Aggressive but loyal: modification and gender roles in British children's adventure books

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Abstract

Language powerfully impacts the construction of our gender identities. In the mid-twentieth century gender stereotypes were strong, but at the same time feminism was giving rise to new ideas and becoming increasingly mainstream. What gender-related discourse prosodies did children encounter in popular literature? Did these merely reinforce the conventional stereotypes or did they contain the seeds of change? This study of British children's fiction published in the 1940s-60s seeks to answer these questions through an analysis of personality descriptors collocated with female and male character eight books by four prolific children's writers. Although gender stereotypes (as represented by the Bem Sex-Role Inventory) are to some extent reinforced in these books, there are also considerable discrepancies. Children were meeting a range of positive models which did not always match 'feminine' 'masculine' stereotypes.

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References


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There are many different ways in which we classify women from men and the different gender roles each of them play. In Europe, men used to wear stockings, perfume and silks. In Scotland men still do wear skirts, they are called kilts. In America today most people would look upon those people and call them weird because they are dressing like the other gender and that is typically not looked upon in our society. Women are not regularly know for playing football, that is not normally know as something that occurs often. We always think of men that are the ones who can play football but women are Aggressive but loyal: modification and gender roles in British children’s adventure books. Article. Oct 2019. The data comes from recordings of 23 children, mainly aged 5-8, in conversations with their parents and using an interactive app, on topics concerning families and relationships. The results show how cisnormativity is produced by the participants using various linguistic and communicative resources, such as smiles and laughter, evaluations, accounts, and the sequential organisation of interaction. Children will recognize their own families and discover many ways of being a family in this rhyming picture book. Charmingly illustrated animals represent and celebrate all the different forms a family can take. 4. Donovan’s Big Day by Leslea Newman. Same-sex marriage is approached in a gentle way from the perspective of a young boy participating in his mothers’ wedding. Any child curious about weddings and marriage will learn from this universal story. Their family celebrations, trips, and daily adventures are laugh-out-loud funny and show readers that all families are alike in fundamental ways. 13. Totally Joe by James Howe. Seventh grader Joe Bunch knows he is gay, and this sequel to The Misfits optimistically chronicles his coming-out to his friends. Children are exposed to literature that encourage assertiveness, exploration and emotional control in boys. In contrast, books aimed towards girls promote imitation, dependency and emotional sensitivity." Traditional Woman Roles. - Mothers are more likely to act as a caregiver and disciplinarian. The key to keeping children from having bias views on gender roles is by not having specific characteristics assigned to a certain gender. Boys shouldn’t only be seen playing sports, or girls shouldn’t only be seen playing house. Good books to have in the classroom do not perpetuate the tradition