

Hello students. Welcome to the class of gender media. Today will be learning
Unit I : Social Construction of Gender
Module Name : Differences between sex and gender
Module No : 02

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Outline of today's.session

Concept of gender

- Definitions
- Differences between sex and gender

Learning outcomes

The student will be able to:

- describe the concept of sex and gender
- distinguish between sex and gender

Definitions.

The term 'sex' is easy to understand. It simply refers to the natural biological differences between men and women, for example, the differences in the organs related to reproduction. [Browne, 1992].

The World Health Organization defines 'sex' as "the biological and physiological characteristics that define men and women."

According to this definition, the sex of a person is determined when the child is conceived. The terms 'male' and 'female' are used in order to distinguish a child's sex.

Remember, sex is equal to male and female and gender is equal to masculine and feminine,

which is the definition which is given by society.

- In sociological terms 'gender role' refers to the characteristics and behaviours ,that different cultures attribute to the sexes.

- What it means to be a 'real man' in any culture requires male sex plus what our various cultures define as masculine characteristics and behaviours, likewise a 'real woman' needs female sex and feminine characteristics.

I'll explain you this like in the last session we had discussed like. Girls or boys are put into particular like masculine boxes or female boxes, so they have to behave in a certain manner in a certain way.

To summarize,

men is equal to male sex plus masculine social role and woman is equal to female sex and feminine social role.

Let us now see the main

differences between sex and gender.

sex is something that is natural. It has been there since our birth. Gender is influenced by culture and the society.

The person is born in so it is man made. It is learned in the society. It is learned from society.

It is learned from the families. Where as sex is natural.

Sex is used to refer to biological anatomy of a person. It is how the person is born.

There are differences in the reproductive organs.

Whereas gender is social, cultural and it refers to masculine and feminine.

Role or differentiation which is created by society. so society expects, Male or boys to be brave.

They expect them to work outside the house. They expect them to take care of their family.

They expect them to actually support their family.

So all these are masculine roles which are expected from male or boys in the family.

In the same way, there are certain rules which are expected from female because they are put into female boxes.

Now, which are these roles?

You must be remembering like last time we had discussed about it, like feminine roles like taking care of Children or she is expected to work in the House she's expected to work in the kitchen to take care of all the household work, take care of old people in the house.

So these are the family and roles which are expected to from Female by the society or by the families.

So sex is constant, it remains the same everywhere.
That it will not change unless some major surgery is done.

Gender is variable. It changes from time to time.
It differs depending on the country. Depending on the state depending on culture and depending on religion, sometimes in some of the countries or some of the communities, ladies or girls are not allowed to go out to work, but in other communities they are allowed to go out to work.

Sex cannot be changed, whereas gender can be changed from time to time. So it depends like if the society feels the gender roles are not suitable like for example or earlier they were not allowing girls to go out for schooling but. There might be changes later, and some of the communities even started allowing girls to go out for schooling.

So these are the changes which can take place in case of gender but which cannot take place in case of sex

The term sex and gender are commonly used interchangeably in today's world.

- However, what many people fail to realize is that 'sex' and 'gender' refer to two complete different things.
- While 'sex' asks the biological anatomy of a person, 'gender' refers to social roles, norms, etc.

Now all these differences, Why do you think there are differences between male and female or?

Feminine or masculine genders. These differences are actually created by our society.

Gender is a cultural and social attribute, so our society decides what men should do and what women should do. Gender keeps changing overtime.

In different places and among different social groups.

We can see a lot of differences with

respect to dress girls and boys, women and men dress differently in most societies.

In some communities, women are made to cover their bodies from top to toe including their faces. Attributes in most of the societies, women are expected to have perfect qualities such as gentleness, nurturing, caring and obedience. She needs to take care of her family.

Sometimes even. We must have heard about many women who actually have to leave their job after the birth of the baby.

They're expected to take care of her baby first. And then she may join the work back,

but most of the time we have seen like sometimes. Women actually leave their job in order to take care of their children.

Men in case of men are expected to be strong, self confident, competitive and rational.

They are also expected to solve all the problems. They are expected to go out and earn money for their family.

And The main rule is. The men are expected to be a breadwinner.

He needs to go out to work on and support the family.

Roles and responsibilities. Men are considered to be heads of the households like all. Mainly all their decisions are made by males in their family.

OK, even if you want to go out, you need to sometimes ask your father, right?

So or even your mother will say, like, ask your father.

Like all the decisions mainly are taken by the male member of the family.

Women, on the other hand, are expected and train to bear and look after children, so this is her main duty.

She needs to take care of kitchen. She needs to take care of household chores. After discussing all these things, it is also important to focus on gender can change and it is changing so we cannot say like. Gender roles are perfect and they are put into masculine feminine boxes, but now we can say that gender keeps on changing depending on family to family, community to community, society to society. Now all yours in some of the communities.

Women were not allowed to go out for a work. Now they're going out there, even working in night shifts. So these are all the changes which are happening in today's society.

Going to go out for schooling. Sometimes in earlier in some of the communities they are actually allowed to stay at home to look after the younger younger siblings and also they have to cook. They have to take care of like washing clothes, washing utensils and all those things.

And nowadays we can see one more change that is happening slowly. We can see men are actually supporting women household work.

They are cooking, they are in the kitchen, helping or even children.

You can see children helping their mothers.

Females or male are helping their mothers in the kitchen.

So these are a lot of changes which we can see in the families. So this is all about gendering

we have learned today,

so we can see like sex remains the same, whereas gender keeps on changing.

Thank you.