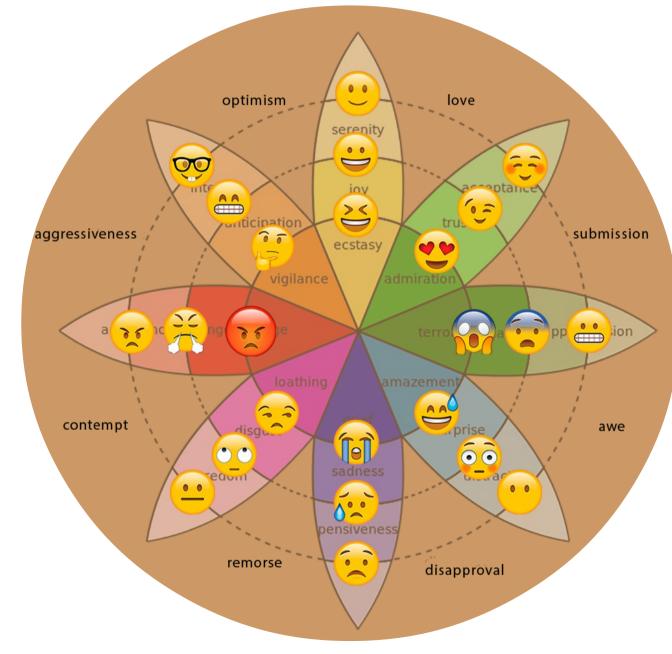
#### GENDER SENSITIVITY GENDER SENSITIVE SCHOOL

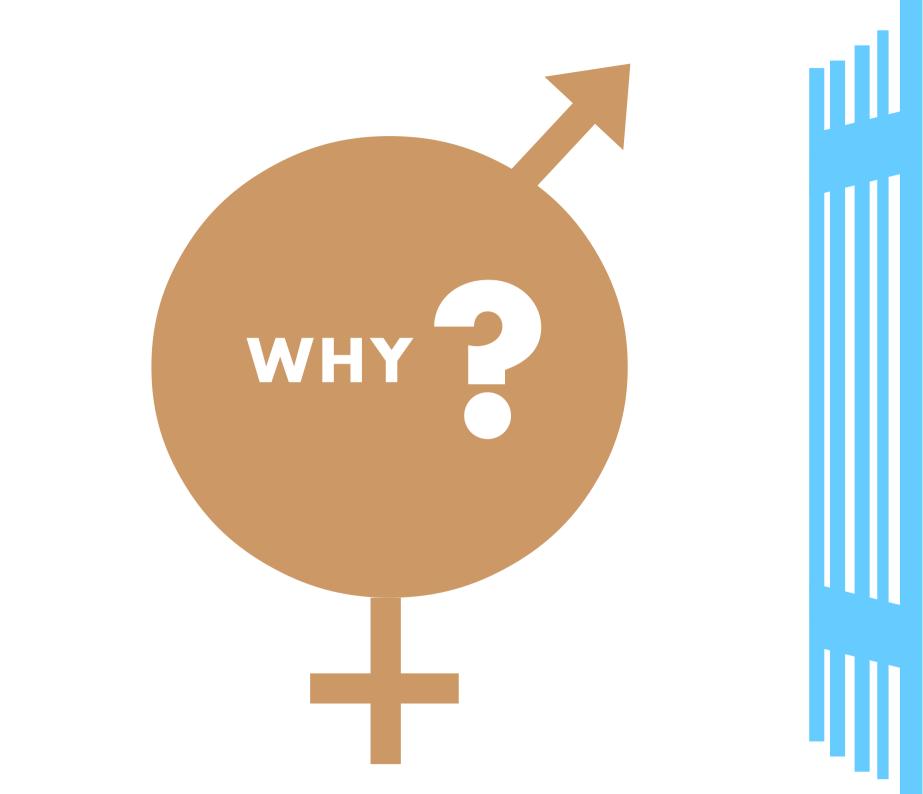


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# HOW ARE YOU FEELING?

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# Understanding Gender & Gender Equality

# What is "gender"?

Gender refers to the characteristics of women, men, girls and boys that are socially constructed This includes norms, behaviours and roles associated with being a woman, man, girl or boy, as well as relationships with each other

Gender identity refers to a person's deeply felt, internal and individual experience of gender, which may or may not correspond to the person's designated sex at birth

The term "gender" distinguishes the set of learned expectations, behaviors, and attitudes about being a man or woman from our biologically determined traits -collectively termed our "sex

# What is the difference between "gender" and "sex"?

While many people use the terms interchangeably, there is a very important difference between "gender" and "sex."

The terms are <u>not</u> synonyms.

#### "gender"

 Gender is not a binary concept; rather, it is fluid and can take on many variations
 Gender identity and gender
 expression do not necessarily have to conform to what is typically associated with the sex we are assigned at birth
 Biologically determined
 One's gender identity and gender expression are independent from one's sexual orientation

#### "sex"

 Sex" defines whether we are female or male based on our biology
 People are born male or female but learn to be, are conditioned to be, or feel themselves to be "feminine" or "masculine
 Socially determined

### What is "gender equality"?

Gender equality is a social condition whereby women and men share equal rights and a balance of power, status, opportunities, and rewards Gender equality can be broadly operationalized by men and women having

- ✓ equitable access and use of resources
- equitable participation in relationships, the household, the community, and political arenas, and
- ✓ safety or freedom from violence

Importance of Nurturing Gender Sensitivity Through Education

## What is gender sensitivity?

Gender sensitivity is behaviour that avoids discrimination by understanding and accepting the multiple differences between men and women

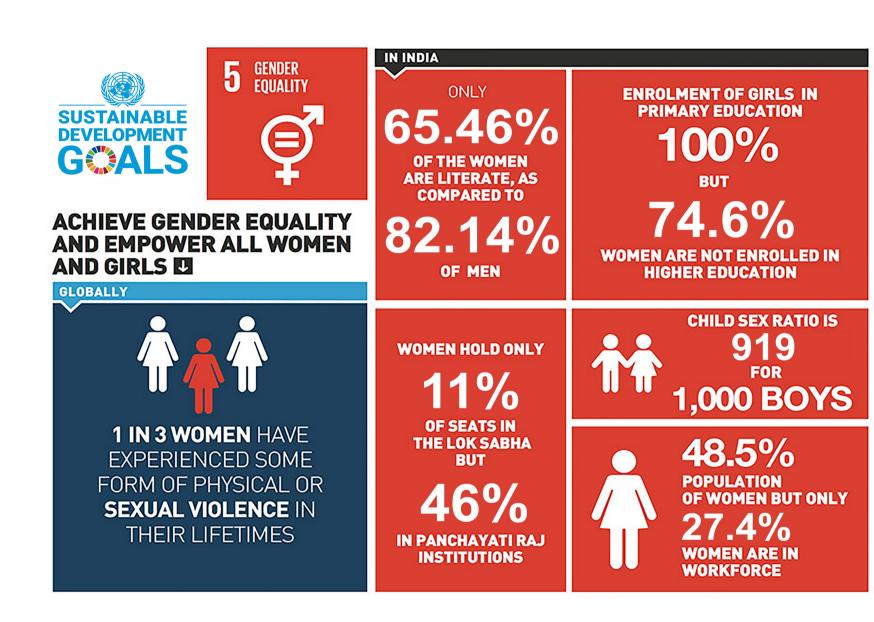
It is a way of thinking that fosters respect and compassion for others — regardless of these differences

Gender sensitisation among children teaches them to rely less on subconscious assumptions and generalisations and more on individual personality traits One of the best possible strategies to minimise gender discrimination in society is to promote gender awareness at all levels of society

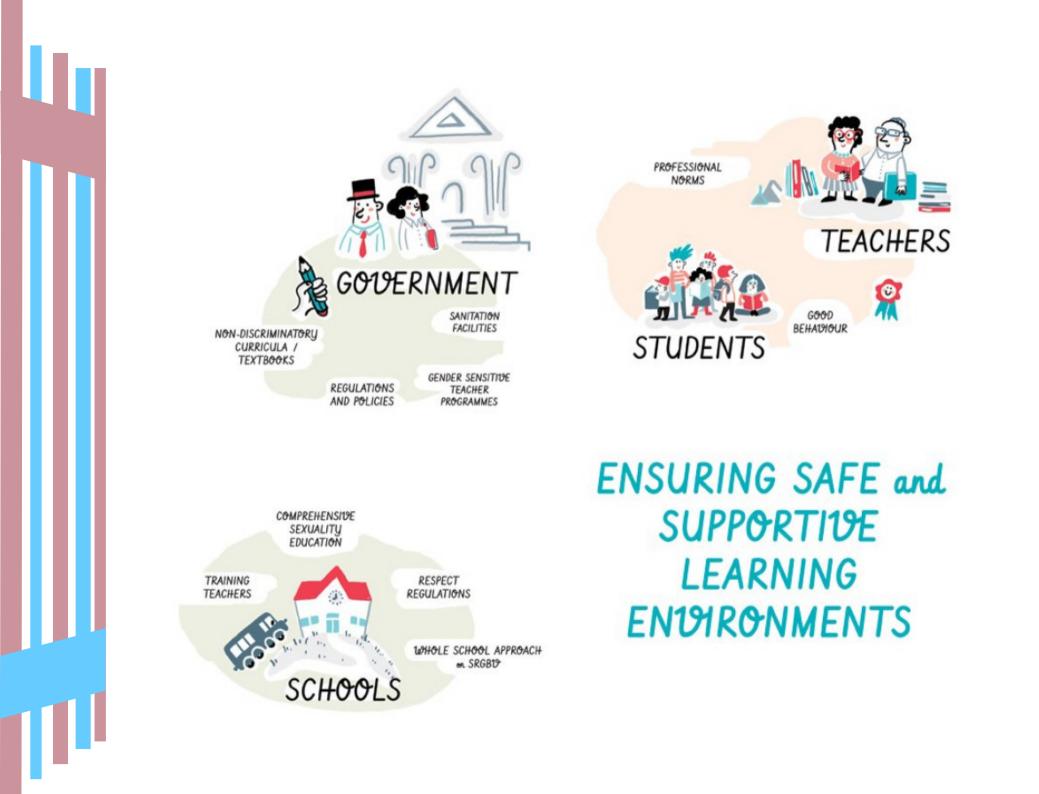
# What Does It Take to Make a School Gender Responsive?

• Undertaking gender sensitization of parents, community leaders and members, teachers, girls and boys

- Training teachers in the skills for making teaching and learning processes responsive to the specific needs of girls and boys
- Establishing guidance and counselling desks in order to provide services for the social and psychological development of girls and boys.
- Establishing a database to track student performance and welfare as well as the levels of gender responsiveness of all aspects of the school



SOURCE: UNITED NATIONS INDIA



#### **Gender Responsive Lesson Planning**

Review the teaching and learning materials for gender responsiveness. Does the material contain gender stereotypes?

Allow time to deal with gender specific problems

Select teaching methodologies that will ensure equal participation of both girls and boys

When assigning projects, ensure that both girls and boys are given leadership positions and roles Strategies to Promote Gender Equality In Your Classroom

### Ways to Promote Gender Equality



 Do your best to offer more gender-neutral responses to students

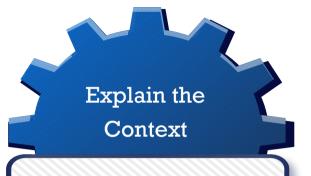
 Record a video of your classroom in order to take a closer look at your own teaching methods and interactions with students Get Feedback From Colleagues and Students

 Consider getting feedback from colleagues on any differences they may notice that you don't
 Consider getting similar feedback from the students themselves using an anonymous comment box

#### Ways to Promote Gender Equality



You can also alter the
 language within your lessons
 to help expand students'
 perspectives beyond gender
 stereotypes



 If you hear students using phrases like 'you play like a girl' or 'man up,' it's important to point out the social implications of these statements rather than simply admonishing the use of that kind of phrasing.

### Ways to Promote Gender Equality



 By creating a dynamic seating chart, you can break up boysor girls-only cliques and encourage both groups to engage with each other Use Project-Based Learning

 You can also be intentional about integrating a mix of boys and girls within small group projects
 The work can be purely academic, with the lessons on gender equity indirect and implicit

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