

## **Challenges in History, Presence, and Future of Feminist and Queer Sport**

### Objectives:

The aim of my presentation will be to give an overview over the chances and challenges that feminist and queer sport organisations are facing from a historical as well as a contemporary perspective.

### Methods:

Data was collected by historical field documents written in and about the Western feminist sport movement from the 1980s on. Moreover, I did ethnographical field work, including participating observations and interviews, in contemporary feminist and queer sport clubs for my dissertation (Schmechel 2022). The presentation will also include some observations from my long-standing engagement as a trainer in feminist and queer sport culture.

### Findings:

The presentation will present relevant findings about the following points:

- a) While in the 1980ies it seemed to be obvious the feminist sport is offered by women and for women only, developments in feminist theory and practice challenge this simple sex/gender binary.
- b) Also differences in ethical and religious backgrounds of the participants have shown to be potentially challenging in the praxis of queer-feminist sports organisations.
- c) Empirical research has also shown that there are exclusions happening based on physical dis\_ability.

### Discussion:

Based on this finding I will discuss the intersectional chances and challenges of feminist and queer sport culture.

### Conclusion:

The findings show that there is still solidaric but critical discussion and reflection necessary, to make feminist and queer sport places even more inclusive.

### Mentioned Literature:

Schmechel, Corinna (2022): Auspowern und Empowern? Eine Ethnografie queerer Fitnesskultur. Bielefeld: Transcript.