

Gender Development

Judith E. Owen Blakemore

Indiana University–Purdue University Fort Wayne

Sheri A. Berenbaum

The Pennsylvania State University

Lynn S. Liben

The Pennsylvania State University

 Psychology Press
Taylor & Francis Group

New York London

Contents

Preface

ix

Part I: Introduction to the World of Gender Development

1 Introduction	1
The Many Components of Sex and Gender	2
Feminism and Feminist Critiques of Science	12
Children's Gender Development	13
Chapter Summary	17
2. History of the Study of Gender Development	19
The Early Study of Sex Differences	19
Psychoanalytic Theory	28
Transition to the Current Research: Changes During the 1960s and 1970s	33
Chapter Summary	37

Part II: Describing Differences Between the Sexes

3. Biological Foundations of Sex and Gender	39
What Makes Someone a Boy or Girl, Man or Woman?	39
Early Biological Processes of Sex Determination and Differentiation	40
Puberty	54
Physical Sex Differences of Importance for Gender Development	60
Brain Underpinnings of Sex and Gender	64
Evolution: Why Sex Differences?	66
Chapter Summary	68
4 Motor Development and Cognition	69
What It Means to Say There Is a Sex or Gender Difference	70
Motor Development and Motor Skills	74
Activity Level	78
Intellectual and Cognitive Skills	78
Chapter Summary	94
5 Personality and Social Behaviors	95
Emotions	96
Other Forms of Social Cognition	105
Prosocial Behaviors	106
Physically Active Play, Participation in Sports, Risk-Taking, Accidents, and Injury	108
Aggression	112
Morality	118
Personality and Self-Esteem	121

Toys, Activities, and Interests	125
Psychopathology	127
Chapter Summary	131

Part III: Approaches to Explaining Gender Development

6 Biological Approaches to Gender Development	133
Evolutionary Perspectives on Gender Development: Sex Differences in Behavior Arise From Evolutionary Pressures	134
Genetic Perspectives on Gender Development	138
Hormonal Perspectives on Gender Development: Sex Hormones Affect More Than the Genitalia	143
Early Organizational Hormones	144
Hormones at Adolescence and Beyond	163
Brain Perspectives on Gender Development	169
Chapter Summary	176
7 Social Approaches to Gender Development	177
Psychoanalytic Theory	177
Learning Theories	180
Social Role Theory	185
Bronfenbrenner's Ecological Theory	188
Social Construction Theories of Gender	191
Chapter Summary	196
8 Cognitive Approaches to Gender Development	197
Types and Qualities of Theories	197
The Cognitive Environmental Approach	199
The Developmental Constructivist Approach	203
Chapter Summary	225

Part IV: Social and Cognitive Agents of Gender Development

9 The Cognitive Self as an Agent of Gender Development	227
Gender Categories	228
Gender Concepts	233
Gender Correlates	243
The Effects of Gender Cognitions on Information Processing	253
The Impact of Gender Constancy	265
Chapter Summary	269
10 The Family as an Agent of Gender Development	271
Parental Preference for Child Sex	271
Types and Mechanisms of Parental Influence	272
The Impact of Different Kinds of Families	294
The Impact of Siblings	298
Other Family Relationships	301
Chapter Summary	303

11 The Peer Group as an Agent of Gender Development	305
The Developmental Progression of Gender Segregation	306
The “Two Cultures” of Childhood	306
Why Do Children Play in Gender-Segregated Groups?	312
Popular Boys and Popular Girls	318
Boys’ and Girls’ Friendships	322
Dating and Romantic Relationships	323
Gender and Youth Gangs	329
The Impact of Peers on Gender Development	331
Chapter Summary	337
12 The Media as an Agent of Gender Development	339
Children’s Books	339
Television	344
Video Games and Computers	350
Toys	352
The Impact of Toys and the Media on Children’s Gender Development	355
Chapter Summary	364
13 The School as an Agent of Gender Development	365
Academic Performance: How Do Boys and Girls Perform in School?	366
Completing High School and Continuing on to Postsecondary Education	367
Behavior and Attitudes	369
Treatment of Boys and Girls by Teachers	373
Textbooks and Academic Subject Matter	382
Structure of Schools	383
The Movement for Gender Equity in Schools	387
What About Single-Sex Schools?	388
Chapter Summary	390
<i>Epilogue</i>	391
<i>Glossary</i>	395
<i>References</i>	413
<i>Author Index</i>	481
<i>Subject Index</i>	507