

Ferris State University

Are Female Professors Held to A Different Standard Than Their Male Counterparts?

A Summary/Reflection

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Outline

INTRODUCTION

Attention Grabber: Gender equality has been a topic of discussion for many years. We have made strides to try and make them equal, but we are not perfect.

THESIS STATEMENT: Female Professors seem to be held to a higher standard than their male counterparts.

ACADEMIC SUMMARY (2 para)

Para 1: - The author of the writing claims that Female Professors are held to higher standards than Male Professors.

Para 2: The author reinforces her statement with numerous studies that yield quite compelling results revealing a potential problem in our education system.

BODY 1: Respond to what a text says (2 para)

Para 1:

- **Topic sentence:** Minor's claim does present many great points in favor of male and female Professors being treated differently.

- **Signal phrase + "Evidence":** Minor presented a study conducted by Lillian McNeill discovering: Both of the professors were equal in all facets. They taught very similar, similar interaction styles, and similar mannerisms. This class was solely online. They gave the male professor a seemingly feminine name and the female professor a more masculine name. This was to set the belief that the female professor was male and vice versa for the male professor. At the end of each respective class, the students were to give a rating on their professor. Even though these professors were almost identical the "male" teacher scored higher in every single category. (Minor)

Para 2:

- **Topic sentence:** Even with the author finding many sources to support her writing, some aspects went overlooked.
- **Signal phrase + “Evidence”:** Minor claims that many students and people hold “Unintentional and unconscious biases”: Many people set an impossible threshold for women to achieve as a professor. “Students may have no idea they evaluate faculty differently based on their gender, race, or other characteristics.” Says Minor.

BODY 2: Respond to how a text is written (2 para)**Para 1:**

- **Topic sentence:** This article is written to get an emotion of frustration and to inspire you to fight for gender equality in the education system.
- **Signal phrase + “Evidence”:** Minor directs the reader to feel this way using her diction: Minor makes the perception of the Female Professor dull or falls short with phrases like, “not rewarded when they do so” On the contrary, Minor chooses to make the diction of the Male Professor in this part of the paper overly positive to build up the Male Professor how she claims students do with phrases like going above and beyond expectations”

Para 2:

- **Topic sentence:** The structure of this writing is used to build up Minor’s claim and get more people in agreeance on the cause.
- **Signal phrase + “Evidence”:** Minor reports her research following her overall takeaway: The first paragraph establishes her main claim that Female Professors are held to a higher standard

than Male Professors. The following paragraphs talk about studies from Amani El-Alayli, Lillian McNeill, and KerryAnn O'Meara reinforcing her claim. Lastly, her belief on what should be done about the problem and wants things to change. Minor states that, "Universities and colleges need to acknowledge the disparities and work on removing the gender differences."

BODY 3: Reflect on your own Reaction to a text (2 para)

Para 1:

- **Topic sentence:** The writing does not invoke any specific emotion for me but brings up many interesting points.
- **Signal phrase + "Evidence":** Minor has referenced many studies with very similar results: All of the studies that Minor referenced in her writing reported that Female Professors were given worse scores or reviews than Male Professors even if they were almost identical. Minor states that all of the studies listed say, "...female professors teach and work under different expectations yet are measured on the same scale as their male colleagues."

Para 2:

- **Topic sentence:** With all of the findings in the writing, it gives the reader a new insight and possibly many questions.
- **Signal phrase + "Evidence":** Minor talks about many people having unintentional biases and prejudices: "Unintentional and unconscious biases are hard to overcome." (Minor)

INTRODUCTION

Gender equality has been a topic of discussion for many years. We have made strides towards equality, but we are not perfect. Female Professors seem to be held to a higher standard than their male counterparts. But why is that?

Academic Summary

The author reinforces her statement with numerous studies that yield quite compelling results revealing a potential problem in our education system. All of these studies come to the same conclusion that Female Professors are judged more harshly than Male Professors. These studies included surveys of student feedback of Male and Female Professors, an observational study on how students react to problems with Male and Female Professors, an experiment with two very similar online teachers pretending to be the opposite genders to compare the feedback, and 300 faculty members recording their work habits for 30 days. Every single study showed that Female Professors are held to a higher standard along with having more difficulty with students.

The author of the writing claims that Female Professors are held to higher standards than Male Professors. The author making this claim, Maria Minor, believes that Female Professors will receive worse reviews and feedback from students on their teaching ability. Minor believes that Male Professors will be praised for doing the same things Female Professors do that will get them criticized. Female Professors are said to be “not acknowledged or rewarded.” (Minor) The writing also covered that Female Professors are even treated differently. This would include interactions and overall expectations.

Respond to What a Text Says

The author of the writing claims that Female Professors are held to higher standards than Male Professors. Minor presented a study conducted by Lillian McNeill discovering: Both of the professors were equal in all facets. They taught very similar interaction styles and mannerisms. This class was solely online so to give anonymity they gave the male professor a seemingly feminine name and the female professor a more masculine name. This was to set the belief that the female professor was male and vice versa for the male professor. At the end of each respective class, the students were to give a rating on their professor. Even though these professors were almost identical the “male” teacher scored higher in every single category. (Minor)

Even with the author finding many sources to support her writing, some aspects went overlooked. Minor claims that many students and people hold “Unintentional and unconscious biases”: Many people set an impossible threshold for women to achieve as a professor. “Students may have no idea they evaluate faculty differently based on their gender, race, or other characteristics.” Says Minor. But there is potential context that is missing. Minor should have cross-referenced these studies in all types of institutions and compare the results. There could be a possibility that political stances play in a possible inequality towards Female Professors. Many more questions are left unanswered in this writing that could reinforce Minor’s claim so much more. Minor left out important evidence that could have reinforced her claim.

Respond to How a Text is Written

This article is written to create an emotion of frustration and to inspire people to fight for gender equality in the education system. Minor directs the reader to feel this way using her diction: Minor makes the perception of the Female Professor dull or falls short with phrases like, “not rewarded when they do so” On the contrary, Minor chooses to make the diction of the Male Professor in this part of the paper overly positive to build up the Male Professor how she claims students do with phrases like “going above and beyond expectations” (Minor). Minor is very passionate about this issue and wants change. This diction will cause some people discomfort with the treatment of Female Professors and inspire a select few to fight for the cause bringing more light to the issue. With more attention on the issue, there is a higher chance of it being solved.

The structure of this writing is used to build up Minor’s claim and get more people in agreeance on the cause. Minor reports her research following her overall takeaway: Female Professors are held to a higher standard than Male Professors. The following paragraphs talk about studies from Amani El-Alayli, Lillian McNeill, and KerryAnn O’Meara reinforcing her claim. Lastly, Minor states her belief on what should be done about the problem and wants things to change. Minor states that, “Universities and colleges need to acknowledge the disparities and work on removing the gender differences.” (Minor). This format properly builds Minor’s credibility to make her a trustworthy writer to the reader. Once the reader believes the author is credible, they will be more willing to accept the information or solution to the problem she presents. This is why Minor states what needs to be done in the collegiate education field at the end of her piece.

Reflect on Your Own Reaction to a Text

The writing does not invoke any specific emotion for me but brings up many interesting points. Minor has referenced many studies with very similar results. All of the studies that Minor referenced in her writing reported that Female Professors were given worse scores or reviews than Male Professors even if they were almost identical. Minor states that all of the studies listed say, "...female professors teach and work under different expectations yet are measured on the same scale as their male colleagues." (Minor). For many people, this text could bring out an outraged emotion. They may feel that this is such a terrible thing to do to Female Professors educating the next generation. Overall, the typical emotion a reader would have from this reading would be frustration.

With all of the findings in the writing, it gives the reader a new insight and possibly many questions. Minor talks about many people having unintentional biases and prejudices. Minor says, "Unintentional and unconscious biases are hard to overcome." (Minor) This brings out a moment of reflection for the reader, thinking to themselves, "Do I do that? Do I unintentionally hold Female Professors to different standards?" Minor could potentially be exaggerating the issue.

Conclusion

Maria Minor presented some intriguing information on whether Female Professors are held to a higher standard than Male Professors. Minor backed her claim with studies, experiments, etc. This issue has many unanswered questions that would be vital to obtaining the whole picture. In conclusion, Male or Female, White, Black, Asian, or Hispanic Professors should all be held to the same standard.

Works Cited

Minor, Maria. "Are Female Professors Held to a Different Standard Than Their Male Counterparts?" *Forbes*, 19 Mar. 2021, www.forbes.com/sites/mariamminor/2021/03/19/are-female-professors-held-to-a-different-standard-than-their-male-counterparts/?sh=33fec1e379fe. Accessed 6 Nov. 2023.