

## MECS1000 Gender and Representation: Seminar Questions (Week 2)

### Watch the Videos below

Representation of men in the Media <https://youtu.be/hdG3dCYex9c> (2.55)

Representation of women in the media <https://youtu.be/y8euctl1Kyl> (2.11) and [https://youtu.be/D\\_CWXOQNGIk](https://youtu.be/D_CWXOQNGIk) (3.48)

### Questions to think about

1. What are your impressions of the issues raised in these videos?
2. Think about whether there are dominant stereotypes of masculinity and femininity. Have things changed over time or not?
3. What about media/culture that you are familiar with – how are masculinity/femininity portrayed?

### Gender and Representation in Music Videos

Both of the following videos/songs have been controversial in terms of their portrayals of sexuality [Rihanna, 'Rude Boy'](#) (3.45) and [Robin Thicke, 'Blurred Lines'](#) (4.31)

### Questions:

1. What are the gendered messages/representations in each of these videos?
2. Do you think we 'judge' them differently because one is sung/performed by a woman and the other by a man?

**Week 2: Questions relating to Richardson, N. and Wearing, S. (2014) *Gender in the Media*. Basingstoke, Palgrave Macmillan.**

1. In groups, define what is meant by appropriate femininity or masculinity? Give examples of both these terms.
2. Think of examples that challenge appropriate femininity and masculinity.
3. The reading (p.3) suggests that there is 'policing of strict gender roles continues into educational establishments ... Ideas of masculinity and femininity do not just happen – they do not just automatically come from inside us – rather, we learn these from culture.' Think about your own experiences and see if there are examples of how masculinity or femininity may have been learned.
4. Richardson and Wearing (2014: p.8) define stereotypes as 'taking a trait which may apply to a small minority of a group and representing it as indicative of the whole group.' Think of one media stereotype in relation to masculinity and one media stereotype in relation to femininity. How do these examples relate to appropriate masculinity/femininity?

Look at the images below



### Questions

1. What form of appropriate gender is being sold to us in each of these images? Does this depend on your reading of the image?
2. Are the males 'sex objects in the same way that the females are? Why or why not?

Watch the video [https://youtu.be/jWKXit\\_3rpQ](https://youtu.be/jWKXit_3rpQ) (4.56) Killing us Softly. Write down 1 question/comment, something you want explained, discussed or something you have learned from this video?