

Trust and Boundaries in Three Small Group Communities: Urban Knitting Groups and the Construction of Small Group Exclusivity.



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Trust and Boundaries in Three Small Group Communities: Urban Knitting Groups and the Construction of Small Group Exclusivity

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The existing small groups literature most often uses the small study issues such as race, religion, and education rather than (which the study of small groups provides a deeper understanding of social structures (Harrington and Fine 2000:314). I used participant observation in three knitting groups over approximately eight months and interviewed members in total from each of the three groups to determine how trust and boundaries are constructed in small group communities. This study examines neighborhood location, the day and time of the group meeting, the frequency of meeting, and average group size. The differentiation amongst groups provides a richer analysis of how small group communities develop and how they manage exclusion. Establishing research of small groups "as a sociological tool (Harrington and Fine 2000:312) will assist sociologists in understanding and creation of culture that happens in the space between the individual and the society.

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