

FEELING THE KNEELING

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The goal of my project is to investigate why different rituals use different bodily positions and how those positions might influence the outcome of a ritual.

More generally, I am interested in exploring whether and how bodily positions influence feelings, emotional states and self-perceptions.

The first bodily position to be examined is kneeling. This posture is used in many variations in different rituals, but in other contexts it is linked with subordination, humility and submission.



Question: Does the kneeling position induce a higher subordination feeling?

Methodology: Behavioral measures, questionnaire, hormone-level analysis