

Cefai, Sarah, University of Sydney, Australia

Consuming Feelings: Place, Taste and Sexual Style in “the L world”

Rather than presuppose the cultural imperialism produced by an object consumed in the making of lesbian identities of (probably)all nationalities, I develop away of understanding *how* such an object produces the globality(product) of globalisation (process).Key to understanding what is globally inscriptive about the TV series *The L Word*, is an interpretation of power attuned to feeling: feeling attunes us to the splayed effects of imperial power, as well as the unidirectional. I examine how feeling bears a relationship on power through practices of taste. At first sight *TLW* smacks of imperialism, yet viewership is marked by resistant criticism and unfavorable feeling. I argue that the relationship between taste and feeling – ‘tasteful feelings’ – enables *TLW*to set in motion globalising engagements between body, place, and representation. In turn, tasteful feelings articulate*TLW*as a site in the construction of lesbian identities, producing lesbian relationalities with globalising effects.