

FACEBOOK: GENDER DICHOTOMY AND REPRESENTATION OF THE SECOND SEX

TAHNEE YEASMIN

Student, B.S.S. 4th year, Department of Women and Gender Studies, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh

ABSTRACT

Technologies, including communication technologies, have a long history of shaping and being shaped by the gender of their users. Today it has become so easy to communicate with each other. Communication crossed boundaries, hierarchies and many other uncountable obstacles. Both men and women are taking part actively to share them with whole world. This study focuses in different parts and options of Facebook to find out a remarkable gender dichotomy. I divide my investigation in two major parts. In the first one I choose six female and six male who have their own Facebook IDs. They permit me to frame out their experiences in this networking system for a clear dichotomy. I focus on several facts and analyze those to compare between two sexes. On the contrary, in the second one I focus on various 'Groups' of Facebook. These groups are joint by thousands of people all around the world. All these groups have motto of its formation. These groups have huge fan following who can comment and like its wall posts. According to my interest I sort out some of these groups to find out how women are harassed and insulted globally, how men conceptualize and treat women. It is a real wonder that in a very public site like Facebook men are using slang words, impolite symbols, and rude mentality against women.

KEYWORDS: Gender, Dichotomy, Masculine, Feminine, Assault, Harassment