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Subject

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Single Sex Education

One of the most important issues related to school education is the pros and cons of joint (mixed, opposite-sex) and separate (same-sex) education and training of boys and girls. This issue causes heated ideological battles and scientific debates. Supporters of both education systems put forward their arguments. Supporters of the separate (single-sex) education argue that the identity of the girls is formed significantly earlier than that of boys. They also state that in schools with separate education 100% of pupils enter higher education institutions unlike children from traditional schools.

Teachers explain better results of education by the fact that girls and boys perceive educational material quite differently. The girls have a strong emotional component, the boys demonstrate perfect logic skills.

The second definite plus of same sex education is the increased self-esteem of schoolchildren. The increase of self-esteem is followed by the increased academic achievements, self-respect of children. Children are not so much embarrassed when answering at the board, and in some cases even the mistakes and failures are perceived not so tragic as in mixed classes. Discussions and collective search for the right solutions become easier.

Supporters of same-sex education state that girls are known to mature

earlier in the presence of boys and, are more concerned with the impression they make during learning process. At the same time, boys at this age are able to express their attention to girls only through the taunts and hurtful remarks. Lessons turn into war of sexes. Meanwhile, girls often lose important elements of women's personality type in mixed type of education. They have to compete with the boys in study, and try to please them at the same time. All this leads to the fact that girls become aggressive, sometimes even violent, lose respect for a man, it seriously undermines the attitude to future family life. However, at the same time, they feel helpless before the power and the "explosive" nature of boys' behavior.

Functional characteristics of male and female brain also evidence in favor of same-sex education. Psychologists know teaching a child with a "right-hemispheric" thinking differs from that of a child with the "left-hemispheric" thinking. Girls, as a rule, are "right-hemispheric", so they are more susceptible to emotions, all the information received they need to "pass" through themselves and feel. Girls take criticism very seriously, especially from adults, so it needs to be dosed. At the same time, boys, and any teacher knows this, have the amazing ability "not to hear" the instructions and notations. They enable the so-called mechanism of sensory defensiveness in the brain, which "is triggered" due to the long emotional stress. That is why the claims, addressed to them, should be clear and brief.

The result of psychologists' researches related to the advantages and disadvantages of both education systems are as follows:

Boys:

1. Effectively absorb information about the actions (all verb forms).
2. Readily assimilate stories complex in terms of logical plot, perceive

everything analytically.

3. Do not react to the tone of speech and voice modulation, that is, its emotional coloration.
4. Adequately respond to the positive and negative evaluations of their work. Praising motivates them to further successes.
5. High activity of mental work under time pressure.
6. High responsiveness to the first call for information, when repeating the activity of replies drops sharply.
7. Quickly and easily solve new problems, the stereotypical ones are solved worse.

Girls:

1. Attention and understanding are enhanced at the emotional coloration of information (whether positive or not).
2. Quickly grasp the information, but poorly correlate it with already existing.
3. Praise does not incite to further activities.
4. For girls important is its emotional coloring, not the assessment by merits.
5. Solve stereotypical problems more quickly than new ones. Integration processes take place two times slower than in boys.
6. Actively respond to repeated calls for information.
7. At the age of 6-7, the volume of short-term memory is more than in boys.

At the same time, psychologists see in separate education certain disadvantages as well. Graduates of these schools are more difficult obtain the social adaptation of the Institute and in the mixed teams at work.

Psychologists believe that the schoolchildren, educated separately, have a reduced social activity. They simply do not have skills in communication and teamwork with the opposite sex: cooperative games at recess cannot compensate for communication during the learning process. Although this weak point has its advantage: the reduction of social activity in the adolescents increase the value of family that subsequently has a positive impact on adult family life.