Sexuality, Space and Intersectionality: The Case

of Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Equalities Initiatives

in UK Local Government

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The notion of intersectionality has been the subject of uncertainty, with debates

taking place as to whether intersectionality studies should focus on the interstices

between social characteristics, or should encompass approaches that interrogate

the structuring effects of specific social forces. This article contributes to these

debates by exploring intersectionality in relation to lesbian, gay and bisexual (LGB)

equalities initiatives in UK local government. The article demonstrates the importance

of two social categories, sexuality and the spatial, in structuring LGB equalities

work. By citing analysis partially at the institutional level, it also reveals the way

in which an individualizing approach to intersectionality studies, which focuses only

on the interstices, is problematic. The article therefore provides an argument for

an intersectionality studies that incorporates category-based analysis, whilst retaining

a concern with the interstices between foundational categories.