Sex and Gender: What’s the Difference?

- **Sex** – Biological differences and one’s role in reproduction
- **Gender** – The culturally and socially constructed differences between males and females found in the meanings, beliefs, and practices associated with femininity and masculinity
- **Intersexed** – A person whose anatomical categories are not easily identifiable
- **Hermaphrodites** – Persons born with both male and female genitals

Sex and Gender: What’s the Difference?

- Gender is Socially Constructed
  - Social Construction
- Sex Differences
Incongruence Between Sex and Gender

- **Transgendered** – Persons who feel comfortable expressing gendered traits associated with the other sex
- **Transsexual** – Persons who undergo sex reassignment surgery and hormone treatments, either male to female, or female to male

Where do We Learn Gender?

- **Gender Socialization** – Teaching the cultural norms associated with being male or female
- **Sources of Gender Socialization**
  - Family Members
  - Toys
  - Schools
  - Peers
  - The Mass Media

Gender Socialization

- Family Members
Gender Socialization

• Toys

Gender Socialization

• Schools
  – Hidden Curriculum – Informal school curriculum that teaches gender socialization

Gender Socialization

• Peers
Video: The Role of Gender

- This video focuses on how all of us learn about gender from an early age, and explores some of the ways in which gender-based roles, expectations and assumptions are changing.

Institutional Sex Discrimination: Patriarchy

- Female Genital Cutting
  - Clitoridectomy – A form of genital cutting or mutilation in which the clitoris is cut out of the body
  - Infibulation – The most extreme form of genital cutting or mutilation in which the clitoris and vaginal lips are cut or scraped away, and the outer portion of the vagina is stitched together
- Sharia – Radical interpretations of Islamic law being used to establish extreme and punitive rules by which Muslims are governed
- The Power of Education

Does Patriarchy Exist in Western Nations?

- What’s in a Name?
- The Double Standard - Men are allowed more permissiveness in sexual behavior whereas women are more likely to be socially punished for their sexual experiences
  - Sexual Scripts – The norms or rules regarding sexual behavior
Gender and Sexual Scripts

Figure 41

Number of Sexual Partners Since Age 18 Reported by Males (left) and Females (right) Aged 16-29 (Percent)

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Implications for Families

• How Sex and Gender Matter: Income and Earnings

  – Labor Market Segmentation – Men and women often work in different types of jobs with distinct working conditions and pay
Social Policy and Family Resilience

- Family Planning Can Make a World of Difference
  - Global Gag Rule – Denies U.S. assistance to all organizations that provide abortions, counsel their patients on their options for abortions, refer their patients for abortion services, or educate their communities about or lobby their governments for safe abortions with their own non-U.S. funding.