

Sex and Gender

SECOND EDITION

JOHN ARCHER

BARBARA LLOYD



CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

Contents

List of figures	page x
List of tables	xi
Preface	xiii
1 Commonsense beliefs and psychological research strategies	1
Commonsense beliefs	1
Commonsense influences on psychological research	6
Scientific research and commonsense beliefs	6
Similarities and differences	8
The nature of explanations	12
Research strategies	14
Nomothetic versus ideographic approaches	14
Levels of explanation	15
Sex or gender?	17
Further reading	18
2 Stereotypes, attitudes, and personal attributes	19
Introduction	19
The content of gender stereotypes	20
Stereotypes and roles	23
Do stereotypes reflect prejudice or reality?	26
Attitudes towards women and men	28
Individual differences in stereotypic traits	31
Gender schema	33
Masculinity and femininity	35
Conclusions	37
Further reading	38
3 Origins	39
Introduction	39
The origins of sexual reproduction	40
Why two sexes?	42
Sexual dimorphism and sexual selection	43
The sexual natures of men and women	46

Sexual selection and psychological sex differences	48
The hunter–gatherer way of life	51
Gender roles	52
The origin of patriarchy	54
Conclusions	56
Further reading	57
4 Developmental influences	59
Introduction	59
Socialisation: the information potentially transmitted to boys and girls	60
Routes of cultural transmission	60
Parents' responses to infants	60
Parents' treatment of boys and girls	61
The social environment outside the family	63
Socialisation: transmission through social learning	64
Imitation of role models	64
The learning of gender-appropriate behaviour	65
Socialisation: acquisition through cognitive processes	66
Gender identity	66
Gender constancy and stability	67
Cues for identifying sex	69
Socialisation from a cognitive developmental perspective	70
Does biological development influence behaviour?	71
General issues	71
The role of sex hormones in development	72
Rough-and-tumble play	73
Activity levels	74
A biosocial approach to gender development	75
Sex-segregation in childhood	77
Sex-segregated groups as the context for socialisation influences	79
The boundaries of childhood gender roles	80
Conclusions: why socialisation and biology are not independent of one another	81
Further reading	83
5 Sexuality: psychophysiology, psychoanalysis, and social construction	84
Introduction	84
The physiological measurement of sexual behaviour	85
The human orgasm	85
Sources of sexual satisfaction	88
Recording and reporting physiological arousal	90
Questionnaire reports of sexual experience	91

Psychoanalytic explanations of sexuality	92
The unconscious	93
Psychosexual development	94
The social construction of sexuality	100
In the beginning there was man	100
From two to many	101
The <i>xanith</i> of Oman: a third gender role?	102
Native North American genders	103
Beyond two gender roles	105
Conclusions	107
Further reading	107
6 Aggression, violence, and power	109
Introduction	109
Aggression and violence between members of the same sex	110
Are men really more aggressive than women?	110
Which men are likely to be violent?	112
Women's aggression	114
Why is there a sex difference in same-sex violence?	116
Masculine values and their evolutionary underpinning	116
The proximate cause of male aggression and violence: is testosterone involved?	119
Socialisation explanations of men's aggression	121
Women's aggression from an evolutionary perspective	122
Violence in heterosexual relationships	123
Sexual aggression	126
Power, aggression, and violence	130
Conclusions	133
Further reading	133
7 Fear, anxiety, and mental health	135
Introduction	135
Do women experience more negative emotions?	135
Do women's emotions fluctuate more than those of men?	137
Are there sex differences in mental health?	143
Diagnosing mental disorders	143
Sex differences in specific disorders	147
Mood disorders	147
Anxiety disorders	149
Schizophrenia and other psychotic disorders	151
Eating disorders	151
Substance-related disorders	152
Personality disorders	152

How are sex differences explained?	153
Conclusions	158
Further reading	159

8 The domestic sphere	160
Introduction	160
The family and marriage	162
The changing family	163
Women and marriage	164
The family in history	167
Mothering and attachment	170
Attachment theory	170
Gender-related issues in the development of attachment bonds: caregivers	172
Gender issues in the development of attachment bonds: infants and children	174
Developmental hazards	174
Attachment and social development	176
Fathers and mothers	177
One-parent families	177
Mothers' reports of fathers' caregiving	179
Personality differences among fathers	180
Conclusions	181
Further reading	181

9 Work, education, and occupational achievement	182
Introduction	182
Do men get better jobs and earn more money than women?	182
Are there more men with high intellectual ability?	185
Specific cognitive abilities	188
Gender stereotypes in occupations and training	191
Male chauvinism or masculine chauvinism?	192
Does sex bias operate in occupational decisions?	194
Self-stereotyping	201
Social dominance orientation	203
Conclusions	205
Further reading	206

10 Looking back and looking ahead	207
Introduction	207
The limitations of existing meta-analyses	208
Age range	208
National and cultural representation	210
Historical context	213

Major theoretical developments	215
Beyond sex differences	218
Postscript	223
Further reading	223
References	225
Index	268