

Homework 2.2. Talking About Expectations and Childhood Role Models

Reflect and talk about gender roles and your childhood role models

Gender roles play a big part in our lives and interaction with other people, but they also vary in different cultures
and societies as well as between different generations and families.

Reflect on the gender roles you inherited from the family, community and culture you grew up in. Then share your thoughts with your spouse.

- What did your mother/father/parents do at home? What did your parents do outside the home? What about your other significant family members?
- Think of three things you learned from your parents / caregivers.
- Do you think that gender roles have changed since your parent's / caregivers generation? Are the expectations for perceived genders different in your culture and in your spouse's culture?
- What do you think makes a good partner? What makes a good parent? Do you think there are things in parenthood and in the family that are the mother's responsibility and things that are the father's responsibility? If yes, what are they?
- Should girls and boys be raised the same? If not, what would you do differently for boys and for girls and why?
- If your mother and/or father was/were not present in your life when growing up, reflect on how you think that affected your perception on gender roles? How about your views on parenhood?