



Peter Harrison Centre
for Disability Sport

Staff Profile

Brett Smith

Lecturer in Research Methods at the School of Sport, Exercise and Health Sciences at Loughborough University

Contact Details:

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Qualifications:

Ph.D. entitled 'Men, sport, spinal cord injury and the self: A narrative analysis' from University of Exeter, 2003.

MSc in Sport and Exercise Psychology (with distinction) from the University of Exeter, 2006.

BA (with Honours) in Social Sciences from Leeds University, 1995.

Current Research Interests:

Brett's theoretical and empirical research interests concern the psycho-social dimensions of disability, health, and well-being; the development of qualitative research methods and methodologies; and narrative inquiry. He has several on-going national and international collaborations that focus on disability, which include work with Dr's Barbara Gibson, Robert Mundle, and Jim Huth at the Toronto Rehabilitation Centre, Canada, Dr Nikos Chatzisarantis at the National Institute of Education, Singapore, and Helen Smith at Stanmore Hospital, and Professor Paul Kennedy at Oxford University and Stoke Mandeville Hospital.

Previous Research & Experience:

Brett has been honoured to explore men's experiences of suffering a spinal cord injury through playing sport and their embodied stories of disability. This work has been disseminated through numerous publications, keynote presentations at international conferences, and presentations at both national and international spinal cord injury centres.

Selected External Research-Related Roles and Research Collaborations:

- Editor: *Qualitative Research in Sport and Exercise* (published by Routledge).
- Associate editor: Psychology of Sport and Exercise
- Editorial board member of: European Federation of Adapted Physical Activity; The Open Rehabilitation Journal; Asian Journal of Educational Research and Synergy.

- Regular external reviewer for over 20 journals, including Medical Humanities; Qualitative Research; Sociology of Health and Illness; Health: an interdisciplinary journal for the social study of health, illness and medicine; and Qualitative Research in Psychology.
- Honorary Research Associate of the Centre for Interdisciplinary Research on Narrative (CIRN). St. Thomas University, Canada.
- PhD External examiner

Research areas from the funded work to date:

Understanding the well-being of spinal cord injured patients who are isolated as a result of pressure ulcers.

Peoples' experiences of physical activity and their embodied stories of health: A narrative analysis.

Selected Recent Publications

Refereed Journal Articles

Smith, B. & Sparkes, A. (in-press). Multiple responses to a chaos narrative. *Health: An Interdisciplinary Journal for the Social Study of Health, Illness and Medicine*.

Smith, B. (in press). Narrative inquiry: Ongoing conversations and questions for sport psychology research. *International Review of Sport Psychology*.

Sparkes, A. & Smith, B. (2009). Judging the quality of qualitative inquiry: Criteriology and relativism in action. *Psychology of Sport and Exercise*, 10, 491-497.

Smith, B. (2008). Imagining being disabled through playing sport: The body and alterity as limits to imagining others lives. *Sport, Ethics and Philosophy*, 2(2), 142-157.

Smith, B. (2008). Spinal cord injury, the body, and narratives of recovery in mental distress. *SCI PsychoSocial Process*, 20(2), 18-30.

Smith, B. & Sparkes, A. C. (2008). Changing bodies, changing narratives and the consequences of tellability: A case study of becoming disabled through sport. *Sociology of Health and Illness*, 30(2), 217-236.

Book Chapters

Smith, B. & Sparkes, A. (2010). Making sense of words and stories. Some strategies for consideration. In G. Tenenbaum, R. Eklund, & A Kamata (Eds). *Handbook of Measurement in Sport and Exercise Psychology*. Human Kinetics.

Smith, B. & Pérez-Samaniego, V. (2009). Coping, performance, and anxiety: Some thoughts on research methods. In *Handbook of Sport Psychology*. Nova Science Press.

Smith, B. & Sparkes, A. (2009). The narrative turn in sport and exercise psychology. In Ryba, T., Schinke, R., & Tenenbaum, G. (Eds.), *The*

cultural turn in sport and exercise psychology (pp. 75-100). Fitness Information Technology.

Sparkes, A. C. & Smith, B. (2008). Narrative Constructionist Inquiry. In J. Holstein & J. Gubrium (Eds), *Handbook of Constructionist Research* (pp. 295-314). London: Guilford Publications.

Selected Invited Conference Keynote and Speaker Presentations:

Smith, B. (2009). Qualitative research and the possibilities of bringing health psychology to society. Invited keynote speaker at The British Psychological Society London Lectures.

Smith, B. (2009). When bodies need narratives: Possibilities of narrative for treating injured and impaired bodies. Invited speaker at British Association of Sport Rehabilitators and Trainers (BASRaT) Annual Conference.

Smith, B. (2009). Sport and disability: Exploring the conceptual terrain. Invited paper presented at International Society of Sport Psychology (ISSP) conference, Morocco.

Smith, B. (2009). Narratives of care: The case of spinal cord injury and psycho-social social dimensions of health. Invited speaker at Toronto Rehabilitation Centre, Canada.

Smith, B. (2009). Exploring qualitative research. Invited speaker at University of Coimbra, Portugal.

Smith, B. (2008). Spinal cord injury, men, and storytelling bodies: An ethnographic creative non-fiction. Invited speaker at the British Psychological Society (BPS) Inaugural Qualitative Research Conference, Leeds, UK.

A fuller publications list can be viewed on the Loughborough University Publications Database.

