**COMM 414: Gender Communication**

**Chapter 6: Nonverbal Communication**

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Discuss the following functions of nonverbal communication:

supplements verbal communication

Nonverbal behavior supplements, or adds to, verbal messages in five ways.

regulates interaction

We use body posture, eye contact, and vocal inflection to signal others that we wish to speak or that we are done speaking.

establishes relationship level of meaning

responsiveness- indicates interest in attentiveness to others

liking- Behaviors to signal that we like or dislike others.

Power- refers to the degree to which people are equal to, dominant over, or deferential to others.

Discuss how artifacts are powerful communicators of expected gender roles.

Is a personal object that can both express identity and influence how we see ourselves

Discuss differences in men’s and women’s expectations for and use of personal space (territoriality).

Women need personal space to not have attitudes. Men need personal space to get away from attitudes that are causes by women.

Discuss differences in men’s and women’s expectations for and use of touch (haptics).

Parents tend to touch girls more than guys because of the behavior plus it helps show control and power.

Discuss differences in men’s and women’s use of facial expressions and bodily movements (kinesics).

Women use a lot of facial expressions to show how they feel and men don’t show the signs as much as they should.

Discuss differences in men’s and women’s use of paralanguage.

They are different because men and women are taught to act different when in relationships. Someone is in control and someone is following moves.

In what ways do both men and women feel pressured about their appearance? Discuss differences in men's and women's expectations. How do these differences impact gender communication?

Women feel that appearance is everything and it is when youre trying to impress someone you want to give them your all.

What impact does race have on views about physical beauty?

Race shouldn’t be a problem because everyone is equal it shouldn’t matter that people are different colors.

How do feminine and masculine nonverbal communication styles reflect larger cultural contexts?

Feminine reflects on the cultures severely because people are just now starting to see it more and more every day.

How do differences in men’s and women’s nonverbal styles lead to miscommunication between the sexes? What are some differences in interpreting nonverbal behavior? Why do women likely have superior decoding skills?

Some people communicate on a different level and people have to find a middle in it to see that it is a problem and there should be a fix.

How does your understanding of gendered nonverbal communication empower you to affect change?

Knowing what you should know about it should be what everyone should know so it will affect change severely.

Give examples from your own personal experiences of how these differences may have led to miscommunication between the sexes.

There have been times where my friends don’t get the hint about when it is time to leave.

Assess your nonverbal communication style. What messages do you send? Would you like to change any of your nonverbal communication cues? If so, are there any barriers to this?

My nonverbal style is that I really do not care that much. I want to make everyone happy but at the same time I try to put my feelings to the side.

Bring in one ad that you think reflect feminine ideals and one ad that reflects masculine ideals in our society today.

Tampax commercial- Feminine

Duluthe underwear commercial