

Comments on *Fat Studies in the UK* (2009)  
edited by Corinna Tomrley and Ann Kaloski Naylor  
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Activist savvy, intellectually thoughtful and sensitive in its approach, this book successfully brings together fat activism and critically scholarly work on fat, announcing the field of fat studies in the UK. In doing so, the editors have brought together those doing critical work across a range of contexts and disciplines, which before now, has perhaps not been recognised collectively under the name of fat studies. Enriched by personal reflection, readers are openly invited into the lives and work of the authors gaining not only a sense of alternative compassionate and sensitive readings of fat, but the different ways in which this might be undertaken. From scholarly critiques of policy and scientific claims, through to artistic representation of fat expression, this book takes us on a journey through the emotions, thinking and actions currently driving fat studies in the UK.  
Emma Rich, Loughborough University.

Co-author of *Medicalization of Cyberspace* (2008); *Education, Disordered Eating, and Obesity discourse: Fat Fabrications* (2008), and co-editor of *The Obesity Debate* (2010).

Bridging academia with activism and personal narrative, *Fat Studies in the UK* offers a highly anticipated panorama of Britain's growing size acceptance community. *FSUK* combats the detrimental, Western rhetoric of fatphobic constructs, such as the "the obesity epidemic," with astute, scholarly and experiential critiques, encouraging a reconsideration of how fat bodies have been socially constructed and systemically fettered. Through sharp and engaging analyses of fat culture, the *FSUK* anthology sheds light on the emergence of fat studies in the UK and its transnational influence on the movement at-large.

Jessica Giusti, editor of *Spilling Over: A Fat, Queer Anthology*

Wow, is this a wonderful book! Necessary, smart, beautiful, healthy, rebellious, righteous, fierce, and pioneering...just like fat people! In the not-too-distant future, when historians start counting the score and telling the story of the happily concluded war to end weight-based hate in the UK, this book, its contributors, and its inevitable fans, will rank among the early-adopting, fabulous heroes of all sizes who questioned the allegedly unquestionable bases of an inaccurate, unnecessary, damaging paradigm.

Marilyn Wann, author of *FAT!SO?—Because You Don't Have to Apologize for Your Size!*

This collection of essays and ideas is a rare event in a void of academic inquiry into the discourse of fat. Archiving the work of fat activism, assessing current meanings of fat and offering both methodologies and practice promise increased understanding and possibilities for fat in the future. *Fat Studies in the UK* boldly claims the space for fat scholars and activists to expand their praxis and theory in order to fight fat oppression and count fat bodies in.

Allyson Mitchell, artist, fat activist and scholar [www.allysonmitchell.com](http://www.allysonmitchell.com)

This excellent collection presents a timely and much needed body positive, celebratory reading of the fat body, countering the harmful, partial discourse about fatness which dominates public debate. Mirroring the fat studies movement, this book effectively weaves together multi-disciplinary academic, activist and artistic reflections on the fat body and is at the same time intensely personal, political and professional. Both angry and hopeful, this collection acts as a rallying call for further fat studies work, successfully capturing the energy and excitement generated by the Fat Studies UK event held in 2008.

Dr Bethan Evans – Manchester Metropolitan University