

Intersectionality and the impossibility of translating gender related violence

This paper examines linguistic and cultural translation as key challenges of cross national projects that address gender-related discriminations and violence.

It considers issues of translation that arose in four cross-European projects.



gigi guizzo

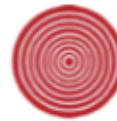
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CEPS Projectes Socials
Barcelona



itd

<http://transit.es/>

<http://aceps.org/>

<http://www.e-itd.com/>



Why is it important to address translation problems ?

- Research across countries / cultures / languages brings difficulties of translation.
- Projects about gender and violence need to be especially sensitive to this, to allow fruitful cross-cultural exchange, research comparison and sharing of results and resources.
- Researchers face varying understandings of the main terms used, including of: gender violence, domestic violence, gender based violence and gender-related violence.





(Chapter 18)

Lost in Translation? Comparative and International Work on Gender-Related Violence

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Main issues discussed:

- i) the difficulties of agreeing relevant translations,
- ii) the problem of precision across cultural frameworks,
- iii) the problem of working in English as a 'shared' research language that runs the risk of normalizing a false sense of a universal experience of discrimination.



Projects Funded by the European Union's DG Justice

Gap Work: Improving Gender-Related Violence Intervention and Referral Through 'Youth Practitioner' Training

- <http://sites.brunel.ac.uk/gap>

Companies Against Gender Violence

- <http://carve-daphne.eu>

Universities Supporting Victims of Sexual Violence: Training for Sustainable Services

- <http://usvreact.eu/>

Igualtats connectades (Equality Connected):
Intersectionality in Local Public Policies'

- <http://igualtatsconnect.cat>



Research projects about gender related violence and discrimination that work across different countries, and may wish to produce shared conclusions or suggest shared actions, **need to address the difficulty of translation from the start.**

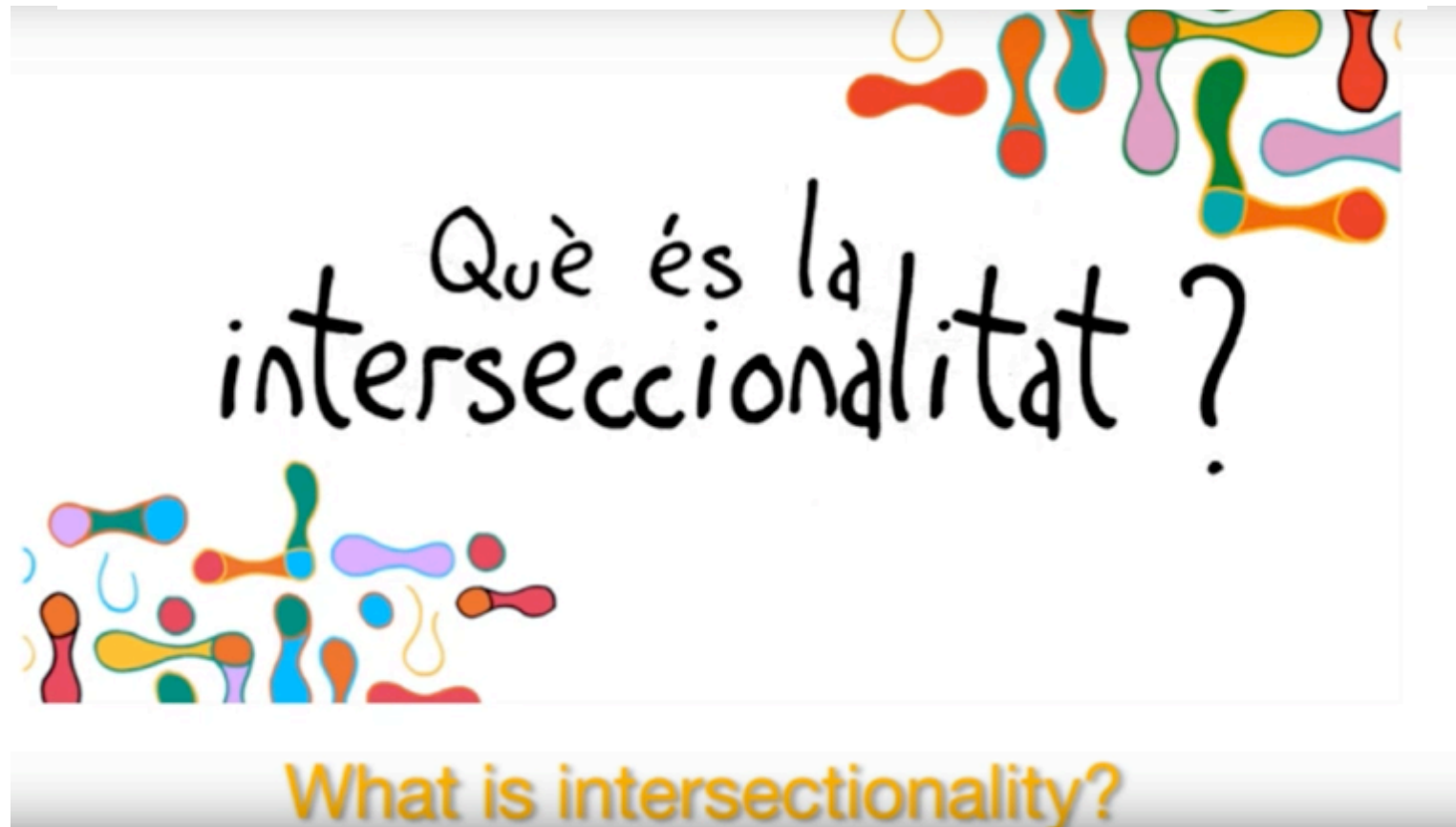
They need to **work with the tensions** (rather than against them) that come up when terminologies and meaning are discussed in a group with people from different countries working on one shared subject across different languages and cultural contexts.

It is here where an **intersectional approach helps highlight how discrimination is always inherently relational to the context it happens in**, and always escapes a 'complete' translation.



<http://igualtatsconnect.cat>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iVvXyLiXREA&t=109s>



Translation in flux, with an intersectional approach?

Gender related violence (GRV) is based on normalized misogyny and the pyramid of violence is built on the intersection of many 'excuses' for discrimination (race, gender, sexual orientation, disability...).

The impossibility of translating experiences of gender related discrimination and violence 'entirely' into different contexts and EU languages renders visible the resilience of society and culture to attacks on the dominant (misogynistic) norm.

An intersectional approach offers a way into exploring new methodologies, in order to overcome attempts to translate GRV experiences and research into one dominant language (English), and one-fit all interpretation of terms and personal stories.

