Committing Public Sociology:
Blogging Bodies, Marginalization and Violence

Jason Garcia & Nadia Sosa Machin
Bodies that Matter

- Individual study “Bodies, Marginalization, and Violence”
- Intersectional feminist and postcolonial theories
- Blogging - committing to public Sociology
What is Public Sociology?

- A subfield of Sociology, which serves to engage with non-academic audiences (A.K.A. the public).

- “Public sociology engages publics beyond the academy in dialogue about matters of political and moral concern” (Burawoy, 2004, p.5).

- Interplay of reflexive knowledge
The Process
(aka the Methods)
Creating Our Blogs

- Selecting our host site: Wordpress
- Maintaining Anonymity
- Naming our blogs
  
  Jason:  
  Nadia: 

emBody Sociology  
  Simply Sociology
Blog Topics

- Docile Bodies
- Bodies that Matter
- Race/Place
- Disposable Bodies
- Pride and Exile
- Fatness and Governmentality
- Imperialism and Democracy

- Events in the news
- Case studies
- Personal Experiences
- Government Law and Policy
Resources For Inspiration

Drew Inspiration from

- Previous courses
- Widely known academic blogs
- Popular feminist blogs

Our blogs became additional resources of reflexive knowledge
Our Audience

Gaining an audience:
- Social media
- Tagging Blog Posts

Engaging the Audience:
- Blog As A Tool To Validate Our Voices
- Talking About Contemporary Issues
THE

PEDAGOGICAL

GAINS

(aka Our Discoveries)
Self Reflexivity

Not Being The Authoritative Voice

- Not speaking on behalf of anyone
- Our experiences are not THE sole experience

Starting A Conversation, Rather Than Providing Solutions

- We’re still learners
- We’re still privileged
Approachability & Authenticity

Making Our Writing Accessible
- ‘Unlearning’ academic writing
- Shifting tones

Establishing Our Voice
- Engaging an actual conversation
- Putting ourselves in our writing
**Feedback & Impact**

- **Audience engagement**
  - Facebook comments
  - Instructors and colleagues

- **Wordpress Stats:**

  **Jason**
  
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Going Forward

- Carrying our blogs forward: Yes or no?

- Impact of our blogging was greater than any paper we’ve ever written.

- We are proud of our work.
Thank You