

New study unveils dynamics of sexual racism among young sexual minority black men

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Ryan Wade. Credit: University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Racialized Sexual Discrimination (RSD), commonly known as "sexual racism," remains a significant challenge for young sexual minority Black men (YSMBM). Despite growing awareness, there remains a significant

gap in understanding how RSD intersects with individuals' sexual positioning roles.

Published in *The Journal of Sex Research*, Dr. Ryan Wade's [study](#) represents a significant leap forward in this domain. Through meticulous analysis of data from a comprehensive cross-sectional web-survey involving 726 YSMBM, Dr. Wade unpacks the intricate experiences of sexual racism within this demographic.

The study reveals that men identifying as mostly bottom experienced significantly stronger negative reactions to same-race rejection and encountered sexual role assumptions more frequently compared to their mostly top counterparts.

Versatile individuals reported encountering same-race rejection at a significantly higher rate than mostly top men, highlighting the unique challenges faced by individuals with diverse sexual positioning roles. Mostly bottom-identifying men reported encountering instances of White superiority more frequently than mostly top-identifying men, shedding light on the complex interplay between race and [sexual identity](#).

These findings underscore the urgent need for culturally competent clinical practices and highlight the importance of adopting more nuanced statistical models in sexual racism research.

"This study represents a critical step forward in understanding the multifaceted nature of sexual racism among young sexual minority Black men," says Dr. Ryan Wade, lead author of the study. "By recognizing the differential impact of RSD based on sexual positioning roles, we can better address the unique challenges faced by individuals within this community."

The publication of Dr. Wade's article signifies a crucial juncture in the ongoing dialogue surrounding sexual [racism](#) and underscores the importance of centering the experiences of marginalized communities in academic research.

More information: Ryan M. Wade et al, Whose Role is It Anyway? Sexual Racism and Sexual Positioning Among Young Sexual Minority Black Men, *The Journal of Sex Research* (2024). [DOI: 10.1080/00224499.2024.2305823](#)

Provided by University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

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