Gender socialization creates different conditions under which individuals develop their sexual orientation. For men the process of going outside hetero-normative models is different from that of women. Past research has observed that lesbians are socially less visible than gay men and bisexuality often has a different meaning and context for women than for men, leaving women’s sexuality more fluid. This study examined some of the ways this may be true for young people today.

- Careful study of the statistical data gained through surveys.
- In-depth study of literature related to women’s sexuality.
- Analysis of data from literature to back up individual thought.

In the surveys provided by the students of Anthropology 100 (private 1 on1 surveys); it showed that out of 18 participants who stated that they were bisexual, 13 were female and only 5 were men. A study was done by Thompson and Morgan in the year 2008, it shows that women tend to declare themselves bisexual, rather than lesbian or straight. In the Journal for Bisexuality, women reported more pressure to declare as bisexual and to engage in performativity tied to this identification.

Through studying literature and statistical data, one can draw the conclusion that women declare themselves bisexual because it has become something of a norm. Recent research by Thompson and Morgan suggests that women, when in private, are more likely say they are bisexual than lesbian or straight. This suggests that social forces that have been observed for a long time may be yielding a new norm for young women.

Sources
