

Do You Believe in Equality for All?

“Women and men have been and will always be equal in the sight of God.” –Bahá’u’lláh

Have you ever been teased or bullied for being a certain way, because you’re a girl or a boy? For example, girls may be expected to enjoy dancing or cooking more than sports or robots. Boys might be expected to like science more than sewing.

The idea that girls should act one way and boys another is a **stereotype** – an unfair assumption about a group of

people. The truth is that there are lots of wonderful ways to express yourself, whether you’re a girl or a boy.

Sadly, many girls and women are denied the same chances that boys and men have to go to school, get a job, earn fair pay, and other basic rights. But the Bahá’í Faith teaches that women and men are equal. Both genders need strength and respect to help create a peaceful world.

Do you stand up for equality? Choose your answers, then add up your points.

1 I compliment friends about their accomplishments and virtues, not just how they look or what they wear.

Often = 3 • Sometimes = 2 • Rarely = 1

2 I support friends in their goals and hobbies, even if they like to do things that are unusual for their gender.

Often = 3 • Sometimes = 2 • Rarely = 1

3 I avoid making comments that put down either girls or boys as a group.

Often = 3 • Sometimes = 2 • Rarely = 1

4 I’m open to learning skills that aren’t expected for my gender (such as building for girls or knitting for boys).

Often = 3 • Sometimes = 2 • Rarely = 1

5 When I hear about an issue of gender equality in the world today, or in history, I try to learn more about it.

Often = 3 • Sometimes = 2 • Rarely = 1



6 I notice gender stereotypes in the media, and I think about them.

Often = 3 • Sometimes = 2 • Rarely = 1

7 I admire role models based on their virtues and strengths, whether they’re female or male.

Often = 3 • Sometimes = 2 • Rarely = 1

8 I speak up when I notice any group of people being treated unfairly.

Often = 3 • Sometimes = 2 • Rarely = 1

9 I have a mix of friends from both genders.

Often = 3 • Sometimes = 2 • Rarely = 1

10 I keep an open mind and don’t judge people based on their looks, speech, clothing, or gender.

Often = 3 • Sometimes = 2 • Rarely = 1

11 I choose books, clothes, and games that I like, even if they’re not what’s expected for my gender.

Often = 3 • Sometimes = 2 • Rarely = 1

12 I like books and movies with heroic, strong, interesting characters—it doesn’t matter if they’re female or male.

Often = 3 • Sometimes = 2 • Rarely = 1



MY TOTAL SCORE:

36–29 points: You’re a champ at focusing on fairness and equality for both girls and boys. Keep up the good work!

28–21 points: You’re doing a good job of promoting equality. Look for ways you can speak up even more.

20–12 points: You’re learning about equality, but you could focus on it more. Choose a tip from the quiz to work on.