



Delusions of Gender: How Our Minds, Society, and Neurosexism Create Difference.

Fine, Cordelia (author).

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[REVIEW](#). First published [July 16, 2010 \(Booklist Online\)](#).



In a methodical and devastatingly effective manner, Fine eviscerates the recent trend in attributing society's gender-based differences to biology. The sheer girth of her analysis is staggering as she addresses everything from scientific studies going back more than a century to the latest assertions of "Mars and Venus" author John Gray. Fine pivots from studies on gender-based clothing and toys to a discussion of education, and reviews recent Caldecott Award-winning children's books, noting that one gender is consistently described as "beautiful, frightened, worthy, sweet, weak and scared." (Guess which one.) Fine also explains how experiments are manipulated to provide desirable results and how results are presented without necessary caveats (such as the fact that men were not part of the study). This is social science at its hard-working best as Fine uses solid references to refute the notion that biology trumps pervasive stereotyping, and offers a sterling rebuttal to agenda research and the lure of pseudo-science. — *Colleen Mondor*