

**POSSIBLE IDEAS/DATES FOR ORAL PRESENTATIONS****Socialization and Gender Roles; Conceptualizing the Meaning of Biological Differences; Race, Ethnicity, Nationality and Gender Roles; Gender and Education**

Gender stereotypes and children's toys/games; differences in male and female patterns of parenting; gender roles in children's television programming; influence of sex hormones; differences in female and male brains and potential implications for personality; divorce and gender socialization of children;

Gender socialization in specific ethnic and racial groups;

Multicultural heritage and gender socialization;

Title IX and educational equality;

Women in science and math education;

Single-sex schools (high schools, colleges) for males and females.

**Representation of Gender in Advertising and Popular Visual Media**

Images of women/men in advertising;

Dieting, eating/body image disorders and influence of media among males and females;

Alternative beauty/body ideals for both sexes;

Race/gender representations in popular music (e.g., hip-hop, rock), television or film;

Gendered representations in videogames;

Cosmetic surgery and media influence;

Feminist media (e.g., TV, documentary film, blogs).

**Sexualities and Gender; The Right to Marriage**

Gay/bisexual legal rights in schools, workplaces, religious institutions, the military;

Same-sex marriage debate, gay adoption rights/gay parenting;

Legal cases of hate crimes/anti-gay violence;

Experience of gay men and lesbians in the military;

Religious views on homosexuality; Issues facing gay/lesbian/bisexual elders;

Popular media images of gay men, lesbians and bisexuals.

### **Perspectives on Transgender**

“Passing” as the other sex; legal rights of transgendered individuals; sex reassignment medical treatment (including surgery) and medical insurance; “trans” men and women’s colleges; transgender children; media images of transgendered people.

### **Sexuality, Contraception and Reproductive Choice**

New developments in contraception for women and men;  
Birth control as a health care right; Abortion rights and reproductive choice;  
Contraception for minors; Teen pregnancy; HIV/AIDs and gender roles;  
Sex education in public schools.

### **Gender and Work**

Affirmative action; American and international parenting leave and support policies in the workplace for women and men; workplace issues for women of color; full time parenthood/homemaking as a career choice; women as entrepreneurs  
Gender and unionization; role of women/men in nontraditional occupations; status of women in science and engineering; Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and discrimination in the workplace; sexual harassment; gender and retirement; gender and disability; the “glass ceiling”, sexual segregation of the labor force (“pink collar work”).  
Globalization of labor and women in sweatshops;  
Microfinance as a strategy for women’s economic development (e.g., Grameen bank).

### **Gender and Work - Global Dimensions; Global Gender Issues; Contemporary Gender Equality/Women’s Movements**

Legal rights of women in specific countries (e.g., voting, education, employment, marriage, property, divorce, child custody);  
Issues of violence against women in different countries;  
Health issues of women in the developing world or in specific countries (e.g., maternal health, contraception, abortion, HIV/AIDS);  
International mobilizations for women’s rights (e.g., UN);  
Female circumcision/genital mutilation;  
Mail-order brides;  
Women and the politics of immigration;  
Contemporary feminist activists (e.g., Eve Ensler, author of *The Vagina Monologues*, Rebecca Walker) and groups (NOW); young women’s initiatives;  
Gender and American electoral politics;  
Men and feminism;  
Feminism and the environmental movement; web-based feminist organizing;  
Women as social entrepreneurs and philanthropists.

MIT OpenCourseWare  
<http://ocw.mit.edu>

WGS.101 Introduction to Women's and Gender Studies  
Fall 2014

For information about citing these materials or our Terms of Use, visit: <http://ocw.mit.edu/terms>.