

HISTORY OF GENDER STUDIES

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ARTICLE INFO.

Key words: gender, gender stereotype, grammatical gender, communication, natural sex, gender science.

Abstract

This article is devoted to the study of stereotypes of speech behavior of men and women, taking into account the social factors of gender, age and type of education that influence the formation of these stereotypes, as well as the analysis of their manifestations in real communication.

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Introduction

Gender became an object of scientific research only in the second half of the 20th century, but even before the advent of targeted gender studies, the existence of differences in the speech behavior of men and women was not in doubt (see the works of Jespersen [Jespersen 1922], Sapir [Sapir 1915], Mauthner [Mauthner 1921]), since gender obviously affects the communicative behavior of communication participants, regardless of their role in a particular speech act.

This work is devoted to the study of speech gender stereotypes, and first it is necessary to dwell on the definition of the main terms used in the title, as well as in the work itself. First of all, of course, this is the concept of gender, which is directly related to the development of gender studies in the humanities in general, and in linguistics in particular (the review is mainly given by the works [Kirilina 1999]; [Kirilina 2004]).

Materials and methods

The word "gender" came to science from Europe in the 90s of the twentieth century with the emergence of a new direction in the humanities - gender studies. In European science, the word "gender" / "gender" came from English linguistics, where it was known for a long time in the meaning of "grammatical gender". However, in the middle of the twentieth century, this term was borrowed by social sciences, such as social philosophy, history, sociology, psychology, and others, and from there it came to linguistics in a new capacity.

For the first time, the term "gender" in a new meaning was used by psychologist and sexologist D. Money in 1955 to distinguish between general sexual properties, that is, sex as a phenotype: "The term gender role is used to refer to everything that a person says or does in order to show themselves as having the status of a boy or a man, a girl or a woman, respectively.»

In the 60s of the twentieth century, this term began to appear in the works of Western scientists, and in the 80s it came into wide use, since, unlike the word "sexus" ("gender"), the term "gender" has a much broader semantics: "this concept connects with natural determinism not only the bodily differences between men and women, but also the sex-role division of labor, the unequal requirements and attitude

of society towards men and women, the different social “value” of persons depending on their gender” [Kirilina 2005: 8]. In other words, the term gender emphasizes the socio-cultural difference between the representatives of different sexes, and not the biological one. Thus, the purpose of introducing the term "gender" was to eliminate the biological determinism implicit in the concept of "sexus" and attributing sociocultural differences to biological factors.

Even before the advent of gender studies as such, anthropology and ethnography recorded differences in the behavior, socialization, and customs of men and women. “There is an opinion that the linguistic tradition, which takes into account the gender factor, is rooted in the ancient world, when the categories of natural sex (sexus) and grammatical gender (gender) began to be comprehended” [Khaleeva 1999: 5]. However, only in the second half of the 20th century, the formation and development of gender studies began in the humanities, which were caused by the formation of a new philosophical direction - postmodernism. This new philosophical direction, which replaced structuralist philosophy, brought "a new understanding of the processes of categorization, a refusal to recognize objective truth, an interest in the subjective, the development of new theories of personality" [Kirilina, Tomskaya, 2005]. Accordingly, many categories have been revised, such as ethnicity, age, and gender. The problem of understanding the latter, both biological and social, occupies a special place in the ideology of postmodernism.

Research and discussion

The development of a general methodological base for subsequent gender studies began in the mid-1950s, which marked the alarmist stage in the formation of gender science. This stage is characterized by a special attention to the orientation of the social sciences to the male world and male values, which was reflected in postmodernist works that criticized the orientation of the modern world to the male half of humanity. According to the idea of J. Derrida, the consciousness of a modern European person is the consciousness of a white man, and, accordingly, the entire system of values and view of the world in European society is carried out from the standpoint of a white man, which, of course, is reflected in the language. Based on this view, feminists stated that “all texts and discursive practices impose on individuals exactly patriarchal, i.e. male values” [Kirilina 2005: 13].

The active development of gender studies began with the advent of the New Women's Movement, which unfolded in the United States and Germany in the late 60s and early 70s of the twentieth century. The emergence of new socio-philosophical ideas, the democratization of society, the student revolution of 1968 and the active development of feminist ideas led to the formation of the New Women's Movement in the United States at the very end of the 60s of the twentieth century. Representatives of this movement entered the fight against patriarchy and used the gender concept of male dominance in the political struggle.

The new women's movement drew the attention of society to the androcentricity of the reality surrounding it. Raising the question of the inequality of men and women in society, representatives of both different directions of the New Women's Movement, as well as other scientific disciplines, could not ignore the fact that the cause of inequality is not biological differences, but the different social status of men and women. That is why the new term “gender”, introduced by D. Money, began to be actively used for various studies of new areas, including in the field of psychology, sociology, history and other humanities.

The purpose of using the new term was to distinguish between the concepts of "biological sex" - sexus, sex - and "social/cultural sex" - gender. However, each of the above sciences, which began to actively use the term "gender" for this distinction between biological and social sex, puts its own special content into the understanding of the term, depending on the point of view from which the relations of representatives of different sexes are considered.

Having received wide application in various humanities, the term "gender" somewhat later returned to

linguistics in a new meaning of social gender. However, it is worth noting that at the same time, in English-language works on linguistics, the word "gender" is also used in its old meaning of the grammatical category of gender. It should also not be forgotten that, along with the use of the term "gender" in Western gender studies, the term "sexus" is still often used, although it can be clearly trace the trend of using the word "gender" in the meaning of "sex" for the purposes of political correctness, even outside of scientific discourse.

Conclusion

The situation is also complicated by the fact that research is not carried out in one language: written scientific articles and books are translated into other languages. Since the concepts in different languages do not coincide, confusion in terms is often obtained. So, for example, within the framework of the Russian language, it is impossible to adequately translate the difference between the English concepts "sex" - "gender" by the pair "sex" - "gender", since in English the word "sex" also has the meaning "sex", and the Russian word "sex" ' is less semantically loaded. As anthropologists and ethnographers, linguists have paid attention to the difference between men and women in terms of language long before the advent of postmodernism and the term "gender". After the discovery and study of primitive "exotic" languages in the 17th century, linguists discovered in them the existence of male and female variants of the language, or even two separate languages. Somewhat later, already at the beginning of the 20th century, new trends that led to the spread of the new philosophy of postmodernism drew the attention of linguists to this fact and prompted the idea that something similar could happen in European languages native to researchers. Thus, linguists of the early twentieth century began to pay more and more attention to the gender aspects of language and communication. Interest in the linguistic side of gender differences arose mainly due to the works of F. Mautner, E. Sapir, O. Jespersen.

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