

DECEMBER 1984 11:28.40
11:58.40

CONVERSATIONS UNLIMITED - Monday, Dec. 3, 1984

11:42.40

INTRO UP AND UNDER

Hi, everybody. And, by the way, that's not a bad phrase at all -- everybody. It's not sexist. It does not single out females or males alone. In a society where gender gaps are painfully exposed in every segment, you might even wonder why I said "females" before "males." Well, as you have probably guessed, today's subject is language and the sexes, and my guest is the co-author of a book with that title.

Francine Frank, director of the linguistics program at the State University of New York at Albany, and Frank Anshen, associate professor of linguistics at the State University of New York at Stony Brook, have written the book called "Language and the Sexes." It has been described as a "highly readable and lively text." Dr. Anshen is with us today to talk about this subject.

I'm interested, Dr. Anshen, in one of the book's main theses: that language usage reflects society's values. I suppose there are some language scientists who would argue the opposite view, that language usage helps shape society's values.

INTERVIEW DR. ANSHEN:

- It was ever so (Adam and Eve, Mary and Joseph)
- Naming names: women's last names; Carol Larm's consonant study; nicknames.
- Titles: discriminatory; first name-last name
- Boy-girl; lady-gentleman.
- Descriptions: poetess, actress, waitress
- Talking like a lady: shriek-bellow; expressions; excessive talking; silence-interruption; topic dominance.
- "Of Girls and Chicks": Jack and Jill to Sonny and Cher; Alma Graham's textbook study (4-1 ratio male-female pronouns);

14:00 BRIDGE MUSIC UNDER

AFO LIVE: We'll take a break and return in a moment.

BRIDGE MUSIC UP AND UNDER

Hi. I'm Al Oickle. I'm talking with Dr. Frank Anshen, associate professor of linguistics at the State University of New York at Stony Brook. He and Francine Frank of SUNY/Albany have written a book, Language and the Sexes. We've been talking about the way some people refer to other people, notably how some males refer to some females. It should be noted, however, that some females are just as guilty of some men in using sexist language.

INTERVIEW DR. ANSHEN:

-- What is being done, what is to be done? (P83)

-- Guidelines for non-discriminatory language^s usage

(P107)

-- Some research projects

-- Why this book ("yet another")

29:00 OUTRO