**„Chicking all the guys“ – a narrative interview study about a lifetime outperforming gender stereotypes in sport**

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This paper is interested in individual narratives and phenomenology. I’m implementing a narrative interview with a 72 year old female[[1]](#footnote-1) recreational athlete about the role sport and sporting performance has been playing in her life. The aim of this paper is to answer the question, how the research subject is making sense out of her athletic achievements, especially in regards to gendered narratives of sport and the own sexed embodiment of physical ability. For my theoretical starting point regarding this aim, I assume, that female athletes are monitored, controlled and hence kept within limits that accord with a social notion of what the bodies of individuals classified as women should be able to do. In this paper, I however suggest, that also women themselves partake in the normalization of gendered athletic ability, which can be seen as a form of governmentality (Foucault). Accordingly it is mainly also technologies of the self that are implemented and furthermore embodied by the subjects to reinstall normalcy. When women thus show extraordinary athletic performance, like e.g. the outperformance of men, I assume that they negotiate these and their subjectivities in relation to western notions of femininity as well as their conception of themselves as *normal* women with *normal* female bodies.

Dworkin, S. L., Cooky, C. (2012). Sport, Sex Segregation, and Sex Testing: Critical Reflections of This Unjust Marriage. *The American Journal of Bioethics*, 12(7), 21-23.

1. This paper refers to cis-women and since it is discussing the life reality of an Austrian white cis-woman it furthermore contextualises this cis-femininity as a western, white one. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)