

**Proposition de communication,
Colloque de l'*American Society of Criminology (ASC)*
18-21 novembre 2015
Washington, DC**

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**The political economy of the quest for exoticism and authenticity : sexual tourism in
Mexico**

It has been demonstrated that the human being has a latent inclination for transgression, which is restrained by formal and informal standards set by its community. If, however, we take an individual out of its community, will he be more inclined to transgress norms? This presentation attempts to expound that situation. We aim to understand the process that leads one to consume paid sexual services in a touristic context abroad by studying sex tourism in Mexico. We are trying to define the factors that motivate, or at least, favour this type of consummation in such context. We use a body of evidence composed of comments published by sex tourists on an online forum, and of existing data to account for these factors. We analyze these evidences by combining intersectionality and social control on a theoretical level, in a first time, and link this theoretical framework to the political economy of sex in a second time. Specifically, we review the comments alone in order to understand the tourists' motives to seek sex tourism, and we analyze the existing data, establishing links with the published comments as to identify the factors permitting tourists to engage in that practice.