



Illinois Wesleyan University
Digital Commons @ IWU

John Wesley Powell Student Research
Conference

2017, 28th Annual JWP Conference

Apr 8th, 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

The Effects of Social Media on Body Image

Danielle Di Cristofano
Illinois Wesleyan University

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/jwprc>



Part of the [Anthropology Commons](#), and the [Sociology Commons](#)

Di Cristofano, Danielle, "The Effects of Social Media on Body Image" (2017). *John Wesley Powell Student Research Conference*. 2.

<https://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/jwprc/2017/oralpres/2>

This Event is protected by copyright and/or related rights. It has been brought to you by Digital Commons @ IWU with permission from the rights-holder(s). You are free to use this material in any way that is permitted by the copyright and related rights legislation that applies to your use. For other uses you need to obtain permission from the rights-holder(s) directly, unless additional rights are indicated by a Creative Commons license in the record and/ or on the work itself. This material has been accepted for inclusion by faculty at The Ames Library at Illinois Wesleyan University. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@iwu.edu.

©Copyright is owned by the author of this document.

Oral Presentation O1.4

THE EFFECTS OF SOCIAL MEDIA ON BODY IMAGE

Danielle Di Cristofano and Meghan Burke*

Sociology and Anthropology Department, Illinois Wesleyan University

Body dissatisfaction comes from three main influences: family, peers, and the media. Today, social media platforms such as Facebook and Instagram are the most common sources people use to post photos of themselves and view photos of others. These same sites allow people to alter their photos in whichever way they like, often conforming to gendered body ideals. In this study, I utilized a survey sent out to students at Illinois Wesleyan University that tested their level of body dissatisfaction and their use of social media. I use social comparison theory to investigate how the accessibility of social media, instilled gender ideals, and other factors may work to impact people's body image, and offer implications based on my findings.