Kent Stater

2019 Interviewed by Nicholas Hunter for "[The Sex Issue: The Kent Stater Valentine's Day Special.](#)"

The Burr Magazine

2016 Interviewed by Rebecca Dawidzak for "harder than goodbye"

Graduate Advising

Outside Committee Membership

2023 Hanisah Hassim

Undergraduate Advising

BA Project Supervision

2023 Debbie Cobb

Select Media Coverage [KODI Radio](#)

Research Mentoring

2023 Hannah Bolthouse

Current Professional Memberships

American Sociological Association, Pacific Sociological Association, Society for the Study of Symbolic Interaction

Editorial Experience

Socius: Sociological Research for a Dynamic World

2019–2022 Managing Editor

2019–2022 Social Media Manager

Ad Hoc Reviewer History

Archives of Sexual Behavior, Atlantic Journal of Communication, Communication, Information & Society, Cultural Sociology, Cyberpsychology: Journal of Psychosocial Research on Cyberspace, Feminist Media Studies, Gender & Society, Journal of Decision Systems, Journal of Sex Research, New Media & Society, Sex Roles, Sexual and Reproductive Health Matters, Sexuality & Culture, Social Problems, Sociological Inquiry, Socius: Sociological Research for a Dynamic World, Studies in Ethnicity and Nationalism, Symbolic Interaction, Technology, Mind, and Behavior, The Communication Review, Theory & Society

Software Proficiency

NVivo Stata R Dedoose LaTeX

Professional References

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