



GENDER EQUALITY:

A challenge for schools, a challenge for everyone

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WHO WE ARE

Engender is a feminist civil society organisation, Scottish charity, and non-governmental organisation.

Scotland's representative to the UK Joint Committee on Women, the UK's national co-ordination of the European Women's Lobby

UN Special Consultative status

Policy and advocacy around women's economic, social and cultural, and political equality and rights



GENDERED SPHERES





WHAT IS LIFE LIKE FOR GIRLS?

Stereotypes about girls' interests and capabilities, including that they will not be leaders

Cultural demand for certain types of grooming

Sexual harassment, sexualisation, and violence against girls, from peers and teachers

Constraints on freedom: less money, less access to public transport, less physical space for action

Girls expected to ameliorate boys' bad behaviour



WHAT DO SCHOOLS DO TO TACKLE SEXISM?

'Inclusion' and not equality for girls

Projects + initiatives not mainstream work to challenge sexism

Sexual harassment under- or unchallenged, underrecorded

Evidence about masculinity + gender not changing pedagogy

Teachers are individually enthusiastic but lack tools and leadership

Caution about parental pushback



WHAT CHANGE NEEDS TO HAPPEN?

- Recruitment, training and teaching standards
- Curriculum, testing, and public awareness
- Performance monitoring of schools, data gathering
- Leadership and policy change



CONTACT DETAILS

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