1. Gender
   1. Basic differences
      1. Aggression
         1. On average men are more physically aggressive than women
      2. Cognitive skills
         1. Men tend to be slightly better at math, visual and spatial problems
         2. Women tend to be slightly better at verbal skills
         3. PET scans show that male and female brains work slightly differently on math or verbal SAT problems
         4. Remember the PET scan shows which part of the brain is active
         5. Study
            1. Males and females were shown photographs of faces
            2. They were asked if they looked happy or sad while having a PET scan done
            3. Both men and women were able to spot happiness easily whereas sadness was different
            4. Women could spot sadness about 90% of the time regardless if she viewed a male or female face
            5. Men could only spot sadness about 90% of the time in another mans, but only about 70% of the time on a females face
            6. The limbic system in the female brain is much less active
            7. What that tells us is that our brain didn’t have to work as hard on this activity
            8. The limbic system in the male brain was much more active, meaning it was working much harder for them to identify emotions
      3. Sexual behaviors
         1. Men secrete salt and water when sweating
         2. Women secrete fatty substance, salt, and water when sweating
   2. Interpersonal Attraction
      1. What determines attraction?
         1. Similarity
            1. We tend to like people who are similar to us
            2. Studies show that long-term successful relationships are similar to each other.
         2. Familiarity
            1. We tend to like people who are familiar to us, we see often, etc
      2. Mere exposure effect
         1. The more often you see something the more you like it
         2. Exposure to a stimulus tends to increase liking for that stimulus
         3. This is why the more you see politicians the more you like them
         4. You can apply this to music
         5. The more you see a persons face the more attractive they become to you
         6. TA example rating how good looking she was
         7. If you mirror a photo of you, you will like that photo over the original photo because you’re used to the “mirror” image of yourself
   3. Physical attractiveness
      1. Composted, “average” faces are typically rated high in attractiveness
      2. “Average” is “average sized nose”
      3. The more symmetrical a face is the more attractive you rate the face
      4. If you show a baby two photos, one super symmetrical, or one normal face, they will concentrate more on the super symmetrical face
      5. Halo effect
         1. Forming more positive impressions of these people
         2. We tend to think more attractive people are more smart, confident, more successful, etc
         3. More attractive people are less likely to be convicted of a crime
         4. Ted Bundy
            1. Serial killer, late 70s-80s
            2. When he was first arrested, people had a hard time viewing him as a serial killer
            3. He was charming, that’s how he was able to capture the women
         5. Amanda Knox
            1. When she was first arrested, the media focused more on her looks
            2. The Italian media dubbed her “angel face”
            3. They had a hard time to believe a person with that kind of face could commit such a crime
         6. More attractive people are more likely to be hired for a job
         7. Study
            1. As the night wears on do people become more attractive
            2. They asked the men to rate the women at a bar, at three different times in the night
            3. 9,10:30,closing
            4. from 9-10:30 there was very little differences
            5. At closing time the men rated the women as much more attractive, no alcohol involved
            6. Explanations

Familiarity

Maybe the men spoke to the women may of liked them

* + - * 1. The men reduced *cognitive distance*

The men may of thought “I’ve got a few options from here, let me see what I can find.” Or after later in the night the options may of dwindled

* + - * 1. The women then had to rate the men, they found the same effect but a lot smaller
  1. Why are men and women different?
     1. Biological perspectives
     2. Environment perspectives
        1. Gender roles
           1. Social learning shapes expectations about “appropriate” behavior for men and women
           2. Culturally determined, sex appropriate behaviors for men and women
           3. We learn in our culture what is expected of us
           4. The world shapes our understanding of gender
           5. These gender roles are helpful as they help you understand how you should behave in a situation, what you should expect from other people…
           6. The problem is when these gender roles turn into negative stereotypes

Not all women are sensitive

Not all men are aggressive

Not all men are better at math, etc

* + 1. Sociobiological approach
       1. Controversial theory
       2. The genetic traits that helped our ancestors survive have been passed down to generations to come (e.g. opposable thumbs)
       3. Men and women are genetically predisposed to certain traits that were helpful to ancestors
          1. Men having better upper body strength, it used to be used for the gathering of food, to build shelter, etc
          2. Women are predisposed to being nurturing, that was important in their role in child care, breastfeeding, etc
       4. Implies that our behavior is genetically determined and might be hard to change, but it might explain some sex/gender differences in terms of mate selection
       5. Mate selection
          1. Men will follow a reproductive strategy that allows them to impregnate a maximum amount of women with the minimum amount of effort
          2. Women are limited on the number of children they can have, thus they need to be more selective in their reproductive stages
          3. Younger women are more likely to be fertile, thus why men go after young(er) women
          4. Women should prefer older men, thus older men have more resources to help with child care
          5. According to this theory, women have to be choosy whereas men don’t have to be so picky
          6. Study

What is the minimum level of intelligence they would accepting someone they’re dating (no sex)?

Both men and women both wanted average

What is the minimum level of intelligence they would accept from someone they’re having sex with?

Women said much above intelligent

The theory is that if she gets pregnant she needs someone smart

Men said they’d be open to someone below average on intelligence

Male and female expirementers would approach strangers of the opposite sex

“I’ve been noticing you around campus lately, I find you attractive”

“Will you go out with me tonight?”

“Will you go to my apartment tonight?”

“Will you go into bed with me tonight?”

Men and women were about the same on whether yes or no on the date

69-75% said yes to sex

There’s a big difference between saying you’re going to do something versus actually doing something