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## **GENDER ROLES: INNATE OR SOCIALLY CONSTRUCTED**

## **ГЕНДЕРНЫЕ РОЛИ: ВРОЖДЁННЫЕ ИЛИ СОЦИАЛЬНО ОБУСЛОВЛЕННЫЕ**

The aim of the project is to examine the notion of gender roles, the impact it has on society and to analyze whether specific behavior based on a person's sex is more biological or social.

Gender signifies the complex of characteristics of women and men – such as norms, roles and relationships of and between groups of women and men. It varies from society to society and can be changed. From an early age people are taught appropriate norms and behaviors – including how they should interact with others of the same or opposite sex within households, communities and work places.

The next issue observed is gender roles, the meaning of the term and its history. In order to understand the roots of gender roles it was decided to study biological and social factors that can affect person's behavior. Some theories – which are collectively termed 'social construction theories' – claim that gender behavior is mostly due to social conventions. On the other hand, scientific studies indicate that hormones, genes, brain and brain's function has a measurable impact on the way we act.

A survey has been conducted among 40 first-year students to find out how people use these roles in their lives. The result shows that gender affects the way most respondents act and the way lots of them see their own family in the future.

The conclusion states that the notion "gender" is both biological and cultural, so gender roles result from both of the factors. People's daily life interactions, family life, parental guidance have a huge influence on person's gender as well as people's biology, genes, hormones and brain function. So it is necessary to focus on both biological and social factors.