

CASE STUDY

Gender and hockey

The identity attributed to us by the participants may make some settings and cultures particularly inaccessible. Read this ethnographic account drawn from research on a group of minor-league hockey players:

The Rockets were extremely sexist, and I was tired of the continuous 'homosocial bonding process' (see Brod, 1987) that always occurred. The players would talk 'pussy talk' incessantly and would categorize women as 'pigs,' 'star-fuckers,' 'team girls,' 'blow jobs' and 'bimbos.' The Rockets were also preoccupied with what Brod (1987: 8) has labelled *homosociality*, homosexual behaviour without status. They delighted in displaying their genitalia . . . (Gallmeier, 1983: 403).

Now ask yourself: could a female ethnographer have carried out research in this homosocial culture?