

# Who is superior?

## Sex stereotypes as category of culture

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### Part 1: Practical Guidance and Didactical Approach

#### Background and keywords:

Gender stereotypes create areas of "common knowledge" which exert influence on the community members' behaviour and attitudes towards stereotyped people. Stereotypes are passed on and reinforced by home, family, school and mass media. Social norms and roles have a great influence on shaping stereotypes. There is a tendency to attribute certain qualities to people playing certain roles without paying attention to the fact that their behaviours do not result from their personalities but from the roles imposed on them.

#### Similar topics:

Distinctness of behaviours attributes of sex

#### Materials:

- Markers
- Sheets of paper
- Sticky tape

#### Duration:

2 one-hour class sessions

#### Number of participants:

10 to 15 boys (and girls)

#### Age:

10-11 years old boys (and girls)

#### Aims:

##### Aim regarding worksheet 1:

- Boys have an opportunity to realize the differences in evaluating attributes connected with female and male roles.

##### Aims regarding worksheet 2:

- Boys have an opportunity to carry out self-reflection on their own patterns of thought used to assess other people;
- They can see incompatibility of category stereotypes and traits presented by individuals;

- They can enter into the situation of a person assessed from the angle of negative stereotypes;
- They can feel the harmful influence of stereotypical judgment.

**Aim regarding worksheet 3:**

- Participants have an opportunity to analyze the influence of sex stereotypes on men's choice of profession.

**Aims regarding worksheet 4:**

- Participants have a chance to analyze images of women and men presented in magazines;
- They have a chance to think about the influence of sex stereotypes on the way women are presented in magazines;
- They have an opportunity to realize the role of magazines in promoting patterns of sex roles.

**(Short) explanation:**

See worksheets

**Reflection:**

Discussion: Do the participants know traditional sex roles and stereotypes of femininity and masculinity?