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SOCIAL NORMS AND GENDER DISPARITIES IN THE ARTS: A LITERATURE REVIEW

Eric Gong[1], Anthony Gong[2], Janey Wang[3]

[1]Singapore Armed Forces, Singapore, Singapore, Singapore. [2]Northwood High School, Irvine, California, USA. [3]San Francisco State University, San Francisco, California, USA

Abstract

Gender disparities in the arts persist despite significant advances toward equality in various fields. Women, despite often being the majority in arts education, are underrepresented in professional roles, exhibitions, and recognition within the art market (Burns Halperin Report, 2022). Women often face systemic barriers in accessing opportunities, funding, and recognition due to cultural expectations surrounding gender roles (UNESCO, 2021). Understanding the relationship between these social norms and gender disparities is crucial for developing targeted interventions to promote gender equity in the arts. This literature review aims to synthesize existing research on how social norms contribute to gender disparities in the arts, exploring the cultural, economic, and institutional factors that perpetuate inequality. In particular, it examines the following research questions: How do social norms contribute to gender disparities in the arts across different cultural contexts? What are the specific social norms identified in the literature that perpetuate gender inequality in the arts? How do these norms influence economic outcomes, professional opportunities, and representation for women artists? What best practices can be derived from the literature to promote gender equity in the arts? This study will contribute to the understanding of social norms and gender disparities in the arts, providing valuable insights for research, policy, and practice aimed at promoting gender equity in this essential field.

Conference Track

Public Policy and Public Administration