

Text B is an extract of a conversation between Eddie Copeland who used to be a boxer and his daughter Stacey Copeland who he trained to be a boxer too after she had to stop playing football because of an injury. It was recorded as part of the BBC and British Library 'Listening Project'.

Link to the original recording here: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/m0003rmf>

Compare with Stacey Copeland public speaking... <https://youtu.be/bhCXqa7vCEk>

S: at home and we've both put the gloves on and we'd like spar together and mess about in the front room and stuff (.) that that was nice a-another nice connection then obviously when there was the big fights on which used to be on terrestrial telly back in the day (.) I'd be lookin forward to it **all** week it was kinda like our thing wanni? that we'd sit and watch the fights and //stuff//

E: //yeah//

S: and then act 'em all ou? // (laugh)

E: // mm//

S: for the rest of the nights then when I come back from america (.) do you remember when we met in cafe rouge

E: yep

S: on Deansgate and you asked me if I was gunna se?le down (1) //(laughs)//

E: //(laughs) //

well the first (.) thing that kicked in was the parent erm (1) having been a boxer (.) I know how hard the game can be (.) you don't have any doubts about your commitment and fitness but (.) you always think hmm what if the person gets hurt (.) you know (.) 'cos it happened to me (.) but then when I saw how committed you were and that you was gonna do it anyway (1) I just felt right the best thing that I can do is make you the best you can be (1) how does it feel bein' a champ

S: it feels grea? because ummm (.) d'ya know the first **emotion** that obviously I burst into tears when I got the result but(.)and it was a bit overwhelming all at once

E: well that's probably a good word to use really because that's how we were (1) in the house (.)

S: (laughs)

E: we was watching it on the livestream and the // last round //

S: //yeah //

E: started to buffer (.) and we're(.) there's a few expletives (.) I was nearly in tears

S: so many people have said that though // that they were crying watchin' it//

E: // yeah yeah //

S: especially 'cause obviously I totally lost the plot but that's alright

E: it's extra special when there's a title at stake and that's one the thing that always sticks in me 'ead I can see it there // and he's going//

S: // you know //

E: and the winner is (2) and you're waiting for the referee to // please please please ya know

S: // yeah //

E: and um when he announces your name and he comes up

S: the first time i wore those shorts with dad on the back

E: =yeah

S: was in that title fight//which is kinda

E: //correct

S: nice really cos it was obviously i was meant to wear em// at the //

E: //yeah//

S: arena and I ended up wearing 'em in the biggest fight of me life and it was kind of //like (.)//

E: //mm//

S: meant to be (.) maybe i didnt know the reason at the time but it ended up being that you were //pr- (.) yeah with me really//

E: //in that room with yah (laughs)//

S: yeah yeah even though obviously i box a lot better than you (.) it's still //(laughs)//

E:

//(laughs)//

S: still nice havin' you wi' me (2) so i i i think boxin's been a bit of a (.) theme in ways you might not (.) think (.) along the course of life and then obviously with the injuries (.) touch wood ive not had that in boxin' but certainly in football i did when I was in america n i (1) it was dead helpful to me because (.) i knew youd been through it=

E: =mm=

S: =an i knew (.) you were the one person who would completely understand (2) the (1) total devastation i felt (.) the loss of identity (.) was ridiculous it was like me entire life just had **no** point whatsoever (.) just because I'd broken one bone (.) it was (1) mad (.) but that's how sport gets ya and I knew you'd understand it

E: (1) when you (.) first showed me them shorts (.) I didn't know you was havin' 'dad' put on the back of it (.) and (.) // even now//

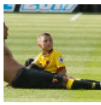
S: // I know //

E: it puts a lump in me throat

Text c is a feature article from the online sports journalism site 'sportsgazette' from March 2018, by the sports journalist Nick Friend, profiling Stacey Copeland

<https://sportsgazette.co.uk/because-i-loved-boxing-people-assumed-that-i-wanted-to-be-a-boy-stacey-copeland-on-womens-boxing-perceptions-of-femininity-and-deciding-against-a-nickname/>

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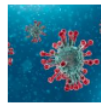
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“Because I loved boxing, people assumed that I wanted to be a boy”: Stacey Copeland on women’s boxing, perceptions of femininity and deciding against a nickname

Posted on 11 March 2018 by Nick Friend

Until 1997, women could not legally box in Great Britain. It would be another fifteen years before Nicola Adams and Katie Taylor would announce themselves to the world in London, as women's boxing made its debut at the 2012 Olympics.

Six years on, there are just three weight categories for women at Olympic level – seven fewer than in the men's event.

It explains why Stacey Copeland, the Hyde-born fighter, is far more interested in the bigger picture of her sport than merely discussing her own career. A three-time national champion and European silver-medallist at amateur level, she began March with a first-round knockout victory over Italy's Dora Tollar. She is unbeaten in four fights since turning professional at the end of 2016.

The notion of a 'bigger picture' is a common theme throughout our conversation – from the continued scepticism of women's boxing in today's society through to the flawed misconception of traditional characteristics of femininity. It is, Copeland tells me, why she has never followed the lead of Taylor – The Bray Bomber – and christened herself with a boxing moniker.

"I just chose a phrase," she says. "I went with 'Pave The Way' because it has always been more important to me to represent what I'm trying to do in terms of the bigger picture.

"Of course, I've got my goals and I want to be a world champion. But instead of having a boxing nickname, I wanted to show what I represent. And what I stand for is paving the way for others. Obviously, I want to inspire all people but especially paving the way for girls and women in sport. It's a massive motivation and a passion of mine.

"It's about that bigger picture of women having that voice and not shrinking into the background because that is what we teach them when they're little in Disney films – be polite, look pretty, be nurturing, be caring.

"For sportswomen, those attributes aren't really much use. Dancing around singing to birds isn't really that useful if you want to win a gold medal. We're starting to appreciate now that it's okay for women to break out from that limited world that we were put in."

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@GazzettaKorea · 19 May
Seeing as Brandon O'Neill was such your company as an ambassador treat you can watch the full interview here:

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<https://www.newschain.uk/lifestyle/breaking-boundaries/exclusive-commonwealth-boxing-champion-stacey-copeland-explains-how-gender-bias-has-been-her-toughest-opponent-2009>

Or

<http://blog.stacey-copeland.co.uk/first-blog-the-side-hustle/>

Or

<https://www.manchestereveningnews.co.uk/sport/boxing/stacey-copeland-boxing-hyde-boxer-14907698>

Or <https://www.oldham-chronicle.co.uk/news-features/8/news-headlines/103603/couple-bring-punchy-story-to-the-screen>

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