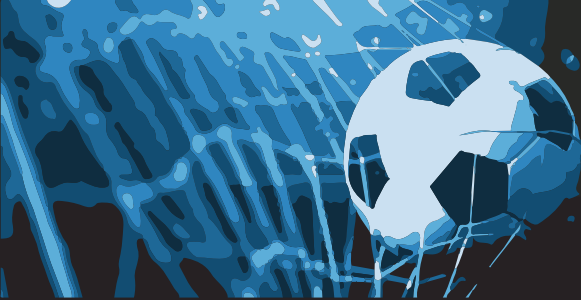




GENDER STEREOTYPES

This project was really interesting. I am doing this project because I notice there is such a stigma with disabilities and sexuality. Society tells us that people with disabilities cannot be sexual beings and thus cannot have intimate relationships. I feel that healthcare professionals are uncomfortable talking about sexuality to youth with disabilities because they feel like it is taboo - because society tells us it is. The themes of my projections are gender and disability stereotypes. My first photo is one of a soccer ball and a pair of Dolce & Gabbana glasses. I chose this photo because society tells us that soccer is a "male" sport and Dolce & Gabbana is a "female" brand and I wanted to show that females like soccer too. My second photo is of a painting one of my friends did and gave me. It depicts a young female with a physical disability writing in her journal. I chose this photo because I wanted to dispel the myth that people with disabilities are incapable of having normal relationships. As a youth with a disability, I often get shut out when I talk about my plans to have a family and instead tell me that I should not have a family either because of my disability or because it is not normal to have or want a family in 2021. I want health professionals to know that youth with disabilities need and want the same things that other people need and want.

ALEX

