
Amanda M. Wolcott, Ph.D.
IOSSBR Conference Fall 2018
Why So Few? – The Traditional Position

- Science Achievement Gaps
  - Stereotype Threat
  - Implicit Bias
  - Fixed Mindsets
- Overt and Covert Sexism

“Let me tell you about my trouble with girls, three things happen when they are in the lab: You fall in love with them, they fall in love with you, and when you criticize them they cry.”

- Nobel Laureate, Tim Hunt
Nothing like a sample tube full of cheetah poop to make you distractingly sexy

#distractinglysexy

❤️ 1,664  8:20 AM - Jun 11, 2015

💬 865 people are talking about this
Danielle Spitzer
@DNAielleSpitzer

It's just really hard working in a coed lab because I'm too distracting to the male scientists #distractinglysexy

3,063 9:43 PM - Jun 10, 2015

2,274 people are talking about this
I'm really glad that Curie managed to take a break from crying to discover radium and polonium #distractinglysexy
Dear department: please note I will be unable to chair the 10am meeting this morning because I am too busy swooning and crying.

#TimHunt

1:42 AM - 10 Jun 2015
I am in the office, but I can't do my science work as I saw a photograph of #TimHunt and now I'm in love, dammit
• Germany and gender equality
• “Girls Day”
• STEM Professorships for Women
• Improvement Consortiums

(Best, Sanwald, Ihsen, & Ittel, 2013; Stoet, Bailey, Moore, & Geary, 2016)
• Category sorting
  – Consequence of free choice
• Nurses vs. engineers
A scatterplot of countries based on their number of female STEM graduates and their Global Gender Gap Index (y-axis), a measure of opportunities for women.

The Egalitarian Position

- Economic hardship and intrinsic vs. extrinsic motivation (Khazan, 2016; Stoet et al., 2016)
- Empowerment (Stoet & Geary, 2018)
- Life satisfaction (Stoet & Geary, 2018)
The Evolutionary Position

• Family Crises
• Personality Dimensions
• Empathizers vs. Systemizers

Photo Credit: https://twitter.com/jbplobsterco
• Consequence of fair society, not a result of oppression
• Removing the status of victimhood
• Is the grass really greener?

Thank You For Listening

What do you think?