



# Gender in Leisure: The academic context

- Leisure spaces as an arena for gender performance
- The bodies' relationship to objects in the physical environment (re)creates masculinity and femininity
- Gender performance in public space becomes a cultural survival strategy within a compelling system that regularly punishes those who do not perform their gender correctly (Butler, 1993 cited in Book & Högdahl 2022)

# Men and boys in leisure space

## Territoriality and social order

- Interests of young men set the agenda for what, when and how things should be done (Book & Högdahl 2022)

## Edgework, risk and masculinities

- Edgeworkers negotiate edges or boundaries 'between sanity and insanity, consciousness and unconsciousness, and ... life and death' (Lyng, 2005)
- Risk taking as a part of (white, male, able bodied) masculinity

## Fear and exclusion

- Young people are considered a 'polluting' presence in their use of public spaces (O'Connor et al., 2023)
- Young black men feel highly visible and intensely surveyed in their use of coastal blue spaces (Phoenix et al ,2021)
- Older men fear intimidation by young men in blue spaces (Pitt, 2019)

# Blue spaces: The academic context

- Community resources for supporting health and wellbeing
- sites of risk, exclusive practices, and environmental degradation

