CHANGING GENDER ROLES IN SOCIETY

MODULE 2

INTRODUCTION

- Gender roles play a major role in todays society and have throughout history. They are introduced at birth through several socializing agents. Gender roles have determined who will complete nearly every task in our society ranging from who will join the workforce to who takes care of the household. Society also tells what traits each gender is supposed to follow. Although it is traditionally assumed that males are the breadwinners and women are the homemakers, times have changed as men and women have started to share both of these responsibilities.

INTRODUCTION

- Every society, ethnic group, and culture has gender role expectations, but they can be very different from group to group. They can also change in the same society over time. For example, pink used to be considered a masculine color in the U.S. while blue was considered feminine.

IS GENDER A STEREOTYPES?

- **How do gender stereotypes affect people?**
- A stereotype is a widely accepted judgment or bias about a person or group — even though it's overly simplified and not always accurate. Stereotypes about [gender](#) can cause unequal and unfair treatment because of a person's gender. This is called sexism.
- There are four basic kinds of gender stereotypes:
- Personality traits — For example, women are often expected to be accommodating and emotional, while men are usually expected to be self-confident and aggressive.
- Domestic behaviors — For example, some people expect that women will take care of the children, cook, and clean the home, while men take care of finances, work on the car, and do the home repairs.
- Occupations — Some people are quick to assume that teachers and nurses are women, and that pilots, doctors, and engineers are men.
- Physical appearance — For example, women are expected to be thin and graceful, while men are expected to be tall and muscular. Men and women are also expected to dress and groom in ways that are stereotypical to their gender (men wearing pants and short hairstyles, women wearing dresses and make-up.
- Hyperfemininity is the exaggeration of stereotyped behavior that's believed to be feminine. Hyperfeminine folks exaggerate the qualities they believe to be feminine. This may include being passive, naive, sexually inexperienced, soft, flirtatious, graceful, nurturing, and accepting.
- Hypermasculinity is the exaggeration of stereotyped behavior that's believed to be masculine. Hypermasculine folks exaggerate the qualities they believe to be masculine. They believe they're supposed to compete with other men and dominate feminine folks by being aggressive, worldly, sexually experienced, insensitive, physically imposing,

HOW IT AFFECT?

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WHAT INFLUENCES GENDER ROLES IN TODAYS SOCIETY?

- **Gender roles** are **influenced** by the media, family, environment, and **society**. A child's understanding of **gender roles** impacts how they socialize with their peers and form relationships. Many children have a firm sense of their **gender identity**, while some children can experience **gender identity** along a continuum.

CHALLENGES

- Girls and **women** suffer most of the negative impact of rigid **gender** norms and **roles** - they are more likely to experience restrictions of their freedom and mobility, they experience epidemic levels of violence and harassment across the globe and have fewer opportunities to choose how to live their lives.

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CURRENT TREND

- The national **trend** toward a total integration of **gender roles** is reflected in women's education, professional achievement, and family income contributions. Currently, more women than men are enrolled in college, and women are expected to earn more graduate degrees than men over the next several years.

WHY IT IS HARMFUL?

- **Harmful gender stereotypes** and wrongful **gender** stereotyping are one of the root causes for discrimination, abuse and violence in manifold areas and can lead to violations of a wide array of human rights.

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MAIN ROLE OF WOMEN

- **Women** are the **primary** caretakers of children and elders in every country of the world. International studies demonstrate that when the economy and political organization of a **society** change, **women** take the **lead** in helping the family adjust to new realities and challenges.Mar 8, 2019

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GENDER EQUALITY

- **Gender** equality is intrinsically linked to sustainable development and is vital to the realization of human rights for all. The overall objective of **gender** equality is a **society** in which women and men enjoy the same opportunities, rights and obligations in all spheres of life.

MAIN ISSUES

- **5 Top Issues Fueling Gender Inequality in the Workplace**
- Unequal pay. On average, American **women** are more educated than men. ...
- Sexual **harassment**. An obstacle that many **women** face in the workforce is sexual **harassment**. ...
- Racism. ...
- **Women** are promoted less often than men. ...
- Fear of asking to be paid what you're worth.

WHO INVENTED?

- John Money
- The term **gender** had been associated with grammar for most of history and only started to move towards it being a malleable cultural construct in the 1950s and 1960s. Sexologist John Money introduced the terminological distinction between biological sex and **gender** as a **role** in 1955.
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