

Ch. 2- gender



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sexbiological

the biological distinction between females and males

chromosomes XX for females, XY for males
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gonadsovaries for females, testes for males
hormones greater proportion of estrogen and progesterone than testosterone in females; greater proportion of testosterone than estrogen and progesterone in males
internal sex organs fallopian tubes, uterus, and vagina for females; epididymis, vas deferens, and seminal vesicles for males
external sex organs vulva for females, penis and scrotum for males
intersexed individual those with mixed or ambiguous genitals
gender social construct

social construct which refers to the social and psychological characteristics associated with being female or male

Ex. women as moody and easily embarrassed

Men as competitive and sarcastic

socialization the process through which we learn attitudes, values, beliefs, and behaviors appropriate to the social positions we occupy
gender

identity the psychological state of viewing oneself as a girl or a boy, and later as a woman or a man
gender dysphoria a condition in which one's gender identity does not match one's biological sex - ex.

transsexualism transgender displayed sex and true sex don't match

a generic term for a person of one biological sex who displays characteristics of the other sex

cross-dresser individuals who dress or present themselves in the gender of the other sex (may be heterosexual, homosexual, or bisexual) transsexuals an individual with the biological and anatomical sex of one gender (for example, male) but the self-concept of the other sex (that is, female)

**They live full-time in the role of the gender opposite their biological sex gender roles social norms which specify the socially appropriate behavior for females and males in a society; socially defined sex roles roles defined by biological constraints and can be enacted by members of one biological sex only- for example, wet nurse, sperm donor, child-bearer gender role ideology the proper role relationships between women and men in society biosocial theory aka sociobiology; social behaviors (ex. gender roles) are biologically based and have an evolutionary survival function parental investment part of biosocial theory; any investment by a parent that increases the offspring's chance of surviving and thus increases reproductive success social learning theory • emphasizes the roles of reward and punishment in explaining how a child learns gender role behavior

- contrasts with biosocial theory
- learning also occurs when parents or peers offer direct instruction (ex. girls wear dresses) or by modeling identification theory • children acquire the characteristics and behaviors of their same-sex parent through a process of identification
- Girls identify with their mothers and boys identify with their fathers cognitive-developmental theory • Reflects a blend of biological and social learning views
- The biological readiness of a child, in terms of cognitive development, influences how the child responds to the gender cues in the

environment
 gender discrimination
 the ability to identify social and psychological characteristics associated with being female or male, begins at about age 30 months
 agents of socialization
 family

race/ethnicity

religion

education

economy

mass media

**each agent of socialization reinforces gender roles that are learned from other agents of socialization, thereby creating a gender role system that is deeply embedded in our culture → all affecting relationship choices

occupational sex segregation
 the concentration of women and men in different occupations
 Gender Roles in Latino/Hispanic Families • tends to be less role rigidity
 Gender Roles in Afghanistan under the Taliban • women given little freedom, and are forced to be completely dependent on men

- women are oppressed
- role of women in rural areas is one of submissiveness
- patriarchal social structure
- self-immolation continues at a steady rate
 Gender Roles in Caribbean Families • diverse family patterns, but often women and their children are the primary family unit- fathers of children rarely live in the home
- when men do live with women, division of labor prevails (women taking care of domestic and child-care tasks)
- view motherhood- not marriage- as the symbol of their womanhood
- o about half of all female household heads have never been married
 Gender

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Roles in East and South African Families • a diverse continent

- East Africa (ex. Kenya)- gender roles are in flux
- Roles are very separate and prescribed, with most authority and power in the men's domain
- South Africa- African family has traditional role relationships and patriarchynegative consequences of female role socializationless income feminization of poverty higher risk for STIs negative body image less personal/marriage satisfactionfeminization of povertythe idea that women (particularly those who live alone or with their children) disproportionately experience povertysexism an attitude, action, or institutional structure that subordinates or discriminates against individuals or groups because of their biological sexbenevolent sexismthe belief that women are innocent creatures who should be protected and supportedfemale genital alterationcutting off the clitoris or excising (partially or totally) the labia minorapositive consequences of female role socializationo Longer life expectancy
 - o Stronger relationship focus
 - o Keep relationships on track
 - o Bonding with childrennegative consequences of male role socializationidentity synonymous with occupation limited expression of emotions fears of intimacy custody disadvantages shorter life expectancypositive consequences of male role socializationhigher

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status and power

higher incomes and easier to climb corporate ladder

rarely targets of sexual harassment

freedom of movement

greater available pool of potential partners

norm of initiating a relationship
Androgyny a blend of traits that are stereotypically associated with masculinity and femininity (ex. Adam Lambert);

flexibility of traits
physiological androgyny: mixed body parts

intersexed individuals

behavioral androgyny
mixed behaviors

blending or reversal of traditional male and female behavior, so that a biological male may be very passive, and a biological female may be very assertive

positive androgyny: a view of androgyny that is devoid of the negative traits associated with masculinity (ex. aggression) and femininity (ex. being

passive)
Gender Role Transcendence • abandoning gender frameworks and looking at phenomena independent of traditional gender categories

- easier for women than men, because our culture values masculinity

putting all things aside and not letting certain molds dictate our lives

Gender Postmodernism • abandons the notion of gender as natural and emphasizes that gender is socially constructed
age that children view gender as permanent
6 or 7 years old
which familial relationships are the most enduring?
sister-sister
media as a socialization agent-both reflect and shape

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gender roles

-typically conform to traditional gender stereotypes

-depict exploitation, victimization, and sexual objectification of women

the future of gender roles-gender roles are becoming more equal

-independence and ascendancy of women

categories: cross-dresser

biological sex: either

sexual orientation: either

categories: transvestite
biological sex: male
sexual orientation: gay
categories: transsexual
biological sex: either
sexual orientation: either
transvestite
A person who sometimes wears clothes traditionally worn by and associated with the opposite sex; typically a male who cross-dresses occasionally by habit or compulsion.

generally have less or no desire to change their sex; they simply enjoy being able to cross-dress from time to time.

what of the following refers to the biological distinction between females and males? sex
which term refers to a blend of traits that is associated with both masculinity and femininity? androgyny
which theory emphasizes the role of reward and punishment in explaining how a child learns gender role behaviors
social learning theory
the social norms that dictate what is socially regarded as appropriate female and male behaviors make up one's: gender role
which of the following is not a negative consequence of traditional female role socialization? longer life