## NATIONAL GEOGRAPI'

SPECIAL ISSUE

# GENDER

'The best thing about being a girl is, now I don't have to pretend to be a boy.'

JANUARY 2017

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THE GENDER ISSUE

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Can science help us navigate the shifting landscape of gender identity? Mandy (below) identifies as fa'afafine, a third gender in Samoa.

By Robin Marantz Henig Photographs by Lynn Johnson



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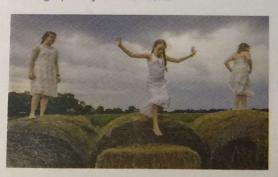
National Geographic traveled to 80 homes on four continents to ask kids how gender affects their lives. The answers from this diverse group of children were astute and revealing. By Eve Conant Photographs by Robin Hammond



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In some ways it's easier to be an American girl these days: Although beauty still rules, people are more accepting of differences. In another way it's worse: Everything plays out on social media. By Tina Rosenberg

By Tina Rosenberg Photographs by Kitra Cahana



#### 74 | MAKING A MAN

Photographs by Pete Muller

In traditional cultures the path to manhood is marked with ceremonial rites of passage. But in societies moving away from strict gender roles, boys have to find their own ways to become men. By Chip Brown



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In Sierra Leone, wracked by civil war and Ebola, nearly half of girls marry before 18, and many become mothers by 19. Yet even in this troubled land, some girls find a way to rise.

By Alexis Okeowo Photographs by Stephanie Sinclair



#### TELEVISION

#### GENDER REVOLUTION: A JOURNEY WITH KATIE COURIC



A look at how genetics, culture, and brain chemistry shape

gender. February 6 at 8/7c on National Geographic.

#### TELEVISION

#### JOIN THE SAFARI

Watch live as guides track Africa's iconic animals on Safari Live, a series premiering January 1 at 10/9c on Nat Geo WILD. The guides also will take viewers' questions via Twitter at #SafariLive.

#### TELEVISION

#### **EXPLORER IS BACK**

Known for pioneering programs on science, nature, and culture, Explorer returns January 16 at 10/9c with new specials.

#### BOOKS

#### PICTURE PERFECT

Travel to spectacular sites with Wild, Beautiful Places, available at shopng.com or wherever books are sold.

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More than in most nations, Sweden's parental leave involves fathers. Photographer Johan Bävman joined dads with their kids.

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Author Anne-Marie Slaughter urges us to aim for a world where gender is neither an advantage nor an impediment. On the Cover Youth interviewed for this issue on gender include Avery Jackson, a transgender girl living in Kansas City, Missouri. Photo by Robin Hammond

Corrections and Clarifications Go to ngm.com/corrections.