

TABLE 12.2

Heterosexual Couples' Explanations and Justifications for the Division of Household Tasks

FEMALES	MALES
It's kind of ended up that I do the cleaning and shit, and I don't know how it happened, but it's like two years later I'm a 1950s housewife or something.	Ali would do most of it. We argue about it quite a lot. It's not fair, really, I should do more.
I don't think it was really a decision, but I am the cleaner in the relationship, just because I'm better at it.	Well, I would clean, but by the time I get there Chloe's already done it.
I do it. It's not something that we've ever discussed, I just sort of have done it, and neither of us is sort of bold enough to bring it up now, so instead I just do it.	Sara does do most of it, I've got to admit, but it's not because I think she should do it because she's a woman, it's just because she's got higher standards of cleanliness than me (laughs).

Source: van Hooff, J. H. (2011). Rationalising inequality: Heterosexual couples' explanations and justifications for the division of housework along traditionally gendered lines. *Journal of Gender Studies*, 20, pp. 21–22.