

Analysis of gender inequality in STEM in Spanish higher education.

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FACTS

Sex discrimination does not originate in the educational system but on a social-historical construction of gender

HE is an integral part of society that is not an isolated entity

- ✓ reflects what happen in our own society
- ✓ gather the strengths and weaknesses which coexist in the society
- ✓ reflects a perspective opposite to the one which recognizes HE as an institution based on neutrality and objectivity, according to which, people (mainly professors) who develop their job, are impervious to everything that occurs out of its own fences.

Gender discrimination factor hardly conditioning lives of individuals in terms of identification as a woman or man over the basis of stereotypes filled with discrimination against females.

Spanish HE continue to exist careers considered as “male” or “female”, been women still poorly represented in STEM

Statistics in the academic year 2016/2017 (MECD)

New students enrol BA

	Both sex	Women		Men	
Physics	2901	721	24,90%	2180	75,10%
Maths	3405	1192	35,00%	2213	65,00%
Total IT	13466	1625	12,00%	11841	88,00%
Total engineering	41001	10755	26,20%	30246	73,80%

Total students enrol in BA

	Both sex	Women		Men	
Physics	9793	2478	25,30%	7315	74,70%
Maths	10185	3836	37,70%	6349	62,30%
Total IT	44388	5273	11,90%	39115	88,10%
Total engineering	173080	48731	28,20%	124349	71,80%

OBJECTIVES

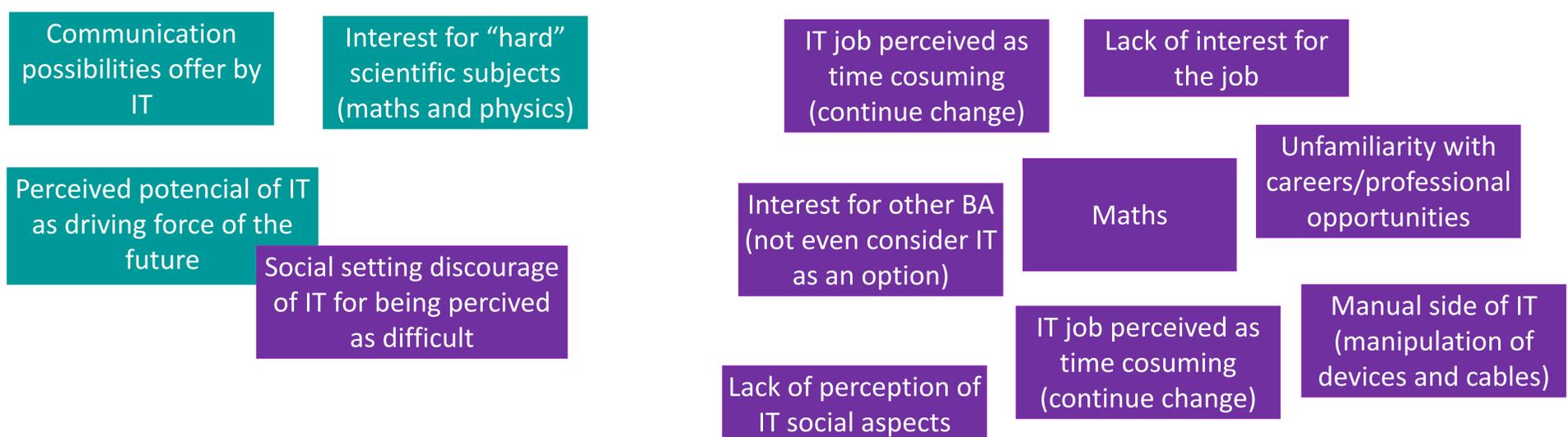
Disclose facts and figures of the gender gap in the STEM degrees

Determine the discourses behind the motivations to enrol or not in IT studies

DEVELOPMENT

20 interviews to girls which decide to enrol or not in IT studies

KEY FACTS



CONCLUSIONS

Stereotypes around the image of IT are still present (difficult, lack of social aspects and manual (fix computers))

Not significant drop outs of girls who enroll in STEM studies

Importance of the enrolment of women in STEM programs should be tied to individual interests of girls and women (ensure access of women to STEM programs of higher education)

Society as an arena for both men and women → need of a balanced and proportional representation in STEM field and its educational programs