

The hookup culture experience varies significantly between POC and White students due to cultural norms, campus resources, and societal expectations. Here's how these differences play out.

POC

In my survey on Hookup culture, I asked whether students of color thought hookup culture was present within their community. 82.8% said "YES," 10.3% said "NO," 3.4% said "Depends on who you are talking to," and 3.4% said they were unsure.

"Black students reported less anonymity in their casual sex partnerships and perceived sexual encounters with acquaintances as more common than with strangers. Furthermore, Black students viewed hooking up as a step in relationship formation rather than a discrete sexual experience." (Jenkins Hall & Tanner, p. 6)

"Black students (especially Black women) were less likely to participate in interracial hookups despite close physical proximity to non-Black students on predominately White campuses." (Jenkins Hall & Tanner, p. 7)

White People

Casual Sex and College Culture: Hookup culture is often framed as a normal part of the college experience, emphasizing casual, uncommitted encounters. Freitas (2015) notes:

"The message about sex is simply that it's a normal part of the college experience, that it's casual, and that romantic relationships are formed through having sex, often with partners one hardly knows" (p. 218).

Ineffectiveness of Campus Resources: Campus resources related to sex and sexuality rarely meet the needs of students. (Freitas 2015) states, "When it comes to sex, the campus resources available to students—whether religious, spiritual, or otherwise—seem, for the most part, to be ineffective" (p. 217)

