

# Separation of Identity Among Group Cyclists

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## Background

- Interest in how membership in cycling groups impacts identity
- Informed by existing bodies of literature on serious leisure occupations and communities of practice
- No research directly connected to cycling groups

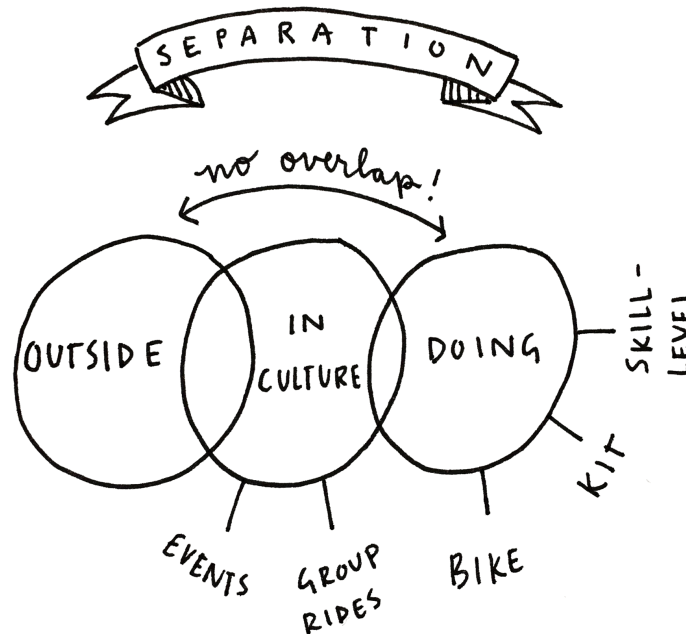
## Research Aim

To investigate how participation in a cycling subgroup influences one's identity, particularly around perceptions of superiority

## Methods

- Data collection: focus group
- Participants: Andy Lull, Ivan Spronk, Lorilynn Spronk
- Data analysis: thematic analysis

## Findings



## Discussion

- Community of practice literature fit best
- There is a separation of identity
- Participants did not express perceptions of superiority

## OS/OT Implications

- For some group performance occupations, there is an entire identity within the doing that is separate from one's outside identity
- Because of the degree of separation, losing the ability to participate in these occupations can be like losing a whole world
- Therapists should be conscious of the unique loss

## References

Wenger, E. (1998). *Communities of practice: Learning, meaning, and identity*. Cambridge university press.



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