Make Sense of Men & Women



Discussion Questions for Session 3: Are Men and Women Different?

The following questions can be used to guide or frame your group's discussion, but feel free to add your own.

- 1. Do those who argue that men and women differ fundamentally in relationships or communication hurt or help equality between the genders? Does this argument reinforce stereotypes or highlight desirable gender-based traits? Do the differences cited by Louann Brizendine in *The Female Brain* and others resonate with your observations?
- 2. From what you've read in *Same Difference*, *The Last Word on Fetal T*, *The Female Brain*, and *Is Chemistry Destiny*, how strong does the scientific evidence for an inherent biological difference between men and women appear to be? Did anything you read surprise you?
- 3. Some, like Clay Shirky in *A Rant About Women* and Sady Doyle in *Girl Culture and the Race to the Bottom*, argue that differences between men and women can be explained by society, not biology. Is this view a denial of scientific evidence about biological difference or can it be reconciled with the science?
- 4. Is being more aggressive a strictly male advantage in the workplace? How do ideas about aggressiveness and toughness affect women and men in the workplace?
- 5. *Girl Culture and the Race to the Bottom* talks about female bullying. Do you think societal factors like bullying play a role in how women approach careers later in life?
- 6. In *Boys Will Be Girls*, *He's Just Not That Into You*, and *Why Tiger Cheated* the differences between men and women are treated as fact. Do videos (and films) like this help create differences or simply point out differences that already exist?

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