

Students' Identification in School Life

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This article aims to analyze how female students in a certain night high school identify themselves through the gender bias evident in their friendships. Concretely marginal students (students who cannot identify themselves easily in their peer groups) from two peer groups were studied. The first group consisted of eight girls, and the second consisted of both six male and six female students. The former students often conform their behavior to that of their fellow members, because they will be excluded from their group if they do not. Outside of school they find consolation in rock stars. However, these students fail to identify their real selves within and outside of school, because they do not have heart-to-heart talks with one another. The latter group on the other hand included a certain girl coming from a more open school. Therefore, her communication and the relationships that she shares differ from those in other ordinary schools. Her experiences have given her the confidence to express herself against gender bias. She also accomplished several tasks as the president of the student council so that she has won the confidence from her group members by degrees.

The examples of these two groups illustrate the importance of communication recognizing the difference of each other.