

Also under the umbrella

Sexuality isn't a simple black and white issue of either being asexual or not; some people fall into a part of the spectrum where they have experienced sexual attraction or feel the potential to do so, however they feel these occurrences are closer to asexuality or so few that they do not associate with other sexualities.

This intermediary area is commonly known as “grey-a” meaning either “grey-area” or “grey-asexuality”.

People who identify as *grey-a* may do so because:

- ~ They experience sexual attraction very rarely or only under certain limited conditions, making them associate more with asexuality.
- ~ They experience sexual attraction and drive but not enough to act on it.
- ~ They do not regard sex as being of high relevance or importance in their lives.

One form of grey-a is known as *demisexuality*; this is where a person only experiences sexual attraction towards someone once they have made a strong emotional connection (i.e. fallen in love). This is different from monogamy since the latter is the practice of having only one partner at a time and does not stop a person from experiencing attraction to other people even though they may not act on that attraction. Demisexuals will only experience sexual attraction towards that particular person at that time and are otherwise essentially asexual.

**Asexuality is an orientation
The lack of sexual attraction to others.**



Around 1% of the population does not experience sexual attraction at all. This does not mean that they cannot experience forms of love or affection or that they cannot have and enjoy sex.

Sexuality is not an on-off switch; it is a complicated mass of different aspects and asexuals as a group only lack sexual attraction. Within that umbrella is a wide range of people who may want relationships or who may still have a libido- the urge for intimate stimulation- but this libido is not directed at other people and is usually satisfied alone.

In every other way, we are just like anyone else.

**www.asexuality.org
Asexual Visibility and Education Network**