

TEXT 1

William Shakespeare
Sonnet 1

FROM fairest creatures we desire increase,
That thereby beauty's rose might never die,
But as the ripper should by time decease,
His tender heir might bear his memory:
But thou, contracted to thine own bright eyes,
Feed'st thy light'st flame with self-substantial fuel,
Making a famine where abundance lies,
Thyself thy foe, to thy sweet self too cruel.
Thou that art now the world's fresh ornament
And only herald to the gaudy spring,
Within thine own bud buriest thy content
And, tender churl, makest waste in niggarding.
Pity the world, or else this glutton be,
To eat the world's due, by the grave and thee.

TEXT 2

"Men and Women of the Corporation"

Gender issues in the workplace have made many changes in the past decades. While women today have much more equal footing with men, there are still many discrepancies. Women are still lagging behind in taking their place alongside men in top management positions. Those who are in the organization are there typically as lesser paid employees and often expected to be more subservient than equal even to their male peers. Even women who do not actually work for the organization are subjected to many of the same biased expectations.

Kanter (1993) explains this lag that is apparent for women entering the top echelon of organizations as being reflective of "homosocial reproduction", the tendency of homogenic workplaces to promote those that move in the right social circles in the organization. The workplace emphasis on homogeneity even promotes specific manners of dress, dress that is often determined by the male-oriented social norms of that workplace. Peer acceptance is an important factor in the phenomena of homosocial reproduction as well.

The justification for homosocial reproduction is that it strengthens an organization.

Study Questions:

- 1) Compare and contrast the two texts. What kind of words do their authors use? Is the meaning of both texts clear? Which of them is more demanding for you to read and why?
- 2) Give a short summary of the ideas of both texts.

