Gender Quiz

Gender Equality
April 2007

Division for Gender Equality
Bureau of Strategic Planning
1. If sex refers to the biological differences between men and women, **gender** refers to...

   a) Socially constructed roles and responsibilities of men and women
   b) A concept that may change over time and vary within and between cultures
   c) Feminity and masculinity
   d) All of the above
   e) Sex and gender have the same meaning and can be used interchangeably
1. Answer: d) All of the above

- The concept of gender is vital because it reveals how women’s subordination is socially constructed; is not biologically predetermined nor is it fixed forever.

- Gender inequality exists because the two genders are being valued differently and consequently, have unequal opportunities and life chances.
2. Gender equality is an issue that is relevant to:

a) Girls and women; it is a women’s issue
b) Developing countries; it is only there that gender gaps exist
c) All societies, women and men alike
2. Answer: c) All societies, women and men alike

- Gender equality is not directly correlated to economic development. Gender inequalities also exist in industrialised countries with high GNP per capita.
- Gender equality is not a so called “women’s issue”. Women’s empowerment is necessary but not sufficient in the process towards the ultimate goal of gender equality, which has yet to be achieved in any country in the world.
3. Which Millennium Development Goal (MDG) focuses on gender?

a) MDG 1

b) MDG 3

c) MDG 5
3. Answer: b) MDG 3

- MDG 3 focuses on the promotion of gender equality and women’s empowerment.
- However, as indicated in the 2005 World Summit Outcome Document (para 59), gender equality and women’s empowerment are fundamental for the achievement of all MDGs.
4. Why are girls more likely than boys to miss out on secondary education in the developing world?

a) Because of high school fees, only boys go to school
b) Many adolescent girls are expected to help out at home
c) Child marriage restricts girls’ mobility and freedom
d) All of the above
4. **Answer: d) All of the above**

- Poverty and gender inequality are important factors that prevent girls from going to secondary school. At the same time, girls’ education is essential for poverty eradication.
5. What is the proportion of girls in the developing world who get married before the age of 18?

   a) 12%
   b) 25%
   c) 36%
   d) 54%
5. Answer: c) 36%

Globally, 36% of women aged 20-24 were married or in union before they turned 18, most commonly in South Asia and sub-Saharan Africa.
6. Many women who are infected or at risk of becoming infected with HIV do not practice high-risk behaviours, and are frequently married or in a monogamous relationship.

a) **True**: women are vulnerable largely because of their limited autonomy and external factors, including violence against women and social and economic inequities beyond their control.

b) **False**: marriage alone guarantees protection from HIV infection.
6. Answer: a) True

- Violence against women, gender discrimination and lack of education increase women’s vulnerability to HIV.
- Marriage on its own, without mutual exclusivity and the use of proven effective prevention methods, does not guarantee protection from infection.
7. What fraction of the world’s working hours are worked by women and girls?

a) 1/4  
b) 1/2  
c) 2/3  
d) 3/4
7. Answer: c) 2/3

- Women work 2/3 of the world’s working hours, yet receive only about ten percent of the world’s income. This is because women are responsible for most of the world’s unpaid labour, which often goes unrecognized – like childcare, cooking and cleaning.
8. As of 2007, how many countries worldwide have met the goal of having women comprise a critical mass of 30% of parliamentarians?

a) 19  
b) 29  
c) 39  
d) 49
8. Answer: a) 19

- The 19 countries are: Rwanda, Sweden, Costa Rica, Finland, Norway, Denmark, the Netherlands, Cuba, Spain, Argentina, Mozambique, Belgium, Iceland, South Africa, Austria, New Zealand, Germany, Burundi and the United Republic of Tanzania.

- It is to be noted that 6 of these 19 countries are developing countries.
9. Obstacles faced by women entering the world of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) include:

a) Women’s limited access to financial resources for buying ICT equipment
b) Unequal access to education and training
c) Isolation of women in their homes or in remote places
d) All of the above
9. Answer: d) All of the above

- Women's ability to take advantage of ICT depends on conductive policies, an enabling environment in their countries to extend communications infrastructure to where women live, and increased educational levels.
10. Since 1901, the Nobel Prizes have been awarded to 768 individuals and 19 organizations. How many women have received this Prize?

a) 12
b) 33
c) 77
d) 158
10. **Answer: b) 33**

- Women comprise only 4.3% of all Nobel Laureates.
- So far, women have won Prizes in all categories - Physics (2), Chemistry (3), Physiology or Medicine (7), Literature (10), Peace (12) - with the exception of Economics.
11. Looking at the issue of violence against women from a gender perspective recognizes that...

a) Male violence towards women is instinctive. Women have to accept a certain degree of violence

b) Violence against women is a manifestation of prevailing unequal power relations between women and men

c) It is also women’s fault if men are violent with women.
11. Answer: b) Violence against women is a manifestation of prevailing unequal power relations between women and men

- Violence affects us all but in most cases it targets women and girls and is perpetrated by men. This is not to say that men are genetically designed to be violent but that as long as gender inequalities persist in our societies, and that serious efforts are not made to build more balanced and mutually supporting gender roles, women will continue to suffer.
12. In 2000, the UN Security Council passed Resolution 1325, a historical Resolution that calls for ...

a) The exclusion of women from all combating forces, both in military and para-military structures

b) The full and equal participation of women in all peace and security initiatives

c) Women’s equal participation in efforts of war

d) The exclusion of men from all formal peace building processes
12. Answer: b) The full and equal participation of women in all peace and security initiatives

*In adopting Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security in 2000, the UN Security Council discussed specifically for the first time the roles of women in the context of armed conflict and peace building initiatives. This resolution is one of the strongest normative document in this field.*
13. Out of 16 UN peacekeeping operations, how many have full-time gender advisers?

a) 15  
b) 7  
c) 5  
d) 2
13. **Answer: b) 7**

- As of October 2006, 7 out of 16 peacekeeping operations in countries such as Haiti and Sudan have a full-time gender adviser. Other missions have gender focal points who deal with gender issues in addition to other responsibilities.

- Evaluations of gender mainstreaming efforts in national and international organizations have found that “specialist” staff is a critical success factor to steer process and develop gender awareness and analysis skills of key staff.
14. Which strategies help women become more socially and economically empowered?

a) Women working together to challenge discrimination
b) More income sources for women
c) Improved access to education
d) All of the above
14. **Answer: d) All of the above**

- Education, assets ownership and increased income empower women. Ensuring that women have opportunities to earn income, own assets and get an education can help to strengthen their influence in household decisions.
15. Gender equality supports:

a) Poverty eradication
b) Education for All goals
c) Reduction of HIV infections
d) Increase in family income
e) All of the above
15. Answer: e) All of the above

Gender equality is an essential dimension for ensuring political participation and accountability; economic empowerment and effective development planning; crisis prevention and conflict resolution; access to clean water, sanitation, energy services and education; the best use of new technologies for development purposes; and society-wide mobilization against HIV/AIDS.
References

- Gender and ICT
- Inter-parliamentary Union
  [http://www.ipu.org/wmn-e/classif.htm](http://www.ipu.org/wmn-e/classif.htm)
- INSTRAW
- Nobel Prize
  [http://nobelprize.org/](http://nobelprize.org/)
- Oxfam
- The Global Coalition on Women and AIDS
- UN Millennium Development Goals
- UNICEF
- Women's International League for Peace and Freedom
  [http://www.peacewomen.org/un/sc/1325.html](http://www.peacewomen.org/un/sc/1325.html)
- World Bank
- 2005 World Summit Outcome