

## Gender Trap Discussion Questions

### Chapter 1 - Conceptual Building Blocks

The gender trap building blocks can be boiled down to peer pressure – whether from parents or school or traditional values people hold. If a girl and boy were raised separately but both effectively same gender-neutral environments till they are fully matured, how differently will their values and norms be and how they communicate (body language and talking) when they first meet?

### Chapter 2 – Naturalizers

Naturalizers seem to be affected a lot of social norms, peer pressure and traditional values. If they home-school their child – rather than sending the child off to school where the child can be subjected to more norms on how a particular gender should act – would the child be as affected by their parents than their usual peers or would the child be more open-minded on gender norms?

### Chapter 3 - Cultivators

Cultivators seem to be very against homosexuality – reported cases of feeling disappointed of not being able to raise “a son” or “a daughter”. Focusing on men, I have read stories of how they grow up heterosexual, have a family, raise kids then suddenly turn homosexual. Is this due to Cultivator’s actions and the child not wanting to disappoint their parents, till the point – 30, 40 years down the line – when they just couldn’t suppress it anymore?

### Chapter 4 – Refiners

Refiners let their child do what makes them happy and let them see that there are a lot of options available, to be as independent and individualistic as possible. How much does school influence a child when having Refiner parents?

### Chapter 5 – Innovators

These children are taught to be really self-aware from a young age. How does this early nurturing of self-awareness transition in life, and would they still remember how they were taught from such a young age?

### Chapter 6 – Resisters

Resisters are trying to be very gender-open. What if – an example, their son – likes naturally “more masculine” things and he resists his parents. Would the parents still try and introduce him to more gender-open ideas?