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Gender and the Sexual Division of Labor in Our Workplace

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In today's society everyone is capable of getting a job. It may take some time to get one, but most people have one. When you think about what jobs are available, you're also thinking about who is the better person for the job. A male or a female. During this process, I observed two places. One was Walmart, and another was Randolph Hospital. During these observations, I looked at many things such as, what gender was doing what job, how many of each gender was there working, and then I thought about History and things have changed from years to years.

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The first place that I went to observe was Walmart. I'm pretty sure that a lot of people went to Walmart and did some observations. When at Walmart I was looking for things, like who was in what department, who was doing things like running the cashier, who was at the pharmacy? What gender was at the Garden section, or the tire and mechanic section? Down to who was working in the deli? Looking at these things, really showed me that most stereotypes about the workplace are true.

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The reason why I say that most stereotypes about the workplace are true, is because some stereotypes say that most men work with mechanics. This is true, while in Walmart I saw only men working in that department. The men were doing all the work. If I saw a woman, she was sitting waiting for her car to be completed. "Men do all the heavy lifting." This is not true. While in Walmart, I saw both men and women

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1 carrying things, and unloading things to where they belonged. The saying goes, a
2 woman can do anything a man can do. This is true, they can do anything a man can do,
3 and just as well as men can do anything a woman can do. When it came to running the
4 cashier, I saw both men and women doing this, but mainly women!

5 Going into Walmart and observing it, showed a difference between the gender
6 roles in the work place. Anyone can do a job. But when you look at stereotypes, and
7 look at the actual job, you see that most of them are true. But then again, you also have
8 to think about that anyone can do anything no matter what it is. Just because I saw only
9 men working in the mechanic part of Walmart, doesn't mean that a woman couldn't do
10 the job!

11 While my sister was in the hospital for surgery, I had the chance to really observe
12 Randolph Hospital. This was a great observation for me! I saw things that really opened
13 my eyes! Before I get into depth with this, I want to talk about the history of hospitals.
14 Ever since medical help has been around, men were the doctors, women were the
15 nurses. I know that anyone can go to school and become doctors or nurses. When
16 walking around the hospital and just waiting for my sister to get done with her surgery, I
17 saw that things have barely changed.

18 My sister's nurses were all female. And her surgeon was a male. Just being in
19 the hospital I saw mainly female nurses! There were few male nurses. That's where I
20 say things have changed a little bit. Back in the day, male were not known as nurses.
21 They were known as the main Doctor or surgeon. Women have always known to be
22 nurses no matter what. As far back as history goes, you'll see that same pattern of
23 women being nurses.

1 In the hospital, I saw that the nurses were very young aged. And the doctor's I'd
2 say were in the mid-40's or up! Age is really important too! Especially for male doctors!
3 Seeing their age or knowing their age, shows that they have been doing their job for a
4 long time and they know what they're doing!

5 Another thing I saw while in the hospital where the janitors. I saw that the gender
6 for that job were mainly men! Out of going to the hospital for 3 days, I saw only one
7 female janitor. This is very shocking to me. Going back into history and referring to the
8 reading assignments, women were known for house work. Cooking, cleaning and taking
9 care of the household. So when it comes to hiring people for this job, why aren't many
10 women being hired for this position? I have no idea but it's ironic! If things like this can
11 change throughout history, why can't other things about the gender roles in the work
12 place change?

13 In conclusion, I've talked about the two places that I observed which were
14 Walmart and Randolph Hospital. I've also talked about stereotypes and history of
15 certain work places. I also talked about what gender worked what job! Many things have
16 changed and many haven't. Either way, a job is a job! Doing this paper, has really
17 changed my perception on Gender in the work place. I wish to see in the future more
18 women doing male jobs! Things such as surgeons or mechanics. Things like this may
19 happened but then again, they may not.

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