

## Relevant Academic Publications and Research Surveys

### Gender Attitudes in Children & Adolescents

These studies show the same broad tendencies in children and adolescents as is shown by the literature on adults' in-group/out-group attitudes (below), i.e., girls tend to have a negative attitude towards boys whereas boys tend not to have a negative attitude towards girls. All these findings, on children and adults, are opposite to the dominant sociopolitical narrative.

Xiao, S.X., Faragó, F., Clancy, E.T., Maheux, A.J. & Bermúdez, K. (2025). [The link between early adolescents' gender discrimination and gender attitudes about peers: Does gender similarity matter?](#). *British Journal of Developmental Psychology*, 43(2), 342-358. doi:10.1111/bjdp.12492

“...boys had higher/more positive other-gender attitudes than girls” (p15)

“Consistent with prior research, boys had more positive attitudes toward other-gender peers than girls” (p19)

Xiao, S.X., Martin, C.L., DeLay, D. & Cook, R.E. (2021). [A double-edged sword: Children's intergroup gender attitudes have social consequences for the beholder.](#) *Developmental Psychology*, 57(9), 1510–1524, doi: 10.1037/dev0001065.

“Overall, at both time points, all children showed greater positive than negative attitudes...” [p20]

“...we found that boys experience more changes in their attitudes (i.e., increase in positive attitudes and decrease in negative attitudes) than do girls.” [Conclusion p33]

“...gender differences were found: Girls had higher negative, and lower positive, attitudes toward other-gender peers than did boys...” [Discussion p25]

“In terms of gender, girls had lower levels of positive attitudes toward other-gender peers than did boys at both (*time points*)...” [p20]

“Boys developed more positive attitudes towards girls across the course of the one-year study, whereas girls' attitudes toward boys did not change significantly over time.” [p19]

Halim, M.L.D., Ruble, D.N., Tamis-LeMonda, C.S., Shrout, P.E. & Amodio, D.M. (2017). [Gender attitudes in early childhood: Behavioral consequences and cognitive antecedents.](#) *Child Development*, 88(3), 882-899. doi: 10.1111/cdev.12642

“Girls expressed more negative cognitive-based attitudes concerning boys than boys did of girls... This suggests that girls showed negativity toward boys, whereas boys showed relative neutrality toward girls.”

Peragine, D.E., Gill, B., Troisi, V.V., MacMullin, L.N., & VanderLaan, D.P. (2021). [Children's intergroup gender bias and self-perceived same-and other-gender similarity](#). *British Journal of Developmental Psychology*, 39(1), 125-132. doi:10.1111/bjdp.12351

“Similar to previous research, intergroup gender bias was more pronounced among girls...”  
(Abstract)

“... intergroup gender bias was evident among girls, but not boys. Girls were less positive towards the other gender and less negative towards the same gender. Also, girls rated the other gender as more negative than the same gender. In contrast, boys rated the same- and other-gender in a similar fashion, showing higher positivity than negativity toward both.” [p129-130]

Powlishta, Kimberly K., Serbin, Lisa A., Doyle, Anna-Beth, White, Donna R. (1994). [Gender, ethnic, and body type biases: The generality of prejudice in childhood](#). *Developmental Psychology*, Vol 30(4), Jul 1994, 526-536.

“...the oldest children failed to display bias on the positive attribution tasks in the gender and body type domains...The other age groups did show bias on these measures, however.”

“...boys failed to display a gender-based bias on either the positive or negative attribution tasks. In fact, they significantly favored girls in their negative attributions, despite the fact that equal numbers of traditionally masculine and feminine negative traits were included. ...Girls, on the other hand, displayed significant same-sex favoritism on both of these measures.” [p531]

### **Typecasting as Victim or Perpetrator (Adults)**

These papers are relevant as they indicate the psychological reasons why the government and their advisors are inclined to focus concern and protection on women and girls but only condemnation on men and boys, despite this being in conflict with the evidence.

Graso, M. and Reynolds, T. (2024). [A Feminine Advantage in the Domain of Harm: A Review and Path Forward](#). *Biology Letters*, The Royal Society publishing, *Biol. Lett.* 20240381, 13 November 2024.

“We review the literature suggesting harm to women is perceived as more severe and unacceptable than identical harm to men, .... We explore how these biases manifest in protective responses toward women and harsher judgements toward men, particularly in contexts of victimization and perpetration. ...By understanding these biases, we hope to foster a more equitable discourse on gender and harm, encouraging empathy and validation of suffering irrespective of gender. This holistic approach aims to de-escalate gender-based conflicts and promote effective interventions for both men and women.”

Tania Reynolds et al. (2020). [Man up and take it: Gender bias in moral typecasting](#). *Organizational Behavior and Human Decision Processes* 161 (2020) 120-14.

Across six studies, women were found to be more readily categorized as victims and men as perpetrators. Study 1 participants assumed a harmed target was female (versus male), but especially when labelled 'victim'. Study 2 participants perceived animated shapes perpetuating harm as male and victimized shapes as female. Study 3 participants assumed a female employee claiming harassment was more of a victim than a male employee making identical claims. Female victims were expected to experience more pain from an ambiguous joke and male perpetrators were prescribed harsher punishments (Study 4). Managers were perceived as less moral when firing female (versus male) employees (Study 5). The possibility of gender discrimination intensified the cognitive link between women and victimhood (Study 6). Across six studies in four countries (N=3,137), harm evaluations were systematically swayed by targets' gender, suggesting a gender bias in moral typecasting.

Seager, M., Barry, J.A. (2019). [Cognitive Distortion in Thinking About Gender Issues: Gamma Bias and the Gender Distortion Matrix](#). In: Barry, J.A., Kingerlee, R., Seager, M., Sullivan, L. (eds) *The Palgrave Handbook of Male Psychology and Mental Health*. Palgrave Macmillan, Cham. doi: 10.1007/978-3-030-04384-1\_5.

In line with other authors, Seager et al present examples in which harms to men are perceived as being of lesser significance than the same harms to women. Attempts to rationalise this may claim greater impact on female victims, but generally without objective support.

Maja Graso, Tania Reynolds and Karl Aquino. [Worth the Risk? Greater Acceptance of Instrumental Harm Befalling Men than Women](#). *Arch Sex Behav.* (2023) 52(6):2433-2445. doi: 10.1007/s10508-023-02571-0.

The findings of three studies indicate that both men and women are less willing to accept instrumental harm befalling women than to men.

Maja Graso, Tania Reynolds and Steven L. Grover (2020). [Allegations of Mistreatment in an Era of Harm Avoidance: Taboos, Challenges, and Implications For Management](#). *Academy of Management Perspectives* 34(1) 1-27.

“The contemporary culture of harm avoidance sanctifies the role of the victim...”. The authors recommend that the positive way forward must be based on “empirical investigations, open discourse, and data-driven understanding...”.

## Pro-Female / Anti-Male Bias (Adults)

Consistent with the last category of studies, and significant in explaining the phenomena reported, here are publications which show that both men and women tend to have an implicit pro-female bias, and women tend to have an implicit anti-male bias.

Connor, P., Weeks, M., Glaser, J., Chen, S., & Keltner, D. (2023). [Intersectional implicit bias: Evidence for asymmetrically compounding bias and the predominance of target gender](#). *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 124(1), 22–48. doi:10.1037/pspa0000314

“Overall, the largest and most consistent evaluative bias was pro-women/anti-men bias, followed by smaller but nonetheless consistent pro-upper-class/anti-lower-class biases. By contrast, we observed less consistent effects of targets’ race, no effects of targets’ age...”

Nosek, B. & Banaji, M.B. (2001). [The go/no-go association task](#). *Social Cognition*, 19, 625-664. doi: 10.1521/soco.19.6

“Subjects showed greater sensitivity for female+good than for female+bad. Likewise, subjects showed greater sensitivity for male+bad than male+good... Examining subject gender differences in the overall attitude effects, we see that women had much stronger in-group liking and out-group derogation. That is, women showed both strong positive associations to the category female and strong negative attitudes toward males. Unlike women, men did not show strong liking for the in-group. In fact they showed a negative automatic attitude toward the category male.”

Rudman, L.A. & Goodwin, S.A. (2004). [Gender differences in automatic ingroup bias: Why do women like women more than men like men?](#) *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 87, 494-509. doi: 10.1037/0022-3514.87.4.494

The authors carried out four distinct experiments. Experiment 1: “...men and women strongly identified with their gender and showed robust self-esteem, but women showed dramatically more in-group bias than did men.” Experiment 2: “Examining whether IAT effects were significantly different from zero revealed an absence of in-group bias for men... By contrast, women showed strong preference for their own group and for their same-sexed parent.” Experiment 3 (gender attitude IAT part): “As in experiments 1 and 2 women showed more implicit in-group bias than men...” Experiment 4: “...men showed the typical pattern of weaker in-group bias compared with women on the gender attitude IAT.”

IAT = Implicit Association Test

Dunham, Y., Baron, A.S. & Banaji, M.R. (2016). [The development of implicit gender attitudes](#). *Developmental Science*, 19(5), 781-789. doi: 10.1111/desc.1232.

Development from age 5 of attitudes to the same sex and to the opposite sex were studied by the authors. For boys and men no negative associations with the category “female” were found. Indeed, post-adolescence there was a tendency for boys/young men to have greater pro-female bias than pro-male bias. This contrasted with girls/women who displayed strongly positive responses towards females and strongly negative responses towards males, and this increased with age.

Eagly, A.H., Mladinic, A. & Otto, S. (1991). [Are women evaluated more favorably than men?](#) *Psychology of Women Quarterly*, 15(2), 203- 216. doi: 10.1111/j.1471-6402.1991.tb00792.x.

The authors provide the answer: “yes”.

## **Survey Evidence of Misogynistic or Misandric Behaviours by Sex**

### **Adults**

Ofcom’s 2022 report [“Ofcom urges tech firms to keep women safer online”](#) on exposure to harmful material online concluded (despite the title), “Overall, men are more likely than women to have experienced potentially harmful online behaviour or content in the last four weeks (64% vs 60%)”.

A similar result was reported in [Ofcom’s 2024 One Nation report](#) which again indicated that men were more likely than women to have experienced potentially harmful online behaviour or content. For teenagers that was reversed, but the percentages remain closely comparable (66% and 73% respectively).

A survey by Pew Research in 2014 ([“Online Harassment”](#) by Maeve Duggan) found that “Overall, men are somewhat more likely than women to experience at least one of the elements of online harassment, 44% vs. 37%”.

In April 2025 Erica Coppolillo published an article in Nature’s Scientific Reports [“Women who hate men: a comparative analysis across extremist Reddit communities”](#). *Sci Rep* **15**, 13952 (2025), doi: 10.1038/s41598-024-81567-9. This analysed gendered hate speech (her phrase) on four openly declared misogynistic or misandric Reddit communities. Her conclusion: “The performed analyses reveal that no systematic differences can be devised across the misogynistic and misandric communities”.

## Children / School Pupils

Is the prevalence of bad behaviour by male and female children also comparable? It would seem so. According to surveys by the [Youth Endowment Fund \(2025 Report 1\)](#) there is little difference between the percentages of boys and girls aged 13-17 who have participated in discussions about harming specific groups (38% cf 34% respectively).

The [Youth Endowment Fund's 2024 Report 3](#) surveyed over 10,000 children aged 13-17 in England & Wales. It should be common knowledge that boys are more likely to be victims of violence than girls and the findings of the report again confirm that. Of greater interest are the findings on abusive behaviours in relationships (see Figure 2.2). The report summarises this as “Contrary to common perceptions, boys report experiencing higher rates of violent and controlling behaviours from their partners compared to girls”.

The breakdown into specific behaviours shows the relative victimisation to have been,

- At least one violent or controlling behaviour from their partner: 57% of boys cf 41% of girls. (This is equivalent to 16% and 11% of all 13-17-year-old boys and girls respectively).
- A partner has sent constant messages checking up on you: 49% of boys cf 41% of girls;
- A partner has gone through their phone or social media to see who they've been talking to: 37% of boys cf 23% of girls;
- Made to feel afraid to disagree with their partner: 32% of boys cf 21% of girls;
- Made to feel afraid to break up with their partner: 31% of boys cf 20% of girls;
- Made to feel you were being watched or monitored: 28% of boys cf 17% of girls;
- Forced or pressured you to do something sexual: 25% of boys cf 15% of girls;
- Hit, kicked or shoved you: 27% of boys cf 12% of girls.
- Shared explicit or intimate images or videos of you online: 25% of boys cf 10% of girls.

## Thorn/Burson Research, Child Online Safety, 2025 (USA)

1,048 minors from across the United States participated in an 18-minute online survey from November 13 to December 6, 2024. Specifically, sample makeup included: 280 in the age range 9–12 and 768 in the age range 13–17: [Youth Perspectives on Online Safety, 2024: an Annual Report of Youth Attitudes and Experiences Findings from 2024 qualitative and quantitative research among 9–17-year-olds](#),

The questions reiterated repeatedly that answers were anonymous. Data below refer to responses in 2024. Results by sex were as follows,

- Have you ever shared a nude photo or video of someone else without that person's knowledge online? 10% of girls, 9% of boys.

- Have you ever sent or shared nude photo(s)/video(s) of yourself with someone aged 18 or over? 25% of girls, 35% of boys.
- Have you ever sent or shared nude photo(s)/video(s) of yourself with someone whose age you didn't know? 32% of girls, 37% of boys.
- Have you ever sent or shared nude photo(s)/video(s) of yourself with someone under 18 years old? 72% of girls, 59% of boys.
- Among minors who've shared their own nudes, did you ever share with someone you had never met in person? 40% of girls, 53% of boys.
- It's normal for people my age to share nudes with each other: 17% of girls, 20% of boys.
- Have you ever sent or shared a nude photo or video of yourself either directly with someone else or with your social media followers? 12% of girls, 10% of boys.
- Percentage of minors who have had an online sexual interaction with someone they believed to be under 18 years old: 25% of girls, 27% of boys. (Involving a request to send a nude photo or video, 16% of girls, 14% of boys).
- Percentage of minors who have had an online sexual interaction with someone they believed to be 18 or older: 27% of girls, 31% of boys. (Involving a request to send a nude photo or video, 15% of girls, 16% of boys).
- Please indicate if you have ever had someone share a nude photo or video of another kid with you: 7% of girls, 10% of boys.
- Please indicate if you have ever experienced being bullied online: 33% of girls, 38% of boys.
- Please indicate if you have ever experienced being made to feel uncomfortable online: 39% of girls, 40% of boys.
- Please indicate if you have ever had any potentially harmful experience online: 56% of girls, 60% of boys.
- Do you use any pornography site: 8% of girls, 17% of boys
- Do you use 'OnlyFans': 9% of girls, 9% of boys

What is most noticeable here is the comparability of the replies by boys and girls. Once again this graphically illustrates the gross mismatch between government messaging, policy and – frankly, propaganda – and the empirical reality.

### **Warning about the Inflation of Misogyny**

The layperson is very easily misled by the enormous quantity of bad, or deliberately misleading, research that abounds. A generic issue relates to surveys specific to misogyny in which the questions asked do not measure misogyny at all but the results are presented as if they did. Misogyny may be defined as the hatred of, or prejudice against, or disdain towards or contemptuousness of women or girls. [A YouGov poll recently](#) presented its results under a banner “How common are potentially problematic views on gender dynamics, misogyny and masculinity?” Problematic to whom?

Take a look at the questions asked. Do they measure misogyny? No, they actually measure the extent to which the respondent dissents from the establishment promulgated narrative on gender. So next time you see the result of a survey which claims to show that X percent of young men are misogynists you can probably reinterpret that as “X percent of young men disagree with the establishment promulgated narrative on gender”. This is what “problematic” means.

The only result from that survey that can fairly be said to reflect the prevalence of misogyny is this, “The results show that only a small fraction of young men (6%) say they have a negative view of women, a figure not hugely distinct from Millennial men (5%), Gen X men (4%) or Boomer men (3%). However, it is worth noting that half of this total may be more misanthropic than misogynist, in that only 3% of Gen Z men say they dislike women and do not say the same of men.”

And I take personal exception to this entirely unjustified assertion by the authors of this YouGov report, “Perhaps one of the most obvious tests for misogyny is to simply ask men whether they dislike women: it is reasonable to expect that the very most avowed incels and strident anti-feminists would be willing to volunteer that this is their view.” I can’t speak for incels, I don’t know any. But the conflation of anti-feminist opinion with misogyny is the very thing against which we struggle. That statement alone discredits this entire report.