Sex and Superstition: Why Sexuality Research Matters

Our cultural understandings of sexuality are shaped by deeply held beliefs and, oftentimes, myths (e.g. If you masturbate you'll go blind; the “vaginal orgasm” is the "mature" and therefore desirable female orgasm; pornography is inherently harmful; sex trafficking is an epidemic, etc.) The realm of sexuality evolves as myths are replaced with empirical facts and evidence. This talk discusses the relationship between sex and superstition, and the role that sexuality research can play in changing sexual attitudes, norms, and practices.