Why are people so fixated on gender in computer science? Does having more females in computer science make it more desirable? Is there a difference in knowledge from a female versus a male in computer science? I do not believe so as we are taught the same courses in school with computer science. Women are just as capable of doing the tasks as men, I just believe women are just not into computer science just as we stereotype the typical programmer as being a male geek, that lives in their parent’s basement playing video games.

In history, women have always shown less interest in computer science than men. Although this is changing throughout the years, it will take decades and possibly generations for this gap to become equal from males to females. In the Science, Engineering, and Medicine (US); they concluded that assumptions and stereotypes about gender caused there to be fewer women pursuing degrees in these fields. (**1**) Another resource shows that parents play a role in the kid's career choices as mothers are not usually involved with technology while the father is usually the one messing with the computer, playing with the home stereo system, and works in a job involved with tech. (**2**) In this resource, In a quote("Starting in the 1980s," she says, "computers were marketed entirely to boys. Video games, same thing." Men gravitated toward the industry, which came to be associated with "wild parties with striptease or nerdy guys in cubicles," she adds.) (**3**)

My target audience would be the ones that think about what others think. The ones who are interested in the field of computer science. The challenge towards this I believe is showing that you do not have to be a stereotype or a made-up persona to be a software engineer. Just be yourself and be what you want to be; not think about what people think you should or not be.

The goal I wish to achieve from this essay is that readers understand how to think for themselves and be more independent. I believe for my essay to be successful it will need evidence showing that people are not telling women not to be engineers nor become them but, show that women are just not as interested in the field as males are.

My resources I will use to help back up my work would be studies showing charts on graduates of computer science. Who is working in these fields (**males vs. females**)? Showing how many graduates in this field of males and females can show the interest in women towards computer science. Also showing data on the percentage of women that apply to software engineer jobs and how many land a job vs. men. I can show how the thinking of the stereotypical mindset can influence one’s decision-making.

Charts showing males and females interested in computer science can help reinforce my reasoning towards my argument. Also, the number of graduates of males and females in computer science show the percentage of males and females who show success in becoming an engineer. Having a stereotypical mindset can influence your thinking and cause you not to become what you want to be because of people thinking a certain way about that field that one may be interested in.

Supportive arguments about this can be data of males and females pursuing a degree in computer science. Seeing that far fewer women pursue a degree in computer science, shows that women are just not as interested in this field as men are. Also, data shows that males are more likely to graduate than females in computer science not because men do not want women to succeed in this field but more like women lose interest or are just not as determined as men towards succeeding in being software engineers.

I believe integrating evidence would be most effective in the body of the essay. After making my argument, I can follow it by a couple of paragraphs showing meta-analyses and charts showing males and females studying the same field (computer science) and show the percentage of males and females in a software engineering field. Another chart I believe would support my argument would be the percentages of males and females in my field of study and how it differs from country to country.

As for my revision strategy, I will use my instructor's feedback as well as doing a read-over and find what mistakes need to be fixed. I will make sure I stay on topic and only use ideas related to my field of study. I noticed that my first writing started making my agreement too broad for my target audience. I changed that to people interested in the same field as myself and that are worried about others think about them going into this field.

**References**

1. **Holman, Luke, et al. "The gender gap in science: How long until women are equally represented?" *PLoS Biology*, vol. 16, no. 4, 2018, p. e2004956. *Gale In Context: Opposing Viewpoints*, link.gale.com/apps/doc/A536809473/OVIC?u=nhc\_main&sid=OVIC&xid=8f3bebbe.**
2. **Carlson, Scott. "Wanted: Female Computer-Science Students." *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, vol. 52, no. 19, 2006. *Gale In Context: Opposing Viewpoints*, link.gale.com/apps/doc/A147067497/OVIC?u=nhc\_main&sid=OVIC&xid=496525d0.**
3. **Gluckman, Nell. "Steering More Women to Silicon Valley." *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, vol. 64, no. 11, 2017, p. A8+. *Gale In Context: Opposing Viewpoints*, link.gale.com/apps/doc/A515974682/OVIC?u=nhc\_main&sid=OVIC&xid=3b22c375.**