

Name: _____

Sociology 3221
Fall 2006
Instructor: Trina Smith

Thinking Critically About Gender Discussion Questions

Please answer the following questions and hand in to Maureen or Brianna before you leave class this evening.

1. You receive a baby shower invitation. The parents are expecting a baby girl. They are "old fashioned" and do not register anywhere for gifts. You buy a present. What do you buy? Describe in detail. Why do you get this?

2. You have one child already; a girl. Thus, you have lots of baby clothes, many of which are pink, purple, and have flowers on them. You are expecting a baby boy. Will you use these outfits for the baby boy? Why or why not? What factors affect your decision?

3. a) You see a six year old boy go into the women's restroom with his mother. What do you think?

b) You see a six year old girl go into the men's restroom. What do you think?

4. a) Your son tells you he is gay. What is your reaction? Why?

b) Your daughter tells you she is gay? What is your reaction? Why?

5. You are on the city bus. You see a person who has on jeans, a white t-shirt, and tennis shoes. Their hair is cut short and their breasts are not noticeable (i.e. they are not very big, kind of flat).

a) Do you wonder if it is a man or a woman?

b) What clues do you look for to determine this?

6. Define both sex and gender.

7. What gendered topics are you interested in? Why?

