**Source #8: Enduring Influence of Stereotypical Computer Science Role Models on Women's Academic Aspirations summary**

In "Enduring Influence of Stereotypical Computer Science Role Models on Women's Academic Aspirations", Cheryan, Drury, and Vichayapai, all psychologists at the University of Washington Seattle, examine the impacts that role models who play into stereotypes have on student degree decisions. The authors intend to illustrate that exposure to stereotypes of any kind in an industry, such as computer science, plays a lasting and often negative impact on an individual's view of the industry.

To prove the point that stereotypes have on many undergraduate students, the authors conducted a study using 100 female students and exposed them to role models who took on general stereotypes of individuals within the industry. Those who interacted with people who fit into stereotypes were less likely to pursue a career in computer science. This study creates the idea that when women interact with stereotypes, those who do not want to fit into the stereotype category decide not to pursue a career in that area.

The article becomes more relevant when it begins to discuss what role television shows have on children today with the career that they decide to pursue in the future. When a little girl sees a nerdy, anti-social woman on the screen in science, she is drawn away from it because it is seen as not normal. The long-term exposure to those stereotypical people can be on the Big Bang Theory, where stereotypes are taken often to the extreme in terms of people acting strange. We must consider that in a world where women do not hold or desire to pursue STEM degrees, often due to stereotypes, on the same level that men have been. Although the number of women pursuing STEM degrees has increased, it is still not proportionate to the number of men.

**Source #8: Enduring Influence of Stereotypical Computer Science Role Models on Women's Academic Aspirations analysis**

This article is becoming increasingly relevant, as made evident by many colleagues in the psychology sector. The authors' work has been cited by numerous sources, especially in psychological research for gender. This article to the reader is even more important because it illustrates an important idea that is brought up often in childhood. Very rarely is it considered cool to pursue a career in STEM, so women ignore the sciences completely.

Understanding the stereotypes that go along with many industries, whether it is computer science or, finance is frightening for females. They do not want to be lumped in with the nerdy losers or be overwhelmed by a toxic work culture that promotes sexism and obscenity. I have seen this to be the case, even at the university level. My two brothers go to a college that focuses on engineering and the sciences in general. The men make up 70% of the campus population while the women make up only 30%, and this number decreases as you go into departments like chemical engineering or computer science. The lack of representation is similar to Whitman, wherein in 2019, 60% were male and 40% female.

This source, therefore, provides value in the fact that it conveys a reason for the lack of representation in these STEM fields. Women do not want to be subjected to stereotypes that they have experienced firsthand or seen in the media. I think that it would be interesting, however, to argue the impact that the study had on the participants. The article stated that long-term exposure to stereotypes leads to negative ideas surrounding that specific industry. In the study conducted, participants were only around stereotypical individuals for two minutes. That creates the question, what other factors play into a student's decision on what degree to pursue? Because of this question, I believe that this source goes well

with my other sources. This is also since the other sources address why women pursue degrees in other fields, where it be biological, or social factors.

Cheryan S, Drury BJ, Vichayapai M. Enduring Influence of Stereotypical Computer Science Role Models on Women's Academic Aspirations. Psychology of Women Quarterly. 2013;37(1):72-79. doi:10.1177/0361684312459328