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**ENGR 303 Gender and Engineering**

**1. What in the two readings is important to you and why is it meaningful to you.**

My instant reaction after finishing up with the readings was mind-boggling. I was shaken up when I came to know the amount of difference that goes into the thought process of men and women when both are dealing with the same circumstances and the amount to research going on Brain Science. And the only way to address this issue is to learn how to leverage these differences without demeaning any of the person just based on their gender. We are supposed to be open to understand and value every person's opinion without any discrepancy. One of my major observation was that biological and cultural differences influenced by environment and intelligence level add up to create disparity between men and women on the bias for their gender. Another part of this reading that drew my attention was that the culture that prevails in an organization is solely responsible for the gender intelligence level maintained in that workplace. I came across various examples in the book which highlights the fact that balancing out the number of people in the company doesn't account to its productivity unless and until everyone is aware on how to deal with the opposite gender and work collectively in a group. Less time must be invested on introspecting other's way of looking at things. I strongly feel that 'Equality and Equity' is the main idea that is to be incorporated in the workplace to make it more satisfactory to work for both men and women. Another meaningful insight that I grabbed from the reading is the analogy that Michael Gurian used with the lighthouse and the ship to depict the importance to maintain the balance between gender roles, gender differences along amidst establishing the fact to focus on the nurture and nature of different people. During my previous work experience, I have faced similar situations at my workplace where it was projected that men more capable of getting things done quickly since they have fewer commitments toward their family. Women, on the other hand, had a lot of things parallelly occupying their minds along with work, but they are capable enough to finish up tasks as quickly as others do.

**2.  What questions do you have about what you have read?**

I always wondered on why there is a lot of importance given to men for higher positions while women have to settle for lower positions even though they have equal calibre as their male peers. Why is it male dominated at almost all the workplaces? Is it just because they are considered to be more strong than the opposite gender?

**3. Have you already taken any action or changed your behavior, based on your new understanding?  Have you had a conversation or taught anyone else what you are learning?**

Through these readings, I was able to develop a perspective to look at one's views beyond their gender roles and differences. Before going through these readings, the ideology about Gender differences that has been deeply rooted in my brain has got a whole new understanding of it. I realized the emphasis laid on how important it is for men and women to collaborate and work together adding value to everyone's ideas and unitedly giving out benefit to the organization. From now on, I would definitely try to bridge the gender gap prevailing in the current society.

**4. Write a sentence or two on “What I would like to get out of the class”.**

From this class, I would like to know more about the gender differences prevalent in the current society and how do overcome this flaw in the system and deal with it personally and professionally without hurting the other person.