

## Debunking Gender Myths

Fill in the gaps with the words from the box:

**overt**   **has designs on**   **grinning and bearing it**   **keep it to themselves**   **fret about**

**Men are better at recognizing flirting compared to women.**  
**FALSE!**

A study published in the Journal of Experimental Social Psychology finds that men tend to overperceive sexual interest from women. The researchers suggest that this may be due to an evolutionary adaptation where men are more likely to assume someone 1) \_\_\_\_\_ them, so as not to miss out on the opportunity to reproduce. Women, on the other hand, seem to be better at accurately perceiving whether or not men are interested in them.

**When it comes to gossip, women do it more often than men.**  
**FALSE!**

Men spend an average of 76 minutes a day chatting and gossiping with their friends or work colleagues, compared to just 52 minutes for women. One study reveals that when men and women hear a juicy secret, many men will share it with someone almost immediately after learning about it. Women, on the other hand, 2) \_\_\_\_\_ for at least three and a half hours before spreading the news.

**Men tend to initiate break-ups and divorce more than women.**  
**FALSE!**

Women initiate nearly 70% of all divorces, according to a study by the American Sociological Association. One explanation is that women are more likely than men to express more 3) \_\_\_\_\_ conflict when they're unhappy in their relationship, rather than just 4) \_\_\_\_\_. Men, on the other hand, may be more likely to avoid or ignore problems, which can often exacerbate until things **come unstuck**.

**Men are less likely to seek regular medical checkups.**

**TRUE!**

Men may 5) \_\_\_\_\_ going to the doctor due to a fear of finding out something is wrong or because they find the experience **intimidating**. And when they do go to the doctor, they're more likely to hide or lie about their symptoms.