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Studying sociology over the past two years has equipped me to better understand my passion - sport. I always knew that there are benefits of sport in terms of developing leadership skills and in-group identity. Sociology helped me see the problems as well. Most intriguing to me, however, is how male athletes' sexualities and masculinities are changing. Sport is becoming more gay-friendly and young straight men are softer, having bromances with their teammates.

Outside of sport, sociology has also made me more critical about taken-for-granted cultural assumptions. I've learned that monogamy is culturally esteemed, yet a very high percentage of partners cheat on their other half. Despite what we are told about monogamy and cheating, sometimes people cheat purely for sexual and not romantic reasons.

This matters to me because I experienced it in my own life. Last year, my long-term partner cheated on me even after clearly explaining to me that she hated the whole principle of cheating and was opposed to open relationships. Having studied monogamy, and seeing how it is just a social construct that does not work well for many or most, it made me question the whole idea of monogamous relationships and ask why we stigmatise lust and sexual activity for the sake of sexual activity. Why should people have to be monogamous, sexually committing to one person rather than having multiple people?

Yet the element of sociology that really stands out to me is that often there is no 'right' or 'wrong' answer. It is not is math. Sociology involves a constant debate around cultural topics that are often shifting. Being able to freely express your views to a certain extent, and to have those views challenged, for the sake of academic growth is an enjoyable experience and one that I am glad I have experienced.