Gender Socialization, continued

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http://www.public.iastate.edu/~soc.134
Gender socialization: teachers

- Boys get more attention than girls
- Girls penalized for violating gender stereotypes
- Girls and boys praised for different traits
- Girls and boys are separated
- Girls and boys end up in different subjects
- Girls do better in school
Gender socialization: peers

✓ Children segregate themselves by sex
✓ Children sanction violators of gender norms
  • “I wouldn’t go anywhere near him.”
  • “I’d call him a sissy and make fun of him.”
  • “I’d probably hit him and take away the doll.”
  • “I would push him and call him a weirdo.”
✓ Children engage in cross-gender “borderwork” (Barrie Thorne)
  • Borderwork: cross-sex activity that strengthens boundaries between girls and boys
  • E.g., contests, rituals of pollution, playground invasions