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## Classification Experiences of Para-sport Athletes

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Have you ever been face to face with a doctor and felt as though you were nothing more than an object being tested? This feeling is known as objectification and is common in medical practices. Disability sport classification is similar to a medical setting. Classification has developed immensely over the years and is meant to create an equal and fair playing field in parasport, but at what cost? Athletes are constantly being tested, measured and reminded of their level of impairment. Therefore, I am wondering if the current classification process can be considered the best quality approach to parasport classification. I hope to understand if being judged by medical personnel who are often able-bodied individual's multiple times throughout a parasport career has had any impact on the athletes involved. Specifically, feelings of being objectified and recognized for their lack of ability rather than who they are as a person and an athlete.