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The Disconnection Between Sexuality and Reproduction. A Major Challenge for Public Health

A Salinas

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Salinas A. The Disconnection Between Sexuality and Reproduction. A Major Challenge for Public Health. En: Jarillo, Edgar; Guinsberg, Enrique. Temas y desafíos en salud colectiva. Buenos Aires: Lugar Editorial; 2007. p 171-188. Objectives: This chapter aims to reflect on the need to address the issue of sexuality as a process of social construction, more than the predominant biological vision. It also highlights the importance of integrating this position not only in the speeches of sexual and reproductive health but also in programs providing care for people in health institutions.

Methodology: Analytical and Interpretive

Results: Review of the literature suggests that one aspect that underlies the formation of the meanings of sexuality is gender. It illustrates situations such as the onset of sexual activity, which in the case of men is defined as an enjoyable experience, while in women it is directly linked to reproduction.

Conclusions: The non-reflective association of sexuality and reproduction impede taking action that is pro-sexual health. These aspects can not be ignored by professionals or managers responsible for health policy in the country. Sexual health of men and women involves a complex process that can not be treated with a biological approach, which criticizes this model. Therefore it is important to analyze different meanings with regard to sexuality, to break away from the biological form as a determinant that regulates sexuality, and to actually impact the sexual health and reproductive health of the population.