

The case of the transsexual athlete Tiffany Abreu and the repercussion in the social networks

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ABSTRACT: Transgendering is still taboo, especially in countries that are supported by traditional and conservative paradigms, such as Brazil. In the sporting context it is no different. There is a reproduction of the dictates of society within the sporting environment, where there are certain veiled prejudgments, such as transphobia. The online communication networks made possible a greater visibility on the transgenderity, especially the transsexuality. In sports from the case of the player Tiffany Abreu, the first transsexual woman competing in the Women's Volleyball Superleague. The present study aims to discuss the positioning of institutions and actors in the media, specifically virtual media, on the inclusion of transsexual player Tiffany Abreu in the Women's Volleyball Superleague. The netnography was used as a methodology of study, with qualitative character, had as an empirical-virtual field the internet, communication websites and a post from the "Quebrando o Tabu" community about the athlete. Even though the International Olympic Committee (IOC) regulations direct the legitimacy of the playability of transgender athletes, the positioning of people in the sports environment is still against the inclusion of transsexual people in sports, justifying the physiological difference. This transcends beyond the sporting environment where people, sometimes based on "Fake news", discourses their positions in social networks. This research showed that there are prejudices and transphobia inside and outside the sports environment, which even veiled the social communication networks made possible the outsourcing of opinions contrary to the inclusion of transgender in sports. Finally, there is a need to build global guidelines that guarantee the entry and stay of transgender people in sports, providing an environment conducive to leisure and high performance.

KEYWORDS: Transgender; sport; inclusion; social networks; media.

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I. Introduction

Brazil, a country with a significant cultural plurality, has witnessed troubled discussions about gender and sexuality in the most diverse political, social and educational institutions. In a country that is still structured and has a large portion of the population oriented by traditional, conservative and religious paradigms, it would not be different about the controversial discussions on this theme. In sport it is no different, at the end of the year 2017 and beginning of 2018 there was a historical landmark inside the national volleyball, offering a discussion about the inclusion of transgender people, in specific transsexuals, in competitions outside the Gay Games. The inclusion of a transsexual player, Tiffany Abreu, allowed several demonstrations in innumerable media, post and cons the playability and eligibility of the athlete in a Women's Volleyball Superleague.

The case of player Tiffany Abreu is emblematic in the history of Brazil, marking the first participation of transsexual people in a high-performance competition, as is the case of the Superleague. The visibility of the insertion of transsexuals is much more evident in the current conjuncture of Brazil, allowing other people also to enter and remain in sports, hoping to reach the highest level of competition. However, this inclusion process has not been an easy process. Ex and current players, specialist technicians and sports medical area, in addition to the population in general has been opposed to this inclusion, justifying with positions from the biological sciences, especially pointing out that the body of the transsexual player is a body "built" by the hormone testosterone. In addition to these positions, there are judgments about the legitimacy of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) regiments for the accessibility and playability of transgender people with cisgender people.

Even if most of the positions are against inclusion, there is a group of people from the most diverse areas that corroborate with the position of the committee, understanding, beyond the biological field, the importance of this inclusion process and all the interventions that the sport can influence the formation of the human identities. This group also understands that sport is a locus that enables a social transformation (Bracht, 2005), where people can develop not only biological and physical, but social, cultural, moral and ethical features. People who are in favor of inclusion curtail their statements legitimizing the position of the IOC, understanding and presenting data from several studies of competent people to make this circumstance acceptable. In addition, they state that the

IOC would not be able to enable this process without first promoting multidisciplinary discussions that would punctuate and ascertain the possibility of equity between transgender and cisgender people.

Brazil is still based on a traditional and conservative ethos, still based on religious ideological propositions, especially in the perspective of a compulsory order of sex, gender and desire or sexuality. Although sports fields are set up in a space that has a specific ethos, some sports fields emphasize certain categories of gender, such as Brazilian football. In this field, there is evident a great visibility given to masculine and heterosexual sport, while the feminine is still invisible.

Thus, this article aims to discuss the positioning of institutions and individuals in the media, specifically virtual media, about the inclusion of transsexual player Tiffany Abreu in the Women's Volleyball Superleague. This study has a great relevance for the Studies of Gender and Sexuality, especially for relating the rights of transgender people to participate actively in sports at all levels of competition, presenting the counterparts of sportsmen and other actors. In addition, there is a need for greater visibility and scientific studies on transgender people in sports, allowing for problematizations, dialogues and propositions so that the rights of this minority group are effectively applied.

II. Methodology

Netnography was chosen as a research method, identified as "a type of ethnographic research adapted to the special contingencies of the various types of computer-mediated social interaction" (Kozinets, 2014, p.26). For that, a survey was made of online information that dealt with the theme, especially those that bring positions of people from the sports environment and actors who do not share this context. For the collection of information, the terms "Tiffany Abreu" and "Superleague" were used in the search engine Google.com.br, as well as comments made in a post on the page "Quebrando o Tabo" on Facebook, specifically on February 1, 2018.

III. Transgender And Institutional Rules

Gender according to Judith Butler is a social, cultural, and historical construct where people possess a performativity that tends to conform to established conventions about human behavior, falling within certain categories of gender, sexual orientation, and gender identity. In this thought, it is not denied that the biological dimension also influences gender identity construction (Butler, 1988, 2017; Goellner, 2010). Gender identity is considered as a means in which a person identifies, ie, a political and social way of positioning before society and normative structures, being distinguished as cisgender (cis) or transgender (trans) The first concerns the person who identifies himself according to pre-discourses and languages reinforced by social conventions, while the second refers to the person who does not identify with the gender assigned by society, specifically during birth (Bento, 2008, Brazil, 2017b, Harper, Martinez-Patino, Pigozzi & Pitsiladis, 2018, Jones, Arcelus, Bouman & Haycraft, 2017, Lanz, 2015) .

Transgender can be considered as a macro category (umbrella idea) that comprehends a diversity of manifestations of gender identity, some even associated only to pleasure and desire such as the crossdresser (Jones et al., 2017). Lanz (2015) and Brazil (2017b) point out that the transgender dimension incorporates transsexuals, transvestites, non-binary, female males, tranny intersex, hijra, muxe, newhalf and other identities. In addition, transgender people transcend the binarism imposed by heterocisnormativity, the existence of only two categories of gender (male / female) and sexual orientation (heterosexual / homosexual). In short, this group has little cultural and social visibility, since they still hide "in the closet" because of the few public policies that guarantee rights and security to them (Langer, 2014).

Transsexuality, one of the categories within the perspective of transgender, is an individual who identifies with the characteristics of the opposite gender by the one designated biologically through sex and culturally by social conventions. In many cases, the transgender person can perform the transitional processes through hormone treatment or suppression, multidisciplinary follow-up and the process of sexual reassignment (Lanz, 2015; Stewart, O'Halloran & Oates, 2018). Kulick (2008) introduce a distinction between transsexuals and transvestites, the latter being a Brazilian terminology, from the social class, where the former refers to the middle / upper class group, while the latter refers to the class with lower socioeconomic power and who is not able to carry out the entire bureaucratic and medical development for hormonal treatment. Sometimes transvestites resort to illegal procedures, such as the implantation of liquid silicone, in order to approach a feminine characteristic. There is also a discussion that for the great majority the male genital organ does not bother, and there is no need for sexual reassignment. In Kulick's speech there approximates the transvestite of homosexuality, and among the group itself there is the denomination and use of terms of the homosexual universe, different for transsexuality.

The high number of homicides committed to the LGBT community (lesbians, gay, bisexual, transsexuals) in Brazil, especially transsexuals and transvestites, comes from a lack of public policies to guarantee citizenship, rights and, above all, social security. Currently, Brazil is among the countries that most commits homicides of transsexual people in the world, being in the first position of the world ranking. According to TGEU (Transgender Europe) statistics (2016), between 2008 and 2015, a total of 802 transsexual homicides were recorded in Brazil.

In 2017, 179 transsexuals and transvestites were killed and 130 cases of murders (ANTRA, 2017, 2018) were registered until October 16, 2018. These facts are alarming, in which the surveys indicate that the main cause of this high homicide rate is LGBTphobia, i.e., intolerance to human beings that do not fit within the socially established norms, rooted in the traditional and conservative conventions.

Even through this raising number of murders in the country, public policies for this group are still lacking and flawed. There is a need to improve public policies so that they are effective, enabling the legal exercise and the right to come and go to this group. The Constitution of the Federative Republic of Brazil of 1988, specifically in Art. 1, states that the Federative Republic of Brazil is based on citizenship (II) and the dignity of the human person (III) (Brazil, 2017a). This situation must be extended to the transgender group, although it does not present any direction on gender identity in this constitution. One of the great legislative achievements was the acquisition of the right to use the social name, decreed by document no. 8.727, dated April 28, 2016, and assistance from the Brazilian Unified Health System (SUS¹). The right to education and conditions of stay in school, the right to work and other situations were materialized in another information document created by the Public Ministry of the State of Ceará (BRAZIL, 2017b).

As for the sport category, it is initially important to understand that all human / people should have the opportunity to access sports practice. The IOC since 2003, has discussed and materialized on the process of inclusion of transgender people in the sport, providing opportunities for the recognition of the plurality of gender identities in society. In an initial position, the IOC presented the first guideline for the inclusion of transgender people, requiring that they should undergo numerous procedures, including the process of sexual reassignment and the maintenance of a quantitative of 10nmol/L of testosterone for transsexual women, which could then compete in the category according to gender identity. In 2015, a significant reformulation in these guidelines, releases the process of sexual reassignment, stating that the characteristics of the genitals do not influence the practice. The IOC also changed the hormone treatment period from 24 months to 12 months, keeping the testosterone in the blood at 10nmol/L (IOC, 2015; Semersch & Cohen, 2006; Travers & Deri, 2011). It has recently been reported by some media that International Association of the Athletics Federation (IAAF) approved the decrease of this amount to 5nmol/L (Ingle, 2018), but the IOC has not yet positioned itself on this modification.

To be eligible in competitions, the IOC and other confederations/federations adhere to protocols and resolutions for verification of sex/gender of athletes. Athletes who, incidentally, influence performativity may be targets of anti-doping protocols. From the resolution of hyperandrogenism it is possible to investigate levels of concentration of natural androgenic hormones (testosterone), in which high levels can give advantage to the athlete (Baljinder, Kanwaljeet & Narinder, 2010; IOC, 2015; Pires, 2016). It should be noted that the discussion of benefits permeates only in transsexual women (Male-to-Female/M-F), and there are no significant advantages in the case of transsexual men (Harper et al., 2018).

Canada, for example, has an institution, the Canadian Center for Ethics in Sport (CCES), which discusses the organization of environments for transgender sportsmen and sportswoman in Canada, and presents the need to consolidate means for these people to be included within the sport. Encouraging practice and directly influencing these experiences, emphasizing the need to consolidate regulations that are eligible for these participants. Regarding the proposal of the CCES, there is the intention to include all, respecting individual rights, social name and gender identity, encompassing privacy and confidentiality of the same. In addition, entities must disseminate materials to inform about the inclusion process, provide training for understanding the diversity of gender identity (CCES, 2016).

IV. Understand the Case "Tiffany Abreu"

The Brazilian sports scene, especially women's volleyball, has undergone a significant transformation since the end of 2017. Was marked by the integration of transsexual woman player, Tiffany Abreu (33) (do Prado & Nogueira, 2018). The story of Tiffany, as a transsexual, was late, when in 2013 she started all hormone treatment. She has been a multi-player international player, having her peak in the Italian team, Golem Palmi, of the A2 series (second division) (GloboEsporte.com, 2017, Simões, 2017).

The player made possible several public manifestations of several people from the most diverse areas, being pro and against the inclusion of the same. The beginning of this controversy had its peak with the positioning via Twitter of the ex-athlete of volleyball, Ana Paula.

Many players will not say they fear the unjust patrol, but most do not think it's fair to play with women. And it's not. Body was built with testosterone throughout life. It's not preconception, it's physiology. Why not then a female selection with only trans? Unbeatable. (GloboEsporte.com, 2017, our correction and translation).

After this declaration, several entities and institutions began to follow the games of the Women's Volleyball Superleague and the performance of the player Tiffany. The media started to focus and portray the case, allowing some visibility in society. When analyzing publications that have links to the Google platform,

¹Sistema Único de Saúde (portuguese form).

using the terms "Tiffany Abreu" and "Superleague", it is estimated around 2.040 results in Brazil only, while in the category of any country is shown 5.740 results. Which in fact categorizes this news as emblematic.

In digital social networks, such as Facebook, Instagram and Twitter, there were also various manifestations of pages, groups and people. Many of these social networking actors have associated the biological issues with gameplay, considering an unfair form of competition. Positioning as:

Actor 1: I do not agree, because she spent 30 years with testosterone at male levels developing male muscles throughout this period from that hormone. But here is a place only of opinions unrelated to studies of human physiology, then The "committee" must be absolutely correct (Quebrando o Tabu, 2018, our correction and translation).

Actor 2: Very sad this. The IOC will re-discuss the issue, the issue is not unanimous among the medical community (quite the opposite), but just because the current position meets its ideological convictions, it must be quiet and cannot question or comment. Total opposition to democracy. Must debate yes, talk, say... If you think someone is wrong, refute the allegations instead of declassifying opinions with authority. (Quebrando o Tabu, 2018, our correction and translation).

Actor 3: What is feminist about the subject is not a joke. If it is against will achieve your 'manastraveco'², if it is the favor reaches the women. Bunch of hypocrites with this hollowed-out ideology, then complain about being labeled as idiots (Quebrando o Tabu, 2018, our correction and translation).

Other affirmations from athletes and former volleyball athletes also had repercussions in the media, which ended up debating a possible entrance of the transsexual athlete in the Brazilian volleyball team. The Brazilian Confederation of Volleyball (CBV) has also articulated about the player's convocation and is waiting for the position of the International Volleyball Federation (FIVB) on the eligibility of transgender people, especially in order not to compromise the technical balance and fairness of play. In response, the FIVB understands the need for better eligibility, indicating that there is a working group formed to organize adequately the guidelines on this issue (Carneiro, 2018). Even though with the norms and contributions of the IOC, several entities seem to establish their own guidelines to legitimize the transgender inclusion process.

In these issues and in the positioning of people and institutions, ethos is having a strong impact on the inclusion process of minorities, once it establishes certain moral characteristics in relation to society with conservative and traditional characteristics (Geertz, 2017). The Brazilian society and some other countries are still molded by a conservatism, trying to maintain the "natural order" of things, imposing political and religious perspectives, especially. Symbols, meanings and social and cultural structures reinforce conservative characteristics in order to conflict with progressive policies and contribute to better conditions for the minority classes, as is the case of transgender people. All these positions contrary to the player Tiffany come from an ethos that is established in society and in sports.

V. Media Positioning on The Case

The process of inclusion of transgender people in sport has reverberate in various media fields (Gooren & Bunck, 2004). One of these repercussions is related to the biological factor of the player, such as: "she was built from testosterone," "she is taller than other players," "she it has better resistance, strength and bone density" and other comments. These positions are evident within Brazilian society, since the biological sciences provide objective information, informing people in a quantitative means. At the time, there is still little research that portrays the decline in physical abilities with treatment or suppression of hormone testosterone production, which reinforces this distinction between gender identities.

One of the most recognized studies on transgender people in sport, and one mentioned in one of the comments from the "Quebrando o Tabu" community is a Joanna Harper research, entitled Race Times for Transgender Athletes (Harper, 2015).

Actor 4: But an American study called Race Times for Transgender Athletes, from Providence Portland Medical Center by Joana Harper, ensures that hormonal treatment of trans or transvestite women produces a significant decrease in muscle mass and bone density. There is a drastic loss of speed, strength, and endurance, so this brings down the myth of advantage. (Quebrando o Tabu, 2018, our correction and translation).

The commented fact presented by the actor 4 in a social network, represents that there is still a small group that understands about the process of inclusion, especially the differences that the hormonal treatment of testosterone causes on the transsexual woman. In this study, Harper (2015) shows that with a year of suppression of testosterone hormone there is a stable production of this hormone and consequently there will be no further physical changes after that period. The study had eight transgender women (elite runners) as participants, resulting in a decrease in speed. In addition, it was identified in one of the participants that the number of injuries was more significant, impairing the training of the same. Another situation was the evident weight gain in another participant, compromising the motivation. Despite being an important research for Gender Studies, Harper (2015)

² Pejorative term to refer to transvestites.

identifies that it is a precursor research, which only applies to distance runners and affirms the need for more research.

In a previous study, Gooren and Bunck (2004) had as a research problem whether transsexual men and women could compete with cisgender people. In this investigation the muscle mass, hemoglobin and other data of 19 women and 17 men, both transsexuals, were analyzed. In specific about women transsexuals, Gooren and Bunck (2004) report that "After 1 year of androgen deprivation, mean muscle area in M-F had been significantly but significantly greater than in F-M³ before testosterone treatment [...]" (p.427). The level of hemoglobin also had a significant reduction. Finally, the authors (2004) report that suppression of the androgenic hormone causes a significant injury of muscle mass, consequently of physical abilities, and claim that after one year of treatment or testosterone deprivation, transsexual women have the conditions to compete with cisgender women.

The studies by Harper (2015) and Gooren and Bunck (2004) present significant information, from the biological sciences, to describe the inclusion of transsexual people in sports, and can be considered as meaningful information for Brazilian society. But, even with this scientific information and that guarantees the athlete's eligibility, some people and institutions still claim that science is "not" able to prove the time required for the process of adapting the body, approaching the female body. Information already investigated by the research shown above.

The Brazilian society and certain areas of knowledge are still based on the perspective of heterocisormativity, that even after all the researches and the positioning of the IOC and others that present scientific biological information, some doctors who are members of the National Medical Commission (CONAMEV) are still divergent about the gameplay of Tiffany. João Grangeiro, coordinator of CONAMEV, even following the recommendations issued by the IOC and even following the recommendations issued by the IOC and having access to all documentation and examinations made by the player, pronounces that Tiffany was born a man and had influence of testosterone, giving them some characteristics that, seen his speech, are not characteristic of the female body, such as being taller and very strong (Knoploch & Fonseca, 2018).

Still in the report given to "O Globo" (Knoploch & Fonseca, 2018), another endocrinologist of the Brazilian Authority for the Control of Doping (ABCD), Rogério Friedman, points out that there is a need to remove the testicular gland, blocking the production of testosterone in males. This positioning is somewhat controversial considering two situations. First, the IOC has already presented that there is no need for the process of sexual reassignment, because the genitals do not interfere in the performance of the athlete. And the second, that even through the non-necessity of the surgical procedure, in the case of Tiffany has already been accomplished the process of reassignment. Thus, the athlete attends to all the points discussed by Friedman. We understand that some positions go beyond the case of the Tiffany player, including other transgender people who do not resemble the athlete, but the IOC guidelines and the scientific researches show the body modifications and time required for a significant adaptation.

Retake the speech of Grangeiro (Knoploch & Fonseca, 2018), we need to think about the stereotypes given to men and women, especially in the way these bodies should be identified by society. There is a social construction of the body where certain prerogatives are implanted by some social conventions, especially based on the bias of masculinity and femininity. Goldenberg (2005) treats that the body follows certain historical moments and compares with the transformations of body ideals in the late twentieth and early twenty-first years, associating body with prestige.

In the face of these concepts, society still stigmatizes the masculine and feminine bodies, and the masculine body needs to be tall and muscular, whereas the feminine body must be delineated and smaller than the men's body. Goldenberg (2005) arguments out that this is allied to the issues of masculinity and femininity and a body that shuns established rules is considered a dissonant body of the proposed one. And this is noticeable in the doctor's talk about Tiffany's body. If it is for the specified indicators, "high and very strong", there is a great disagreement in the information, because, even in the Superleague, there are cisgender women louder and stronger than Tiffany. In addition, it is possible to find cisgender women who are stronger and more muscular in the society, such as bodybuilders or even some women who exercise. Thus, considering these precepts as a parameter is a reductionist way of dealing with the inclusion of transsexuals.

Another highlight is the athlete's gameplay, some opponents, like most of society, point out post and cons. To know:

Tandara player: 'I waited to play to give my opinion. At the beginning of the game, she holds her arm a little. At the time of the decision, set final, she comes strong. At times it makes a difference, yes. The Tiffany gave two short diagonal that I was p ... because I know I can defend. (Canossa & Pereira, 2018, our correction and translation).

Aline: Her attack is strong yes, it is heavy, but the Tandara also attacks heavy, attacks strongly. She is wrong too, too wide. Does it stand out? It stands out. But I did not find all that everyone says. She gets ninety

³Female to Male.

balls per game, it's normal for her to make thirty points. Let's see the confrontations against the big teams, against Rio, against Praia. Because these teams will start to stop her attack, too. (EsporteEspetacular, 2018, our correction and translation).

Historically, Tiffany spent much of the human development in a sporting environment, in the case of volleyball, incorporating in her memory muscular techniques of game directed to the group in which it was inserted (Coelho et al., 2008), in this case in the masculine category. Which, in some way, is also associated to the ethos of that environment and group. Thus, the player has a technique that is questioned by people from the sports environment, but we understand that this technique comes from the whole process of technical and tactical training that the athlete has passed. Therefore, the environment can intervene on the technique and tactics of athletes.

Finally, we present the media influence, specifically the dissemination of "Fake News". Shortly after the inclusion and visibility of the athlete, some actors and media started publishing comments pointing out that on January 21, 2018, in Malaysia, there was a fight between the fighter Shang Mau Bi against Belgian, transgender woman, Nilika Droboney. The media reported that Droboney knocked Mau Bi which did not resist the head trauma injury and died. All the contextualization and use of images were denied, considering as "Fake News".

We define "fake news" to be fabricated information that mimics news media content in form but not in organizational process or intent. Fake-news outlets, in turn, lack the news media norms editorial and processes for ensuring the accuracy and credibility of information. Fake news overlaps with other information disorders, such as misinformation (false or misleading information) and disinformation (false information that is purposely spread to deceive people). (Lazer et al., 2018, p. 1094)

The "Fake News" have taken a large proportion, impacting the media networks and changing the behavior and thought on certain subjects (Lazer et al., 2018). The "Fake News" about the death of the fighter reverberated and impacted in the case of Tiffany, pointing out the illegibility, especially of not changing the performance with the hormonal suppression. Even after verifying the falsity of the news.

Even with these tendencies to diminish the performance of transgender people, there is no denying the greater visibility of this group in recent times, specifically within sports. There are other transgender athletes working in high-performance sport, such as fighter Fallon Fox (MMA), Renne Richards (tennis), Laurel Hubbard (weightlifting), Chris Mosier (duathlon). However, we are still in a traditional and conservative society, not accepting the breaking of paradigms, even from scientific evidence. The expansion of aggressive comments to the LGBT community are loaded with a pejorative and phobic speech and can be characterized as LGBTphobic. "Members of the oppressed group often receive negative social messages that minimize, devalue, or denigrate their identities" (Rood et al., 2017, p. 1).

Transphobia can in some way impact mentally, physically and socially on people who suffer from such stigma. The proliferation of negative messages to this group, including "Fake News", influences the quality of life and well-being of transgender people (Grespan & Goellner, 2014; Rood et al., 2017; Stewart et al., 2018). Do Prado and Nogueira (2018) point out that the ethos of society tends to regulate bodies, controlling how to deal with it, all those who owed this norm for some reason tends to suffer from "arbitrary, phobic and violent directives"(p.63). The sports field is a representation or even reproduction of society's behaviors, and even those considered as hybrids (de Brito, Pontes & Pereira, 2016) and who "accept" diversity in some way, such as volleyball, there is still the presence of opposing and violent positions (Do Prado & Nogueira, 2018).

Thus, there is a phobic discourse in the comments of the several social actors, for not accepting the legitimacy of player Tiffany. It is true that there is a reproduction of violent and discriminatory behavior on the inclusion of the player, precisely because she identifies herself as a transsexual woman. This is not a form of "victimhood" as asserted by some political authorities, but it is a mean of realizing that there are still mechanisms controlling the various institutions, hurting human dignity and access to sports. Mainly by affecting the gameplay rights of the athlete, reaffirming positions that may negatively impact on it. Although some discrimination is identifiable, even if minimal.

In society, transgender people, in this case transsexuals, face barriers within the process of social inclusion, evident from the moment they decide to assume their identity. These barriers are also present in the sporting context, meanwhile this space is also based on the binarism of gender and sexuality, building certain stigmas that diminish the acceptance of transsexual people, disrespecting them. These stigmas can transform the environment in a place where there is a predominance of hostility, reinforcing transphobia (Stewart et al., 2018).

Even if these stigmas are consolidated by society, preserving an ethos that strengthens the traditional and conservative paradigms, based on gender and sexuality binarism, the International Olympic Committee proposes regulations for the sporting environment to be open to the process of inclusion of all people, including transgender people. The IOC presented guidelines that affirms the need for training and competition environments to understand the diversity of gender, ethnicity and culture, building peace and quality spaces for the entry and stay of minorities.

VI. Conclusion

This study demonstrates some of the different positions on the player Tiffany Abreu divulged in the virtual social networks, presenting, in parts, a transphobic character on the process of inclusion. In many cases there is still a technical and specific failure on the theme, since much information is empirical, not based on scientific evidence. In addition to understanding that these failures are commonplace in the media, specifically in cyberspace. The sports space is still governed by structures that reinforce characteristics of society, in this case the traditional and conservative perspective. Yet, even though there are positions for and against the process of inclusion of transgender people in sports, the case of player Tiffany has given greater visibility of this group in sports, especially in the media, providing a problematization and possible restructuring of administrative sports institutions to legitimize the gameplay of transgenders.

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