Queer Men, Affect, & Physical Education

Dillon Landi Ph.D. Candidate The University of Auckland (New Zealand)





- PE has reproduced traditional forms of gendered practices that align to heteronormativity (Brown, 2005; Gard, 2001; Hunter, 2005; Penney, 2002; Sykes, 2011; Wright, 1997).
- Many scholars (e.g. Clarke, 1998; 2000; Gill et al., 2006; McGlashan, 2013; Morrow & Gill, 2003; Sykes, 2011) have found PE to be engrained with heterosexist and homophobic discourses.



- Clarke (2006) claims the lack of research on queer male experiences is "a sad indictment of much of the physical education profession and wider western society" (p. 730).
- Very little discussion of homoerotic desire in physical education settings (Sykes, 2003)

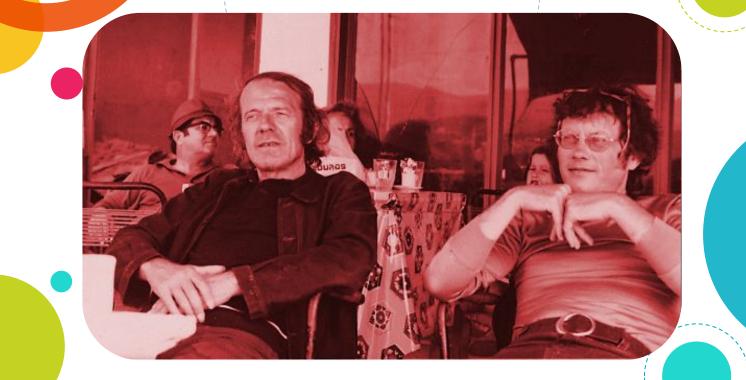
Binaries:

- Bodies (natural/ social)
- Identities (essentialist/ constructivist)



Draw on new materialist theory to analyse how queer bodies and desire is augmented and/ or limited through physical education.

New Materialism: Deleuze & Guattari

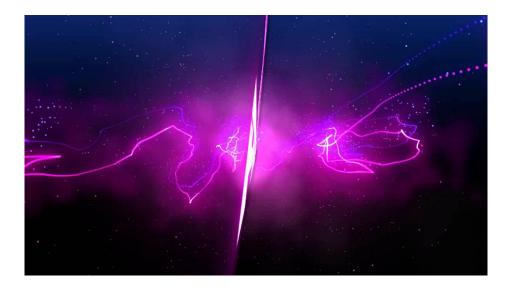


Assemblage

- An ensemble of parts (material or non-material) that come together to produce a whole.
- The assemblage is a "chaotic network of habitual and non-habitual connections, always in flux, always reassembling in different ways" (Potts, 2004: 19).
- Body is an assemblage: different parts that come together to produce a whole, always re-assembling, and is made of material and non-material bodies.
 - Pesire is produced through these relations.



Affect



Do not ask: What is a thing? Ask: What can it do?

Methods as Assemblage

- Critical Ethnography (Thomas, 1993)
 - Setting: QueerTEENS (Auckland, NZ)
 - Participants: 11 Queer Men.
 - Data Generation:
 - **5** Group Interviews (avg. 38 minutes)
 - 6 Individual Interviews (avg. 40 minutes)
 - Data Analysis:
 - Dredging (Fox & Alldred, 2017)
 - Mapping (Ringrose & Coleman, 2013)
 - Crystallization (Ellingson, 2009).











D

Ethnicities— Femininities— Breasts— Capitalism— Heterosexuality— Masculinities— Muscles

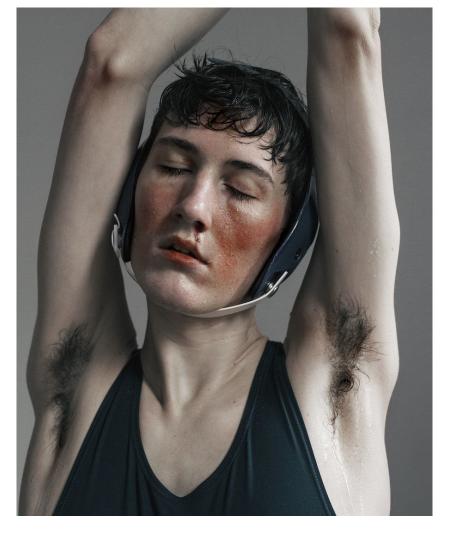
66







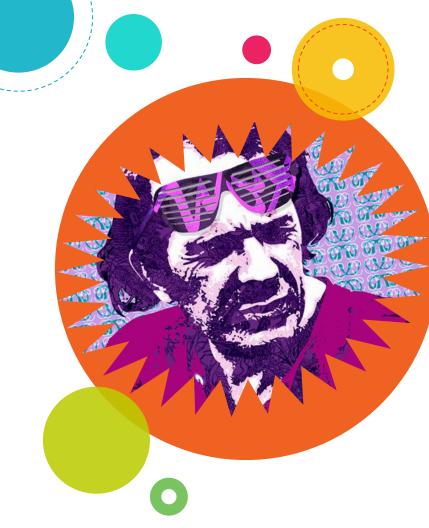
Men's Bodies— Viewing— Rules— Hot Men— Pants— Body Parts— Excitement







Masculinities— Femininities— Makeup— Capitalism— Confidence— Pleasure— Challenge



Discussion

- Natural/ Social Binary
- Desire as produced in PE
- Queer Potential to Transform PE