

# For fUX Sake!

## Finding a Fit in UX

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Sam VanHorn



[sam@samvanhorn.co](mailto:sam@samvanhorn.co)



[samvanhorn.co](http://samvanhorn.co)



[@uxessibility\\_](https://www.instagram.com/uxessibility_)

*...What?*

Background

What I do

fUX



sam@samvanhorn.co



samvanhorn.co



@uxessibility\_

“Do lesbians ***even have*** a body image?”



sam@samvanhorn.co



samvanhorn.co



@uxessibility\_

The answers we receive  
depend on the questions we ask



[sam@samvanhorn.co](mailto:sam@samvanhorn.co)



[samvanhorn.co](http://samvanhorn.co)



[@uxessibility\\_](https://www.instagram.com/uxessibility_)

Disability is made when the particularity of the body does not fit in the built environment.



[sam@samvanhorn.co](mailto:sam@samvanhorn.co)



[samvanhorn.co](http://samvanhorn.co)



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# ***Disability Studies***

- Social model
- Fitting, misfitting



sam@samvanhorn.co



samvanhorn.co



@uxessibility\_

“The body is not a thing; it is a situation:  
It is our grasp on the world and the  
outline for our projects.”

Simon de Beauvoir



[sam@samvanhorn.co](mailto:sam@samvanhorn.co)



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Nothing is one size fits all



**sam@samvanhorn.co**



**samvanhorn.co**



**@uxessibility\_**





**1**

pilot study



**3**

measures to critique



**39**

participants



**2**

locations



**39**

individual interviews



**2**

focus groups



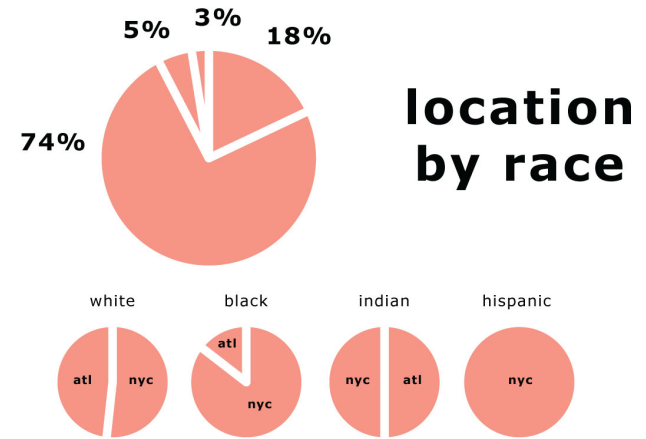
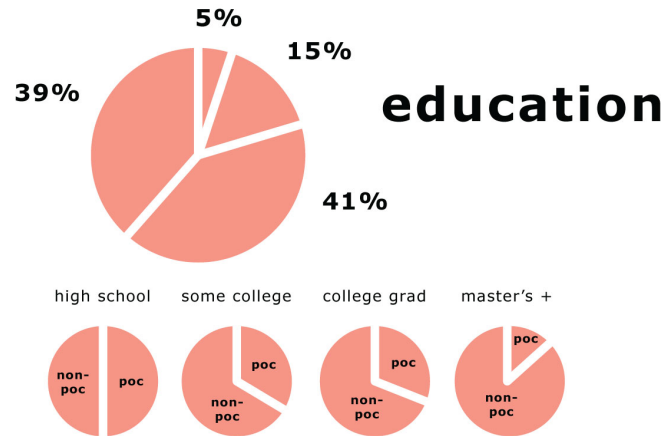
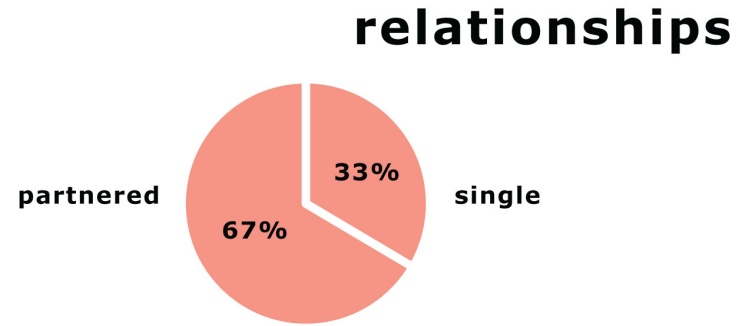
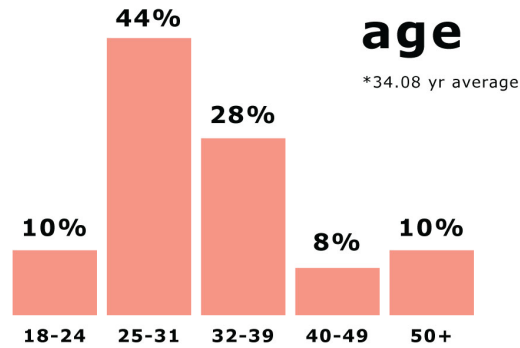
[sam@samvanhorn.co](mailto:sam@samvanhorn.co)



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sam@samvanhorn.co



samvanhorn.co



@uxessibility\_

# Body Image?



**sam@samvanhorn.co**



**samvanhorn.co**



**@uxessibility\_**

£  
worthy



[sam@samvanhorn.co](mailto:sam@samvanhorn.co)



[samvanhorn.co](http://samvanhorn.co)



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“I had a hip replacement in 2016 so now weight has been weighing on me—no pun intended—now I can’t separate the conversation of body image from age.”

56 y/o participant



[sam@samvanhorn.co](mailto:sam@samvanhorn.co)



[samvanhorn.co](http://samvanhorn.co)



[@uxessibility\\_](https://www.instagram.com/uxessibility_)

“In the Bronx my body image wasn’t proud. I was large but not the “right” kind of large. Moving to Harlem, I forgot about my body image. In school, no one cares. I feel good when I’m in Harlem.”

18 y/o participant



[sam@samvanhorn.co](mailto:sam@samvanhorn.co)



[samvanhorn.co](http://samvanhorn.co)



[@uxessibility\\_](https://www.instagram.com/uxessibility_)

# Critique:

## Figure Rating Scale

“Presenting these bodies on a scale of 1 to 9 makes it seem like that’s the **array of bodies that exist**. But there’s no way to represent every body. Where is disability here? There are so many other body types and shapes and forms!”



sam@samvanhorn.co



samvanhorn.co



@uxessibility\_

# Critique:

## Objectified Body Consciousness Scale

“I just kind of got like a little bit of a rage in me [about statement 18] because it fucking takes work to be in shape! When people are doing everything they can to stay in shape, it’s definitely not “having that kind of body in the first place” ...that’s such an unhealthy understanding. And **there’s no room on this thing for me to express that.**”

Very focused on weight, not other potential sources of ~~disatisfaction~~ <sup>dissatisfaction</sup> (e.g., adherence to normative standards of beauty, etc.), but questions about exercise and care for body phrased in ways that don't allow for as much ambiguity re: cause

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Agree	Strongly Agree
12. I would be ashamed for people to know what I really weigh.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
13. I never worry that something is wrong with me when I am not exercising as much as I should.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
14. When I'm not exercising enough, I question whether I am a	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

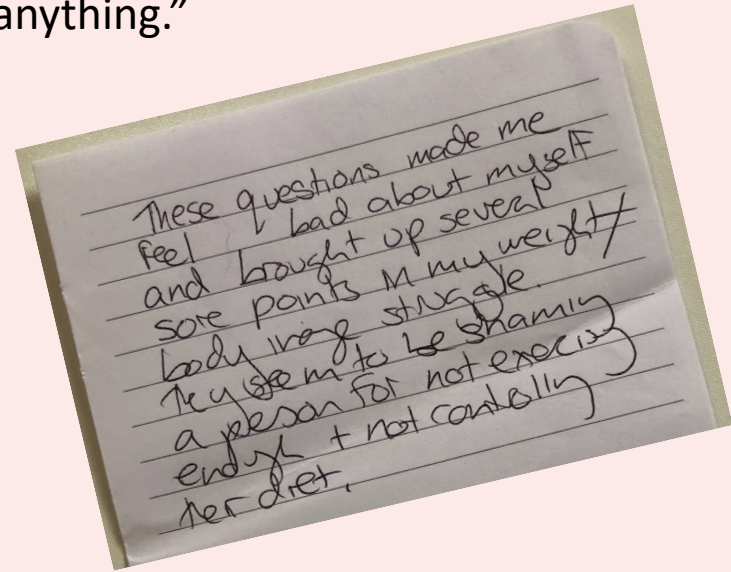




# **Critique:**

## *Multidimensional Body-Self Relations Questionnaire*

“A lot of these are circumstantial. “Have I ever been in control of my health?” Yes. But am I right now? No. Do I want to be? No, actually, not really! In 3 days will I feel differently? Maybe. If there’s that much variability, then questions like this don’t really get at anything.”



sam@samvanhorn.co



samvanhorn.co



@uxessibility\_

# ***"What would you design?"***

"Snapchat avatars are crazy. They generate a lot of discussion. My partner's avatar was a lighter skin color and skinnier than she was. I made my avatar what I wanted it to be, not actually how I look...but not realistic like my partner. I'm interested in characters and fantasy, so I think it would be cool to create characters that look like a person's best self. Our self-perception reflects things we don't realize. Like, I've asked my partner why she made her skin lighter and she didn't even realize she did that."



sam@samvanhorn.co



samvanhorn.co



@uxessibility\_

# Broad Accessibility



**sam@samvanhorn.co**



**samvanhorn.co**



**@uxessibility\_**

"[Design] is a value-based activity...[and] not all human variations straightforwardly count as part of the universal. When the content of the universal is unspecified, universal design can slip into vague notions of "all" or "everyone" that assume normative users and de-center disability."

Aimi Hamraie



[sam@samvanhorn.co](mailto:sam@samvanhorn.co)



[samvanhorn.co](http://samvanhorn.co)



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