

Chapter One

Exploring Gender: A Multi-Dimensional Approach

I. Multiple Choice Questions

1. To the greatest extent, our gendered selves are fundamentally shaped by:
 - a. the social world in which we live and interact
 - b. biological drives
 - c. chromosomes
 - d. it depends on our personalitiesAnswer A (p. 2)
2. An individual's choice to curl her/his hair, pierce her/his ears or wear lipstick is primarily influenced by:
 - a. body type
 - b. societal expectations
 - c. personality type
 - d. parentsAnswer B (p. 2)
3. Compared with initiation rites around the world, the Canadian practice of dividing children's clothing into "pink" and "blue" can be considered:
 - a. innocuous
 - b. equally powerful and potentially damaging
 - c. abusive
 - d. irrationalAnswer B (p. 2)
4. What is being highlighted when we use the term "gender" rather than "sex"?
 - a. the irrelevance of biological differences between human beings
 - b. the biological basis for the division of labour
 - c. the impossibility of challenging the subordinate position of women in society
 - d. the reality that many obstacles that women and men face result from cultural constraintsAnswer D (p. 2)
5. Approximately what percent of human beings are born with genitalia rendering the determination of their "sex" problematic and/or ambiguous?
 - a. 0%
 - b. 1%
 - c. 4%
 - d. 24%

Answer C (p. 3)

6. What is the term for a person with ambiguous genitalia and/or who does not fit neatly into the categories of male or female?
- a. intersexed
 - b. multi-sexed
 - c. androgynous
 - d. anatomically ambiguous

Answer A (p. 3)

7. The classic case of David Reimer offers evidence that
- a. people's true biological sex is often at war with their assigned gender identity
 - b. nature always trumps nurture
 - c. nurture always trumps nature
 - d. we still do not fully understand the various contributions of nature and nurture to a person's gendered self

Answer D (p. 4-5)

8. In reference to a multi-dimensional approach to the study of gender, the authors of the text use an approach known as the _____ perspective.
- a. interactional
 - b. socio-cultural
 - c. gender
 - d. institutional

Answer C (p. 5)

9. Which of the terms below stands for a society that is hierarchically organized, with males disproportionately dominating major social institutions?
- a. apartheid
 - b. patriarchal
 - c. male-centric
 - d. male-identified

Answer B (p. 6)

10. _____ is the name for the system in which some races of people are considered superior to others, and are afforded specific privileges.
- a. Apartheid
 - b. Subliminal racism
 - c. Patriarchy
 - d. Heteronormativity

Answer A (p. 6)

11. In his book *The Gender Knot: Unraveling Our Patriarchal Legacy*, sociologist Allan Johnson argues that patriarchy is built on the ideology of male supremacy. What are the two core values that accompany and support such a system?
- a. control and domination
 - b. vulnerability and fear
 - c. courage and valor
 - d. pride and prejudice
- Answer A (p. 7).
12. When male anatomy is treated as the standard in medical discussions of the human body or when the term “reasonable man” is used in legal discourse in reference to any person, _____ is being revealed.
- a. male-identification
 - b. male-dominance
 - c. the masculine mystique
 - d. heteronormativity
- Answer A (p. 8)
13. What is a parent doing when s/he raises a daughter to nurture others and a son to strive for success?
- a. supporting what comes naturally
 - b. reproducing heteronormativity
 - c. recreating conventional gender patterns
 - d. challenging nurture
- Answer C (p. 8)
14. How do contemporary sociologists generally view an individual’s gender identity?
- a. as a source of oppression and domination
 - b. as something that is determined by chromosomes
 - c. as something static and permanent
 - d. as something that is fluid and relational
- Answer D (pp. 8-9)
15. What widely accepted belief about gender was challenged in Joseph Pleck’s classic text *The Myth of Masculinity* (1981)?
- a. successful men and women develop appropriate sex role identities
 - b. successful men and women challenge social conventions
 - c. the masculine sex role identity is contradictory
 - d. gender is determined by sex
- Answer A (p. 9)

16. In *Am I a Woman? A Skeptic's Guide to Gender* (2003), Cynthia Eller suggests that most of us:
- a. live up to society's gender expectations
 - b. overtly challenge society's gender expectations
 - c. do not, in fact, live up to society's gender expectations
 - d. are indifferent about society's gender expectations
- Answer C (p. 10).
17. When are we engaged in "doing" gender?
- a. only during highly gendered activities
 - b. when we interact in mixed-gender company only
 - c. it depends upon the individual
 - d. every time we interact with other human beings
- Answer D (p. 10).
18. The Canadian sociologist David Cheal (1989) conducted research on the gendered nature of the interactions that takes place during this type of social event:
- a. traditional bridal showers
 - b. wedding ceremonies
 - c. sporting events
 - d. dinner parties
- Answer A (p. 11)
19. What is the name for the form of masculinity that is performed by dominant cultural leaders and which oppresses those who do not conform to its standard?
- a. tyrannical masculinity
 - b. hegemonic masculinity
 - c. domineering masculinity
 - d. denigrator masculinity
- Answer B (p. 12).
20. The combination of features within this educational institution that create, maintain, and/or undermine specific gendered practices is its _____.
- a. gender bias
 - b. gender ideology
 - c. gender regime
 - d. militarized gender system
- Answer C (p. 13).