Feminism and sporting bodies: essays on theory and practice.

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Abstract: The publication examines the history, current trends and future relations in sport. It traces the author's 30-year journey across the feminist liberal, radical, Marxist and socialist feminism to more recent trends in contemporary cultural theory in sport. It focuses on the debates over these positions with illustrating their relevance to sport and physical education. The book comprises six chapters. Chapter one recounts personal experiences over 30 years in the
understand and apply feminist theory. Chapter two describes how earlier discourses of women and sport moved away from biological and categorized explanations; much of this research is of little practical use. It is now more appropriate to speak of gender relations in sport. Chapters three and four review the scholarship within cultural studies as it is applied to sport; chapter three examines the need for history, sexual difference and masculinity, while chapter four focuses on the cultural criticism surrounding the body. Chapter five then examines the notion of research and how that research can be applied to the sociocultural study of women. Chapter six argues that sport is a political site, specifically a location for the resistance and transformation of gender relations.

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