



| THE CADET EXPRESS |

Hello Cadets,

Are you ready to rise and challenge yourself? Ask uncomfortable questions to yourself and the people around you, to the society? The NCC teaches us as cadets to prepare ourselves to take up challenges for ourselves, our society and our country.

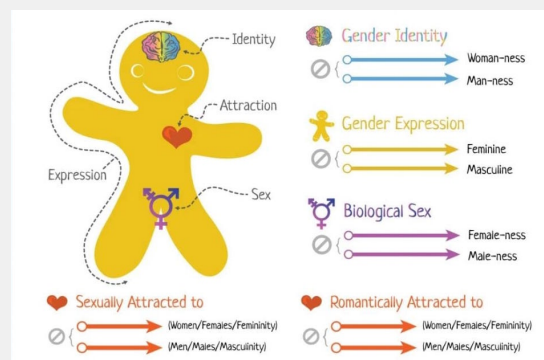
Most times we do not pause, reflect and question ourselves on the beliefs we have, the facts which are presented to us, and at times, we get carried away by the opinions of our family, friends, society and our own inherent biases. However, are we willing to be critical? Do we ask for clarifications?

From the day one is born, apart from the DNA which defines our physical nature and structure, we are surrounded by people, their beliefs may become our beliefs, we hear and follow communication around us, the labels we get associated with, the stereotyped roles we play. Over some time, these become our reality.

Let us discuss and explore gender, gender identification, gender equality.

We may identify ourselves as male, female or other. We have a responsibility to own upto who we are and be ourselves. It would be a great disservice to ourselves if we are unable to accept ourselves. Accepting would be the first step towards peace for ourselves.

Image source genderbread.org



When society does not accept who we are and we need to fight, one needs to have the courage to challenge the status quo. When we challenge ourselves to do things we love, society may not approve but with resilience, grit and determination we follow our heart, put our mind to it and need to keep moving. There have been ample examples of women, men and others who have broken the glass ceiling.

In recent times we are finding more women joining the bandwagon and breaking stereotypes.



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In a landmark, judgement supreme court created “**third gender**” in 2014.

In a first, the Chhattisgarh police recruited 13 transgender people as constables in four districts of the state.

India has many first who created history and lead the way for others. **Shabnam Bano Mausi**, is the first transgender Indian to be elected to public office. **Laxmi Narayan Tripathi**, the first transgender to represent Asia Pacific in the UN in 2008.



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It may be surprising to some but did you know gender inequality affects the health of the **male gender too**.

Find more ...

<https://www.globalcitizen.org/en/content/gender-inequality-mens-health/>

Well, now that we are a little more informed about gender, gender bias and gender identity, let us also equip and enrich our vocabulary. Do you think gender language makes a difference in the way we think and act?

For many years certain jobs were performed by specific genders, but as times have changed and as more women and others enter the workforce, jobs once reserved for certain genders have been changing. For eg: Jobs such as policeman, fireman etc, were once only male-oriented job roles. Roles such as housewife, nurses were recognised as female-oriented jobs..

As the times have changed, many women and men have entered jobs that were once gender-specific. Now people of all genders are also taking up these roles. Job titles have also been changing to make it more gender-neutral, such as flight attendant, homemaker etc., rather than Air Hostess or Housewife.

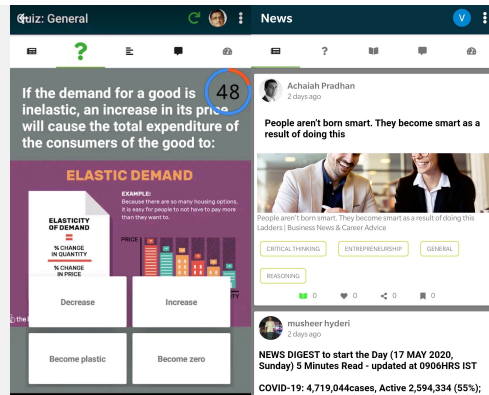
Language has to change to reflect the change of the workforce. As careers change and more men, women and others cross over the gender line to work on these jobs, we need to consider the words used to describe new occupations. We need to reinforce positive gender recognition in the workplace, both in traditional and non-traditional jobs.

Well! We at Cadet Program have been encouraging discussions amongst the youth on various topics which would help in employability, leadership development and gender sensitivity as our focussed topics. Let us welcome change.

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