# Presenting Gender Research to a Scientific Audience



Carolyn Sachs
Professor Emeritus
Rural Sociology and Women,
Gender and Sexuality Studies
xyl@psu.edu

Ann Tickamyer
Professor
Rural Sociology and Women,
Gender and Sexuality Studies
art14@psu.edu

Paige Castellanos Research Associate Office of International Programs pxd171@psu.edu

# WHAT CHALLENGES HAVE YOU FACED IN PRESENTING GENDER RESEARCH TO A SCIENTIFIC AUDIENCE?



1. The "just the basics" person who thinks sex means gender





# 3. The "been there done that" person who thinks they know it all



4. The "everything's okay" person who thinks that women are already equal in their [project, community, organization].





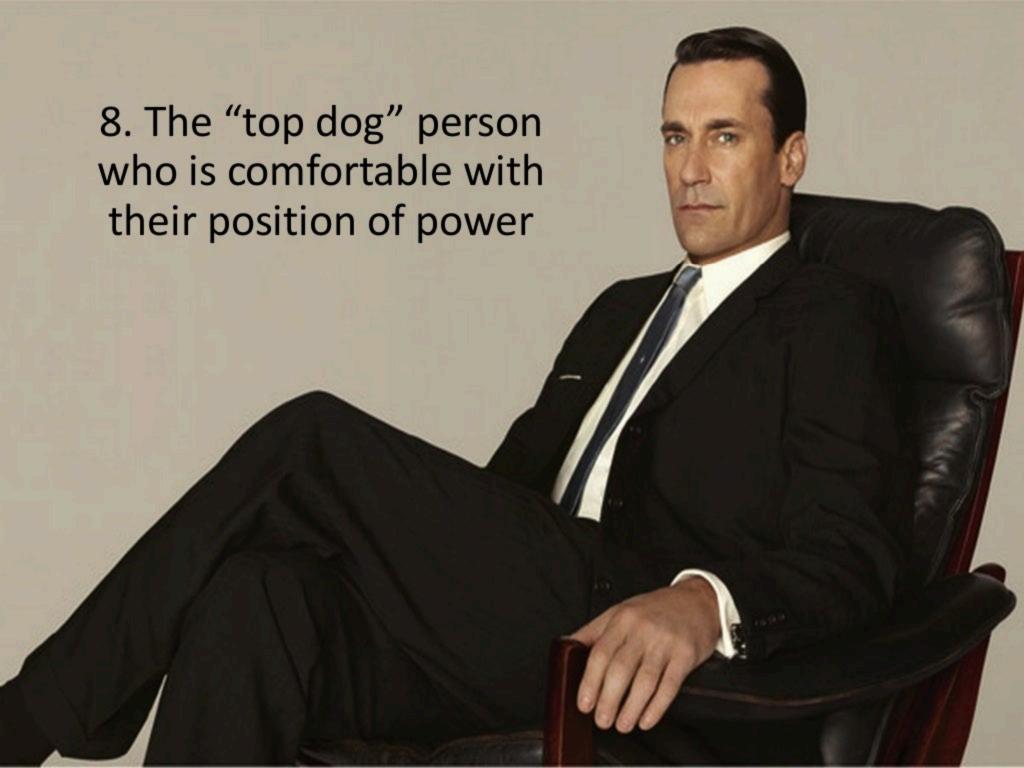
5. The "not real science" person who thinks gender research doesn't count

6. The "not objective" person who thinks gender research doesn't match the objectivity of *real* science.





7. The "gender doesn't matter" person who thinks it is irrelevant to their circumstance







Women in Agriculture Network: Honduras



# "Just the Basics" The Genderbread Person by www.ItsPronouncedMetrosexual.com

**Identity** -Orientation Expression



#### Woman

#### Genderqueer

Man

Gender identity is how you, in your head, think about yourself. It's the chemistry that composes you (e.g., hormonal levels) and how you interpret what that means.

### \* Gender Expression

#### Feminine

#### Androgynous

Masculine

Gender expression is how you demonstrate your gender (based on traditional gender roles) through the ways you act, dress, behave, and interact.



#### Female

#### Intersex



Biological sex refers to the objectively measurable organs, hormones, and chromosomes.

Female = vagina, ovaries, XX chromosomes; male = penis, testes, XY chromosomes; intersex = a combination of the two.

#### Sexual Orientation

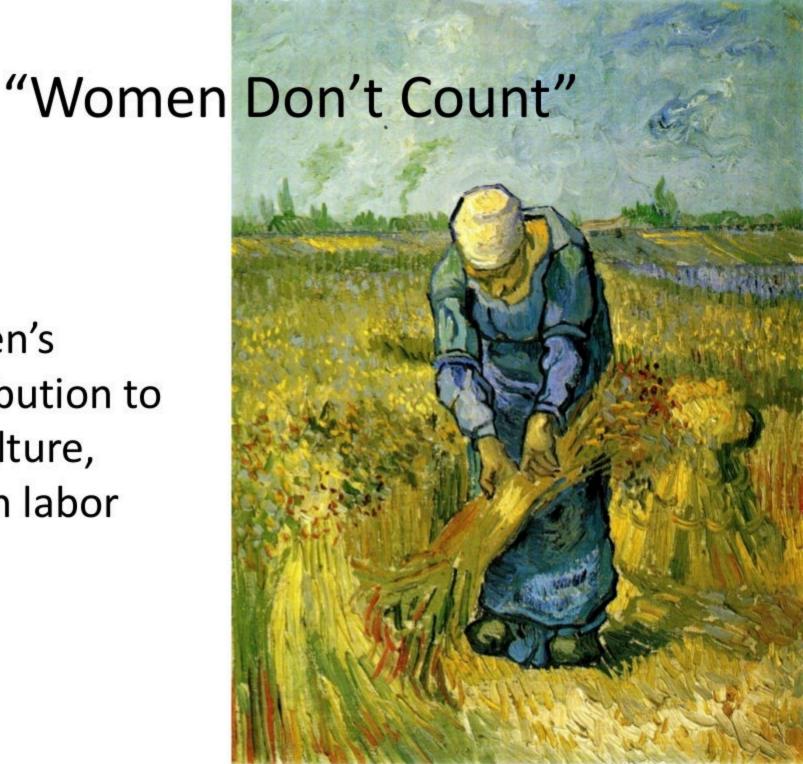
#### Heterosexual

#### Bisexual



Sexual orientation is who you are physically, spiritually, and emotionally attracted to, based on their sex/gender in relation to your own.

Women's contribution to agriculture, hidden labor



## "Been there, Done That"



What is new for their research, benefits for research

## "Everything's Okay"

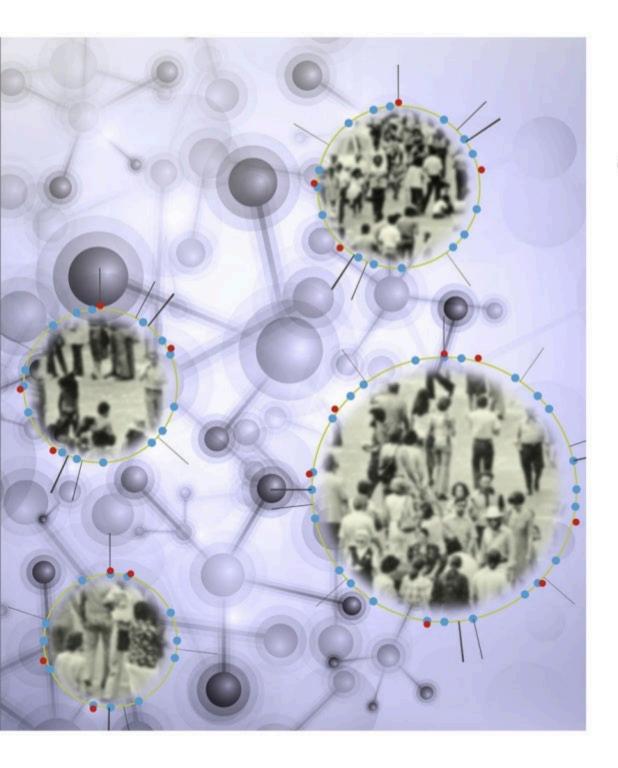
How do you know?



### "Not real science"

Strong methodological and theoretical sections





## "Not objective"

Strong objectivity

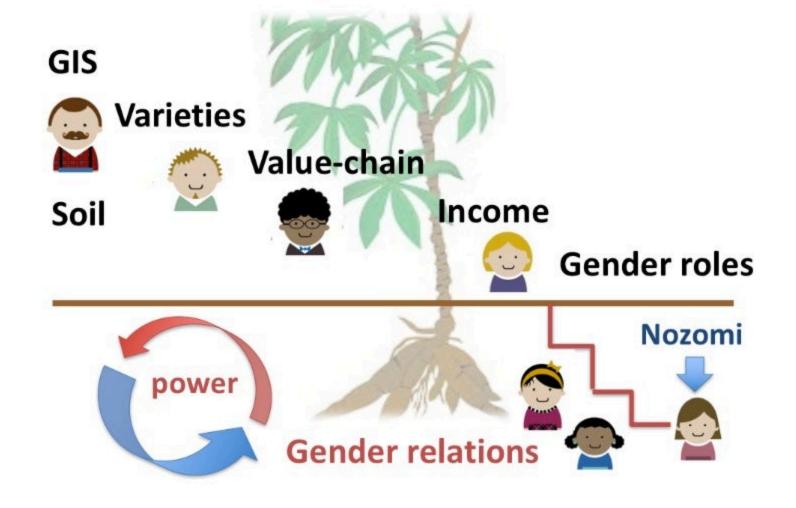
### "Gender doesn't matter"



Why gender is important? What happens if gender isn't considered?

## "Top dog"

Understand power hierarchies in your institution and in the sciences, call on higher authority



## "Politics over equity"

Examples of successful interdisciplinary collaborations



## Gender research can be considered an imposition of western feminisms on other cultures

How do we handle this?

What are YOUR strategies for overcoming these challenges?

#### **Photo Credits**

- https://www.autostraddle.com/winter-spring-2017-queer-feminist-books-365236/
- www.aljazeera.com%2Fnews%2F2017%2F01%2Fwomen-world-protest-president-trump-170121134424671.html&psig=AOvVaw0XzsAJTclG0IHM8I-wKuzw&ust=1512579872213334
- www.vangoghgallery.com%2Fcatalog%2FPainting%2F399%2FPeasant-Woman-Binding-Sheaves-(after-Millet).html&psig=AOvVaw1ucJlJ48SLBL04z1VDDiB6&ust=1512580302767157
- http://news.psu.edu/story/405393/2016/04/19/research/land-grant-university-programs-helped-keep-farmers-farm
- https://secure.agintheclass.org/Teachers/LessonPlans.aspx
- http://www.upskillinstitute.in/Pages/StateGovernment.aspx
- https://www.google.nl/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=0ah UKEwjousCN7vPXAhXI8RQKHSNzBrwQjhwIBQ&url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.jobmail.co.za%2Fblog%2 Fchoose-a-career-in-environmental-science%2F&psig=AOvVaw0kanJiIIYbtJh-2TLPKFT7&ust=1512597115123008
- https://www.rtb.cgiar.org%2Fgender-breeding-initiative%2Fabout-the-initiative%2F&psig=AOvVaw3-uB2e3IZaxejSrO5TFNKB&ust=1512598783921620
- Thank you to Nozomi Kawarazuka for her slide on power hiearchies in agriculture sciences