

Gender and personality

Gender socialization of a personality – behavior that is socially acceptable for relevant sex and gender identity, based on somatic characteristics, behavioral and characterological properties of a personality that are measured in accordance with the normative expectations of masculinity or femininity. While gender identity includes the following components: understanding the origin of own „I” to the relevant sex; assimilation gender roles of a man or a woman and focus on requirements that correspond to them.

Socialization – the process of entry of individuals into society through various community groups, assimilation of rules, ideals and values, education and upbringing. Socialization concerns the processes by which people learn to live together and interact with each other, as well as qualities and social experience which the individual acquires in this process.

Democratic changes that are an integral part of socio-economic transformation, involving the harmonization of social relations including gender. Over the last decade a number of documents adopted at the state level, namely Presidential Decree „On improving the social status of women in Ukraine” (2001), Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine „On National Action Plan for the advancement of women and promote gender equality in society for 2001–2005’s”, Law of Ukraine „About equal rights and opportunities for women and men”, which came into force on 01.01.2006 and others. These documents confirm the need for legislative confirmation of changes of gender relations and are evidence of gender policy. Strategy XXI century is aimed at strengthening gender balance in society, gender balance and gender democracy, which involves the development of democratic a personality both a man and a woman. One of the important the socio-cultural tasks today is development of a personality.

The gender component is taken into account by the United Nations as one of the main indicators in assessing the level of the country’s development. Hence, all modern specialists without exception must possess this gender tools.

It should be recalled that gender inequality is thousands of years of deeply ingrained in the social structures, distribution of labor, religious values and cultural norms, psychology of women and men.

Ages stereotype notions about dignity, image of women and men had been created by people and have been distributed to all members of either gender, regardless of their individual characteristics and age.

These stereotypes concerning how personality traits – men and women, and features of their behavior. From the first days of life of a child social environment plays a decisive role in upbringing of a personality: man or woman. Civilization has created a system of behavioral instructions, models, models of behavior (from clothes, manners of communication etc. to social activities), adopted to strong and weak sex.

Social norms that define functions and responsibilities of men and women in family and society, are called sex roles. Sex roles – a system of norms, moral ideas about the behavior of men and women what have taken in this social surroundings.

Behavior in which these sex social expectations are realized is called *sex-role*. A common point of view is this: men and women should perform inter opposite and inter additional (complementary) roles. *Femininity* – the normative idea of the somatic, physical, behavioral properties of the individual female, and *masculinity* – male. *Androgyny* – a combination in personality typical female and male qualities. Hence, androgyny – this is not the opposition of femininity and masculinity, and their integration, be-unity. *Androgyny* erases the differences between male and female, due to well-established models. Primary sexual nature of the personality is directly generated by biological sex.

Therefore, the behavior of men and women initially are similar, close, and only later formation under the influence of stereotypes of the social environment leads to different nature of its manifestations. Initial formation of male identity is led by contrasting inherent elements of femininity that does not develop, is not realized into a dominant, but always reveals itself, encouraging the formation of carnal men's properties. Contrast of male and female characteristics in the psyche of both men and women are relative. Successful and influential can be as men and women who are able to acquire features characteristic of the opposite sex.

There are such sex-role types (O. Kocharyan): *androgynous* (characterized by high indicators of both masculinity and femininity), *masculine* (high indicator of masculinity and low indicators of femininity), *feminine* (low masculinity performance and high femininity), *sexually undifferentiated* (low masculinity and femininity indicators. Alternative of masculinity and femininity are implemented only in some cases, but in fact masculinity and femininity are inherent and inter-dependent sides of human psyche, which also exist in every act of human behavior.

This *social adaptability of masculinity-femininity* is not universal and its specific cultural characteristics. Only biological belonging to a particular sex is not enough to be sure adequate sexual certainty. Every human being is the bearer of traits of both sexes.

Synonymous polar expression of sex-role traits, firstly, means a significant personal and interactive limitation of a person, and secondly, it happens more often as an exception. Instead, it has more or less expressed combination of

„male” and „female” traits. *Normative* and *situational pressure* are pointed out among the reasons that motivate a personality to match sexual roles:

- *normative* pressure. A personality strives to meet gender role to avoid public condemnation;
- *situational pressure*. Firstly, our own behavior seems to us to have been accepted on condition that we observe similar behavior in our environment. Second, under the influence of media, which daily stress difference in the status between men and women, their duties a personality comes to the conclusion that such views are correct, and strives to meet the gender-role behavior.

Sexual role – a combination of everything that does, speaks a person, behaves according to relevant prescriptions accepted by society, taken for men and women. Sex differences in abilities and formation of professional orientation can be seen already in childhood by their drawings.

There are significant psychological differences between men and women:

- girls predominate boys on verbal abilities, boys differ more aggressive, visual-spatial abilities;
- interhemispheric connections in women are more numerous and so they better synthesize information of both hemispheres; this fact explains the phenomenon of „women’s intuition”;
- „women” have higher rates of linguistic functions, memory, analytical skills, psychomotor in manual mode, which is associated with relatively greater left hemisphere of the brain activity;
- benefits of the right hemisphere in men distinguish their creative artistic ability, allow better orientation in space;
- „female” (within the human population) should ensure the continuity of descendants from generation to generation, that is, it focused on the preservation of existing features, this explains the greater mental stability of women and the average parameters of their psyche;
- „male” is connected with the need to adapt to new, unknown conditions, which explains their greater psychological individuality: among men are more often not only talented, but mentally ill beings;
- features both male and female psyche is defined by genetic evolutionary expediency;
- women are differ by phylogenetic rigidity and ontogenetical flexibility: they easily adapt to the individual level to the outside world, their behavior is biologically determined;
- male psyche is determined by his phylogenetic plasticity and ontogenetic rigidity that leads to a greater variety of types of male psyche and much less ability to survive in adverse conditions; so signs of degeneration in any population occur primarily in the male representatives.

Thus, this generalized view of a typical „feminine” or typical „male” behavior gives the names masculine and feminine traits.

Life goes on, society changes and with it the professions and gender matched norms of behavior emerged: a woman – a politician, a woman – a boxer, a woman – an entrepreneur. According to this consciousness is changed, ranges of images – a man and a woman – are expanded.

As psychologists (I. Kon and others) mark changes occur among men too. Besides with such qualities as strength, courage, energy, among men are valued such qualities as: ability to understand another person, tolerance, emotional sensitivity. You can draw this conclusion that the set of social and everyday features of men and women ceased to be polar, alternative. The beauty of our world is based on the principle of harmony of two main principles: masculine and feminine, their equitable development, mergers and creative interaction.

Thus, especially significant impact on the socialization of youth, its preparation for Social interaction does gender role changes, which reflect objective processes that appear in all industrial and postindustrial cultures of the world.

Of great importance in the formation of man and woman is their system of value-semantic representations, i.e. mental sex, which is formed through the assimilation of gender appropriate norms of behavior. If in the nineteenth century a woman had to be gentle, beautiful, affectionate, allowing a man to be her owner, now *feminine* is not in weakness and naivety, and in spiritual strength – developed mind and feelings that delicately intertwined with the feminine tenderness. In the women's consciousness new features have appeared: a woman should be educated, energetic, previously more focused on men.

Among them are the following: destruction the traditional system of gender stratification, a sharp weakening of women's and men's social roles; in the political sphere – changing of gender relations of power.

The men gradually lose their monopoly on public authority; cultural stereotypes of masculinity and femininity are changed themselves; major transformation take place in marriage and family relations, a fundamental change in attitude to sensuality, sex, relationships between the sexes; significantly changing in nature of socialization of children; remains a lifetime male need to be different from women and so on.

Hence, gender relations that exist in society is reflection of its gender consciousness, which is an important factor in education system, the main function of which is – transfer and dissemination of knowledge, systems of norms and values of social life. It is through the education system can and should lay the foundation for gender transformation of society. Accordingly, gender identity is a result of complex biosocial processes that combines the ontogeny, gender socialization and development of self-comprehension.

So gender identity is largely a product of social history, which includes socio-cultural characteristics and mainly depends not on the biological nature and of social factors: historical, cultural, ethnic, territorial.

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Abstract

Peculiarities of gender socialization of a personality, psychological differences between men and women, principle of harmony are shown in the article.

Key words: gender, sex roles, social norms, femininity, masculinity, androgyny.

Гендер и личность

Резюме

В статье рассматриваются особенности гендерной социализации личности, психологические разбежности между мужчинами и женщинами, принцип гармонии.

Ключевые слова: гендер, половые роли, социальные нормы, феминность, маскулинность, андрогинность.

Osobowość a płéć

Streszczenie

W artykule omówiono osobliwości płciowej socjalizacji osobowości, psychologiczne różnice między kobietami i mężczyznami oraz zasady zachowania harmonii w tym zakresie.

Słowa kluczowe: płéć, role płci, normy społeczne, kobiecość, męskość, androgyniczność.