

Gender Equality (Part 2)

Doctors, including women doctors, are paid more than nurses, including male nurses, because they need more education, which is not unjust. Yet men are more likely to become doctors and women are more likely to be nurses. There could be a social bias against women studying to be doctors, but women might also, in general, be more attracted to the caring role of nurse than the analytical role of doctor. Women are also more likely than men to take career breaks to care for children, as childbirth is inherently a strain on a woman's body, men cannot breastfeed, and women's nurturing instincts tend to be stronger – and because women get more paid time off after having a child than men do. This can result in less experience for women than men of the same age, producing salary differences that are reasonable because of experience, not unreasonable because of prejudice. Nevertheless, there are undeniable individual cases of gender discrimination, with people with the same experience doing the same job being treated differently because of gender. Thus gender discrimination is very real, but not every case of gender inequality is unjust, and statistics alone cannot be held to be conclusive.

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Women are more likely to take career breaks to have children than men. What can be done to change that?

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You are in hospital, and a male nurse comes to your room. How does that make you feel?

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A teacher says, "girls shouldn't be in charge of boys." What kind of bias is this?

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