Abstract

This study seeks to draw up an integral definition of sexual pleasure which, aside from the bio-physiological component that is usually used to describe it, might consider individual psychological aspects, social relations and specic sexual behaviors to experience it. The study involved the participation of 67 women and 77 men, aged between 25 and 35 years old, living in Mexico City. We applied the Modified Natural Semantic Networks protocol (Reyes Lagunes, 1993) and used the results to draw up a definition that successfully integrates the four defining categories found: sexual activity, human sexual response, emotional aspects, and perceptions. We found a high correlation between the way men and women signify sexual pleasure since the network nuclei obtained for both men and women shows that, for both groups, the “couple,” “love” and “orgasm” are the defining principles of sexual pleasure.

Keywords