





Debate: The Role of Gender in Society







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Welcome to today's debate on gender and society. In this activity, you will explore different perspectives on how gender norms affect individuals and society as a whole. Through this debate, you will learn to evaluate evidence, listen to different viewpoints, and develop your own informed opinions.

The Key Concepts that we are going to discuss in this debate are:



Gender norms are *societal expectations* about how people should behave based on their perceived gender.



Throughout history, movements such as *Women's Rights and LGBTQ+ Rights* have challenged traditional gender norms, pushing for greater equality and inclusivity.



We'll discuss *different aspects of gender in society* and explore the question: How do gender norms influence the way we live and interact with others?



In this debate, you will be divided into teams. Each team will represent a different side of an argument related to gender and society. Your goal is to present the strongest possible case using evidence, logic, and persuasive communication.

Debate Format:

Opening Statements: Each team will present their position (3 minutes per team)

Rebuttals: Teams will respond to the opposing team's argument (2 minutes per team)

Cross-Examination: Teams will ask each other questions (2 minutes per team)

Closing Statements: Each team will summarize their position (2 minutes per team)

Class Discussion: After the debate, the class will discuss what was learned, how views may have changed, and the importance of respectful dialogue.



Debate Rules:

Respect for Others: Listen carefully when others are speaking and do not interrupt. Everyone deserves to be heard.



Stick to the Time Limits: Make sure to stay within the time limits for each part of the debate. Your team will lose points for going over time.



No Personal Attacks: Focus on the argument, not the person making it. This debate is about ideas, not individuals.



Use Evidence: Support your points with facts, examples, or historical references. Unsubstantiated opinions will not be as persuasive.



Be Open-minded: The goal of the debate is not to "win" but to engage in thoughtful discussion. Be willing to reconsider your views if new information is presented.







Does media representation of LGBTQ+ people help or harm social progress?

TEAM A

Yes, representation helps break stereotypes and fosters understanding.

TEAM B

No, some portrayals reinforce stereotypes and limit the complexity of LGBTQ+ identities.





Should schools enforce gender-neutral uniforms?

TEAM A

Yes, it promotes equality and inclusion.

TEAM B

No, students should have the freedom to express themselves through clothing.



Research Worksheet

Name:	Main Argument/Claim
Date:	
Topic of Argument:	Sub-Argument 1:
	Sub-Algument 1.
	Sub-Argument 2:
	Sub-Argument 3:

Historical Movements

- Event/Movement Name:
- Time Period:
- Key Figures (if applicable):
- How it supports your argument:

Current Events

- Event Name:
- Date:
- Details:
- How it supports your argument:

Sources



Reflection on Gender and Identity Debate

What I learned today? Reflect on these questions:

How did engaging with multiple viewpoints (including both sides of the argument) impact your understanding of gender and identity?

What arguments from the opposing side challenged or shifted your perspective, if any?

How has this debate influenced your views on gender roles, gender identity, or inclusivity?

Why is inclusive gender education important in today's society?

Group Discussion:

Participate in a post-debate group discussion where you will share your thoughts and reflections with your peers. Listen to how others' perspectives may have shifted or evolved and discuss the importance of fostering a more inclusive and understanding approach to gender education.

Written Submission:

Write a 1-2 page reflection based on your personal experiences during the debate and the group discussion. Use specific examples from the debate to support your points.

responsible for them.



