Netball in Australia

Why does it matter?

- Netball is the most popular team sport for women and girls in Australia
- Netball has a unique history as one of the few sports that has been historically dominated by women
- Netball has cultural significance in Australia, from the "Football and Netball Clubs" around the country to popular figures like "Sharon Strzelecki" in *Kath & Kim*
- There is an absence of critical and academic attention on netball



What's missing?

Femininity

There is an opportunity to explore the relationship between sport and femininity. Netball, a historically feminine sport, complicates the narrative of sport being a masculine space.

Intersectionality

The limited analysis that has been done on femininity in netball has not considered intersectional aspects of identity, such as race, ethnicity, gender and sexual orientation.

The voices of netballers

To look at femininity through an intersectional lens it is important to hear from diverse netballers who have not had the chance to share their experiences of netball.



What's next?

Recognising the importance of studying netball in Australia and noting the parts of netball that have not been explored to date, in this project I will be addressing the following two key research questions:

- How has femininity been understood, defined and constructed within netball in Australia?
- What are some of the impacts of these constructions?

Method



Historical analysis of femininity in netball



Media representation of netball



In-depth interviews with my netball peers

Potential Impact





