



RESEARCH SEMINAR 13.00 HOURS HUXLEY 406 9TH NOVEMBER 2016

Appropriating our lives. Collective LGBTIQ+ Life Stories as a Methodology for Social Transformation in School Spaces *Dr Andrea Francisco Amat—Universitat Jaume*

Abstract: The seminar will focus on sharing the research project *Appropriating Our Lives*. The project's main objective is to build life stories with the LGBTIQ+ community (Lesbians, Gays, Trans, Bisexuals, Intersex and Queers) and critically analyse how the heteronormativity system has crossed our lives, bodies, desires and experiences. We run workshops to facilitate this where, collectively, we elaborate life stories. During these we seek to build an area of security, trust and intimacy that allows us to rethink our lives with others and to point out the barriers of exclusion and strategies for transformation. Moreover, the project seeks to make visible practices outside of the discourses produced by the patriarchal and heteronormative system. These stories, therefore, serve as part of an educational material to work on sexual diversity with young people in school spaces. Research shows that it is important to remember that sex education is rarely taken into account in schools and sexual diversity education taught to students is often virtually non-existent in the different educational stages. Whilst studies and statistics show that one of the reasons that leads people to be bullied or bullying is homophobia or transphobia. The seminar, through *Appropriating Our Lives project*, will address life stories as research methodology as well as an educational tool to work sexual diversity with teenagers in school spaces.



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