

## SOCIAL SCIENCE PHILOSOPHY.

### TOPIC: HOW LANGUAGE DEFINES GENDER.

Language can influence how we see the world in terms of gender and it's also one of ways a culture manifests. Some cultures are more conservative than others, some are more open minded, some still have male dominant figures and others hold more antiquated views.

Language is very powerful tool to change these realities and enable us to become more inclusive in society. where gender, race, age do not play a role in the treatment a person receives.

Language shapes our perception of gender where it has repercussions that using gender neutral language pronouns increases positive attitude towards women and LGBT+ community.

This happens by reducing the prominence of male identity which leads to less gender-based bias.

Language can be direct or indirect our attention to certain aspects of reality. For example someone is a bilingual Spanish and English speaker may find themselves less likely to use male and feminine distinctions when they speak Spanish.

While it can be difficult to change an entire culture, introducing gender neutral language options can have impact on the people who are exposed to them. For example Japanese is another language that has gender influence.

The Japanese language reinforce how men and women should speak, with women being expected to be more polite, indirect and subtle.

Many different languages have inverted gender for the same nouns but not all languages have marked gender. English does not, which makes it easier to convert English language choice to gender neutrality.

Introducing gender neutral language choice in Japan could lead to less of those stereotypical gender reinforcement.

Nouns across many different languages can be gendered. Noun is considered female or male can alter how the speaker perceives that specific word and often impacts the objective they choose to describe that noun.

Research has uncovered how people describe objects often correlates with the objects given gender in a language. For example in Germany the word "bridge" has a feminine pronoun, so Germans are more likely to call bridges beautiful or elegant (Traditionally traits).

In Spanish the word "bridge" is a masculine and is typically referred to as strong or sturdy. It's easy to see how gendered language can limit certain prejudices. It appears that language shapes how we think.

The gender association words have different languages which has an impact on how we perceive reality.

Once you acknowledge that you can start making conscious decisions in words choices that are more gender neutral and inclusive. Step by step languages can become inclusive by means of own speakers and effect change in the culture.

The use of gendered language can often lead to gender inequality which creates unfair bias towards a certain gender. This results in harmful stereotypes which cause discrimination and portray a negative view of a certain gender.

These stereotypes and negative views are often directed to women. For many years women did not have the same rights and opportunities as men, such as not being able to vote or access certain public places like pubs.

The use of language has the power to reinforce and maintain male supremacy in society. It has been argued that men and women use language in different ways which reflects how they view themselves in society and how they perceive them.

A variety of them have been developed by linguistics to study the ways that men and women use language. This allows us to gain a deeper understanding of possible similarities and differences between genders through the language we use in conversation.

The dominance theory is the idea that the language men use is supremacy and holds more dominance in society. Whereas the language women use is seen as inferior. This theory could be seen as problematic as it suggests that men have more authority over women and women should be submissive.

The diversity theory argues that there is a difference between sex and gender. It suggests that the sex we are assigned at birth does not affect the language we use.

The roles we have in society and the way we interact socially influences our language. In sociolinguistics the researchers study the relationship between language and gender in many aspects such as gender and politeness, gender and language style. Research shows that females are more polite than males. The language of men is direct to the contrary.

Language is diverse it crosses disciplinary boundaries on gender. Where stereotypes are generalized images about people within the society.

A gender stereotype is a preconceived idea where women are assigned characteristics and roles determined and limited by gender.

where it's assumed that members of a category share a gender, For example the assumption that all company directors are men and all women are secretaries. In many cases unconscious cultural stereotypes will be expressed through the language we use.

Language is perceived as biased towards gender where it can affect large societal issues like gender equality which can lead to conflict among social groups.

In English this would include using gender-specific terms referring to professions or using masculine pronouns to refer to people in general. This type of language is no longer accepted in many sectors in society like schools learners should be taught how to avoid it.

There are some significant differences in how language develops and how people tend to express themselves based on gender. For example as a whole, women tend to use language more relationally or in the context of close relationships with others.

Women also tend to have a wider -range or emotional vocabulary using language more readily to describe their feeling and emotional states.

Some maintains that there is a biological difference between men and women that impacts neurological development and thus leads men and women to acquire and use language differently. This an essentialist view meaning the differences between men and women are considered to be innate and irrevocable.

Researchers have moved away from this perspective over the last century , though some still argues for significance of biological ingender effect on language .

Language reflects and influences perception of gender roles . In general people are not conscious of language they are using. But body of evidence suggests how people use gendered words including personal pronouns,not only expresses around but also shapes their way of social world and their place as a woman or man.

When people hear these words choices they read them as cues indicating the relevant of the people described by them.

Language has the power to alter people's viewpoint, If we choose our words with care. By ordering words one way or another than we conjure up a particular mental model in the minds of our audience either reinforcing an existing stereotypes.

Masculine generic such as the use of " his " when the person in question isn't necessary male have consistently been shown to evoke mental images of men rather than women, even if they are accompanied by explicit statements that reference should be understood to include both genders.

These mental images have consequences, women were less likely to pursue a job when it was described using the masculine generic as opposed to gender- neutral language.

Feminists of 1970s insisted on a wholesale Change from the generic pronoun 'his' to a more inclusive "his" or " her" . people realized that there are consequences so we should be more careful about how we use language.

Research suggests the latter is still not a perfect solution because the female is cast in a position secondary to the male. Most conjoined phrases are male -first – "kings" and "queens",. The male – first convention goes back to era when men were universally considered to be more important than women.

The prescription to put the man first in written communication is gone ,but mostly male first phrase are still common partly because people have a strong tendency to repeat pre-existing dominant patterns in language.

Research also implies that should you choose a flip a convention on its head, you might be able to reshape expectations and your audience's perception of whom might be more relevant In a given context.

The use of language conveys how much you belong in a particular context. In the 21<sup>st</sup> century where women belong as much in the workplace as at kitchen and men carrying briefcase shows much improvement and change in the society .

Language creates inclusive of all groups in the society which helps establish new implementation to stop gender inequality and change dialogue how society views gender.

Language creates awareness to give voice to voiceless which benefits all the people in society by having equally balanced systems to privileged within the society based on the discourse that surrounds them can reflect on how the language has shaped reality.

The language has made manifest on gender equality. Gender equality in language is attained when women ,men and those who do not conform to the binary gender system are addressed through language as persons of equal value, integrity and respect.

language has greatly developed to maintain sexism and gender bias. Through language masculinity and feminity are represented in a different ways.in terms of communication gender might seem irrelevant to language , Researchers demonstrated a strong relationship where language is acquired ,used and developed. Gender has impacted language .