



Unit	Media Ethics
Sub-unit	Feminist Analysis
Title	Questioning Order
Short summary	<p>This is an awareness raising exercise designed to look at everyday language and how this language might be influencing the perception of the submissive role of women in society.</p> <p>It can also be used as a starting point to look at how historical inequality has been impacted by the way we use language.</p>
Learning Objectives	<p>Learners will understand the importance of words and that language is not neutral. Learners will become more aware of the relevance of identifying and applying appropriate terminology on women.</p> <p>Learners will understand assumptions in language, about the “natural order” in gender relationships and will question the broader impact of this.</p>
Method	Group work and discussion
Material	<p>Materials needed: List of gender order statements.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● His and hers ● Male and female ● Romeo and Juliet ● M/F ● Sons and daughters ● George and Gracie ● Man and wife

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● King and queen ● Boys and girls ● Jack and Jill ● He/she ● Brother and sister ● Men, women, and children
Target group	14 years +
Duration	10 min
Introduction	<p>The teacher/trainer will read the phrases above and ask the students to consider the mental images they evoke.</p> <p>The students will then be asked to individually write down brief ideas describing their perceptions of each phrase. These can be any word associations or ideas that come up. The idea is to draw the participants' attention to the linked words and what associations are formed. There is no wrong answer here.</p> <p>Variation: Have your students diagram or sketch the relationship among the words in each phrase.</p> <p>Now, reverse the order of the words in each of the phrases. eg. hers and his, mrs and mr.</p> <p>Now ask the students to examine their mental image of the reversed phrases.</p> <p>Ask them to answer the following questions: How do your perceptions and impressions change when the order of the words changes?</p>

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	<p>What assumptions are inherent in the placement of male-gendered nouns and pronouns in the first position in a list?</p>
<p>Development</p>	<p>Note: In a mixed gender group often men and women respond to this activity differently. It can bring up differences in opinion and some may be triggered by the topic. It is a quick exercise but can lead to a useful facilitated discussion.</p> <p>Adapted from www.tolerance.org/sites/default/files/general/writing_for_change1.pdf</p>
<p>Assessment of learning outcomes</p>	<p>Group summarises results together.</p>

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