



Daily Article (Bharath's Reading list) - Answers and Explanations 30.05.2023

Article link : <https://bit.ly/43uk1Tw> ('Women are just better at this stuff': is emotional labor feminism's next frontier?)

1. Based on the article, which of the following is incorrect?

- A. In case of restaurant worker jobs in the US, while the employer expects an emotional output, the duty to recognize it is offloaded onto the client
- B. The concept of emotional labor is gathering momentum in online debates and pop culture as more and more women are entering formerly male dominated professions and noticing the extra emotion work expected of them
- C. In a work context, emotional labor refers to the expectation that a worker should manipulate or modulate her feelings to influence the positive experience of clients or colleagues
- D. Giving women a vocabulary for what they usually experience, Jess Zimmerman introduced the concept of emotional labour about three decades ago

Explanation : D

According to the article, it was Arlie Hochschild (not Jess Zimmerman) who coined the concept of emotional labor.

2. Which of the following explains what sociologist Rebecca Erickson means by her observation that emotional labor is linked to "gender construction, not sex" ?

- A. Emotional labor is not related to sex as both men and women are engaged in it to a certain degree
- B. The biological division between the sexes is independent of social construction
- C. Emotional labor is socially constructed, based on norms, behaviors and roles associated with being a woman or man
- D. All the above

Explanation: C

Refer to the lines, "Part of what the research on this shows is that women's increased propensity to engage in emotion work is not related to their sex but really their gender and the position that they have served in the family and in friendship groups, in society," explains Collett.'

While option A is easily ruled out, note that option B is the opposite of what Erikson implies (biological division between the sexes is not independent of social construction according to her) and also this option does not mention emotional labor.

3.The author is least likely to agree with which of the following statements?

- A.Emotion work ought to be recognized in the workplace as a skill to be paid for
- B.The expectation of unpaid emotional labor from women is more in low-wage, service industry jobs than in other more prestigious industries or fields
- C.The essentialist view that women are naturally better at emotions does not hold up academically
- D.Emotional labor is exhausting but rarely acknowledged as a legitimate strain and denigrated by society at large

Explanation: B

The author cites several examples of women in “more prestigious industries” (boardroom members, professors, lawyers) being expected to provide extra emotional labor on the side.