

# The Gender Imbalance in STEM Jobs

STEM, as in a STEM job, is an acronym used globally to abbreviate a job that requires qualifications in the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. A qualification in a STEM job can result in earning a career as an engineer, scientist, accountant, architect and even certain jobs in medicine and surgery.

However, it has become apparent that, like most other pathways in the modern day workplace, STEM jobs bare a significant gap in the donation of the jobs and the wages between the two genders. It is common knowledge that to get a STEM job you are required to excel in and have a higher education in Mathematics, Science and Information Technology. Therefore, the stereotype that males excel in Maths and Science and females excel in Reading, Writing and Language skills was born, forcing the amount of women in STEM jobs to drastically decrease, as well as the amount of money women who ARE in a STEM job would receive.

In 1996, a universal study was recorded suggesting that womens' self esteem and confidence began to falter due to them thinking that men had higher abilities in STEM fields and higher technical skills. I also believe that women were and still are made to believe that men are naturally better at manual jobs that involves strength, building things and working with their STEM skills. Conversely, there is surported research that show women could be just as able in these areas if they were given the required training. Moreover, it has been found that in areas of Scotland women have succeeded to flourish and eventually graduate in STEM subjects such as Science, IT and Maths like said before but they then failed to achieve a STEM career due to this outrageous gender imbalance scandal.

On average, females earn less money than men in STEM careers AND, I believe, are less likely to be chosen for a STEM job. Beause salaries are higher in scientific and technical positions, women are also not as likely as men to get the job due to the higher income.

From a high school student's point of view and from the point of view of a female, I think that if a woman has the intelligence and abilities to pass as a college graduate in STEM subjects then they have the intelligence and abilities to achieve a STEM career and earn the same amount as a men for doing the exact same job. I believe that wage imbalances should only occur between people wanting the same job if they do not have the intelligence to have that career. But I don't think it should be based on the gender that you happen to be. Furthermore, I also fully agree with the fact that women are just as capable as men at getting a manual or steretypically "male" profession if they are given the correct training and guidance. Our worldwide goal should be for there to be equality everywhere including the extremely crowded world of the modern day workplace. We should all fight for equality to make a good today and an even brighter and more equal tomorrow.

By Tyfenn Quentin – 8C