**Media Write-Up**

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INTRODUCTION

Humans have been created as equals, but every person has been given some capabilities or qualities that the other person does not have. Whereas, there are some classifications on which humans are grouped into different groups or categories. A number of factors become the basis of this classification. These groups can be made on the basis of religion, nationality, economic classes, educational status and a number of many other factors, however, one of the most basic and initial bases of classification is gender.

I recently came across an excellent piece of art that put light on the topic in a much better and detailed way. It was a documentary film presented under the production of Discovery (Discovery - Is It a Boy or a Girl ft. Tiger Devore PhD Anon n.d.). The film titled “Discovery - Is It a Boy or a Girl ft. Tiger Devore PhD” goes into the depths of the sensitive topic and how society should finally start accepting this decision of people who like to remain in an intersex or want to change their gender.

DISCUSSION

When a couple hears the good news that they are going to be parents, the first thing that comes to their mind is whether it will be a baby boy or girl. Every couple has a certain wish that they should either have a boy or girl as their child. However, sometimes, nature has some other plans. The gender of the baby is usually determined in the 18 or 22 weeks of pregnancy, however, sometimes, this gender is not specified and the gender is not developed. In this condition, the baby cannot be categorized into a specific group or category of male or female, however, it can be categorized under the header of a third sex or intersex.

Many people choose to deliberately change their gender from the natural sexual characteristics that have been granted to them. Sometimes the person wants to get out of this constant struggle of being in the third group, and hence, decides to make a change. This kind of behavior is generally not accepted by society and the people who take such decisions are usually tagged as rebels and exhibiting a deviant behavior (Goode, 2015). Viewing from the lens of sociology, there are five theories of deviance, as described by famous sociologist, Robert K. Merton. These theories can be categorized into innovation, conformity, retreatism and ritualism. Every person who exhibits deviant behavior follows these five patterns. However, there are certain forms of deviance that are committed in criminal circles.

Despite all these issues, people still continue to choose their preferred gender and live according to it. Sometimes this procedure is carried on surgically, while the other times, people only remain till changing their appearance. In the current times, these procedures are carried on with much more efficiency and accuracy, thanks to the advancements in medical sciences. People are now becoming more aware of their own bodies and hence selecting better options for themselves. Parents of children have also become much more aware of the biological procedures and allow their children to choose their gender in order to have a successful and satisfying life.

CONCLUSION

Hence, it can be concluded that determination of gender is one’s own decision and being a free nation, a person should have complete freedom to choose it. A person who chooses to live as a male instead of a female or vice versa should not be tagged or judged and their behavior should not be considered as deviant behavior. Although there are a number of theories that have been presented with regards to the deviant behavior, the decision to choose one’s own gender does not fall in any one of them. So, this practice should be avoided.

References

Anon. n.d. “YouTube.” Retrieved January 29, 2020 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m84MfB0yN10&t=1013s).

Goode, E. (2015). *Deviant behavior*. Routledge.