

UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN MACEDONIA

DEPARTMENT OF FINE AND APPLIED ARTS

1st Painting Workshop

Citizenship in relation with Gender & Body Politics

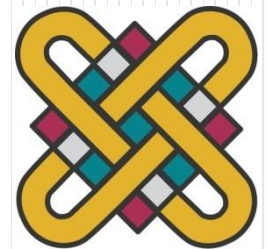
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What is Gender?

A Definition of Gender

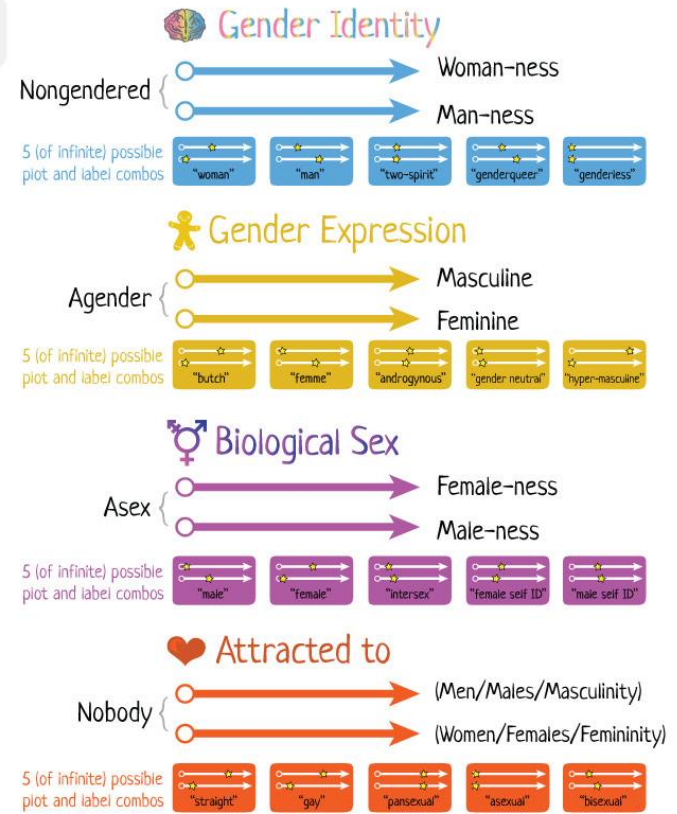
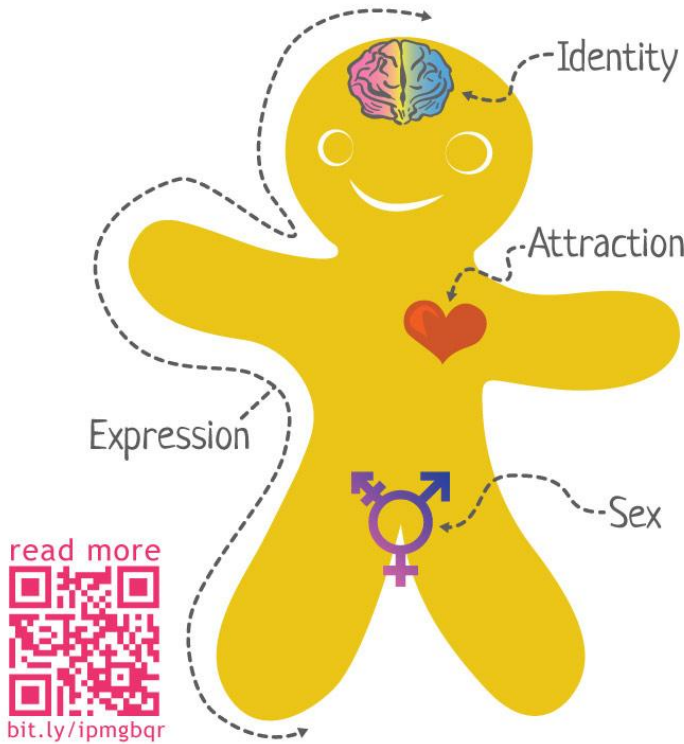
- The term “Gender” refers to the socially constructed roles, attitudes, attributes and feelings that are usually associated with a person’s biological sex
- People that behave in ways that are compatible to the social expectations for gender are referred as “gender-normative” (see also terms like “heteronormative” and “cisnormative”)
- On the other hand, people who don’t perform their gender in socially expected ways are characterized as “gender non-comforming” or in a broader definition as “queer”.

The Genderbread person

by Sam Killermann

The Genderbread Person v2.0 *by its pronounced METROsexual.com*

Gender is one of those things everyone thinks they understand, but most people don't. Like *Inception*. Gender isn't binary. It's not either/or. In many cases it's both/and. A bit of this, a dash of that. This tasty little guide is meant to be an appetizer for understanding. It's okay if you're hungry for more.



What are Body Politics?

A Definition of Body Politics

“Body Politics” is a broader term that refers to the discourse and action that is associated with the human body as a political entity.

- This means that every attitude towards a person’s body has not only a practical impact but also a social and cultural background.

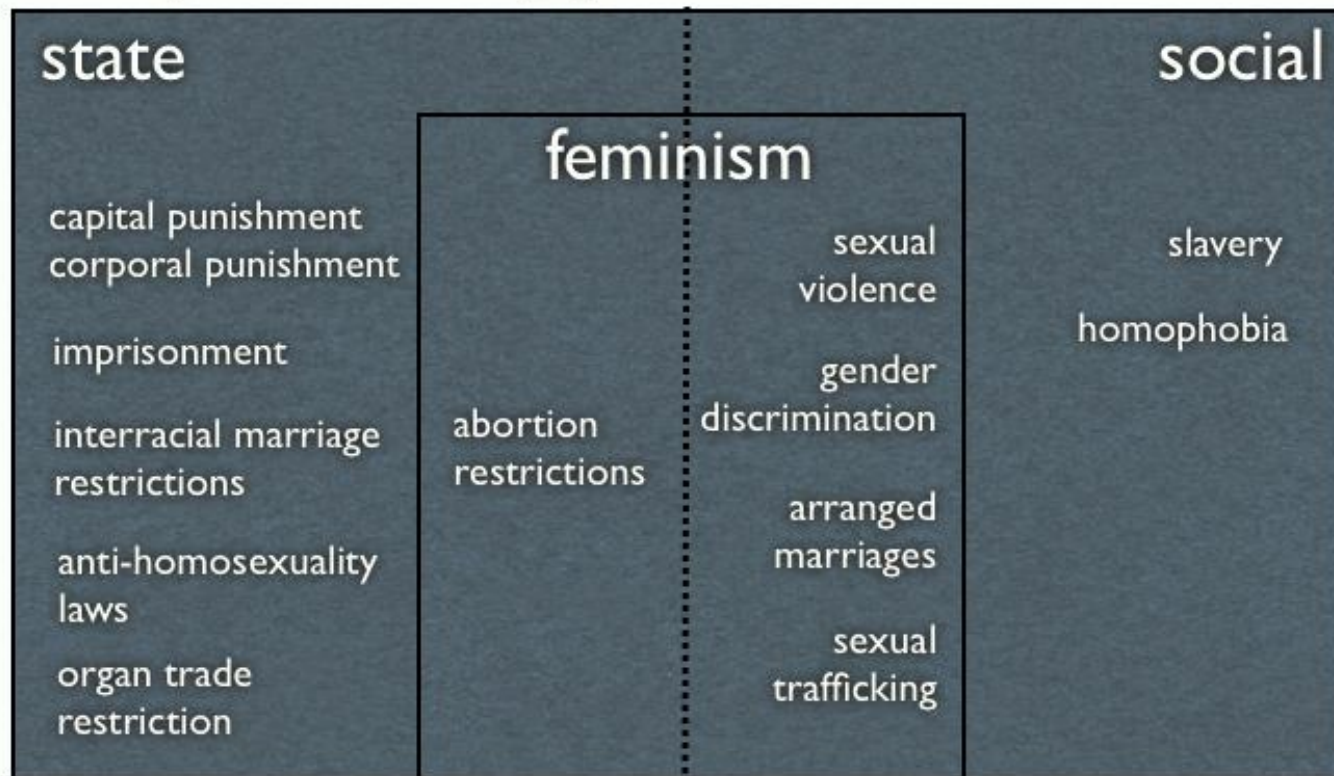
Politics of the Gendered Body

Body politics have a close relationship with the contemporary discourse on the gender issues.

- From Simon de Beauvoir's questioning on the female embodiment, in her famous "The Second Gender" book, to the more recent analysis by scholars like Michel Foucault and Judith Butler on how social attitudes towards the body are formed, the body as a gendered entity seems to be a crucial matter.

- Besides the endless conversations that surround the matters of gender performance and/or performativity, one can locate more practical relations between body politics and the gendered bodies
- One notorious example is the whole discussion that surrounds the matter of abortion as a bodily right of every human who is capable of being pregnant

Examples of “body politics”



Source: <http://filipsagnoli.wordpress.com/2009/12/08/the-politics-of-the-body/>

But what do all those
have to do with
Citizenship?

Gender issues, Body Politics and Citizenship: A connection

Every citizen is an entity that among everything else is defined by gender

- So incorporating the discussion of gender issues and body politics in the sphere of civil rights from a non-heteronormative perspective it's an innovative approach to the concept of citizenship
- In the next 7 slides there are to be presented seven concepts explore civil rights from a gendered perspective

Body Integrity

“Body integrity is the inviolability of the physical body and emphasizes the importance of personal autonomy and the self-determination of human beings over their own bodies. It considers the violation of bodily integrity as an unethical infringement, intrusive, and possibly criminal”

(source: Wikipedia)

- It is an umbrella concept, but as stated before, the body has a strong connection to gender so some aspects of bodily integrity have a gendered character
- Examples:
 - Volitional sex work
 - Penalization of forced sex work
 - Volitional sex-alteration operation
 - Gender transition process
 - Abortion
 - Women’s health

Different Bodies. Same Rights.



Genital Integrity Awareness Week

March 26 - April 1, 2012

Female Genital
Cutting Education
and Networking
Project

FGMnetwork.org

Intersex Society
of North America

www.ISNA.org

National Organization
of Circumcision
Information
Resource Centers

www.NOCIRC.org

Genital Autonomy - www.GenitalAutonomy.eu

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Gender Self-Determination

“Gender Self-Determination” is the concept that allows humans to decide and define their gender regardless the social expectations

- It helps people to identify their gender outside-or even within- the gender binary with their own volition and not because of social pressure
- That kind of self-determination has to be respected and not invalidated by outside peers
- Examples of non-normative, self defined gender identities:
 - Agender
 - Neutrois
 - Genderfluid
 - Transgender
 - Genderqueer

Gender Expression

“Gender Expression” are the means with which people express their gender identity(mannerisms, clothing etc)

- Usually it is a supplementary notion to gender self-determination
- Although this doesn't mean that gender expression is identical or in line with gender identification



Source: <http://rofalina.com/2013/11/jenis-kelamin-gender-dan-orientasi.html>

Gender based expectations

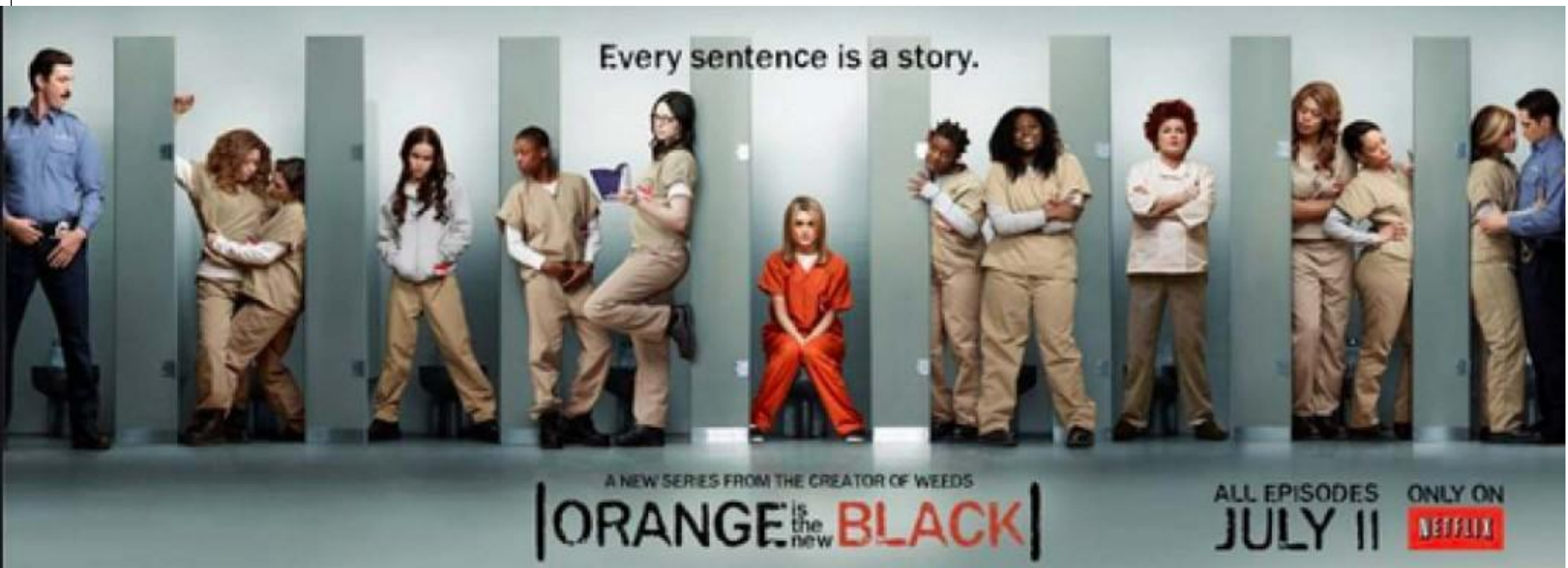
Social expectations that have their basis on gender identity and expression tend to have a oppressive character

- They are fueled by outdated and usually harmful stereotypes and perpetuate them
- As a result they create a general state of discrimination based on gender and deprive people their rights, both civil and human ones

Visibility/Representation

Both are important factors that contribute to the creation or the debunking of harmful gender stereotypes

- Lack of visibility erases people of non-heteronormative genders. Besides that, misrepresentations of them and also that of cis women, create toxic stereotypes, notions and behaviors towards them
- On the other hand, both sufficient visibility and not biased, misleading and dehumanizing representations can help people of all genders evaluate and understand themselves and others in a better way



Source: <http://versident.com/orange-is-the-new-black-poster/>

Labor Rights and Gender

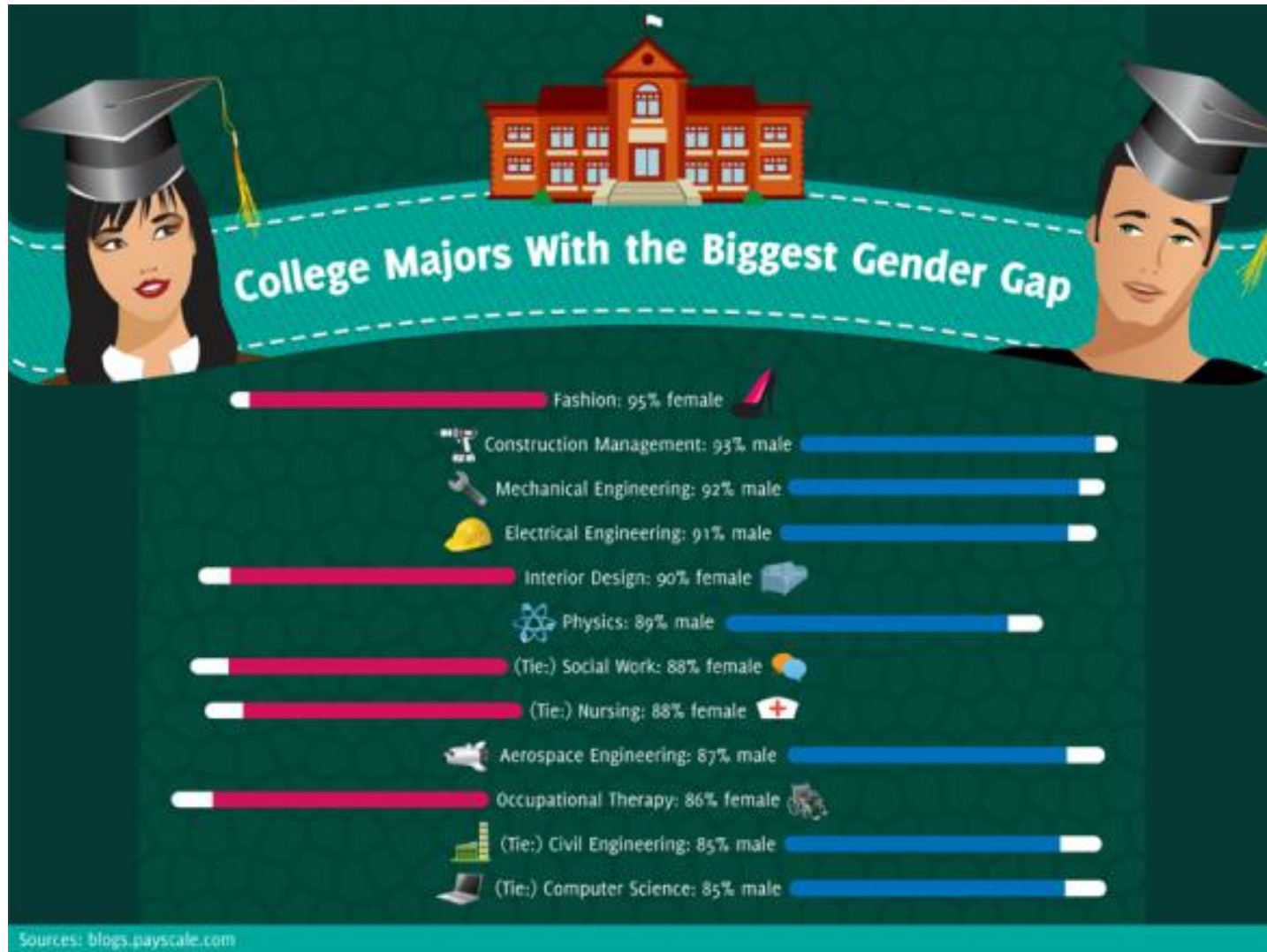
A great portion of the bias towards gender deprives people of their labor rights, not only by minimizing their salary, but also by reducing work opportunities for them

- The male-female income disparity is still an existent problem in many regions of the world
- Another very strong example is the bias that transgender people face in the matters of labor rights, which usually forces them to resort in sex work-and not in the most beneficial ways for them- in order to acquire some form of income

Education Rights and Gender

Similarly with labor rights, there is also gender based discrimination in education

- Besides the fact that in many regions of the world women are deprived of their rights in education, there is still a gendered character related with academic disciplines
- For example STEM disciplines are still strongly male dominated
- Also there are many occurrences in where non gender normative individuals become excluded from educational structures



Source: <http://www.bachelorsdegreeonline.com/blog/2012/10-college-majors-with-the-biggest-gender-gap/>

The notions of Gender and Body Politics in Art

Tatyana Falzalizadeh (1985-)



Tatyana Falzalizadeh,
*My Outfit Is Not An
Invitation*, Poster,
Philadelphia, 2013



EAST BOSTON SOCIAL CENTER
CENTRAL SQUARE CENTER

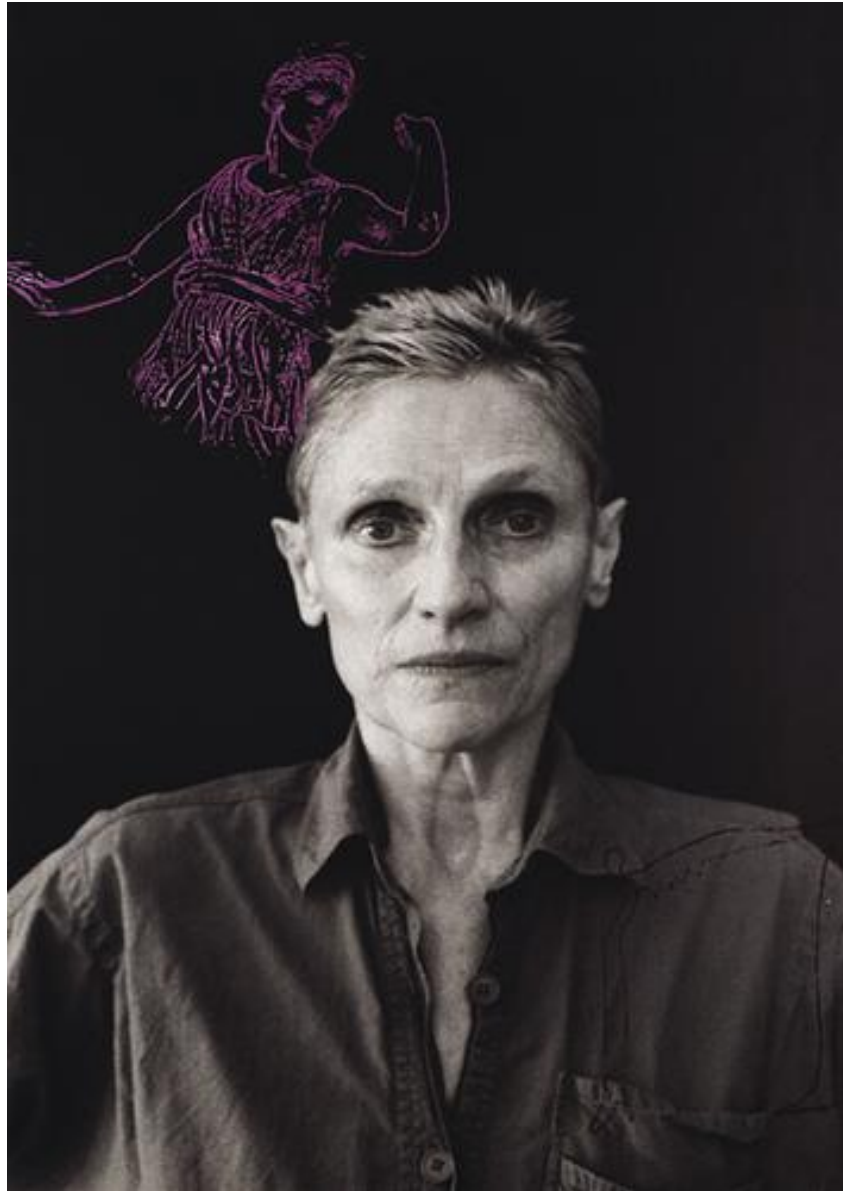


Tatyana
Falzalizadeh,
*Women Are People,
Not Just Bodies,*
Poster, East
Boston, 2014



Tatyana Falzalizadeh, *Harassing Women Does Not Prove Your Masculinity*, Baltimore, 2014

Nancy Spero (1926-2009)





Nancy Spero, *Goddess Nut / Acrobat*, handprinting on handmade paper, 49.5 x 62.2 cm , 1989



Nancy Spero, *Maria Bruskina / Gestapo Victim*, handprinting and printed collage on paper, 48.3 x 66 cm, 1994



Nancy Spero, *Performance*, Collage on paper, 1995

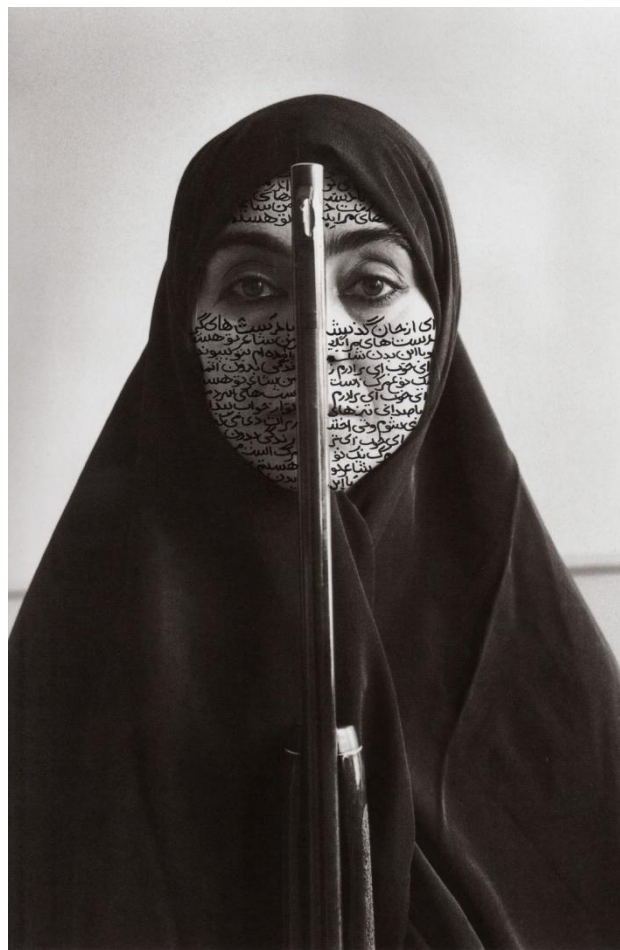
Shirin Neshat (1957-)



Shirin Neshat, *Grace*
Under
Duty, Photography,
1993



Shirin Neshat, *Women of Allah*, Photography, 1994





Shirin Neshat, *Turbulent* ,Video, 9m 38s , 1998

Link: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VCAssCuOGls>

Faith Ringgold (1930-)





Faith Ringgold, *American People Series #9:
The American Dream*, Oil on canvas, 121.9
× 66 cm, 1964



Faith Ringgold, *American People Series #16: Woman Looking in a Mirror*,
Oil on canvas, 91.4 × 81.3 cm, 1966

Lady Jaye & Genesis Breyer P. Orridge “Pandrogeny” Project (2003-)





Lady Jaye & Genesis Breyer P Orridge,
circa late 90's



Breyer P-Orridge (Throbbing Gristle, Psychic TV) and his other half and collaborator, Lady Jaye , “Pandrogyné” The Ballad of Genesis and Jaye

-Film Released in USA by ADOPT FILMS on March 2012,

trailer:<http://www.balladofgenesisandladyjaye.com/ballad/>

Martha Rosler (1943-)



Martha Rosler, *Cleaning the
Drapes*, 44 x 60.3 cm
Photomontage, 1967-1972



Martha Rosler,
*Semiotics of the
Kitchen*, Video, 1975



Link: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3zSA9Rm2PZA#>

Martha Rosler, *Point
and Shoot*
Photomontage, 2008



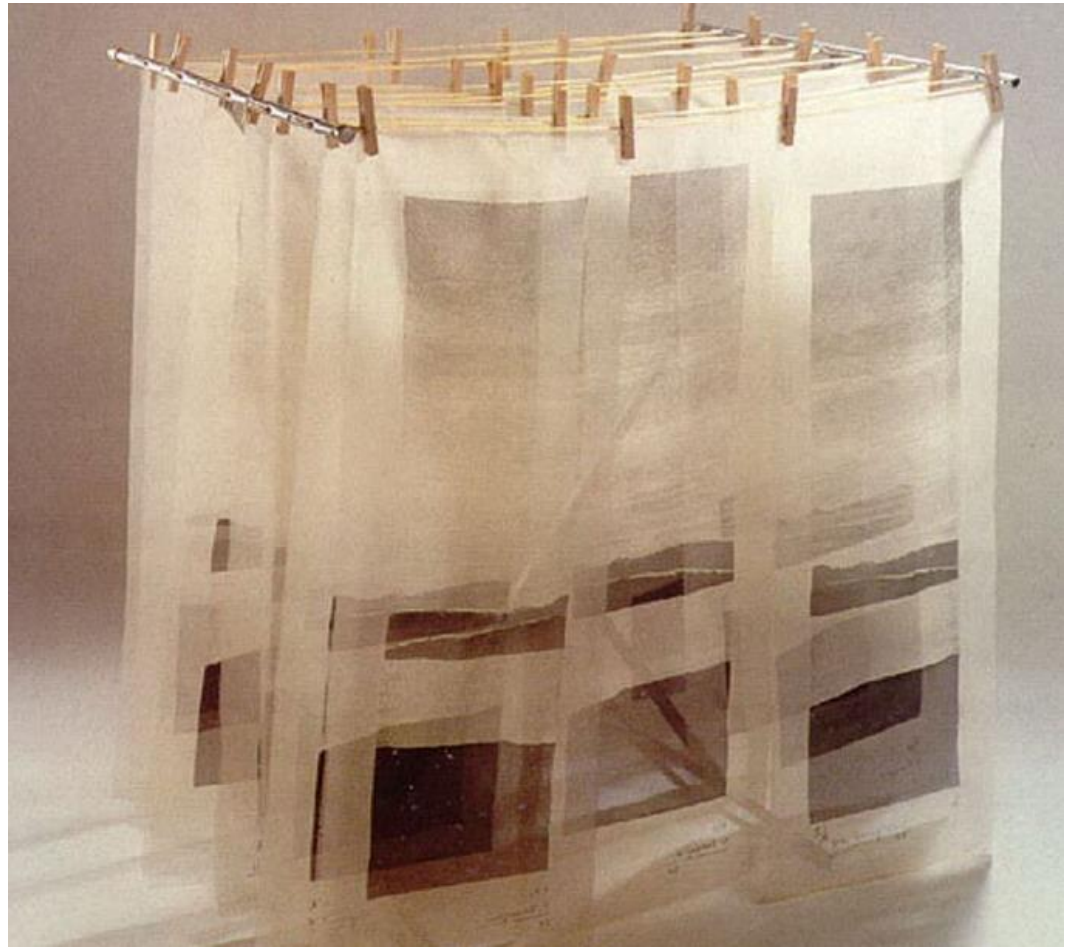
Niki Kanagini (1933-2008)

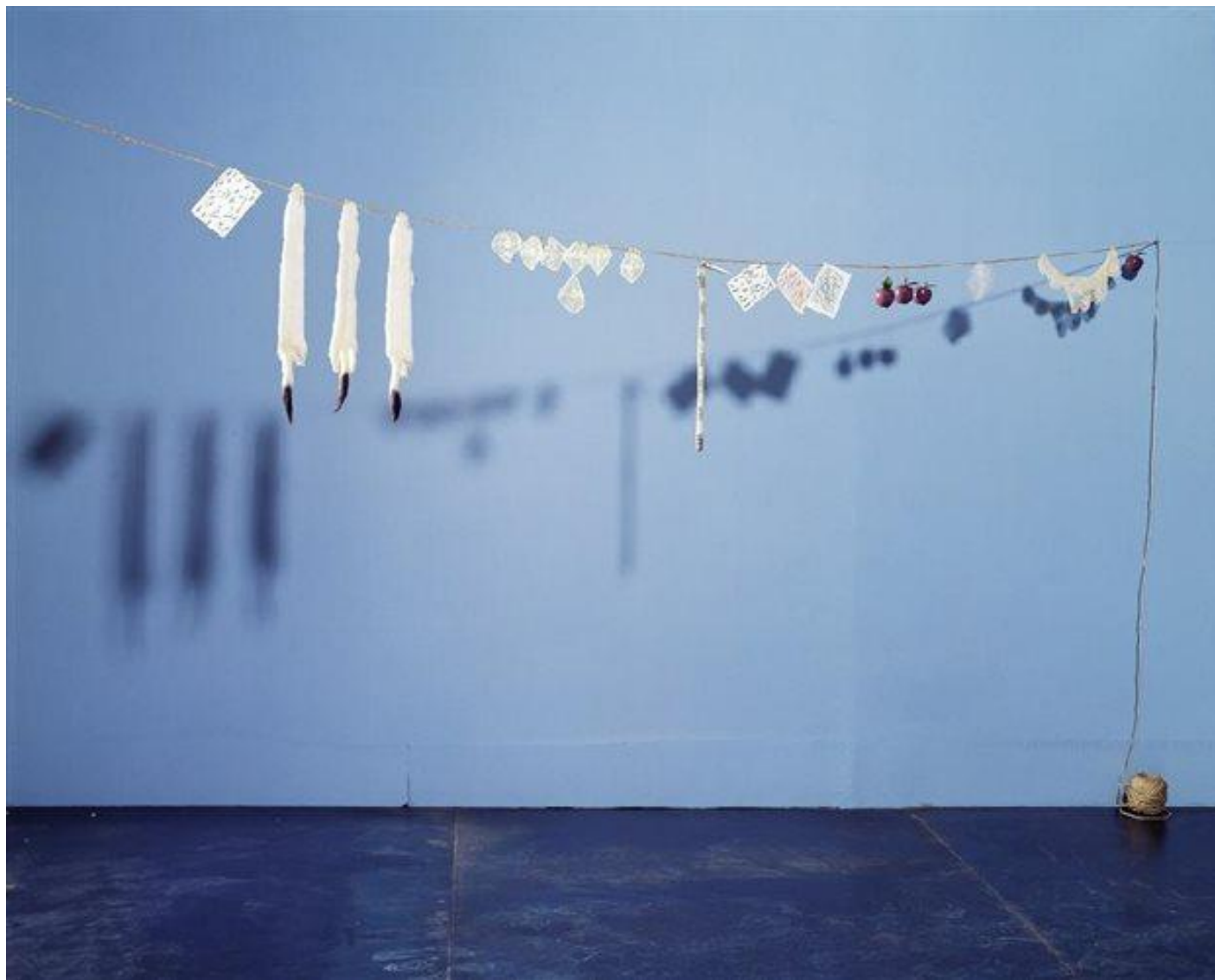


Niki Kanagini, *At home*, Clay metal, 1991



Niki Kanagini, *At home*, fabric and clampers, 1991





Niki Kanagini, *Domestic Scene*, rope, laces, ermine furs, circa 1965

The Seven Rights Installation

and its use in the teaching process



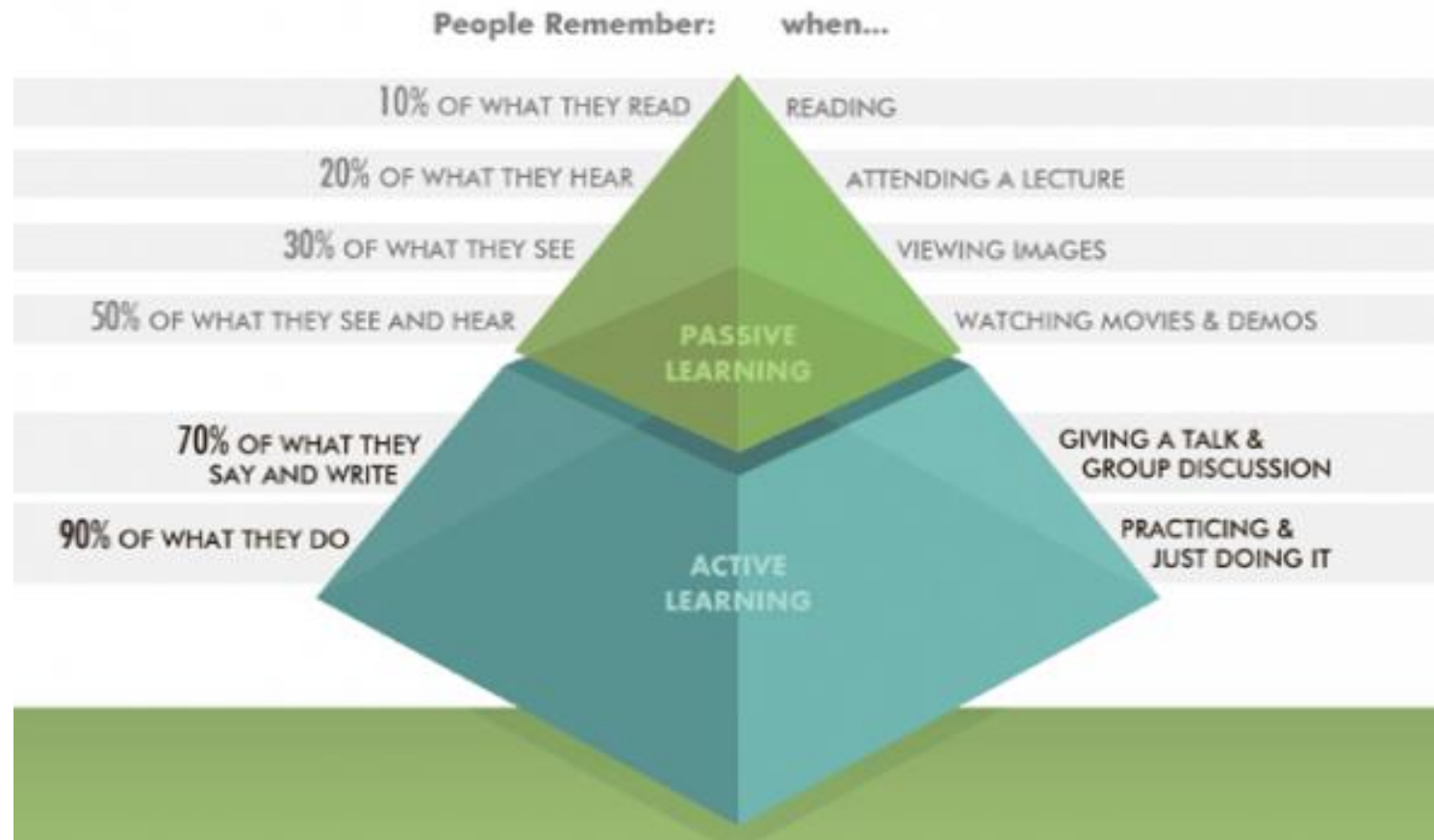
Active Learning

- **Active learning** is a term that refers to several models of instruction that focus the responsibility of learning on learners. To learn, students must do more than just listen.

Active learning engages students in two aspects – doing things and thinking about the things they are doing.

- One of the earliest documented forms of active learning, the Socratic Method, occurred in ancient Greece, and is attributed to Socrates.
- Throughout the centuries other educational philosophers such as Rousseau (1762), Dewey (1933), Piaget (1951), and Kolb (1984) have advocated for learning through play, practical and sensory experiences to promote complex intellectual constructs and abstract reasoning.

ACTIVE LEARNING & STUDENT PERFORMANCE



Source: <http://elearninginfographics.com/active-learning-and-student-performance-infographic/>

Teaching strategies that promote active learning have five common elements. These include:

- student involvement beyond mere listening
- more emphasis on the development of skills and less on transmittal of information
- student involvement in higher order thinking skills
- student involvement in activities
- an emphasis on students' exploration of values and attitudes

The seven rights installation aims to provoke critical thinking in students, by putting them in a situation in which they have to take the initiative to place themselves in relation to the presented system of rights.





Not one way of positioning one's self is considered wrong or right, nor is it reprimanded in any form or way, however students will still be asked to stand for their opinion by the end of the project, regardless.

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Thanks for your attention! 😊