

Opening up a debate/
thoughts/ ideas about

GENDER

STEREOTYPING

WHAT EFFECT CAN GENDER STEREOTYPING HAVE?

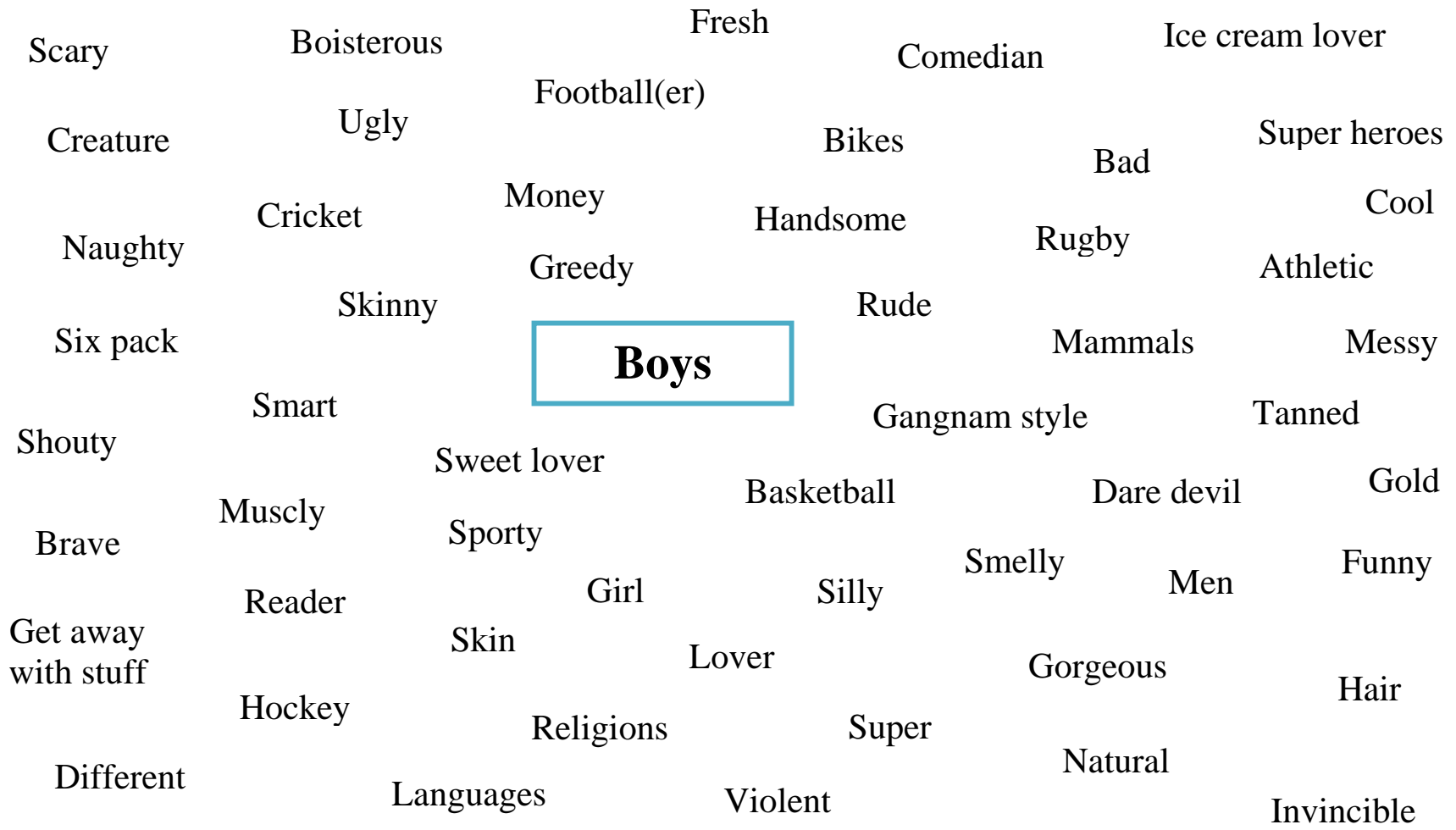
Prevents people being the very best they can be:

- NUT research programme 2013
'Gender stereotyping stops you doing stuff'
- Girl Guiding survey 2017
55% of girls said that gender stereotyping affected their ability to say what they think
- Findings from a babies and toys experiment

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nWu44AqF0il>

- The opinions boys and girls have of each other and themselves
(NUT research programme)

Year 6 boys' views of the boys



Year 6 girls' views on boys

Hair dye Painting Action figures Facebook Books

Kick-boxing Twitter Shoes Clothes Sports

Cars Chocolate Karate Mobiles Cooking Judo

Techdecks Fighting Boxing Jokes Rugby

Colours Firefighters **Boys** Bikes Scooters Rough

Xbox Dolls Skateboard Bracelets Earrings Football

Pranks Leather Motorbikes Aftershave Deodorant

Tag rugby Comics Army Guns Top Man

Police Computer games Silver chains Handsome

Year 6 boys' views on girls

Chubby cheeks
Fancy
Cool
Lipstick
Funny
Man lover
Breasts
Pink
Babies
Sexy legs/arms
Cooking in kitchen/food
Friendly
Nice
They let you have kids
Girls
Naughty
Make up
Fit
Gorgeous
Women
Hair
Beautiful
Different body parts
Funky
Love
Baby changer
Pretty
Annoying
Weird
Bossy
Cake lover
Good dresser
Hot
Kiss

Year 6 girls' views on girls

Shopping
Olympics
Ties
Teddy bears
Pink
iPad2
Piercings
Skipping
Mobiles
Animals
Football(er)
Babies
Army
Gymnastics
Police officer
Sports
Make-up
Screaming
Firefighters
Bunnies
Glamour
Beauty treatments
Nail varnish/fake nails
Dancing
Car-racing
Glitter hairspray
Fashion
Handbags
Jewellery
Money
Cake decorating
Tattoos
Gossip
Playstation
Earrings
Flowers
Hair bobbles
Cooking
Swimming
Writing stories
Deodorant
Eyebrow shaping
Xbox
Boring
Music
Boyfriends
Ice-skating

Girls

- Can promote unhelpful ideas about both genders
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p05d9kmg>
- Can damage the well being of both genders
 - Boys ability/permission to express emotions
 - Girls self esteem / confidence
- Academic attainment and life prospects – girls tend to do better in most measures of academic attainment but worse in terms of pay and leadership positions in later life.

Interesting ‘fun fact’ about gender attitudes to applying for jobs:

- Women tend to be put off applying if there is about 10% of a job description they think they can't do
- Men will apply for jobs where is 10% of a job description they think they can do

Is it all about confidence?

National attainment in Primary Schools
gender differences – 2017 – Reception and Y6

Girls outperform boys in all areas except maths at greater depth

Subject	National % diff B vs G end of Reception	National % diff B vs G End of primary
Reading expected standard	Girls + 5pp	Girls + 8pp
Reading higher standard	Girls +6pp	Girls +7pp
Writing expected standard	Girls +7pp	Girls +12pp
Writing higher standard	Girls +7pp	Girls +10pp
Maths expected standard	Girls +9pp	Girls +1pp
Maths higher standard	Boys +1pp	Boys +3pp

What does research show about how to close attainment gender gaps?

- There is conflicting evidence about re-designing the curriculum to specifically appeal to either gender
- Where schools have taken different approaches for girls/boys it has been more successful where these were short, sharp, targeted interventions rather than permanent differences
- Where girls underperform in maths, the main cause is found to be confidence and self perception/esteem and/or a lack of exposure to some mathematical opportunities particularly to do with shape
- “Current research shows that the brains of boys and girls are more similar than their well-described behavioural differences would indicate. “(Lise Eliot 2012)
- **“It’s in schools where gender constructions are less accentuated that gender gaps tend to be smaller” (Francis and Skelton, 2008).**

**Are there practices which
emphasise the differences between the
genders rather than their similarities?
Or reinforce stereotypes?**

- In the language/ tone of voice used?
- Behaviours/ attributes praised or corrected?
- Roles/tasks assigned?
- Activities encouraged/ discouraged?
- Clothing chosen / rejected?
- Role models – reading/ maths?

**What do our pupils say/
think about
how gender stereotyping
affects them?**

What is it that they want?

Michael Morpurgo

“The problem is cultural and deep-seated, therefore unlikely to be resolved quickly. The effort to turn things round has to be multi-faceted and has to be sustained over decades.”