

# THE GENDERED BRAIN: WHY EXPERIENCE, NOT BIOLOGY, SHAPES POTENTIAL



Our brains reflect the lives we live, not the sex we're born with. The activities, expectations, and opportunities we offer shape how the brain grows, connects, and learns.

**"A gendered world produces a gendered brain — not the other way around."**



## HOW THE BRAIN ACTUALLY WORKS:

- The brain is a prediction engine — it learns patterns from what it experiences.
- Every new skill, subject, or role changes neural pathways.
- Exposure, practice, and encouragement determine which patterns become stronger.
- Education and environment literally rewire potential.

## EDUCATOR'S TAKEAWAY

What you expose young people to — STEM challenges, teamwork, leadership — shapes their brain's expectations of what they can do.



## DIFFERENT EXPERIENCES → DIFFERENT WIRING → DIFFERENT OPPORTUNITIES:

- From toys to classroom interactions, boys and girls often receive different cues about what they "should" like or be good at.
- Repeated exposure to stereotypes shapes both behaviour and self-belief.
- The result is not a "male" or "female" brain — but a socially conditioned brain.



## EDUCATOR'S TAKEAWAY

- Every time we challenge a stereotype, we give the brain a new rule to learn — and a new pathway for possibility.



When we give every student equal exposure to challenges, leadership, and problem-solving and interrupt the subtle stereotypes that steer them, we help build brains that expect to belong, learn, lead, and succeed in any field.



SCAN ME



Check more at: [4equality.erasmus.site](https://4equality.erasmus.site)

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