

GENDER DIFFERENCES IN RUSSIAN PHRASEOLOGY

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Abstract: The study of language in terms of lexical and phraseological combinations helps to understand the cultural systems formed in this language. Paying attention to the structure of phraseological units and their semantics, at the same time revealing their linguistic and cultural features, helps to make a gender analysis on the masculine and feminine level of the language, because language as a cultural phenomenon bears all the historically established and modern gender codes that have developed traditionally. The Russian language, like many other languages, contains phraseological expressions that reflect certain socio-cultural features of society. One of these features is gender differences, which are reflected in the phraseology of the Russian language. Gender differences in phraseology of the Russian language are shown in the use of certain expressions and idioms, associated with the sex of the person in question.

Keywords: gender; Russian phraseology; gender differences; phraseological expressions; culture.

1 Introduction

In order to analyze Russian phraseology from a gender perspective, one can consider as the main source the phraseological dictionary of the Russian language, edited by A.I. Molotkov. There are many phraseological expressions in the Russian language reflecting gender differences in society. Some of them are associated with notions of male and female behavior, roles and qualities inherent in each gender. However, it should be noted that there are also neutral expressions that are not associated with gender and do not reflect stereotypes [11, p. 255-256].

Gender differences in Russian phraseology manifest themselves at different levels:

- At the level of vocabulary and collocations: there are phraseological expressions and stable expressions that have different forms depending on the gender of the person they refer to. For example, "to speak on behalf of a man" and "to speak on behalf of a woman" (*"говорить от имени мужчины"* и *"говорить от имени женщины"*).
- At the level of meaning: some phraseological expressions have different meanings depending on the gender of the person they refer to. For example, "a horse under a wife" (*"конь под женой"*) can mean "a poor man" or "a stallion owned by a woman" (*"жеребец, которым владеет женщина"*).
- At the level of usage: some idioms are only used in relation to people of a particular gender. For example, "to ignore woman's logic" (*"забить на женскую логику"*) has a negative connotation and is used only in relation to women [9, p. 31-32].

Cultural and gender codes in Russian phraseology can manifest themselves at several levels:

There are phraseological units that contain gender and cultural stereotypes. For example, the expression "woman at the wheel" (*"женщина за рулем"*) can be used to indicate that a female driver cannot drive well.

Some phraseological units contain images related to male or female roles in society. For example, the phrase "the man of the house" (*"мужчина в доме"*) may be used to indicate that the man is the head of the family and is in charge of all family 'internal affairs'.

Phraseological units may contain cultural codes related to traditions and customs. For example, the phrase "raise a hand against a woman" (*"поднять руку на женщину"*) may be used to indicate that a man violates cultural norms prohibiting violence against women.

Phraseological units may contain references to religion and culture. For example, the phrase "black as Satan" (*"черный как сатана"*) can be used to indicate something that is very dark and sinister.

Some phraseological units may reflect the position of women in society. For example, the expression "a woman's word is not strong" (*"женское слово – не крепко"*) can be used to indicate that a woman cannot keep her word and is not a reliable source of information [4, p. 21-22].

In general, gender differences in Russian phraseology are related to traditional stereotypes about men and women and may reflect socio-cultural features of society. However, modern demands on language and society imply a more flexible and equitable approach to language use and the avoidance of discrimination based on gender [8, p. 11-13].

There are several approaches to the study of gender differences in Russian phraseology. One of them is the analysis of the use of gender-neutral and gender-specific phraseological expressions depending on the gender of the speaker and addressee. The peculiarities of the use of idioms in different social groups, such as age, professional or ethnic groups, are also studied. Another approach is to analyze the semantics of phraseological units and to identify gender stereotypes associated with them. For example, phraseological expressions containing words related to male or female spheres of activity are studied, and stereotypical ideas about the roles of men and women in society are analyzed. It is important to note that the study of gender differences in phraseology in the Russian language has not only a linguistic but also a socio-cultural aspect, since language is a reflection of social relations and stereotypes associated with gender [12, p. 122-123].

3 Method

The study used both general scientific research methods and specifically linguistic ones: descriptive, comparative methods, techniques and methods of lexico-semantic analysis, as well as metalinguistic - in the analysis of cognitive-linguocultural information contained in phraseological units and proverbs.

4 Results

Phraseological expressions related to men's and women's ways of thinking

Phraseological expressions are expressions used in language as complete units with a stable meaning and an unbreakable connection between the words that make them up. They can have origins in different cultures and eras, and are often related to the way people think and behave in a certain cultural environment. There are many idioms associated with men's ways of thinking (see Table 1), reflecting different aspects of male culture and psychology. Some of these include:

- Sporting lifestyles: Men who grew up in a sporting environment often use phrases related to sportsmanship, winning and losing. For example, "to take the upper hand" (*"взять верх"*) or "to subdue" (*"подчинить себе"*) may reflect a desire to be the leader and to win.
- Military experience: Men who have served in the military use phrases associated with militaristic culture and strength, such as "stand up for defense" (*"встать на защиту"*) or "take charge" (*"взять на себя ответственность"*). They may also use language associated with hierarchical structures and command.
- Sexism: In some cultures, there is a common perception that men should be more dominant and aggressive than women. This can be reflected in phraseologies such as "taking charge" (*"брать за правило"*), "tough sex" (*"крепкий пол"*), and "men's work" (*"мужская работа"*).

- Occupational culture: Depending on their profession, men may use phrases related to their work and craft. For example, "to do one's job conscientiously" ("делать свою работу на совесть") may reflect professionalism and responsibility [7, p. 34-35].

Table 1: Phraseological expressions related to men's and women's ways of thinking

Men	Women
"Masculine approach" ("Мужской подход") - a way of solving problems based on logic and analytical abilities.	"Feminine approach" ("Женский подход") - a more emotional and intuitive approach to problem solving.
"Masculine way of thinking" ("Мужской стиль мышления") - a tendency to analyze, plan, and solve problems, as well as to compete and achieve goals.	"Women's way of thinking" ("Женский стиль мышления") - a tendency towards communication, cooperation, and soft power, and emotion-based decision-making.
"Masculine thinking" ("Мужское мышление") - the ability to think abstractly and reason logically.	"Feminine mindset" ("Женское мышление") - a capacity for empathy, intuition, as well as the ability to perceive and understand the emotions of others.
"Masculine mind" ("Мужской ум") - implies an intellectual capacity for abstract thinking and solving complex problems, as well as the ability to make rational decisions.	"Women's mind" ("Женский разум") - a more balanced and caring approach to decision-making.
"Men's logic" ("Мужская логика") - reflects a rigorous and clear-cut approach to problem solving and decision-making, based on the principles of logic and rational analysis.	"Women's logic" ("Женская логика") - inconsistent and illogical thinking.
"Men's talk" ("Мужской разговор") - often associated with a more straightforward, competitive and aggressive style of communication, based on achievement. In such conversations, men often talk about work, sports, technology, politics, but also discuss women, sex, and other topics that can be perceived as rude or offensive.	"Women's conversations" ("Женские беседы") - often associated with a more emotional, collective and empathic style of communication, where there is a greater emphasis on interaction and mutual support. In these conversations, women usually discuss their personal relationships, family, health, fashion, beauty, and share experiences and advice.
"Male common sense" ("Мужской здравый смысл") - describes a practical approach to problem-solving that men often use.	"Women's judgement" ("Женское суждение") - a tendency towards softer and more tolerant judgement, which can be based on empathy.
"Male intelligence" ("Мужской интеллект") - implies a high level of knowledge, education, and culture, as well as the ability to think critically and analyze.	"Woman's log" ("Бабский лог") - can be used to describe an inconsistent and incomprehensible woman, which can lead to the stereotype that women are less logical and less intelligent than men.
"Masculine vision" ("Мужское видение") - refers to strategic thinking and the ability to see the 'big picture'.	"Women's gut feeling" ("Женское чутье") - the ability to sense something without explicit evidence or explanation.
"Masculine determination" ("Мужская решительность") - reflects the ability to make quick and effective decisions under stress and uncertainty.	"Women's indecisiveness" ("Женская нерешительность") is a stereotype or prejudice that suggests women are more likely to be indecisive and hesitant in making decisions.
"Masculine calculation" ("Мужской расчет") - describes the ability to anticipate and forecast events, as well as to strategically plan and manage resources.	"A woman's sixth sense" ("Женский шестой смысл") - unexplained intuitive understanding.
"Masculine rationalism" ("Мужской рационализм") - describes a propensity for logical thinking and a rational approach to decision-making.	"Feminine subtlety" ("Женская тонкость") - the ability to notice details and nuances that men may miss.
"Masculine willpower" ("Мужская сила воли") - reflects the capacity for self-control, persistence and perseverance to achieve goals, and to overcome difficulties and obstacles.	"Women's intuitionism" ("Женский интуитивизм") - the ability to feel and intuit when making decisions.
	"Women's dialectic" ("Женская диалектика") - a particular style of thinking that involves taking a more emotional and multi-faceted approach to communication.
	"Feminine vision" ("Женское видение") - the ability to see things not only as they are, but also as they could be.

Phraseological expressions related to women's ways of thinking are driven by cultural and gender factors. Some of these factors include:

- The structure of society: in many cultures, women often play the role of nurturing children and caring for the family, which affects their way of thinking. For example, the phraseology "maternal instinct" ("материнский инстинкт") can be linked to this role of women.

- Language culture: some languages may have certain phrases that are used to describe women's behavior, such as "female intuition" ("женская интуиция"). This may be related to traditional notions of women's roles and men's roles in society.
- Social norms: In some cultures, men and women are expected to display certain qualities. For example, men are often ascribed strong, aggressive, and determined traits, while women are expected to be soft, caring, and sensitive. These stereotypes can manifest themselves in language and phraseology.
- Historical factors: in the past, women were not allowed to take leadership positions and make important decisions. As a result, women may have developed a more cautious and deliberate mindset, which may be reflected in phraseological expressions associated with the female way of thinking [6, p. 133-134].

In general, phraseological expressions associated with the way of thinking of women and men are caused by cultural and gender reasons, including stereotypes, social norms, and cultural traditions.

Phraseological expressions reflecting differences in the social roles of men and women

Phraseological expressions related to differences in men's social roles may have cultural and gender-specific reasons (see Table 2). They reflect ideas about traditional male roles in society and culture. For example, some cultures believe that men should be strong and fearless. Therefore, expressions referring to strength and courage, such as "tough as an ox" ("крепкий как бык") or "strong as an ox" ("сильный как бык"), may appear in phraseology. These expressions emphasize the importance of physical strength and courage for men. The phrases also reflect traditional male roles in relationships with women. For example, the phrase "to leave a girl" ("бросить девушку") may be related to the idea of men as hunters and women as prey. Some phraseological expressions may also contain sexual and/or derogatory connotations, which may be related to sexual stereotypes and discrimination. For example, the phrase "to give up one's wife" ("отдать жену на попечение") may reflect the idea of women as something that a man can "give up" (отдать) to another man [10, p. 133-134].

Table 2: Phraseological expressions reflecting differences in men's and women's social roles

Men	Women
"A man's job" ("Мужская работа") - means a job that is generally considered more suitable for men.	"Glass ceiling" ("Стеклоплатформа") is a metaphorical expression that reflects the invisible obstacles women face in advancing their careers in a male-dominated society.
"A man's word" ("Мужское слово") - implies that a man should keep his word and be a man of his word.	"Second shift work" ("Работа второй смены") is a phraseology that refers to a woman's burden of having to take care of children and household chores after working in a formal job.
"Men's strength" ("Мужская сила") - indicates that men are generally considered to be physically stronger than women.	"Double standard" ("Двойные стандарты") is an expression that describes the unequal treatment of male and female behavior. For example, what is considered attractive and valued in men may be condemned in women.
"Male friendship" ("Мужская дружба") - reflects men's tendency to form friendships based on common interests and values.	"Pink glasses" ("Розовые очки") - a metaphorical expression that reflects an idealized view of life and relationships, often linked to women's romantic ideology.
"Male dignity" ("Мужское достоинство") - refers to the fact that men should be honest, noble, and have dignity.	"Chicken herd" ("Куриное стадо") is a phraseology that denotes female conformity and fear of standing out from the crowd.
"Male responsibility" ("Мужская ответственность") - emphasizes that men should take responsibility for their actions and decisions.	"Housewife" ("Домохозяйка") is a traditional female role associated with taking care of the home, family, and children.
"Male authority" ("Мужской авторитет") - refers to the fact that a man should be respected and respect others, especially those who are younger or less experienced.	"Bird on a branch" ("Птичка на ветке") - a metaphorical expression that reflects the image of a woman often associated with defencelessness and dependence on a man.
"Male leadership" ("Мужское руководство") - indicates that men are often seen as natural leaders and should be able to lead others.	
"Male Principle" ("Мужской принцип") - reflects the ideal of masculinity and traditional expectations of men, such as courage, perseverance, and determination.	
"Male dominance" ("Мужское доминирование") is a concept that	

<p>indicates that men have a higher social status and more power in society than women.</p> <p>"Male conceit" ("Мужское самомнение") is the generally accepted confidence in one's masculine identity, which can manifest itself in various forms, including self-assertion and aggressive behavior.</p> <p>"Male prestige" ("Мужской престиж") is the status that men can attain based on their achievements, qualities, and social status.</p> <p>"Die Hard" ("Крепкий орешек") - represents a strong, resilient man who is able to withstand adversity.</p> <p>"To be on the horse" ("Быть на коне") - indicates that the man is in a winning or advantageous position.</p> <p>"Put in place" ("Поставить на место") - indicates a man's dominant behavior and his ability to control or punish others</p> <p>"Male solidarity" ("Мужская солидарность") - refers to the notion that men usually support each other and band together in solidarity, especially in situations involving physical strength or protection.</p> <p>"Strong gender" ("Сильный пол") - an expression that affirms male physical strength and toughness, emphasizing the male role in protection and strength.</p> <p>"Iron patience" ("Железное терпение") - This expression emphasizes the notion that men should be patient and able to withstand hardship and stress.</p> <p>"Stronger half of humanity" ("Сильная половина человечества") - this is a phrase that claims men are stronger or more important members of society.</p>	<p>"Woman behind the wheel" ("Женщина за рулем") is a phrase that can be used to describe female drivers and is often associated with sarcastic or negative attitudes towards their driving abilities.</p> <p>"Granny on the bench" ("Бабушка на лавочке") is a metaphorical expression that reflects the image of a woman who has ceded her place in public life to young people.</p> <p>"Woman at the cooker" ("Женщина за плитой") - describes the traditional social role of a woman as the housewife and chief cook in the family.</p> <p>"Lady in need" ("Дама в беде") - describes a woman who needs help or protection from men.</p> <p>"The beautiful woman" ("Женщина-красавица") - describes a woman who needs to look attractive and have a certain style and elegance, which may be important for her social position.</p> <p>"Matryoshka woman" ("Женщина-матрёшка") - describes a woman who takes care of her loved ones as dolls and is usually associated with Russian culture.</p> <p>"Businesswoman" ("Женщина-бизнесмен") - describes a woman who is involved in business and professional activities, and often faces the challenges of combining work and family life.</p> <p>"Princess woman" ("Женщина-принцесса") - describes a woman who often appears wealthy, pampered, but also unable to cope with everyday problems and tasks, for which she is offered substantial support from men.</p> <p>"Single woman" ("Женщина-одиночка") - describes a woman who lives without a husband or partner and usually has to cope with all of life's challenges on her own.</p> <p>"Mother woman" ("Женщина-мать") - describes a woman who takes care of her children and is usually considered responsible for their upbringing and development</p>
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Phraseological expressions related to differences in women's social roles may have cultural and gender-specific reasons, as culture and gender stereotypes influence how we express our thoughts and how we perceive the world. For example, the Russian language has many female-related idioms that express negative stereotypes about women's role in society, such as "get the woman off the cart, and the horse will go farther", "a woman behind the wheel is like a cow on ice", "a woman is evil", etc ("баба с вoзy - кобыле легче", "женщина за рулем - как корова на льду", "женщина – зло"). These idioms reflect the idea that women cannot be good drivers, are incompetent at business management and decision-making, and in general are incapable of logical thinking. On the other hand, there are also phraseological expressions reflecting positive stereotypes about women, such as "a woman with intelligence and without intelligence is beautiful", "a woman is the flower of life", "a woman is fire", etc ("женщина с умом, да и без ума красива", "женщина - цветок жизни", "женщина – огонь"). These idioms associate women as beautiful, sensitive, emotional and capable of bringing joy and happiness into people's lives. Thus, the cultural-gender reasons for phraseological expressions regarding the difference in women's social roles are related to traditional notions about women, which were formed in the past and still influence our thinking and linguistic practices.

Phraseological units reflecting differences in economic opportunities between men and women

Phraseological units referring to women and men may reflect sexist stereotypes, which in turn are based on ideology related to the differences in men's economic opportunities (see Table 3). For example, the phraseology "men's work" ("мужская

работа") reflects the sexist stereotype that the work usually done by men is more important and valuable than the work done by women. Phraseological phrases associated with men's professions and occupations can also be found, indicating that men are more successful and influential in society [2, p. 44].

In the context of men's economic opportunities, many phraseological expressions may reflect stereotypes and ideas about the role of the sexes in society, leading to inequalities. For example, the phraseology "woman at the cooker" ("женщина за плитой") indicates that traditionally women are responsible for cooking and household chores, limiting their opportunities in other areas, including economic.

Phraseological phrases can also reflect differences in the socio-economic status of men and women. For example, the phraseology "man at work" ("мужчина за работой") indicates that men have traditionally been primarily responsible for financial well-being, while women - for domestic comfort. This led to the fact that men had more opportunities for career growth and obtaining highly paid positions than women [5, p. 55-56].

In general, phraseological expressions can be used to maintain and reinforce gender stereotypes and inequalities that exist in society. However, they can also be used to challenge and change these perceptions if they are used consciously and purposefully to combat inequality and discrimination.

Table 3: Phraseological expressions reflecting differences in economic opportunities for men and women

Men	Women
<p>- "Taking charge" ("Взять власть в свои руки") is a phrase that refers to the male political role of a leader who makes decisions and is in control.</p> <p>- "To be the head of the family" ("Быть главой семьи") is a phraseology that reflects the male role in the traditional family structure, where the man is seen as the head of the family, who provides material support and makes key decisions.</p> <p>- "Male discipline" ("Мужская дисциплина") is a phraseology that refers to the male role in society, where men must show strength and determination, as well as the ability to control their emotions and suppress weakness.</p> <p>- "Man's game" ("Мужская игра") is a phraseology that reflects the masculine role in political games, where men compete for power and control using various strategies and tactics.</p> <p>- "Man's code" ("Мужской кодекс") is a phraseology that describes a set of norms and values that are considered typical of masculine behavior in political situations. A code can include qualities such as strength, determination, and leadership.</p> <p>- "Men's club" ("Мужской клуб") is a phrase that refers to the idea that political organisations and institutions are controlled by men and that women and other minorities may experience discrimination when trying to join them.</p> <p>- "Masculine discourse" ("Мужская дискуссия") is a phrase that refers to the idea that political discussions and debates are often conducted by men and that women may feel excluded from the process.</p> <p>- "Masculine approach" ("Мужской подход") is a phrase that refers to the idea that men and women can have different approaches to political issues, with the masculine approach being seen as more rational and pragmatic.</p>	<p>"Pink slip" ("Розовый налет") - this expression describes a situation where a woman in the political sphere is accused of using her gender as a way to advance in her career, despite the fact that she has achieved her successes through her ability and effort.</p> <p>"Women's issue" ("Женский вопрос") - this phraseology was used in the past to refer to issues related to women's rights such as suffrage, equal remuneration, access to education and health care. Today, the term is used to describe any issue related to women, including political issues.</p> <p>"Deep freeze" ("Глубокое заморозенное состояние") is a phrase that describes the absence of women in political office at the highest level. It indicates that women are still limited in their opportunities to occupy high political positions, and that the process of change here is very slow.</p> <p>"Iron fist in a velvet glove" ("Железный кулак в бархатной перчатке") - this phraseology reflects a situation where a woman holds high political office, but her decisions and actions are still limited by stereotypes about how women should behave in public life.</p> <p>"Double standard" ("Двойной стандарт") is a phraseology that reflects a situation where women and men are judged differently for the same actions in the political sphere. For example, a woman may be judged for what a man is seen as simply being a 'tough leader'.</p> <p>"Iron mat" ("Железный коврик") - this expression describes a situation where a woman has to be more competent and effective than her male counterparts in order to get equal opportunities in the political sphere.</p>

4 Conclusion

In conclusion, we can say that gender differences in phraseology represent a reflection of socio-cultural stereotypes existing in society. They manifest themselves in the way we express certain ideas, emotions and attitudes, as well as how we perceive people

by gender. Some phraseological expressions may contain explicit or implicit gender connotations that influence our perception and evaluation of people. However, in today's society, gender-neutral language is increasingly taken into account and the use of gender-conjugated expressions is avoided. This contributes to a more equal and inclusive society, where everyone is entitled to their own unique expression and does not feel discriminated against on the basis of their gender.

Overall, gender differences in phraseology require serious study and analysis by linguists and gender studies specialists. It is important not to forget that language is not only a reflection of reality, but also a means of shaping it, so it is necessary to monitor how we use language and how this affects our perception of the world around us.

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