

# Keeping Connected

Counselling for Individuals and Couples

**Adrienne Bairstow, MSW, MEd, RSW, RMFT**

Individual, Couple and Sex Therapist

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## Recruitment for Research Study

My name is Adrienne Bairstow. I'm a sex therapist in Toronto, Ontario and a PhD student in Human Sexuality Studies at Widener University in Chester, PA. As part of my dissertation for my PhD, I'm interested in talking to people in heterosexual relationships who have been unable to have penile-vaginal intercourse (penis in vagina sex) in their current relationship, even though they want to. This might be because of reasons such as erectile dysfunction, pelvic pain, or due to worries or fears. At this time, I'm not meeting with individuals who are not having penile-vaginal intercourse (PVI) by choice, for example due to religious reasons.

I became interested in this topic as a result of working as a sex therapist with individuals and couples in this situation. Are you interested in sharing your story? If so, you'd take part in an interview with me. The interview will take place in an online video call. During the interview, I'll ask you about your experiences of being in a relationship and unable to have PVI. I want to know about any advantages and disadvantages of being in a relationship without PVI.

Participation in this study is voluntary. The results of this study may be used to inform future research and to educate sex therapists and other service providers. As compensation for your time, you will receive a \$20 Amazon gift card. Recruitment of participants has been approved through the Widener University Institutional Review Board (IRB).

To find out more about this study, please contact me at: 416-545-9908 or [ambairstow@mail.widener.edu](mailto:ambairstow@mail.widener.edu).

Thank you for your interest in participating in this study.

Sincerely,

Adrienne Bairstow, MSW, MEd