My Self-Image in Labels

Everyone has certain labels that describe them. The labels can be from my self-perception or from others’ perception. The question is does other people’s perception of the label match my self-perception. My three labels that impact my self-perception image are being a female, being an early childhood and mathematics major, and being a cheer coach. These three labels all have a meaning to me, but they may have a different meaning to other people.

First, being labeled a female sounds very simple, until hearing what some males must say about us females. In their perception, being a female means that I would be a house wife. Some females would agree with them, but I would not. I do not see myself sitting in a house all day cleaning and being a maid basically. Also, another thing I have heard from a male perception was that females are weak. From my self-perception, I do not totally agree with them. Females can be very emotional, but I do not think that makes us weak at all. I have heard a positive perception from a male before talking about females and that was females are independent. I agree with this man’s perception. I believe that women hear what men say about females and it pushes us to want to do more on our own.

Next, my second label is being an early childhood and mathematics major. I have heard other people say that since I want to teach younger children, that I may want to have a lot of kids of my own. From my self-perception, I do not want to have a lot of kids, but other early childhood teachers may. So, I do not really agree with this perception. Also, a lot of people has
told teachers that they only want to become a teacher for the vacation. This perception does not match my self-perception. I want to teach because I want to be able to help students out. The vacation teachers receive is just a bonus. The last perception I have heard about being a mathematics major is that some students do not like math class. I know that some students do not enjoy math because it may be a tough subject for them, but I want to try to encourage them. I guess my self-perception matches theirs a little, but I want to try to change students’ minds about math.

Third, my last label is being a competition cheerleading coach. One of the main perceptions I hear is cheerleading is not a sport, so why coach it. My self-perception is completely opposite than theirs. I say that it is a sport, so why not coach it? Another perception I hear is all the coaches have cheer experience. I agree with this because having experience helps with trying to coach it.

In conclusion, I think that majority of the time my self-perception and other people’s perception may not match. Being a female, an early childhood and mathematics major, and a cheer coach are all three labels with different perceptions behind them.