“Remember. Dodgeball is a sport of violence, exclusion and degradation. So, when you’re picking players in gym class, remember to pick the bigger, stronger kids for your team. That way, you can all gang up on the weaker ones, like Winston here.” From Dodgeball: A True Underdog Story (2004).

This quote from the movie speaks to the paper that Dr. Joy Butler (UBC), Dr. David Burns (Kwantlen Polytechnic University), and I presented at CSSE on June 4th. We argued that teaching dodgeball in schools is highly problematic, as we evaluated the covert and overt messages it sends to our students through three ethical frameworks: Nell Nodding’s Ethic of care, Iris Young’s work on the five faces of oppression, and Aristotle’s notion of phronesis. Our paper is currently under review at The European Education Review.

The presentation has garnered a great deal of interest from the press. Lead author Joy Butler was just interviewed by the Washington Post, and we await publication of that story. See below for other press.

Dr. Claire Robson, GSWS Adjunct Faculty


iHeart Radio http://www.iheartradio.ca/am-1150/news/dodge-ball-no-1.9308366

WWL First News https://wwl.radio.com/media/audio-channel/dodgeball-bullying

Breitbart.com https://www.breitbart.com/sports/2019/06/04/researchers-dodgeball-is-unethical-tool-of-oppression/


CTV News https://bc.ctvnews.ca/b-c-researchers-label-dodgeball-a-tool-of-oppression-1.4449665

Fox News https://www.foxnews.com/world/dodgeball-is-legalized-bullying-canadian-researchers-claim
