

**Tomboys and Pansies**  
**Fathers' and Mothers' Gender Messages from a Cross-Cultural Perspective**

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The aim of this study is to contribute to a culturally-informed understanding of the link between parental messages regarding gender (non)conformity and children's own gender norms. The study will focus on ethnically Dutch and Turkish families with young children in the Netherlands, and is guided by the following research questions: Which culture-specific and culture-general messages do young children receive from their mothers and fathers about gender (non)conformity? Do these gender messages vary depending on structural family characteristics, and are they related to children's gender stereotypes and acceptance of gender nonconformity in different cultural groups? With this study, we hope to provide insight into early family processes that influence children's culturally-informed attitudes toward gender (non)conformity, because tolerance and acceptance of others is crucial for harmonious social interactions and relationships, particularly in a multi-cultural society like the Netherlands.