Readings Related to the Promotion & Tenure Review Process

Abstracts with Links to Resources Available Through OUHSC Bird Library


Google book link: http://books.google.com/books?id=qikWHO0JecAC&printsec=frontcover&source=gbs_ge_summary_r&cad=0#v=onepage&q&f=false

This book attempts to uncover the invisible barriers that prevent women from achieving the same professional success as men. Valian’s arguments are based on statistical laboratory and field studies and center around gender schemas – our implicit hypotheses about sex differences. Though gender schemas are not entirely inaccurate, Valian argues that schemas alter our ability to evaluate men and women without bias. In general, the schema of a woman is incompatible with the schema of a successful professional. The consequence is that professional women are often underrated, while their male counterparts are overrated. Because of these imbalances, however slight, women accumulate advantage at a slower rate than men.


This study investigated reactions of subjects to a woman’s success in a male gender-typed job. The results showed that when women were acknowledged to have been successful, they were less liked and more personally derogated than equivalently successful men. The data also showed that being disliked can affect career outcome, both for performance evaluation and reward allocation.


Link: http://link.springer.com.webproxy.ouhsc.edu/article/10.1023/A%3A1018839203698

The authors of this study submitted the same c.v. for consideration by academic psychologists, sometimes with a man’s name at the top, sometimes with a woman’s. In one comparison, applicants for an entry-level faculty position were evaluated. Both men and women were more likely to hire the “male” candidate than the “female” candidate, and rated his qualifications as higher, despite identical credentials. In contrast, men and women were equally likely to recommend tenure for the “male” and “female” candidates (and rated their qualifications equally), though there were signs that they were more tentative in their conclusions about the (identical) “female” candidates for tenure.


This study compares over 300 letters of recommendation for successful candidates for medical school faculty position. Letters written for female applicants differed systematically from those written for male applicants in terms of length, in the percentages lacking basic features, in the percentages with “doubt raising” language, and in the frequency of mention of status terms. In addition, the most common possessive phrases for female and male applicants (“her teaching” and “his research”) reinforce gender schemas that emphasize women’s roles as teachers and students and men’s as researchers and professionals.

Resource titles provided by University of Michigan CRLT Players as a supplement to their performance of “The Fence,” presented on OUHSC campus March 13, 2014.

Due to weather related travel issues, performance rescheduled and held September 10, 2014.