

INTERDISCIPLINARY APPROACHES TO LANGUAGE AND ITS USE II.

Gender as a factor

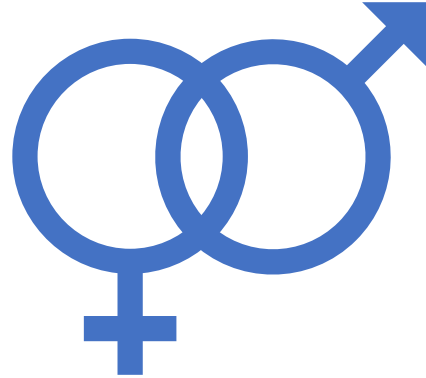
Jan Chromý



FACULTY OF ARTS
Charles University



MAIN QUESTION

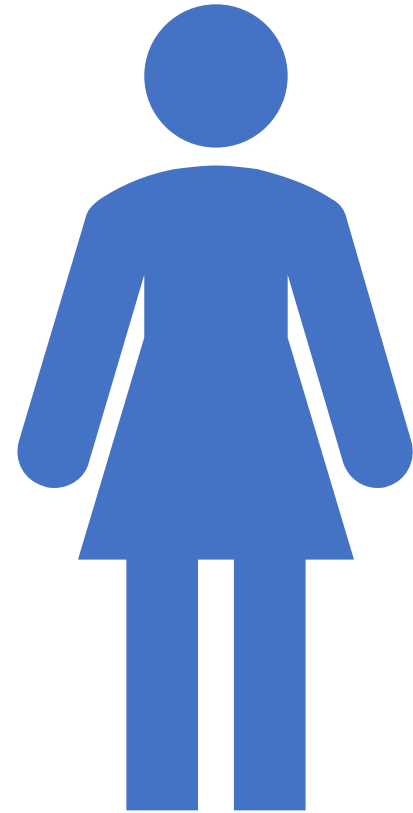


What is the role of gender
in language variation?



WOMEN

- tendency
 - women use prestigious variants more than men



EXAMPLE

- Trudgill, P. (1972). Sex, covert prestige and linguistic change in the urban British English of Norwich. *Language in society*, 1(2), 179–195.

social class	gender	word reading	passage reading	careful speech	casual speech
middle middle	men	100	100	96	69
	women	100	100	100	100
lower middle	men	100	80	73	83
	women	100	100	97	33
higher working	men	100	82	19	5
	women	89	87	32	23
middle working	men	76	57	9	3
	women	80	54	19	12
lower working	men	40	0	0	0
	women	83	46	3	0

variable (ing): prestigious [iŋ] vs. stigmatized [ən]



EXPLANATION?

- Eckert, P., & McConnell-Ginet, S. (1999). New generalizations and explanations in language and gender research. *Language in society*, 28(2), 185–201.
- identity
 - style and identity



READING TIP

- Coates, J. (2015). *Women, men and language: A sociolinguistic account of gender differences in language* (3rd ed.). London/New York: Routledge.

