

Why does Christianity relate to the matters of human sexuality with such a reserve? The answer in principle had been and still is the same: the problem is so called concupiscence and sexual desire associated with it. Christianity, which stands on guard of the unsurpassed value of the human person, in sexual behavior marked by sexual desire sees focusing on the values of the body and sexes at the expense of the value of the person. Such a picture of sexual desire has not been overcome even by John Paul II's groundbreaking theology of the body. Yet the philosophical analysis of sexual desire done by Roger Scruton seems to prove quite the opposite, namely the fundamental role of the unique individual in the experience of desire. Scruton argues that sexual desire is in fact a condition of the existence of erotic love directed towards the person and not its negation. Another author, a medical doctor and a mystic, Adrienne von Speyr in her theology of the sexes mentions many good elements in what is called concupiscence that subjected to obedience to God might be brought to proper order. So is the papal conception incomplete? Is the rehabilitation of sexual desire possible? What are the advantages of meeting of theology with secular philosophy of the sexual on the one hand, and on the other with mysticism of sexual love? The answer to these questions is the aim of the research conducted within this project.

If the above seems too abstract, let us ask a bit more specifically: Why do I need another person in order to feel the pleasure of a kiss? What and why are we ashamed of in erotic love? What links the sexual act to the Eucharist?

The reasons to undertake this research topic arise from the intention to better understand the phenomena from the domain of human sexuality in their relation to person as well as from the conviction about the incompleteness of the picture of these phenomena in the current state of knowledge. Dynamic shift in morals also raise the need to provide a new way of speaking about human sexual love.