

# Is Our Culture's Focus on Gender Childish?

One of the joys of being a parent—I have three children, ages 6, 4, and 8 months—is that one gets to witness individual case studies in human nature.

It's no secret that small children are basically all id. They are capable of warmth and compassion, but those traits often disappear as soon as they run up against their own desires.

But human nature manifests itself in other ways, too. One surprising thing I've noticed is how aware my older two children are of gender. They are really quite obsessive about it.

"I want da blue cup!"

"No, that's a boy's book!"