



# Gender Shock: Exploding the Myths of Male and Female

By Phyllis Burke

[Download now](#)

[Read Online](#) 

## Gender Shock: Exploding the Myths of Male and Female By Phyllis Burke

At a time when men are staying at home to parent and women are leaving to practice law, medicine, and politics, America is confused and anxious about what differences truly exist between the sexes. To question one's gender role is to invite chaos, the flux of identity, yet the question persists: In a world of evolving roles for both sexes, how are "masculine" and "feminine" defined? If women and men are created equal, how then do gender differences emerge?

In *Gender Shock*, Phyllis Burke explodes the many myths surrounding our rigid gender system of male and female by looking through three lenses of gender identity: Behavior, Appearance, and Science. Combining the latest research in psychology, genetics, neurology, and sociology, Burke finds that gender (or behavior) is not the result of one's biological sex (the body itself); that gender and sexuality are separate elements of the self; that there are more variations within each sex than there are between the two; and finally, based on world-class biologist Dr. Fausto-Sterling's theory of the five sexes, perhaps the most surprising myth of all is that there are only two kinds of bodies: the male and the female.

The most shocking practice Burke encounters is the increasingly popular diagnosis of Gender Identity Disorder, in which children, as young as three years old, undergo "therapy" both at home and at school for not adhering to accepted notions of "girl" and "boy" behavior. Rather than punishing children and adults who do not conform to gender expectations, Burke urges the rejection of our rigid male-female system and the embrace of a "gender independent" culture, in which individuals adopt the best traits of both sexes, e.g. strong *and* nurturing, rational *and* emotional.

An artful combination of investigative journalism, personal stories, and cultural criticism, *Gender Shock*, will forever redefine our understanding of gender.



[Download Gender Shock: Exploding the Myths of Male and Fema ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Gender Shock: Exploding the Myths of Male and Fe ...pdf](#)

# Gender Shock: Exploding the Myths of Male and Female

By Phyllis Burke

## Gender Shock: Exploding the Myths of Male and Female By Phyllis Burke

At a time when men are staying at home to parent and women are leaving to practice law, medicine, and politics, America is confused and anxious about what differences truly exist between the sexes. To question one's gender role is to invite chaos, the flux of identity, yet the question persists: In a world of evolving roles for both sexes, how are "masculine" and "feminine" defined? If women and men are created equal, how then do gender differences emerge?

In *Gender Shock*, Phyllis Burke explodes the many myths surrounding our rigid gender system of male and female by looking through three lenses of gender identity: Behavior, Appearance, and Science. Combining the latest research in psychology, genetics, neurology, and sociology, Burke finds that gender (or behavior) is not the result of one's biological sex (the body itself); that gender and sexuality are separate elements of the self; that there are more variations within each sex than there are between the two; and finally, based on world-class biologist Dr. Fausto-Sterling's theory of the five sexes, perhaps the most surprising myth of all is that there are only two kinds of bodies: the male and the female.

The most shocking practice Burke encounters is the increasingly popular diagnosis of Gender Identity Disorder, in which children, as young as three years old, undergo "therapy" both at home and at school for not adhering to accepted notions of "girl" and "boy" behavior. Rather than punishing children and adults who do not conform to gender expectations, Burke urges the rejection of our rigid male-female system and the embrace of a "gender independent" culture, in which individuals adopt the best traits of both sexes, e.g. strong *and* nurturing, rational *and* emotional.

An artful combination of investigative journalism, personal stories, and cultural criticism, *Gender Shock*, will forever redefine our understanding of gender.

## Gender Shock: Exploding the Myths of Male and Female By Phyllis Burke Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #1036955 in Books
- Published on: 1996-06-01
- Released on: 1996-06-01
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.75" h x 6.50" w x 1.25" l,
- Binding: Hardcover
- 308 pages



[Download Gender Shock: Exploding the Myths of Male and Fema ...pdf](#)



[Read Online Gender Shock: Exploding the Myths of Male and Fe ...pdf](#)



**Download and Read Free Online Gender Shock: Exploding the Myths of Male and Female By Phyllis Burke**

---

## **Editorial Review**

### **From Publishers Weekly**

Burke, who adheres to the school of thought that gender is a social construct rather than a natural characteristic, argues that Gender Identity Disorder (GID) should be abolished as a diagnostic category. Very young children and preadolescents whose behavior is deemed gender-inappropriate?"tomboyish" girls, "effeminate" boys?are forced by their parents, school psychologists and psychiatrists to undergo therapy for GID. Treatment can include behaviorism, drugs, psychoanalysis, close monitoring of voice, posture, gait and activities, even hospitalization. Burke presents numerous case histories to illustrate the damaging emotional effects such therapy can have on children who are straitjacketed by rigid gender stereotypes. In support of her thesis that masculine and feminine identities are artificial social constructs, Burke marshals studies of perceived physical attractiveness, then takes us inside workshops for male and female cross-dressers. She not only maintains that gender, sex and sexuality are three distinct domains but also asserts that "gender independent" individuals, people free from society's sexist stereotyping, are more flexible, and more accepting of their masculine and feminine components.

Copyright 1996 Reed Business Information, Inc.

### **From Library Journal**

As lesbian coparent to her partner's son, Burke (Family Values: Two Moms and Their Son, LJ 4/15/93) found herself challenged when asked, "Who will teach him to be a man?" In turn, the author challenges us to explore the connection between gender behavior and sexuality. Burke believes that sex?male, female?is biological, while gender role is behavioral, or learned. She was herself shocked to discover that confusion of the two leads to such practices as gender identify disorders (GID) therapy, in which children as young as three are treated for not acting like a "typical" boy or girl. Much of this book comprises research and documented case histories of GID through the examination of three principal areas: behavior, appearance, and science. Burke feels we all need to acknowledge the feminine and masculine within ourselves to attain gender independence. A thought-provoking work that questions basic assumptions; recommended for academic and public libraries.?Kathleen L. Atwood, Pomfret Sch. Lib., Conn.

Copyright 1996 Reed Business Information, Inc.

### **From Booklist**

Horror stories abound in this well-researched work exposing myths that surround the inflexible views of masculinity and femininity based primarily on appearance and behavior. There is the case of a child subjected, during 16 years of institutionalization, to electroshock treatments because of his preference for girls' toys. There is the brainwashing by mental health professionals who reward "appropriate" choices of clothing, behavior, and toys of a boy presumed "effeminate" because of lack of hand-eye coordination. Most frightening, though, is gender identity disorder (GID), which is used to identify children engaging in behaviors stereotypically associated with the opposite sex and formerly regarded as homosexual markers--this despite the removal in 1980 of homosexuality as an official disorder from the manual used by professionals to diagnose psychological disorders. A society in which women increasingly earn half or more of family income, Burke argues, must reexamine societal concepts of gender, distinguish gender and sexuality as separate elements of self, go beyond cultural myths, and offer new paths to our children.

*Whitney Scott*

## **Users Review**

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Tessie Springfield:**

With other case, little individuals like to read book Gender Shock: Exploding the Myths of Male and Female. You can choose the best book if you'd prefer reading a book. Given that we know about how is important any book Gender Shock: Exploding the Myths of Male and Female. You can add knowledge and of course you can around the world by way of a book. Absolutely right, because from book you can recognize everything! From your country until finally foreign or abroad you may be known. About simple issue until wonderful thing it is possible to know that. In this era, we are able to open a book or even searching by internet gadget. It is called e-book. You can use it when you feel fed up to go to the library. Let's examine.

#### **Gary Kruse:**

In this 21st century, people become competitive in each way. By being competitive today, people have do something to make these individuals survives, being in the middle of typically the crowded place and notice through surrounding. One thing that occasionally many people have underestimated this for a while is reading. Yes, by reading a publication your ability to survive improve then having chance to stand up than other is high. In your case who want to start reading the book, we give you this kind of Gender Shock: Exploding the Myths of Male and Female book as basic and daily reading publication. Why, because this book is more than just a book.

#### **Craig Harrison:**

Reading can called head hangout, why? Because if you find yourself reading a book specifically book entitled Gender Shock: Exploding the Myths of Male and Female the mind will drift away trough every dimension, wandering in every aspect that maybe unfamiliar for but surely will end up your mind friends. Imaging every word written in a publication then become one type conclusion and explanation in which maybe you never get just before. The Gender Shock: Exploding the Myths of Male and Female giving you yet another experience more than blown away your head but also giving you useful data for your better life in this particular era. So now let us teach you the relaxing pattern the following is your body and mind will be pleased when you are finished examining it, like winning a game. Do you want to try this extraordinary shelling out spare time activity?

#### **Bruce Hardin:**

Do you like reading a publication? Confuse to looking for your favorite book? Or your book ended up being rare? Why so many concern for the book? But any kind of people feel that they enjoy regarding reading. Some people likes examining, not only science book but additionally novel and Gender Shock: Exploding the Myths of Male and Female or even others sources were given information for you. After you know how the fantastic a book, you feel would like to read more and more. Science reserve was created for teacher or students especially. Those publications are helping them to increase their knowledge. In other case, beside science publication, any other book likes Gender Shock: Exploding the Myths of Male and Female to make

your spare time more colorful. Many types of book like this one.

**Download and Read Online Gender Shock: Exploding the Myths of Male and Female By Phyllis Burke #D7A5HN18ILY**

# **Read Gender Shock: Exploding the Myths of Male and Female By Phyllis Burke for online ebook**

Gender Shock: Exploding the Myths of Male and Female By Phyllis Burke Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Gender Shock: Exploding the Myths of Male and Female By Phyllis Burke books to read online.

## **Online Gender Shock: Exploding the Myths of Male and Female By Phyllis Burke ebook PDF download**

**Gender Shock: Exploding the Myths of Male and Female By Phyllis Burke Doc**

**Gender Shock: Exploding the Myths of Male and Female By Phyllis Burke Mobipocket**

**Gender Shock: Exploding the Myths of Male and Female By Phyllis Burke EPub**

**D7A5HN18ILY: Gender Shock: Exploding the Myths of Male and Female By Phyllis Burke**