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Does the modern definition of masculinity oppress young boys?

The pressure of having to be a manly man is a lot of pressure. So why do we put this immense pressure on young boys to be manly men. We have this preconceived notion about [masculinity](#) in you have to be this handsome and muscular. My version of masculinity is just being the man you want to be. In the film [The Mask You Live In \(Kanopy\)](#) talks about masculinity as this program that we put into boys. That boys can't feel any emotion besides anger. That boys are only boys if they are the biggest and baddest. They have to be better than the girls but they also have to be the best one out of everyone. This is why masculinity is holding back young boys.

Emotions and boys don't mix. Boys from the age of 5 are taught to not cry. If you see a boy crying over the age of 13 there is something wrong with him. Boys and girls all feel the same the same emotions but boys are told to hide it. Why are they told to hide these emotions besides anger? It all stems from the media movies, video games, tv and music. The Avengers aren't crying when they get hit by the bad guy. Video games are all to kill the enemy no matter the cost not to work out their differences. The music the kids are listening too is about getting the girl and making money not talking about the abusive father. The movies that show the sensitive men are looked as weak. Boys hold all this in at school until they get home and let it out but parents can only do so much. Then the boys don't want anyone in trouble then it will only get them more hurt. Coming home and talking about it only works if the parents won't beat them for crying about

because they are boys not girls. That's when the only emotion shown is anger. Anger only brings out aggression and violence. Then leads to the troubled kids in juvenile detention and prison. Which could have been avoided if the boys could just talk things out and let it with their peers.

All the boys want to be the biggest one or fastest. Being the star athlete will make them a better man. Intelligence is nothing boys strive for cause that doesn't get you the supermodel. Being the star athlete for the school getting the scholarship makes you the man. Having the full six pack and benching 300 pounds makes you man. No boy is confident if they don't have the letterman jacket. Sports is one of the biggest staple of manhood nowadays that anything else is second nature. How many schools do you know that have a big budget for the video game clubs. Even though video games is a biggest industry ever. The football field, basketball court, soccer field they all get redone with a bunch of money set aside. The music students are just getting the credit they deserve for not being able to throw a ball or flip someone over. Yet they still get picked on for being the weird band kids. How is that supposed to make boys want to express themselves.

From a young age boys are told to they were better than girls. Why does a boy have to be the head honcho. He needs to be the breadwinner and protector. In my own family my mom makes more money and my dad cooks a lot. I never got the boys are better in everything. Then there is the house mothers who do everything while the dad

sites there and does nothing but work. That doesn't show young boys how to respect woman and even respect that if they want to cook and clean they can. It is been called wimpy to do thing girls like to do. What makes it a girl thing from a boy thing. Parents want to be this gender neutral thing but it's impossible. Boys will be shown by other boys that if they do anything "girly" they will be outcasted. When most boys on the inside are the "girliest" people ever. Girls have being a tomboy and its accepted but the moment there is a sissy boy he can't be near any other boy like a disease.

Now this whole thing isn't to say we don't need the big "manly" men because we definitely do. They can lift the heavy things and make the buildings but the men that work in those buildings shouldn't be less. The richest man in the world doesn't bench 300 or throw a ball 100 miles an hour. He started a business and used inlegence. The days are coming when having the big brain than big muscles gets you places of wealth. Doesn't mean also wealth means "manly". In anything it's just about being happy with yourself and comfortable with you.

That is what I see was masculinity. Being you whatever you want not changing that because it doesn't fit in. Make your own group if you can't find one. No boy is alone there is someone that feels the same way. There is someone who isn't fastest around or biggest one on the field you can talk to. So what if you want to cook or knit a sweater there is someone to knit with. If your thing is football do it but don't take it as you are

better than boy who plays the trumpet. Nothing should hold you back from being the man you want to be because in the end everyone has a passion that makes them them