

# Booklist

Advanced Review – Uncorrected Proof

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**The Sexual Paradox: Men, Women, and the Real Gender Gap.**

Pinker, Susan (Author)

Mar 2008. 336 p. Scribner, hardcover, \$25.00. (0743284704). 306.3.

What women do want, what they should want, and how they must go about accomplishing their mission have been topics scholars and sociologists have bandied about for decades. Is achieving parity with men the sign of success? Psychologist, professor, and award-winning journalist Pinker takes a novel look at the preconceived notion that male behavior is the standard by which female performance is to be measured, and, in fact, questions if there even exists a masculine norm that can serve as baseline. From dyslexia and ADHD to competition and empathy, Pinker distinguishes current trends and navigates conflicting findings in the field of gender relations to examine the varied ways men and women differ and agree. Pinker's meticulous and exhaustive statistical and academic research is enlivened by personal case histories and pop culture references that travel from the boardroom to the bedroom. Presented with flair, sensitivity, and determination, Pinker's penetrating conclusions shed important new light on how gender differences effect every strata of contemporary existence.

— *Carol Haggas*