

GIRLS IN STEM

Question 1:

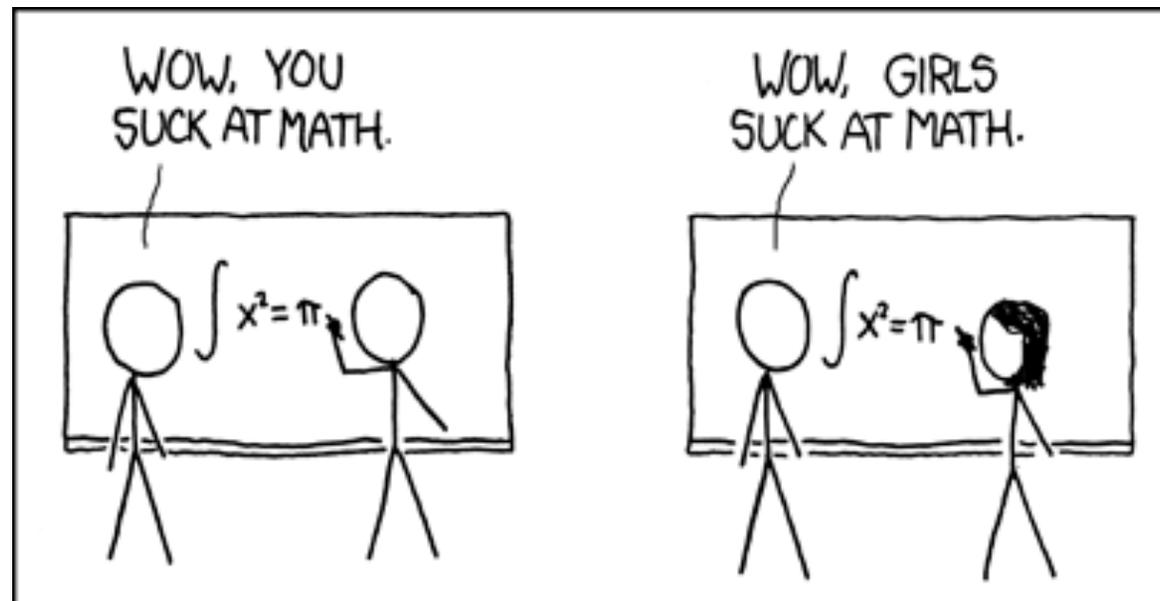
True or False?

Studies show that in middle, high school and even university level math classes, teachers have a measurable gender bias against girls.

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Answer: True

Sadly, this cartoon says it all.



#genderbiasexists

#femalementorsneeded

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Question 2:

American women make on average around 82 cents for every dollar a man makes. Women working STEM jobs earn ____ for every dollar a man in a STEM job earns.

- a) 70 cents**
- b) 82 cents**
- c) 92 cents**
- d) 100 cents**

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Answer: d) 100 cents

Yes, women do earn more in STEM jobs! In the effort to equalize pay for women, STEM jobs bring higher levels of opportunity to women.

#opportunityinSTEM

#STEM=higherpay

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Question 3:

A study of math achievement data for 14- to 16-year-olds from almost half a million students in 69 countries concluded that boys were not better at math; the boys were just . . .

- a) more likely to take math classes.**
- b) more likely to succeed on traditional standardized tests.**
- c) more confident.**
- d) more frequently praised for their good work.**

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Answer: c) more confident.

Yup - confidence makes all the difference. Especially as girls enter adolescence, they often feel torn between confidently expressing their talents and suppressing their abilities to fit in and receive attention from boys.

#identity

#confidence

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Question 4:

When choosing what level of math to take or whether they should take additional math classes, high school girls frequently rely on . . .

- a) Opinions of their female friends.**
- b) Their previous grades in math classes.**
- c) Advice of their parents.**
- d) Advice of their guidance counselors.**

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**Answer: a) opinions of their
female friends.**

Peer influence is critical for adolescent boys and girls. The challenge among girls is that girls are perpetuating the same cultural norms that math is not a discipline for girls.

#startearly

#rewritegendernorms

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Question 5:

True or false?

Women comprise:

57% of all undergraduate degrees

42% of all undergraduate math and statistics degrees

40% of all undergraduate physical sciences degrees

But . . . only 18% of all undergraduate computer and information sciences degrees.

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Answer: True

Why does this statistic matter? If technology is designed by only the males of our world, we're missing out on the innovations, solutions, and creations that 50% of our population — our women — could offer.

#diversity

#diverseinnovations

#make-an-opportunity-pipeline

#startearly

#repeat!