

1. Género, feminismos e estudos sobre as mulheres

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Omri Tancman (Israel)¹

1 - Hebrew University

In this study, I employ Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) to examine documentary films portraying physically disabled IDF veterans, serving as a platform to investigate the relationship between disabled masculinity and heroism in Israel. I delve into the tension between the socialization of diverse masculinities and confronting a newly constrained physique, drawing upon key theoretical frameworks in masculinity and critical disability studies (Oliver, 1990; Shakespeare, 2006).

The connection between disabled IDF veterans and the concept of heroism is prevalent in Israeli society (Shapira, 2019 [Hebrew]; Turk-Yablonka, 2000 [Hebrew]). These veterans are often depicted as heroes who sacrificed their bodies to defend the nation. Consequently, the analyzed films may project veterans with disabilities as symbols of heroism, reduced to objects valued primarily for this heroic symbolism. However, within the films, the status of heroism appears challenged by certain participants, who reject this characterization. Instead, they emphasize the happenstance of the events they were part of, asserting that they did nothing exceptional to warrant the hero label.

By intersecting masculinity and disability studies (Gerschick & Miller, 1997; King et al., 2020; Shuttleworth, 2012), this study unveils the tension between conventional masculinity and disability scripts, particularly concerning veterans' expected masculinity and lived experiences. Despite the public perception of them as heroes, some veterans prefer to reformulate traditional traits associated with hegemonic masculinity (Cogan et al., 2019), such as heroism and the denial of vulnerability, with efforts to reshape societal expectations of men (Abbott et al., 2019), including the capacity to acknowledge vulnerability (Gerschick & Miller, 1997). Consequently, by illuminating the evolving facets of masculine identity through the lens of disability, this study may contribute to innovative concepts regarding masculinities and gender in an ever-changing landscape.

Palavras-chave : Masculinities, Disability Studies, Identity, Military, Intersectionality