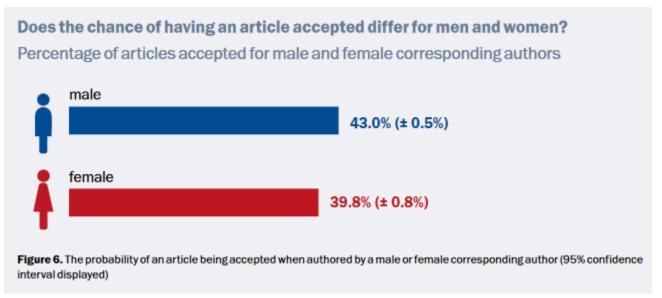
Bias in publishing



Elizabeth Wynn She/her 17/12/2020



Gender bias in publishing

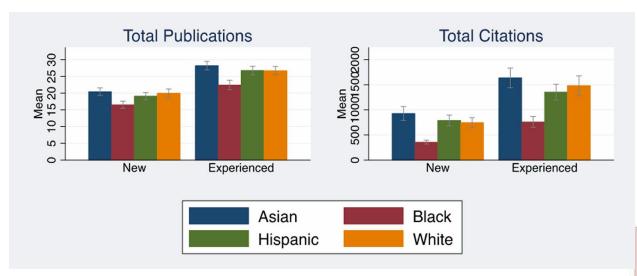


Diversity and Inclusion in Peer Review IOP Publishing

- eLife: acceptance rates for female corresponding authors were lower than for men
- Royal Society of Chemistry: papers with female corresponding authors have a lower chance of being accepted
- Elsevier: women publish fewer papers on average than men



Ethnic/racial bias in publishing



Ginther et al 2018

Black People with OCD

Thank you for submitting your manuscript, "The Utility of the Structured Clinical Interview for the Down Aris I Disorders (SCID-I) for the Assessment of Obsessi Black lsive Disorder in African Americans" to the People Psychopathology and Behavioral Assessment. . . I read your manuscript carefully and unfortunately, K Inot able to send it for review. I was concerned about the sample and the incremental contribution of the paper. I realize this is likely disappointing news but I do hope you are able to publish your manuscript elsewhere as it is well written. You might try the journal Assessment or a more specialized journal. I would like to thank you for forwarding your manuscript to us for consideration and wish you every ccess with your future work. - The Editor Ethnic

> Minority Journal

> > Dr Monnica T Williams

Babraham Institute

Publishing process

Male author papers are cited more, especially by men, who also cite themselves more

Creation Research gets proposed, funded, and reported on. Works get read, cited, The Publication Cycle

Open access publishing mitigates gender based citation bias

Preservation

Reuse

and recombined.

Copies or versions of the work may be saved for posterity.

Dissemination and Access

Works are distributed in print or online, through libraries, retailers, and the web.

Women and ethnic minorities are underrepresented at PI level, receive less funding on average

Evaluation

Academic works are evaluated for quality and edited by their peers.

Women are underrepresented as reviewers; reviewers favour authors of the same gender

Publication

A publisher provides editing, layout, and publication services.

Papers with female corresponding authors have a lower chance of being accepted

University of California Berkeley



Peer review

- Editors are more likely to appoint reviewers of the same gender, and assign reviewers papers written by authors of the same gender
 - Homophilic tendencies are widespread among male editors
 - A small number of strongly homophilic female editors exist, with most other female editors showing only minimal baseline homophily
- Men were more successful than women when the reviewers were all male, but have similar success rates to women when there was a mixed review panel
 - The acceptance rate for female authors was not lower for all-male reviewer teams compared with mixed reviewer teams
- Papers are more likely to be accepted if at least one of the reviewers was from the same country as the corresponding author



Peer review

Examples of unprofessional peer reviews from survey respondents:

- The author's status as a trans person has distorted his view of sex beyond the biological reality.
- Despite being a woman, the PI was trained by several leading men in the field and is thus likely adequately prepared to lead the proposed research.
- This is obviously written by a group from a lower standardized institution based on the quality of work.
- The author's last name sounds Spanish. I didn't read the manuscript because I'm sure it's full of bad English.

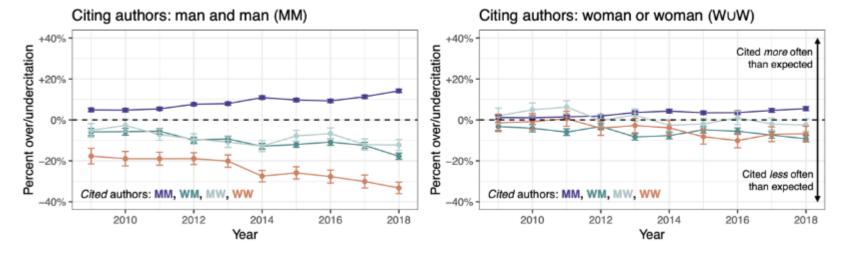


Citation

Papers authored* by women:

5.6 citations
Papers authored* by men:
7.2 citations

Dworkin et al 2020





Going forwards

Journals

- Increase diversity on editorial boards
- Provide resources and training for reviewers to avoid bias
- Avoid non-diverse reviewer panels

Scientists

- As a reviewer, ask about the diversity of the review group
- Be mindful of who you cite



Any questions?



Further reading

- Is publishing in the chemical sciences gender biased?
- Gender bias in scholarly peer review, Helmer et al 2017
- Diversity and Inclusion in Peer Review at IOP Publishing
- Gender in the Global Research Landscape
- Publications as predictors of racial and ethnic differences in NIH research awards, Ginther et al 2018
- Racism in Academic Publishing
- Author-Reviewer Homophily in Peer Review, Murray et al 2019
- Unprofessional peer reviews disproportionately harm underrepresented groups in STEM, Silbiger and Stubler 2019
- The extent and drivers of gender imbalance in neuroscience reference lists, Dworkin et al 2020
- Men Set Their Own Cites High: Gender and Self-citation across Fields and over Time, King et al 2017