

TA TRVERSE AREA CK COMMUNITY OF KINKSTERS

What Types of Kinks Are There?

There are many different types of kinks out there, and a lot of different ways to do each one. Kinks are not inherently sexual, and sexual activity may not even be part of the scene. Sometimes it is more about the experience of the kink itself than what it can do to enhance sex. Don't forget, a requirement of kink is that everything is consensual.

Age Play

- Dressing up and acting like a child, such as coloring or watching cartoons.

Bondage/Restraint

- The use of handcuffs, blindfolds, gags, straightjackets, etc., that limit a person's movement and senses.

Chastity

- Preventing access to a person's genitalia.

Crossdressing

- Wearing clothing that is usually worn by the opposite gender.

D/S – Dominance and Submission

- Giving or taking the power role.

Degradation/Humiliation

- Giving or getting humiliating words or actions.

Discipline

- Training or being trained in specific behavior.

Electrical Play

- Causing sensation using a TENS unit or violet/neon wand.

Exhibition/Voyeurism

- Engaging in activities while being watched or while watching others.

Fire Play

- Causing sensations with fire either directly, with fire cups, fire wands, or fire floggers.

Impact Play

- Striking a body using hands, whips, canes, floggers, paddles, hairbrushes, etc.

Knife Play

- Using dull knives to cause sensations.

Latex

- Enjoying the look or feel of wearing or seeing latex clothing.

Leather

- Enjoying the look or feel of wearing or seeing leather clothing.

Pet Play

- Dressing up and acting like an animal such as a puppy, pony, or kitten.

Primal Play

- Rough body play involving wrestling, fighting, struggling, scratching, biting, pursuit/capture or fighting for dominance.

Role Play

- Dressing up and pretending to be something/someone else.

Rope/Shibari

- Used to restrain people or create intricate artistic harnesses.

S/M – Sadism-Masochism

- Enjoying giving or getting intense or painful sensations.

Service

- Cooking, cleaning, chores, or other services given to or received from another.

Sensation Play

- Tickling, pinching, touching, caressing, biting, licking, scratching, temperature play, etc.

Suspension

- Using ropes and straps to dangle a person off the ground.

Swinging/Swapping/Poly/Group Sex/Orgy

- Being open to you or your significant other playing with others.

Toys/Insertables

- Dildos, vibrators, strokers, plugs, sounds, etc.

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TRAVERSE AREA

Safety Concepts in Kink and BDSM

SSC - Safe Sane & Consensual

- **Safe:** The first part of this idea is all about safety, there are a lot of different ways you can practice safely but overall, it falls down to making sure that you're looking after your physical and mental safety, and also that of your partners. There are specific ways to make sure you're practicing safely such as doing research before your scene or activity, talking about the risks involved in your scene or activity, having necessary medical knowledge about the human body (such as nerve endings and major arteries), discussing safe words or signals before beginning a scene or activity, discussing hard limits and triggers before beginning a scene or activity, and also by having a first aid kit nearby with some necessities.
- **Sane:** The next part is sane, which is about the mental state you're in when you're doing a scene or doing a kink activity. The basic idea is that you should be in a healthy state of mind where you're not only able to distinguish reality from fantasy but also where you're able to approach activities with a sensible and realistic frame of mind. There are a couple of different things that could alter someone's ability to sanely participate in a scene or activity such as someone's mental health as well as the usage of drugs or alcohol.
- **Consensual:** The final part is all about consent, the idea behind this is that everything that happens within the kink community needs to be consensual. That means that everyone is of age to consent and agrees to willingly participate within the scene or activity. It should be noted that this is also a legal requirement.

RACK - Risk Aware Consensual Kink

- **Risk Awareness:** This term means that people should not only be aware of the risks every scene or activity has, but also accept those risks before doing the scene or activity. This concept is based around the idea that regardless of what kind of scene or activity you participate in there will always be risk factors which is why it's important to be aware before you do anything. There are a lot of different risks to factor in, such as the emotional and physical risks.
- **Consensual Kink:** The second term is consensual kink which is very similar to the C in SSC though also different. Consensual kink means that you're aware of the risk that a scene or activity has and still consent to being a part of it. You understand what you're getting into and still consent to participate in it, in spite of the risks involved.

PRICK - Personal Responsibility, Informed Consensual Kink

- **Personal Responsibility:** The first term is about the personal responsibility that all kinksters have to themselves. This means that each individual has a personal responsibility to be informed and aware of the risks that are involved with scene or activity before they agree. It's expected that everyone has done research, learned about it, weighed the risks, and have made the decision to participate or walk away.
- **Informed Consensual Kink:** The second term is about informed consent. Basically, this part states that everyone should be fully informed before consenting to do something in the kink community. It's not enough to just consent to do something but you have to make sure that you're making an informed decision.

Hurt, Not Harm

- This idea recognizes that someone may be temporarily hurt during BDSM play but that this should not result in long-term physical or psychological harm.
- **Hurt:** Many BDSM activities are designed to hurt. Kinky activities like spanking, whipping, caning, paddling – none of these are designed to feel like you are being licked by puppies. As with much of BDSM, what sets apart the difference between whether you're *hurting* someone or *harming* them lies in your intent. Hurt is more like a byproduct, and the different types of pain are what make activities enjoyable for those involved in a scene. That's not saying things never go wrong. We know that hurt happens, and sometimes it's not the objective of the activity. Some people enjoy the hurt, want the hurt, even *need* the hurt, but there are occasions when the hurt happens accidentally – someone snapped a whip harder than intended, or the rope cinched in an unexpected way and pinched or burned skin. Sometimes, you might bump your head on the headboard a little too hard. It happens. Walk around in a dark bedroom, and you're bound to stub your toe- that's the definition of hurt.
- **Harm:** This is where the *intent* becomes critical. You can intend to hurt someone, but to intentionally harm them means that you've chosen to do so with malice. Synonyms of harm include *abuse*, *trauma*, and *damage*, and for good reason. Willfully subjecting someone to something beyond their capacity or preference – and *consent* – is no longer just a kink activity gone awry; it is assault. Hurt can happen, unintentionally, but harm is always with malicious intent.