Section 5

Sexism: Activity

"Describing Your Weekend"

In pairs, discuss with your neighbor what you did this past weekend while using absolutely no gender indicators. For example, instead of using "husband" or "wife" use partner, instead of using "aunt" or "uncle" use "relative", instead of using any potentially gendered names such as "Susan" use "friend". Also, be sure not to allow the places you describe to indicate any gender. After 10 minutes, discuss how that went: was it easy or difficult, how did it feel, how did it impact your ability to honestly communicate with your neighbor? Use this information to analyze the connection gender roles and norms have to sexism and heterosexism / homophobia.