

Does the word sexuality mean anything to you?

Yes, I've never thought about it as such but if I was to grasp at words I guess it would be all about The Self. Identity. Freedom. Politics. Individual Agency. Affirmation of Love, Desires, Longing and Fantasies. Sex. Unity. Togetherness. Connection. The Soul. The Body. The Self-Image. Guilt. Hurt. Fear. Pain. Debasement. Degradation. Control. Coldness. Strength. Power. Statement. :)

Is it a relevant term for you?

Yes. Very. Particularly as a fairly independent-minded woman in a society not always welcoming of women who live their lives with a degree of independence, even recklessness and no apology. My sexual identity is thus deeply mired with my personal feminist politics as well. My sexual freedom is not just about me exercising my personal individual basic freedom to express such an intrinsic and compelling part of me, it is at once a profound political statement in a society known for its suppression of sexuality and its patriarchal dispositions.



INTERVIEW

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FACT

name nkm

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gender female

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What do you like?

Men. Intimacy. Sensuality. Evocativeness. Sweat. Heat between two bodies. Tongues. Kisses on my necks, hands on my breasts. Erotic stories. Having my thighs squeezed. Cunnilingus!!! Hugging and cuddling. Him stroking my hair. My cheek. Whispering sweet nothings in to my ear. Him squeezing me real hard so that it hurts a bit. Him on top. 69. Explosive orgasms. Entwined limbs. Heaving bosoms. Some exhibitionism. Even voyeurism. Never tried it but maybe a threesome or a foursome or an orgy with mostly just men... I'm curious. Quiet solitary men who come in to their own when they are with me and just me. A man's chest. His strength when he's in me. Him in me. His strong thighs. Large men with wide shoulders and long legs because they can just engulf me whole with their bodies. Blow jobs! Bite marks! Feathers. Handcuffs. Blindfolds. Honey on my skin. Sweet gentle morning sex in the sunlight. Sex with the lights on and mood music. A joint before sex. Sex on MDMA. Most of all, love-making and not fucking. Definitely, love-making over everything else. I like a one night stand once in a while but the joy of having sex with someone who you love and loves you is incomparable. A compliment from a mysterious sexy stranger. A really

Do you ever think about the term sexuality or about sexuality as something that concerns you?

Never independent of feminist politics but it does concern me. When a man is killed in my country for being gay or a raped woman is taunted for wearing provocative clothing or I am called a slut or a slag for sleeping around or judged for having had multiple sexual partners, it concerns me. Then again, sometimes, lately, I judge me. At times, I feel defiled from the sexual experience I have voluntarily walked in to in the past. Maybe because I don't recognize that person anymore or I don't understand her and the choice she made. Then again expressing my sexual self, hinting at the woman bubbling over with her own torrid desires, makes me feel so immensely sexy, coveted. In control.

Do you think about your body?

A lot, and for me my body image has always been a struggle. I take greater pride in being smart, witty, well-read than in being full-figured and desired. If a man compliments my body I reject it. I am suspicious of him. I am weary of internalizing the thought that I may be beautiful because somewhere deep I don't feel it. But I'm getting better. I don't have eating disorders or anything as a consequence. Never have had. I just, I guess, I don't take too much pride in my body.



engaging and interesting conversation. Crushes. Sporty men. The way he looks at me. Men who blush. Him feeling attracted to me for who I am not just what I look like. Scars. Intellect. Confidence. Confidence. Confidence. Humility. Kindness. Funny men. Men who find me funny. Elegant hands. Talent and independence. Intelligence, emotional depth. How he talks to people at a supposedly lower class than he. How he treats his friends and his parents, his family, his grandparents!! How he says a word... How I say the word 'supple'. Haraams or people for whom nothing is sacred. Certainly not religion. Feminists. Liberals. Success. Ambition. Drive. Solitude. Traveling alone. I mean so much!!

What don't you like?

Uber masculinity. Over developed jaw lines. Aggression. Cockiness. Domination in bed. Uber femininity. Crassness. Loudness. Under confidence. Over confidence. Disrespect. Men who call me 'Exotic' (I usually tell them to go fuck themselves). Stupidity. Cruelty. Unkindness. People who don't feel any empathy towards animals or little children. Or old people. Punjabi masculinity. The idea of sleeping with a woman does nothing for me. Like, nothing. People who take everything too seriously, especially

What do you think about your body?

I like my breasts. I love my skin. I like its shape. But I don't like my loose cellulites thighs. I don't like how I have this 'Indian' curvy woman shape when all the world seems to eulogize and mythologize the White Woman. I would at times feel deficient compared to the leggy blonde-cold-blue-eyed women of Northern Europe when I lived there. I like the fact that I have love handles one can grab on to but many times my body makes me feel inadequate.

I wish I was healthier; I wish I could run a marathon or do a headstand and complex yoga for hours. Maybe if I challenged my body I'd feel better about it. Right now I have no clue as to what all my body can let me do.

How does your body relate to your sexuality?

How I feel about my body, myself, has everything to do with how I express my sexuality. If I feel ugly, I would not even allow me to feel desire and I would suppress the expression of desire from another man to me. If I feel good, gorgeous, my desire, my needs spring out of me like a water fountain display. :) I let people near me, not just in a sexual space, only when I feel good



their religion and their sexuality. Indifference. Coldness. Boredom. Unimaginative people. No music in bed. Sex with the lights out. Under confidence.

Why?

Why do I like what I like and why do I not like what I don't like? Read every answer before this, look for the sub-texts, I think I've revealed plenty about me.

What has changed for you in the last year? (can be personal, in regard to the social or legal situation, whatever)

Got out of a loveless hopeless relationship with a boring and unexciting man. Made many new friends. Have met someone who I am pursuing silently and from a distance, who, was he to consider it, would make me feel blessed to be with him. And in that sense that's a major change. I didn't think I was capable of finding myself feeling this crazy and madly in love with someone, who till 4 weeks ago didn't even know I was alive. He still doesn't know that I want him. But I'm glad I'm feeling this again. I didn't think I could anymore.

about my body and myself. I don't know how I could distill the two apart. If I feel like I am underachieving and useless then I will project that on to my body and vice versa. It's never one or the other. I am not indistinct from my body.

What does your body think about you?

It might be sorely disappointed in me. Maybe she thinks I don't look after her, I judge her too harsh, I don't challenge her, I shelter her too much, I take no pride in her, I've shared her with people who just couldn't appreciate her. And then sometimes I do a volte face and make her do things, wear things that are not her. My body is probably just frustrated with me. I don't look after her, I don't appreciate her. And I am cruel in how I see her.

How does being Indian relate to your sexuality?

Maybe the guilt. But seems to be a woman thing more than an Indian thing. Maybe the fact that it's entwined with being a political statement, but it's as much a statement in Western Liberal societies as it is here. Theirs is just a better, more gentile dressed kind of sexism. Honestly, I don't think it does. I travel a lot all over the world and I have come to realize that my experience of the world is more as a woman than a brown one. And in India, I am not aware of being Indian.



What do you wish for?

Mental peace. Time for myself. Love from the man I mentioned above. Love for myself from me consistently. No suffering for the people I love. Comfort. Freedom. Joy. Strength. Success. Books. Movies. Time. Time. Time.

Thanks!