The objectification of feminine breasts leads to an increased stigma of breastfeeding and stalls the production of milk bank manufacturing. This cycle ultimately limits access and availability to human milk and society’s health overall.

- The theory of objectification and the macro affects of sexualization is a fascinating topic. Sexism is killing us.

- Brazil has the largest and most complex network of milk banks in the world. (Brazil = 186, US = 28)

- Positive correlation between the degree to which breasts are sexualized and the visibility of breastfeeding /production of human milk.

- Brazil reduced child mortality by 70% from 2009-2016.

- Policy protection of public breastfeeding is required to destabilize the objectification of

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MICRO</th>
<th>MEZZO</th>
<th>MACRO</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>✓ New parents face objectification and harassment when engaged in public breastfeeding.</td>
<td>✓ Lack of formal community and/or support for new parents (community groups are relegated to be formed on social media sites).</td>
<td>✓ General health of society is delayed/stalled due to lack of formal embrace and normalization of breastfeeding.</td>
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<tr>
<td>✓ Less milk banks create less access for newborns/infants who don’t get breast milk from their parents breasts.</td>
<td>✓ Communities lack the understanding of breast milk health benefits.</td>
<td>✓ Objectification of feminine breasts continues to perpetuate cycles of sexualization and put feminine-bodied people in increased danger.</td>
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<tr>
<td>✓ Self-objectification (SO) increases the likelihood for a new parent to bottle feed or ween early if they have the option of both, limiting their children to the nutritional benefits of breast milk.</td>
<td>✓ Informal donations of breast milk leads to an increased risk of health problems for newborns/infants.</td>
<td>✓ Lack of visibility hurts policy advocacy and understanding of the social issue. Breastfeeding continues to be done behind closed doors.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Kesa Ahomana, references included on next slide


