

# TRANSITIONS

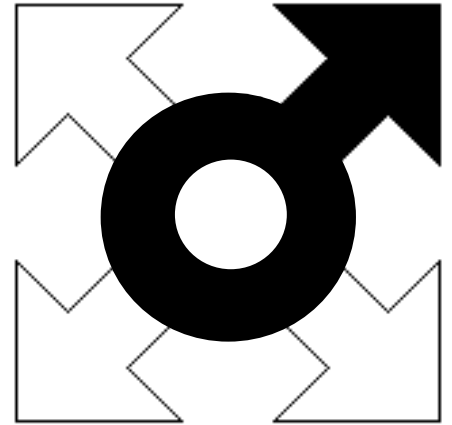
JOURNAL OF MEN'S PERSPECTIVES

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## Men's Day at Oakton College

Oakton Community College in Illinois hosted their 14th annual Men's Day conference on Sunday, Nov. 19. Best-selling author and men's rights advocate Warren Farrell was their headliner. There's a short web page for the event at <http://www.oakton.edu/news/colrel/mensday10-17.htm>.

Following are reports by two NCFM members who attended. NCFM would like to thank Oakton for their support of men's issues.

Tim Goldich:

I never miss Men's Day at Oakton College. There's nothing else like it anywhere in the Chicago area. And this year the remarkable Warren Farrell was keynote speaker!

For me Men's Day began the day before when I met Deborah Watkins for dinner. It is an amazing experience to spend time with a woman who knows men's issues (and is a Star Trek fan to boot!).

By the time I arrived at the auditorium where Dr. Farrell spoke (I was delayed making a DVD copy of a Star Trek episode for Deborah), the room was nearly full. But Deborah had gotten there early and taken a seat up front and saved one for me.

I had twice before attended Dr. Farrell's Esalen workshop, but that was a number of years ago and I wasn't sure if he'd

remember me. He did though, and after reading a one-page download of *Loving Men, Respecting Women: The Future of Sexual*

*Politics* (a book of mine that's in the final stages of polishing) he volunteered to write a book-cover blurb without my even having to ask!

Throughout the day I was reminded of the old saying: "Eighty percent of life is just showing up." Things happen when you put yourself out there. I made contact with a number of potential new NCFM members and possible allies in the fight to add a male voice to sexual politics. It was great to spend the day surrounded by people open to the male perspective.

But Men's Day wasn't over yet. Dr. Farrell invited me to join him for dinner, along with Deborah and an amazing family that had attended Men's Day as well -- daughters included. Chris, the head of this family, had had dealings with the family court system and is dedicated to exposing the corruption therein. Two of his kids, Raquel and Chris Jr. attend the University of Illinois and they are currently petitioning the U. of I. to add a men's studies course to their curriculum. So I volunteered to get involved in that as well.

I wish there were more days like Men's Day at Oakton College.

### A Woman's View of Men's Day

Deborah Watkins:

A Men's Day! The 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Men's Day, no less! I was so surprised and pleased when I read that Warren Farrell would be the keynote speaker at Oakton College's annual Men's Day celebration in Chicago this year.

I was pleased not only to have the chance to see Warren, and I was pleased to see that any college had the "testicles" to have an entire day to celebrate men.

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## *Editor's Comment*

On one hand, I'm glad the Democrats achieved victory in the November elections. With the Iraq war going so badly and the 109th Congress stinking to high heaven, it's not surprising that the Republicans lost. Still, I worry about what it could mean for men. After all, Democrats are the big supporters of feminists. Warren Farrell and Rich Zubaty reveal this about Democrats in their books.

When picking a candidate to vote for, Democrat or Republican, I'm sure everyone in NCFM avoids those who support feminist ideology. Not all candidates will reveal their feminist mindsets openly, however. Perhaps there are other signs that we can look for which indicate if a politician will be bad for men or the country overall. Here are some generalizations I've observed.

As we've seen recently, Republicans can be money-oriented. This leads to corruption and cozy relationships with corporations. For example, they resist envi-

ronmental reforms for fear of hurting the economy. They are great at business, but tend to be less educated about social issues. So, when confronted with gender politics, they fall back on their chivalrous instincts. Watch out for Republicans with no experience in tackling social issues.

Democrats, on the other hand, are more socially oriented. They buy their votes by promising handouts to segments of the population such as women. They can cling to a liberal agenda even at the expense of the greater good for the country. Even at the expense of common sense, for that matter. Watch out for Democrats with such an agenda.

So men do not have many friends in either court, but at least the Republicans do not have set policies of discrimination against them. Democrats, feminists, and the politically correct crowd rely heavily on society's willingness to neglect men. If men were not seen as an enemy, these groups

couldn't make themselves look like champions by beating them down.

For now, however, we need some Democrats in power to get the country back on track. And so men will have to take it on the chin for a few more years. But then they always have, for the greater good.

Chivalry is still programmed into the minds of many Western men. When society calls on them to suffer, whether the cause is just or unjust, men feel that they must do it without complaining. However, we in the men's movement maintain that although men are strong and can take the abuse, they shouldn't have to. And for this idea we are willing to suffer the resentment of society. For this, I salute all of you.

Happy new year, everyone.

Ever Yours in the Cause,

*Jason Leatherman*

## Men's Day

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But what surprised and pleased me the most was seeing that this would be the 14<sup>th</sup> time that they had done this.

So, still on my NCFM high from my time in California this September, I happily emailed Warren to ask if he thought this event would be good for me to attend. He not only said yes, but invited me to be his guest!

You see, women are allowed at Men's Day, but only if they are the guest of a man that is attending. This does not bother me at all. It delights me. The whole point is that they are celebrating men – giving them a day that is all about them, their health and what they can do to have fulfilling lives. It is NOT about what women think, or even want. At least not directly. Because I assure you, what healthy women want is for the men in their lives to be happy, healthy, affirmed and fulfilled.

And I got a very delectable taste of that feeling, with a topping of Warren Farrell!

My Men's Day started Saturday evening with a nice first-time-to-meet-him dinner with Tim Goldich. If you do not already know who Tim is, you will soon. He is ready to start an NCFM chapter in Chicago. And there is no better place or time to do it. There is so much male-positive energy in Chicago. I was delighted to experience it – if only for a weekend.

Tim and I talked about his impending book(s). He let me read a synopsis of what will be his first book on the topic of our society learning to love men and respect women. NCFM will keep you posted on when you can get this book!

It was nice to start the weekend with some NCFM progress, and meeting someone who is in touch with our issues. Tim really helped me get in the mood for the next day.

Sunday morning, I arrived early to check in at Men's Day. I happily allowed a few men to "cut" in front of me in the registration line. "After all," I told them,

"it's your day! Please, go ahead." They seemed to think that was pretty cool.

Once checked in, I immediately found Warren and was welcomed with a very warm hug. The day officially started at 9:00am with a half hour of drumming. Now, this is something I've never gotten to experience and it was a big treat! It was a unique and heart-warming way to begin the day: with a rhythm that just sang "Men are amazing, wonderful, loving, spirited, alive..." I'll admit I almost cried from the energy of it. I was SO ready to spend some time letting it be all about men.

There were about 200 people in the room. I would guess that 7 to 10 of us were women. I loved being the minority. I could almost smell the testosterone.... It made me high.

Warren's keynote "speech" was not – a speech, that is. Warren doesn't profess, he involves. He began on stage, speaking a bit about Men's Day and its

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# Men's Day

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purpose. But he quickly left the stage to get with us, to include us, to have a conversation. He spoke of choices, how throughout history, neither sex had many of them. Both sexes had roles – roles designed for survival.

The point I liked the most was this: The gender roles that existed prior to “women’s liberation” were more about survival of the species than anything else. These roles benefited society – not the individual.

Feminism has spent over 30 years shattering the idea of what a “real” woman is, and allowing women to be individuals rather than cogs in the wheel of humanity.

“Now is the time for all good men to come to the aid of...” themselves! It is way past time to change the definition of a “real” man, and allow men to be individuals rather than cogs in the wheel. These are not the exact words Warren used of course, but how I choose to express what I received from him that morning.

He proceeded to guide us through an exercise that allowed us to examine our fathers’ choices. What would our father

have done with his time if he could really have done anything he wanted, rather than selecting a life that would provide for his family? This question doesn’t do justice to the exercise. Let’s just say there should have been a “Kleenex alert” – and I mean for the men, not just myself.

If the day ended there, it would have been well worth the \$90 registration fee. But it didn’t! There were three breakout sessions, covering topics from “Male / Female Communication” to “Work / Life Choices” to “The Value of Play”. It was very difficult to choose, unless Warren was holding a session, of course!

At the end of the day, we all re-gathered in the main room. Warren led the wrap up. We all sat in a huge circle to see each other. It was enchanting how many people in the room no longer seemed like strangers – after only one day and perhaps even just one conversation with that person. We all had the chance (30 seconds) to express what we felt was the most important thing we got from the day.

I tried desperately to write them all down without missing even one. It was

marvelous to hear the different perspectives. We had men there from ages 15 – 85 and of course a few women remained even after the full day. These “women” included one very lovely 15-year-old girl with something remarkable to say.

Sophie was touched by Warren’s point that a male experiences as many as 150 points of potential rejection from the first contact to “getting the girl”. She made a commitment to be willing to take more risks, to allow boys to be released from some of the pressure, to consider what it’s like for them to have to take all the actions. Wow! If only that were contagious!

But wait, there’s more! I was treated to dinner with Warren, Tim and the incredible family that included that same 15-year-old girl. We ate, talked, shared and delighted each other for almost three hours.

I’ll admit I felt a bit of separation anxiety when I had to drop Warren off at his hotel. But the 20 minutes extra I was allowed to be with him one-on-one is time I will treasure. Throughout the day, I was

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## TRANSITIONS

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# Media Digest

with Mike Spaniola

The Democrat's Congressional victory last fall leaves few doubts that our message once again failed to reach voters. Largely by keeping the national focus on the war in Iraq, Democrats vaulted the strident iconoclast U.S. Rep. Nancy Pelosi into a prominent House leadership role.

Pelosi played the "female card" during the midterm campaign, stating, with no trace of hyperbole or hypocrisy: "Maybe it will take a woman to clean up the House and a new speaker to restore civility." Count on such histrionics to get much worse. Pelosi's role as Speaker of the House will have mainstream media quoting her often and presenting each pronouncement as the truth, and nothing but the truth.

While some Democrats are responsive to men's issues, entrenched Democratic Party leadership will continue to pursue an anti-male agenda. And that certainly will include mainstream media, as the following excerpt notes.

**The Pelosi News Networks**  
By Brent Bozell III

[www.townhall.com/Columnists/BrentBozellIII/2006/11/10/the\\_pelosi\\_news\\_networks](http://www.townhall.com/Columnists/BrentBozellIII/2006/11/10/the_pelosi_news_networks)

*If we rigidly applied truth-in-advertising laws to the national media in their coverage of the 2006 campaign, we would have first declared that the stuff between the commercials wasn't "news" as much as a boatload of free infomercial advertising for the Democrats. The news reports should have led with the sentence, "I'm Nancy Pelosi, and I approved this newscast."*

**Having Climbed Out Onto a Limb That Cracks ... how should a newspaper crawl**  
b a c k ?  
By Jack Shafer

<http://www.slate.com/id/2151507/>

*This week, New York columnist Kurt Andersen adds another 2,000 words to the din of criticism savaging the New York*

*Times for its coverage of the Duke rape case. ...*

But I'm not here to re-review the Duke case. My topic is grander: Why is it so hard for newspapers that have climbed out onto a limb in reporting a story to turn back once they hear the wood cracking? Instead of announcing their errors in judgment, most newspapers reverse course by ignoring the flawed stories in their back pages and taking a new tack — as if those old stories had never been written. Inside the trade, correcting a previous story in a new story without acknowledging the past error is called row-back.

Part of the problem is practical — nobody outside a few press critics working online want today's newspaper to annotate yesterday's flawed news and add a few new facts. The news moves, and readers rightly expect newspapers to move with it. But when a newspaper is instrumental in shaping the press coverage of a news topic, and it turns out to have botched the story on several levels, an explicit course correction would benefit everybody.

**The Death of Manliness**  
By Hans Zeiger

[http://www.michnews.com/artman/publish/article\\_14356.shtml](http://www.michnews.com/artman/publish/article_14356.shtml)

*[Former U.S. Rep.] Mark Foley (R-Fla.) is a sick man in a sick culture. He apparently was abused by a priest as a child, and then he, too, abused House pages (how extensively is uncertain) before it ruined him. By the way, as his attorney affirmed on Tuesday, Mark Foley "is a gay man." Aside from the political tides generated by Foley's resignation, there are much larger cultural tsunamis swashing round.*

*The Foley scandal intensifies the strain on relationships between youth and adults. It is particularly damaging for relations between old men and young men, or between men and boys, or between young men and boys. Not only must we be concerned by the crusty old man getting too close with the delicate young lady, we must*

*now be appalled by a male congressman who sets friendly terms with his male page. Where once a fraternal fellowship was revered in the rise and passage of generations, there is a gap. We must be suspect of a man who wishes to spend time with youth in our age, because he is likely out for abduction.*

**Reuters: Millions of Cameroon girls suffer from breast ironing**

<http://www.rightnation.us/forums/index.php?showtopic=106455>

*YAOUNDE, Cameroon (Reuters) — Worried that her daughters' budding breasts would expose them to the risk of sexual harassment and even rape, their mother Philomene Mounsang started 'ironing' the girls' bosoms with a heated stone.*

**Note:** According to my 2005 World Almanac, the Republic of Cameroon has a population of 16 million people. I wonder if the reporter and editors even bothered to do the math before making such an outlandish claim about "millions of Cameroon girls." Feminists in this country once claimed 150,000 young women died of anorexia each year — a figure nearly four times the number of traffic deaths at the time. As one discerning writer (Laura Ingraham) put it, if anorexia death rates been true, then ambulances would have been on college campuses 'round the clock. (There are less than 3,000 annual anorexia-related deaths by most estimates. But feminist respond by saying you don't care about dying women and how many deaths are OK before you act, and so on.)

**Why Church and Men Don't Mix**  
by Doug Giles

[www.townhall.com/columnists/DougGiles/2006/12/16/why\\_church\\_and\\_men\\_don%E2%80%99t\\_mix](http://www.townhall.com/columnists/DougGiles/2006/12/16/why_church_and_men_don%E2%80%99t_mix)

*Have you ever asked yourself, "Self, why do churches today look more like the bra*

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# How Some Feminists Try to Justify the Male Suicide Crisis

By Darrin Albert

The high male suicide ratio has been a popular topic of concern for well-known men's rights activists such as Herb Goldberg, Warren Farrell, Roy Schenk, Jack Kammer, and David Thomas. This is rightfully so, since men suffer suicide at a rate around 4x that of women. Not only that, but suicide is one of the best subjective markers to gauge a particular demographic's sense of overall satisfaction, mental health, and happiness in life. In fact, the male suicide rate is an important item that challenges certain myths in society, such as "male power" and "male privilege." However, due to personal experience, it seems that the coteries of extreme feminism are catching on to this reality, and are speaking a different cant and singing a different tune. I have been noticing more and more attempts on their part to "explain" the male suicide rate by incorporating a male-bashing feminist spin on the subject. This is done in two ways. First, many feminists are quick to point out that while more men complete suicide, more women attempt (forgetting, of course, that those who complete suicide are too dead to receive the help they needed). Two, according to some sects of extreme feminism, it seems that the reason given for the gender disparity in completed suicide is not that men, like women, also suffer from problems in a world that is without scrupel. Rather, some feminists (and pro-feminist males) assert that the male suicide rate does not reflect male powerlessness at all but rather the "erosion of male privilege." Behind these innocuous and rosy politically-correct words, however, are indirect meanings that are potentially pernicious. What these folks seem to be essentially saying, I believe, is that a man's motivations for suicide are morally inferior to a woman's reasons. In other words, are we supposed to believe that male suicide reflects men's unmet selfish "wants" and female suicide reflects women's unmet "needs?" Are we supposed to believe that

men only complete suicide due to irrational expectations of "self-serving entitlement" where a male's reasons for suicide are somehow more "selfish" than a woman's reasons? Is male suicide the result of the "evil" patriarchy like everything else men are accused of? I find this male-bashing analyses not only dubious but deplorable and depressing. Once again, as with many other gender issues, women are painted as the victims and men are painted as the oppressor class, which can only reinforce our inadvertant mental justification that "bad men" deserve the bad things that happen to them (such as prison, domestic violence, homelessness, job injuries, and etc.). After all, it is easy to feel little sympathy toward "evil-doers."

When men are painted as an "oppressor class," it is all too easy for some feminists to claim that the many anti-male double standards that exist are justified (because any anti-male sexism that does exist is men's fault). But this is merely one sexist perspective, and as such not all is futile. There are other viewpoints, including masculist interpretations. For example, is it not possible that men may be experiencing an "erosion of rights" as opposed to an "erosion of male privilege?" Is it not possible that men do not have the same freedom to deviate from their emotion-less and restrictive gender roles as women do in the current age? Is it not possible that men face pressure from society to "take it like a man" and not seek help with the same allacrity as a female would? And what about existentialist theory? For example, according to existentialism (phenomenology), we each perceive our own unique realities, and feminism has not the authority to assume arbiter and assert feminist theory as fact in a universe that is without certain meaning. Each of our realities, male and female, are equally deserving of empathy and worthy of understanding without blaming and shaming messages. In sum, I simply think

it is mean-spirited and shame-inducing to undermine a male's tragic reasons for suicide by using negative value-laden judgements like male "power," "privilege," and "patriarchy."

I sincerely hope that these anti-male viewpoints are held by a mere minority and not all feminists are accepting of such a mean-spirited outlook on male suicide. It is also my hope that masculists (those who oppose anti-male bias and restrictive male gender roles) will not fall prey to such politically correct manipulation. Suicide is a tragic thing, no matter what the person's gender is and no matter what the nature of the problem is. Ipso facto, men considering suicide or touched by suicide should receive the same help, understanding, and preventative outreach that women receive, if not more so in these times of such high male suicide rates. It is time to lower the male suicide rate. I don't believe bolstering male shame is the way to go about it. I believe it is time to do away with sexist and one-sided concepts like male "power," "privilege," and "patriarchy." Ergo, these unscientific terms should not be used. This is especially true if we are not also allowed to discuss concepts like female "power," "privilege," and "matriarchy." I believe that BOTH men and women have problems in society and that BOTH men and women are responsible for those problems. I believe men and women are "co-creators of the world" and have evolved together, whether socially or biologically, over the course of thousands of years. I would like to think that I wrote this letter from a place of sadness rather than anger. But many times these two emotions seem to be measuring the same thing: hurt.

*Darrin Albert is a graduate student of psychology.*

# Book Reviews

## By J. Steven Svoboda

### *Gendercide and Genocide*

Edited by Adam Jones. Nashville: Vanderbilt University Press, 2004. [www.vanderbiltuniversitypress.com](http://www.vanderbiltuniversitypress.com). 302 pages. No price on book; website states price is US \$29.95.

Apart from the rarest exceptions (such as the not-to-be-missed *Female 'Circumcision' in Africa: Culture, Controversy, and Change*, edited by Bettina Shell-Duncan and Ylva Hernlund), edited volumes tend to be hit-and-miss affairs. It's hard enough simply to find an appropriate topic, to accumulate contributions that are varied enough to provide interest but not so different that they work at cross-purposes, and to publish the work. Maintaining a razor-like focus as can easily be done with an individually authored book by definition becomes almost impossible with an edited volume.

Editor Adam Jones does just about as good a job with *Gendercide and Genocide* as can reasonably be done. (Full disclosure: I have been personally acquainted with Adam for years and am a strong supporter of his work.) The book manages for the most part to walk the fine line between being too diffuse in focus and suffering from a "me-too" tone. While this is necessarily a somewhat academically oriented book, it still has plenty that will be of interest for any follower of the gender transition movement and/or human rights.

Contributing three of the eleven pieces himself, Jones verges dangerously close to dominating his own edited volume. Yet this decision is justified by Jones' undeniable skill as a researcher, writer, and creative thinker. The founder of award-winning "Gendercide Watch" ([www.gendercide.org](http://www.gendercide.org)) has never been afraid to challenge received gender wisdom or long-held human rights perspectives, while at the same time never stinting on his footnotes. Jones' book-opening contribution, bearing the same title as the volume, starts us off with a bang. The author questions subtle yet telling ways in

which we frame discussions, such as by making "women and children" equivalent to the civilian population and discussing "battle-age males" as if all persons bearing a Y chromosome are potential paratroopers whose murder can almost be justified as a wartime precaution. (Why Jones adroitly asks in a footnote, do we not speak of "rape-age women"?) As David Buchanan also stresses in his piece, often the first stage in acts of genocide — in Kosovo, in Armenia — in Nazi Germany — is acts of "gendercide" against males perceived as potential soldiers.

Evelin Gerda Lindner follows with a piece that mostly says "me too" to the Jones opener. Oystein Gullvag Holter contributes a superb, thought-provoking piece on gender and sex, noting that gender was remarkably absent from discussion of

the 118 men aboard the sunken submarine whom Russian leaders left to die in 2000 by failing to call for international assistance until it was too late. Her unfortunate suggestion that the nuclear family represents "a segregation mechanism comparable to apartheid" is redeemed on the following page by the perceptive observation that gender stereotypes hide genuine gender roles, particular in war. Holter advises that skepticism is warranted of claims that 99% of the world's violence is performed by men. Even if men are more involved in violence than women, there is usually a shared understanding between the sexes about it. She also rightly critiques the "process of collective denial" that alleges that men cannot be raped. United Nations acknowledgement of men's issues,

## Special Thanks Due

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she aptly quips, "is a 'cide' issue, not a 'side' issue."

Jones' second piece comes next, providing a blood-curdling picture of the unbelievable horror and the sociopolitical roots of the Rwandan genocide. Jones calls for and also starts to provide a gender-inclusive analysis of this unspeakable chapter in our race's seemingly interminable history of inhumanity. He shreds jaw-dropping claims that women have suffered the most (!) from Rwanda because the genocide mainly exterminated males, leaving many females mourning male family members. He also provides compelling sketches of a few of the many female architects of the carnage in Rwanda. "When women are provided with positive and negative incentives similar to those of men," Jones notes, "their degree of

participation in genocide, and the violence and cruelty they exhibit, will run closely parallel to those of their male counterparts."

Lawyer David Buchanan follows with a stunning call for equal treatment of men in human rights, forcefully condemning Amnesty International's refusal to adopt a somewhat mildly phrased resolution supporting fair treatment for men. Buchanan notes that both Amnesty and the other leading international human rights watchdog, Human Rights Watch (both of whom I have worked for), have flinched from clearly documenting large-scale patterns of violence against males during armed conflict. Why, the author asks, do human rights advocates closely examine the precise motives of those who kill males (were they killed because they are men, or because they are potential

conscripts for the other side?) while finding similar hand-wringing unnecessary when it is persons of the female persuasion who are dying horrible deaths?

It is Augusta C. DelZotto who turns in this remarkable volume's most spellbinding contribution, providing an absolutely riveting analysis of black male gendercide in the United States. We learn that both the US Veteran's Administration and the Federal Housing Authority poured millions of dollars into suburban development of good-quality, low-mortgage homes, homes which were in general available only to white ex-soldiers. Later, the notorious "man in the house" rule of the US' Aid to Families and Dependent Children (AFDC — a program for which I used to provide legal help to applicants) routinely barred assistance to any applicant living under the same roof as an adult man.

Thanks are due to DelZotto and to Jones for opening a door on another unfortunate chapter in the saga of the US' relation with blacks, particularly black males.

From here, the average quality of the articles declines a bit. Stefanie S. Rixecker evidently wants to be the most challenging contributor but ends up simply being the weakest, turning in a poorly reasoned speculation that the Human Genome Project may constitute a form of genocide against gays and lesbians. Stuart Stein brings a welcome rigor to his analysis of the relationship of sex-selective killings to genocide but for my money, it doesn't pay off as we might like. Why is the author even taking the time to contribute to a book on a topic that he considers a dead end?

R. Charli Carpenter follows as a representative of what I can only term the feminist establishment, though she herself would no doubt bitterly resist that term. Yet Carpenter is incisive and brilliant, scoring many good points, particularly in the closing pages of her contribution. Why is the term "men and boys" frequently juxtaposed to the phrase "women and children"? How is it, she asks, that older boys are not defined as children? She intriguingly suggests that the state itself could be conceived of as an "honor system," and rightly takes Jones to task for blurring issues by deliberately conflating sex and social gender.

## 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](mailto:MichaelGRother@GMail.com).**

**MEN's HOTLINE - NCFM is in need of someone to operate our "hotline". 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](mailto:susansusansusan@hotmail.com).**

**ASSISTANT EDITOR OF TRANSITIONS - The editor could use some help in the production of Transitions. You would start by calling potential authors and soliciting articles. You would take on more tasks as your time and interest allow. This could include proofreading, graphical arts, or pursuing any other ideas you may have for improving Transitions. If interested, please contact Jason Leatherman at [transitions@ncfm.org](mailto:transitions@ncfm.org).**

**REVIEWS continues next page**

## Reviews

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Jones follows with a rebuttal to the previous two pieces, which is cogent yet (perhaps inevitably) has an air of a re-run of previously heard arguments. You have to give Adam Jones credit, though, for maintaining his fiery commitment to his struggle to draw attention to male human rights victims. The volume-closing piece by Terrell Carver is an unenlightening piece of drone-think by a token feminist. His work is a peculiar choice to close an engaging, thought-provoking, highly recommended volume on human rights violations that discriminate based on gender.

### *Keys to the Kingdom*

By Alison A. Armstrong. Sherman Oaks, CA: PAX Programs, Inc., 2003. 208 pages. \$15.95. [www.celebratingmen.com](http://www.celebratingmen.com).

Alison Armstrong, creator of the workshop for women "Celebrating Men, Satisfying Women," has written a most remarkable novel. It is axiomatic that novels, to be successful, must typically depict some striking conflict that engages the reader's attention. *Keys to the Kingdom* manages to succeed both as a work of fiction and as an exposition of Armstrong's engaging gender theories while telling the story of a series of characters that are by and large uniformly nice, likable, and even at times inspiring.

77-year-old Claudia comes from a family that has a tradition, going back fully twenty-five generations, of passing on from mother to daughter a set of teachings about men. However, Claudia had no daughters, and her divorcee granddaughter Kimberlee seemed uninterested in receiving her grandmother's knowledge. So Claudia chooses a woman who attends her yoga classes to be her student and eventually in a series of meetings passes on some of her information to Karen. As a result, Karen's relationship with her husband Mike goes through some remarkable transformations. Later (it is tempting to explain further but I don't want to spoil the plot!) some further, delightfully unexpected benefits flow from the risk Claudia took in passing on her

information to a stranger, contrary to the usual rules followed by her family.

This book is so much more than the sum of its parts. A lot of the theories related by Claudia are freshly formulated, and there are new kernels of wisdom contained in the doctrines. I will share a few to give a flavor for the book:

Men go through a passage Claudia calls the "Tunnel," most commonly in their late thirties or early forties, at a point where they have established themselves in their career. They enter the Tunnel as a "Middle Prince" and come out the other side as a "King." While going through the Tunnel, men distance themselves from those closest to them, so as to be most able to create their own independent identity. After passing through the Tunnel, career becomes less central in a man's self-definition. This passage is sometimes mislabeled a mid-life crisis because it is often a crisis — for the man's *wife*! Kings are wise and primarily

devoted to helping others, and simply will not do anything that does not "interest" them. (pp. 94-95)

Men view their opinions as extensions of themselves, and thus relative to women are more reluctant to express opinions on issues peripheral to them. At the same time, men will more fiercely defend any opinions they do express because they tend to view the opinions as integral to their selves. (pp. 132-33)

Men love to give. *Not* receiving is selfish and receiving is generous. (p. 143)

*Keys to the Kingdom* is likely to bring tears to your eyes, joy to your heart, and fascinating new thoughts to your brain. Don't miss it!

## Letters Campaign

In recent years we have learned that writing letters to media people, advertisers of products, politicians, publishers, etc., can have an effect, especially if there is a group of letter writers willing to mobilize under the direction of a coordinator. We want you to write to our coordinator and volunteer to be contacted to write letters and we would appreciate knowing about any ideas you have for campaigns.

**Please volunteer and write to:**

**Bob McInnes  
NCFM  
P.O. Box 582023  
Minneapolis, Minnesota  
55458-2023**



# CURE YE ! CURE YE ! CURE YE !

## Elixir Of Dad

### Social Fathers As A Net Benefit For The Commonweal

By Wade C. Mackey, Ph.D.

Rule #1: All politics are local.

- Rep. Tip O' Neill

Rule #2: All long-term politics are reproductive strategies.

Rule #3: All effective long term politics camouflage Rule #2.

- Ipsoc Macquire

Sometimes a reminder can trump inspiration. Below is a presentation of known relationships between father-presence and the well-being of children. These relationships have been known for decades. Accordingly, no unique revelation is offered. On the other hand, there are occasions when the stunningly obvious is neither recognized nor acknowledged. Given that a third of children in the U. S. are born without a social father the current euphemism is non-marital births and, every year, another million children are separated from their fathers by divorce, a reminder of the costs of father-absence is probably worthwhile.

FATHER-ABSENCE IS ASSOCIATED WITH:

1. Increased rates of violent crime by their sons grown to adulthood,
2. Increased rates of sexually transmitted diseases contracted by their daughters grown to adulthood,
3. Increased rates of infant mortality,
4. Decreased rates of high school graduation. (1)

Non-technical problems require non-technical solutions. Violent crime, sexually transmitted diseases, infant morbidity, and drop-outs are all non-technical problems and, theoretically, can be addressed with technical solutions: more policemen, more prisons, more medical intervention, or more remedial programs.

However, the costs of these technical solutions are enormous, and their value is problematic. The on-going presence of a father with his biological children is a non-technical event. The costs to the community of fathers staying in residence with their own children is essentially zero. The savings to the community of fathers staying in residence with their own children are quite substantial.

The two underlying problems in the abrasion (divorce) and the preclusion (non-marital births) of fathers are both non-technical phenomena: human relationships and human choices.

Women's choices (having children without a social father and petitioning for

divorce when they are not being psychologically fulfilled by a husband) are driving the statistics which profile father-absence. In the United States, as elsewhere, the commonweal has allowed, if not encouraged, women to enter parenthood without a husband and to jettison a husband if she is not pleased with his efforts as a husband. (2)

Although it is arguable whether or not the commonweal has any abiding interests in the private relationship between a husband and a wife, it is remarkably clear that the commonweal does have an abiding interest in less violent crime, less

ELIXIR continues next page

## Your everyday shopping can benefit NCFM!

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

To create an account to support NCFM, go to:

**[www.igive.com/html/refer.cfm?causeid=1109](http://www.igive.com/html/refer.cfm?causeid=1109)**

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!

**iGive.com**<sup>™</sup>  
Change online shopping for good.

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## Elixir

### Continued from Page 9

disease, healthier infants and better educated citizens.

How or if our commonweal responds to threats to its own viability should be instructive. There is no known automatic thermostat by which a society will correct imbalances or restore its own vibrancy. Dysfunctional societies simply evaporate. To wit: the Shakers, the Ainu,

the Tasmanians, the Ona, and the Yahgan are all footnotes of the human condition.

The United States, as a geographic and political entity, is far too large to simply evaporate. However, groups which systematically reduce father-presence are at a clear demographic disadvantage across generations. Consequently, those sub-groups which jettison the social father will be supplanted by and replaced by those

communities which continue to adhere the father to his children.

#### FOOTNOTES

1. Current data from the U.S. are available from the author: **Waddmac@aol.com**
2. Data from the U.S. and other nations are available from the author: **Waddmac@aol.com**

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## Men's Day

### Continued from Page 3

incredulous to the level of connection that Warren has with other people. This man is much more than he appears, and that's no light statement. He is a gifted psychologist. When he is with you, he really hears you. The questions he asks are so insightful.... I cannot do it justice with words.

After all Warren had done for me already – allowing me to be his guest and to join him at dinner – I certainly didn't deserve more. But in that 20-minute drive, he gave me two major "gems" to take with me on my road to fulfillment. I almost feel I should ask him to send me a bill for the therapy.

My financial analysis of the weekend is this: the benefits absolutely more than outweighed the costs – airfare, hotel, rental car, etc – all well worth it! Thank you Warren, thank you Tim, thank you Chicago and thank you Oakton College! I'll be back!

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## Media Digest

### Continued from Page 4

*and panty department at Sears rather than a battalion of men poised to kick demonic butt?"*

*The lack of men in church is not at all difficult to see. Just pry yourself out of bed on any Sunday morning and go to church. Then, count the number of ladies in the pews and the number of men. The result will more than likely be that you'll get slapped in the face with the Jose Cuervo-like reality that men frequent church about as much as Bill and Hillary dirty dance.*

*So, why do men keep away from church like Kramer does a Snoop Dogg pot party?*

*Here's the veneer-stripped-away answer: going to church has become very dainty. That's right. Church, for most men, has not only become irrelevant, it has also become effeminate. Hanging out in church for most Y-chromosomes seems unmanly,*

*and most men—more than anything (at least for now)—want to be masculine!*

—  
*Mike Spaniola has been an NCFM member since 1993. He lives in central Colorado where he has worked as an editor and reporter.*

***What's Happening??*****National Coalition of Free Men News****DALLAS / FORT WORTH CHAPTER REPORT**

(By Deborah Watkins)

10/23: DFW hosted our illustrious Vice President, Stanley Green. Our President, Deborah Watkins, was honored to have him as the first guest in her new apartment in Irving. She took him to dinner and they reminisced about their adventures in California the month before. As usual, Stanley was a delightful guest.

10/28: Our October chapter meeting was promising. We may have another new member! Still working on it!

11/17: President Deborah Watkins met on the phone with NCFM member Simon Sharp, who lives in Kentucky. Simon is working hard on a project related to child support and alimony, but as it pertains to effects on military personnel — especially retired. He is also interested in trying to start a chapter in his area. Lea Perritt is a long-standing NCFM member in Kentucky as well, and she will be helping Simon. Some of our board members may remember Lea; she attended the 2004 Face-to-Face meeting in Fort Worth. Please look for Simon's contact number on the back cover of this issue under "State Representatives". Or, you may contact him via email at [zipperzapper@bbtel.com](mailto:zipperzapper@bbtel.com).

11/17-20: President Deborah Watkins hopped on a plane and headed to Chicago for the weekend to attend Men's Day at Oakton College on the 19th. While there, she met with local NCFM member Tim Goldich. Tim is looking to start an NCFM chapter in the Chicago area. His contact email is on our back cover on the "State Representatives" list: [tagoldich@hotmail.com](mailto:tagoldich@hotmail.com). Looks like Deborah is getting to be a regular new chapter hound - she's finding them "everywhere!"

11/19: The Men's Day event at Oakton College in Chicago was amazing! President Deborah Watkins was honored to be the guest of Warren Farrell, who was also the keynote speaker at this event. See details of the entire weekend elsewhere in

this issue of *Transitions*, entitled "A Woman's View of Men's Day".

11/21, 11/27: Deborah met by phone with NCFM member Darrin Albert, who is speaking with the psychology department at his university about a men's studies program - or at least a men's studies course. Deborah shared notes and insights with this remarkable man. Here's hoping he makes progress! Darrin received much help from the discussion board, so we feel he was quite prepared for his meeting on 11/28. He is still waiting to see how they respond to the information he brought to them.

**LOS ANGELES CHAPTER REPORT**

(By Marc Angelucci)

NCFM-LA engaged in numerous awareness activities throughout the month of October for Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Several members, led by Joe Miranda, posted flyers all over several college campuses. NCFM-LA participated in RADAR's letter writing campaign to the U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations and joined RADAR's petition regarding the gender-biased "Violence Against Women" report. Ray Blumhorst, with some help from others, drove his NCFM-LA truck and its big signs all over Los Angeles County and all the way to Sacramento and back, parking at numerous government centers such as courts and city halls, distributing NCFM flyers and talking to people.

We also updated the content and photos of our flyer (<http://www.ncfmla.org/ncfmla-flyer.pdf>) and made 500 copies for distribution. Also, throughout October and November, we continued to provide referrals, resources and moral support to men and continued to keep local editors, professors and other community members informed on events related to men's rights.

Other:

10/4/06: Michigan Tech University's newspaper printed NCFM-LA's submission responding to a feminist

professor who made false statements about the motives of NCFM in suing to end discrimination against male victims of domestic violence. The letter corrected the false statements and provided data on domestic violence, and we also wrote to the professor herself as well as the author of the article to make sure they knew our letter was printed. (<http://www.mtulode.com/article.php?articleId=298>)

10/14/06: NCFM-LA members sent a monetary donation to the California Alliance for Families and Children to support their services and other work in Sacramento for men.

10/20/06: *The Northeast Sun* (Eagle Rock, CA), printed NCFM-LA's submission exposing the gender-bias of politicians quoted in the newspaper's article on domestic violence. (<http://www.egpnews.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=browse&id=3&pageid=4704>)

10/22/06: NCFM-LA wrote to Judge Robert Armstrong of the Riverside County Superior Court in California about his gender-biased decision that a woman who disrobed in front of a 14-year-old-boy cannot be prosecuted because the law says "he," and that she does not deserve to have to register as a sex offender. We spoke personally with the prosecutor, who promised to appeal. We will monitor the case and intend to submit an amicus brief. We also wrote to several newspaper editors in response to the article, and we might file a separate lawsuit depending on what happens. ([http://cbs13.com/reference/local\\_story\\_293151106.html](http://cbs13.com/reference/local_story_293151106.html)) Judge Armstrong can be emailed at [judgerwa@juno.com](mailto:judgerwa@juno.com)

11/4/06: Lake County Record-Bee printed NCFM-LA submission thanking them for their article on battered men in Lake County and for acknowledging the need for gender-inclusive language in their coverage of domestic violence. NCFM-LA had been including the Record-Bee in its emails for a long time, and the article may

# News

## Continued from Page 11

have been a result of our keeping them informed (we're not sure). Our thank you letter is at [http://www.record-bee.com/letters/ci\\_4603184](http://www.record-bee.com/letters/ci_4603184)

### SAN DIEGO CHAPTER REPORT

(By Harry Crouch)

Progress was made on our "Tolling Project", the project that would help inmates complete the necessary paperwork to suspend their child support payments while incarcerated. The Career Services Office of Cal Western Law School has shown interest to a proposal we submitted and has tentatively agreed to provide law students to interview the inmates, help them complete the documentation, and process the documentation through the System. Additionally, I was able to briefly meet and interest the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation Chief District Parole Administrator as well as the Director of Division of Community Programs who is based in Sacramento. It appears the offshoot project, which we proposed and facilitated, between the Department of Child Support Services and San Diego Public Defender should be functional in January 2007, or thereabouts.

We've added talking heads and back issues of *Transitions* to the chapter website at

[www.californiamenscenters.org](http://www.californiamenscenters.org).

The nondenominational Safe Faith Place Communities domestic violence information, education, and referral program brought in another large congregation. I'm one of the program's trainers. The program is now serving well over 40,000 families in the San Diego and Oklahoma City area.

One of our members stepped up to fund an Internet radio show that I've wanted to do and been talking about for several months. Now it's just a matter of finding the time to put it all together. The show will be irreverent, cynical, sarcastic and factual, hopefully a highbred of "Prairie Home Companion" and "Saturday Night Live" – something like that. If I can figure out how to pull it off we'll have a live audience and many of you will be involved, even if you don't know it yet.

While a bit premature, we are in the process of forming another nonprofit called Children's Rights Initiative for Sharing Parenting Equally (CRISPE). The idea – not mine – is to purchase a 42' tandem axle custom coach, wrap it like a billboard on wheels, and drive it around the country promoting equal parenting. On both sides in big letters it will say "Equal Parenting Express". I'll let you figure out the possibilities, which, I assure you, are quite incredible. A deposit has been made on the coach: [www.countrycoach.com/model.cfm?brand=all&my=07](http://www.countrycoach.com/model.cfm?brand=all&my=07).

Deborah Watkins somehow figured out how to let people donate to our center on a direct deposit monthly basis through NCFM. I don't know how she did it, but there's no way to thank her enough. Please feel free to use her system and send money our way on a monthly basis. We are working on some fairly large projects with very little outside financial assistance.

Our Center now gets calls from across the U.S. and we even had one person in France call us, schedule an appointment, and fly over to have us help him with a custody situation. We moved one of our men out of state and sent him to the East Coast for fear of his PBH wife (if you don't know what PBH stands for, here's a hint: "Psycho Bit...from He...").

### TWIN CITIES CHAPTER REPORT

(By William J. Hageman)

In August, the chapter had a booth at the Dakota County Fair, the largest county fair in the Twin Cities area. Many fairgoers visited our booth, and most of them were very curious about issues that they had not heard about before. Some of the visitors were very familiar with some of our society's injustices against men and boys, and they were delighted to see us there. One man who visited the booth days earlier returned on the final day of the fair and said "We need more people like you out here telling the message."

In late September, to mark Domestic Violence Awareness Month in October, the chapter sent a mailing with information about domestic violence against men to all 87 county attorneys in

Minnesota and 14 in western Wisconsin. The mailing directed the county attorneys to the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control's report on intimate partner violence ([www.cdc.gov/ncipc/factsheets/ipvfacts.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/ncipc/factsheets/ipvfacts.htm)), Indiana University Law Professor Linda Kelly's article "Disabusing the Definition of Domestic Abuse" ([www.law.fsu.edu/journals/lawreview/downloads/304/kelly.pdf](http://www.law.fsu.edu/journals/lawreview/downloads/304/kelly.pdf)), and Professor Martin Fiebert's bibliography of domestic violence studies ([www.csulb.edu/~mfiebert/assault.htm](http://www.csulb.edu/~mfiebert/assault.htm)). Also included was an article answering common questions about domestic abuse against men.

In October, the chapter had a booth at the annual conference of Education Minnesota, the state teachers association. We distributed to many attendees literature about the school system's bias against boys, and articles with suggestions on how the school system could be changed to serve the educational needs of boys as well as it already serves the educational needs of girls. We also distributed articles about the severe shortage of male teachers and male role models in the schools.



## 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 [transitions@ncfm.org](mailto:transitions@ncfm.org). Letters sent directly to him will be addressed "Dear Editor". Send opinions, stories, requests for advice, or other letters to our president: Michael Rother at [ncfm@ncfm.org](mailto:ncfm@ncfm.org). Letters sent to him will be addressed "Dear NCFM".*

### DEAR NCFM:

This is an initial contact to start a positive dialog with NCFM and directors. I have a non-profit charitable foundation called Ministries for Men. I have been involved with men's organizations for almost 30 years. I have published John Lee, Bly, etc., and am owner of *Wingspan, the International Journal of the Male Spirit*. It has been on hold for a long time. I'm also a past State Director of the New Warrior Network for Wisconsin.

Anyway, I want to help the NCFM now and possibly become a Midwest Center, Milwaukee/Chicago chapter, or an International expansion. I have world wide contacts.

Hope all is well and if you find this initial contact of interest, I sincerely hope you reply.

Karl Larson  
 Founder, Director  
 Ministries for Men Foundation  
[KarlWolf@aol.com](mailto:KarlWolf@aol.com)

### NCFM:

Thanks for contacting NCFM! Although we're not a religious or "mythopoetic" organization, we have tried to include these groups in our newsletter and email communications in the past. So, it's encouraging to hear from you. Yes, we would be interested in a dialog about these topics and others. Please let me know what you have in mind!

As for the Midwest area, we do currently have a chapter in Minneapolis/St. Paul, but so far no chapter in Chicago or Milwaukee. Let me know what you're planning to do, and we'll be happy to help.

### DEAR NCFM:

I have been looking for something as grounded in equality as my own feelings. I hope that your organization is what I have been looking for, and not just another smoke screen lending itself to dividing genders even more. Since it had been so hard to find something that matched my own beliefs, I began investigating the possibility of starting my own organization. I have begun developing a site, but have not yet launched it as a legal entity: [webpages.charter.net/helpachieveequality](http://webpages.charter.net/helpachieveequality). Instead of competing, I would be interested in the development of a local chapter of National Coalition of Free Men serving North Iowa and southern Minnesota.

What had prompted my concern was my own involvement in a domestic violence charge in Minnesota that went from bad to worse in the same manner as a run away train. Nothing new to you I'm sure, but it was entirely new to me and I felt the need to educate my fellow citizens — not just men or women, but citizens as a whole. In the process I had contacted several radio and television stations regarding my predicament. One station took the initiative to get involved and over the past six months has been investigating my story. I am not certain at this time what they have determined, but they have asked me to do an interview with them on Sunday, October 15, 2006. What they have asked me to address is: Why I contacted them, what has happened to me, and what I would like men in Minnesota to know?

Steve Eisenhauer

### NCFM:

Thanks for contacting NCFM. Regarding your concerns about our beliefs,

you will find that NCFM favors total equality of rights and responsibilities for both genders. However, within our ranks, you will find many different points of view about how to get there. The discussions on our email list and in our newsletter are quite interesting sometimes. Personally, I find the diversity of opinions quite rewarding. But I'll let you make your own decision.

One of our focuses is to educate the public and legislators about men's issues and provide an alternative to the mainstream feminist viewpoint that is so common. We have also worked with the media over the years and have had \*some\* success with them. Working with the media is somewhat difficult because they usually have their own agenda, and trying to insert ours into theirs can be problematic sometimes.

As for Minnesota, we have a rather active chapter in the Twin Cities. You can get their contact info from our website, and we can put you in touch with them if you like. Let me know if you're interested.

Regarding your statement to the media, personally, I think you're giving them too much information up front. What they are trying to find out is whether there is a story here that the public would be interested in. If you give them too much detail, they may not read it all, and they may figure that the public doesn't want to spend that much time with the issue. I would shorten it up quite a bit and focus on what the media-listening public would want to hear. Make it useful and interesting to them, and they may bite.

### DEAR NCFM:

Hello from London, where I study Media at London Southbank University. I like to bring men's rights perspectives to the party and notice that individually, people often agree and sympathize with the cause, but when those same people get into a group, i.e. in a lecture or seminar, they become hostile to the same discourse. I read something on your website along the lines of "When women get together they have

**LETTERS continues next page**

# Letters

Continued from Page 13

feminism but when men get together they have chivalry,” and judging by my experiences on campus, I might concur with that, but this is my subjective opinion. What I really want to know is whether there is any proof of what I will call male discourse denial, that you can point me towards. Have any experimental psychology studies indicated this effect, or disproved it? You may know that author Warren Farrell refers to the media denial of male discourse/broadcast etc, as “The Lace Curtain,” but he makes no attempt to quantify its existence. In the UK, a BBC news journalist received wide coverage for describing the BBC as a “feminocracy” but again, made no attempt to quantify or prove his argument.

I believe I have isolated a way to not only prove the existence of “The Lace Curtain” or “feminocracy,” but also measure its extent. I am not a scientist, rather a media student at an average university, so I am unlikely to receive informed support from the broadly feminist orthodoxy within my institution, so I ask your good learned selves to consider my experiment, and advise me whether anything of its sort has already been carried out, and if not, how to maximize its effectiveness, verifiability by peer review and perhaps too, suitable outlets for its publication and subsequent exposure.

In short, I will go onto the streets with a TV camera conducting interviews with passers by, gauging their public attitudes to a set of men’s rights issues. Then, I go onto the street with a hidden camera, posing as a radio interviewer and gauge people’s anonymous, private responses to the same set of questions. I then simply measure the difference between the two groups to discern whether any male discourse denial exists (when in public) or not. I suspect it will, in which case, my findings may prove significant (as all media is made in a group situation, by committee approval, which would induce the same social pressures), and furthermore, I’ll have the documentary film to prove it!

This is an academic endeavor, based on the recognized experimental psychology technique known as deindividuation, which has been used in the

past to measure differences between public/private behaviors, but the documentary will be of human interest to even the lay person, as it will expose our public blind spot vis a vis men.

Please confirm or deny my suspicions that this is an original and potentially significant piece of research/entertainment, and direct me to any experts who you feel, can peer review or advise its construction/design/execution/publication etc.

Tom Martin

**NCFM:**

Thanks for contacting NCFM. Your experiment sounds quite interesting, and I wish you much luck with that!

Personally, I am not aware of this issue being studied before. Your hypothesis sounds valid to me, and I suspect your experiments will confirm it.

As for experts who can peer review your research, I would suggest Warren Farrell, if he is willing. I might also suggest our own public relations director, Steven Svoboda, whose contact info is on our website. Otherwise, I would generally suggest experts in mass psychology and media, but I don’t have specific names to offer.

**DEAR NCFM:**

Harry Crouch from ANCPR referred me to you guys, in particular to Mike Antonovich. My husband has a 10 year old son that resides in California. He just conducted a discrete paternity test and found out that the boy is not his. The child was born on 8 August 1996, then they married a year later on 27 June 1997. They separated on 20 Nov 1998 and divorce was final on 22 Dec 2000. My husband is deployed in Kuwait right now, so he asked me to help him find legal advice to try and overturn paternity. He told the boy’s mom that he found out that the boy is not his and she acted like she didn’t care and she knew all along. Furthermore, she told him that she didn’t care, he still had to pay. She has lied about a lot of different things. When

they were going through the divorce, she wanted child support, but didn’t want my husband to see the boy, so she told the court that he would hit the boy and also accused my husband’s father of child abuse. They investigated the case and found it to all be false. Later she apologized and admitted to her lies, and now this! She had caused so much harm to many people. Can you please help?

Backer Flor  
SSgt 608 COS/DOO

**NCFM:**

Thanks for contacting NCFM. Since you already know Harry Crouch, I’m going to refer you right back to him. He is perhaps the best person to recommend an attorney in your area. That is what you’re going to need to get the child support order overturned. Our local organizations, such as the one Harry heads up, are best positioned to know about local resources, while our national organization focuses on our educational mission.

All in all, your situation is rather similar to many that we hear regularly here. This sort of thing happens frequently.

If you have any trouble getting a recommendation from Harry, please feel free to use the lawyer referral tools on our website. You can find those links here: <http://www.ncfm.org/contact.php>

**DEAR NCFM:**

Please advise of your equal organizations in the United Kingdom. I need to take on Freemans Catalogue!!

D. B. Sharpe

**NCFM:**

Thanks for contacting NCFM. I’m not sure we have an “equal” organization in the UK, but I did find a list of UK men’s rights groups here: <http://www.coeffic.demon.co.uk/organiz.htm>. You might want to check out the list and see if any of them meet your needs. I would also suggest searching Google for “Men’s

Rights United Kingdom” and see what you get. Good luck!

**DEAR NCFM:**

Feminism is Marxism which generates terrorism through its inherent double standards. For a short time I am making my fine new novel, *The Unusual Frank White Man*, available to interested readers with a FREE download code. Spread the word far and wide. I think your readers will particularly enjoy my Minnesota connection.

Here's the code:

**stevehornerbooks.com/bypass/UnusualFrankWhite.pdf**

username: thankyou

password: enjoy

Thanks and let me know your feedback at [steve@stevehornerbooks.com](mailto:steve@stevehornerbooks.com).

Steve Horner

**NCFM:**

Thanks for the information. I have forwarded this info to our national email discussion list, which includes members of our organization from all over the country. If anyone is interested in pursuing this, I'm sure they'll contact you directly. Meanwhile, best of luck to you with your new novel and your efforts to promote it.

**DEAR NCFM:**

WE KNOW, We know that many men perform the parent role in only a perfunctory manner, depriving them and their children of the essence of this experience. We'd like to help men become more complete parents.

And with that statement on your website you, unintentionally and unwittingly, contribute to the stereotypes you're fighting. You may as well state that we know some fathers abandon their kids, need to be pointed in the right direction by women, and weren't available for photos when the Amber Alert U.S. Stamps came out or when we needed a picture of parent and child for the child support website.

Frustrated, disenfranchised, falsely-accused, brushed aside father with 50% custody in northern California

**NCFM:**

Thanks for contacting us. I appreciate your point of view regarding this particular paragraph. NCFM is NOT a monolithic organization. You will find many points of view within our ranks. I realize that this paragraph may not describe you or your friends, but does that mean that it can't be a valid men's issue? Personally, I find this statement to be somewhat true of my own father, but I wouldn't apply it to all men, or even the majority of men. There are men out there who want to learn how they can do better, and we are sometimes able to help them.

Our organization is very much pro-father. We also represent many other men's issue besides fathers rights, such as health issues, draft registration, sexual harassment, etc. I would ask you to take a look at our overall message, rather than just this one paragraph, and then make your decision. I'm sure if you look hard enough, you can always find something you'll disagree with on our site. That's the cost of having so many points of view in our group.

Finally, I want to congratulate you on having 50% custody of your child(ren) in spite of being frustrated, disenfranchised, falsely-accused, etc. Having 50% custody would make many of our members very happy — many have no contact at all with their kids.

## Help the Men's Center!

The **California Men's Center** is an outstanding resource for men and for NCFM. You can help the Men's Center expand its programs and help more men by making a **MONTHLY PLEDGE**. Even as little as \$10/month will help greatly!

For more information about the Men's Center, please visit [www.californiamenscenter.org](http://www.californiamenscenter.org).

To set up your monthly pledge, please contact Deborah at [NCFMdfw@yahoo.com](mailto:NCFMdfw@yahoo.com) or 972-445-MALE (6253).

## 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. Email your work to the editor at [transitions@ncfm.org](mailto:transitions@ncfm.org). Use a good Subject line to distinguish it from spam. Please see [www.ncfm.org/write1.htm](http://www.ncfm.org/write1.htm) for more information.

## ncfm now has coffee mugs for sale!

Chapter Reps: These mugs make a great fundraiser! Discounts are available for chapters purchasing 5 or more mugs.

These mugs are made by MWare and are high quality regular sized coffee mugs. Choose a Cobalt Blue or Hunter Green mug. Each mug sports the NCFM logo, name and the scripted motto: Giving Men a Voice Since 1977.

Price per mug is \$12.99, including shipping to the 48 contiguous United States.

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

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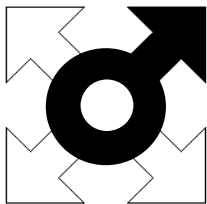
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