Departmental Seminar

Current issues in gender development research: Bridging research in the West and Hong Kong

4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. | October 5, 2018 (Friday)
Rm 813, 8/F, The Jockey Club Tower | Centennial Campus | The University of Hong Kong

Dr. Ivy Wong
Assistant Professor
Department of Psychology
The University of Hong Kong

Abstract

The scientific study of gender can be described as interdisciplinary, reflecting the common interest in gender in many subjects. From the psychological perspective, gender development is not a unique process but resembles other aspects of development, making it a valuable avenue to understand development in general. The study of gender, however, is essential for other good reasons. Humans all over the world are inevitably gendered, either voluntarily or involuntarily, in tangible behavior or in perception, from birth to death. Indeed, it is difficult to identify an aspect of human existence, be it ability, health, preferences, beliefs, or opportunities, that does not have some flavor of gender.

In many developed Western regions, gender issues are in the spotlight on the scientific, political, educational, and social medical stage. In this seminar, I will introduce some controversial and intriguing issues that necessitate a scientific understanding of gender and what my own research have found, focusing on two ongoing lines of research: gender nonconformity and sex-segregated schooling. On gender nonconformity, I will review the expression of gender-typing and present findings on children’s response to peers’ gender nonconforming behavior, as well as the first intervention applied to reduce prejudice against gender nonconformity. On sex-segregated schooling, I will review the debate surrounding sex-segregated education and present new findings on the social outcomes of students of single-sex versus coeducational schools.

~All are Welcome~

Enquiry: iwwong@hku.hk | Dr. Ivy Wong