

# **WEIRD AMERICAN SEX LAWS**

## **PSY 160**

### **Human Sexuality**

- In Jasper, Alabama, it is illegal for a husband to beat his wife with a stick larger in diameter than his thumb.
- A law in Fairbanks, Alaska does not allow moose to have sex on city streets.
- In Tucson, Arizona it is illegal for women to wear pants.
- Flirtation between men and women on the streets of Little Rock, Arkansas, may result in a 30-day jail term. A man can legally beat his wife, but not more than once a month.
- In Los Angeles, CA a man may legally beat his wife with a leather strap, as long as it is less than two inches wide, or she gives him permission to use a wider strap. Consent should be given prior to the event, as is carefully stipulated. In Pacific Grove, “molesting” butterflies can result in a \$500 fine. In Pasadena, it is illegal for a secretary to be alone in a room with her boss. In San Francisco, it is illegal to wipe one’s car with used underwear. In Ventura County, cats and dogs are not allowed to have sex without a permit.
- In Durango, Colorado it is illegal to go out in public dressed in clothing “unbecoming” one’s sex. In Logan County, it is illegal for a man to kiss a woman while she is asleep.
- In Hartford, Connecticut it is illegal for a man to kiss his wife on Sunday.
- In Lewes, Delaware it is illegal to wear pants that are “form-fitting” around the waist. Getting married on a dare is grounds for an annulment.
- In Miami, FL it is illegal for a man to wear any kind of strapless gown. In Sarasota, it is illegal to sing while wearing a bathing suit. It is illegal for single, divorced, or widowed women to parachute on Sunday afternoons.
- In Columbus, Georgia it is illegal to sit on one’s porch in an indecent position. It is also illegal to change the clothes on a storefront mannequin unless the shades are down.
- In Hawaii, it is illegal to appear in public wearing only swimming trunks.

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- In Idaho, boxes of candy given as romantic gifts must weigh more than 50 pounds. It's safe to make love while parked in Coeur d'Alene. Police officers aren't allowed to walk up and knock on the window. Any suspicious officer who thinks that sex is taking place must drive up from behind, honk his horn three times and wait approximately two minutes before getting out of the car to investigate.
- In Chicago, Illinois people who are diseased, maimed, or deformed to the point of being "an unsightly or disgusting object" are banned from going out in public. In Guerneville, it is illegal for women weighing more than 200 pounds to ride horses in shorts. A state law in Illinois mandates that all bachelors should be called master, not mister, when addressed by their female counterparts. In Oblong, it's punishable by law to make love while hunting or fishing on your wedding day.
- In Ames, Iowa, warn your hubby that after lovemaking, he isn't allowed to take more than three gulps of beer while lying in bed with you or holding you in his arms.
- In Wichita, Kansas a man's mistreatment of his mother-in-law may not be used as grounds for divorce.
- In Kentucky, no female shall appear in a bathing suit on any highway unless she be escorted by at least two officers or unless she be armed with a club. The provisions of this statute shall not apply to females weighing less than 90 pounds nor exceeding 200 pounds, nor shall it apply to female horses. It is illegal to remarry the same man four times.
- In Portland, Maine it is illegal for men to tickle women under the chin with feather dusters.
- In Halethorpe, Maryland it is illegal to kiss for more than one second.
- In Salem, Mass. even married couples are forbidden from sleeping in the nude in rented rooms.
- In Clawson, Michigan, it is illegal for a farmer to "sleep with his pigs, cows, horses, goats, and chickens." A state law stipulates that a woman's hair legally belongs to her husband. In Detroit, it is illegal to make love in a car unless it is parked on your property. It is also illegal to "ogle" a woman from a moving car.

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- In Minnesota, woman may face up to 30 days in jail if they impersonate Santa Claus. In Alexandria, no man is allowed to make love to his wife with the smell of garlic, onions, or sardines on his breath. If his wife so requests, law mandates that he must brush his teeth.
- In Truro, Mississippi a would-be groom must “prove himself manly” prior to marriage by hunting and killing either six blackbirds or three crows.
- In Saco, Missouri women are forbidden from wearing hats that “might frighten timid persons, children or animals.” In St. Louis, it is illegal for an on-duty firefighter to rescue a woman wearing a nightgown; in order to be rescued, a woman must be fully dressed. In Merryville, women are prohibited from wearing corsets because “The privilege of admiring the curvaceous, unencumbered body of a young woman should not be denied to the normal, red-blooded American male.”
- In Montana, it is a felony for a wife to open her husband’s mail. Bozeman, has a law that bans all sexual activity between members of the opposite sex in the front yard of a home after sundown if they’re nude. (Apparently, if you wear socks, you’re safe from the law! Also, I guess you’re safe if you’re a homosexual.) A law in Helena, mandates that a woman can’t dance on a table in a saloon or bar unless she has on at least three pounds, two ounces of clothing.
- The owner of every hotel in Hastings, Nebraska is required to provide each guest with a clean and pressed nightshirt. No couple, even if they are married, may sleep together in the nude. Nor may they have sex unless they are wearing one of these clean, white cotton nightshirts.
- In Eureka, Nevada men who wear moustaches are forbidden from kissing women. In Nevada, sex without a condom is considered illegal.
- Any couple making out inside a vehicle, and accidentally sounding the horn during their lustful act, may be taken to jail according to a Liberty Corner, New Jersey law.
- In New Mexico, state officials ordered 400 words of “sexually explicit material” to be cut from Romeo and Juliet. During lunch breaks in Carlsbad, no couple should engage in a sexual act while parked in their vehicle, unless their car has curtains.

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- In New York City it is illegal for a woman to be on the street wearing “body hugging clothing.” It is also illegal for a man to turn around and look “at a woman in that way,” and violators are forced to wear horse blinders.
- In Charlotte, NC women must have their bodies covered by at least 16 yards of cloth at all times. Ironically, Hornytown has banned all massage parlors. State law mandates that all couples staying in rooms for one night must be kept in room with double beds, kept a minimum of two feet apart, and making love on the floor between the beds is strictly forbidden. It is illegal to have sex in a churchyard.
- In Cleveland, OH women are forbidden from wearing patent leather shoes, lest men see reflections of their underwear. In Oxford, it is illegal for a woman to strip off her clothing while standing in front of a man’s picture.
- In Schuler, Oklahoma it is illegal for a woman to gamble in the nude, in lingerie, or while wearing a towel. Clinton has a law against masturbating while watching two people have sex in a car.
- In Oregon, one may not bathe without wearing “suitable clothing,” i.e., that which covers one’s body from neck to knee. Salem has barred women’s wrestling. In Willowdale, no man may curse while having sex with his wife.
- In Morrisville, PA women need a permit to wear cosmetics. Ministers are forbidden from performing marriages when either the bride or groom is drunk. In Harrisburg, it is illegal to have sex with a truck driver inside a toll booth.
- In SC, no horses are allowed into Fountain Inn unless they are wearing pants. In Charleston, all carriage horses must wear diapers.
- In Dyersburg, Tennessee it is illegal for a woman to call a man for a date. In Memphis, it is illegal for a woman to drive by herself; “a man must walk or run in front of the vehicle, waving a red flag in order to warn approaching pedestrians and motorists.”
- In San Antonio, Texas it is illegal for both sexes to flirt or respond to flirtation using the eyes and/or hands. In Kingsville, there is a law against two pigs having sex on the city’s airport property.

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- In Utah, a husband is responsible for every criminal act committed by his wife while she is in his presence. In Monroe, daylight must be visible between partners on a dance floor. A Tremonton law states that no woman is allowed to have sex with a man while riding in an ambulance. In addition to normal charges, the woman's name will be published in the local newspaper. The man does not receive any punishment. Utah state legislation outlaws all sex with anyone but your spouse. Next to adultery, oral and anal sex, and masturbation are considered sodomy and can lead to imprisonment. Sex with an animal-unless performed for profit-however is NOT considered sodomy. Polygamy-provided only the missionary position has been applied-is only a misdemeanor.
- In Norfolk, Virginia a man may face 60 days in jail for patting a woman's derriere. In Lebanon, it is illegal to kick your wife out of bed.
- In Seattle, Washington women who sit on men's laps on buses or trains without placing a pillow between them face an automatic six-month jail term. In Auburn, all men who deflower virgins, regardless of age or marital status, may face up to five years in jail. There is a law against having sex with a virgin under any circumstances. (Including the wedding night.)
- The only acceptable sexual position in Washington, D.C. is the missionary-style position. Any other sexual position is considered illegal.
- In St. Croix, Wisconsin women are not allowed to wear anything red in public. In Connorsville, no man shall shoot off a gun while his female partner is having a sexual orgasm.
- In Wyoming, it is illegal for women to stand within five feet of a bar while drinking. An ordinance in Newcastle specifically bans couples from having sex while standing inside a store's walk-in meat freezer!