## **Contents**

Preface		,
Note on t	he Authors	7
Chapter One: The Background		9
	Existing explanations	10
	Method	12
	Analysis	13
Chapter Two: Investigating Existing Explanations		15
(i)	Spatial ability	15
(ii)	Sex-role stereotyping	20
Chapter Three: Gender Identity		27
(i)	Ascription of gender	28
(ii)	Observation of play	29
(iii)	Infant school mathematics	35
Chapter Four: The Schools and the Teachers		38
(i)	The primary schools	38
(ii)		41
Chapter Five: The Pupils		51
(i)	The nursery schools	52
(ii)	The infant classes	55
Chapter Six: Conclusions		61
References		66