This study was submitted for review to the institutional review board at Emory University. Study goals, instruments and procedures were also reviewed by a community advisory board, which included representatives from the Mexican consulate, a prominent local priest whose parish was composed largely of Mexican immigrants, and a social worker who directed a number of service programs at a faith-based community organization. In addition to seeking consent from the study participants, we sought permission from the managers of the apartment complex and the directors of the soccer league. After this permission was granted, interviewers approached spectators during weekend soccer matches, and players after the matches, to invite them to participate. The interviewers recruited additional participants by going door-to-door through the apartment complex, seeking participation from one resident per unit. Given the legal vulnerability of this population, Emory’s institutional review board permitted the use of oral rather than written informed consent, so that participants would not be required to sign their name on study documents or even to tell us their names.

**Measures**

The survey instrument had seven parts: demographic characteristics; migration experience; masculinity ideologies; social network and social support; sexual risk behavior; substance use (which was later combined with sexual risk behavior); and leisure-time activities. Our conceptual model examines the association of these domains with the number of partners the respondents had had in Atlanta.

**Demographic characteristics.** We used multiple variables to capture men’s demographic attributes: their place of birth (i.e., city, town or ranch), their age at time of interview, highest level of education they completed (i.e., less than primary, primary, or secondary or higher), whether they owned a house in Mexico, whether they had any children and what types of jobs they had had since moving to Atlanta (e.g., construction, cleaning or janitorial, business owner, gardener).

**Migration experience.** Participants were asked to report the month and year in which they migrated to the United States for the first time; we computed participants’ average length of time since they first came to the United States from this variable. Men were asked whether they had migrated alone, the number of people with whom they had migrated and the number of times they had returned to Mexico. In addition, using an open-ended question, we asked participants to provide their reasons for having migrated to the United States. Answers were coded into the following reasons: to save money to marry, to open up a business, to bring family to the United States, to address immediate financial needs, to support family and to have an adventure. The analyses were based on their primary reason.

**Masculinity ideologies.** A central contribution of recent research on men and gender is the development of a pluralistic notion of masculinities. We developed a set of contextually appropriate items, using a slightly modified version of Mirandé’s scale and including additional items about intimacy and pleasure suggested by our prior research in this community (see box). Using a response card, interviewers asked men to indicate their level of agreement (NO! no, yes or YES!) with 19 statements about marriage and sexuality as elements of men’s masculinity ideologies; responses were coded on a scale from 0 for (YES!) to 3 for (NO!).

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**Items from scale assessing ideologies of masculinity (including subscales identified in factor analysis) among a sample of Mexican migrant men, Atlanta, 1999**

**Sexual intimacy and pleasure subscale**  
You should help your wife with the housework and the child care.  
Usted debe de ayudar a su esposa con los quehaceres y el cuidado de los niños.

You prefer to spend your free time with your friends rather than with your wife and children.  
Prefieres pasar tus ratos libres con tus amigos que con tu esposa e hijos.

When you have sex with your wife, make sure that she is satisfied.  
Cuando tiene relaciones con su esposa, procura que ella siempre quede satisfecha.

You have sex with your wife whenever you want, whether she is or isn’t in the mood.  
Tiene relaciones con su esposa siempre que quiera, tenga o no tenga ganas ella.

You would like your wife to initiate sex with you if she were in the mood.  
Le gustaría que su esposa iniciara relaciones sexuales con usted cuando ella tuviera ganas.

You would like to have sex with a woman that you do not love.  
Le gustaría tener relaciones con una mujer que no ama.

When you have an urge to have sexual relations, you are able to control them.  
Cuando tiene ganas de tener relaciones sexuales, las puede controlar.

**Emotional intimacy and power subscale**  
When you have a problem, your wife is the person with whom you most want to talk.  
Cuando tiene un problema, su esposa es la persona con quien más quieres platicar.

To make it as a couple, there has to be a lot of trust to talk.  
Para salir adelante como pareja, tiene que haber mucha confianza para platicar.

If she gives you a reason, you would slap your wife in the face.  
Si le da motivo, le daría una cachetada a su esposa.

The person with whom you have most trust is your wife.  
La persona con quien tiene más confianza es su esposa.

**No common factor**  
It’s all right that you cry or show your emotions.  
Está bien que usted llore o demuestre sus emociones.

Dishonoring your family is the worst thing that you could do.  
Deshonrar su familia es la peor cosa que puede hacer.

When you are with your wife, you have to be the one in command.  
Cuando está con su esposa, usted es el que manda en la casa.

Even when you are alone, your wife should not correct you.  
Aunque estén solos, su esposa no debe de corregirlo.

It’s okay for your wife to work outside the home.  
Está bien que su esposa trabaje fuera de la casa.

It’s important for you that a woman be a virgin when she marries.  
Es importante para usted que la mujer sea virgen cuando se casa.

You think it’s normal that a man has various partners before getting married.  
Cree que es normal que el hombre tenga varias parejas antes de casarse.

You have the right to seek out sexual adventures outside the marriage.  
Usted tiene derecho a buscar aventuras fuera del matrimonio.

†Item was reverse-coded. Note: Respondents were given a card with four preprinted options: SI, sí, no, NO! (YES, yes, no, NO!), as well as a verbal explanation about indicating their level of agreement with each item.