

# **ORIENTATION TO THE CONCEPT OF GENDER SENSITIZATION AND HUMAN RIGHTS**



# UNDERSTANDING GENDER

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- It reviews and explains key **concepts on gender, social construction of gender, gender roles and stereotypes** and **gendered institutions and structures** .
  - which sensitize participants on how gender is socially constructed and how it shapes masculine and feminine identities, behaviors, attitudes and practices with particular reference to gender inequalities.
  - It also shows the historical perspectives of gender with the aim of putting into historical perspective the struggle for gender equality and identifies key landmarks in this process
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# *Definition and difference between gender and sex*

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- ***Gender' refers to the socially determined ideas and practices of what it is to be female or male, how a person's biology is culturally valued and interpreted into locally accepted ideas of what it is to be a woman or man .***
  - *Whereas 'Sex' refers to the biological characteristics that categorize someone as having either a female or male body*
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# Read out the following statements & comment:

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- Men do not need tenderness and are less sensitive than women
  - Most drivers in Rwanda are men
  - Women give birth to babies men don't
  - Care of babies is the responsibility of women
  - Only women can breastfeed babies
  - Men have moustache
  - Women cannot carry heavy loads
  - Women are scared of working outside their homes at night
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# Continued...

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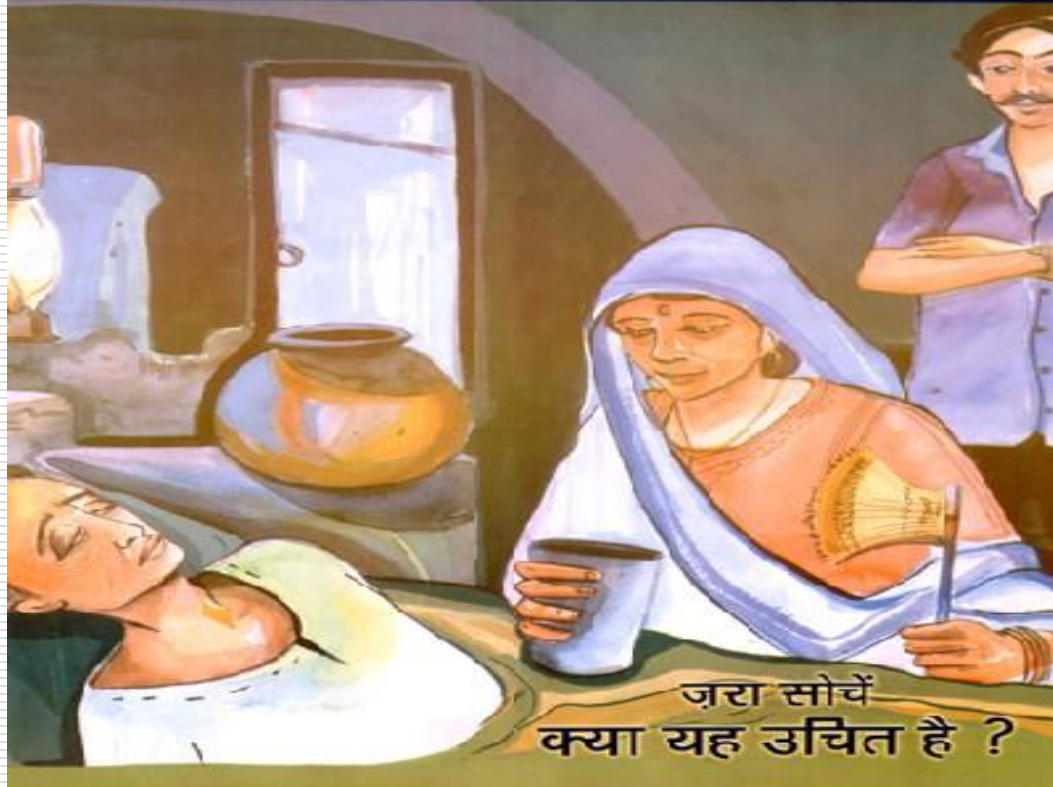
- Men's voices break at puberty women's don't
- Women are emotional and men are rational
- Most of the women have long hair and men have short hair
- Most scientists are men
- Cooking comes naturally to women

# Objectives

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- To enable the participants to reflect on their understanding of sex and gender
  - To clarify the difference between sex and gender for the participants
  - To increase the understanding of the concept of gender
  - To increase the comfort level of participants with these issues
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बीमार और वृद्ध की सेवा करे औरत पर,  
बुढ़ापे का सहारा कहलाये पुरुष



ज़रा सोचें  
क्या यह उचित है ?

# Key message

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- Gender and sex are two different concepts with different meanings
- Sex refers to biological characteristics that categorize someone as having either a female or male
- Gender is the result of a social construction



बोये जाते हैं बेटे  
उग आती हैं बेटियाँ  
खाद पायी बेटों में , पर लक्ष्महाती हैं बेटियाँ  
एक्स्ट्रा नाम लेते जाते हैं बेटे  
चढ़ जाती हैं बेटियाँ,  
स्नानते हैं बेटे , और रोती हैं बेटियाँ  
गिरते हैं बेटे संभाल लेती हैं बेटियाँ



लड़का घर का  
वारिस है  
लड़की हक़ से  
ख़ारिज है

सहयोग

सी०पी०डब्ल्यू०एस०

सत्यमेव जयते, १, टाउनशिप मार्ग, इलाहाबाद

महिलाओं को भी मौका दें



# DIFFERENCE BETWEEN GENDER AND SEX

- It is important not to undermine the significance of biological difference.
- Some biological/physical differences do require differential treatment.
- Women's marginalization has often been seen as 'natural' and a fact of their biology.
- However these biological differences cannot explain why women have less access to power and lower status than men.
- Gender identities and associated expectations of roles and responsibilities are therefore changeable between and within cultures.



# DIFFERENCE BETWEEN GENDER AND SEX

## SEX

- Biologically determined
- Universal for all human beings
- Unchanging
- Inborn

## GENDER

- Constructed by society
- Multi-faceted differs within and between cultures
- Dynamic, changes over time
- Acquired

