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Research exercise: Research on Single Gender Environments

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Contradicting Evidence

- Results from tests to measure achievement between single gender or co-educational schools have been contradicting depending on which tests are compared and from what districts.
- There are so many factors that can play into a higher achievement level that researchers have not been able to isolate a single gender classroom as one of the causes.
- People say that since there is no concrete evidence to support or oppose same sex schools, they should not be used.

Gender Gap

- What is it? Males and females are treated unequally in classrooms and therefore achieve on separate levels.
- Caused by differences in student learning styles and strategies among boys and girls.
- Boys are more verbally dominating in traditional schools so teachers praise them more so that they will behave. Meanwhile, girls are sometimes ignored because the teachers trust them.

The Pros of Single Sex Education

- No distractions from opposite sex.
- Teaching style can be specific
- Less discrimination between sexes.
- Students give better evaluations of themselves.
- Students have better connections with teachers and one another.
- More leadership opportunities.
- They rid the stereotypes linked to masculinity or femininity of certain subjects.

The Cons of Single Sex Education

- Few reliable differences in learning styles between genders.
- Stereotypes arise because of the homophobic environment.
- Different interests between genders is irrelevant for the learning environment.
- They create an artificial learning environment.