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RESEARCH ARTICLE

MASCULINITY OR ANDROGYNYA. PLAYED ROLE BY TEENAGERS IN SOCIAL NETWORKS.

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Abstract

Sex and gender are two concepts that often arise in this current world, it is extremely important to have always the right contexts for it; considering in the same way the different psychosocial facets, the rights and the specific obligations.

It is true that the terms referring to sexuality are largely subjective and hegemonic in the way that masculinity are building around a meaning or what it begins to represent.

In a contradiction and since its genesis the social networks (groups) arise as a plurality of individuals that are in permanent contact; at the same time, they consider some common element of great importance, generating with it a great interaction and belonging over time; considering within them a greater density of social relationships involved.

This constant -of interaction and belonging, in the management of male roles during the adolescent stage and especially in women is clearly interesting. The male-role usually it's considered: showing, acting or interacting, it's becomes a common practice in our days and "something" conveniently to analyze.

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Introduction:-

The construction of gender identity by adolescents has acquired an enormous importance in our days, a situation that favors always the research work that professionals focused on gender perspectives have been doing.

The same theme has aroused the interest to develop a much more complete work to this one, in which I have only materialized to retake theories to reflect on the different behaviors that adolescents have been showing through the ease offered by many of the social networks, basically from what emerges from the most popular (Facebook and Twitter mainly).

Gender roles can easily been inverted or can be played with them within these social environments, as it does not represent a limit for a generation that was born and adopted at the same time a virtual social environment that was developed in the same way at the same time.

The construction of masculinities:-

The construction of gender roles and masculinities specifically occurs from the moment a new being begins to take shape; or when the couple plans it and it's discovered that the woman is pregnant, she begins to grant that son or

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daughter desired characteristics. That will depend on attributing elements or characteristics according to the boy or girl as well as the behavior or the different needs and articles for his or her birth.

All this will also be part of a very special treatment in which all the people who are going to relate to this new being, whether boy or girl, participate.

People at birth have a biological sex defined by nature that is a fundamental part of the way they are going to be socially treated by their parents, by their family group and, of course, their social environment or the community of which they will be part socially; something that can certainly have variants between one social group or another. However, it can also depend on the historical or cultural time in which the people are inserted.

Certainly, Biology determines the functional characteristics of the reproduction of a male and a female, but on the other hand, the environment and the social context determine the expressions of the behaviors associated with what is usually called masculinity and femininity.

The essential definitions of sex and gender are considered synonyms of themselves because emerge immediately; however, they are different categories because the anatomical characteristics determine the sex to which the individual belongs; while gender is a social construction that defines what it means to be of one sex or the other within a society. Sex is defined by the biological characteristics of men and women, from the point of view of those that appear at first sight, such as the anatomy and functioning of the female and male reproductive system, as well as the secondary sexual characteristics determined by the hormonal action specific to each sex.

(Vieira, 1986, quoted by Hardy 2001) mentions that from birth, the male baby begins is expected to realize what of him to have the characteristics of their genital organs. However, it is not enough to be born with a penis to become a man or a vagina in order to be a woman, there is still a way to go to become one, and for this also the formation that during the first years of their life is essential to acquire the necessary characteristics of their identity.

The diverse social groups conformed by family, school, friends, informative media and society where the individual belongs, dictate and order boys their way of acting or behaving as a man. He orders him not to show feelings, to be strong, not to feel fear, to be virile and to act as "man"; in the same way, girls are taught to be submissive, kind, correct, sensitive and a correct housewife. These teachings make boys and girls start behaving as society expects.

The maternal figure is very important at an early age; because not only it covers basic and phisically needs, but also it is essential for the child survival and creates a special attachment to the female figure. When there is a lack of masculine figure during the children's first year of life, it could affect the individual's personality. (Kaufman, 1994);

The boys' dependency of their mothers lasts practically at the end of the childhood period in which the child adopts attitudes corresponding to male role. For boys, the figure of the father helps to free himself from the bond between mother and son that took place in the first stage. However, there are also substitute figures of men who can help for any possible absence of the figure of the father (grandfather, uncle or elder brother), not ruling out in some cases the mother herself to take on roles and adopt attitudes that culturally they are interpreted as masculine (Hardy, 2001).

The acceptance or rejection of masculinity, as a rule that prevails in a society, has an important impact on the quality of life of men and women. This explains the need to analyze how it is built and how important it is for life in society. From this perspective, we begin with the construction of masculinity, gender relations and the price of masculinity. These aspects were approached from a holistic perspective, which included presenting the male as a generic construct, inserted in a society and in constant interrelation with other people.

Mansfield (1998) tells us that the quality called masculinity can be elevated to the position of virtue, to the extent that manhood is humanized and allows the participation of women in it. Nowadays men face the dilemma of being "men" and at the same time being fair to women. Women also have the dilemma of doing the things that men normally do and reaffirm themselves as women.

Gender can be defined as a dynamic, socially constructed category based on biological sexual differences. And from these differences the social roles of men and women are determined. Gender is constructed in a body that has a defined sex and to which psychological, social and economic characteristics are attributed.

Hardy (2001) quoting Parker (1991) and Barbosa (1998), also alludes to the sexualization of the word masculinity and its symbolic representations, that are associated with the phallus and the behaviors resulting from possessing it and at the same time giving evidence of its functioning that is also related to Geometry and its use as an instrument to measure manhood and all that masculinity represents.

Only the word masculinity leads us to the concept or idea of man, however the same term does not exclude the feminine side within the subject, as an inseparable and complementary element of masculinity itself. At the same time, that both masculinity and femininity are social constructions and that many times it will depend to a great extent on the type of training, education or influence received from an early childhood or throughout his life.

But nothing prevents some men from adopting female behaviors or some women from acquiring male behaviors; situations that will cause them to face conflicts of different kinds insofar as the society in which they live accepts or rejects these challenges to the norm.

Talking about a subject such as masculinity, as such is not easy or easy to approach because its construction has made it surrounded by elements often imaginary and symbolic that makes it very difficult to observe it; in many of them, the custom makes it natural to be and at the same time justifies it. Its construction process is not essential for the male, despite the fact that it is established or has been established as a hegemonic model when linking sex with gender.

Masculine and feminine can not be considered as a binary system of oppositions (List Reyes, 2004) and in which, both "... men and women share elements that have always been considered as exclusive of one of them, which leads to problems of the construction of individual and collective identities".

He also adds that the theories focused on gender and sexuality have not been enough despite the fact that sometimes they are dynamic, but not concrete; specifically when it comes to exploring specific cases, in those cases they are insufficient to make references to the diversity of ways in which people understand and live those identities.

Judith Butler cited by List Reyes (2004) points out that: "The assumption of a binary gender system implicitly maintains the idea of a mimetic relationship between gender and sex, in which gender reflects sex or, if not, is restricted by gender. When the constructed condition of the gender is theorized as something radically independent of sex, gender itself becomes a vague artifice, with the consequence that male and female can mean both a female body and a male and female female body of man as one of woman (2001: 39)

Several authors (Seider, 2000, Kaufman and Horowitz, 1989 and Núñez, 1994, among many others) tell us that the construction of masculinity is something very complex where power, pain and joy are combined; all of this as part not only of socialization, but also of social demand and the stereotypes that predominate over "masculinity"; as well as the construction of subjectivities in accordance with the hegemonic representations of what it implies to be a man ("the real man") (Ponce, 2004).

Social networks and gender roles:-

The great boom that social networks have had, is due to a growing need for differentiation and complexity that society seeks in an attempt to communicate in different directions; This is the reason why not only marketing professionals have shown interest but also professionals of human behavior. We have sought to identify a constant in the various attempts to identify a profile.

At some point it has come to be considered as "... organizational forms and occupy an important place in the process of construction of society in Mexico, because they allow organizations to develop their collective actions with greater potential, especially since under such structure they can optimize their capacity for reflexivity, ..." (Aranda Sánchez & García Campuzano, 2007).

According to Magnuson and Dundes (2008); Peluchette and Karl (2008) cited by (Azuela Flores, Baltazar Romero, Jimenez Almaguer, & Ochoa Hernandez, 2015) mentions that there are clear differences not only socio-demographic, but also gender among users since they are mostly women and not men, those most likely to reveal interests and aspects of their personal lives, while in the opposite direction men tend to publish obscene content without caring about the implications or future repercussions.

Many social networks of different nature and focused on different types of users in social networks have emerged simultaneously; This has made to pay more attention especially from a specialized point of view. Different profiles have been drawn up, including sociodemographic, psychographic and, of course, behavioral characteristics.

The first user classifications present a basic typology of profiles such as: 1) introverts; 2) novices; 3) versatile and 4) expert-communicators; another based on the Dutch market calls them: 1) beginners; 2) regular users; 3) featured users and 4) experts; among many others. But within all of them, highlights one that in particular I find interesting made by the Office of Communications (OFCOM) using the data proposed by the United Kingdom, makes a classification of Social Networks in five groups or user types: 1) the alpha socializers; 2) the attention seekers; 3) the followers; 4) the faithful and 5) the functional ones.

The first so-called socializers will be characterized by using networks for very short periods of time, in order to meet new people and basically entertain themselves. Those who seek attention that belong to the second group, as they try to get people's attention and get some kind of comment from others using striking elements within their publications, mainly personal photographs.

The so-called followers, will be distinguished not by wanting to be part of social networks, but because by joining, it allows them to be aware of what their colleagues or friends do; In another sense, the faithful who belong to the fourth type of profile within networks consider social networking sites as a useful tool to strengthen existing networks instead of creating new virtual friendships. Finally, the functional ones only use the networks for very short periods and the purposes are very specific; looking for music or see some news that has just been commented (Azuela Flores, Baltazar Romero, Jimenez Almaguer, & Ochoa Hernández, 2015).

Social networks are no longer just a meeting point, it is also a means by which you can access information, consult it, print it, share it or also within this wide variety of actions, it is a resource that we often have available in real time. To this end, we currently have not only a computer terminal in our homes or offices, but also small mobile or smart "smart" devices, such as cell phones that greatly facilitate these actions.

Within any gender study it is mentioned that every individual is clearly immersed within the canons or influences that the same society to which he belongs grants him as part of the construction of his identity. That is why it is of great importance to analyze in a first instance, the cultural and historical factors to have a clear understanding of the body and sexuality of the subjects; since it is not enough to make only a complete description of genital organs.

In the social environments of adolescents today, especially in social networks, it is never sufficiently clear about the value of gender, or that granted to their sexuality and perhaps less to their intimate body parts. Under this context, the socio-cultural aspects arise, not only as a heritage that the environment provides, but also as a set of values, beliefs and behaviors that are shared within the same context where it has been transmitted from generation to generation (Matusumoto, 1996) cited by (García-Campos, 2008).

In this way and thanks to social interaction that the formation of his personality and the construction of reality begins; at the same time impossible to separate (society and culture), because they are the same that approve most of the members of a socio-culture.

Male and female roles are going to emerge as part of their personality that in a lot of sense determines the behavior of people and where society and culture have mistakenly referred or associated it with sex; that is, it associates sex with gender.

García-Campos, based on the analysis of previously consulted studies, mentions that "the behaviors that have been incorporated into the masculine part, or also called instrumental, are: assertiveness, strength, orientation to material achievements, etc. While those coined to expressivity (femininity), are modesty, affection, concern for the quality of life, etc. It indicates that the expectations of the behavior of men and women in each of the societies of the different countries analyzed in the studies; relapse in the way of being of the subject or by the nature of the construct will depend in a certain way on their sex and gender. Countries such as Japan, Germany, the United States, Great Britain, Venezuela, Mexico and the Philippines are instrumental countries, that is, they obtained high values with masculine characteristics; while Denmark, Finland, Norway, Sweden, Holland, France, Portugal, Costa Rica and Thailand, their results were instrumental or with feminine characteristics.

Using the same theoretical lines makes reference to the masculinity-femininity refers to two continuous that according to their combinations, we can find four types of people: a) Masculine or instrumental who have very marked characteristics of masculinity while low or null feminine characteristics; b) Feminine, who is remarkable this type of feature or feature and absolutely nothing in terms of masculine or instrumental and under these same theoretical schemes makes mention of the possibility of talking about people with both characteristics, the so-called androgynous or without them that the mentions as undifferentiated (Reyes, 1999, cited by Campos, 2008).

It mentions that in Mexico, the structure of masculinity-femininity has been established by four factors (Reyes, 1999). The first is the Androgynia that has traits as capable, competent, attentive; it is followed in the second term by Normative Expressiveness, where it qualifies them as gentle, educated, generous; continuing with that of Negative Instrumentality, where the features or characteristics of exploited, abusive and haughty stand out; and finally, he calls it Emotional Expressivity, which refers to insecure, immature and fearful beings.

However, there is always a need in adolescents to show strength or appear strong, not only in the context of virility or the suffering of a problem related to it; something that is hardly shared or said to someone. Something similar could be happening to changes that have been taking place not only in the cultural, but also in the economic and social levels, by allowing a greater integration of women in different spaces.

Many men in the adolescent population accept or welcome feminist movements, although they indirectly continue to defend patriarchy; they take actions within the domestic environment, even if it is only a temporary cooperation and in the same way they have been involved in the responsibility of the reproductive process, of pregnancy and of childbirth.

Therefore, to determine some kind of gender perspective within the roles played by adolescents should allow us to rethink in some way what it really means to be a woman and be a man to resignify as individuals (Figueroa, 1998), cited by Hardy (2001).

Final comments:-

Without a doubt, we live in a crisis because teenagers play different roles on this time; above all, in a highly competitive environment in view of the enormous importance that female competition has acquired. From this, we begin to talk about equality in some way. Let's hope it is not temporary and transient.

This equality must support in many ways to close the enormous gap between two spaces: one male, in a higher level and another female in lower levels that support actions that transform the social environment and non-discrimination.

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