

## AI Sex Robots

### Background

Although sex robots are still at a very early stage of development, the sex industry is already offering a variety of products that include some kind of artificial intelligence software. Sex robots already exist in female, male, and transgender versions with corresponding primary and secondary genitalia. Current sex robots are made of silicone rubber and advertised by manufacturers as warm to the touch. The sex robots marketed so far look like sex dolls but are capable of having conversations and display certain preprogrammed emotions or personalities. Some robots are equipped with all over body sensors so that they can react to touch. The response is sometimes dependent upon the chosen personality trait of the sex robot. The number of people who'd consider having sex with a robot may be higher than you think. In a Tufts University survey, more than two-thirds of men and 37 percent of women were in favor of it.

### Pros

- Could be used to treat conditions such as erectile dysfunction and premature ejaculation
- Could replace human sex workers and potentially reduce human trafficking
- Could replace sex with fleeting acquaintances / 'one night stands'
- Could provide sexual relief for geographically isolated persons
- Could help people with social anxiety that prevents having a sex life
- May release sexual frustrations in those who would otherwise vent in public via sexual harassment or assault
- Sexually transmitted diseases are not transmitted through sex robots
- Couples who have considered having a threesome even suggest that it may be a healthy alternative to add a sex robot as a third and bypass the complications of including a third human

### Cons

- Overall, there is a fear that robotic partners will result in a reduction of human empathy.
- There is a concern that misplaced emotional connections will have negative psychological consequences for the vulnerable.
- A person who is predisposed toward sexual aggression or harassment might be fueled by using a sex robot for future negative actions.
- This may even go so far as to embolden those who crave non-consensual sex, including pedophiles.
- With the worldwide sex technology market reportedly worth more than 30 billion USD, the market may incentivize the development of AI capabilities that could be very harmful (i.e. privacy concerns, etc.)

### Resources

1. [Psychology Today: The Pros and Cons of the New Age of Sex Robots](#)
2. [The Attitudes of Physicians and Therapists on the Use of Robots in Sex Therapy](#)
3. "Are We Ready for Sex Robots" by Schuetz and Arnold, Tufts University
4. [Sex Robots - A Harbinger for Emerging AI Risk](#)
5. [The Societal Implications of Sex Robots Have Sparked a Fascinating Debate](#)