

## **Researching embodiment in multi/interdisciplinary spaces: Possibilities, problems and practices.**

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It is well established within the sociology of sport and related fields that the body and embodiment is essential to understanding engagement in, and experiences of, sport and physical activity. The body is, after all, a constitutive part of human experience (Merleau-Ponty, 1945); not something that we *have*, but rather something that we *are*, or are *becoming*. In this way, the body is a continual and incessant *materializing* of possibilities” (Butler, 1997, p.404). It subsequently calls for analytical attentiveness to embodied, contextualised interactions accomplished in lived spaces.

In this presentation, I will draw on our past and current research into everyday life and the body, to reflect on the possibilities, problems, and practice of researching embodiment. Delving deeper into case studies examining the lived experiences of menopause, chronic illness, and weather in relation to movement contexts, I show how knowledge of these phenomena have undoubtedly benefitted from multi/interdisciplinary ways of knowing, yet often in ways that have failed to make bodies a meaningful presence.

I will move on to discuss some of the strategies we have used to address this and will present examples of creative arts-based resources developed in this process. I will finish by reflecting on how the doing of embodiment research within multi/interdisciplinary settings can itself also be experienced as an ‘incessant materialising of possibilities’, and what has felt to be essential when navigating that.