

Chair for Women in Science and Engineering BC and Yukon Region



Westcoast Women in Engineering, Science & Technology

Gendered Words in **Job Advertisements**

Active

Adventurous

Gendered wording **subtly** signals who belongs and who doesn't.

Below are examples of language in job advertisements and qualities of candidates.



- a company's "excellence" in the market
- "understand markets to establish appropriate selling prices"
- "We are **committed** to providing top quality health care that is sympathetic to the needs or our patients"

MASCULINE

- a company's "dominance" in the market
- "analyze markets to determine appropriate selling prices"
- "We are **determined** to deliver superior medical treatment tailored to each individual patient"

Source:

Gaucher, D., Friesen, J. & Kay, A. (2011). Evidence that gendered wording in job advertisements exists and sustains gender inequality. Journal of Personality and Social Psychology, 101(1), 109-128.

Feminine MASCULINE Affectionate Commit* Communal Compassion*

Cheer*

Connect*

Considerate

Cooperat*

Depend*

Emotiona*

Empath*

Flatterable

Gentle

Honest

Interdependen*

Interpersona*

Kind

Kinship

Loyal*

Nurtur*

Pleasant*

Polite

Ouiet*

Respon*

Sensitiv*

Submissive

Support*

Sympath*

Tender*

Together*

Trust*

Understand*

Warm*

Yield*

Sample Gendered Words

Aggress* Ambitio* Analy* Assert* Athlet* Autonom* Challeng* Compet* Confident Courag* Decide Decisive Decision* Determin* Domina* Force* Hierarch* Hostil* Independen* Individual* Intellect* Lead* Logic **Objective** Opinion Outspoken Persist Principle* Stubborn Superior Self-confiden* Self-sufficien*

Self-relian*

UBC

a place of mind

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