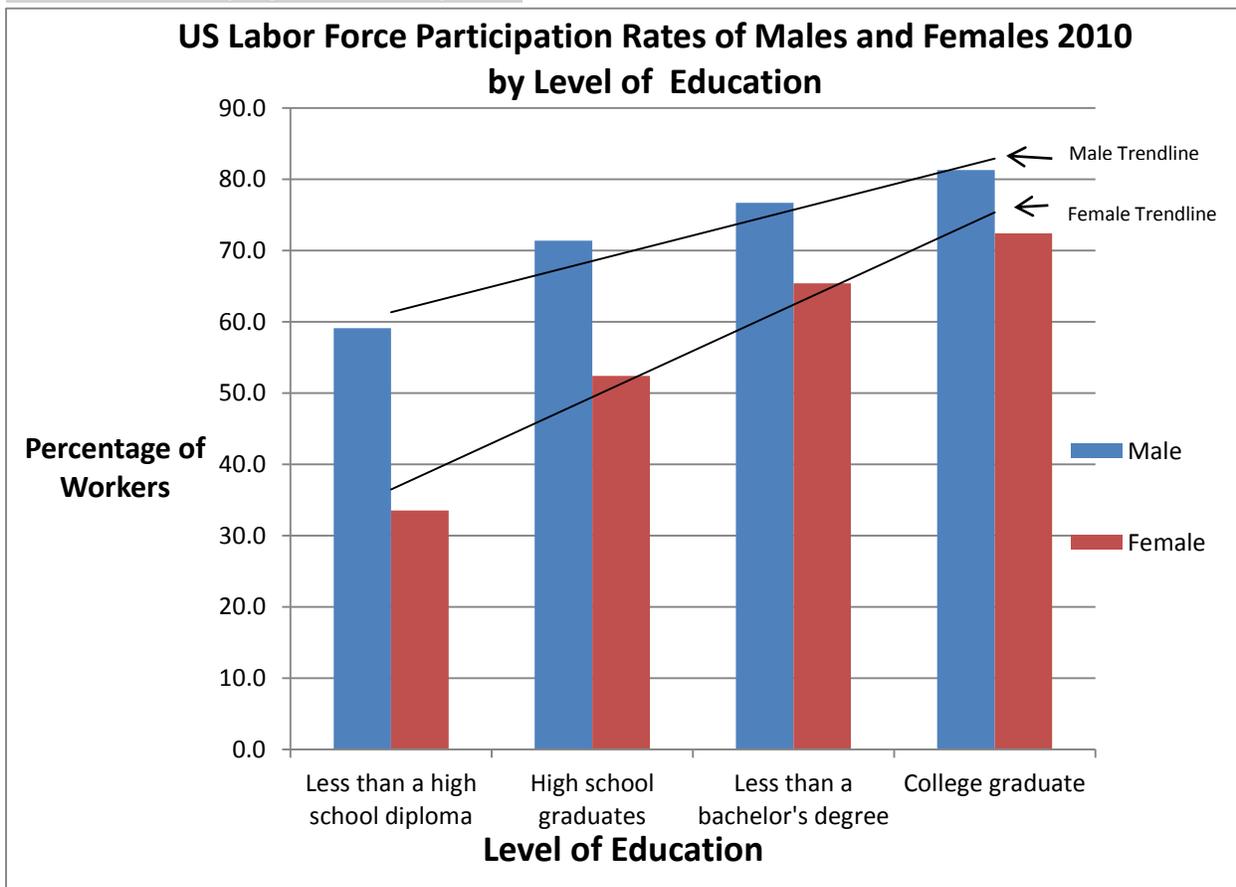




DATE: July 22, 2014
TO: Cordelia Twomey
FROM: Leonard Sheehy
SUBJECT: US labor force participate rates 2010

Having completed research on the US labor force participation rates of males and females in 2010 by level of education, the numbers indicate that women’s employment rates increase at a greater rate than men as the level of education increases. (See Illustration 1.)

Illustration 1. Employment Participation



Source: US Census Bureau (2012).

The Bureau of Labor Statistics states “The labor force participation rate represents the proportion of the civilian non-institutional population that is in the labor force. This measure of labor force activity grew from about 60 percent nationally in 1970 to about 67 percent in 2000, with much of the increase resulting from increased participation by women.” (<http://www.bls.gov/lau/rdscnp16.htm>)

According to *The Economist* the growth of higher education has increased job projections for women, improving their prospects and worth in the job market and changing their role models from stay-at-home mothers to career oriented women. The good news is that the article goes on to state that women are now earning almost 60% of university degrees in America and Europe (Economist, 2012).

Technology has been a great equalizer between the sexes. Prior to the industrial revolution work was more male dominated due to the need for physical strength to complete tasks. Manufacturing and office technology have made the brain the important component for hiring. Higher degrees of education on the part of women allow them to advance in their careers with a higher trajectory than the men (Economist, 2012).

This data demonstrates how important it is for women to receive higher education. As leaders in the field of educational technology here at NJCU we need to motivate more young women to pursue careers in STEM fields and thus to accelerate the gains that have already been accomplished. Encouraging young women to join STEM or Robotics clubs will raise self-esteem and motivation. It is our role as leaders in the educational technology field to dedicate ourselves so that we may obtain the funding and resources that are necessary to implement these programs.

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