

What is the Sociology of Sex and Gender?

I. Important Terms

- A. Sex
- B. Gender
- C. Sex Category

II. Two Major Issues to Confront

- A. Gender Differentiation
- B. Gender inequality

III. A Sociological Approach – The Sociological Imagination

- A. Personal troubles vs. public issues
- B. Social structure
- C. Systematic/Empirical

IV. History of Sociology of Sex and Gender

- A. Arose out of women's movement
- B. Add women and mix approach
 - 1. could simply “add” to the knowledge of men
 - 2. emphasis on differences
 - 3. only women are “gendered”

V. Recent Sociological Knowledge

- A. Increased recognition that differences among are larger than differences between
- B. both women and men are “gendered”
- C. Gender is relational
- D. Variation among -> multiple masculinities and femininities
- E. Race, class, and gender variation

VI. Major Frameworks

- A. Individual characteristic
- B. Social interaction
- C. Institutional/Structural

VII. Three major conclusions

- A. Gender is socially constructed
- B. not simply a characteristic of the individual
- C. important in organizing relations of inequality