

According to the functionalist perspective, one of the social institutions that materializes solidarity among members of the society is the school. It is where students are trained not just to become effective and efficient catalysts of social transformation but also of unity by relating themselves with one another amidst biological, social, and even cultural background. This is one of the pillars of education which is learning to live together.

As an educator and as a social scientist, universities should accept all students regardless of biological background, or shall we say gender. I am not amenable to the perception of having equal numbers of male and females in a class. For one, there is no clear argument as to whether the number of male and female students in a class should be equal for the teaching and learning process to be effective and efficient. Second, the interest of students in choosing their respective courses which is one of the contributing factors in determining the class size is not bounded by mere equality but of free choice. Third, there is a program on Education for All or EFA which admits students regardless of biological, social, and cultural background. Lastly, the government should have to consider a larger budget for admitting an equal number of males and females in class. This means additional classrooms, faculty, and even laboratories. For the part of private institutions, imposing this perception would also mean the same but a dilemma of high tuition and miscellaneous fee would be present. Thus, this would result in a decline in enrollment as students will be having a hard time to afford the increase.

In conclusion, there is much of a plight between gender equality which the feminist perspective is fighting. This is not about the male whose superior of the female being our society as patriarchal. History provides that the advent of civilization did not come into being because of men who were working in the society but also of women who were working at home. If we isolate ourselves from the mere perception of equality in the number of students in a class based on gender, then we advocate the battle cry of gender inequality and freedom for education and to choose one's path. In reality, the identical number of male and female students in every subject in a university is a fanciful idea that would deprive many talented male students of getting the university education.