Myth: What you do with AI in the bedroom is your own thing

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More and more AI systems are being used as personal assistants, also in the bedroom and for sexual purposes. Sex robotics adopt AI systems for making sex robots interactive. While sexuality is considered to be something private, the sex robot reproduces the public/private divide by reinforcing the idea that a feminized caregiver is supposed to provide emotional support and sexualized care work.

Myth

> Generally, it is assumed that sexuality is something purely private, something that takes place within the home and is not of political concern. So, what one does with AI in the bedroom should be considered a private thing as well, right? But how exactly does the public/private divide come into play here?

> The private is political!

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Material

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CORE READINGS

Puig, K. (2019). Research Notes| Future(s) of Love/Sex. The Queer Futures Collective. [Publications details](#)

Kleeman, J. (2017, April 27). The race to build the world's first sex robot | Robots | The Guardian. [The Guardian.](#)

[Interview with a Sex Robot.](#) Retrieved 21 April 2021.

UNICORN IN THE FIELD

[netzforma* e.V.](#) – Association for feminist net politics founded in January 2018 and emerged from the AG Feministische Netzpolitik.

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Constanze Erhard is research assistant at the Institute of Sociology at Philipps University Marburg, Germany. Her doctoral research is grounded in posthuman gender studies by investigating sex robots and their functions as well as the hopes and fears associated with their functions and appearances, while taking a feminist posthumanist perspective to the sociology of sexuality. Other research interests include feminist subject philosophy and ethics as well as new materialism. She holds a MA degree in Political Theory from University of Frankfurt and TU Darmstadt (Germany).

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