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Discard Studies

Wasting, Systems, and Power

By: Max Liboiron, Josh Lepawsky

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References

Based on the Summers Gender Balance Assessment Tool (Summers 2020), this reference list is approximately 33.5 percent women authored. From 2018 to 2019, women were 41 percent of academic teaching staff at Canadian universities and roughly half the global population. Citations and references are another place of reproductive justice and discard in research: they act as “*screening techniques*: how certain bodies take up spaces by screening out the existence of others,” making it seem as though research is conducted mainly by men, which becomes naturalized (Ahmed 2013; see also Anderson and Christen 2019; Mott and Cockayne 2017; Stefancic and Delgado 1995). A reference list is an excellent place to put discard studies theory into discard studies research practices (see chapter 5). Indeed, in early copy edits of this book by MIT Press, all Tweets we cited were removed from the reference list. Not coincidentally, all were sources of public intellectualism by Black women. Even here, on the often unread back pages of a manuscript about power and discard, these systems are at work.

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