

Week 2 Gender, Philosophy and Popular Culture:

Questions relating to Richardson and Wearing (2014) *Gender in the Media*, Basingstoke, Palgrave Macmillan.

p.1 'A few years ago a rather blunt acquaintance announced that he through gender studies was a pointless discipline and a complete waste of time. 'After all' he said, 'we are all either male or female. What is there to discuss?' Notwithstanding that there actually is quite a lot to discuss about whether bodies are male or female, this unenlightened acquaintance was making a commonplace error in that he was confusing gender with sex.... How a person performs or does masculinity and femininity is cultural and as such may vary according to culture or context. What is deemed appropriate femininity or masculinity in one age or culture may be entirely different form the performance of women or men in contemporary western culture.'

Questions:

1. What expectations do we have of males/females in our culture/society? How might these cultural expectations differ from past expectations? Discuss this in twos.
2. Is appropriate femininity/masculinity reinforced or challenged in the following (find specific examples that relate to each of these):-

	Example	Appropriate femininity reinforced/challenged with reasons	Appropriate masculinity reinforced/challenged with reasons
	YouTuber		
	Social Media		
	Parenting		
	Cooking		

	Example	Appropriate femininity reinforced/challenged with reasons	Appropriate masculinity reinforced/challenged with reasons
Disney			
Game show			
Film			
Television			
Website			
Advertising			
Other			