

Name of author: Cornea Mara, Sandu Bianca, Sora Amalia

Age: 13-14 years old

Name of school: „Tudor Vladimirescu” School

Country, county, city: ROMÂNIA, ARGEȘ, PITEȘTI

Coordinating teacher: Mihail Elena Marilena

Gender Equality

It's time to shed more light on progress being made towards gender equality!

Girls and boys see gender inequality in their homes and communities every day – in textbooks, in the media and among the adults who care for them. Parents may assume unequal responsibility for household work, with mothers bearing the brunt of caregiving and chores. Gender equality is not only a fundamental human right, but a necessary foundation for a peaceful, prosperous and sustainable world. But what can we do to make the world treat everyone the same?

What is “Gender Equality” and why do we need it?

Gender equality is when people of all genders have equal rights, responsibilities and opportunities. It means that all genders are free to pursue whatever career, lifestyle choice, and abilities they want without discrimination. Gender equality does not necessarily mean that everyone is treated exactly the same. Their different needs and dreams are valued equally.

We need gender equality because:

- it prevents violence against women and girls
- it's essential for economic prosperity
- when women make their own reproductive choices, they provide better care for the children they do have
- it can lead to peace (research shows that gender equality is linked to peace, states with better gender equality are less likely to use military force)
- it reduces human trafficking
- it can also help strengthen a country, reducing poverty and instability

What causes “Gender Inequality”?

Gender inequality and resulting discrimination begin in childhood. From the moment they’re born, girls and boys face unequal gender norms regarding expectations and access to resources and opportunities, with lifelong consequences – in their homes, schools and communities.

Here are the main causes of gender inequality:

- ***Racism*** { It would be impossible to talk about gender inequality without talking about racism. It affects what jobs women of color are able to get and how much they’re paid, as well as how they are viewed by legal and healthcare systems.}
- ***Lack of religious freedom*** { When religious freedom is attacked, women suffer the most. According to the World Economic Forum, when extremist ideologies (such as ISIS) come into a community and restrict religious freedom, gender inequality gets worse.}
- ***Poor medical care*** { In addition to limited access to contraception, women overall receive lower-quality medical care than men. This is linked to other gender inequality reasons such as a lack of education and job opportunities, which results in more women being in poverty.}
- ***Job segregation*** { One of the causes for gender inequality within employment is the division of jobs. In most societies, there’s an inherent belief that men are simply better equipped to handle certain jobs. Most of the time, those are the jobs that pay the best. This discrimination results in lower income for women..}
- ***Uneven access to education*** { Around the world, women still have less access to education than men. ¼ of young women between 15-24 will not finish primary school. That group makes up 58% of the people not completing that basic education. When girls are not educated on the same level as boys, it has a huge effect on their future and the kinds of opportunities they’ll get.}
- ***Social mindsets*** { How society determines the differences and value of men vs. women plays a starring role in every arena, whether it’s employment or the legal system or healthcare. Beliefs about gender run deep and even though progress

can be made through laws and structural changes, there's often a pushback following times of major change.}

What are the consequences of “Gender Inequality”?

Gender inequality affects everyone, including men. Stereotypes or ‘rules’ about how women and men, girls and boys should begin in childhood and follow us through to adulthood.

The main consequences are:

- Gender stereotypes affect children's sense of self from a young age
- Traditional stereotypes are difficult for many men to live up to. They feel pressure to be a ‘real man’, to be physically and emotionally strong, and be the main income earner.
- Women with disabilities are more likely to experience family violence and sexual assault.
- Women with disabilities are more likely to experience family violence and sexual assault.
- Women with disabilities are more likely to experience family violence and sexual assault.

Facts about “Gender Equality and Inequality”

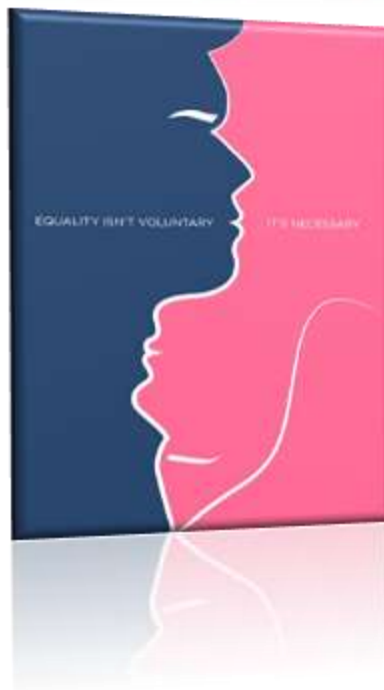
- Boys receive 8 times more attention in the classroom than girls
- Girls receive 11% less pocket money than boys
- 104 countries make certain jobs off-limits for women
- 113 countries do not have laws to ensure equal pay for equal work among men and women
- 29 countries restrict the hours women can work
- In 18 countries, husbands can legally prevent their wives from working
- In the Nordic Region, a greater proportion of women than men have a higher education. 61% of those with higher education qualifications are women



"There is no such thing as a woman who doesn't work. There is only a woman who isn't paid for her work."



"You will often feel as if you don't fit, but it has never been your destiny to fit in. You were born to stand out." — Melene Rossouw



"Life doesn't always give us what we deserve, but rather, what we demand. And so you must continue to push harder than any other person in the room." — Wadi Ben-Hirki

Sources:

<https://www.unicef.org/gender-equality>

<https://www.savethechildren.org/us/charity-stories/how-gender-discrimination-impacts-boys-and-girls>

<https://www.vic.gov.au/gender-inequality-affects-everyone>

<https://www.humanrightscareers.com/issues/causes-gender-inequality/>

https://www.google.com/imgres?imgurl=https%3A%2F%2Fd2tyltutevw8th.cloudfront.net%2Fmedia%2Fimage%2Fgender-equality-640-1564156673.jpg&imgrefurl=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.gfmag.com%2Fmagazine%2Fjulyaugust-2019%2Fgender-equality-not-there-yet&tbnid=mg-ALLrO1bmUVM&vet=1&docid=WZniq9qzXzA_sM&w=640&h=252&hl=en-GB&source=sh%2Fx%2Fim

https://www.google.com/imgres?imgurl=https%3A%2F%2Fassets.entrepreneur.com%2Fcontent%2F3x2%2F2000%2F20160410065159-shutterstock-344106041.jpeg%3Fwidth=700%26crop=2%3A1&imgrefurl=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.entrepreneur.com%2Farticle%2F273825&tbnid=_pXHZ_JXt199-M&vet=1&docid=OEqnHz63hzQn1M&w=700&h=350&itg=1&hl=en-GB&source=sh%2Fx%2Fim

<https://images.app.goo.gl/BYcwcNAvrXrVgrj36>
