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The recent history of men’s groups in Quebec dates back over 30 years, since the second half of the 1970s. Here we present a review of various articles produced over these years of the history and memories of several key players by recounting the context that brought about a questioning of traditional masculinity, which served as a trigger for the creation of the first men’s groups. Then, we move on to trace the various milestones in the evolution of practices involving men’s groups, noting among other things the passage from the personal to policy-making. Then, starting from a typology of men’s groups (Clatterbaugh, 1997), we profile the major speeches that have steered these groups in Quebec. Finally, we will try to appraise the evolution of these groups with respect to three key questions: Are we in the presence of a social movement? Can we call this movement “masculinist”? Does this equate to a threat to the women’s movement? *Keywords: men’s social movement, perspectives on masculinity, Province of Quebec.*

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Addis discusses the status of men’s mental health as well as the role that masculinities play in it. The author’s comments are organized around the general rubric of “conceptual and empirical obstacles and opportunities.” *Keywords: masculinities, epistemology, social constructionism, men, mental health, USA.*

Crossing Borders: Exploring the Margins and Intersections of Masculinities 43

ROBERT HEASLEY

This paper explores masculinities beyond popular images of what it means to be a man. Conceptions of masculinity have an association with a form of heterosexuality that incorporates a dominating and, at times desperate, notion of men's lives. These qualities are far removed from the experiences of men who experience their masculinity and their (hetero) sexuality in different ways. Thus, we need to explore the margins of masculinity as well the ways that masculinity and heterosexuality intersect with other aspects of men's lives: crossing the boarders that limit the possibilities in men's lives and their relationships to themselves and others. *Keywords: heterosexuality, margins of masculinity, USA.*

Men and Women: What New Challenges? 54

CHRISTINE CASTELAIN MEUNIER

We will focus in this paper on demonstrating that, as paradoxical as it may sound, climate disruption is a setting that should encourage male culture to redefine itself. Even though as everyone knows, male culture has been transforming along with the women's movement. But in fact, two major changes, which could even be called "revolutions," have contributed to upsetting the mainstream male culture in the twentieth and twenty-first century, in a very specific way as we shall see. *Keywords: postmodernity, masculinity transformations, France.*

SECTION II – A SOUTHERN PERSPECTIVE

Young Mexican Men Divided: A Possibility for Transforming Masculinity 65

JUAN CARLOS RAMÍREZ RODRÍGUEZ

Is the transformation of masculinity in young men in Mexico possible? To answer this question, the author presents data on the current social and economic situation in Mexico that allows a contextualisation of men. He also examines the beliefs about gender relations that young men hold and concludes by suggesting some possible interventions. *Keywords: masculinity transformations, young men, Mexico.*

Change Is Possible: Deconstructing Masculinities 79

SANJAY AND MADHU KUSHWAHA

The authors present social and historical constructions of femininity and masculinity and argue that they can be reconstructed by deconstructing their old beliefs, values, and norms. The *Men's Action for Stopping Violence against Women (MASVAW)* tends to utilize this deconstruction with men to address the violence against women. A specific group at the University of Mahatma Gandhi, Kashi Vidyapeeth is exemplified. *Keywords: masculinities, MASVAW, domestic violence, India.*

State of the Field in Engaging Men in Activism and Programme: An Introduction with Specific Reference to Experiences from South Asia 87

SATISH KUMAR SINGH

MenEngage works to end gender-based violence and to achieve gender equality. In the course

of time, MenEngage has become a learning and leadership network, a resource center and a strong advocate for change at the political level. A similar network which is associated with MenEngage in India is the *Men's Action for Stopping Violence Against Women* (MASVAW). As a social movement, MASVAW has adopted a very innovative way of engaging men and boys in the fight against gender-based violence in India. It tries to bring about a change in men themselves and in other men to raise their voice against traditional patriarchal values and challenge stereotypical notions of what it means to be a man. **Keywords:** *masculinity, gender equality, domestic violence, MASVAW, MenEngage, India.*

State of the Field in Activism, Programs and Policy for Engaging Men and Boys to Promote Gender Transformation 97

TIM SHAND, LAURA PHILLIPS, and LAURA PASCOE

This paper provides an overview of some recent programmatic and policy interventions in the field of engaging men and boys in promoting gender equality and preventing HIV and interpersonal violence. These interventions seek to highlight the necessity of the scaling-up of work with men for gender equality and the benefits of such an approach. They also further develop our understanding of men's gender-related attitudes and practices which can inform future work in this area by civil society, government and donor agencies. The paper begins with a summary of the evidence-base for work with men for gender equality and an analysis of the state of the field in this area. An example of the work of *Sonke Gender Justice Network* (Sonke), a South African based non-governmental organisation, is then provided. Finally, the paper summarises the key findings from the recent *International Men and Gender Equality Survey (IMAGES)*, a global survey which seeks to examine the current state of men's engagement with the gender equality agenda and to explore some of the underlying and inter-related factors which facilitate and give rise to the prevailing situation. **Keywords:** *gender equality, violence, Sonke, Southern countries.*

SECTION III - EPISTEMOLOGICAL DISCUSSIONS

The Importance of Retaining a Focus on Masculinities in Future Studies on Men and Health 119

STEVE ROBERTSON and ROBERT WILLIAMS

Within the health research literature there is increasing attention focussed upon how concepts of masculinity or masculinities can be employed to understand health and illness and used to inform changes in health policy and practice. At the same time, valuable critiques of the notions of masculinity or masculinities have emphasised that there is often, within the published literature, a lack of rigour in defining and using these ideas, a tendency towards rigid and essentialist notions about men and gender but also recognition that some approaches view masculinity or masculinities as the "cause" of poor health outcomes for men, women and children. We consider and respond to these important questions and, using examples from empirical studies, we argue that it is important to retain a focus on masculinities in theory and research in order to understand and improve the health and wellbeing of men, women and children. We argue, first of all, that masculinities should be seen as "configurations of social practice" and understood as part of the dynamic processes involved within the "gender order." Secondly, configurations of practice vary are diverse and dynamic but are also hierarchical in terms of the material and representational benefits they bring to men. Third, configurations of masculinity practices become embedded within institutions and social structures and, finally,

because of this embedding, the opportunities available to men to engage in varied configurations become constrained by social structures. *Keywords:* *men's health, masculinity, gender, public health, health inequalities, United Kingdom.*

**Epistemology of Critical Studies on Men and Masculinity: Perspective
of a Boy from France, After 25 Years of Research on These Topics 134**

DANIEL WELZER-LANG

Since the creation of men's groups in the 1970s, French critical studies on men and the masculinities have followed diverse pathways. While they are sometimes presented within a binary scheme opposing masculinism and profeminism, the intervention intends to provide another typology that goes beyond this ideological, non-heuristic vision in order to identify transversalities and the obvious or subtle mechanisms of gender relations and what French speakers call "rapports sociaux de sexe" (trans. "gendered social relations"). Since women cannot achieve equality, the end of male domination and the disappearance of gender without men, and since many of them want to put an end to soliloquies, this chapter aims at historicizing the critical studies on men, and contextualizing their analytical paradigms. In short, this paper intends to grasp both convergences and divergences in these analytical frameworks, and to deconstruct the masculine just as feminist women have been doing with "the eternal feminine." *Keywords:* *masculinities, male domination, social contexts, paradigms, deconstructive approach, France.*

**The Need to Change Our Way of Looking at Men's Health:
Australian Perspectives 144**

JOHN MACDONALD

A culture of negativity has developed around men and their health. This paper presents this as a double whammy, a double layer of negative perspectives: in the world of health, men have been subjected to a narrow biomedical look, and, on the other hand, in the world of academia, the dominant ideology has been one led by a sociological discourse on "masculinity." This paper wants to suggest the limitations of these perspectives and propose a more healthful, a *salutogenesis* of sorts toward men's health. *Keywords:* *men's health, social determinants of health, salutogenesis, health policy, Australia.*

Tripartite Considerations in Masculinities and Men's Health Research 149

JOHN OLIFFE

A tripartite of considerations in men's health refers to empirical, theory, and methodological based issues that have emerged over the last decade within the masculinities and men's health research. This paper proposes to take pause and reflect on these issues in showcasing what has been achieved, as well as thoughtfully considering future efforts in the area. *Keywords:* *men's health, masculinities, prostate cancer, men's depression, fatherhood and smoking, Canada.*

SECTION IV – CONCLUSION

**Going Beyond Frontiers, Interculture-action to Better Advance Studies
on Men and Masculinities 160**

GILLES TREMBLAY

Most of the analytical frameworks used in studies on men and masculinities come from re-

searchers who are of a mature age, white, and from industrialized countries. They are often presented as global and universal. Although very inspiring, these theoretical models quickly lose their universal value when they are confronted more rigorously by other socio-cultural contexts, or even other social strata, or simply younger men. For a better understanding of the many practices of masculinities, we require openness to difference, to challenge our conceptions about normative expectations on boys and men. In this paper, interculture-action will be presented as an alternative to help open the way for new visions of studies on men and masculinities. **Keyterms:** *masculinities, theories on men and masculinities, interculture, men's studies, Province of Quebec.*

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