



SEXUALITY & GENDER

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OUTLINE

- The physical structures of sexuality
- Gender Identity
- What influences gender identity
- Gender-role development
- Sexual orientation
- Intersectionality



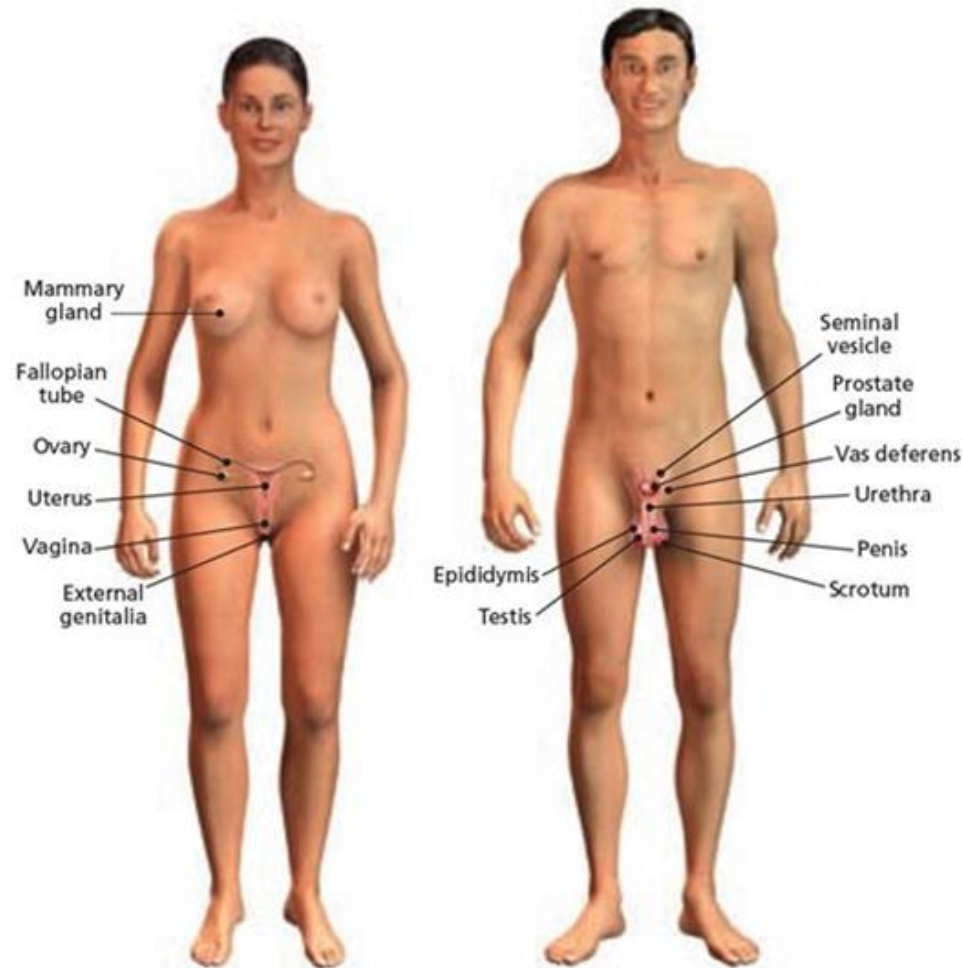
THE PHYSICAL STRUCTURES OF SEXUALITY

- Primary sex characteristics
 - Sexual organs present at birth and directly involved in human reproduction i.e. vagina, uterus, ovaries, penis, testicles, scrotum, prostate gland



Figure 10.1 Male and Female Sexual Organs

These figures show the sexual organs of men and women. With the exception of breast tissue development in the female, which occurs during puberty, all of these structures develop during the prenatal period.



THE PHYSICAL STRUCTURES OF SEXUALITY

- Secondary sex characteristics
 - Develops during puberty
 - Distinguish the male from the female and act as attractants to members of the opposite sex, ensuring that sexual activity and reproduction will occur
 - E.g. enlargement of breasts, wider hips, growth of pubic and axillary hair in females. Deepening voice, emergence of facial, chest and pubic hair, coarser skin texture in males



ABOUT 5 WEEKS OF PREGNANCY

- Gonads are formed in the embryo. At this stage, the gonads are undifferentiated – neither fully male or fully female.
- Two sets of ducts (tubes), the Wolffian ducts and the Müllerian ducts.
- If the 23rd pair of chromosomes contain a Y chromosome, a gene on that Y chromosome causes the gonads to release testosterone, *a male hormone*, or androgen.
- Testosterone causes the Wolffian ducts to develop into the male sex organs, while the Müllerian ducts deteriorate.

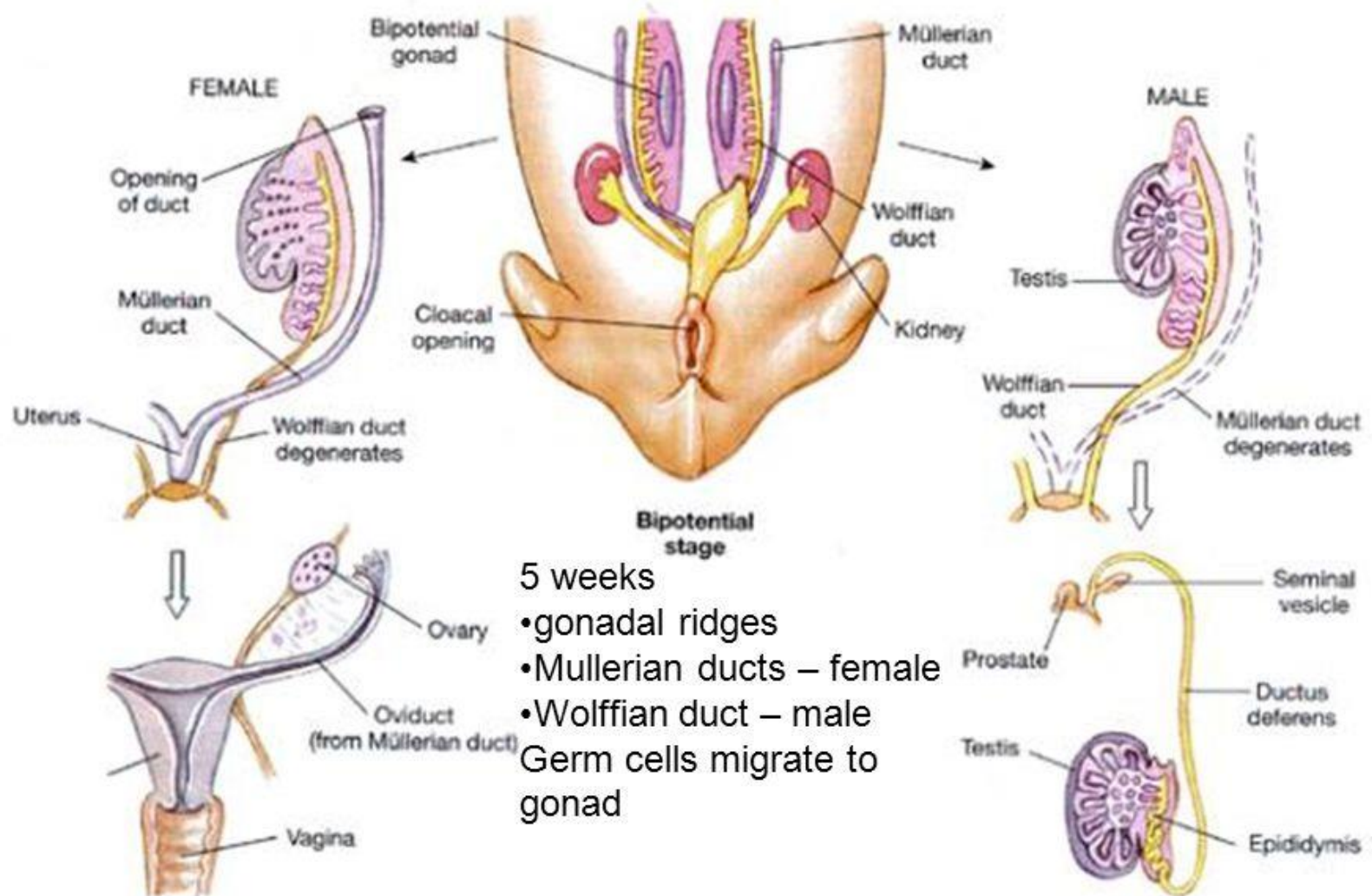


ABOUT 5 WEEKS OF PREGNANCY

- When there is no Y gene, there is no testosterone.
- The gonads will develop into the estrogen-secreting ovaries. the Müllerian ducts become the female sex organs while the Woffian ducts deteriorate.



Reproductive System Development



GENDER

- The psychological aspects of being male or female (a sense of being male or female)
- Gender includes components such as gender identity and expression, but not sexual orientation.
- Once young children learn to talk, most will declare a gender identity, boy or girl, that aligns with their biological sex.



GENDER

- Identity is not that clear-cut.
- Around two years old, children become conscious of the physical differences between boys and girls.
- By age four, most children have a stable sense of their gender identity and start learning gender-role behaviours



GENDER

- Hear Kids' Honest Opinions on Being a Boy or Girl Around the World | National Geographic
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2B3ea7IGwLA>



GENDER IDENTITY

- Gender identity is a person's deep-seated, internal sense of who they are as a gendered being. The gender with which they identify themselves.
- Sexual orientation is a person's feelings of attraction toward other people. A person may be attracted to people of the same sex, of the opposite sex, of both sexes, or without reference to sex or gender. Some people do not experience sexual attraction and may identify as asexual. Sexual orientation is about attraction to other people (external), while gender identity is a sense of self (internal)



GENDER ROLES

- Gender roles are **the culture's expectations** for behaviour of a person who is perceived as male or female, including attitudes, actions, and personality traits associated with a particular gender within the culture.
- What are your gender roles in your culture?



GENDER IDENTITY

- People's sense of gender identity does not always match their external appearance or even the sex chromosomes that determine whether they are male or female.
- Why is Gender Identity so Important? | Rikki Arundel |
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IFBU7h7fqLc>



GENDER IDENTITY

- Why is Gender Identity so Important? | Rikki Arundel |
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IS GENDER FLUID OR BINARY?

- Genderfluid is when someone whose gender identity or expression shifts between man/masculine and woman/feminine or falls somewhere along this spectrum.
- Gender binary is the idea that gender is strictly an either – or option of male/man/masculine or female/woman/feminine based on sex assigned at birth, rather than a continuum or spectrum of gender identities and expressions.



GENDER FLUIDITY

- Gender fluidity: Gabrielle Burton at TEDxColumbus
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YOkyc91eY90>



GENDER DYSPHORIA

- The medical diagnosis for being transgender as defined by the American Psychiatric Association's Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, fifth edition (DSM-5). The inclusion of gender dysphoria as a diagnosis in DSM-5 is controversial in transgender communities.
- Why is it controversial?



Agender

Transgender

Queer

Lesbian

Bisexual

Heterosexual

Gay

Homosexual

Androgynous

Cisgender

LGBTQ

Transsexual

EXAMPLES OF TERMINOLOGY

- Queer is an umbrella term for a range of people who are not heterosexual and/or cisgender. It has been historically used as a slur; some have reclaimed it as affirming, while others still consider it derogatory.
- Genderqueer is someone whose gender identity is neither man nor woman, is between or beyond genders, or is some combination of genders
- Agender describes a person who does not identify as having a gender identity that can be categorised as man or woman or who identifies as not having a gender identity.



EXAMPLES OF TERMINOLOGY

- Cisgender describes a person whose gender identity matches the biological sex they were assigned at birth.
- Transsexual is an older term that has been used to refer to a transgender person who has had hormonal or surgical interventions to change their body to be more aligned with their gender identity than with the sex that they were assigned at birth. While still used as an identity label by some, “transgender” has generally become the term of choice.



WHAT INFLUENCES GENDER IDENTITY

- Psychological influences
- Follow a Transgender Teen's Emotional Journey To Womanhood | National Geographic
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Uqnpmpj7YD8>
- Growing Up Transgender and Mormon | Short Film Showcase
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z8FZewEPAAk>



WHAT INFLUENCES GENDER IDENTITY

- Biological influences
- Biology has an important role in gender identity, at least in certain aspects of gender identity and behaviour.
- In one study, 25 genetically male children who were born with ambiguous genitalia were surgically altered and raised as girls. When they are older, they prefer male play activities. 14 of them later declared themselves to be boys (Reiner, 2000). However, it is still difficult to certainly conclude in that way.



WHAT INFLUENCES GENDER IDENTITY

- Environmental influences
- Social pressure plays a huge part in gender identity.
- Think of situations when you were told off because you didn't conform to the social norm...
- What are the gender roles in Thai cultures?



GENDER-ROLE DEVELOPMENT

- How do children acquire the knowledge of their society or culture's gender-role expectations?
- **Social learning theory:** learning through observation and imitation of models. When children imitate the appropriate gender behaviours, they are reinforced positively.



GENDER-ROLE DEVELOPMENT

- **Gender schema theory:** combines social learning theory with cognitive development. Children develop a schema or mental pattern for being male or female. Once that schema is in place, children can identify themselves as “boy” or “girl”. They notice the behaviour of other boys or girls and imitate that behaviour.



STEREOTYPES & GENDER ROLES

- A set of characteristics that people believe is shared by all members of a particular social category.
- Eight-Year-Old Girl Calls Tesco Out Over 'Sexist' Kids Clothes
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9R1Pf7zFHF&t=16s>



ANDROGYNY

- Androgyny is a characteristic of people whose personalities reflect the characteristics of both males and females, regardless of gender. They can make a decision based on the situation rather than on being masculine or feminine.

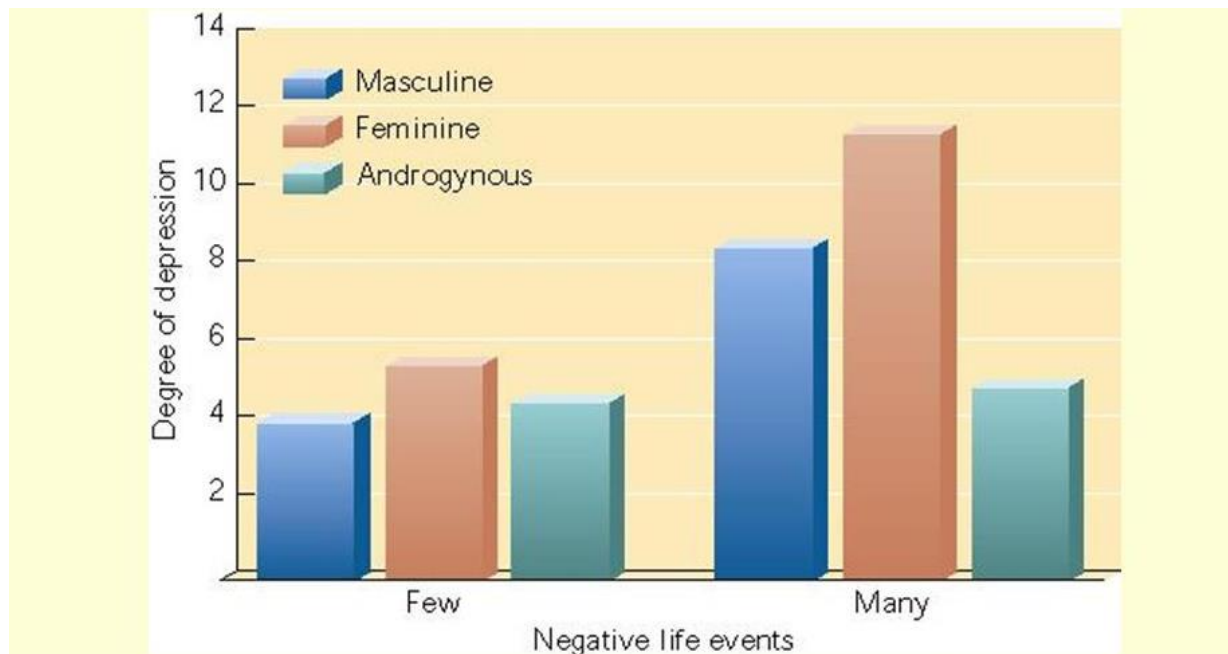


Fig. 13.6 Another indication of the possible benefits of androgyny is found in a study of reactions to stress. When confronted with an onslaught of negative events, strongly masculine or feminine persons become more depressed than androgynous individuals do. (Adapted from Roos & Cohen, 1987.)

SEXUAL ORIENTATION

- Unlike gender identity, sexual orientation refers to a person's sexual attraction and affection for members of either the opposite or the same sex.
- Heterosexual, Homosexual, Bisexual and Asexual
- Many people experiment with alternative sexual behaviour before deciding upon their true sexual identity; one bisexual experiences does not make a person bisexual any more than one homosexual experience makes a person homosexual.



COME OUT

- Coming Out to Mom Live

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vHXbgB0w47Q>



INTERSECTIONALITY

- Intersectionality is a sociological theory describing multiple threats of discrimination when an individual's identities overlap with a number of minority classes — such as race, gender, age, ethnicity, health and other characteristics.

