

# GENDER

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# Sexism

- "Sexism involves individual attitudes and institutional arrangements that discriminate against people, usually women and girls, because of sex role stereotyping and generalizations."  
(Barker, R.L., 1995)

# Considerations in Gender-Role Typing

1. Biological sex.
2. Gender identity refers to the subjective sense of the individual as a male or female.
3. Gender role.

# Disadvantages of Stereotyping

- 1. Women generally have less education and less income than men.
- 2. Women are more likely to have a negative self-concept.
- 3. When women work outside the home, which most do, they are still expected to do the majority of the housework and child care.
- 4. A woman's value is "often defined by men in terms of her body and appearance" (Lott, 1994; McCammon et al., 1993, p. 299)

# "SPECIAL DISCLOSURE/TREATMENT ISSUES FOR MALE SURVIVORS OF SEXUAL ABUSE:

- myth that males cannot be sexually exploited
- victim role not culturally sanctioned
- men may have difficulty expressing feelings
- anger may lead to depression or aggression
- sexual dysfunction is incongruent with stereotype of masculine sexuality
- power and control may become primary in intimacy and sexuality

# COMPONENTS OF SEXUAL IDENTITY:

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- gender identity (perception of self)
- gender role ("feminine" or "masculine")
- sexual orientation  
(Berger & Kelly)

# GENDER ROLES BASED ON TYPE OF RELATIONSHIP:

- stage I ----- "survival"
- stage II ----- "self-fulfillment"

# THE "MEN'S MOVEMENT"

- mythopoetic branch  
(Robert Bly: Iron John)
- profeminist branch
- men's rights/ fathers' rights groups
- addiction/recovery groups
- religious men's groups