

Dating Apps: Quick Sex on the Maps

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Geosocial (i.e., location-based) dating apps are an increasingly popular way in which people meet for sexual purposes. For example, Tinder has at least 10 million active users a day (Sumter, Vandenbosch, & Ligtenberg, 2016). At present, little is known about the use of geosocial/location-based dating applications for sexual hookups and the relationship between this behavior and personality constructs. One possibility is that individuals who are highly impulsive are more likely to use geosocial dating apps, specifically for sexual “hookups” (i.e., the partners are not in a committed relationship with one another, the experience is short term, and not likely to lead to a romantic relationship; see Fielder et. al, 2013). Existing research (e.g., Dir, Cyders, & Coskunpinar 2013) has shown that there a relationship between impulsivity (sensation seeking and negative urgency) and sexting behaviors, as well as sex-related alcohol experiences. This study examines the relationship between impulsivity and the use of geosocial dating apps for sexual hookups. We hypothesize that those who score high in impulsivity are going to be more likely to use location-based/geosocial dating applications for sexual hookups than those who score low in impulsivity.