LGBTQ+ MEMORY AND ARCHIVES: POWER, COMMUNITY AND INTERSECTIONALITY IN DIFFICULT TIMES

15th SAA RESEARCH FORUM
Jordi Padilla-Delgado
2021, July 21st
The Lost Memory of Sex-Affirmative & Gender Dissidence

- Institutional archives as archives of political power (COOK)
- Invisibility of LGBTQ+ community (DUGGAN, 1986)
- Community-based archives: first initiative of preservation
- Conflict between the two archival models
- Joint research by ESAGGED-UAB & SAMLM
- Intersectionality & Archives program at SAMLM
3-A LITTLE BIT OF HISTORY

• Magnus Hirschfeld’s WhK (1897): the first LGBTQ+ archive
• Henry Gerber’s SHR (1924): first lost LGBTQ+ archive
• COC-IHLIA (1946): Europe first preserved LGBTQ+ archive
• Mattachine (1950): America first preserved LGBTQ+ archive
• LHA (1974): first LGBTQ+ archive born as an archive *per se*
4-WHERE IS NOW LGBTQ+ MEMORY?

- Institutional: Municipal, National, Government, Justice, Army

- Community-based:
  - LGBTQ+ associations
  - Individuals
  - Private Companies
5-LGBTQ+ MEMORY & INSTITUTIONAL ARCHIVES

• Institutional marginalization:
  • Absence of LGBTQ+ voices
  • Stigmatization and criminalization

• Inclusion because of Feminist & LGBTQ+ rights movements

1-Justice
2-Police
3-Army & Church
4-Medical & Psychiatric
6-LGBTQ+ MEMORY. TAXONOMY & SOME CASES

• National Archive: The National Archives UK

• Municipal Archive: London Metropolitan Archives

• Community Physical & Digital Archive: Lesbian Herstory Archive

• Comm. Only Digital Archive (Website): Digital Transgender Archive

• Comm. Only Digital Archive (Blog): LGBTQ Game Archive

• Comm. Only Digital Archive (Social Network): Lost Gay Melbourne
7 - INTERSECTIONALITY & ARCHIVES PROGRAM

• Held by SAMLM

• Four axes:
  1. Women
  2. Ethnic Origin & Migrations
  3. Sex-Affective & Gender Diversity
  4. Functional & Cognitive Diversity

• Daily archival strategies & practices for inclusion

• An archive of feelings (CVETKOVICH, 2003)

• Queer of color lens (ZEPEDA, 2018)
8-BIBLIOGRAPHY

• COVER, Rob, 2017. “Memorialising queer community: digital media, subjectivity and the Lost Gay# archives of social networking”. Media International Australia (MIA), 1-10, nov. 2017


Thank you jpadilla@lloret.cat