

Lack of Females in Technology Careers

Which circumstances influence prospective employees to select one profession over another and what makes some professions more appealing to one gender than the other? There has been a lack of equity in many professions such as nursing, hair stylist, and secretarial services, plumbing, and legal fields, but are beginning to equalize. Unlike those professions, technology is still dominated by males.

Technology has been male dominated since its conception. Some research indicates that women shy away from computers, programming, and other forms of technology, because of the nerd image, lack of exposure to video games and computers, lack of role models, and ill advised counseling in school. So, what influences those decisions and how can that be changed? What affects what a person wants to be when they grow up? Students select careers because of friends, parents, school counselors, current job exposure, and the list goes on and on. Much has been done to recruit females into the technology fields. MIT, Harvard, NSU, and most universities offer scholarships and special classes for females majoring in math, science, and technology, but females still shy away from those areas.

Innovations in technology will either broaden life or obliterate it, but will most definitely change life as we now know it. As technology changes, will the number of females that train for a technology career change? This descriptive study shows some changes in career decisions by females enrolled in computer technology programs. Demographical profiles were constructed and compared by gender and analyzed for comparison.