

PIP Title: The Man-Made World

PIP Research Question/Statement: An investigation into the prevalence of androcentrism within contemporary Western industry, and the subsequent exclusionary implications of a system structured to reward masculinity.

Extract Section: Conclusion

Conclusion

Continuation of patriarchal values underpins Australian society's interaction with androcentrism and remains a significant factor in the oppression of femininity and control of female life course. Masculinity is subsequently idolised and exists as the Western metric of value and success, formulating the processes and structures of society to centralise masculine worldview. The interplay of economic factors and gendered societal expectations determines women's involvement within the workforce and focus on productivity over morality, instituting prejudice and discrimination that is exemplified by women's micro social and professional identity.

Overall, my research substantially affirmed the hypothesis. However, the progression of my research was nuanced in its focus on inclusion over structural change, and on societal over individual discrimination. Individual experiences of discrimination were largely overshadowed by the continuation of masculine idealisation that inherently excludes women from the workforce. This was unexpected. Simultaneously, my central hypothesis "*The presence of androcentrism within many industries will be overwhelming as a result of the continuity of cultural traditions rooted in patriarchal hierarchies and subsequent female inferiority.*" was mostly proven, however the extreme judgement of 'overwhelming' rejects social change reflected within decreasing wealth inequality and women's increasing economic involvement.

My research tools varied in effectiveness and relevance to my topic. My statistical analysis proved highly effective and contributed to the entirety of my PIP by providing quantitative data surrounding the mining industry and, more broadly, statistics that related to femininity within the workforce. This was supplemented by my professional interview, providing qualitative data and personal experience. My questionnaire was highly relevant and advanced the integration of meso personal experiences of androcentrism. However, it was limited due to its sample size and the high number of respondents within the education industry, a highly feminised and somewhat inclusive field. Additionally, I found that my primary data was lacking when

specifically and academically addressing androcentrism, therefore I conducted an interview later that was effective in providing qualitative information directly relating to androcentrism, thus grounding my research.

Upon reflection, finding an academic interviewee within the early stages would have substantially improved my research. Due to time constraints, my central material was constructed with gaps in primary research that addressed androcentrism and my academic respondent was unable to provide in-depth answers to my questions. Additionally, I would likely attempt to expand the sample size of my questionnaire by finding persons who had access to respondents from a variety of fields, socioeconomic classes and political leanings, as my current questionnaire was somewhat biased in all these areas.

My ability to constructively analyse and apply both primary and secondary data has increased meaningfully and has improved my efficacy in responding to and addressing challenges and inconsistencies. My research exposed the impact of micro intersections of women's lives that varied from my own, enhancing my personal understanding of the exemplified impact of androcentrism within their life course. Furthermore, this project has assisted me in recognising androcentrism as a product of a coherent system of discrimination rather than individual acts of sexism, relieving blame from individual persons and recognising their actions and behaviours as a product of the societal beliefs and values that have socialised them. Collectively, these factors have enhanced my social and cultural literacy through limiting my bias and expanding my understanding of experiences that differ from my own.