Notice of the Final Oral Examination for the Degree of Master of Arts of

BIANCA HUMBERT

BA (Ryerson University, 2014)

“Sexual Learning: Adolescent Experiences of Setting Sexual Boundaries”

Department of Educational Psychology & Leadership Studies

Wednesday, April 29, 2020 1:00pm
Remote Defence

Supervisory Committee
Dr. Timothy Black, Department of Educational Psychology & Leadership Studies,
University of Victoria (Supervisor)
Dr. Jillian Roberts, Member, Department of Educational Psychology & Leadership Studies,
UVic (Member)

External Examiner
Dr. Lara Lauzon, School of Exercise Science, Physical and Health Education, UVic

Chair of Oral Examination
Dr. Slim Ibrahim, Department of Mathematics and Statistics, UVic

Dr. David Capson, Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies
Abstract

This study explored 6 high school student's experiences of setting sexual boundaries. The significance of this study expands the findings and contributes to the existing literature on sexual learning by adolescents setting sexual boundaries. Qualitative methodology, narrative style semi-structured interviews and thematic analysis were used in this study.

Research findings point out that youths face significant challenges when setting sexual boundaries, such as, dealing with negative responses, having to maintain boundaries for an extended time, and managing emotional distress after consent is provided, but not followed by, a positive sexual experience.

Implications for future research would include an exploration of this research question with a larger and more diverse population. The goal would be to develop findings that could be generalized with a larger population. Further, the goal would be to engage in an increased dialog of sex-education for youths. The important areas to explore would include experiences of setting sexual boundaries, support a healthy integration of the meanings that are associated with these experiences, and to enhance strength-based practices of setting healthy sexual boundaries.

Keywords: sexual learning, adolescent, boundary setting, experiences