

Disability and Sexual Culture:

An Exploration of Disabled Sexuality and College
Hookup Culture

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Introductions



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Overview: Disability and Sexual Culture

Topics

Unit 1; Theoretical and Historical Perspectives

Unit 2: Sexuality Disability Justice

Unit 3: Cultural productions of Disabled Sexuality

Film Review

- Crip Camp (2020)
_ The R Word (2020)

Will be published in upcoming issue of *Films for the Feminist classroom*



What is access?

My Project

Compulsory Able-bodiedness and Disabled Sexual Culture

- Define terms and outline the importance of a Disabled Sexual Culture
- Take space to give historical background on Disability and Sex

Hookup Culture

- Establish hookup culture as a distinctive sexual culture and examine the inaccessible nature of the sexual script
- Use sources like *American Hookup* (Dr. Lisa Wade 2017) and *Paying for the Party* (Hamilton and Armstrong 2013)

Online Dating

- Look at dating apps like Tinder, Bumble, and Hinge in order to examine accessibility features
- Evaluate online sexual culture as its own entity and assess cultural accessibility

Compulsory Able-bodiedness and Disabled Sexual Culture

Compulsory Able-bodiedness:

- A cultural ideology reliant on the assumed, yet unattainable, status of ability that is necessary in order to function within the constructions of capitalism, social norms, and intimate interactions.

Sexual Culture vs. Sex Life:

- Sex life is the plurality of sexual experiences (Siebers 2012)
- Sexual Culture is the experience of sex itself (Siebers 2012)

Disabled Sexual Culture:

- Disabled sexual culture delineates itself from the standard sexual script by

Hookup Culture

The Erotic Marketplace:

- The erotic marketplace is a metaphor for the dating pool, framing sexual encounters through the lens of capitalism.
- Using this metaphor allows for connections to compulsory able-bodiedness.

The Script:

- The sexual script of hookup culture is extremely inflexible, leaving little room to "crip sex."
- 5 step outline (American Hookup)

Points of inaccessibility:

- Architectural inaccessibility (bars, parties, etc.)
- Physical inaccessibility (assumes that both partners can engage with the sexual script)
- Ideological Inaccessibility (Compulsory and does not allow for individualization)

Online Dating

Unique Sexual Culture:

- The more flexible social and sexual scripts associated with online dating differentiate online sexual culture from traditional hookup culture.

The Literal Erotic Marketplace:

- Dating app platforms transform the metaphor of the erotic marketplace into a tangible marketplace
- Means that the hierarchy of desire is still informs most of the interactions that occur on these platforms

Accessibility:

- Virtual architectural inaccessibility (the design of the platforms)
- Allows for new points of access to sexual culture
- CHOICE and AUTONOMY!

Questions?

Thank you
for listening!