

Gender and Sexuality

Programme- B.Ed.

Third Semester

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Main Points

- Meaning of Gender
- Definitions
- Sexuality meaning and definition
- Factors affecting sexuality

The logo of Galgotias University is a stylized, circular emblem. It features a large, light-colored 'G' shape in the background, with a smaller, blue, curved shape nested within it. The colors are soft and pastel-like, including shades of yellow, blue, and pink.

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Gender

- Gender means 'type'
- This word commonly used for a person sex- male or female.
- Before 1950 ,this term was used in the field of grammar to distinguish only category of word masculine from feminine noun.
- In 1955 , the meaning of the word 'Gender' began to change.

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Concept of Gender

- Gender refers to the socially constructed roles , behaviours, activities and attributes that a given society considers appropriate for men and women.
- WHO states that Sex refers to the biological and physiological characteristics and defines men and women.

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Definition

- WHO- “Gender refers to the socially constructed roles , behaviours, activities and attributes that a given society considers appropriate for men and women.”
- Unger- “ The term gender may be used to describe those non- physiological components of sex that are culturally regarded as appropriate to males and females.”

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- In this way gender may be defined as socially constructed roles and behaviours that society typically associates with males and females.

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Sex and gender

- Sex refers to a set of biological attributes in human and animals.
- It is associated with physical and physiological features including chromosomes, genes expression, hormones level and function and reproductive anatomy.

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Definition

- According to WHO “ Sex refers to the biological and physiological characteristics and defines men and women”.
- It classifies people as male or female , typically assigned at birth based on the appearance of external anatomy.

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Sexuality

- Refers to the people's orientation about their experience and expression of themselves as sexual beings.
- Sexual orientation means the established pattern of sexual attraction to the same , opposite or both sexes.
- The recent concepts of sexuality can be termed as heterosexual (straight), homosexual (gay or lesbian) , bisexual.

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- These terms have been coined by Karl –Maria Kerthbeny in late 19th Centaury.
- Sexuality refers to sexual orientation of an organism.
- It includes the feelings of attraction , desire and lust which define our sexual orientation.
- A person would be termed as homosexual if he/ she attracted to his /her own sex.
- Attracted to opposite sex – heterosexual
- If person likes both sexes ,he would be called as bisexual.

Factors affecting

- Concept of sexuality is strongly influenced by gender norms prevalent in society.
- Sex has nothing to do with sexuality as it is genetically decided.
- Gender norms have (defining the socially accepted masculine and feminine behaviour) do have a strong impact on the sexuality.
- To be heterosexual is considered normal in society.
- Concept of homosexuality is still opposed by traditional gender norm prevalent society.
- Social norms , political condition and religion have strong influence

- So we can say Sex is a biological trait of an organism which is determined by the reproductive organs.
- Gender is socially describe form for characterisation as male and female or transgender.
- Sexuality is associated with desire of an individual which differs from persons to persons and is guided by the social restrictions.

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- **Self Check**

1. Gender refers to the biological and physiological characteristics and defines men and women.(true /False)

2. Heterosexual (straight), **homosexual** (gay or lesbian) , **bisexual** terms coined by

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Answers- 1. False. 2. Karl –Maria Kerthbeny

References

<https://youtu.be/383aRjfNljk>

<https://youtu.be/0pmAeKXTypk>

Makol ,Rajesh(2018). Gender, school and society, Kalamandir, Delhi.

Nandra,I.,Gaur and Batra (2020).Gender, School and Society,Twenty First Centuary Publications,Patiyala, Punjab.

<https://youtu.be/LdEAz3mjaSw>

Thanks