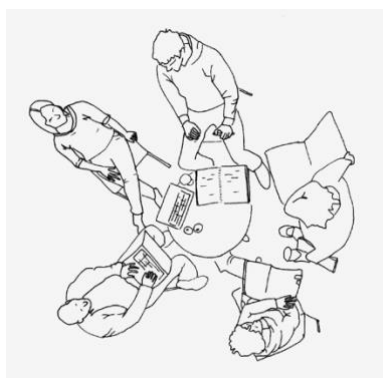


# Understanding and Addressing Everyday Sexisms

Mindy Blaise, Emily Gray,  
Jacqueline Ullman, Emma Fishwick

Jessica Pettitt | Research Assistant |  
[jessica.pettitt@ecu.edu.au](mailto:jessica.pettitt@ecu.edu.au)



## What have we been up to in 2022?

- 42 \* Weekly research team meetings held
- Audit of every Australian university website for gender equity/sexism(s)
- Negotiating survey deployment at 12 Australian universities
- Perth-based focus groups held
- Three conferences/invited presentations
- Guest blog post
- Four papers published/under review

## Update on our survey

Surveys completed in 2022 included participating eight universities from:

- Two \* Go8s
- Two \* ATNs
- Two \* IRUs
- Two \* Independents

Totalling n = **1,099** (raw figure)

Estimated response rates have ranged from **29.8% at the highest**, where survey recruitment material was deployed through a centralised mailing list, to **2.4% at the lowest**, where material was sent to faculty/department Heads, with instructions to forward to staff.

Four additional universities will participate in 2023, including:

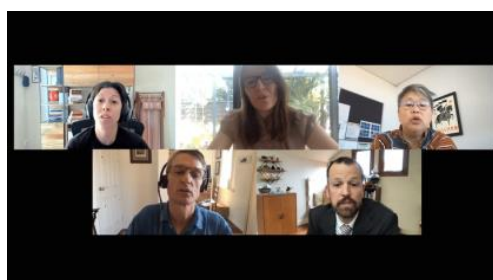
- One \* Go8
- One \* ATN
- One \* IRU
- One \* Independent

You may recall that our original survey recruitment strategy was to pursue one university from each Australian sector.

Early on, we realised that we had been naively optimistic about sector interest/uptake.

We shifted our strategy to approach almost **every public university**. We succeeded in recruiting universities from nearly every sector; however, despite our best efforts, we were unable to secure participation by an Australian regional university. We were conscious that some of these universities were impacted by climate related events (ie. floods).

Varying deployment strategies at institutions have led to differential response rates, with some much lower than we would have liked. To respond to this, we needed to recruit more institutions than initially proposed.



[Click the image to view the full video](#)

# Creative Focus Groups

Two creative focus groups were held in Perth at the Perth Institute of Contemporary Arts in Nov. 2022. We presented the initial findings from the survey to two groups. Participants reflected on the gender division and disciplinary differences of survey responses.

## Upcoming focus groups

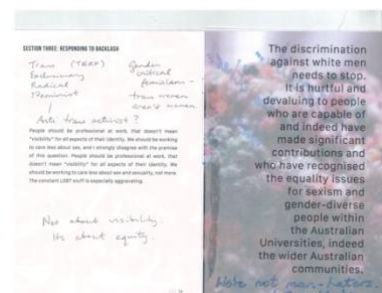
Melbourne & Sydney - Late March

Online - by mid-year



If you're curious, please see the link to the focus group 'workbook' we used with participants in Perth (PDF):

[Workbook Against Sexisms](#)



## Outputs to Date Papers

Gray, E., Pasley, A., Blaise, M., Ullman, J. and Fishwick, E. (forthcoming). "Tick and Flick": Un/welcome sexism in Australian Universities. *Australian Educational Researcher*.

Gray, E., Pasley, A., Fishwick, E., Blaise, M., Ullman, J. and Delaney, M. (under review). Error 404: Gender Equity Not Found? Accounting for Everyday Sexism/Feminism in Australian University Websites. Submitted to *Gender, Work, and Organisation*.

Pollitt, J., Gray, E., Blaise, M., Ullman, J., and Fishwick, E. (under review). Performing Research: Reporting live from COVID times. Submitted to *Gender and Education*.

Gray, E., Ullman, J., Pollitt, J., & Blaise, M. (2022) "I'm broken but I'm alive": Gender, Covid-19, and higher education in Australia. [Higher Education Research & Development](#).

## 2022 Conference Presentations

Annual Meeting of the *Australian Association for Research in Education (AARE)*, Adelaide, AUS, December 2022.

### PhD Candidate (Emma)

"The unfinished business of feminist research", *HDR seminar*, ECU Spectrum Project Space, Perth, AUS, July 2022.

*Edith Cowan's School of Education Higher Degree HDR Colloquium*, Perth, AUS, September 2022.

Invited Blog Post (Dec 2022) [BroadAgenda: Telling stories through a gendered lens](#)



Understanding and addressing everyday sexism in Australian universities

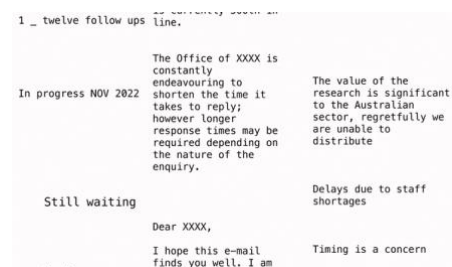
Dec 6, 2022 | Research, Education, Power, LGBTQIAQ+ Gender, Safety, Sexual Harassment, Sexual violence. Feature

Written by Mindy Blaise, Emily Gray and Jacqueline Ullman

## Non-traditional Creative Outputs

This video is in response to the correspondence the research team had with 34 Australian universities during the survey recruitment phase. The correspondence was logged into a table, which Emma then responded to. These responses focus primarily on the wording, frequency and scale, before paraphrasing and anonymising the correspondence

Click the image to watch the video



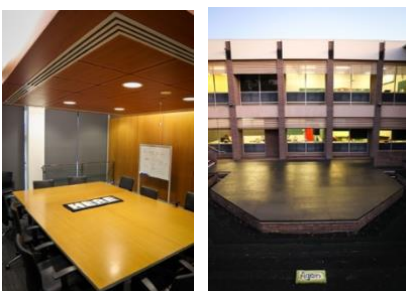


## Slow Choreographies

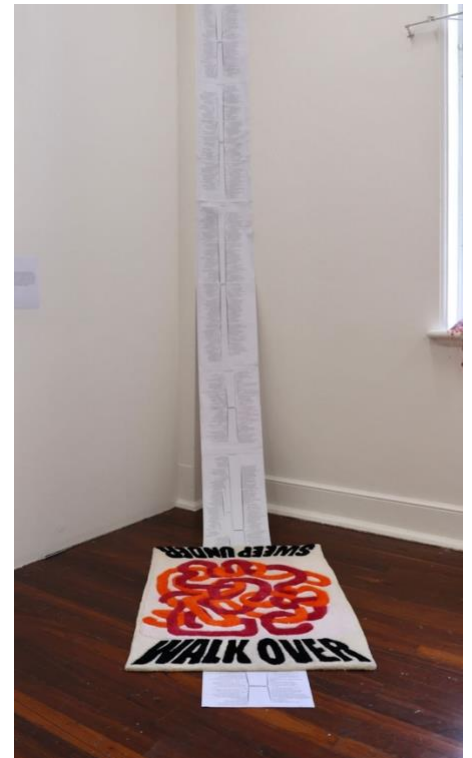
### *Creative PHD*

To date, PhD candidate Emma Fishwick has been busy conducting the initial stages of her research project. The first being a series of creative walking interviews with early career researchers from School of Science and Performing Arts Academy. Participants were guided through a series of questions that focused on the spatial and temporal qualities of their experiences of everyday sexism. These descriptions then informed how to compose a photographic image. The findings were presented through a series of photographic images, notated campus maps and hand tufted rugs.

These were displayed as part of the exhibition [#FEAS Feminist Educators Against Sexism Unfinished Business](#) at Spectrum Gallery ECU June-July 2022. Here gallery attendees could contribute to further data collection by pinning onto a map where they had experienced or witnessed everyday sexism on campus.

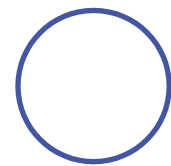


Between October to December 2022, Emma had a [creative residency](#) at the Perth Institute of Contemporary Art, during this time Emma responded to datasets from the completed surveys. Working with textiles, slime, and NVio data reports, these creative methods were used to analyse and then extend the data into physical forms that encourage a sensorial reading of sexism's effects.



Emma has also contributed creative outputs for the broader ARC project, specifically recruitment Video's, Gifs and fake correspondence letters. These outputs whilst small, play a significant part ensuring the research maintains humour and artistic focus when conducting and communicating each phase of the research project.

These small creative outputs also lay the foundation for future resources that the ARC will produce. An example of this is the prototype workbook that was devised for the Perth based focus groups. Here the use of transparent paper, snapshots of data, images and directed prompts promotes a personal and sensorial response to thinking through everyday sexism.



### UPCOMING EVENTS

Emma will conduct her final stage of creative research in March 2023, working with LINK Dance Company at WAAPA, the Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts, Emma will filter the data through a choreographic process to create a 30-minute performance work.

Presented at WAAPA's Geoff Gibbs Theatre June 22-24th 2023.

To follow Emma's progress, further updates can be found here:

[www.emmafiswick.com/slow-choreographies](http://www.emmafiswick.com/slow-choreographies)