**‘Women’s health and gender studies’ in 2025: relations, tensions and possibilities?**

*22. Health, healthcare, medicine*

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Proposal: Ever since the rise of the women’s health movement in the 1970s, women’s health has been a key topic in gender studies and feminist scholarship (Annandale, 2009; Martin, 1987; Murphy, 2012). In particular, matters connected to reproduction and women’s reproductive bodies have been central to feminist theorizing around embodiment, gender and sexuality. This research has highlighted, on the one hand, the medicalization of childbirth, and, on the other, women’s experiences of pregnancy and birth in light of such processes of medicalization (Chadwick, 2018; Oakley, 1980). It has also demonstrated how so-called women’s health concerns – such as menstruation (Martin, 1987) and postnatal depression (Taylor, 1996) – have been overlooked, and how suffering has been reduced to a “normal” or expected part of the life course. In turn, by bringing attention to experiences of female embodiment, scholars in feminist phenomenology have demonstrated the normative force of medical frameworks and practices in relation gendered embodiment (Käll & Zeiler, 2014; Price & Shildrick, 1999). Also, in feminist technoscience studies and feminist materialisms, reproductive technologies have been vibrant and recurring concerns, highlighting and examining how relations between reproduction, science and technology are enacted in scientific, healthcare and public settings (Franklin 2006; Adrian et al. 2021). More recently, topics like menstrual self-tracking apps and the FemTech industry (Ford, 2021; Mathiason, 2023) and social media engagements around women’s and/or reproductive health (Gunnarsson & Wemrell, 2023) have highlighted health, technology and embodiment in relation to the digital. Finally, in addition to this focus on women’s reproductive health, concerns and practices related to, for example, mental health have been highlighted as women’s health concerns (Wickström et al., 2024). In this panel we want to explore current and possible sites, practices and political debates connected to “women’s health” – and how gender, feminist and queer theories currently are, and could be, utilized to respond to such developments. We welcome abstracts from gender-studies-inclined scholars, on all possible themes interrogating and/or exploring the current and/or possible relation between “women’s health” and “gender/queer/feminist scholarship”. This may include questions such as:

· What counts as “women’s health concerns” in particular situations, sites and practices of healthcare, medicine and activism?

· What does the relation between “women’s health” and feminist, gender and/or queer scholarship look like today?

· How to theorize and interrogate “women’s health” in relation to queer, nonbinary and trans lives?

· How to respond to commercial and design developments of the FemTech industry and movement through feminist, gender and/or queer scholarship?