

TRANSITIONS

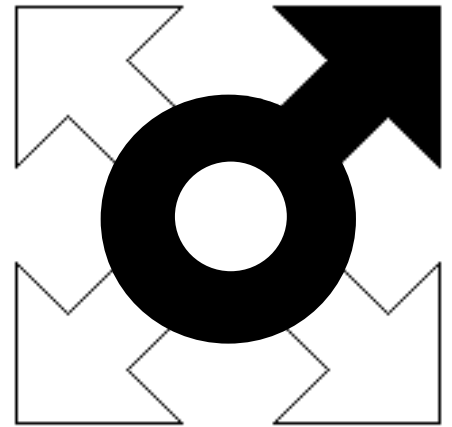
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The Mainstream Media Do Not Report Fairly on the Sexes' Risk and Sacrifice in War

By Jerry A. Boggs

Until recent years, journalists seldom recognized the military women who risked — and often sacrificed — their lives in war. They almost always reported on “the men.” Since military women represented at least a small percentage of those ensnared in fighting a war, journalists were hardly fair when minimizing or ignoring servicewomen’s risk and sacrifice altogether.

Now, however, journalists are over-correcting in overdrive. Instead of “the men” as in the past, they often inappropriately insert in their reports on war “the men and women.” The resulting impression, likely intentional in many cases, is that women have risked and sacrificed in wars just as much as men have.

Take the front-page story about the Vietnam War in the *Detroit News* on April 30, 2000. Staff writer Kim Kozlowski wrote, “Everyone has their own personal Vietnam. It wasn’t just the men and women who traipsed through the Vietnamese jungles, rifles strapped on their shoulders, fear racing through their minds.”

The men and *women* who traipsed? In that war, over 58,000 American men were slain. The number of women sacrificed? *Eight*. Despite a male-only draft and the male soldiers’ astronomically higher risk and sacrifice, Kozlowski suggests women showed up in Vietnam in equal number and faced equal risk. Her explanation for the women’s minuscule loss of lives has to be, I’m sure, that the enemy, beset with chivalry, kept

females out of its cross-hairs and somehow set its mines and mortars to vaporize only males.

But Kozlowski’s reality-warp pales next to that uttered by ABC News’ Peter Jennings. On May 22, 1998, during a pre-Memorial Day story on the Civil War, Jennings delivered this shocking news: “More than 600,000 men and women died before the war was over.”

Correction: The Civil War murdered over 600,000 males, a lot of them boys young as 14. Historical records show that about 60 women were either wounded or killed in that war. Yet Jennings, instead of taking an extra micro-second to state truthfully how many females died, chose to ignore journalism’s principles of accuracy and fairness, and implied, to the benighted at least, that the Civil War leveled 300,000 men and 300,000 women.

“The men and women” is misemployed also on the Web. At Computingcorner.com, a link informs, “Many U.S. Military men and women encountered some of the most gruesome battles, triumphing over some of the biggest nations to maintain the very freedoms we have today.” At D-Day.org is this: “D-Day. It was the largest air, land, and sea invasion ever undertaken, including over 5,000 ships, 10,000 airplanes, and 250,000 service men and women.” Again, were the benighted left picturing in their mind 125,000 men and 125,000 women? Watch the film documentaries about war, as well as such fact-based combat movies as “Saving Private Ryan.” See any women taking part in an invasion? See any female bodies floating face down in the water as their blood pools around them? See any female torsos, arms, legs, and other body parts littering the beaches?

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Editor's Comment

The theme of this issue is men's sacrifices and how they are manipulated in the media.

There are times when the sacrifice or loss of life must be acknowledged, such as when discussing war. Jerry Boggs' article describes how, in these circumstances, credit is given to men and women equally, even though men make up the greater number of casualties by far.

At other times, the more effective technique is to hide the men's greater sacrifice using neutral language. Mike Spaniola's article looks at how this is done.

Speaking of Mike, he has nobly volunteered to be a regular contributor for *Transitions*. He starts off his legacy in this issue with "Just Another 12 Dead Men."

So a feminist attempting to make women look like the suffering martyrs of humanity has a number of tools at her disposal. And feminists have employed them well.

The result? One feminist fruit that Mike discusses is the Violence Against Women Act. The distortion of facts, coupled with the fear to correct them due to political correctness, is what made VAWA possible.

At the time of this writing, the NCFM board of directors is voting on whether to sign a resolution on VAWA which was drafted by our friends over at RADAR. I expect NCFM will choose to sign, of course. But what then?

Then there's the work of undoing VAWA. We'll have to clean up the landscape of lies that the feminists have created.

Ever Yours in the Cause,

Jason Leatherman

Sacrifice

Continued from Page 1

Increasingly, the journalists' rule appears to be: Even if only one female troop — or just one nurse — falls in a war that slaughters thousands of men, report "thousands of men and women killed."

Call it another gender gap: Equal recognition for unequal risk. But this gender gap is of the worst kind.

Giving women recognition that's commensurate with their actual risk and sacrifice in war is necessary and just. But planting the notion that women risked and sacrificed equally with men is gravely unprincipled. Moreover, it may foster resentment in male war veterans who no doubt sense their risk and sacrifice are per force watered down. "I was in Vietnam," grumbled Bill Geist, author of *The Big Five-Oh!*, "and didn't see any women over there, and we have a monument for them." And our country's next war effort may be hampered. Male soldiers may become demoralized over politically correct distortions such as Jennings' "over 600,000 men and women killed," because these soldiers know that they, not women, will overwhelmingly be in harm's way.

I would be far less troubled by the portrayals of women as equally burdened with protecting the nation and equally victimized by war, if journalists did not deliberately overlook men in other areas of risk and sacrifice. Take the workplace. Although you regularly hear about how women are affected by sexual harassment and the sexes' wage gap, how often do you hear about the sexes' occupational death gap, the approximately 6,600 men fatally hurt at work each year compared to the 420 women? Journalists are apparently more concerned about women's pay and about women being offended by off-color jokes at work than they are about men being killed at work. Consider, too, domestic violence. Men's risk is ignored by most journalists despite recent studies — those not influenced by feminism — that expose domestic violence as an equal-opportunity activity. One study, as described in "Violence and Victims" (Vol. 10, 1995), shows that 11 percent of wives and 7 percent of husbands in military couples were physically aggressive, *as reported by the wives*.

Judging by journalists' growing disregard of the truth about the sexes' risk and sacrifice, I can't help thinking that one day the newscasters will drop "the men" altogether and intone solemnly, "The Civil War slaughtered over 600,000 women."

Mike Spaniola's Column

Just Another 12 Dead Men

When 12 men died in West Virginia's Sago Mine last January, the tragic death toll was newsworthy. Yet nearly as many men die every day in the U.S. workplace.

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 5,129 men died on the job in 2003, an average of 14 male deaths every day of the year — weekends and holidays included [1]. The workplace slaughter continues to increase, taking its heaviest toll on white men, ages 35 to 54.

These noteworthy statistics go unreported primarily because 1) the oxymoron known as "mainstream media" shuns the image of male victims and 2) men have no counterpart to national women's groups who routinely spoon feed data, however bogus, to sycophantic media members.

In fact, initial media accounts of the Sago Mine disaster often referred to the dead men as genderless "miners" -- an odd twist for a media so otherwise gender-conscious. But when men die in war, they are merely "soldiers;" and when men die in construction accidents, they are merely "workers."

In a related article, "Dying at Work," Carrie Coolidge for Forbes.com [2] reports on workplace fatalities but never mentions that men account for more than 90 percent of annual U.S. workplace deaths. Ms. Coolidge works for a business publication but seems unable to do the math or to discern a statistical omission.

Imagine if true workplace equality existed and amends for perceived historical injustices were law. Society would then force college-age women to replace the men whose lives were lost in the Sago Mine

disaster, a fate suffered by many of our forefathers who also longed to be more than social obligation permitted.

While our country's death toll from mining operations is tragic, men elsewhere fare much worse. From 1992 through 2002, mining accidents killed 434 miners in the U.S. and a staggering 59,543 in China. Working hours and conditions in Chinese mines are debilitating, and holidays are rarely given. One survivor from a mining disaster in China's Lianing province, where 220 men died in two days in February 2005, said he worked without stop for a year because "there is a great demand for coal in the country." [3]

PC imagery vs. Hard Reality

DEAD MEN continues next page

TRANSITIONS

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Transitions is a bi-monthly publication of the National Coalition of Free Men (NCFM). It is intended to be an educational forum for the articulation of new ideas on social issues affecting men and boys. The views expressed in *Transitions* do not necessarily represent the opinions of the National Coalition of Free Men, its Board of Directors, or Board of Advisors. All original articles are protected by the copyright laws of the United States of America. NCFM invites others to republish original material and articles which appear in *Transitions*, provided that credit is given to NCFM along with the address of NCFM and the date of the *Transitions* issue. A copy of the publication must be provided to NCFM. Any republished works appearing in *Transitions* will be clearly identified and should not be republished further without permission from the author or the publisher.

Send direct correspondence to the editor: **Jason Leatherman, jwleath@yahoo.com**. You can leave a message on our toll-free answering machine: 888-223-1280. This answering machine is checked once a week and serves the entire United States. You can also call our office on Long Island, New York: 516-482-6378. Send email to: **ncfm@ncfm.org**. URL: **www.ncfm.org**. NCFM also sponsors a private members-only discussion forum at 'Yahoo!', the homepage of which can be found at **groups.yahoo.com/group/ncfm**. To join the discussion group, send a blank e-mail to **ncfm-subscribe@yahoogroups.com**. You may be sent a return e-mail asking you to confirm your NCFM membership.

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Dead Men

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When terrorists attacked the Twin Towers on September 11, 2001, the politically correct term “firefighters” applied only to dead firemen. The New York City firefighter death toll from that horrendous day was men 343, women 0. America as a gender-neutral society seems wonderful and long overdue until someone gets hurt.

But it’s an old story. Remember the sinking of the Titanic? Among the survivors, 94 percent of first-class passengers and 81 percent of second-class passengers were women. A modern take on the gallant phrase, “Women and children first,” coincided with the release of the movie, *Titanic*. The joke was: “How long can a feminist hold her breath?”

Most of our country’s recent work-related deaths occur in construction, agriculture, transportation and law enforcement. White men routinely account for more than 70 percent of the fatalities; Hispanic men, 15 percent of male workplace deaths; and male African American workers, 10 percent. Female workplace fatalities average less than 8 percent of the total.

Ironically, the controversial Violence Against Women Act, or VAWA, is based on making the workplace safer for women. When the multibillion-dollar VAWA was first passed in 1994 under President Bill Clinton, critics pointed out that relatively few women experienced job-related “assaults and violent acts,” a key category used in granting VAWA federal authority under the Commerce Act. In fact, only about 2 percent of all assaults and violent acts involved women. Incidents in this category include “violence by persons, self-inflicted injury and assaults by animals.” The figure remains nearly the same today.

Nonetheless, our federal legislators renewed VAWA late last year, and, in the process, condoned a millennia-old social norm: men are expendable. Yet imagine the reaction if one were to suggest affirmative action or a “Violence Against Men Act” to bring about true equality in the workplace?

Of course, men can only be victims of other men, and not societal injustice. A letter from a woman printed in the *Houston Chronicle* shortly after the Sago Mine

deaths cited a trite feminist excuse: “Men have all the power; therefore, men are to blame for the miners’ deaths.” An apparent contradiction escapes her: if men truly had all the power, then women would surely work the coal mines. Unless, of course, men live by less self-serving principles than do women.

Perhaps a lack of responsibility to the production of goods furthers self-indulgence among modern women. Although most retail stores (75 percent by one estimate) cater to women and girls, men largely build the stores and provide the raw materials and transportation for the goods, including the fuel, trucks and jets involved and in the maintenance of same.

The woman’s comment in her letter reveals feminism’s reprehensible tendency to encourage a primal narcissism among followers. And once having succumbed, they are incapable of acknowledging, let alone expressing gratitude, for the millennia of sacrifices made by men on behalf of women.

Mike Spaniola writes political commentary and has been an NCFM member since 1993. He lives in central Colorado. The original version of this article first appeared January 18, 2006, on mensactivism.org.

[1] <http://www.bls.gov/iif/oshwc/cfoi/cftb0193.pdf>

[2] http://www.forbes.com/work/2006/01/04/coal-dangerous-jobs-cz_cc_0104dangerousjobs.html

[3] http://www.asianews.it/view_p.php?l=en&art=2652

Volunteers Needed Please Help !!

WEBMASTER - NCFM needs someone to take over the operation and maintenance of our new website. This is an important job that requires an eye for content, good judgment, and responsibility. Our web site is the face of our organization, so this is an opportunity to make a great contribution. If interested, please contact Mike Rother at MichaelGRother@GMail.com.

MEN's HOTLINE - NCFM is in need of someone to operate our “hotline”. What this means is that you would get about one call every week or two from someone needing assistance. You should be familiar with the court system as well as men’s resources and be able to offer some support to callers. All calls are returned COLLECT, so you won’t incur any costs. If this sounds like something you’d like to try, please contact Naomi at 516-482-6378 or susansusansusan@hotmail.com.

The Antidote Within

Recovering From Pain

By David Dnalsi Malaga

You have been poisoned. Acknowledge it.

Once you experience divorce firsthand you are no stranger to pain. Maybe you've lost your home. Or perhaps you were betrayed by the love of your life. Maybe your own life was threatened. Or your bank accounts were stolen. Maybe lies were told about you and your children were taken from your life. Maybe no lies were told about you and you still lost access to your children.

I don't know what happened in your case. But I do know that I have yet to meet the person who has experienced divorce firsthand and didn't come out differently.

For many of us it is a defining failure, if not the defining failure, of our lives. It is the realization that the single most important aspect of our social unit- the family, has been broken. Not destroyed, but changed forever from that day of divorce onward.

You may think that perhaps I am being too harsh. Divorce is, after all, more common and more accepted than ever before. But don't kid yourself- divorce in terms of statistical and societal trends is one thing; it is entirely another thing when the kingdom being torn asunder is your own.

The poison can enter in many forms. A broken heart can turn into a protected shell, not allowing anyone close enough to hurt again. By losing one's children and being forced into the roll of a part time Dad, you can learn to hate the system that stole your children's childhood from you. Or being forced to pay alimony while your co-parent keeps the home and has her boyfriend move in to what used to be your home- this too, is a form of poison. The legal bills, the presumption of guilt because you are the guy, the need for you to work year round while she gets summers off- all of these situations understandably create resentments which can open the door to a dangerous accumulation of poisons.

Poison can take innumerable shapes, from gender prejudice to outright

lies and betrayal. We all have or will have, at one time or another, been pierced by some unknown, unseen arrow that tests us in ways that school never prepared us for. For some it is the burden of a terrible loss, or an addiction experienced by a loved one, or a sickness without a cure...or the death of a marriage.

The fact that poison has been given to you is not the question.

The question is, what will you do about it?

The easiest way, and most dangerous by far, is to simply ignore the poison. It is like a cancer. It will silently destroy you from the inside out if you ignore it. Ignoring it is of course, a very natural human reaction. In fact, ignoring it is precisely when poison can do the most damage to you.

For many of us, we've just been wiped out by divorce. Probably wiped out emotionally and financially. If you give in now to the poison cocktail of cynicism and hate, you will not be able to regain who you once were.

The antidote is simple, but it is not easy. In fact, it's the only known cure that works.

Find someone to help. The only antidote comes from within.

Someone out there needs your help. And you may need to help them probably more than they need your help. I know this sounds totally counterintuitive, but it's the only way I know of to reclaim your soul.

Find someone who is sick or hurt and needs a visit. Send a card to someone that needs their spirits lifted. Volunteer at a soup kitchen. Give a bum 5 minutes of your time and really talk to him. Dare to help a friend who is silently agonizing through a divorce. Offer a ride to someone who can no longer drive.

Social injustice abounds. Children are put into slavery. Innocent people are accused of rape and murder and sentenced to life. People are tortured and incarcerated without even being charged with a crime.

Innocent men are accused of child abuse and lose their own children- and then when the truth comes out, after the damage is done, there is no penalty to the accuser for lying. There is no lack of people to help or causes to become associated with. Dare to get involved. Dare to feel someone else's pain and acknowledge their challenges, issues and even agony.

No one doubts that we live in a world which needs to be changed- the only question seems to be where to start. Start by simply doing that which can be done to positively change someone's day.

This world, after all, did not betray you. Perhaps only one person did. You are doing yourself a lifetime of disservice by putting every new encounter into one general classification of mistrust. Go forward with your eyes wide open but know, really know, that there are wonderful, amazing, caring and beautiful people out there.

The preceding chapter has been selected from the forthcoming title When The Dance is Done- A Divorce Survival Guide For Men by David Dnalsi Malaga.

Malaga is the writer's chosen pen name, who in real life is a Father first and foremost, and a publishing executive secondarily. The author may be reached by writing his publisher at michaelL@towerpub.com.

What's Happening??

National Coalition of Free Men News

NCFM-LA CHAPTER REPORT

(by Marc Angelucci)

5/29/06: Contra Costa Times printed NCFM-LA's submission correcting the newspaper's editorial that cited myths about which gender is more violent in dating relationships. www.contracostatimes.com/mld/cctimes/news/opinion/14682203.htm

6/3/06: NCFM-LA wrote to the City Attorney providing domestic violence data on male victims and female perpetrators and requested the City Attorney stop telling people (as they did to a male victim NCFM-LA is working with) false statistics on male victims.

6/8/06: Mountain Valley News printed NCFM-LA's submission refuting the domestic violence myths cited by feminists in a previous article. www.mvnnews.com/past%20papers/060806/6-8%20ebook.pdf

6/13/06: NCFM-LA members launched a week-long sign rally in preparation for the June 20, 2006 fathers' rights rally outside by hitting the streets each day with signage supporting fathers' rights.

6/15/06: Mountain Valley News printed a very positive article on NCFM-LA and its work on men's rights, particularly domestic violence. In a prefacing note, the editor admitted the newspaper cited inaccurate domestic violence statistics. www.mvn.tv/past%20papers/061506/6-15%20ebook.pdf

6/18/06: NCFM-LA members participated in a Fathers' Day beach party, sponsored by the Fathers' Resource Center and other organizations, in which Warren Farrell and Dean Tong were guest speakers.

6/20/06: NCFM-LA members participated in a small rally for fathers' rights outside the Los Angeles County Hall of Administration for Fathers' Day.

6/24/06: NCFM-LA made monetary donations to NCFM's San Diego chapter, the National Center for Men (supporting their Choice for Men lawsuit), and the California Alliance for Families and Children.

6/24/06: NCFM-LA wrote to the American Bar Association about the outdated and false statistics on their website about domestic violence.

6/29/06: NCFM-LA sent a complaint to the Commission on Judicial Performance requesting that Judge S. Patricia Spear be disciplined or removed from the bench for the anti-male abuses of authority in her decision, as reflected in a recent appellate decision that exposed her extreme disregard for the rights of a father and the rights of a child to be raised by his biological father.

6/29/06: Mountain Valley News editor Steve Tobia defended NCFM-LA against Pasadena Star News editor Larry Wilson's attack on Mountain Valley News for covering NCFM-LA and its work with battered men. The editorial, titled "Has the Star News Editor

Crossed the Line?", also confronts the Star News editor for editorial bias and political correctness. See page 14 at www.mvn.tv/past%20papers/062906/6-29%20ebook.pdf

7/9/06: Pasadena City College history instructor Edgar Pacas defended NCFM-LA in a letter that printed in the Pasadena Star News regarding Star News editor Larry Wilson's attack on NCFM-LA and its work with battered men. Pacas' letter stated NCFM helped him balance his course materials on gender and that NCFM is correct about domestic violence, then cited and provided a link to Dr. Martin Fiebert's bibliography. Pacas ends by saying, "Next time I lecture about domestic violence, I'll present Wilson's piece as an example of media inaccuracy, bias and reactionism. Hopefully, this will help students learn not to believe everything they read in the newspaper." www.pasadenastarnews.com/opnyourview/ci_4028409

DVD AVAILABLE FOR NEW DADS

Armin Brott, known worldwide as Mr. Dad, has earned his reputation as America's most trusted dad. His six best selling books cover every stage of fatherhood. Brott is now offering his begin-at-the-beginning guidance for fathers on DVD. Because babies don't come with instructions, Brott's new DVD, "Toolbox for New Dads," is a must-have for

every new and expectant father.

"Toolbox for New Dads" covers everything dad needs to know, from feeding, crying, diapers and sleeping, to his critical role in breast feeding. This unique DVD also acknowledges that many new fathers experience changing emotions, fears, and anxieties; they may even share their partner's post partum depression. "Toolbox for New Dads" helps fathers make sense of this.

"Toolbox for New Dads" is \$29.95, and is available now for Father's Day, at www.mrdad.com/dvd/

SUPPORTING NCFM AFTER DEALNERD

(by Jason Leatherman)

DealNerd, advertised in the last issue, appears to

have gone out of business. To continue supporting NCFM with your on-line purchases, please go to **IGive.com**. See the ad on this page.

Also, remember that NCFM has an association with **Amazon.com**. When you access Amazon via the NCFM web site, NCFM will receive a commission from your purchase. Go to the NCFM bookstore at www.ncfm.org/book-store.php. Click on one of the books listed there. This will redirect you to Amazon. Then, shop and order items normally.

Please bookmark these sites so you'll remember them the next time you shop on-line. I personally shop at Amazon quite a lot, so I put an "Amazon" button on my browser's toolbar. However, the button sends me to the NCFM bookstore so I always

remember to access Amazon through that site.

Your everyday shopping can benefit NCFM!

At **IGive.com**, you can support NCFM while shopping on-line. IGive provides a mall of stores which will contribute a certain percentage of your purchase to your selected charity.

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It's FREE, no invisible costs or tricky obligations. Shop for everyday items at the over 650 stores at the Mall at iGive.com, like Lands' End, Best Buy, and Neiman Marcus. Up to 26% or more of each purchase is donated to NCFM.

Thank you and happy shopping!

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Transitions Needs Your Talent

Transitions is always looking for your contributions in writing on issues affecting men. If you have an article or essay, please submit it for publication. Send all work to : **Jason Leatherman, Editor-in-Chief**, at jwleath@yahoo.com. Please put "Transitions" in the Subject line. Also, see <http://www.ncfm.org/write1.htm>.

Letters to the Editor

Editorial Policy: *NCFM and the Transitions staff welcome letters from readers and will print them as space allows. We reserve the right to edit letters for editorial style and space restrictions but will continue to publish letters in their entirety when possible. Send article responses, corrections, or other comments about the newsletter itself to the Editor: Jason Leatherman at jwleath@yahoo.com. Letters sent directly to the Editor will be addressed "Dear Editor". Send opinions, stories, requests for advice, or other letters to the Webmaster: ncfm@ncfm.org. Letters sent to the Webmaster will be addressed "Dear NCFM".*

DEARNCFM:

A while back somebody posted something on the list in reference to men's competition with other men for women's attentions, affections, etc. being part of the reason why men don't stick up and speak out for each other.

I have a female friend and her husband has cancer. Even though it's very platonic between us, even though they've been separated for many years, there is still love there between them and she and I have dinner every once in a while and I would never in a million years feel good about possibly "stealing" her away from him. I would feel like a vulture and I even sometimes feel bad because of his situation, although, she says I have his blessing in reference to having dinner with his wife because it gives her something to look forward to every once in awhile in her hectic life. Frankly, it's also a chance for me to just sit back and relax and forget all this crap.

So I'm sorry but I don't think I could ever feel good about competing with him for her affections, attention, etc. I even sent him a get well card and I really truly want him to get well. His chances don't look good (doctors gave him less than a year to live) but he might still pull through and I am rooting for him — not for myself.

Like I said, I'm NOT a vulture.

Barry Jernigan

WEBMASTER:

Thanks for writing in. I don't watch the discussion board very closely, so I missed the conversation you're referring to. I'm sure you can understand that there are many opinions within NCFM, and we're all entitled to discuss them. I'm not sure if the person making the point you're talking about was specifically referring to your friend with cancer. Again, I wasn't involved, so I really don't have an informed opinion on the issue. But I can guarantee you that you'll find a variety of viewpoints in NCFM. This is one of the benefits of being involved. And, personally, from what I know about you so far, I'd have to agree that you're not a vulture. Have you raised this point on the discussion list?

DEARNCFM:

Hello. I am hoping someone can help me or point us in the right direction. My husband and I were falsely accused of abusing his 4 year old daughter from his ex-wife. We hired an attorney, went to court, and it was found to be untrue. However, the mom got to walk away with no consequences, and we are now again in debt from attorney fees all due to false accusations. There was no investigation done before any rulings were made, the judge went by what the mom said. Now things are worse. The mom feels she can do whatever she wants and go against court orders. She is trying to keep the child away from us and is starting to turn her against us. Things are spinning out of control, we cannot afford to keep paying this attorney, and going pro-se, well, we always lose. The judge takes what the mom says and goes with it.

Do you have any suggestions for financial help or what we can do?

Marie

WEBMASTER:

Thanks for contacting NCFM. And good luck with your case.

NCFM is a 501c3 educational non-profit organization that studies the ways that sex discrimination affects men. Unfortunately, you are experiencing one of those cases of discrimination now. We will continue to raise awareness about these issues and provide education to whoever will listen about the anti-male discrimination that is pervasive in our society.

However, we are NOT a law firm or a financial aid organization. We can help by doing education about these issues, but we are not equipped to get involved in individual cases legally or financially. Unfortunately for fathers, this is yet another expense involved in having children. We are working to change that, but it is a slow process.

Perhaps you'll consider joining our organization to help with our efforts?

Again, thank you for contacting NCFM. If you have further questions, feel free to contact us.

DEARNCFM:

Hi. I live in Lewiston, ME and am interested in joining some sort of men's rights organization. The deck is stacked against men badly on campus and in most workplaces.

I have two specific questions:

- 1) Are there any meetings near me?
- 2) What are the benefits for me?

How strong is your organization? Can you help protect me if I am getting discriminated against on the job? Does the organization have any clout with lawmakers?

Chris Diaz

WEBMASTER:

Thanks for contacting us. NCFM is a national organization, and you are welcome to join from anywhere in the USA. We have chapters in various locations around the country, but we currently don't have a chapter in Maine. Our nearest chapter would be in New York. We also have a group in Boston that has been working to form a chapter, but so far it hasn't happened yet.

NCFM is the largest men's rights organization in America. There are larger father's-rights group, but they only focus on fathers issues, while we explore all men's rights issues.

If you were to join, you would be welcome to form a chapter in your area. Forming a chapter requires five NCFM members in your area, plus several other procedural steps.

Even if there's no chapter near you, joining NCFM would still allow you to receive our newsletter, *Transitions*, and subscribe to our email discussion group. You could also become involved in projects at the national level, or establish your own projects if the board approves. As a volunteer organization, we are always in need of people who are willing to contribute.

If you find yourself being discriminated against on the job or on campus, your best defense will be knowledge of what to do and how to handle these situations. And, yes, NCFM's newsletter and email discussion group can be VERY helpful in those situations — especially in knowing how to avoid discrimination in the first place. We can also get involved with letter-writing campaigns. However, if you needed to hire an attorney, that would be your own responsibility.

In terms of clout with lawmakers, we do have a professional lobbyist in California. This is an effort of our Los Angeles chapter. And we also engage in organized letter-writing campaigns to legislators all over the country. And, we've had some success with lawsuits in Los Angeles and Minneapolis. However, in general, it is difficult to compete with the enormous power that feminist groups hold over elected officials. But we do what we can.

At this point, it's up to you to decide if you want to join. If you have any more questions, feel free to contact me. If you want to join, you can do so on our website at www.ncfm.org/membership-form.php. I look forward to hearing from you.

DEARNCFM:

I am a former member of NCFM's Washington, DC chapter. Currently, I am

working on a Master's Degree thesis about NCFM. Specifically, I am arguing that NCFM is not a backlash against feminism, but rather is a logical continuation of it.

I was wondering — and I'm happy to pay for it — could I receive all of your back issues of *Transitions*? Also, could I receive minutes of meetings or any other written materials that would show NCFM's historical background?

Also, could you tell me the membership # nationally?

Again, I'm happy to pay for this and would be happy to give a small donation as well. As soon as I'm done with my thesis, I'm probably going to join back up.

Brett Freeman

WEBMASTER:

Thanks for contacting us. All of our back issues of *Transitions* are handled

by Francis Baumli. Feel free to contact him at sudbaum@sbcglobal.net and make arrangement with him to get them.

As to NCFM's history, you can probably get a good amount of info from Tom Williamson and other long-time officers. Although Tom has retired from NCFM, my guess is that he'd be willing to share the history with you. You can contact him at tom1234@starcrest.org.

Meeting minutes are kept by our archivist, Steven Svoboda. You can contact him at arc@post.harvard.edu.

You can also get some brief history of NCFM from our website at www.ncfm.org/about-ncfm.php.

As to our membership numbers, the board of directors of NCFM has decided to keep those confidential. We don't release the details. If you check, you'll find that other non-profit organizations follow the

LETTERS continues next page

Special Thanks Due

Special thanks are in order to the following recent financial contributors. Your donations make a great deal of difference.

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Letters

Continued from Page 9

same practice. This includes NOW, the ACLU, the NRA, and many other non-profits.

DEARNCFM:

I wrote an essay titled, "The Violence Against Women Act and Fascism" which you can view at www.geocities.com/grok_32/v1/LanguageSpecification/Reference/Rants/VAWA_and_Fascism.html. Your organization should either have a link to it, or publish it on your site. As I feel the issues in that essay are critically important to realize a viable democratic republic (assuming that is still possible), I would be happy to let you people use this writing (for free) on your site. I just discovered your site and organization on the Internet, so I may join soon.

I would not try to include my essay in the growing body of literature relevant to the mission to expose male discrimination, if I did not believe it is a substantial contribution. I hope you agree.

John Bergamini

WEBMASTER:

Thank you for contacting us. Yes, we would love to include a link on our site to your essay. We'll need a little time to work with our webmaster to make it happen, but we will definitely add this to our list of item to take care of. Check back in a week or two and you should see the link on our site.

Thanks for allowing us to do this!

DEARNCFM:

I did 10+ years in prison on a false accusation. Look up my new website at www.nojessicaslaws.org and help spread the news. Thanks!

William Anderson

WEBMASTER:

Thanks for contacting NCFM and referring us to your site. I will make sure your URL gets published in the next issue of our newsletter, *Transitions*, most likely in

the "Letters" section. Hopefully you'll see some traffic as a result.

Sorry to hear about your false accusation experience in California. Here's wishing you all the best in your efforts.

EDITOR:

This web site belongs to an organization called Californians Against Jessica's Law. Jessica's Law is apparently a proposed draconian measure that intends to punish those found guilty of sex crimes by forcing them to wear GPS tracking shackles. This has grave implications for those men who are victims of false accusations, like William. If you're a CA resident, please check out this site and remember to vote in November.

DEARNCFM:

I have just read your web site on the female chauvinist movement against men. I am so relieved that there are other men out there who have noticed the same hypocritical double standards that I have. I am surprised how many of the things I have said and thought you articulate almost word for word on your site, so many of the lies that feminism espouses. Things are so bad in Scotland that we are now educating the children in school that all men are potential rapists and wife beaters and women have been struggling to free themselves for hundreds of years. Men in this country are treated like dog dirt who are just there to work till they die and my god if they complain.

The men's movement here is plagued by a feminist riddled media and now government. There are not many men's movement organizations, indeed I am only just joining one myself. Thank god for the Internet or I would never have known about them.

My main point for writing is your point about socialism in Scotland I think it would be fair to say we are a bit more left wing than most of the USA. But feminism was never part of the original left ideology, as you say in your article. Feminists high-jacked socialism and used it as a vehicle. The feminist paradigm had and has nothing

to do with socialism. Indeed any teaching that looks to set people against each other and fracture society is the exact opposite of the goals of socialism.

I was pleased to read in your piece that there are women who agree with our point of view about feminism and its lies and hidden agenda (well now their agenda seems more clear: blame and hate men for every thing, hold women responsible for nothing but give them rights to everything). But we must not let the feminist propaganda polarize and make our arguments become as extreme as theirs, then we just become like the feminists. I would also like to say that I don't think anything you wrote was extreme, far from it, and I am in no way saying tone down what you are saying or doing, indeed the exact opposite.

Once again I would like to say it's a great boon to know there are other like minded men out there and lets work towards a world where we all live with respect for each other, men and women alike, together united.

Bruce Crawford

WEBMASTER:

Thanks for contacting us and for letting us know a little about what it's like in Scotland. I've heard that things are pretty bad in Europe, Australia, and Canada, and they've also been going in the wrong direction here in the U.S. It seems the entire English-speaking world is being infected with feminism. We've had some successes in the U.S. since September 11, 2001, when many people realized that we still need real men in the world, which is a good thing. But, the trend in our family courts is not getting better. So, it's a mixed bag here.

At any rate, good luck to you in your effort to find and join a men's rights organization. Stay with it!

DEARNCFM:

I thought I would let you know that there is now a Web site geared toward men who believe they are at risk of being falsely accused of domestic abuse. It advocates the use of surveillance to thwart false

allegations, and provides an extensive list of products (miniature and hidden recorders and transmitters) that men can use — undetected — to prove who the true aggressor in the relationship is.

Check it out. It's called **DontMakeHerMad.com**.

Thanks! Also, if you know of anyone who has personal experience with being falsely accused (or being threatened with a prospect of a false allegation), please encourage them to visit the site and tell their story in our discussion board. I've already told mine as the first message.

John Dias

DEARNCFM:

The Men's movement will come to a screeching halt if the torch isn't passed to the next generation of men. These will be men who have been brainwashed for decades by the media and the education system to see their maleness as only negative. The movement will fizzle and die if we don't educate young men to the perils they face. Why should young men believe only their behavior needs alteration?

We should focus on educating and recruiting university men. These young men have some awareness of the Lawrence Summers episode, the Duke University mess, the lack of free speech and debate on their own campuses, and the lurking danger of being charged with sexual harassment for the slightest indiscretion. They will provide the spark and energy to bring the issues to the forefront. They are the future lawyers, judges, CEOs, and politicians.

I have no experience in these areas, but I have a few ideas that we might attempt as individuals and a group.

1. Donate subscriptions to fraternities and university libraries.

2. Give them bumper stickers.

I hope someone with more knowledge and experience will write an article or form a committee.

Charles Jones
Chandler, AZ

WEBMASTER:

Believe it or not, NCFM has done this before — outreach to students on college campuses at various times in our

history. We did this about 10 years ago when I was with the Northern California chapter, and I know the LA chapter has done it off and on too. In fact, the current president of the LA chapter is a recent law school graduate who got recruited in this way. I've heard stories about the same thing in Boston and NY.

Anyway, college men DO know what is happening to them. Most of them are just keeping quiet for now to get through college, and will "wake up" to the issue once they graduate. Word is getting out and making a difference. However, personally, if I were still in college, I'd keep my mouth shut too just to get through and graduate. Once I got the diploma, that's when I would start making a fuss.

At any rate, word about men's issues IS getting out, and it's becoming more mainstream all the time. Have you noticed?

DEARNCFM:

I am a longtime member of NCFM and a donor. Also, Jen has been kind enough to let me write movie reviews for *The Male Voice*, the newsletter of the NY chapter of NCFM.

NCFM does many good things, so it would be an honor to have a link from your site. Could you please add a link to **www.mensmovieguide.com** on your links page at **www.ncfm.org/links.php**? It is up to you, but I would guess that it would go under "5. Directories and Search Engines".

Men's Movie Guide is not just a soap box for men's issues, but it also provides a service to help men's activists (and men with self-esteem) pick good movies to watch. You will notice that I already have a link to NCFM on my front page.

Thanks and keep up the good work.

Paul Givens

DEARNCFM:

I am writing to ask if you are aware of any battered men's shelters open here in the U.S.? If so would you have contact information available to give to me?

Tammi Coffey-Abbott

WEBMASTER:

Thanks for asking. The only shelter that accepts men that I know of is the Valley Oasis Family Violence Shelter in Lancaster, CA. But there is a list of resources for battered men at **www.batteredmen.com/bathelpnatl.htm**. In general, it is very difficult for male victims of domestic violence to find any services at all. If you have any additional questions, feel free to contact us.

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Contact Deborah Watkins at NCFMdfw@aol.com or 972-445-MALE (6253) to place your order. Please allow 2-3 weeks for delivery.

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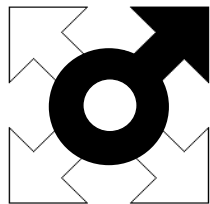
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