

GENDER MATTERS

March 8, 2021



Here is the online version of *Gender Matters*, drawn from *Speaking Rights*.

This activity has been modified to be facilitated in a virtual meeting.

- **Age:** 12+
- **Time:** 30 min
- **Purpose:** To think about gender stereotypes, roles and issues

Material:

- For this activity, you will need to use a collaborative virtual whiteboard that all participants will be able to write on and paste pictures into. Some examples of a whiteboard could be Google Jamboard, Mural, Sketchtogether, etc.

How to play :

1. Ask participants to find two pictures online. One photo should represent what they think society typically associates with women and one should be of represent what they think society typically associates with men.
2. Ask participants to paste the photo they chose of women on the collaborative whiteboard. Cluster the photos in the center of the whiteboard.
3. Ask participants to write down characteristics that society associates with women next to the cluster of photos. When participants are done, take a screen capture, or make sure to save the collective image that has been created.



4. Repeat steps 2 and 3 on a fresh whiteboard but this time, do it with the photos related to men.
5. Explore the question of stereotypes associated with men and women by asking participants to share other characteristics of men and women that are not stereotypes.

Group discussion:

Feel:

- How does it feel to read those stereotypes about gender? Why?

Think:

- What are some ways that some people don't fit within those characteristics?
- What are the consequences of stereotyping on men, women, and non-binary or trans people?

Act:

- How can we promote more respect of the various ways people express their gender?
- What can we do to change stereotypes?

Human rights education for building welcoming and inclusive spaces.

This activity uses our **3-step participatory approach** to promote learning about human rights and human rights values leading to action:

1. Children and youth participate in activities that promote learning about human rights and human rights values (e.g. inclusion, respect for diversity, responsibility).
2. Children and youth discuss how an activity made them feel, what it made them think about, and what they can change (act) in their own attitudes and behaviours and those of their peers.
3. Together children and youth take action to promote respect for human rights values and children's rights, and greater understanding, acceptance and inclusion in their classrooms, school playgrounds and communities.

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