

How the inequalities between genders in sport are changing and developing in society with the pressures and stereotypes on athletes to conform to traditional roles.

(Gender: Women and Men)

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Introduction

The inequalities between genders in traditionally gendered sports and the stereotypes surrounding traditionally feminine and traditionally masculine sports has seen both continuity and change throughout time. The idea that sport is gendered has fueled the internalised bias in society and the culture surrounding sport, especially grass roots and youth sport.

My initial interest in this topic stemmed from the disparity in attention given to the 2023 netball and women's soccer World Cups, where the Australian netball team, the Diamonds, are ranked first in the world¹ and have been for many years, and won their World Cup in 2023 but received little to no recognition while the Australian women's soccer team, the Matildas, received the majority of the media attention.² This, along with questioning why women's participation in traditionally masculine sports is so much larger than the participation of men in traditionally feminine sports, sparked my interest and led to wondering why this is happening.

In my Personal Interest Project, I have investigated the inequalities between women and men in sports, the origins of sport and impact on sport currently, and the impact of pressure on young people in sport. With these results, I have strived to explore 'how the inequalities between genders in sport are changing and developing in society with the pressures and stereotypes on athletes to conform to traditional roles'.

Primary research included a questionnaire, an interview and a personal reflection. The questionnaire includes both qualitative and quantitative data surrounding the participation in and perceptions of sports as well as any bias faced due to participation in sports aimed for the opposite gender. The cross-cultural element in my questionnaire enabled responses from any generation, gender and socio-economic status, providing a wide range of unbiased and ethical responses.

¹ 'Current World Rankings - World Netball' (*World Netball* 25 July 2024)
<<https://netball.sport/events-and-results/world-rankings-hub/current-world-rankings/>>
accessed 8 February 2024.

² Primary Research: Personal Reflection (April 2024)

An interview was conducted with Ruth Havrlandt (Board member of Netball NSW, member of Bench Officials Leadership Panel, AANA B badged umpire accreditation), providing knowledgeable and professional answers. It enabled a point of comparison with my questionnaire, challenging and supporting ideas and sharing experiences from an official's perspective.

My secondary research consisted of examining, interpreting and analysing pre-existing articles. I aimed to coordinate my secondary research with my primary research in order to support my overarching question on the inequalities between genders in sport.

Continuity and change is greatly addressed with the development of sporting events, culture and perspectives. I have compared the current issues facing sport with the past issues, focusing on the issues surrounding gender and the inequalities between women and men in sports, the changes and developments within sport, and the pressure on athletes to conform to traditional gender roles.

In completing this research project, I aimed to improve my social and cultural literacy skills and learn more about the origins of sport, and the issues surrounding it, while simultaneously gaining an understanding of how people perceive an issue that is not necessarily on the forefront of people's minds.

Log

Initially, the Personal Interest Project (PIP) felt impossible and never ending, the options for topics were diverse and the possibilities were endless. I began brainstorming with ideas for topics around school and education, feminism, and netball. I settled on sport quickly with my topic developing from ‘Girls are jumping at the opportunity to get into traditionally male jobs and sports. Are (why aren't) boys equally interested in entering traditionally feminine sports and jobs?’ to ‘An investigation into the gender disparity in sports based on the idea that sports are defined as feminine and masculine’ and finally landing on ‘How the inequalities between genders in sport are changing and developing in society with the pressures and stereotypes on athletes to conform to traditional roles.’ This topic was extremely interesting and relevant to me with my involvement in netball, a traditionally feminine sport, for many years³, as well as the 2023 women’s soccer World Cup and the 2023 netball World Cup. The topic was also relevant to the society and culture course concepts of society, gender, time, globalisation and identity.

During the research process, my initial ideas on the topic were confirmed more than challenged. Through years of participation and observation, my ideas on the topic had a solid foundation⁴, making the research process interesting when learning about people’s experiences with sport from the past decades. After collecting secondary sources, I felt prepared enough to release a questionnaire, collecting information on the experiences, bias and perspectives people had on sports.⁵ This methodology was chosen to gather both qualitative and quantitative data from a wide range of respondents to collate and analyse in order to support my secondary research and add new experiences and ideas to my project. After my questionnaire, I interviewed Ruth Havrlandt. Ruth is a board member of Netball NSW, a member of Bench Officials Leadership Panel, an AANA B badged umpire and has held many other positions. With over three decades of experience in netball, I wanted to learn about the changes in netball over her time with the sport along with the issues currently facing netball. Ruth provided information from the perspective of an official with experience

³ Primary Research: Personal Reflection (April 2024)

⁴ Primary Research: Personal Reflection (April 2024)

⁵ Primary Research: Questionnaire (February 2024)

in local, state and national levels of the sport.⁶ This methodology provided insight into the inner workings of the sport, the changes that have occurred and the issues facing the sport currently and what procedures are in place to improve these issues.

I faced challenges throughout this project with motivation and a difficulty in condensing ideas into an argument that is sustained being the biggest. The motivation to complete this project fluctuated and the feeling of the impossibility of the task was heavy at times and while condensing ideas was difficult with so many topics to choose from and ideas to explore. If I were to re-complete this task, I would push myself to use the available resources more efficiently.

⁶ Primary Research: Interview (April 2024)

Chapter 1: Netball vs. Soccer: investigating these two traditionally feminine and traditionally masculine sports and how they impact society

Traditionally gendered sports, especially team sports, have been the status quo for most of history with traditional roles driving the split between feminine and masculine activities and behaviours in society.

In the past, sports has been a hegemony, with men holding all the power and authority over the activities that fall under the title. Sports such as volleyball and gymnastics are viewed as feminine while sports such as soccer and baseball are viewed as masculine.⁷ Traditionally feminine sports still raise questions on whether they are considered a sport, including comments such as “ballet (sport? Art??)”.⁸ Sports are labelled based on the ‘gender appropriateness’ determined by the level of social acceptance within the traditional definition of femininity and masculinity and how much athletes have to challenge these notions⁹, creating a sense of shame within female athletes.¹⁰ This classification system was studied in 1999 with a focus on adolescents in Germany and the U.S. The study found that the success of traditionally masculine sports has paved the way for female participation in male dominated sports perceived as ‘violent, aggressive and competitive’. It also found little change in the perception of men surrounding traditionally feminine sports.¹¹ Methany (1965) was a leading researcher on the accessibility of sports influenced by gender stereotypes. This

⁷ J. Hannon and others, ‘Gender Stereotyping and the Influence of Race in Sport among Adolescents’ (2009) 80 Research Quarterly for Exercise and Sport 676
<https://collection.sl.nsw.gov.au/record/TN_cdi_openaire_primary_doi_dedup_8a1370b1a0f9cd5c40b9f4771c9ff16c> accessed 20 February 2024.

⁸ Primary Research method: Questionnaire (February 2024)

⁹ J. Hannon and others, ‘Gender Stereotyping and the Influence of Race in Sport among Adolescents’ (2009) 80 Research Quarterly for Exercise and Sport 676
<https://collection.sl.nsw.gov.au/record/TN_cdi_openaire_primary_doi_dedup_8a1370b1a0f9cd5c40b9f4771c9ff16c> accessed 20 February 2024.

¹⁰ K. Liston, ‘Honour and Shame in Women’s Sports’ (2021) 7 Studies in arts and humanities 5
<https://collection.sl.nsw.gov.au/record/TN_cdi_doaj_primary_oai_doaj_org_article_240f3c15432b4bbdb153c889f3545648> accessed 27 October 2023.

¹¹ J. Hannon and others, ‘Gender Stereotyping and the Influence of Race in Sport among Adolescents’ (2009) 80 Research Quarterly for Exercise and Sport 676
<https://collection.sl.nsw.gov.au/record/TN_cdi_openaire_primary_doi_dedup_8a1370b1a0f9cd5c40b9f4771c9ff16c> accessed 20 February 2024.

research found a classification system that identified ‘acceptable’ and ‘unacceptable’ sports for women which found that individual sports that focused on aesthetics, looks, accuracy and a lack of physical contact were ‘acceptable’ and sports that involve physical contact, strength, aggression and direct competition were ‘unacceptable’.¹² Later researchers such as Engel (1994) found similar results.¹³ Schmalz and Kerstetter found higher female participation in masculine sports than male participation in feminine sports¹⁴ and Coakley (2007) found that feminist theories illuminate the intersection of gender and race ideologies but lack theories on the intersection with sport.¹⁵

Women have been challenging the traditional stereotypes surrounding sport for a long time. There is evidence of women's soccer teams forming and playing from the early 1900s in New South Wales with newspapers reporting on a ‘ladies’ team in Parramatta in 1903 and another in Candelo in 1908. This evidence suggests that a pattern formed around (mostly European) migrant workers employed in the mining industry, where competitions emerged between close geographical locations to well known mining towns.¹⁶

Officially, the first women’s soccer game was held in Brisbane in 1921 and drew attention with 10,000 spectators in attendance. However, momentum stopped and in 1922 some states banned women’s participation in organised matches for ‘medical and aesthetic reasons’.¹⁷ A comeback was made in the late 1920s but with a lack of respect, as seen in a newsreel titled ‘Women Play Soccer’ by Cinesound Review in 1939, where the players were sexualised through camera shots containing their legs and sexist and inappropriate jokes on the players gender, bodies and skills as athletes. These comments included remarks like, “give us our shins to think they’re going to waste these playing football”, “this is a man’s game” and “out

¹² E. Metheny, (1965). Connotations of movement in sport and dance. Dubuque, IA: Wm. C. Brown.

¹³ A. Engel, (1994). II. Sex Roles and Gender Stereotyping in Young Women’s Participation in Sport. *Feminism & Psychology*, 4(3), 439-448. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0959353594043016>

¹⁴ D. Schmalz and D. Kerstetter, (2006). Girlie Girls and Manly Men: Children's Stigma Consciousness of Gender in Sports and Physical Activities. *Journal of Leisure Research*. 38. 536-557. 10.1080/00222216.2006.11950091.

¹⁵ J. Coakley, (2009). Sport in Society. Issues & controversies.

¹⁶ ‘The Challenges Remain: A “New” View of Old Perspectives on the History of Women’s Football in Australia’ (*Collection - State Library of NSW*2018) <https://collection.sl.nsw.gov.au/record/TN_cdi_rmit_aeipt_search_informit_org_doi_10_3316_informit_814421298294465> accessed 21 February 2024.

¹⁷ ‘Women’s Football in Australia: The Rise of the Matildas | National Film and Sound Archive of Australia’ (*Nfsa.gov.au*2024) <<https://www.nfsa.gov.au/latest/womens-football-australia-rise-matildas#:~:text=The%20game%20went%20through%20a,round%20for%20the%20first%20time>> accessed 29 June 2024.

there they giggle and struggle and struggle and giggle while bravely the goalie faces powder”.¹⁸

Men’s netball has been gaining momentum over the past few years and the game has developed to suit the strengths of men over women. “20 years ago, mens netball was rough, they were argumentative on the court to umpires, they were rough, they were unskilled, it was more push and barge and things like that.” said Ruth Havrlandt, a board member of Netball NSW (NNSW), Vice President of Ku-Ring-Gai Netball Association and NNSW bench official.¹⁹ “I think people seeing that has actually made them realise, we need to get involved, we need to grow our numbers, we need to be diverse.”²⁰ The growth of netball as a sport rests on its ability to grow and develop to meet requirements such as how “we need to encompass everybody for our sport to grow, and is one of the conditions for an olympic sport.”

In the present, netball is ranked within the top five sports for women and girls below the age of 54 and soccer ranks within the top five for women and girls below the age of 24 and sixth for women between the ages of 25 and 54²¹ while soccer ranks within the top five for women below the age of 24 and sixth for women between the ages of 25 and 54²². Soccer ranked within the top five most popular sports for men below the age of 54²³ and netball is not present within the top ten²⁴. However, data from Netball Australia shows 126,600 boys participated in the sport in 2022.²⁵

Sports currently are facing many challenges, including support and funding for grassroots sport. Many districts and associations are facing funding shortages and pushback for better

¹⁸ *Cinesound Review 0409: Women Play Soccer*, Bankstown, New South Wales, 1 September 1939. Courtesy: Cinesound Movietone Productions. NFSA title: 79500

¹⁹ Primary Research method: Interview (April 2024)

²⁰ Primary Research method: Interview (April 2024)

²¹ ‘Women in Sport’ (*Australian Sports Commission*2022)

<<https://www.clearinghouseforsport.gov.au/kb/women-in-sport>> accessed 27 June 2024.

²² ‘Women in Sport’ (*Australian Sports Commission*2022)

<<https://www.clearinghouseforsport.gov.au/kb/women-in-sport>> accessed 27 June 2024.

²³ ‘Men in Sport’ (*Australian Sports Commission*2022)

<<https://www.clearinghouseforsport.gov.au/kb/men-in-sport>> accessed 27 June 2024.

²⁴ ‘Men in Sport’ (*Australian Sports Commission*2022)

<<https://www.clearinghouseforsport.gov.au/kb/men-in-sport>> accessed 27 June 2024.

²⁵ ‘Netball Climbs Participation Rankings’ (*Netball Australia*17 May 2023)

<<https://netball.com.au/news/netball-climbs-participation-rankings>> accessed 26 June 2024.

infrastructure to support and improve the game. The inequality in funding between sports is “one of our [netballs] biggest issues.”²⁶ The disparity between funding from government organisations in sport is “ridiculous. Men will always have, always and are still being funded more than women's sport, and there needs to be an equality on that in particular.”²⁷ Diversity in netball “is working itself out,”²⁸ with All Abilities and “we're working on the boys, that's growing.”²⁹ Despite the progress made to create equality in sports participation, women are still pressured to leave traditionally masculine sports at a certain point, usually before puberty, for fear of harm as a result of the high levels of contact in sports such as rugby, soccer and cricket.³⁰ “The few boys I have witnessed playing netball, being younger and playing in teams composed mostly of girls.”³¹ Sexuality debates and questions on attributes also arise around athletes participating in sports that are traditionally for the opposite gender.³² In professional events, there is also a prominent disparity between duration, pay and spectators with major events such as in tennis, a Grand Slam is shorter for women, the difference in prize money is striking and the number of spectator attendees is notable.³³

²⁶ Primary Research method: Interview (April 2024)

²⁷ Primary Research method: Interview (April 2024)

²⁸ Primary Research method: Interview (April 2024)

²⁹ Primary Research method: Interview (April 2024)

³⁰ M. Easman, ‘Implications for Participation - HSC PDHPE’ (*HSC PDHPE*11 July 2022)

<<https://pdhpe.net/sport-and-physical-activity-in-australian-society/what-are-the-relationships-between-sport-and-physical-activity-and-gender/sport-as-a-traditionally-male-domain/implications-for-participation/>> accessed 27 June 2024.

³¹ Primary Research method: Personal Reflection (April 2024)

³² M. Easman, ‘Implications for Participation - HSC PDHPE’ (*HSC PDHPE*11 July 2022)

<<https://pdhpe.net/sport-and-physical-activity-in-australian-society/what-are-the-relationships-between-sport-and-physical-activity-and-gender/sport-as-a-traditionally-male-domain/implications-for-participation/>> accessed 27 June 2024.

³³ M. Easman, ‘Implications for Participation - HSC PDHPE’ (*HSC PDHPE*11 July 2022)

<<https://pdhpe.net/sport-and-physical-activity-in-australian-society/what-are-the-relationships-between-sport-and-physical-activity-and-gender/sport-as-a-traditionally-male-domain/implications-for-participation/>> accessed 27 June 2024.

Chapter 2: The inequalities between men and women in sport on local, national, and global levels

Inequality is the lack of equality or fair treatment in the sharing of wealth or opportunities.³⁴ This lack of equality is a major issue for many sports and is fought against by many as progress is made slowly over time. Furthermore, sport is defined as a game, competition, or activity needing physical effort and skill that is played or done according to rules, for enjoyment and/or as a job.³⁵ The inequalities between men and women in sports are highlighted through the differing pay, media attention, time and recognition. The equality for professional sports differs depending on many factors, mainly popularity which impacts the pay, media attention and time in the spotlight each sport receives. This all affects the recognition of players and their efforts and dedication to the sport. 15% of sports news is focused on women with a smaller 12% stemming from TV coverage.³⁶ Most sports have male dominated media coverage, shown in figure 1, with only three of the top 20 sports covered in the media having more attention on women's sport. These include netball with 96% of coverage, demonstrating an unbalanced coverage but opposite from the norm, athletics and swimming, who both have roughly half of the coverage for the sport.³⁷

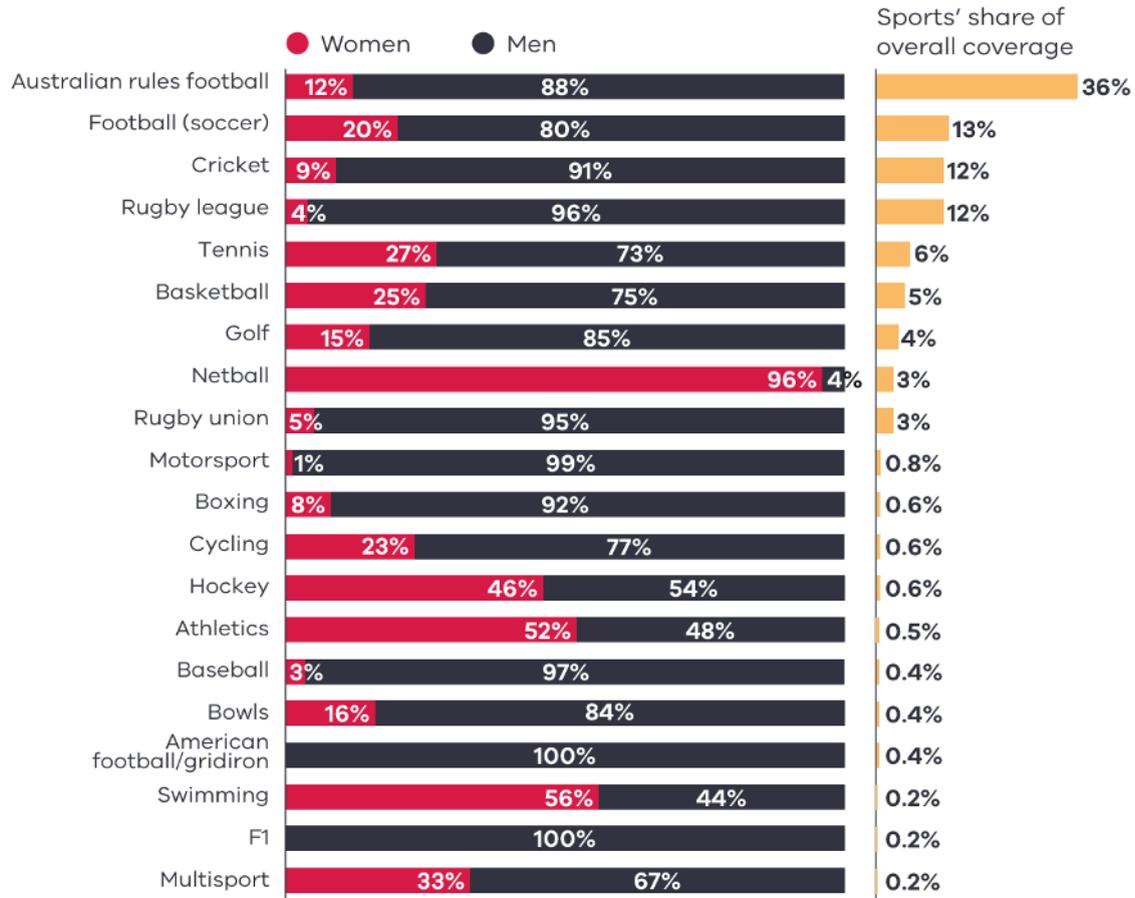
³⁴ Cambridge Dictionary, 'Inequality' (@CambridgeWords24 July 2024)
<<https://dictionary.cambridge.org/us/dictionary/english/inequality>> accessed 27 July 2024.

³⁵ Cambridge Dictionary, 'Sport' (@CambridgeWords12 June 2024)
<<https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/sport>> accessed 16 June 2024.

³⁶ Victoria State Government, 'The Conversation of Sport: Representation of Women in Sports News Coverage' (*Change Our Game*2023)
<<https://changeourgame.vic.gov.au/leadership-centre/the-conversation-of-sport-are-women-visible-in-sports-news-coverage/The-Conversation-of-Sport-Representation-of-Women-in-Sports-News-Coverage-2022-23-OWSR,-2024.pdf>> accessed 17 May 2024.

³⁷ Foxtel, 'The State of Women's Sports Broadcast' (Foxtel 2023).

GENDER SPLIT OF COVERAGE OF TOP 20 SPORTS



Data for 'Other', including No Gender or Multiple Genders, is excluded from this data

Figure 1: Foxtel, 'The State of Women's Sports Broadcast' (Foxtel 2023).

Netball NSW, the governing body that provides guidance and support for netball competitions across New South Wales, has made a push to encourage diversity within the sport, introducing mens competitions along with competitions for different ability levels. Within the past 40 years, netball as a whole has developed greatly with skills, equipment, training, technology and rules all developing along the way.³⁸ These changes have aligned with the expansion of mens netball and the organisation, Mens Netball. Netball remains disadvantaged with continued conflict in communities to encourage participation and gain amenities. Funding for netball in Australia is difficult and lacking with members having to fund competitions including equipment, amenities and fees. This lack of funding is considered the biggest drawback and has disadvantaged netball as a sport.³⁹

³⁸ Primary Research method: Interview (April 2024)

³⁹ Primary Research method: Interview (April 2024)

The introduction of new competitions to support expanding interest has resulted in mens competitions and the All Abilities competition. These competitions diversify netball as well as highlight the similarities between people. NSW State Titles has a diverse range of teams that include competitions for Under 15s, Under 17s (both girls and boys), Opens (Womens and Mens) and All Abilities (Mixed).⁴⁰

The funding for sports is another factor contributing to the inequality in sport. This inequality is accentuated by the preference for some sports over others such as in Ku-ring-gai where there concerns raised about how “if the boys soccer team want lights somewhere, they'll get it with no barriers.”⁴¹ This issue with funding and preference supports the idea that “men will always have, always and are still being funded more than women's sport.”⁴² A questionnaire indicated that 74.6% of people played for grass roots, community competitions and 18% indicated that they played at representative level⁴³. Both of these levels are based around local facilities and volunteers which feed into higher levels of the sport.⁴⁴ Grass roots sport is the lowest level of participation and benefits the community and nation in many ways from health to global competition. Globally, sport is a high point of competition that is recognised across the world with events such as the olympics, world cups and tournaments that are widely distributed and highly valued across the world.

Popularity is the main driver for all media coverage of sports, resulting in the unbalanced and unequal coverage and attention of some sports. Media institutions are key in the popularity of a sport with male dominated sports holding a large amount of the popularity, resulting in high volumes of men’s sporting events in the media while women’s sport fight for equal screen time.⁴⁵ In a study by Foxtel it was found that in 2023, 64% of people that took part in the study watched at least one hour of sport a week and 36% watched at least one hour of

⁴⁰ ‘Hart Senior State Titles’ (Netball NSW13 June 2024)

<<https://nsw.netball.com.au/hart-senior-state-titles-0>> accessed 17 June 2024.

⁴¹ Primary Research method: Interview (April 2024)

⁴² Primary Research method: Interview (April 2024)

⁴³ Primary Research method: Questionnaire (February 2024)

⁴⁴ Primary Research method: Personal Reflection (April 2024)

⁴⁵ M. Maurice, ‘Overcoming Current Challenges in Women’s Sport Will Pave Way for Future Nostalgia’ (*the Guardian* 2 April 2020)

<<https://www.theguardian.com/sport/2020/apr/03/overcoming-current-challenges-in-womens-sport-will-pave-way-for-future-nostalgia>> accessed 26 November 2023.

women's sport.⁴⁶ Media coverage relies on profitability in advertisements and viewership with media outlets providing more coverage on popular events to meet demand and maximise profit. Sponsorship and advertising are lucrative business and large events such as major sporting events are a prime location to promote businesses and products. Some events capitalise on marketing space by fitting as many brands into the least amount of space, whereas others limit marketing to a few discrete brandings. These advertisements provide funding to many major competitions and media outlets.

Favour for some sports goes deeper than funding and popularity with government organisations, fees and charges, and conflict on the use of facilities. Associations in netball are finding they “have to fight like mad to be able to use lights that we've actually paid good contribution to.”⁴⁷ The conflict with local councils has been ongoing for the use of facilities as well as updates and additions to improve existing facilities. Moreover, the charges by the government for the use of these facilities is rising as “Council has upped the charges on court hire, court facilities, even storage.”⁴⁸ Many community sport organisations are not for profits and are “run by volunteers, basically, and our members fund everything”⁴⁹ these volunteers “being parents of players or heavily involved for years.”⁵⁰ Along with these rising charges and arguments on the use of facilities, many of these organisations “don't get the money, the funding from government organisations that we should.”⁵¹

Funding, popularity and media coverage often play a role in the pay professional athletes receive. Contracts are often used for team sports such as netball and soccer that outlines the expectations of players while individual sports often have prize money. Sponsorships play a big role in the pay of athletes with endorsements and branding covering players, their equipment and their events.

The time spent playing sports is another difference, along with the physical differences in men and women. Men's netball is an example of the physical differences, showcasing “their style and ability to jump higher” which “stems from basketball and can be rougher than

⁴⁶ Foxtel , ‘The State of Women's Sports Broadcast’ (Foxtel 2023).

⁴⁷ Primary Research method: Interview (April 2024)

⁴⁸ Primary Research method: Interview (April 2024)

⁴⁹ Primary Research method: Interview (April 2024)

⁵⁰ Primary Research method: Personal Reflection (April 2024)

⁵¹ Primary Research method: Interview (April 2024)

netball.”⁵² As a result of rejection of change and the desire to maintain tradition, some elite competitions maintain the traditional ideas and structures that are unbalanced. The Grand Slam in tennis is one of these traditional competitions with women playing three sets while men play five.⁵³ This structure has produced controversy over the pay athletes receive with prize money for women being less than men. Calls for equal pay have been made by female athletes however, with the difference in sets equal pay is difficult due to the unmatched amount of sets. The debate on equal pay in tennis has been ongoing with the achievements of female athletes being diminished and obstructing the progression of women's tennis.⁵⁴ Traditional views of female athletes and feminine activities led to the reduction of sets for women from five to three in the US National Championship in the early 1900s as a result of the view that five sets was too strenuous for women.⁵⁵ The traditional three sets was voted against by female players in 1976 despite the disagreement of event organisers, resulting in three set matches continuing until five set matches. This vote came after the match commonly known as the ‘Battle of the Sexes’ where Billie Jean King triumphed over Bobby Riggs in 1937.⁵⁶

Additionally, sports offered at grassroots levels are limited based on gender with many finding competitions limited or unavailable. Especially in the past, sports played with community associations and in school limited the options available based on gender with many being unable to play mixed sports or some sports entirely with many people, mainly

⁵² Primary Research method: Personal Reflection (April 2024)

⁵³ E. Salley, ‘Should Female Tennis Players Contest Five Sets at Grand Slams?’ (*GiveMeSport* 5 May 2021)

<<https://www.givemesport.com/should-female-tennis-players-contest-five-sets-at-grand-slams/#:~:text=The%20best%2Dof%2Dthree%20format,have%20been%20against%20the%20idea.>> accessed 29 July 2024.

⁵⁴ E. Salley, ‘Should Female Tennis Players Contest Five Sets at Grand Slams?’ (*GiveMeSport* 5 May 2021)

<<https://www.givemesport.com/should-female-tennis-players-contest-five-sets-at-grand-slams/#:~:text=The%20best%2Dof%2Dthree%20format,have%20been%20against%20the%20idea.>> accessed 29 July 2024.

⁵⁵ E. Salley, ‘Should Female Tennis Players Contest Five Sets at Grand Slams?’ (*GiveMeSport* 5 May 2021)

<<https://www.givemesport.com/should-female-tennis-players-contest-five-sets-at-grand-slams/#:~:text=The%20best%2Dof%2Dthree%20format,have%20been%20against%20the%20idea.>> accessed 29 July 2024.

⁵⁶ E. Salley, ‘Should Female Tennis Players Contest Five Sets at Grand Slams?’ (*GiveMeSport* 5 May 2021)

<<https://www.givemesport.com/should-female-tennis-players-contest-five-sets-at-grand-slams/#:~:text=The%20best%2Dof%2Dthree%20format,have%20been%20against%20the%20idea.>> accessed 29 July 2024.

women and girls being excluded from activities such as soccer and cricket. Many people experienced this with a “limited range of sports girls were allowed to play”.⁵⁷ Many women found that in their childhood they experienced the bias with experiences such as “girls had to play netball instead of cricket”⁵⁸ and having to “play in a boys soccer team because a girls team didn’t exist”⁵⁹ or “prejudice on abilities as a female player”.⁶⁰ Moreover, the pay for officials is lacking in many traditionally feminine sports such as netball where “the umpiring pay is significantly less than that for a male dominated sport such as soccer,”⁶¹ further contributing to the disparity between sports.

The funding, popularity, media coverage, playing time and pay disparities in and between sports are some of the biggest issues in sports today. The progress made already has improved the equality in sports from media coverage to participation and has paved the way for further change to encourage equality and participation in all sports. Grassroots sport benefits with the coverage and popularity of sports through major events such as a world cup such as the 2023 Women's Soccer.

⁵⁷ Primary Research method: Questionnaire (February 2024)

⁵⁸ Primary Research method: Questionnaire (February 2024)

⁵⁹ Primary Research method: Questionnaire (February 2024)

⁶⁰ Primary Research method: Questionnaire (February 2024)

⁶¹ Primary Research method: Questionnaire (February 2024)

Chapter 3: The pressures on youth to conform to the stereotypes and expectations of society

Society's expectations place pressure on youth to conform to the stereotypes developed over generations of teenagers and young adults, influencing the behaviour, actions and development of young people.

So what are stereotypes? Stereotypes are the groups people are placed into, usually subconsciously, based on characteristics noticeable visually or within a short period of time.⁶² Stereotypes can be based on a range of characteristics, commonly appearance, gender, class, wealth or sexuality. On young minds, stereotypes can impact the way they act around, treat and perceive the people around them. They can also impact aspects of young people's personality, actions and reactions, and how they think, feel and act around peers, family and in society.⁶³ Common stereotypes include things like; 'girls are fragile', 'girls are weak', 'girls are emotional', or on the other side, 'boys are less dramatic', 'boys don't cry', 'boys are strong'.⁶⁴ These stereotypes can damage both self image and self esteem and have negative effects on the psychological aspects of young minds.

Stereotypes play a role in the socialisation process through the development of identity and how children learn to socialise through observation and imitation. Children learn socialisation through the interactions of the people in the environments they frequent, these are commonly family, school and activities. The education of children can differ greatly based on the gender of a child with parents expecting certain characteristics to appear within their children based on their gender and this can impact how they behave.⁶⁵ The encouragement given to children

⁶² 'Effects of Stereotypes on Personal Development' (*Gouvernement du Québec*2015) <<https://www.quebec.ca/en/family-and-support-for-individuals/childhood/child-development/effects-stereotypes-personal-development/definition-stereotypes#c133277>> accessed 12 May 2024.

⁶³ 'Effects of Stereotypes on Personal Development' (*Gouvernement du Québec*2015) accessed 12 May 2024.

⁶⁴ 'Effects of Stereotypes on Personal Development' (*Gouvernement du Québec*2015) accessed 12 May 2024.

⁶⁵ 'Effects of Stereotypes on Personal Development' (*Gouvernement du Québec*2015) accessed 12 May 2024.

on activities they partake in is crucial to their development and shape the child's views on certain activities. This difference in treatment based on the gender of a person is known as “differential socialisation” and can be seen through the encouragement for boys to play sports and girls to take up artistic activities.⁶⁶ Often these behaviours are further encouraged through the roles parents play in the household. Traditional gender roles are often deeply ingrained in family life with women taking on the housework and maternal role while men take on the provider role.⁶⁷ The experiences that children are exposed to and partake in in early childhood impact the way they behave throughout life. A child that is pushed into activities such as sport, often continues with the sport and when exposed for long periods of time, it can become an interest and contribute to their socialisation.

Socialisation is the process of learning to behave in a way that is acceptable to society⁶⁸ and it is a major part of the development process from childhood to adulthood. Socialisation relies on the interactions children have with the people around them and is required to adapt and fit into society. Socialisation goes through many steps that include things such as observation, imagination, motor skills, and good versus bad which all impact adulthood. Socialisation doesn't end at adulthood and changes in society can cause a disruption to the values learned in the socialisation process. Values are what people see as most important in the world and often traits such as honesty, kindness and modesty are considered, as well as ideas such as traditional roles or consistency. Change is often rejected due to clashes with values and ideas and as a result, people reject changes that may benefit them and society in the long run. The interactions that form the socialisation process ingrain ideas and values into children's minds and as such, they grow to form ideas based around what they have learned, resulting in major changes taking generations to progress.

Despite the change that has occurred, rejection still remains, especially around the traditional roles in our society. Sport is no exception to this, with many having opinions and views on the participation of boys in traditionally feminine sports and girls in traditionally masculine sports. Commonly, people find sports that are highly aggressive and high contact such as

⁶⁶ ‘Effects of Stereotypes on Personal Development’ (*Gouvernement du Québec*2015) accessed 12 May 2024.

⁶⁷ ‘Effects of Stereotypes on Personal Development’ (*Gouvernement du Québec*2015) accessed 12 May 2024.

⁶⁸ ‘Oxford Languages and Google - English | Oxford Languages’ (*Oup.com*2020) <<https://languages.oup.com/google-dictionary-en/>> accessed 3 June 2024.

boxing and other fighting sports as unacceptable and uncomfortable for women to participate in and question and ridicule the masculinity of men in feminine sports such as dance. Despite the mass amount of change made to get to a point where women can play these masculine sports and men can play these feminine sports, change is continuous and unending. Society has gone from a point where “netball was all female”⁶⁹ to a point where “now have the men and boys”⁷⁰ within the past couple of decades.

Socialisation factors into the participation of young people in sport with steps such as observation developing interest into activities. Observation and imitation are basic socialisation stages, helping to develop a child's skills and mind. The media representation of sports can help impact this development with many people idolising athletes and their abilities and striving to emulate them and their achievements. The media dictates many perspectives on topics with sport being one and has the power to influence young minds, controlling the position of many athletes in the spotlight. For years, sports has “not been perceived as women's sports”⁷¹ and in the past, the media coverage of women’s sport was not nearly equal to mens. Additionally, betting on sports events has been a common practice and is aimed towards men and mens sport as “more people bet on the male matches. There are less people to watch female sports and to bet on them.”⁷² Media provides a platform for viewers to watch and engage with sporting events, contributing to the socialisation process of many young people.

The traditional roles in society have had a large impact on the perception of activities, behaviours and people with many views stemming from these roles and values. Sport has been a hegemony of male dominance since its beginnings with traits such as aggression, strength, speed and violence being associated with sport. As roles in society changed, new sports developed and women played both these new sports and masculine sports. People have been unaccepting of women's participation in sport for decades and have maintained stereotypes around those that participate in certain sports, especially when they go against societal norms. Criticism is common for people that go against societal norms and in sports this is commonly seen through comments about participants such as questioning sexuality and attributes of the participants. Moreover, society pressures young people into stereotypes

⁶⁹ Primary Research method: Questionnaire (February 2024)

⁷⁰ Primary Research method: Interview (April 2024)

⁷¹ Primary Research method: Questionnaire (February 2024)

⁷² Primary Research method: Questionnaire (February 2024)

and societal norms through these criticisms. Many sports find that the participation of young people fluctuates as they get older and certain ages are harder to retain due to growing pressures and criticisms on participants. Pressures of school and social lives are a main factor in dropping participation for young people. Moreover, uniforms for women and girls are a factor contributing to the dwindling numbers with women's sport uniforms often being short and form fitting, adding to the self consciousness of adolescent participants. "Being expected to wear super short shorts and a short skirt which barely covered me made me feel so exposed but boys were allowed to wear uniforms that they were comfortable in."⁷³ As a result of this self consciousness, many organisations are expanding their uniform range to include more options to improve comfort of participants.

The pressures young people face in order to meet society's expectations is exponential and damaging to participants. The socialisation process is a main factor in interest and participation with many children experiencing sports through participation and observation through both in person and the media. Stereotypes are another damaging factor that separates participants from sports. Stereotypes surrounding sport damage the views of participants and spectators and adds pressure to players around ideas of feminine and masculine sports and expectations, forming an idea that sport is for certain people and only for competition.

⁷³ Primary Research method: Questionnaire (February 2024)

Conclusion

The inequalities between women and men is a major issue facing sport currently that is under considered by many participants and spectators. The disparities between funding, popularity, media coverage and pay between traditionally masculine and traditionally feminine sports are improving as participation has increased.⁷⁴ The progress has taken time and effort from many people to pave the way for further change and continued improvement.⁷⁵ The pressures young people face in sport is another major issue facing sport with fluctuating participation rates, especially around adolescents and young adults⁷⁶, due to pressures to conform to society's stereotypes and expectations.⁷⁷

Sports has faced many challenges in its time, with athletes participating for fun, competition and exercise among other reasons.⁷⁸ Women's sport has faced criticisms over the past 100 or so years as women break into the professional world of sport. Through difficult years, inappropriate comments and unfair conditions, women's sport has prevailed and has grown stronger.⁷⁹ Moreover, the participation of women in traditionally masculine sports and men in traditionally feminine sports has improved over the years with higher participation rates in sports traditionally for the opposing gender.⁸⁰ These athletes have faced many issues around inappropriate comments and questions and criticisms surrounding their sexuality and gendered attributes.⁸¹

⁷⁴ 'Women in Sport' (*Australian Sports Commission*2022)

<<https://www.clearinghouseforsport.gov.au/kb/women-in-sport>> accessed 27 June 2024.

⁷⁵ Primary Research method: Interview (April 2024)

⁷⁶ Primary Research method: Personal Reflection (April 2024)

⁷⁷ Primary Research method: Questionnaire (February 2024)

⁷⁸ Primary Research method: Questionnaire (February 2024)

⁷⁹ 'Women's Football in Australia: The Rise of the Matildas | National Film and Sound Archive of Australia' (*Nfsa.gov.au*2024)

<<https://www.nfsa.gov.au/latest/womens-football-australia-rise-matildas#:~:text=The%20game%20went%20through%20a,round%20for%20the%20first%20time>> accessed 29 June 2024.

⁸⁰ 'Women in Sport' (*Australian Sports Commission*2022)

<<https://www.clearinghouseforsport.gov.au/kb/women-in-sport>> accessed 27 June 2024.

⁸¹ M. Easman, 'Implications for Participation - HSC PDHPE' (*HSC PDHPE*11 July 2022)

<<https://pdhpe.net/sport-and-physical-activity-in-australian-society/what-are-the-relationships-between-sport-and-physical-activity-and-gender/sport-as-a-traditionally-male-domain/implications-for-participation/>> accessed 27 June 2024.

The inequalities between women and men have continued to prevail despite the changes made to sport in areas such as pay, media coverage and popularity. Sport has improved upon the inequalities within the last 100 years greatly but major differences still remain, causing issues that are difficult to change due to the comfortability and preference of tradition.⁸² Additionally, funding in all levels of sports is an issue that has remained strong for a long time, limiting the use and development of facilities and resulting in many sporting organisations having to pay for all equipment and facilities. Funding is often an issue with some organisations receiving more funding and some having an easier time requesting and receiving facilities and developments.⁸³ Finally, the pressure on young people, especially adolescents and young adults, to conform to societal expectations and stereotypes has resulted in decreasing numbers of participants.⁸⁴

Throughout this project, I have learnt a large amount of information on the inequalities facing sport and the unfair treatment of many participants currently and in the past, as well as on the processes of collecting information. The formation of questions within my questionnaire had to remain formal, unbiased and remain ethical. The questionnaire was useful in collecting a wide range of both qualitative and quantitative data and results both supported my research and contradicted it. The results also provided insight into the amount of unrecognised bias within sport as responses included statements about no bias being present due to it being an all boys or girls competition. This questionnaire allowed answers to be collected from across my meso and macro environment as I shared the survey to friends and family as well as to Facebook, resulting in a wide range of responses from different backgrounds and experiences.

⁸² E. Salley, 'Should Female Tennis Players Contest Five Sets at Grand Slams?' (*GiveMeSport* 5 May 2021)

<<https://www.givemesport.com/should-female-tennis-players-contest-five-sets-at-grand-slams/#:~:text=The%20best%2Dof%2Dthree%20format,have%20been%20against%20the%20idea.>> accessed 29 July 2024.

⁸³ Primary Research method: Interview (April 2024)

⁸⁴ Primary Research method: Questionnaire (February 2024)

Annotated Reference List

Primary Research

Questionnaire

Questionnaire on the gender inequalities faced by participants in sport, linked below for marker access.

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeEbToBO9HcHLq2sBmkcQMG-7YIyfc8HyW5QinXVg8DL33CcA/viewform?usp=sharing>

The aim of my questionnaire was to gather information from a range of people on their experiences in and perspective of sport. Questions produced responses on the experiences people had with gender bias in sport and their knowledge on the biases facing sports in the past and currently. A questionnaire provided a cross cultural comparison between women and men with a sub comparison of generations and the continuities and changes in sport over time. A link was sent out to peers through messages as well as posts on my social media including Instagram and Facebook. This included the 2024 Society and Culture Facebook page. My parents also sent my questionnaire out to their peers and posted it on Facebook to ensure a wide range of responses. My questionnaire reached many people with a wide range of backgrounds, geographical locations and generations, providing responses that are unbiased alongside personal experiences to use in the PIP. Graphs and tables were generated through Google Forms automatically and a spreadsheet was created with results, making comparison and analysis easily accessible for effective use in my PIP.

Interview with Ruth Havrlandt (Name used with permission)

Ruth Havrlandt is a well known and well accomplished figure in netball, being a board member of Netball New South Wales (NNSW), AANA B badged umpire along with many other positions she has held in her over three decades of experience in netball. I decided to conduct this interview with someone who is knowledgeable on the issues surrounding netball and who is involved in high levels of netball to gain a better understanding of the structure of netball organisations and the behind the scenes work. The questions focused on the continuities and changes in netball over Ruth's time in the sport, focusing on the issues facing netball in the past and currently and how they have developed. She agreed that there are major inequalities between sports and women and men in these sports, bringing up the issues of diversity and funding mostly.

Personal Reflection

My personal reflection covered my experiences with netball with over a decade of participation in a multitude of aspects of the netball community. I decided to conduct a personal reflection due to my experiences in and around the sport for most of my life, playing for over a decade, spectating for longer, umpiring for six years and coaching for a couple of years as well. These experiences have allowed me to gain insight into the bias and dynamics around the sport at a local level. This reflection focused on my observations and experiences over the course of my participation. It also allowed me to express the impact sport has had on the formation of identity and socialisation of myself and the people around me.

Secondary Research

Cambridge Dictionary, 'Inequality' (@CambridgeWords24 July 2024)
<<https://dictionary.cambridge.org/us/dictionary/english/inequality>> accessed 27 July 2024

This source is from the Cambridge Dictionary and provides a definition of inequality used to aid in the explanation of the inequalities facing sport.

Cambridge Dictionary, 'Sport' (@CambridgeWords24 July 2024)
<<https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/sport>> accessed 29 July 2024

This source is from the Cambridge Dictionary and provides a definition of sport, aiding in the explanation of what sport is and how it impacts society.

Coakley J, 'Sport in Society. Issues & Controversies' (2009) 9th Edition Sport in Society. Issues & Controversies

In this article, an introduction to the sociology of sport is provided, critically exploring the relationship between culture, society and sport. It aims to identify issues in sport and help to identify personal experiences. This article is referenced in 'Gender Stereotyping and the Influence of Race in Sport Among Adolescents' and the article found that feminist theories illuminate the intersection of gender and race ideologies but lack theories on the intersection with sport.

This article is useful in my PIP as it supports the idea of 'acceptable' and 'unacceptable' sports based on gender and explores the sociological issues around sports. This article aims to inform and cover as many aspects of these issues as possible to ensure a wide understanding and create a full picture of the issues facing sport.

'Current World Rankings - World Netball' (World Netball 25 July 2024)
<<https://netball.sport/events-and-results/world-rankings-hub/current-world-rankings/>>
accessed 29 July 2024

This website, from World Netball, provides the current world ranking of netball. I have used this website to state the current ranking of Australia as first in the world to support my initial interest in this topic on the inequalities between genders in sport.

Easman M, 'Implications for Participation - HSC PDHPE' (HSC PDHPE 11 July 2022)
<<https://pdhpe.net/sport-and-physical-activity-in-australian-society/what-are-the-relationships-between-sport-and-physical-activity-and-gender/sport-as-a-traditionally-male-domain/implications-for-participation/>> accessed 27 June 2024

This website provides a short summary of key reasons for splits between genders in sports and the challenging nature of women's competitions in traditionally masculine sports. The article is short and needs more detail on this perspective. The article has a more physical perspective along with the psychological stereotypes of men and women. This short article provided a new perspective that prompts the continued research into the physical differences and the consideration around physical differences between genders in sports.

'Effects of Stereotypes on Personal Development' (Gouvernement du Québec 2015)
<<https://www.quebec.ca/en/family-and-support-for-individuals/childhood/child-development/effects-stereotypes-personal-development/definition-stereotypes#c133277>> accessed 12 May 2024

This website is about the effects of stereotypes on development and provides information on the impact of stereotypes on development. It explores the effects on childhood development, education, bias and examples of stereotypes. This article raises issues such as preferential treatment that impacts education and attention from a young age, the impact of gender roles on the socialisation process, and attributes associated with genders due to stereotypes and pressure stemming from traditional gender roles.

This article is useful in my PIP as it provides a definition, examples and explanation of stereotypes, their impact on childhood development and their impact on the formation of identity. It stated common stereotypes that remain in society today and insight into the impact of stereotypes and explored the socialisation process and the impact gender can have on this process due to society's pressures to conform.

Engel A. 'II. Sex Roles and Gender Stereotyping in Young Women's Participation in Sport - Anna Engel, 1994' (Feminism & Psychology 2016)
<<https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/0959353594043016>> accessed 29 July 2024

This article explores the traditional gender roles pushed onto sport and the effects on socialisation, impacting people's perception of sport. It discusses the incompatibility between sport and femininity and the impact on girls at adolescence due to the strengthening connection between young girls and femininity. This article was referenced in 'Gender Stereotyping and the Influence of Race in Sport Among Adolescents' and the article supported the findings of other articles around the accessibility of sport influenced by gender and the acceptableness of sports based on gender preferences and stereotypes.

This article was useful in my PIP as it supported other sources of research, allowing me to further cement the validity of my research along with supporting the idea of conflict between young girls and sport as they reach adolescence.

Foxtel, 'The State of Women's Sports Broadcast' (Foxtel 2023)

This report provided data from Foxtel, one of the leading sports media companies. It provided data and statistics from 2023 on the views and opinions of spectators of professional sports and insight into sports in the media.

This report was useful in my PIP as it provided information on the branding, sponsorship and viewership of women's sport. This was used in my PIP to provide statistics on media and viewership of women's sport.

Hannon J and others, 'Gender Stereotyping and the Influence of Race in Sport among Adolescents' (2009) 80 Research quarterly for exercise and sport <<https://www.proquest.com/docview/218505584?accountid=13902&parentSessionId=1QFXkHLW8A97488ZoRspDNiqcATzmdhHsshyFLJLp4E%3D&pq-origsite=primo&sourcetype=Scholarly%20Journals>> accessed 27 October 2023

This journal article examines the impact of gender on socialisation in sport. It provides insight and ideas on the expectations and pressures in society and the influence of gender in the classification of sporting activities as feminine or masculine. This article explores the 'gender appropriateness' of different sports and how adolescents view sports due to this perceived appropriateness.

This article was useful in the understanding of stereotypes and their impacts on young people and the notions of femininity and masculinity in sporting environments. This article will be used in my central material to compare the impacts of sport on childhood socialisation and the formation of identity.

'HART SENIOR STATE TITLES' (Netball NSW13 June 2024)
<<https://nsw.netball.com.au/hart-senior-state-titles-0>> accessed 29 July 2024

This website provided data on the 2024 Senior State Titles in NSW, cementing mens netball as a growing sport that is found within competitions. It showcases the diverse competitions available in NSW.

'Gender Stereotypes and Adolescence - NHS Sexual Health Tayside' (NHS Sexual Health Tayside13 December 2019)
<<https://www.sexualhealthtayside.org/lessons/gender-stereotypes-and-adolescence/#:~:text=Gender%20stereotypes%20can%20restrict%20young,%E2%80%9CBoys%20don%27t%20cr y%E2%80%9D>> accessed 27 October 2023

This article examines the impact of stereotypes on adolescents. The main ideas expressed here are that adolescents are negatively impacted by stereotypes in a time of experimentation and development of identity. This article is useful as a base for the whole task as stereotypes and society's views are a huge factor in young peoples development and decision making. Adolescence is also a time where identity is formed and the decisions made in this time impact the future, whether the habits are continued, impact decision making in the future or are avoided later.

Liston K, 'Honour and Shame in Women's Sports' [2021] 7 Studies in arts and humanities 5 <https://collection.sl.nsw.gov.au/record/TN_cdi_doaj_primary_oai_doaj_org_article_240f3c15432b4bbdb153c889f3545648> accessed 27 October 2023

This article examines the shame and honour found in women's sport in history and today. This article explores the stories that have been neglected to be shared in women's history, studies and commentaries. The study explores the history of sports and women such as Maeve Kyle and Mary Peters and the shame female athletes in history have been faced with as a result of societal norms and opinions. It explores the expectations and discriminatory actions taken by institutions in the sporting world and the societal norms that led to the disrespect and shame facing female athletes of history. This research article was found on the NSW State Library website, written by Dr. Katie Liston, a social scientist and former elite athlete. This text has provided ideas and insight into the history that needs to be explored further. This article is relevant to my research topic on sports in the media and sub-points on the history of sport.

This study on shame and honour in women's sport by Katie Liston explores women's sport in Ireland from the 18th century to modern day. It explores the stories that have been neglected to be shared in women's history, studies and commentaries. The study explores the history of sports and women such as Maeve Kyle and Mary and the shame female athletes in history have been faced with as a result of societal norms and opinions. It explores the expectations and discriminatory actions taken by institutions in the sporting world and the societal norms that led to the disrespect and shame facing female athletes of history.

Maurice M, 'Overcoming Current Challenges in Women's Sport Will Pave Way for Future Nostalgia' (the Guardian 2 April 2020)
<<https://www.theguardian.com/sport/2020/apr/03/overcoming-current-challenges-in-womens-sport-will-pave-way-for-future-nostalgia>> accessed 26 November 2023

This article reflects on the impact of women's sport in the media and the challenges it faces. Media institutions play a key role in the popularity of sports with largely popular sports and a largely male dominated sports industry results in a difficult time for women's leagues and sports as the fight for appropriate and equal screen time is competitive and dominated by male sports. Timing of sports seasons also plays a large role in the screen time and popularity of sports as women's sports that are played in mens off and quiet seasons face less consequences. However, the visibility of elite women's sports is increasing numbers at the grass roots.

'Men in Sport' (Australian Sports Commission 2022)
<<https://www.clearinghouseforsport.gov.au/kb/men-in-sport>> accessed 27 June 2024

This website provided statistics on the most popular sports among different age groups of men, supporting the participation and popularity of sports in different age groups and genders. This allowed the comparison of netball and soccer between age groups and genders to support the issue of popularity in sport equality within my PIP.

'Netball Climbs Participation Rankings' (Netball Australia 17 May 2023)
<<https://netball.com.au/news/netball-climbs-participation-rankings>> accessed 26 June 2024

This website by Netball Australia provides information and statistics on the participation of both men and women in netball at grassroots level and the change in participation rates over a number of years. It provides statistics to support the discussion on the popularity of netball, supporting the discussion on the inequalities of genders in traditionally gendered sports.

'Oxford Languages and Google - English | Oxford Languages' (Oup.com2020)
<<https://languages.oup.com/google-dictionary-en/>> accessed 3 June 2024

This website provided a definition of socialisation to build upon in the discussion of the socialisation process in my PIP.

Salley E, 'Should Female Tennis Players Contest Five Sets at Grand Slams?' (GiveMeSport5 May 2021)
<[This article focused on the Grand Slam and the gender inequalities found within this and similar events with the role of tradition taking away from progress. It discusses the refusal and resistance of change due to strong roots in traditions for the structure of play with women playing three sets while men play five. It examines the origins of the tradition and the history of this inequality.](https://www.givemesport.com/should-female-tennis-players-contest-five-sets-at-grand-slam-s/#:~:text=The%20best%2Dof%2Dthree%20format,have%20been%20against%20the%20idea.> accessed 29 July 2024</u></p></div><div data-bbox=)

This article is useful in my PIP due to the relevant examples and well known inequality. It allowed for an examination of tradition in sport and the resistance to both continuity and change from participants, event organisers and spectators.

Schmalz D. and Kerstetter D, 'Girlie Girls and Manly Men: Children's Stigma Consciousness of Gender in Sports and Physical Activities' (ResearchGate19 August 2006)
<https://www.researchgate.net/publication/255597284_Girlie_Girls_and_Manly_Men_Children's_Stigma_Consciousness_of_Gender_in_Sports_and_Physical_Activities> accessed 29 July 2024

This article explores sport as a leisure activity and the role of gender rules in society in the participation of sports. It discusses the acceptability of sports within society and the behaviours and attitudes expected from people based on their gender. This article was

referenced in ‘Gender Stereotyping and the Influence of Race in Sport Among Adolescents’ and explored the participation of women in traditionally masculine sports and men in traditionally feminine sports.

This article is useful in my PIP as it supports and connects the findings of other research on the same topic and supports the idea of appropriateness of sports, adding to the discussion on the impact of societal views on the socialisation process.

‘The Challenges Remain: A “New” View of Old Perspectives on the History of Women’s Football in Australia - ProQuest’ [2018] Proquest.com <<https://www.proquest.com/docview/2097443357?accountid=13902&parentSessionId=WWxUa5nBWSTIZwdYhb11E83w1gIERDc1zqGRNNGXZuk%3D&pq-origsite=primo&source=pe=Scholarly%20Journals>> accessed 29 July 2024

This article explores the origins of women’s soccer in Australia and its history in the country. It explores the organised games in the early 1900s and the possibility of its origins in Australia beginning in mining towns with European migrant workers in the mining industry and how this has impacted the experiences of female soccer players.

This article is useful in my PIP as it provides evidence for the beginning of soccer in Australia and the introduction of the sport to the country.

Victoria State Government, ‘The Conversation of Sport: Representation of Women in Sports News Coverage’ (Change Our Game2023) <<https://changeourgame.vic.gov.au/leadership-centre/the-conversation-of-sport-are-women-visible-in-sports-news-coverage/The-Conversation-of-Sport-Representation-of-Women-in-Sports-News-Coverage-2022-23-OWSR,-2024.pdf>> accessed 17 May 2024

This report provides statistics, analysis and information on the representation of women’s sport in the media. It was useful in the comparison of media coverage between men and women, providing statistics to support the discussion on the inequalities in media coverage of sport and the representation of women within the media.

‘Women in Sport’ (Australian Sports Commission2022)
<<https://www.clearinghouseforsport.gov.au/kb/women-in-sport>> accessed 27 June 2024

This website provided statistics on the most popular sports among different age groups of women, supporting the participation and popularity of sports in different age groups and genders. This allowed the comparison of netball and soccer between age groups and genders to support the issue of popularity in sport equality within my PIP.

‘Women’s Football in Australia: The Rise of the Matildas | National Film and Sound Archive of Australia’ (Nfsa.gov.au2024)
<<https://www.nfsa.gov.au/latest/womens-football-australia-rise-matildas#:~:text=The%20game%20went%20through%20a,round%20for%20the%20first%20time>> accessed 29 June 2024

This article by the National Film and Sound Archive of Australia examined the history of soccer in Australia. It provided video on the first official game of women’s soccer in Australia in 1939 where the inequality between men and women in sport is made abundantly clear through derogatory and inappropriate comments.

This article was useful in my PIP as it provided information on the history of women’s soccer and aided in the comparison of soccer over time. It provided insight on the experiences of female athletes in the 1900s and the progress made since.