

Sport, Space and Memory: Extending the Sociology of Sport

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Abstract

These reflections relate directly to the current status of the sociology of sport in the UK and, to some extent, in North America but they also have more general relevance. As a sub-discipline of both mainstream sociology and of the sport and exercise sciences, the sociology of sport faces three major challenges – (i) the emergent hegemonic position of the natural sciences in sport science departments, (ii) the relationship between the sociology of sport and sociologies of the body and of health, and (iii) the marginal position of the sociology of sport in relation to mainstream sociology. Having briefly commented on the first two challenges, this paper concentrates primarily on the relationship between the sociology of sport and mainstream sociology and argues that the former has become unimaginative, dominated as it is by two or three dominant perspectives, and that what is needed is a greater willingness to learn from other areas of sociological inquiry (for example, the sociology of memory) and from other disciplines (most notably human geography's conceptualisation of space). The paper concludes with some suggestions as to how specifically the sociology of sport might be extended.

Key words: Memory, Space, Sociology of Sport

運動、空間和記憶： 運動社會學的延伸

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摘要

本文直接涉及對於英國運動社會學現況的反省，就某種程度而言，也與北美的發展現況相關聯。由於主流社會學與運動科學在整個科學場域裡都是一項次學科，這讓運動社會學面臨了三項主要的挑戰，分別是：(1)運動科學知識領域內自然科學逐漸興起的霸權位置；(2)運動社會學和身體社會學及健康社會學之間的關係；(3)相較於主流社會學而言，運動社會學所處的邊緣位置。本文簡要地評論前兩項挑戰，首先，聚焦於運動社會學和主流社會學之間的關係，進一步說明前者已變得缺乏想像力，且被兩種較具優勢的研究視野所支配，而且需要擁有強大的意願從不同的社會學研究領域（例如記憶社會學）及不同學科（特別是人文地理學的空間概念）中學習新的視野。最後，本篇報告將提出若干建議，具體地說明運動社會學應當如何延伸，繼而創造新的研究議題與視野。

關鍵詞：記憶、空間、運動社會學