# Gender and Water

Module 2
Water Classrooms
CWR/IISER-Pune / LWM / TESF



#### **Understanding Gender**

- What are some of the sex role stereotypes (male /female / other characteristics) that you are familiar with?
- Where have these ideas come from?



Dhobi



Farmer

#### Construction Worker



Top left image source: World Nomads - Travel photography scholarship 2012 - Dhobi ghat, Mumbai - Daniel Sordo Right image source:
https://in.pinterest.com/pin/201325045826941080/ - Accessed on 19/04/2018
Bottom left image source:
https://in.pinterest.com/pin/180355160062393433/

### Chef





Security Guards

### Mother



Top left image source: Topyaps - <u>Lifestyle</u> - Career As A Chef In India: 5 Things You Can Expect - Pragati Kashyap Right image source:

https://in.pinterest.com/pin/431219733040995287/ - Accessed on 19/04/2018

Bottom left image source: www.thebetterindia.com - Did You Ever Think A Rural Woman Could Become A Security Guard? She Did! by <u>Shreya Pareek</u>

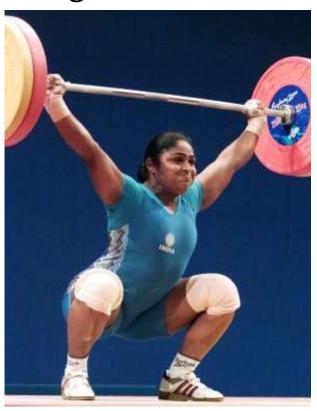
#### Boxers





Cricketer

### Weight Lifter



**Top left image source :** www.newindianexpress - Mary Kom advances to Commonwealth Games boxing final of 48 kg with 5-0 verdict; Sarita, Pinki crash out by PTI **Right image source :** www.khelnama.com - India's Individual

Olympic medalists

Bottom left image source : <a href="www.sports.ndtv.com">www.sports.ndtv.com</a> - BCCI Ignoring Women's Cricket, Says Women's Cricket Association of India Secretary Nutan Gavaskar by Press Trust of India



Taxi Driver





Surgeon

### **Bus Driver**

Top left image source: jonathanfryer.wordpress.com - Driving with Selvi by Jonathan fryer
Top right image source: -http://drkaminirao.com/
Padma Shri
Bottom image source: www.allindiaroundup.com - Meet Prema
Ramappa Nadapatti, The First & Only Female Bus Driver of BMTC



### Indian Army Officers

Indian Airforce Officers



**Top image source :** Elle India - Meet the first women fighter jet pilots of the Indian Air Force by Supriya Dravid **Bottom image source:** <a href="www.shethepeople.tv">www.shethepeople.tv</a> - Fighting their own battle, 340 women get permanent commission as officers in the Indian army

#### SEX

- Biologically determined we are each born male or female
- Cannot be changed unless through medical intervention
- Sex role stereotypes
- Sex ratios

#### **GENDER**

- Socially constructed: "we are not born women, we become women (or men)" (Beauvoir)
- Gender roles and identities are shaped by social institutions
- Can change over time, dynamic
   fluid bonds, like water
- Intersect with other social and power relations shaped by caste, class, age, faith, ability....

## Understanding the difference

#### Gender **Equality**

- Fundamental human right right to life of human dignity without deprivation for both women and men
- Depends on access to
- Education
- Economic opportunities
- Participation in decision-making

#### Gender **Equity**

- Fairness in allocation being able to access the same opportunities
- Sometimes may require positive action like quotas, reservation

# Fetching Water — Unpaid work, reproductive roles, the care economy



MAPPING SOCIAL AND GENDER INEQUITIES IN THE WATER SECTOR IN SOUTH ASIA (2011), SOPPECOM, Pune:

http://www.womenwaterwork.org/



She wakes me in the early morning for grinding flour, At night I have to weave, She sends me to fetch water very early in the morning, Oh grandfather, life is very difficult for me. My pot has never filled up in

the well,

Water is so deep that my rope cannot reach,

The sun rises and sets also, but Today I was unable to collect even a single pot of water."

(folk song sung by Arvindbhai, social historian, Surendranagar, 1999)

### Domestic Water Use



WATER EMPOWERS WOMEN, Archana Pandey : http://www.womenwaterwork. org/





Picture credit: Basia Irland

# Agriculture – productive work





MAPPING SOCIAL AND GENDER INEQUITIES IN THE WATER SECTOR IN SOUTH ASIA (2011), SOPPECOM,

Pune : http://www.womenwaterwork.org/

# Herding – caring for livestock



MAPPING SOCIAL AND GENDER INEQUITIES IN THE WATER SECTOR IN SOUTH ASIA (2011), SOPPECOM, Pune

http://www.womenwaterwork.o rg/

# Fishing and Related Activities



Lobster fattening with marginalised women involved in Foot fishing to augment incomes -Bandar village, Mahuva block, Bhavnagar district

WOMEN AND WASH, UTTHAN, Gujarat : <a href="http://www.womenwaterwork.org/">http://www.womenwaterwork.org/</a>



Supportive mechanisms to reduce drudgery of women fisherfolk involved in tedious parts of the job, Mahuva block, Bhavnagar district

WOMEN AND WASH, UTTHAN, Gujarat : <a href="http://www.womenwaterwork.org/">http://www.womenwaterwork.org/</a>

# Plumbing



TRAILBLAZING WATER JOURNEYS, GRAM VIKAS:

http://www.womenwaterw ork.org/

## Carrying Water – the Bhistees



The Bhishti's are a traditional community of Water Carriers who supply water in leather-skin bags called as Mashaqs. They are the Muslim tribes found in North India, Pakistan and Terai region of Nepal.

Bhishti - The Water Carriers, Amit Tandon:

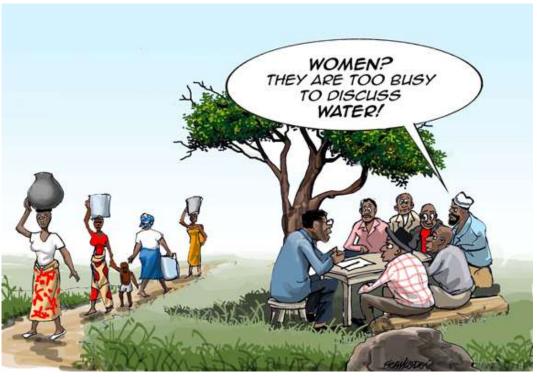
https://www.livingwatersmuse um.org/bhishti-the-watercarriers

# The Right to Sanitation

- "With one out of three women worldwide lacking access to safe toilets, it is a moral imperative to end open defecation to ensure women and girls are not at risk of assault and rape simply because they lack a sanitation facility," UN General Secretary Ban Ki-Moon (2014).
- 60% of world's open defecation in India: Swachh Bharat Abhiyan
- Lack of sanitation affects women's health, dignity, security
- Access to schools for adolescent girls
   separate toilets, functioning







The provision of hygiene and sanitation are usually considered women's tasks

Societal barriers often restrict women's involvement in decision-making processes

### SEWA, Gujarat

- Women leaders
   discussing community
   water issues as part of
   SEWA's campaign on
   Women, Work, Water
- Finding appropriate solutions: low-cost, self-reliant, maintain

