

# Sex Tech, Sex Robots and the Future of Intimacy

Sex tech is advancing at breakneck speed. Cross-cultural trends, including the fact that people of all ages are having less sex, levels of stress and depression are rising, people are spending more time with their devices and less with each other all pave the way for sex tech's increasing impact on human intimacy. Furthermore, advancing sex tech is much more potent than the 2D porn of last decade, and thus is ultimately expected to be more engaging for consumers. Today's therapists are unprepared to assist individuals and couples in their therapy room who are struggling with issues regarding sex tech usage. Currently, it is the sex tech industry developing a vision of the future of intimacy. The time is now for mental health professionals to join this critical conversation.

## Target Audience

Psychologists      Social Workers      Counselors  
Therapists      Psychiatrists      Nurses  
Course level: Intermediate

## Learning Objectives

At the end of this seminar, participants will be able to:

1. Identify at least three advances in sex tech today that may already be impacting clients' intimate relationships.
2. Recognize four potential risks to advancing sex tech as it exists today and the near future.
3. Distinguish four potential benefits of advancing sex tech for individuals and couples.
4. Explain three likely challenges that advancing sex tech will bring to intimate relationships.
5. Identify three populations expected to find advancing sex tech most compelling.

## Seminar Schedule

Typically begins at 12 PM and ends at 3:15 PM Eastern time. There is one 15 minute break. However, check the webinar schedule.

## Outline

12PM ET Begin

Overview of developments in sex tech over last 20 years  
Potency of sex tech as examples of supernormal stimuli  
Discussion of current trends in today's intimate landscape  
Chatbot girlfriends  
VR porn  
Smart sex toys paired with VR porn  
Avatar sex paired with haptics (wearables)  
Sex doll brothels

Research demonstrating the populations showing most interest current!

1:30-1:45PM ET BREAK

Research demonstrating intensity of advancing sex tech in terms of oxytocin release etc.  
Expected benefits of advancing sex tech  
Expected risks of advancing sex tech  
Relevant legal issues and controversies  
Challenges we can expect in our therapy rooms  
Our tasks as therapists as we prepare for the future of sex

3:15 PM ET Ends

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## The Presenter

Dr. Marianne Brandon is a clinical psychologist and Diplomate in sex therapy. She writes the popular Psychology Today blog "The Future of Intimacy." She is author of *Monogamy: The Untold Story, Unlocking the Sexy in Surrender: Using the Neuroscience of Power to Recharge Your Sex Life*, and co-author of *Reclaiming Desire: 4 Keys to Finding Your Lost Libido*. She co-hosted a talk radio show, is a past book review editor for the American Association of Sex Educators, Counselors, and Therapists, past board member of The International Society for the Study of Women's Sexual Health, and regularly writes and lectures for professional and lay audiences. She has served twice as a panel member for FDA hearings evaluating medications relevant to female sexual function. Her areas of expertise include the conceptualizing human sexuality and sexual dysfunction from an evolutionary perspective. You can learn more about her work at [www.drbrandon.net](http://www.drbrandon.net), join her on twitter @DrBrandon, and on facebook / DrMarianneBrandon. Dr Brandon is in private practice in Sarasota, Florida.

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This seminar has been reviewed and approved by Keith Hannan, Ph.D., Phil Rich, LICSW, Daphne Fatter, Ph.D., and Loreen Yearick, MSN, RN. This approval expires on March 1, 2025.

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