

**SociologicalYOU - Chapter 9 Audio Lecture Transcript**

**SociologicalYOU** by Angela Thompson and Keith Whitworth

This is Next-Gen Introductory Sociology.

Welcome to Chapter 9: Sex and Gender

There are 5 modules in this chapter. They are:

Module 1: the sociological perspective of sex and gender

Module 2: gender socialization and structural issues

Module 3: problems experienced by women around the world

Module 4: sex, gender, and the sociological imagination

Module 5: sex, gender, and social change

This PowerPoint does not cover every key term in Chapter 9. Please read your textbook to see what is not covered in the PowerPoint.

As we review the contents of this chapter, I would encourage you to consider the

following **Points to Ponder**. These should help you think critically about sex and gender.

First, how are gender norms changing in society?

Next, how do schools, families, peers, religion, and the workplace influence many aspects of gender?

Finally, what social problems are related to the topics of sex and gender?

**Module 1: The Sociological Perspective**

This module addresses how masculinity and femininity are learned traits and behaviors.

Let's review some key terms.

Beginning with sex, sex is defined as anatomical variances between males and females.

On the other hand, gender refers to the socially learned expectations and behaviors associated with being male or female.

Sexuality is an individual's experience and expression as a sexual being.

Masculinity refers to traditional behaviors and traits associated with men.

Femininity refers to traditional behaviors and traits associated with women.

The feminine expressive role involves providing care and emotional support. In contrast, the masculine instrumental role involves being goal-oriented and providing financial support.

Metrosexuals are heterosexual males with a refined sense of fashion and taste and a preoccupation with their appearance.

Through the socialization process, individuals learn the appropriate masculine and feminine traits.

You learn to observe the behavior of others to determine the gender norms within society.

Through play, school, and everyday social interactions, you learn that males should be tough, active, and self-confident. Females learn feminine qualities such as sensitivity, dependency, and gracefulness.

The gender expectations for masculinity and femininity are slowly changing and allowing for more diversity within gender roles.

As in the case of metrosexuals, gender identity is an individual's inner sense and identification of being a male or female.

Gender norms are behaviors or traits that society attributes to a particular sex.

Gender roles are public expressions of one's own gender identity.

Gender identity begins to form when parents start decorating the baby's nursery as they have already formed ideas about behaviors and traits associated with being male or female.

Parents, schools, and peers provide social cues as to socially acceptable gender roles for males and females, such as masculine and feminine traits.

Society constructs our views about gender, and the majority of people conform to these gender norms.

Consider for a moment doing gender. Gender is socially constructed through our everyday interactions.

Gender is not only related to what a person is but what a person does within social interactions.

We do gender knowing others will judge our performance, especially if we do gender outside the normative gender scripts.

Children are taught from an early age about doing gender and monitoring their own behavior, as well as their peers, to ensure their behavior is gender appropriate.

Doing gender is an example of how we are taught at an early age to follow the appropriate gender scripts.

**Module 2: Social Structures**

Both the media and the family play a part in gender socialization.

The media plays a powerful role in areas such as gender identity and roles organizations, such as the Gina Davis Institute on Gender in media, are calling attention to gender inequalities and stereotypes within the entertainment industry in order to have a more inclusive and balanced depiction of women in television and movies.

Parents are the primary agents of socialization in regard to gender socialization for their children.

Until the mid-20th century, the middle-class ideal was to have the husband as the breadwinner and the wife responsible for domestic duties.

Today, in many cases, both spouses work outside of the home, but the wife is still disproportionately responsible for household chores.

Children learn scripts about gender from observing their parents, resulting in gender socialization.

It is important to examine gender stratification in the workplace.

Gender stratification is the unequal access and distribution of wealth, power, and privilege between women and men.

The wage gap is the average difference between men's and women's income.

The glass elevator refers to men in female dominated careers rising faster than women in male dominated careers.

The glass ceiling refers to the social and legal barriers designed to prevent minorities and women from advancing in the workplace.

Unfortunately, sexual harassment may occur when there is gender stratification in the

workplace.

Sexual harassment consists of unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal and physical harassment of a sexual nature.

Quid Pro Quo is defined as express or imply demands by an employer or supervisor for sexual favors in exchange for some benefit such as a promotion, raise, or preferential treatment.

A hostile work environment is an intimidating, hostile, or offensive work environment

due to unwelcome verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature.

Your book highlights the experience of Lilly Ledbetter as an example of the inequality women have experienced in the workplace, which includes not only sexual harassment but also pay inequality.

On average, women earn three-fourths of what a comparably employed man earns.

The income of minority and ethnic women is significantly lower than their white counterparts.

The impact of economic inequality manifests in a woman's buying power in the present but also in terms of her ability to save for retirement.

The glass ceiling represents an invisible barrier that has historically been used to explain the limitations to workplace advancement experienced by women and minorities.

Research has increasingly found that women, regardless of race or ethnicity, experience the glass ceiling more so than male minorities.

Members of the LGBT community also experience the glass ceiling when it comes to the stigma associated with revealing their sexual orientation at their place of work.

The consequence of revealing their gender identity or sexual orientation may include verbal and physical abuse.

Gender stratification can be found in religion and politics.

In religion, it manifests as the stained glass ceiling and the wage gap.

In politics, it is reflected in women's right to vote and political representation.

Men are at the top of the power structure in most religions. Men in protestant churches in the U.S. receive higher salaries than women and women experience the limitations of the stained glass ceiling.

Although they are forbidden to hold positions in many religions, more women are finding their way into positions of authority and employment.

Similarly, the under-representation of women in politics limits the power and privilege of women in the U.S. and around the world.

Electoral gender quotas are being used in some countries to balance the number of women and men serving in political positions.

Gender stratification can also be found in education and the military.

In education, it is evident in the feminization of higher education and the wage gap after graduation.

The military is a male-dominated institution. More women have been allowed into all

male military colleges and more women are in combat.

The feminization of higher education is due to the fact that more females are graduating from college, but those graduates earn less than their male counterparts.

Gender socialization in schools is somewhat responsible for the lack of females taking STEM courses and choosing degrees related to STEM.

As more women than men graduate from college, women are becoming more competitive in the labor market.

As a result, more men are beginning to choose careers historically dominated by

women, and this increased competition will result in higher wages for women.

The escalator effect will result in men being promoted faster than women in the women-dominated professions.

Within the military, women have had to engage in legal battles to be admitted into all male military colleges and academies.

Currently, military women are requesting to serve in combat zones on the basis that women are being denied opportunities for career advancement and higher earnings. and pensions

**Module 3: Social Problems**

Module three. Let's identify a social problem experienced by women around the world, namely violence against women.

Specifically, violence against women is any act that results in the mental, physical, and or sexual harm of a girl, teen, or woman. The abuse of women occurs across racial and ethnic lines within all age groups and across social economic statuses.

As illustrated by table 9.3.1, a wide variety of theoretical frameworks have been implemented to help explain the reasons for violence against women, but fundamentally the issue is about power and control.

**Module 4: The Sociological Imagination**

Module four. This module examines the importance of the sociological imagination and understanding research on sexuality for our purposes, sexuality is defined as an individual's experience and expression as a sexual being.

Sexual orientation is an individual's sexual interest toward the same, opposite, or both sexes.

Heterosexual refers to individuals with a sexual orientation to individuals of the opposite sex.

Homosexual refers to individuals with a sexual orientation to individuals of the same sex.

Bisexuals are individuals with a sexual orientation to both sexes.

On the other hand, asexuals are individuals who are not sexually attracted to others.

Hookups are sexual encounters usually lasting only one night between two individuals who are strangers or brief acquaintances.

As your book points out, the sociological imagination plays an important role in understanding sexual identity and social acceptance.

Let's review some key terms.

The term transgender refers to a person who identifies with a gender that is different from his or her biological sex.

Transsexuals are individuals who undergo medical procedures to become the opposite sex.

Sex reassignment is the process of having surgery and taking hormone medications to become the opposite sex.

The term intersex refers to a person born with a combination of male and female sexual organs.

Bisexuality and asexuality represent the opposite ends of the sexuality spectrum.

Bisexuals are individuals who are attracted to both sexes

Asexuals are individuals who are not interested in sex—something that not all asexuals view as dysfunctional.

Sociologists conduct research into personal sexual attitudes and behaviors, such as hookups and friends with benefits amongst college students.

This information has a public role because it can be used for educational purposes and public awareness campaigns on college campuses.

Differences in sexual identity encompass Individuals' perception of sexuality, as in the case of transgender as well as those who choose to change their sex via Surgery, as in the case of transsexuals.

Intersex individuals are born with a combination of both male and female sex organs, but many may not be aware of their differences.

Homophobia is the fear of homosexuals and homosexuality.

Heterosexism is the prejudice or discriminatory attitudes and behaviors against homosexuals and homosexuality.

Sexual identity can be addressed from the standpoint of the personal, i.e how you view your body or the public how society sees you.

Issues associated with sexual identity have to do with the individual acceptance by some members of society and the homophobia or negative reaction of others in society.

Your book uses the case of Matthew Shepard to illustrate the issue of homophobia and the extent to which attitudes have changed amongst various demographic groups in the society.

The consequences of discriminatory action taken against members of the LGBT community can be seen not only in the United States but around the world.

**Module 5: Social Change**

Module five. This module summarizes the social movements that have influenced sex and gender in the 21st century.

Beginning with feminism, feminism is a social movement that aims to establish equality between the sexes. Key concepts associated with feminism include feminist, cult of domesticity, and matrix of domination.

A feminist is a person who believes in the legal, political, social, and economic equality between the sexes.

The cult of domesticity was the glorification of a white middle to upper-middle class ideal that placed value on women for their sexual purity, morality, domestic abilities, and submissiveness to men.

Matrix of domination is the idea that oppression is multi-faceted.

The men's movement is an effort to establish the employment sexual and familial rights of men. The gay rights movement includes a variety of different organizations seeking to establish legal and social equality for members of the LGBT community.

Queer theory is a critical view that rejects traditional categories of gender and sexuality.

In contemporary society, a range of social movements have been instrumental in the social changes associated with sex and gender. The various phases of the women's movement have played a key role in establishing changes ranging from the right to vote to title IX.

The men's movement focuses on the perceived oppression and discrimination of men in the 21st century.

The gay rights movement has been effective in changing several laws against homosexuality.

This movement has been informed by queer theory a perspective that addresses the ways in which sexuality is constructed not just by biology but also by society overall.

This concludes the PowerPoint for **SociologicalYOU** Chapter 9, where we strive to “connect sociology and you!”

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