

ENGAGING SOCIOLOGY

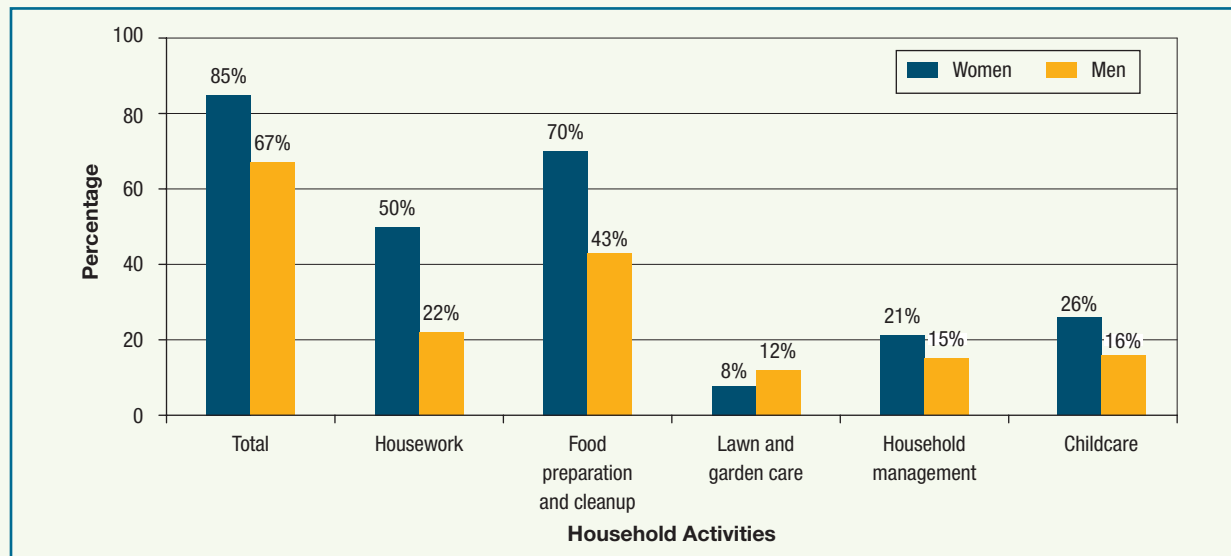
Household Tasks by Gender

In many families, household tasks are highly gendered. As recently as the 1980s, wives and daughters spent 2 or 3 times as much time as fathers and sons in household tasks, such as cleaning, laundry, and yard work. However, the tides have been shifting, and while they are not entirely equal, they are more balanced.

Engaging With Sociology

1. What is the division of labor (by gender) for household maintenance in your family?
2. How did it evolve?
3. Is it considered fair by all participants?
4. How does it compare with the data in Figure 10.3?

FIGURE 10.3 Percentage of Men and Women Who Engage in Some Type of Household Tasks Each Day



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (2016).