

WRITTEN QUESTION E-4738/05

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to the Commission

Subject: Promotion of non-discriminatory education and training, and training about non-discrimination

Damaging stereotypes of gender roles are still widely accepted in European cultures. Portrayals of women include traditional clichés about women's role in domestic and caring tasks or about their submissiveness to men or as sex objects, for example in order to promote sales. These stereotypes, conveyed through the media as well as in education, constitute strong obstacles to the achievement of equality between women and men.

Imbalances in power, outright sex discrimination and gender stereotypes in education materials, schools, universities and the labour market still act as barriers preventing women from making certain career choices, from progressing at the same speed as men in their careers and from earning the same income for the same job.

These are the reasons why we would ask the Commission if it intends to make some recommendations to the Member States, calling for measures to promote gender equality in schools towards pupils, teachers and parents as well as in educational materials and methodology and integrating equality between women and men as a crosscutting theme in all compulsory academic curricula.