

## **Robots Q&A**

**Dr Michelle Mars**

**Why are you attending the [futureofsex.net](http://futureofsex.net) to talk about sex robots?**

In 2010 together with Prof Ian Yeoman, tourism futurist I wrote an article about [men and sex with robots in 2050](#). The future of sex.net have invited me to talk with them because they are interested in the article.

**Could they really be a reality by 2050? What scientific evidence is there to support this?**

Yes, prototypes, models, latex sex dolls and haptic technology that allows us to experience via touch exists already. Advances in technology mean that machines are beginning to move organically. Data storage and manipulation capabilities and capacity constantly evolve. Enabling technologies are increasingly part of our lives. According to futurist Ray Kurzweil by 2029 we will not be able to tell the difference between human and machine.

We have all the technology we need to make a sex robot right now, we have plenty of curiosity but we don't have the market to drive it. Love and sex with a robot is not something most of us can envisage and is it real if we have to pay?

**Would sex robots aid or impede sexual relationships?**

They will enable sexual pleasures but are highly likely to impede our sexual pleasures relationships.

Women's sexual pleasure has been enhanced by robots for over a century. Vibrators were invented at the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century when orgasms were noted as a calmativie or cure for women's hysteria. Known as the job that nobody wanted, bringing women to orgasm apparently tested Doctors skills and patience. Vibrators expedited the process of orgasm and soon women started self-soothing.

We often look back to history for clues to the future. So would sex robots aid or impede sexual relationships? Vibrators definitely enhance women's sexual relationships with themselves. But how well they have been embraced and incorporated into relationships is another story. Vibrators can be seen as threatening or read as a sign that a partner is not satisfied with our lovemaking. Sex robots will remember and predict our pleasures unfailingly. As Jude Law, playing Gigolo Joe in *AI Artificial Intelligence* once you've had sex with a robot you'll never want a real man again".

**What main purpose will they serve? Would they service men or women or both?**

We originally wrote about sex tourism in Amsterdam focusing on men as the main consumers of sexual services but yes they will service men and women equally.

I think possibly women will demand more of their lovers and there will be more pressure on people to learn about sex, be fit for sex and know what they are doing. I think sex robots will broaden our sexual horizons and inspire us to know more.

Sex robots will usher a new era of sexual knowledge, understanding and expression.

**How would sex with a robot impact people's ideas of fidelity?**

How far can I go before it's cheating? This is a question my clients often want to discuss. If I watch porn is it cheating? If I go online and find a chat room to indulge a proclivity my partner doesn't share is it cheating? If I fantasise about my friends boyfriend, have a threesome, kiss a girl, boy, transperson, is it wrong? By 2050 if not before we will have a choice to have sex with a humanoid robot, in an era of sexual repression, which is where we are now, it will be cheating!