

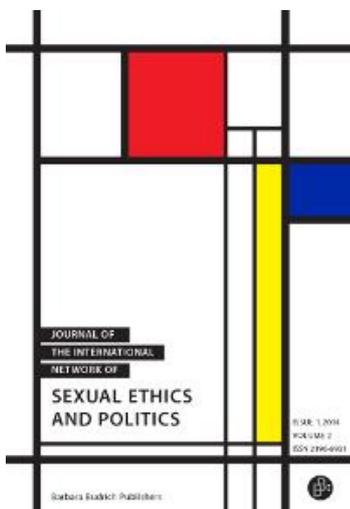
Sports, Genders and Sexualities

Social, Ethical and Political Challenges

5th-7th May 2015

University of the Littoral Opal Coast, Dunkirk, France

A URePSSS / INSEP – Workshop



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Welcome from URePSSS

Dear participants,

It's a great pleasure for us to welcome you to the "Sports, Genders and Sexualities. Social, Ethical and Political Challenges" workshop, here at the University of the Littoral Opal Coast, in Dunkirk.

This workshop is part of the new collaboration between the URePSSS laboratory (Unité de Recherche Pluridisciplinaire Sport Santé Société) of the University of the Littoral Opal Coast / University of Lille Nord de France, and the INSEP (International Network on Sexual Ethics and Politics).

As you know, INSEP is an international network that encourages synergistic transdisciplinary legal, political and ethical research, 'troubling' current assumptions, dispositions and claims for the boundaries between legitimacy and illegitimacy in diverse sexual identities, sub-cultures and practices in both national and international contexts. The URePSSS, instead, is a pluridisciplinary and inter-university laboratory (Lille 1, Lille 2, Littoral Opal Coast, Artois, Valenciennes) that conducts its researches focusing mainly on the interaction between sports, health and society. This time, the workshop has been co-organized and hosted by the Opal Coast team.

Starting from these relatively distant interests, we have found in the themes of this workshop a very first starting point to build a successful partnership that will lead to the publication of a book collecting the most interesting contributions presented during these three days. Our aim is to organize on a regular basis some international "rendez-vous", allowing us to meet and bring inspired people together, to build new collaborations and research networks and to crystallize the knowledge gathered through the INSEP journal (<http://www.budrich-journals.de/index.php/insep>) and its book series. The normal refereeing conventions and the passion of the participants will guarantee the quality of our works.

We hope that you will enjoy our scientific program that will develop through these 3 days with 2 keynote speakers (Bernard Andrieu and Eric Anderson), 9 sessions, 14 talks and a roundtable.

I am sure that we will all be very busy here in Dunkirk, offering our best ideas to colleagues, returning home with a rich intellectual experience.

I hope that you will enjoy the city too!

Alessandro Porrovecchio,
on behalf of the URePSSS team of the University of the Littoral Opal Coast

Welcome from INSEP

Welcome to this INSEP workshop in collaboration with the URePSSS laboratory, who we are happy to be in a collaborative relationship with. INSEP, the International Network for Sexual Ethics and Politics, seeks to promote:

- Critical understandings of the ethical problems and possibilities for diverse sexualities;
- Critical understandings of the discourses, vocabularies and bodies of knowledge by which sexuality is conceived, understood and articulated in contemporary societies, and their historical lineages;
- Critical awareness and evaluations of the beneficence or malfeasance of particular articulations of sexuality, strengths or deficiencies of different sexual cultures and discourses, their historical antecedents and their contemporary patterns of prejudice, pathology and discrimination or practice and advocacy, as well as emergent sexual politics aiming at emancipation and liberation;
- Critical understandings of the role of law, politics and culture in the prohibition, permission or regulation of sexualities, both in its oppressive deployment and possibly liberating possibilities in contemporary societies;
- And, finally, critical and constructive engagements with sexual ethics itself, thinking through its forms, role and meanings, and its history, present and future.

We see sexual ethics and politics as a critical and discursive enterprise. It is informed by transdisciplinary approaches and characterised by the application of reasoned deliberation and judgement in sexual scholarship. Ethical-political discourses on sexuality are enriched by the insights from both empirical and theoretical work, and by concrete legal, cultural, social, social psychological and political analyses as well as philosophical engagements. We see the ethical commitment of such engagements twofold: developing and extending scholarship and knowledge; and informing legal, policy and political debate in such a way as to encourage change that is ethical and illuminate that which is unethical. As such, we focus on both conceptual and theoretical debates and their political articulation in contemporary societies.

INSEP sees the value in the fullest range of approaches to the study of sexual ethics and politics. This includes: gendered and feminist perspectives; distinctive lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and transsexual perspectives; queer perspectives; and more general approaches such as liberalism, Marxism and democratic theory. INSEP seeks to be an inclusive space for discussion, welcoming dialogue and vigorous debate, but not sectarianism.

The Network operates through this website, conferences and other events and workshops. INSEP will also publish a peer reviewed journal, Sexual Ethics and Politics, published by Barbara Budrich Publishers. We are launching a book series with the same publisher.

Anyone interested in joining INSEP, or who would like to suggest a collaborative initiative or activity, are welcome to contact the convenors:

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INSEP Website - <http://www.insep.ugent.be/>

INSEP Journal - Barbara Budrich - <http://www.budrich-journals.de/index.php/insep>

The Workshop

Keynote Speakers

Professor Bernard Andrieu – University of Rouen, France

Professor Eric Anderson- University of Winchester, UK

As expressions of cultural embodiment, sexualities, genders and sports can be analyzed as a mirror of societies' transformations and developments. The analysis of sports, gender and sexuality can be a key to analyze changes and persistence's in social interactions and collective representations. This workshop seeks to create a discursive space for contributors to explore the social, ethical and political criticalities arising in the interaction and intersection between sports, gender and sexualities in contemporary societies.. This space will hopefully provide a space for both critical evaluations of current theories and paradigms by which sport, gender and sexuality are understood and open new horizons for critical investigations. The Call for papers specified a number of themes, and whilst these are by no means either exhausted or even focused on by many of the papers, we might want to keep the broad agendas in mind.

- Should sport be sexy? Should sex be sport? What do we learn from bring the two together?
- How have sports and physical cultures built their specificities - in particular with relation to genders and sexual differences and consequently to body-related social norms - and how should we understand them?
- How have sports' institutions managed to include or exclude gender and sexual diversities (e.g. cases of intersexed and/or transgender athletes or gender bars)? Are these exclusions necessary and what if any solutions are there for these exclusions?
- To what extent has sports cultures been inherently sexist and heteronormative, and to what extent are they spaces of abuse, prejudice and pathology, and how can this be changed?
- What impacts have innovations in sport practices (technologies, enhancements, techniques, dressing-codes, aesthetics, etc.) had in their intersection with sexualities?
- To what extent have issues of sexual violence and homophobia amongst the sports community been successfully addressed?
- How should we understand the confluences of desire, eroticism and pleasure in the intersections of sport and sexuality?
- What are the popular and digital media's roles and responsibilities in the co-construction of sex and gender representations in sports?
- What are the contemporary challenges and opportunities when we consider the relationship between sports and sexuality?

The workshop will involve two forms of activity:

- The reception, discussion and exploration of key themes prompted by the papers being presented, which focus on some of the central issues in the current research agenda on sport and sexuality
- Thinking about what might be a useful development in contributing to the current agenda for research on sport and sexuality. Whilst there is a considerable amount of research and networking in this area, are there neglected gaps or collaborative possibilities by which the agenda might be moved forward productive?

General Conventions and Etiquette

INSEP conferences and workshops often depart from the usual conference structure and etiquette. These notes will help to explain how it will work

- (1) The structure of the workshop comprises 9 sessions – 3 plenaries (one of these a closing roundtable) and 6 paper panel sessions. The conference language is English
- (2) Each paper panel session has 2 papers in a space of 90 minutes. **Papers should be no longer than 20 minutes in presentation length. Chairs will be strict in keeping to this time frame.** This will allow 45-50 minute for questions and discussions. This is to encourage discussion and debate around papers and encourage sessions to develop as intellectual enquiries that benefit paper-giver and delegate rather than ‘cv-fillers’ with no discussion.
- (3) We have allocated chairing duties to some delegates - please check if it is you! If you really do not want to chair, approach Sandro or Paul as soon as you arrive. Chair's time the sessions and give 5 minute, 2 minutes warning and stop instructions to papers based on 20 minute limits and order the discussion by calling different speakers from the audience after both papers have been completed. Best practice is to have both papers given so questions can be asked that are not only focused on individual papers but speak across common themes.
- (4) The workshop is fairly small in total numbers and some delegates are not attending the entire workshop. Our experience is that small is beautiful - it allows for more in-depth debate and discussion as well as interaction between delegates. **It does, however, work best when you attend as many if not all papers to be part of the intellectual community throughout the 3 days.**
- (5) It might be useful for you to circulate handouts or paper summaries at the beginning of your paper to facilitate keeping your talk to time – presumably you have given that some thought already. Please ensure Sandro or Paul have a copy of any handout – preferably electronic - to ensure that we keep a complete record of the event
- (6) Papers have been organized into panels according to greater or less affinities between them– it has not always resulted in a strong match in interests, but each panel has sufficient common ground for discussion across as well as to individual papers.
- (7) We have left spaces of time available to delegates to meet to discuss particular interests as a result of our experience that workshops need space as well as sessions. Both mornings start at 9.30am to facilitate those colleagues who normally deal with e-mail and their ongoing work commitments (or who want a leisurely breakfast). Likewise, there is 90 minutes for lunch and we normally stop with more than enough time in the evening to ensure people can deal with their individual business. We hope, as a result, that this ensures people do not miss sessions to send e-mails, for example, and also have enough time to schedule meetings and chat about possible affinities and cooperation in their work.
- (8) The final roundtable is anticipated as being a **group discussion** with no lengthy speakers, where Sandro and Paul will introduce the session but all will contribute equally
- (9) This programme has accommodated requested changes and we would expect it to proceed as published here. Please note however that **some changes may occur as circumstances dictate during the week.** We will always ensure up to date information is posted on boards at the entrance of the conference venue and at the end of each session.

Workshop Programme

Tuesday 5th May

Time	Session
9.30am	Registration and Coffee
11.00am	Introduction to the Workshop Alessandro Porrovecchio & Paul Reynolds
11.15am	Session 1: Opening Plenary Against sportive re-genderization : Body-Agency in Sport-Orgasm <i>Bernard Andrieu</i> Chair – Alessandro Porrovecchio
12.30pm	Lunch
2.00pm	Session 2: Contemporary issues in Sexuality and Sport Studies «Shame on you!»: Professional athletes and rhetoric of gay porn scandal <i>Cosimo Marco Scarcelli & Cirus Rinaldi</i> The emergence of male-athlete ‘survivor’ stories <i>Mike Hartill</i> Chair: <i>Adam White</i>
3.30pm	Coffee
4.00pm	Session 3: Philosophical Perspectives on Sport and Sexuality “Sex, sport and disabilities. A critical approach”. <i>Carl Kuehn</i> Desire, Practice and Performativity: Body, Affect and Context <i>Paul Reynolds</i> Chair: Shawna Marks

Wednesday 6th May

Time	Session
9.30am	<p>Session 4: Sport and Gender Identity</p> <p>Changing times: discovering how openly lesbian athletes navigate team sports <i>Rachel Bullingham</i></p> <p>Sport and Gender Identity: Indifference, Renounce, or Leading Role of Female Teenagers? <i>Emiliana Mangone & Giuseppe Masullo</i></p> <p>Chair: Cirus Rinaldi</p>
11.00am	Coffee
11.30am	<p>Session 5: Women, Sport and Sexuality</p> <p>Sexualization of women sports as a sign of “raunch” feminism? <i>Simona Tirocchi</i></p> <p>Cinderella at the (foot)ball: Constructing the ‘imaginary body’ of the ‘WAG’ in Australian Rules Football <i>Shawna Marks</i></p> <p>Chair: Rachel Bullingham</p>
1.00pm	Lunch
2.30pm	<p>Session 6: Plenary</p> <p>On Homophobia, Heterosexuality and Homophobia <i>Eric Anderson</i></p> <p>Chair: Paul Reynolds</p>
4.00pm	Coffee
4.30pm	<p>Session 7: Sexuality and Sport Organisation</p> <p>Spatial structures and practice of LGBT sport: from closed networks to political statement. <i>Antoine Le Blanc</i></p> <p>“Can we stop assuming sport is homophobic?”: The experiences of an openly gay sports administrator in an English Sport’s National Governing Body? <i>Adam White</i></p> <p>Chair: Mike Hartill</p>
6.00pm	Conference Reception

Thursday 7th May

Time	Session
9. 30am	<p>Session 8: Exploring Sport Research</p> <p>"Navigating cross-disciplinary work on sport and sexuality <i>Zeljko Blaće</i></p> <p>Rugby women transacting : Between social representation, social pressure and image of self <i>Christophe Gibout</i></p> <p>Chair: Simona Tirocchi</p>
11.00am	Coffee
11.30am	<p>Session 9: Closing Roundtable</p> <p>Sport and Sexuality – Setting a European Research Agenda</p> <p>&</p> <p>Close and Next Steps</p> <p>Chairs: Alessandro Porrovecchio & Paul Reynolds</p>
1.00pm	Close

Sessions

Tuesday 5th May

Session 1: Opening Plenary
Against sportive re-genderization : Body-Agency in Sport-Orgasm
<p>We would like to advance the hypothesis that the socioanthropology of the physical agentivity is now developing in the philosophy of sport: the emergence of methodologies deconstructing objects traditional as women to gender, the care, the colonial sport, the discrimination, the war, the violence, and the others leaves by an embodiment of the actors and the actresses of the sport who establish in object of study opening new readings of the practices, the ways of life: the rugby players, the supporters, the body-builders, the doped, the prisoners, the climbers, the climbers as anthropological place, the surfers, the hooligans, the circles, the naturists, the doctors, the ecology, the handicapped persons, the hybrids, the androgynies, the wounded persons.</p> <p>This example of body agency is the result of consciousness of the minorities with the body practices are interpreted by the moral norm like exterior. The action of theses minorities in their bodies and by bodies is a power for a new invention: the performance implies a transformation of the matter of body and the affirmation of sportive orgasm like a identity factor and living experience, not only a self adornment of body</p>
<p>Pr. Bernard Andrieu Philosopher CETAPS, STAPS Rouen University bernard.andrieu@univ-rouen.fr http://leblogducorps.over-blog.com</p>
Chair – Alessandro Porrovecchio

Session 2: Contemporary issues in Sexuality and Sport Studies
«Shame on you!»: Professional athletes and rhetoric of gay porn scandal
<p>In the collective consciousness the figure of the athlete is frequently represented as the <i>quintessence</i> of (heterosexual) masculinity. Energy, vigour, competitiveness, conflict and, frequently, success with women, seem to fully describe the stereotype of the (man) athlete. Newcomers have had access to the masculine monopoly of modern sport field, women, and more recently LGBT athletes. These new subjectivities in sports are trying to challenge the exclusive masculine traditional protagonist; while some of them decide to come out publicly others decide to maintain their “secret” or dare not to speak about their sexuality also to preserve their career. In 2014 Cathal McCarron, an Irish Gaelic football player, has caused a controversy after being discovered starring in a gay porn film on the popular site «TheCastingRoom.net» (some other colleagues from different sport categories have been involved in what we could term «(gay) porn scare»). Within sport arenas, mass media play a leading role in reproducing values, symbolic repertoires when they represent sport and athletes and when they deal implicitly with gender, body appearance, and moral construction of legitimised athletes. The analysis aims to focus the social construction of <i>shamefulness</i> which breaks the taken for granted of standardised and legitimised male athletes (normalised masculinity)</p>

<p>vs excessive masculinities; morality vs immorality; etc.) in order to understand what kind of rhetoric media use to describe what happened. Is the porn scare just focusing on a moral scandal relating to the objectification of the body of the athletes and the dishonour of the team (society, colleagues, etc.), or is it concerning the betrayal of the <i>masculine contract</i> in organised sports? The object of this work is the reflection on media construction and narratives of masculinity, homosexuality, moral scare and sport. The authors will look into media representation and media rhetoric around porn scare and athletes' involvement in digital platform dedicated to information. In order to reach this goal, the authors will analyze different digital platform (blogs, forum, news-media sites) through the technique of content analysis and will analysed the main narratives used, the main actors and values used to construct the identified scares and new excess corporealities.</p>
<p>Cosimo Marco Scarcelli (University of Padua) and Cirus Rinaldi (University of Palermo) e-mail: marco.scarcelli@gmail.com; cirusrinaldi@gmail.com</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">The emergence of male-athlete 'survivor' stories</p>
<p>It is 20 years since Ken Plummer observed that stories of “surviving” and “coming-out” “are coming out everywhere”. Indeed, it is around 20 years since cases of male-child sexual abuse in sport began to emerge. In 1995 the Canadian NHL star Sheldon Kennedy reported the childhood sexual abuse (CSA) he had been subjected to by his coach Graham James; subsequently he published his autobiography titled ‘Why I Didn’t Say Anything’. Theo Fleury, also abused by James, disclosed his abuse significantly later and published his autobiography ‘Playing with Fire’ in 2009. Other high-profile male athletes have also published autobiographies in recent years in which they disclose CSA. It seems, then, at a specific historical juncture, such stories can now be told. Nevertheless, within the densely populated field of popular male-sports-narrative, they are also scarce. Simultaneously, the sports sector (in some countries) has experienced child protection policy for the first time, the reach of which seems set to expand rapidly. In this paper, drawing on original research with adult male victims of CSA in sport settings, I discuss male-athlete ‘survivor’ stories in terms of form and function and situate them in relation to debates on sport, gender, sexuality and sexual violence.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Mike Hartill Senior Lecturer in Sociology and Sport Edge Hill University hartillm@edgehill.ac.uk</p>
<p>Chair: Adam White</p>

<p>Session 3: Philosophical Perspectives on Sport and Sexuality</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">“Sex, sport and disabilities. A critical approach”.</p>
<p>In the frantic search for happiness and personal development (health, money and sexuality), typical of the post-industrial societies, sport and its derivatives are central. It seems that sport, physical and bodily activities are the latest <i>panacea</i> against the chronic ailments of Western lifestyles (metabolic diseases and psychic decompensations).</p>

However, socialization and supposed personal growth appear as some sort of reactions coming from less socially desirable latent motives. At the individual level, this psychic mechanism, built by the subject, would be in the service of cultural repression of somatic appetites. These would be upset for the benefit of bodily uses and bodily pleasures, typically prescribed through sport. The prohibition of illicit bodily pleasures, especially those related to sexuality, is back, and it's offset by the social benefits of the bodily control represented by the sports' champion. For those who are disabled, this sports' libidinal economy is problematic. Here, some lower profits can't counterbalance the much stronger renunciation of all sex trade. Then we should fear the swinging of some always active simple temperamental expressions of frustration of desires related to psychopathological diseases.

We can assume that the questioning of the partition able/disabled weakens this mechanism of bodily pleasures' control. The relaxation of this binary opposition, similar to the one opposing men and women in sports, mobilizes some resistances similar to those bringing to the diversity of sports' practices. So is the question of simplistic (able/disabled, male/female) or complex (obstacles against abilities, gender, sexual orientation) identity divisions.

We should imagine some new forms of sports, physical and bodily practices, likely to escape the identity dismemberment conveyed by the prevailing discourses concerning sports, sexuality and disability. These new forms shouldn't discriminate abilities or gender, they should be devised for the construction of an emancipatory ethic of the subject.

Carl Kuehn,
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Desire, Practice and Performativity: Body, Affect and Context

Part of the disciplining of bodily practices is their *naming* or categorization. Sport and sex have traditionally been separated as fields of practice and in their study. Yet this disciplinary divide, operating as a regulatory function for activities that are sharply divided in moral valuation, public spectacle or private deferral, legitimacy and constitutive properties for health and well-being, obscures some confluent threads. Both are bodily practices that are instantiated by particular forms of performance yet given sharply different discursive constructions of meaning, both for the individual and for society. Both involve desire, though its mediation and constitution are seen in different ways.

Foucault claimed that sexuality as a focus of study was a product of the mid-19th Century and may one day lose any meaning as a particular focus for inquiry and meaning. This thought experiment will explore the way in which sport and sex are characterized in terms of forms of desire, bodily practice and performativity and draw together an analysis of these two different spheres to assess how a transgressive reading might better enable us to develop critical interrogations of how sport and sex are understood.

Paul Reynolds
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Chair: Shawna Marks

Wednesday 6th May

Session 4: Sport and Gender Identity
Cinderella at the (foot)ball: Constructing the ‘imaginary body’ of the ‘WAG’ in Australian Rules Football
<p>Recently The Brownlow Medal ceremony has awarded two trophies, The Brownlow Medal and the unofficial ‘Gownlow’. The first to the ‘best and fairest’ player in the Australian Football League (or AFL), and the ‘Gownlow’ to the best dressed wife or girlfriend (known collectively as ‘WAGs’). This ceremony is conducted similarly to a red carpet celebrity event, although the ‘WAGs’ only accrue celebrity status due to their romantic relationship with an athlete. Media coverage of the awards ceremony for The Brownlow Medal featuring the ‘WAG’ evaluates them on their performance of ‘emphasised femininity’ both during and directly after the event.</p> <p>This paper analyses news media covering the event and aims to conceptualise the media’s role in constructing the ‘imaginary body’ of the ‘WAG’ (‘wives and girlfriends’). Gatens’ (1996) ‘imaginary bodies’ theory and Connell’s (1995) ‘hegemonic masculinity’ and ‘emphasised femininity’ theories are used to analyse four news publications over a two year period. The aim of this approach is to explain how representations of the ‘WAG’ in news media have a cyclic effect, as these representations set a standard of emphasised femininity (Connell, 1995) for women to adhere to and punish others with negative media coverage. It is likely this cycle occurs for all female subjects in news media, especially celebrities.</p> <p>Research on the construction of the ‘WAG’ is important, most notably because the current construction of the ‘WAG’ promotes a harmful male-dominated sporting culture. This sporting culture rejects femininity except where it supports the dominance of hegemonic masculinity, as emphasised femininity does. Furthermore these aspects of sporting culture likely intensify the scrutiny on the behaviours and appearance of the ‘WAG’ and could be linked to other gender-related problems in male-dominated sport more generally.</p> <p>Selected Bibliography:</p> <p>Connell, R.W. (1995) <i>‘Masculinities’</i>, Cambridge, UK: Polity Press.</p> <p>Gatens, M. (1996). <i>Imaginary Bodies: Ethics, Power and Corporeality</i>, London: Routledge</p> <p>Messner M. (1994). ‘Women in the Men’s Locker Room?’, in Messner, M. A. & Sabo, D.F., (eds), <i>Sex, Violence & Power in Sports: Rethinking Masculinity</i>, Freedom, CA: Crossing Press, pp.42-52</p> <p>Waterhouse-Watson, D. (2013). <i>Athletes, sexual assault, and "trials by media" : Narrative immunity</i>, New York : Routledge.</p>
Shawna Marks University of Adelaide e-mail: shawna.marks@hotmail.com
Sport and Gender Identity: Indifference, Renounce, or Leading Role of Female Teenagers?
<p>The World Health Organization (WHO 2009) estimates that less than a third of children and adolescents practice physical activity levels sufficient for health. This evaluation is worrying, because in their growth period both boys and girls begin to establish habits and lifestyles that will continue during adult life. Applying the above to the Italian context, it is possible to add some more elements on how young people approach sport, in particular with respect to the relationship existing between gender and sport practices – given that the Multiscopo Istat survey (2010) shows that boys play sports with more continuity than their female peers (52.4% vs 42.7%), while the latter detain the record of the higher inactivity rate (31.7% vs 23.9%). This attention towards gender differences</p>

also emerged at the European level thanks to the Health Behaviour in School Aged Children research network, who, in collaboration with the WHO, aims at understanding the factors and processes that can affect the health of adolescents.

In light of this facts, the paper aims at analysing the modalities and propensities of teenagers with regard to sports, highlighting the ways and forms of the attitudes with which the girls get close to sport activities and relative practice in their free time. More specifically, the analysis – through the data emerging from a sample survey carried out in the Campania region, in southern Italy, precisely aimed at exploring the attitudes of adolescents towards sports practices – has/carries a dual aim. On the one hand, it wants to clarify the existence of difference in the approaches towards sport of boys and girls (thereby either confirming or contradicting the national and international researches). On the other hand, to verify whether these alleged differences can be attributed to other specific socio-cultural aspects rather than to the simple distinction of gender. Through the analysis of the data, the paper also aims at outlining said aspects.

Special attention will be devoted to understand whether and how some gender stereotypes that still persist in the collective imagination, influence the choice of young people in their choice of a sport, or whether, on the contrary, girls approaching sport place themselves beyond rigid sexist explanations (often supported by some kind of scientific thinking) that still represent some sports activities as more suited to men rather than women, thus highlighting new ways of redefining themselves and leading role played by girls.

Keywords: Teenagers, Gender, Sport, Identity, Stereotype.

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Chair: Rachel Bullingham

Session 5: Women, Sport and Sexuality

Sexualization of women sports as a sign of “raunch” feminism?

This proposal aims to examine, with a sociological approach, the influence of media on the transformation of the relationship between female athletes and sports. The paper will examine, in particular, media sexualization of sport, to demonstrate that there is a connection between the new forms of feminism oriented to the raunch culture and media representation of female champions .

The advent of the ‘sexualized culture’ (Attwood, 2006), which indicates things such as a contemporary concern towards sexual values, practices and identities or the proliferation of sexual texts, produced also an attention to the so called “Raunch Culture” (Levy, 2005). This term refers to the over-sexualised culture, especially of the United States and the western countries, which not only objectifies women, but also encourages women to objectify themselves in the belief that this is a form of female empowerment. In *Living Dolls*, Natasha Walter takes on the notion that, for example, stripping and pole dancing are empowering and liberating choices.

As a consequence of the mediatization of sports (Wenner, 1998; Rowe, 2004) and to the diffusion of hypersexualized culture, in recent years the coverage of athletes’s beauty and sex appeal has become more important than their achievements. Female athletes are always depicted (or depict themselves) in suggestive poses and clothing, or even nude, with evident sexual connotations.

<p>The methodology will consist on the qualitative analysis of a sample of female athletes' web sites and social network profiles (e.g. Facebook, Twitter or Instagram), in order to identify the prevailing modes of representation.</p> <p>The outcome of the work will involve the formulation of ethical considerations, in order to emphasize the importance of sport values and the messages they should convey, highlighting the fundamental importance of education.</p>
<p><i>Simona Tirocchi</i> University of Turin e-mail: simona.tirocchi@unito.it</p>
<p>Changing times: discovering how openly lesbian athletes navigate team sports</p>
<p>Research on lesbian athletes' experiences is dated, with the majority being carried out in the 1980s and early 1990s. However, the 1980s were a socio-temporal unique time period; one Anderson (2009) describes as homohysteria. Thus, as society has become more inclusive in previous generations, including within women's (Anderson and Bullingham, 2013; Fink et al., 2012) and men's sport (Adams and Anderson 2011; Anderson, 2000, 2002, 2005, 2009 2011) there is need to reconsider the relationship between homophobia and sport.</p> <p>This article used semi-structured interviews from 31 lesbian athletes (from beginner to international standard players) competing in a range of team sports to show a positive shift in player climate, including actively challenging homophobia on and off the field and inclusive banter. Additionally, second generation trailblazers (torchbearers) serve as positive role models and provide support for lesbian teammates. However, there is still clear evidence that the change is not straightforward and there are still some areas that need to be addressed by sporting administrations.</p>
<p>Rachel Bullingham University of Worcester e-mail: r.bullingham@worc.ac.uk</p>
<p>Chair: Cirus Rinaldi</p>

<p>Session 6: Plenary</p>
<p>On Homohysteria, Heterosexuality and Homophobia</p>
<p>The relationship between sport, gender and sexuality has focused predominantly on the impact of homophobia among sportsmen/women and the implication this has for the performance of gender. However, homophobia alone is a limited analysis. In order to fully understand the impact of homophobia it is also necessary to understand the operation of homohysteria.</p> <p>From dozens of studies into male teamsport and individual sport athletes the United States and United Kingdom, homohysteria emerged as a theoretical tool to understand the sexual and gendered differences between adolescent male athletes of the 20th and 21st centuries. Principally, it occurs when heterosexual men, who cannot socially prove their heterosexuality, exist in a culture that is both aware that homosexuality exists and maintains antipathy toward it. Here, men disassociate from homosexuality by limiting their sexual and gendered lives in order to avoid suspicion concerning their sexuality.</p>

However, dozens of studies show that today's heterosexual male athletes stigmatize not homosexuality but homophobia. In such a culture, an increasing range of sexual and gendered behaviors occur that would have once been considered homosexualizing under the 'one time rule of homosexuality.' I argue this is a result of rapidly diminishing homophobia, in that athletes are worrying less that anyone might think they are bisexual or homosexual.

In this presentation, I highlight that young, straight male British and American athletes today are kissing each other on the lips (at rates as high as 89%); having strong emotional intimacy that is reported as being more intense than the emotional intimacy they share with their girlfriends; cuddling with each other (at rates as high as 93%); reveling in having gay male friends/teammates; recognizing elements of bisexuality in their own selves; and engaging in pseudo-sexual behaviors in the form of two men and one woman threesomes, experiencing their own anal eroticism, and occasionally engaging in same-sex sex. Collectively, these results force us to re-think how we understand notions of sexuality, showing bisexual

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Session7: Sexuality and Sport Organisation

Spatial structures and practice of LGBT sport: from closed networks to political statement.

The analysis of LGBT sports clubs highlights specific spatial patterns, at various scales, from the gym to the global scale: longer distances between homes and sports places, creation of temporarily isolated territories, strong networks, setting up symbolic territorial markers... This paper uses the risk management approach to understand these patterns, since this perspective can bring light on the motivations of individuals choosing to refer to specific communities. Notably, we will underline the classic paradox of a marginalization chosen by a group of people in an attempt to reach more safety, but combined with a non-consensual objective of de-marginalization. The spatial characteristics of LGBT sport can be analyzed at various scales, from the global scale (with competitions such as the Gay Games) to the national scale (various tournaments), from the local scale (associations, friendly networks) to the scale of the training place, and even to the scale of the body as an expression of diversity and political claims.

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<p style="text-align: center;">Le Blanc, Antoine Maître de conférences Université du Littoral Côte d'Opale, laboratoire TVES EA 4477 e-mail : Antoine.Le-Blanc@univ-littoral.fr</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">“Can we stop assuming sport is homophobic?”: The experiences of an openly gay sports administrator in an English Sport’s National Governing Body?</p>
<p>The culture of sport has often been branded homophobic and heterosexist, where male athletes are forced to adhere to a strict cultural ideal of hetero-masculinity (Griffin, 1998; Pronger, 1990). Rugby union in the western world is no exception,. It is often described as an institution tasked with the socio-political reproduction of masculine values. Here, men have to display many of the tenets of orthodox masculinity, while engaging in the homosocial rituals, practices and subculture of men’s rugby union (White and Vagi, 1990). There is little research currently on sexualities in the governance structure of sport (Anderson, 2008; Cunningham and Sagas, 2008), and none for rugby in Britain, although it is likely that the administrative environment will be a reflection of sport as a whole (Anderson, 2005).</p> <p>Inclusive masculinity scholarship is reflecting the current shift towards a more egalitarian environment for homosexuality in sport, finding that most heterosexual male athletes intellectualise pro-gay sentiments (Adams, 2011; Anderson, 2009; 2014; Anderson and McGuire, 2010). Yet, their coaches and managers often show a more traditional masculine performance, creating a disjuncture between today's athletes and the gatekeepers of sport (Anderson and McGuire, 2010). Currently, there is a gap in the literature explicitly exploring attitudes towards homosexuality in sport governing bodies, and it is this gap my research will focuses upon.</p> <p>My two-year insider ethnographic study as a development officer for the Rugby Football Union, found overwhelming acceptance, welcoming and liberal attitudes towards openly gay men. I found no instances of discrimination, marginalisation or harassment in this masculine environment, including in intimate spaces such as the sharing of bedrooms and changing areas. In contrast to the previously founds segmented identities – where athletes had to separate their homosexuality from their athletic identity (Anderson, 2002) -, I was embraced, often being asked about relationships and my personal wellbeing. Partners accompanied me to work dinners and social events, even those where I was a representative for the organisation among esteemed guests, and they were engaged fully in conversations. My findings contribute to the increasingly growing body of inclusive masculinities literature which shows sport cannot be uncritically branded as homophobic.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Adam White, University of Winchester, e-mail: a-white@live.co.uk</p>
<p>Chair: Mike Hartill</p>

Thursday 9th May

Session 8: Exploring Sport Research
"Navigating cross-disciplinary work on sport and sexuality"
<p>In "Navigating cross-disciplinary work on sport and sexuality" I will present a series of problematic relations as a queer activist and an artistic researcher with materials and positions that could be taken into account when approaching sport and sexuality. Consolidating information and articulating my research findings that come from sources ranging from highly structured academic writings to observations of super fluid personal encounters - became an ever increasing problem. Narratives of discrimination and pride, often morphed into normalization and shaming, while process of documentation and emancipation often got blurred by promotion and marketing. Claims of "best practices" became evidence of NGO-ization and institution, rather than of affective work in the field...When does research of sexual orientation, gender identification and performance in sport actually deals with intersectionality and considers cross-disciplinary work to articulate its position and presents its findings in a way that practitioners (coming from academia, activism, sport, culture or other fields) can actually make use of it? In trying to answer this question to myself - I would present few ideas on possible paths to take in more collective, participatory, critical and creative modalities, using methodologies that come from open source movements, creative commons regime and peer2peer methodologies.</p>
<p>Zeljko Blaće Independent Researcher zblace@gmail.com</p>
Rugby women transacting : Between social representation, social pressure and image of self
<p>The topic of this presentation concern the rugbywomen in the North of France and the way they do some social transactions in order to plan their future and to bring themselves in their social and cultural environment.</p> <p>Rugby is a male social universe, marked by a culture of the virility but also where exist a suspicion of homosexuality. If, in Southern France, rugby is a male sport, in Northern France, rugbywomen are more and more numerous. In this environment, they have to manage their sports and sexual identities. How to be a woman in a male sport ? How to deal with the suspicion of lesbianism ? How to deal with self respect ? what strategies are in place to assert a sexual and social identity ? In all these situations, rugbywomen are doing some social transaction in order to compromise between some divergent opinions and dissonant positions and finally doing a kind of makeshift job in order to make a place for themselves.</p> <p>References: Harris, J. (2005). The Image Problem in Women's Football. <i>Journal of Sport & Social Issues</i>, Vol. 29, No. 2, pp. 184-197. Joncheray, H. et al. (2010). « Joueur de rugby de première division. Une activité dangereuse ? », STAPS, n°90 (2010/4), pp. 37-47. Le Henaff Y., Héas S. (2007). "La mue sportive : de la femme à la rugbywoman", dans S. Héas, Variation sur la peau T.1, Paris : L'Harmattan. Le Hénaff Y., Héas S., (2009). « Rugby et féminité, un corps à corps difficile », <i>Sextant</i>, 27, p.125-136. Le Hénaff Y., Héas, S., Misery L., (2007). « Les marques corporelles involontaires chez les rugbywomen », <i>Corps</i>, 2, pp. 111-116. Mennesson, C. (2005). <i>Etre une femme dans le monde des hommes</i>. Paris : L'Harmattan Rémy, J. et al. (1978). <i>Produire ou reproduire ?</i> Bruxelles : Ed. Vie Ouvrière.</p>

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<p>Chair: <i>Simona Tirocchi</i></p>

<p>Session 9: Closing Roundtable: Sport and Sexuality – Setting a European Research Agenda & Close and Next Steps Roundtable Discussion</p>
<p>Chairs: Alessandro Porrovecchio & Paul Reynolds</p>

Publication and Development

It is anticipated that the final session will close with an agenda for development, with a follow up event already being envisaged in 2016. There will be every opportunity for all to be involved in these developments.

In addition, and in part based on the quality of the accepted abstracts for this workshop and offers from 1-2 people who could not travel, we anticipated proposing an edited collection from this workshop to the new INSEP Book Series, which will be led by Alessandro Porrovecchio. Paul Reynolds, as co-book series general editor, will provide the relevant detail as to how the project will develop. We envisage setting a timetable for the text for publication in the Spring of 2016.