

# Gender in Germany:

## Gender understanding and representation in Orientation courses of Integration programs in Tübingen.

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### Aim:

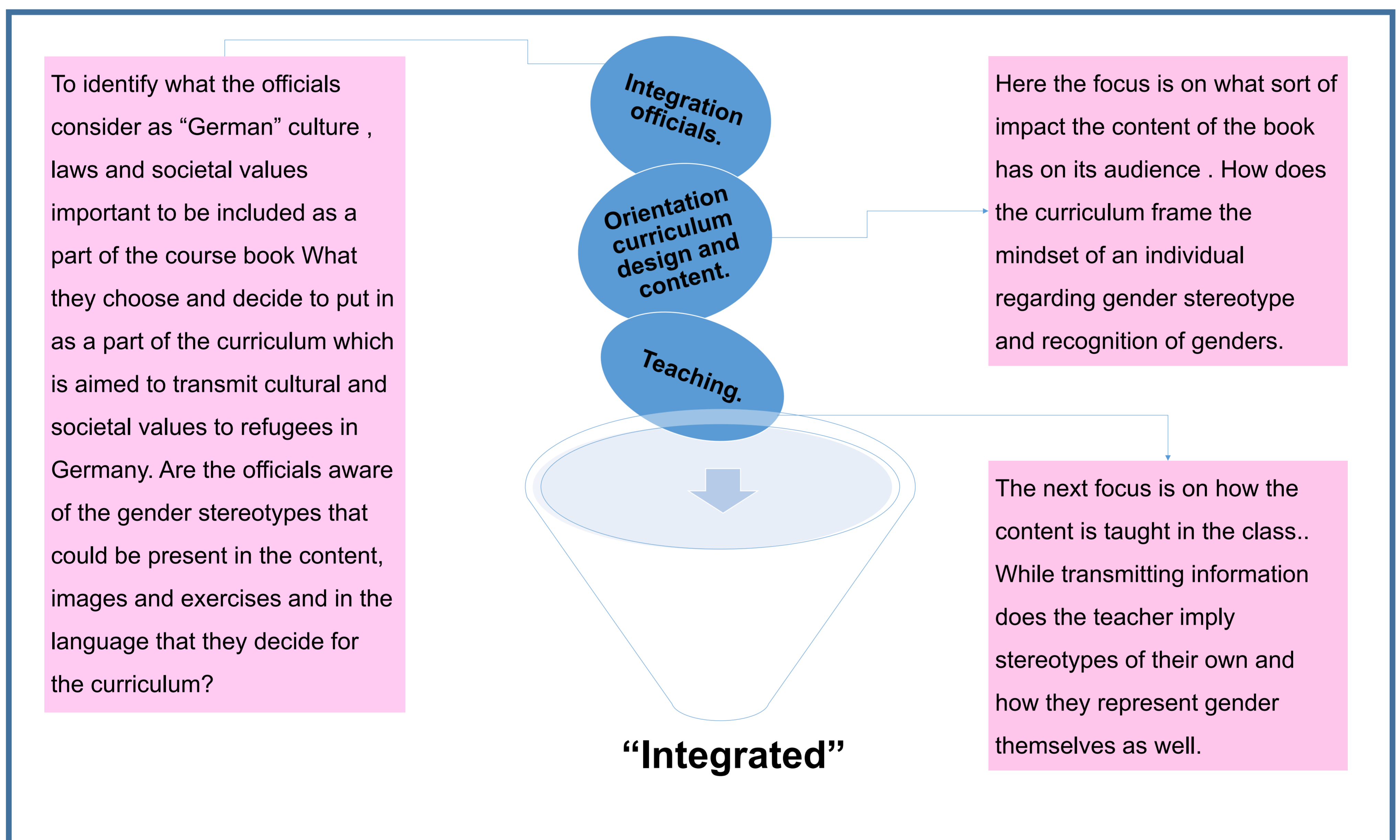
- Represent the understanding of gender amongst the officials and teachers .
- Perception and understanding of gender values by refugees in Germany after attending the integration course.

### Research Questions

- How is gender presented in the discourse, taught and understood in the orientation curriculum and course designed for the refugees?
- Does the course directly or indirectly imply gender stereotypes whilst aiming to teach equality? If so, what is meant by equality?

### Methodology

- Un-structured interviews.
- Model by UNESCO for studying gender representation in text books (Brugeilles and Cromer).



## Preliminary findings

Courses specially designed to disseminate cultural and societal values in order to integrate refugees in Germany is the best means to see how German view and understand their own culture. The above model shows that gender does not appear as a separated section, but my preliminary findings suggest that it is essential to include it:

- 1) No one thinks about gender representations as it is taken for granted but in order to reach social and cultural integration there is a critical need to discuss gender as a separate topic. This became visible in the curriculum course books where there is a significant over representation of men as compared to women. Men were represented in professional and public spheres where as women were in domesticated
- 2) Despite Germany having a reputation on being very open and liberal, people were very hesitant and often uncomfortable, to talk about gender.