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TED TALK

***WHY GENDER  
EQUALITY IS GOOD  
FOR EVERYONE—  
MEN INCLUDED***

**BY MICHAEL KIMMEL**

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QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

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## INSTRUCTIONS

Individually or as a group, watch the TED Talk “Why Gender Equality Is Good for Everyone—Men Included” by Michael Kimmel (available at [leanin.org/education/men-included](https://leanin.org/education/men-included)). Use the questions below for a group discussion on the ideas presented in the video.

## QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

- In this TED Talk, Michael makes the case that gender equality is good for men: it’s good for companies (higher employee retention and productivity), countries (higher scores on the happiness scale), and families (happier, healthier children and couples). What are some other benefits of gender equality?
- Think about the men in your life who support gender equality. Who are they? Why do you think they support it?
- Michael lists several obstacles to engaging men in supporting gender equality (for example, gender is often invisible to men, and they may have a sense of entitlement). What are some obstacles you’ve encountered when talking with men about gender equality? Brainstorm some responses and strategies for getting men on board.
- Michael suggests that instead of saying men “pitch in” or “help out” with household duties, we say that men “share” household duties. The change in wording may seem small, but he believes “share” better reflects the equal nature of partnerships when men are engaged. Do you think this language change matters? Why or why not?
- This video raises the issue of gender and racial privilege. In addition to gender and race, there are other types of privilege, including class, education, and religion. Reflecting on your own life, what type(s) of privilege do you have? How does your privilege affect you?
- Michael recalls a time when a student suggested that a female professor’s lectures were biased because of her gender. Have you ever felt that something you said was considered biased because of your gender or race? How did this make you feel? What did you do in that situation?
- What’s one key takeaway from the video that you’d like to share with someone else? With whom would you share it?