

Raising children without gender stereotypes

1. Empower your child to value and respect their own body and other people's
2. Seek out good male and female role models in your life and theirs
3. Give them all the options for toys, clothes and colours
4. Don't presume the sex of others



5. Facilitate and encourage emotion including crying



6. Swap round sex pronouns in children's books
7. Model egalitarian relationships between men and women



8. Encourage your child to have male and female friends
9. Challenge prejudice and discuss with your child
10. Teach children that domestic work is fun and important
11. Teach children that DIY and practical work is fun and important
12. Teach children that caring work is fun and important



13. Never use 'girl' as an insult or threat



14. Don't give a little girl a compliment you would not give to a boy
15. Model dealing with conflict in ways other than violence or aggression
16. Do not glamourise weapons or violence in toys, clothing, or games
17. Avoid heavily gendered children's TV



18. Seek out female tradespeople and let your child watch them work
19. Facilitate and encourage physical play and expression
20. Watch women in sport, including team sports



Adapted with the kind permission of Dr Finn Mackay from her article *Raising Boys: The Feminist Way*

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