
Role of Women in STEM Fields/STEM Gap and Gender Stereotypes.

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Abstract

Successfully advancing through 21st century but still the society is facing the consequences of gender stereotypes. Modern women constitute only 34 percent of the workforce in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) and men vastly outnumber women in most STEM fields and jobs. Women from centuries are advised to confine themselves within traditional subjects in education irrespective of their talent and interest in STEM subjects. In Indian societies it's the parents and families that still decide subjects to study and future professions for women that will be convenient for them to carry on after marriage and kids. Engineering and computer science are two of the most lucrative STEM fields which are heavily dominated by males. Women occupy only 21 percent of engineering and 19 percent of computer science majors. The development of a nation and society is directly proportional to advancement in female education in science and technology. So it is the high time when we should stop steering girls away from latest STEM subjects. Government should also ensure safety measures and rules and regulations at government and non-government organizations even in odd working hours to promote their participation in STEM field related jobs. A lot change in outlook is required on behalf of families and society to break the gender stereotypes and STEM fields should not be tagged as masculine. We need to bridge the confidence gap between men and women for opting STEM subjects and related professions.

Keywords: women, role, society, STEM, profesion.

Successfully advancing through the 21st century, but society is still facing the consequences of gender stereotypes. Modern women constitute only 34% of the workforce in society in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM), and men vastly outnumber women majoring in most STEM fields in colleges and universities. What is alarming is that gender gaps are particularly high in some of the fastest-growing and highest-paid jobs of the future, like computer science and engineering.

Introduction:

From time to memorials, women have been advised to confine themselves to traditional subjects in education irrespective of their talent and interest in STEM subjects. Women were conditioned to opt for subjects that could give them safer government jobs with limited workers, like teaching, banking, etc. Instead of pursuing the latest STEM subjects, they open avenues for private corporate sector job security and long working hours. Indian societies and families, especially middle-class families, are educating and promoting female education but with limited access to their choice of subjects. It's the parents and families that still decide on subjects and professions for women that will be convenient for them to carry on even after marriage so that they can balance both their professional and personal lives. Engineering and computer science are two of the most lucrative STEM fields, and they are heavily male-dominated. Women occupy only 21% of engineering and 19% of Comp science majors. It's high time we stopped steering girls away from challenging the latest subjects, including math and science.

The development of a nation and society is directly proportional to advancement in female education in science and technology. Women should be provided with equal opportunities to pursue and thrive in STEM careers that will help narrow the gender pay gap, embrace women's economic security, ensure a diverse and talented STEM workforce, and prevent parents' biases in these fields and the products and the products and services they produce.

The government should also take strong steps to ensure workplace and safety concerns for women, even during odd working hours, so that women and their families may never hesitate in choosing challenging jobs and professions.

Generally, a STEM worker earns two-thirds more than those employed in other fields, according to a few research centers and some of the highest earnings. STEM occupations, such as computer science and engineering, have the lowest percentage of women workers. A lot is required on behalf of families and society to change the outlook and break gender stereotypes. STEM fields should not be seen as masculine, and teachers and parents should identify and promote math attributes in girls as early as preschool. As fewer women study and work in STEM, these fields tend to be inflexible, male-dominated, non-supportive, and more unattractive to women and minorities. We need to bridge the confidence gap between men and women for STEM subjects. Overall improvement is needed in job hiring, retention, and promotion pathways, and intentionally inclusive cultures.

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