

https://dspace.org/

A Qualitative Exploration of the Psychological Meaning of Body Piercing in Women.

Hunt, Justine

2007-02-26T11:10:06Z
http://hdl.handle.net/10539/2120

Downloaded from a DSpace repository. https://dspace.org/

Click Here & Upgrade
Expanded Features
Unlimited Pages
PDF Complete Documents

A Qualitative Exploration of the Psychological Meaning of Body Piercing in Women.

by

Justine Hunt

A RESEARCH REPORT SUBMITTED TO THE FACULTY OF ARTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WITWATERSRAND, IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE MASTERS DEGREE IN CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY, JOHANNESBURG, 2006.

Click Here & Upgrade
Expanded Features
Unlimited Pages
PDF Complete Documents

I hereby declare that this research report is my own work and has not been submitted to any other university for the purposes of any other degree.

_____

J. Hunt - June 2006

Click Here & Upgrade
Expanded Features
Unlimited Pages
PDF Complete Documents

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I wish to express my sincere thanks to the following people:

My supervisor Dr Gavin Ivey for his support, advice and guidance.

The participants of this research for their time, willingness and co-operation.

Click Here & Upgrade
Expanded Features
Unlimited Pages
PDF Complete Documents

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction 1

Chapter One – Literature Review: Body Modification and the Modern Primitive 5

History 5

Definitions 6

Identity, Body Image and the Self Concept 9

Expanded Consciousness and Altered States of Being 13

Pain and Sadomasochism 15

The Pathology and Pathologizing of Body Modification 18

Feminist Perspectives on Body Modification 21

Psychodynamic Explanations for Body Modification 26

Chapter Summary 30

Chapter Two – Research Methodology 33

Introduction 33

Participants 34

Collection of Data 35

Analysis of the Data 40

Chapter Three – Results and Discussion in Relation to the Literature 43

Theme One: Concepts of Femininity, Beauty and Womanhood 43

Theme Two: Strength 50

Click Here & Upgrade
Expanded Features
Unlimited Pages
PDF Complete Documents

Theme Three: Issues Around Conforming And Feeling Different From Others 60

Theme Four: Body Image 71

- Physical Discontent 71

- Integration of the Piercing into the Self 75

Theme Five: Sexuality 79

Theme Six: Pain 81

Theme Seven: Altered States of Consciousness 88

Theme Eight: Interpersonal Relationships 91

- Parental Relationships 91

- Other Significant Relationships 95

Summary and Discussion 97

Conclusion and Suggestions for Further Research 103

Appendix 105

Interview- Kerryn 105

Interview- Anna 121

Interview- Tanya 131

Interview- Samantha 144

Interview – Rebecca 153

References 161