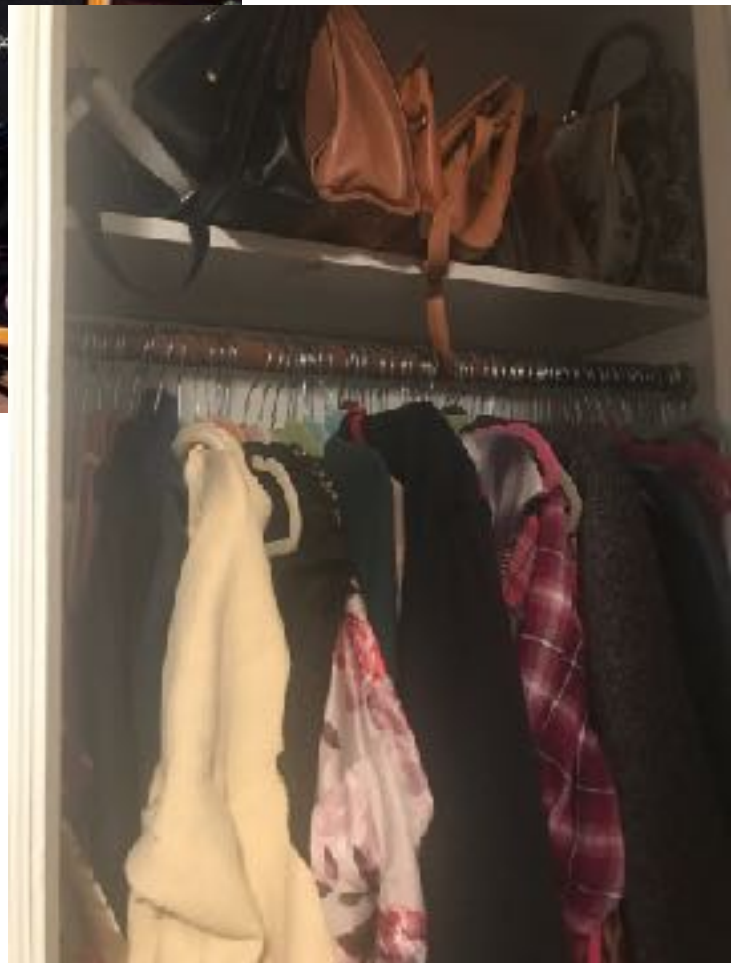


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Dress Practice Interview Reflection



For my Interview I decided to use my friend, Amelia as my subject. Amelia and I have been very close since we were children and I have watched her style evolve, develop, and blossom as time has passed. One thing that never changes about Amelia's style is its deep connection to her attitude. If her outfit is put together, so is she. She exudes positivity which I am beginning to learn emerges from her dress practice. Amelia explained to me that some days the way she wants to feel influences her outfits and other days the way she feels does. Either way, the outfits tend to be well developed in terms of line, color, and texture. I've also noticed that Amelia has faith in the garment/body experience. by this I mean that even when a garment isn't necessarily very exciting off the body she understands that once it is worn she can give it new meaning, attitude, and flare. This differs from my dress practice in that I am always looking at pieces off the body and looking at seams, materials, and finishes to decide whether I "can" wear it or not. I never wear anything I don't love when its off my body. Amelia made it clear to me that she does not wear clothing to please anyone but herself. She is firm in her belief that her wardrobe and the choices she decides to make regarding said wardrobe all come from her inner self. When I asked if she thought her surrounding impacted the way she dresses she explained that she dresses to satisfy peoples artistic eye in terms of line, and color but not to satisfy their moral/political side in terms of appropriateness. This made me think of a quote from Joanne Entwistle's reading, **The Dressed Body**: "Our ways of being in the body are crucially shaped by the social practices of our culture."¹ This interview impacted my understanding of the clothing/body relationship in that it made me realize that dress is sometimes a very transformative experiences for some and for others it is not. In other words, for some individuals certain garments can entirely shift the way in which they experience the world around them. This interview was an enlightening experience for me due to the fact that it forced me to try and understand/comprehend others relationship to their wardrobe. For all of us dressing is a part of our habitus and we do not have to think and deconstruct the way we choose to wear our clothes, it is a part of our motor memory.

¹ Entwistle, Joanne. **The Dressed Body**, *Real Bodies: A sociological Introduction*. Published by Pelgrave, 2002. accessed October, 2018.