

More than half of young people in the Basque Country say that it is not necessary to be in love to have sexual relations

Spanish youths link love and sex more than Basque youths

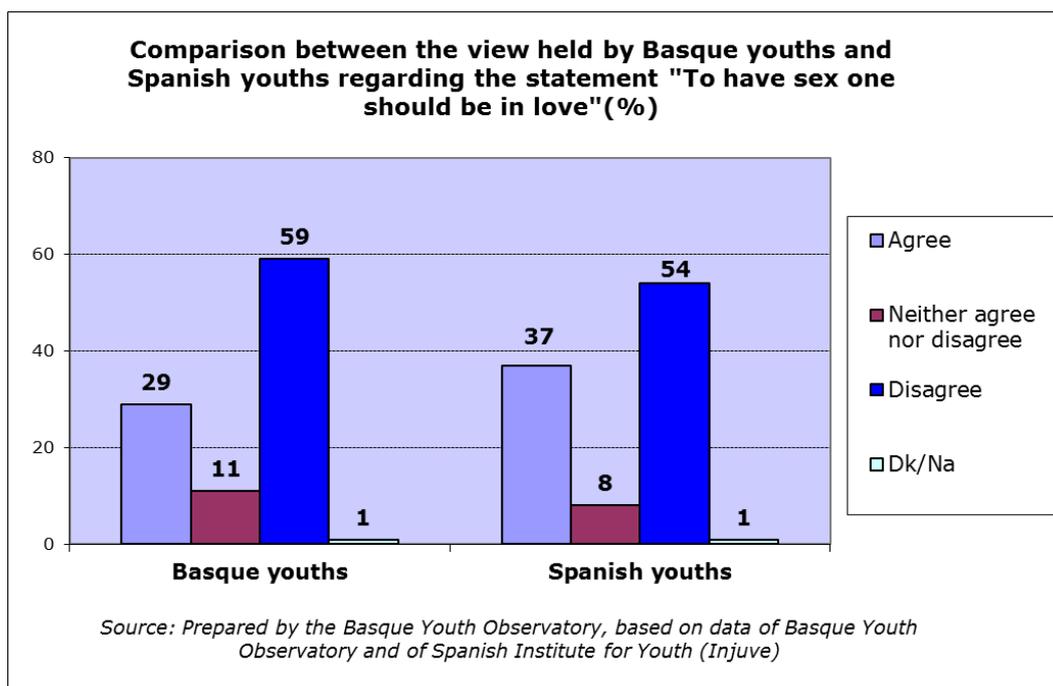
Basque youths aged 15 to 29 increasingly recognise the importance of sexuality in their lives. In 2000, 24% said it was very important. In 2012, the figure was 34%. Furthermore, most of young people in the Basque Country (80%) believe that sexuality is necessary to lead a balanced life at a personal level.

Anyway, more than half of Basque youths do not link love and sex: 59% are against the assertion that you have to be in love to have sex.

While all groups largely disagree with this statement, differences of opinion are appreciated by gender: 23% of boys agree that in order to have sex one should be in love while this percentage rises to 36% among girls.

As age increases, fewer people agree with this statement, to the point that 38% of people under 20 share the idea that one should be in love to have sex while among those aged 20 to 24 the percentage is 28% and among the older age group (25-29) the figure is 25 %.

Spanish youths display a higher level of agreement with the idea that one should be in love to have sex (37%) than Basque youths (29 %).



In order to conduct this analysis, the [Basque Youth Observatory](#) has based its findings on a survey conducted in 2012, [Basque Youth 2012](#). These data have been compared with those for Spanish youths, taken from the study "[Youth and sexual diversity](#)" conducted by Injuve in 2010

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