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Bodies in water: Embodiment, social worlds, and fluid motion in competitive age-group swim clubs

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This thesis undertakes an anthropological examination of the everyday sports of boys and girls who belong to swim clubs in the Lower Mainland of British Columbia. Specifically, it considers how the social worlds of swimmers can be understood in terms of forms of community and the ways in which and swim clubs represent moral and embodied forms of knowledge. It examines how boys and girls come to understand and use their bodies in the water, how, through the processes of training and play, they come to acquire embodied forms of knowledge's of swimming and motion in the water. Finally, it argues that by coming together and yet competing separately, boys and girls experience gender as a salient marker amongst and between young athletes enrolled in swim clubs.

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