26th National Men & Masculinity Conference

MANifesting Global Justice: Creating Inclusive Communities

University of Denver Campus
Denver, CO
Friday July 20 - Sunday, July 22

A conference for men and women who keep their promises for gender equality and social justice

Pre-Conference Institutes

♦ 13th Men's Studies Association Meeting
♦ Ending Men's Violence
♦ Undoing the "ISM"s"

Friday July 20 -- 9AM to 4PM

See call for papers for the MSA and workshop proposals for M&M26 on page 21. Register to attend at www.nomas.org or use the registration form at the back of this issue of BROTHER.

Come join the fun and stay abreast of what's happening in the pro-feminist men's movement!

BROTHER

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The National Organization for Men Against Sexism is incorporated as a 501(c) 3 non-profit organization in the State of Illinois. NOMAS headquarters are currently located in Louisville, CO. NOMAS has chapters in California, Colorado, Massachusetts and New York. Membership in NOMAS is available through annual dues based on ability to pay. Membership applications are available from www.nomas.org, by e-mail to info@nomas.org, or by writing to the above address.

BROTHER is published quarterly and mailed free of charge from Louisville, CO to members of NOMAS. Non-members may purchase individual copies of BROTHER for $6.00 per issue. Orders for individual copies should be sent to the above address.

Two special issues of BROTHER are published annually -- Excerpts from the papers presented at the annual Men's Studies Association Meeting and a pre-conference re-issue for the National Men & Masculinity Conference.

Co-chair sponsor: Moshe Rozdzial
Editor: Donald Cavanaugh

Art Exhibit
Talent Show
Book Signing
Book Store
Entertainment
Dance
Music
Theater
Notes from the Co-Chair

It has been a busy three months since the Winter 2000 issue of BROTHER. The National Council Mid-Winter meeting was held in Stony Point, New York at the Stony Point Center and thanks to Phyllis Frank for making all the arrangements. It was wonderful to reconvene with so many NOMAS members and others who are interested in and concerned about the issues of social justice and what we as the oldest pro-feminist men's organization can do to promote our principles of pro-feminism, gay-affirmation, anti-racism and dedication to enhancing men's lives. It was a great meeting and I'm excited that we voted in six new council members and officially recognized the formation of the California, Colorado, Boston and New York State chapters!

And now we're getting ready for M&M26 which will be hosted once again by the Colorado Chapter, this time in Denver, CO. We're hoping that we will attract additional attendees both locally and from the rest of the country by hosting in Denver which is becoming a major metropolitan area and a focal point for many conferences of all types. Additionally, M&M25 engendered a great deal of support among the activist communities in Denver and Colorado Springs and we're hoping to leverage these relationships to promote NOMAS and the M&Ms across the country. The University of Denver campus is very lovely and will provide a conducive setting for our meetings, both formal and informal. Be sure to mark your calendars for July 20 to 22 and make your airline reservations now to avoid last minute hassles and cost. And try to find a few extra days to spend in the Rocky Mountain region. There are lots of activities both in and around Denver and the mountains are only about 25 miles away with great hiking and camping and lots of old mining towns to explore.

Our Internet presence at www.nomas.org has been a boon to the organization and has attracted quite a bit of interest. We are very grateful to Curtis Hart of Denver who donated his time and skills to creating the current site and are sorry that he has gotten too busy to be able to continue but we have taken the task “in-house” and the Colorado Chapter will continue to maintain and enhance the site. The Winter 2000 issue of BROTHER will be posted there soon and information about M&M26 is already up with additions being made as they come available. We're considering a page to feature publications by NOMAS members on topics of interest and relevance to the membership and the rights movements at large and we welcome any suggestions or input for improvement.

Finally, we've created a special issue of BROTHER to advertise the M&M26 and NOMAS membership in general. We are republishing much of the content of the Winter 2000 issue and adding material on the conference. This special issue will be published in a tabloid format and mailed in bulk to people around the country. If you have access to appropriate mailing lists in your locale or can introduce us to activist organizations who might be interested in telling their members about our conference, please let us know as soon as possible. We will also have flyers and other advertising materials available if you are attending conferences or meetings where you can distribute them. Please let us know by email to info@nomas.org or call me at 303-666-7043.

In brotherhood,

Editor's Note

This issue of BROTHER has something of a feminist focus with three personal stories and several articles of information about women's issues. I want to thank the contributors for their patience and hard work and for being willing to share some personal piece of themselves with the BROTHER readership. Thanks, too, to the readers who took a minute to send us their thoughts on the last issue. Since it was my first effort as editor I was particularly pleased to receive so many positive comments. But, of course, the publication is only as good as the articles submitted so kudos and thanks again to last quarter's authors!

We have created a couple of new features and welcome your feedback on these. "Milestones" is meant to help us all keep up with one another so please submit news about what's happening with you or other NOMAS members so we can share it with everyone. We'd like to publish this feature every quarter but need everyone's input. "Cool Websites for Hot Issues" is also an audience forum to send us URLs of sites that you have found to be interesting and/or useful and would like to share with other BROTHER readers.

We also have some coverage on the upcoming M&M26 and urge you to share this information and an invitation to join us in Colorado with friends and colleagues. We are also publishing a special M&M26 issue of BROTHER with content from the Winter 2000 issue. If you have mailing lists of prospective conference attendees, please let us know. Or if you can help distribute flyers or other material, please call, write, or email us as soon as possible. July will be here all too soon!

We hope to focus next quarter's issue of BROTHER on fathering/parenting and solicit your input for this topic. Articles, poetry, book reviews (would someone review Neil Chethik's book, "FatherLoss" described in Milestones?), cartoons, photographs, drawings, etc.. All submissions are welcome! And, as always, we seek your input to improve this publication and make it a valuable tool for NOMAS and our membership. Thank you and enjoy!
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Contributors

Sandra Howard, a consultant and researcher in sociology is pursuing a masters degree with a focus on race, gender and class in America. She has conducted numerous research studies in the area of women and work

Jack Nichols is a father of modern gay liberation; co-founded the Washington, DC Mattachine Society; co-edited GAY, America's first gay weekly newspaper; author of several books including the landmark "Men's Liberation" (1975); senior editor Gay Today Webzine.

Caryl Rivers is a professor of journalism at Boston University and a regular contributor to Women's E-news which graciously permitted a reprint of Ms. Rivers’ article.

Emily Roche is in marketing with a global telecommunications company. Having completed graduate studies at the City University of New York she lives in Philadelphia, actively pursuing a writing career.

Rachel Snyder is the author of ‘365 Words of Well-Being for Women” (1997, Contemporary) and “What There is To Love About A Man” (Sourcebooks, 1999). She lives and works on a horse farm outside Boulder, Colorado.

Ben Zeman has over 10 years experience organizing against domestic violence and sexual assault; self-identifies as a "recovering sexist," founder Mainely Men Against Violence & Sexism; available for presentations.
Letters to the Editor

BROTHE R welcomes your response to our publication -- hurrahs, boos and hisses, suggestions or whatever are all welcome. We assume that any correspondence you send is printable unless you indicate to the contrary in your letter. If you would like a personal response, please let us know. Please contact us by mail at PO Box 455, Louisville, CO 80027 or email at info@nomas.org.

"Along with many others, I read many news accounts of the Columbine shootings for a clue as to why such a horrible thing happened. But nothing was as enlightening as the two articles in your Winter 2000 newsletter: 'Manhood and Violence: The Deadliest Equation' and 'Columbine and Male Entitlement.' Thank you for your insights!"

Linda S. Lodenkamper
Golden, CO

"I thought the BROTHE R newsletter was quite well done. Don Johnson's article on gay socialization was very good, succinct and thorough -- I intend to share that with my gay men's group."

Dennis McGrath
Manahawkin, NJ

"I received my BROTHE R and immediately read it cover to cover... I think it is a wonderful job, .. well done, great articles, nicely laid out, informative and a very nice variety of writers. KUDOS!"

Rose Garrity
Binghamton, NY

"I was particularly intrigued by the article on anti-Semitism and homophobia. It has given me a new way to think about prejudice in our society."

Arthur Holzmacher
New York City

I found the articles very engaging; I was particularly interested in "Roles of Men and Women with Feminism and Feminist Theory" as I have worked with feminist theories in culture studies and research methodologies for decades. I agree with Klocke with the caution that, in this instance, feminist theory is not merely an intellectual construct but it reflects how we live our lives. So, ideally, feminisms, in their multiplicity, are first ways of being and working in the world and secondarily a frame for understanding and shaping our self construction and life projects.

Mary Lancaster
Key West, FL

I read through my first issue of BROTHE R the other day and was pleased. The articles made some excellent points. Those who contributed seemed to go out of their way to present their views in a manner that surely resonated among those of us who are not so academically inclined. At the risk of sounding trite I have to say that the articles I read raised my consciousness without unduly straining it. Keep up the good work. I look forward to receiving my next issue.

Barry Grinnell
Washington, DC

Did you know....? NOMAS is the oldest pro-feminist men's organization in the United States

We got started in 1975 when a group of men who were enrolled in a women's studies course at the University of Tennessee held what they announced as "The First National Conference on Men and Masculinity " in Knoxville, TN. The following year a second national M&M conference was held at Pennsylvania State University. Over the next five years national M&M conferences were held in Des Moines, IA; St. Louis, MO; Los Angeles, CA; Milwaukee, WI; and Boston, MA. In 2000 we celebrated our Silver Anniversary with the 25th National Conference in Colorado Springs. NOMAS was formally created in 1981 as the National Organization for Changing Men (NOCM). We changed our name to NOMAS in 1990.
The annual mid-winter NOMAS National Council meeting was held in Stony Point, NY on January 13 and 14, 2001. Council member Phyllis Frank made facilities arrangements and acted as host for the meeting.

Allen Corben was the process person and Rose Garrity took and reported the minutes which have been emailed to the entire council. The following people attended the council for one or more days:

**Council Members**
- Bob Brannon
- Allen Corben
- Phyllis Frank
- Rose Garrity
- Vernon McLean
- Moshe Rozdzial, Co-chair
- Barry Shapiro, Co-chair

**Non-Council NOMAS Members**
- David Greene (nominee)
- Don Levy
- Jim McDowell
- Zev Schuman (nominee)

**Non-member Guests**
- Tamara Bedic
- Gene Hamilton
- David Hines
- Harry Machroli
- Edgar Rodriguez

**Old Business**

The success of the M&M25 and Re-visioning were discussed and the Colorado Chapter was given recognition for preparing and hosting the two programs. The Colorado Chapter has agreed to host M&M26 in Denver this year in order to leverage the momentum created by last year's conference. The 12th Annual MSA meeting was declared a success as well. The treasurer’s report brought welcome news of money in the bank and prospects for additional grants and funding in 2001. Kurt Colburn resigned as Treasurer and Allen Corben volunteered to take the position which was agreed to by the council.

Boston, California Bay Area, Colorado and Rockland County chapters were noted and brief reports were presented by representatives from these groups. The New Jersey chapter was declared no longer extant and the Mainely Men Against Violence group was defined as not an official chapter although there was no one present from Maine to represent them. Current membership and ways to renew former members as well as attract new ones was discussed as was the need to attract organizations as members. The additional categories are reflected on the membership application in this issue of BROTHER.

Curtis Hart was recognized for his contribution to NOMAS of our current website and it was noted that he can no longer assist us so the Colorado Chapter has begun to manage the site. Task groups and Social action were discussed and the need for NOMAS to be more active in taking stands and being visible was agreed as was the need for liaison with other activist groups around the country. Barry Shapiro gave a report on the video series from Access Reality.

**New Business**

The logo designed by the Colorado chapter integrating the international symbol for “no” and the male sex sign was determined to be too controversial for continued use and has been abandoned. A new logo will be created. The National Office was officially given a Colorado address and creation of a cyber-office intranet site proposed by Zev Schuman was welcomed. Discussion ensued around the structure and membership of the National Council and the need to attract new people with new ideas. Nominations for new members was discussed. The following individuals were elected to membership on the National Council: Doug Gertner, David Greene, Chris Kilmartin, Brian Klocke, Pat Mastin and Zev Schuman. Congratulations to all!
New Chapters

As a result of the re-visioning which was held after M&M25 in August, 2000, NOMAS has committed to extending its reach throughout the country by focusing on the creation of local and regional chapters. Chapters are governed by the NOMAS By-Laws and anyone interested in establishing a chapter is welcome to apply to the National Council by email to info@nomas.org or by writing to NOMAS at PO Box 455, Louisville, CO 80027. As of the date of this publication, NOMAS has four chapters across the country: Boston, California Bay Area, Denver and Orange/Rockland County, NY. The following is a brief recap of each of the chapters. Chapters are invited to provide in-depth coverage of programs and events they conduct that may be of interest to the NOMAS community at large. Expect more detailed information in future issues of BROTHER.

Bay Area

On Saturday, December 9, 2000 the San Francisco-Bay Chapter of NOMAS was formed by the unanimous vote of the nine members present. Headed up by National Council Co-Chair Barry Shapiro, the chapter plans to meet every three months, provide community education and act as an alliance/network organization similar to the Lions or Kiwanis. The chapter has agreed to community education and membership development which will consist of three part program of public library branch meetings and discussions co-sponsored with community interest groups on the topics of:
(1) The documentary film “It’s Elementary”—an opportunity to address homophobia and support same sex parenting
(2) In Our family: Portraits of All Kinds of Families— an opportunity to address racial prejudice and support mixed race families.
(3) Functioning Outside the Male Box -- addressing male sex role conditioning, violence and other manifestations of sexism.

For more information, please contact Barry Shapiro (photo above) at shapiorbar@earthlink.net or by phone at 510-339-9861.

Boston

During autumn 2000, several NOMAS members came together to create the NOMAS-Boston chapter. After six meetings the new chapter established their local goals and have begun to organize several projects. Their objectives are to contribute support to local activist groups and domestic violence shelters, to engage pre-reflective men on issues of gender inequality, and to plan a conference that can stimulate communication between activist organizations in different Boston communities. They also plan to host M&M27 in 2002 and are making preparations for that undertaking now.

NOMAS-Boston is joining with several local organizations to hold vigils after every domestic murder in the state of Massachusetts. A number of activist groups have already offered interest and support. The chapter's second project, The Boston Men's Health Initiative, seeks to encourage dialogue about the role that masculine expectation plays in men's health. They have received seed funding from Tufts University for a "Testicular Cancer Awareness" program. Other programs are being investigated. For more information, contact Zev Schuman at zev@nomasbos.intranets.com.

Denver

The Colorado Chapter was formed out of the M&M25 conference committee under the leadership of Moshe Rozdzial, National Co-Chair. The chapter has agreed to organize and produce M&M26 in July, 2001 in Denver. With the momentum created by last summer's success in Colorado Springs, the chapter feels confident that it can repeat and improve on last year's experience. In addition to the conference, the Colorado Chapter is committed to community activities including an annual Martin Luther King observance program and speaking engagements, panels and workshops to be conducted with and at a variety of other activist organizations and college campuses in the state. For more information contact Moshe Rozdzial (photo above) at rozdzialm@yahoo.com or 303-666-7043.

Orange and Rockland County

Jim McDowell, who works at the VCS Community Change Project, is heading up the creation of this chapter in New York State. The work of the chapter will initially focus on men who batter and will provide educational seminars for men who are interested. Contact Jim McDowell (photo above) at jimmcd49@aol.com or 845-786-5674.
Re-Visioning -- August 14, 2000
(With thanks to Geoff Morgan for transcribing the notes of the meeting)

As a follow up to the 25th National Conference on Men & Masculinity which was held in August last year, NOMAS hosted an all-day work and planning session dedicated to re-establishing NOMAS's vision as a leading force in the pro-feminist men's movement in the United States. The session was conducted by a professional facilitator who had provided a questionnaire to be completed by attendees prior to the meeting. There were approximately 25 attendees including co-chairs Moshe Rozdzial and Barry Shapiro, long-time members, new members and interested guests, all of whom had participated in the conference during the previous three days.

Brainstorming
The session began with a presentation of issues from the questionnaires the then an analysis of the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and barriers presented by and to NOMAS as an organization. From this, the group arrived at the 10 most critical issues that had to be addressed in order for NOMAS to continue as a viable organization. After this brainstorming session, the attendees broke up into smaller groups to develop visions for NOMAS in the future. They were asked to discuss and answer the question, "What will NOMAS look like and be doing in 5 to 10 years?" The facilitator then helped the group identify and isolate the common elements from each of the group visions. Finally, discussion was held on the first four most critical issues with recommendations proposed for discussion and implementation at the mid-winter council meeting.

Among strengths that the group discussed were the fundamental values represented by NOMAS and its membership, its strong leadership and creative and talented membership. The personal and human aspects of NOMAS were highlighted as well as its thoughtful and useable structure and processes. Major weaknesses that were identified included geographic disconnection of members, lack of infrastructure (office, employees, etc.) and resultant inability to provide services and benefits to members. Inability or unwillingness to raise money for the organization was also cited as a serious weakness. Nevertheless, the group agreed that there are opportunities for NOMAS to raise money, establish alliances with other groups and become a more significant voice and force in today's activist world.

Ten Most Critical Issues
The 10 critical issues as prioritized by the group (and noted in Winter 2000 BROTHER) were:
♦ How to continue the conference
♦ How to recruit, outreach, retain, involve and engage members; how to track membership; collect dues; establish a mentoring program
♦ How to create an infrastructure – staff, office
♦ How to develop a case for support – fund raising, grant writing
♦ How to become a think-tank and advocate political action issues – locally, nationally
♦ How to build relationships with the media, market, communities
♦ How to create/negotiate alliances, collaborate and cross-promote with other groups
♦ How to develop and support chapters

A Glimpse of the Future
Using these critical issues as the basis for discussion, the breakout groups spent time describing the NOMAS of the future. The common elements that were derived from that exercise were:
♦ Training – NOMAS will train trainers and develop activist curriculum packages for other groups to use
♦ Resource – NOMAS will provide an information sharing vehicle and referral system
♦ Office space will be addressed
♦ Paid staff will be in place
♦ Membership will receive communications from NOMAS and feel connected
♦ NOMAS will take political stands – possibly support a speakers bureau
♦ A mechanism will be in place to attract and retain membership
♦ NOMAS will be raising funds
♦ There will be local and regional chapters
♦ NOMAS will become a think tank and authoritative resource for activists
♦ The NOMAS Web site will be a force
♦ Conferences will continue to be a cornerstone of NOMAS activities
♦ NOMAS will build alliances

Next Steps
The session ended with the following steps agreed on:
♦ There will be an M&M26
♦ Membership activities will be conducted to increase and retain membership
♦ The physical infrastructure will be addressed
♦ A fund-raising goal of $50,000 was established

→
Mid-Winter Follow up

The Re-Visioning was discussed at the mid-winter meeting of the National Council and it was agreed that the first four critical items (continuing M&Ms; membership; physical infrastructure and fund-raising) be the focus of attention for the meeting with the remainder to be handled by on-going postings on the council website. It was concluded that three of the four were being handled for the moment. The Colorado Chapter had agreed to run M&M26 in Denver and co-chair, Moshe Rozdzial had begun a membership campaign that had already increased paying members significantly. Moshe also was prepared to write additional grants for the conference to explore other opportunities to raise money. The issue of the physical infrastructure was raised for discussion.

After a number of remarks from the attendees, it was decided that the national office would be moved to Louisville, CO where a PO Box was already established and the office would pay to have some of the laborious tasks handled by outside groups rather than volunteers. It was further decided that a "cyber-office" would be created using an intranet service available from the Internet. The "cyber-office" will allow the council to have continuing discussion on many matters while a portion of the site can be used to serve members who want to post information, ask questions and participate in dialog that will enhance the growth and awareness of organization activities and ensure expanding participation of members on all levels. Allen Corben volunteered to manage the implementation of the "cyber-office."

Call for Submissions

"On the road to healing -- a booklet for men against sexism"

This call for submissions has been extended until May 1 with an anticipated publication date of July 1, 2001. "On the road to healing" is a hard copy "zine" that features articles, stories, art photography and other printable media directed at critical theory and personal reflections on male socialization, sexism and the concept of manhood. For more information or to order a copy of the first issue at $2.00 each, please contact:

Basil Shadid – Post Office Box – Seattle, WA
Basilelias@hotmail.com

NOMAS

Post Office Box 455
Louisville, CO 80027-0455

Become a member of: THE NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MEN AGAINST SEXISM

Membership application form – please complete and return with your check or money order to the address indicated.

Name_________________________________________
Org__________________________________________
Address________________________________________
City___________________________________________
Phone_________________________________________
e-mail_________________________________________
Areas of interest________________________________

ANNUAL DUES
- Supporting Member $100
- General Member $50
- Sliding Scale $15-49
  (based on your ability to pay)
- Student or senior (over 65) @ 50%
  (Please indicate amount)
- Corporation/organization $100
- Non-profit – sliding scale $15-100

ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTION

Individuals, corporations, for-profit organizations and no-profit organizations are all welcome to join NOMAS in support of the pro-feminist men's movement.
Feminist Reflections: 
Who, Me?
Rachel Snyder

For so very long, I assumed it was all about me.

I was too loud, created too much of a presence when I walked into the room, was definitely too sexual, and was far too passionate about far too many things. I wanted to live life from the core of my being while, all around me, people were living from the neck up. I yearned to ask questions like Why? and Why Not? while so many around me seemed content to uphold the status quo with nary a whimper.

Clearly, I was a misfit.

For decades, it never crossed my mind that as a white, heterosexual (so far) woman, college graduate, wage-earning, tax-paying cog in the wheel of holy consumerism, and eventual wife and mother of two, that I was a card-carrying member of an oppressed gender group.

Surely, it was simply all about me.

When I was 20 years old and making my way in Washington, DC, I proudly shared, at a family gathering, copies of the newsletter I was writing for an alternative energy group. "Newsletter, schnewsletter!" spat out one of my paternal aunts as she dismissed the fruits of my creative expression. "When are you going to give your father some grandchildren?"

She was obviously a singular bitch, and I was walking down a woefully misdirected path. Or so I was led to believe. I had been injected with some magic potion and was sleepwalking my way through the fog.

Whenever I began to shine with my own brilliance someone or something stepped in and tried to restrain me. Once when I complained that my restaurant customers had to wait too long for their orders my boss waved a large meat cleaver in my direction. "You care too much!" he bellowed.

Later I was let go from a part-time job that I loved because ostensibly I was too big for the store. Translation: I was threatening to the boss's wife, who needed to maintain her own vision of being Queen Bee and was not prepared to have her husband working with a woman at least as bright and alive as she was. So much for sisterhood.

My job experiences piled up. As long as I kept working and turning out massive amounts of outstanding end products, I was adored. If I lost myself in the process, so be it. When I complained about unfair office politics, raised questions about burdensome work loads invariably directed down the organizational chart to administrative and support staff, and spoke out against a work culture hell bent on squeezing the life blood out of people and then tossing them out in favor of fresher, more malleable recruits, I became persona non grata.

"Why do you always have to make waves?" I was admonished time and again. A good foot soldier does what she is told, cashes her check at the bank, and never looks back.

Meanwhile the media and culture around me were being touched by emerging second-wave feminism. I got it intellectually yet was smug and pleased that it wasn't about me. I had gotten what I believed I wanted and needed. Why couldn't other women just do the same? Yet, too blind to see the forest for the trees, I continued to internalize the blame for my continual head-butching with an alien culture I did not understand.

When divorce and bankruptcy plunged me and my children into the depths of financial poverty I figured I was lazy or unwilling and berated myself for my growing antipathy toward serving the needs of the marketplace. Cooperative as always, my psyche easily allowed me to reconcile the fact that I could read articles about women's pervasive economic inequality while continuing to think, "That's not me."

At age 40, shaken by my mid-life passage, I took to the stage to voice an emerging woman's angst. With nothing between me and the audience save a microphone, I used the comedian's tool of self-deprecation to explore "All The Women We Are." They laughed and they cried and they grew alternately boisterous and eerily quiet as I painted verbal pictures of a woman juggling the roles of mother, wife in a crumbling marriage, elected public official, freelance writer, and emerging human being.

"Kind of angry, aren't you?" asked one woman after a performance. I wanted to slam her up against the wall -- and wondered what had happened to me that I could entertain such a violent thought. My husband-on-the-verge-of-becoming-an-ex was mortified and found solace among other men similarly wounded at the mere thought of having their wives speak out on a public stage.

A small voice inside me uttered, "There you've gone and done it again. Making waves, upsetting people, going too far, thinking only about yourself." Thankfully, another voice elbowed its way in and boomed at the first, "Get lost!"

Suddenly, after decades of loud internal and external choruses striving their best to convince me that I was too pushy, too aggressive, too ambitious, too intelligent, too spiritual, too compassionate,
too provocative, too sensitive, too loving, and too "Oh, you know...," I began to put the pieces together.

With a crisp, clean "click," the picture came into focus and I saw my true feminine power in a new light I flashed on the moments of peace and unspeakable joy I have always felt in sacred circle surrounded by women and men of pure intention. The feeling of being "Home" that wells up and spreads throughout my being when I experience the re-remembered feminine paradigm in all its co-operative, co-creating, heart-based, transformational glory. The quiet power that nourishes and balances me when I feel free enough to express every facet of who I am without judgment or constraint. The joy of having men in my life aching to give breath and free expression to their own magnificent feminine sides. The radical grace that envelops us all when each and every one of us is fully empowered to take her and his authentic place in the greater circle of interconnectedness. Finally, I knew that it wasn't all about me, and never had been. I'm grateful that it's only taken me about 50 years to get it. For some, it can take a lifetime.

**Reflections of an Evolving Pro-Feminist Man**

Ben Zeman

Why is it that every time someone points out that men objectify women or commit violence against them, some man has to respond "But we've got it hard, too!" Unfortunately, it is true that men become cannon fodder in wartime, are expected to behave in non-self-nurturing ways, may never show feelings and so forth. But why does our pain have to compete with women's pain? I think one reason we as men do this is because we want to deflect the fact that we are the agents of oppression of women. We'd rather talk about how oppressed we are rather than how we oppress others.

Or why do some men, like me, when challenged on our own sexism declare "I didn't mean to!" which implies that we shouldn't be blamed if our intentions were good, and which ignores the experience of the targets of our sexism. Indeed, most of us mean well when we act out oppressive behavior, but our unintended victims experience it as oppression anyway.

There is a myth that there are "good men" and "bad men." The bad men are those who rape and beat women. The good men are us and everybody we know. The myth also says that it isn't our responsibility to do anything about rape and abuse except hate these awful bad men, these monsters, and threaten to kick their asses if any of them tries anything with our girlfriends or sisters. But obviously we don't support sexism because we're the good men.

Unfortunately, this myth permits many of our well-intentioned actions as men to support a rape culture. Many of us unconsciously objectify women sexually, and in doing so turn them into things. And as Catherine MacKinnon said, "When you turn a human being into a thing, violence is inevitable." Furthermore, even in these so-called politically correct days, many men commit rape but don't call it that -- 80% of men surveyed in the Ms. Magazine "Report on Rape" who had coerced or forced a woman to have sex against her will did not consider their actions rape.

In my own experiences, I have been involved with a few women who have not said "No" verbally, but if I didn't want to see -- I was much more interested in being sexual with the woman than in hearing what she wanted. For example, one evening a friend of mine came out to me as a survivor of incest. Later that night I kissed her. She didn't say "Don't do that!" But I should have realized that when she had shared that kind of information it was not the appropriate evening for me to even appear to come on to her! Later I found out that my action had been very distressing to her.

For most men, this kind of behavior is excused as "boys will be boys" and we do not hold ourselves accountable for our disrespect towards women. In my case, since I was politically active, I got a reputation as a womanizer. Nevertheless, as is true for most men, other men and society at large allow me to continue to act with disrespect. And to get defensive when called on for my behavior!

So it falls to us to hold ourselves accountable. Women and men speaking out about how they have been victimized by sexual violence empower themselves and others with their brave words. With what John Stoltenberg calls "revolutionary honesty," it is time for evolving pro-feminists like me to speak out, too. It is time for all men to listen without defensiveness when our behavior is challenged. It is time to stop saying, "me, too!" when women speak about sexual violence and sexism in our society and on our campuses. It is time to stop saying "I didn't mean it" and to accept accountability for the effects of our actions. I believe that there are no "good men" and "bad men." I believe that in our society there is a continuum of violence against women, and I have yet to meet a man who is not on the continuum somewhere. All men should ask themselves where do I need to work? What have I done? What help do I →
Learning Lessons
Emily Roche

About 5 years ago I burned out trying to live in New York City. I love city life but New York was getting too much to bear -- so big, so dirty, so impersonal, so... so New York. I'm sure part of it was the fact that I was a poor graduate student and New York had no place to live when you're poor. In fact, it's tough enough if you're doing ok. Anyway, I decided it was time for a change and after some research I settled on Philadelphia as an interesting alternative to New York.

My introduction to the City of Brotherly Love gave me a lot of personal insight into a dynamic of patriarchy with which I had not had personal experience before. I found an apartment pretty quickly and hoped to find full-time work fairly soon but thought that a stint as a temporary employee would hold me over until I found just the right position. It was a good idea but my experience was pretty negative.

The temp agency owner's face twisted into a grimace as she reviewed my test results. "We've got to get this UP," she snapped. "Come on, take the test again!"

I followed her into the computer room to retake my typing test. I had only gotten 41% the first time, and I knew that was not good enough.

After taking the test a second time, I waited in the lobby for my results. When they were ready, the woman called me into the testing room to discuss them.

"You did worse the second time," she snapped, "only 38%. I can't send you out there with results like these. You'll have to practice your typing and come back to try again. You will never get a job in this town if you can't type," she went on. "Look, I can see your resume—you've got the education, you've got a couple years of experience but you can't type." her voice rising on the last word. "If you want to do this, I can't learn to type for you; it is entirely up to you. There are lots of ways to learn this quickly—you can practice by transcribing interesting magazine articles during your breaks at work—and when you get up to speed call me back and we'll try again," she stated almost dismissively.

WOW! Was I taken aback! But I soon discovered this experience wasn't unusual as I trekked from temp agency to temp agency applying for consideration for their lists of possible positions. It seemed to be an odd phenomenon -- a single woman moving to a strange city without a job -- or a husband. It didn't seem to compute. And the fact that I didn't have basic "secretarial" skills, like typing, seemed to make my situation appear even more peculiar to my potential brokers.

Not sure that I wanted to spend a lot of time getting secretarial skills since my professional goals were for high-tech marketing positions and ultimately management, I started answering ads for full-time positions. My experiences in these instances were very different from those with the temp firms. More often than not my interviews would be with men. And when I answered the inevitable question of "What brings you to Philadelphia?" with my "need to get out of New York and start a new life," the responses were different from those of the women at the temp agencies. It didn't seem to matter very much. These interviewers were looking at my skills and whether or not I would fit their requirements. There didn't seem to be other issues at work, which is what I had felt from my earlier experiences. I have been trying to figure it out.

The temporary help industry is overwhelmingly female owned and operated. And although it was never voiced, I couldn't help the nagging feeling that my moving to a new city on my own was viewed as peculiar, if not outlandish. The women of the temp agency world made me feel as though my decision as a single woman to better my life had as much negative impact on my ability to get a temp job as did my poor typing skills. It wasn't spoken but it seemed to hang in the air like an odor. At each appointment I was asked what
had brought me to the city. When I explained I was starting over in a new place there was invariably a pause, followed by a hollow sounding, "Oh." They always promised to "see what they could do for me" as they ushered me out the door but I never heard back from any of them.

The effect of this was that I felt discriminated against by my own sex. I was saddened that so many women sounded so judgmental and negative about my personal decisions -- especially when my male interviewers seemed just the opposite. I felt certain that had I told the temp employees that "my husband got relocated and I just need to find a job to bring in some extra money..." I would have received a much different response. But such was not the case. Whether my assumption of "prejudice" is correct or not, my experience has given me a lot to think about.

Was the hostility of the temp agency people real or imagined? Did they really think I was weird or were they just concerned about investing in a very short-term relationship with someone who was looking for full-time work? And if it was the latter, why didn't they just say so? Were they being overly polite? Or was I experiencing real internalized sexism as I felt? Were the men who interviewed me less "concerned" about a single female making a major life move or were they just less obvious about it? Was it less of an issue to them because I was applying for full time rather than temporary work?

I was brought up with the strong feminist belief that women had to band together and help each other fight for equality in and out of the workplace. I didn't feel that this philosophy was held by any of the women I met in my job search. I may have been wrong but that's how I felt. In retrospect, I should have spoken up and asked the question. Not having done so puts me as much at fault as anyone in my story because we all have the obligation to speak up and learn and share the truth. I sometimes think about the Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) laws that look at the effect of an employer's action rather than the intent. The effect these women had on me was negative. I don't believe that was their intent. I will ask in the future. And I will make sure that in my own dealings with other women (and men) in the workplace I will do my best to talk about these issues and not just let them pass.

Of Interest

The Worth of Your Labor
Sandra Howard

Would you be willing to work two-and-one-half hours more a day to make the same pay as another person who does comparable work? That's a six-and-one-half day week for five days wages! Sex-based wage discrimination is prevalent in occupations that have traditionally been held by one sex (e.g. construction = men; nursing = women). Women historically have earned less income than men have earned for full-time work. The pay for women has not been and still is not comparable to that of their white male counterparts. For example, compare a male delivery driver and a female clerk typist in Minnesota. He earns over $250 more per month than she does in income wages. A male meter reader for an Illinois water department has an annual salary that is almost $6,000 more than that of a female typist clerk. In Los Angeles, the wage gap between a male probation officer and a female children's social worker is $20,000 and one is forced to wonder which job will have the longest lasting effect on society.

What messages are we sending throughout society when a female school office manager earns an average of $4.00 less per hour than a male landscaper? These occupations are comparable in skill level and responsibility yet the wages are very dissimilar. All of these examples are based on case studies conducted by the National Committee on Pay Equity to evaluate wage gaps between women and men. The results indicated that women are segregated into traditionally female dominated occupations which pay less than comparable jobs traditionally held by men -- jobs with similar working conditions, skill requirements and responsibilities.

The National Committee on Pay Equity (1126 Sixteenth Street, NW, #411,Washington, DC 20036 – http://www.feminist.com/fairpay/peinfo.htm) collected samples throughout the United States and Canada to compare women's jobs to men's in a number of occupational fields. Although several jobs were deemed equivalent in skill and responsibility, women demonstrably earned considerably less income for full-time work than did men in similar jobs. Wage gaps of this type define human worth across North America. The implication is that women are not worthy of equal pay in occupations for which they are doing comparable work and possess the same levels of skill as men. This problem, and it is a problem, minimizes the American worker. It negates the quality and efforts of peoples' labor not only for their sex, but also for their career choices.
On average, full-time working women in Colorado earn 75 cents for each dollar earned by men who work full-time. People of color fare much worse. Women of color earn an average of 59 cents and men of color an average of 69 cents for each dollar earned by white males. While the gender/wage gap has narrowed significantly over the last two decades, the change is more the result of a decrease in men's wages than any major advancement for women.

A portion of the wage gap is no doubt due to the discriminatory devaluing of women and people of color. As an African-American woman I do not wish to work an additional day and a-half a week for the same wages as my white male counterpart who is performing the same or comparable work. Nor do I wish to take anything away from other people who work for their livelihoods. I wish to educate others on this issue and advocate for pay equity that values the efforts of all Americans equally—by their labor and skill, not by their gender and race. Supporting non-discrimination legislation helps everyone. This form of support takes you and me. Some things we can do are write to our elected officials and vote for equal pay legislation. We can talk openly about our wages within our jobs forcing our employers to come out from behind the veil of secrecy and discrimination. We can support those who question discrimination in our work place rather than avoiding them, which only serves to strengthen the veil of secrecy and discrimination. Non action, when we know the truth, is an act of omission that hurts all workers. Let us support the creation of a society that respects and honors the efforts of our labor and values all human rights, including the right to comparable pay for comparable work.

President’s Day Donations "In Honor of" George W. Bush Poured in to Planned Parenthood

In an article in the Los Angeles Times columnist Pat Morrison said that she was planning to make a contribution to Planned Parenthood in George Bush's name in honor of Presidents Day and as a demonstration of displeasure with the nomination of John Ashcroft for Attorney General and Mr. Bush's reinstatement of the Global Gag Rule on abortion. What happened next was a demonstration of spontaneous activism as a grassroots movement took off resulting in over 15,000 messages and more than $500,000 in donations reported by Planned Parenthood on the weekend before Presidents Day.

Planned Parenthood Federation of America (PPFA), the nation’s largest reproductive health and rights organization, responded to the overwhelming interest in the campaign circulating over the Internet by setting up a "Planned Parenthood Presidents' Day Message Campaign" on the organization’s Web site at www.plannedparenthood.org/donate. The site allowed visitors to make a donation to the organization while simultaneously sending a personal message that Planned Parenthood forwarded to Mr. Bush. Messages ran the gamut from simple statements of support for reproductive rights to tributes from grandmothers who lived through harrowing personal experiences during the years before the fundamental right to legal abortion was codified by the Supreme Court 28 years ago in Roe v. Wade.

The contribution program has been so successful that Planned Parenthood has continued the program under the banner "White House Message Campaign." They have a $100,000 goal and contributions and pledges can be made at www.plannedparenthood.org, or at:

Planned Parenthood Federation of America
1780 Massachusetts Ave, NW
Washington, DC 20036
202/785-3351
FAX: 202/293-4349

Planned Parenthood Federation of America is the world’s largest and most trusted voluntary family planning organization. It comprises 127 affiliates that operate 875 health centers nationwide, which serve nearly five million Americans annually.

Did you know…? NOMAS has two divisions

The Men’s Studies Association (MSA) which sponsors an annual meeting for scholars to gather and present papers on the issues of men and masculinity

Ending Men’s Violence Network (EMV-NET) which provides an umbrella organization for groups focused on ending violence throughout the country.
National Institute of Justice Study on Sexual Victimization of College Women

The sexual victimization of college women is a long-standing controversial issue between feminist scholars and conservatives. Feminists claim that such victimization is a serious problem on American college campuses while conservatives believe that it is rare and primarily concocted through the use of ideologically biased research.

The National Institute of Justice (NIJ), a division of the United States Department of Justice (DOJ), in co-sponsorship with the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS), commissioned a report on this issue which was released in December, 2000. The findings of the report that was based on the comparison of two national-level studies indicates that more than 350 rapes per year may take place on college campuses with populations of 10,000 female students! The implications of this estimation are astounding and while the report will not resolve the conflict between opposing camps, it must give reasonable people pause.

The report authors, Bonnie S. Fisher, Francis T. Cullen and Michael G. Turner, compared the findings of the National College Women Sexual Victimization Study (NCWSV) and the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS). Both studies were conducted using national samples of more than 4,000 women who were attending a 2 or 4-year college during fall 1996. While there were differences between the two studies with the NCVS showing fewer incidents than the NCWSV, the authors report that the NCVS study was less specific in terminology and suggest that the use of the word "crime" in the study title may have prejudiced some respondents who didn't view their victimizations as crimes.

Nevertheless, among other things, the authors found that many women do not characterize their sexual victimizations as a crimes for a variety of reasons including embarrassment, lack of clear definition of terms, fear of retribution or fear of harming the reputation of their attacker. Also the report shows that victims are most likely to know their assailants (9 out of 10) and are not likely to report the incidents to authorities (fewer than 5% of incidents are reported). Sexual victimization occurs most frequently at night and most often in a residential setting -- almost 60% of the completed rapes took place in the victim's residence.

Both studies also investigated the incidence of stalking which was defined as "repeated, obsessive, and frightening behavior that made the victim afraid or concerned for her safety." Using this definition 13.1 percent of respondents reported incidents of stalking. However, when the definition of stalking was restricted to incidents that included actual threats of harm ("a requirement for criminal stalking in many States (sic)"), the sample falls to under 2%. As in the case of other sexual victimization, victims of stalking most often (four out of five) knew their stalkers.

Finally, the report looked at the extent of visual and verbal sexual victimization. While incidents of visual victimization (being exposed to pornographic pictures, a perpetrator's genitals, or being unwillingly observed naked) were fairly small, verbal victimizations were commonplace. About half of the respondents were subjected to sexist remarks, catcalls, and sexually suggestive whistles. One in five had received obscene phone calls or been subjected to intrusive questions about her sex or romantic life and one in 10 had had false rumors spread about her sex life.

Mockery of Katherine Harris Shows Double Standard

When women reach middle age and finally have a crack at power and influence, they are struck by the pervasive double standard of aging: Men can look like unmade beds and gain in gravitas while women are judged ruthlessly on their looks and often silenced. Not since a pale Richard Nixon locked horns with a tanned John F. Kennedy in the first televised presidential debate in 1960 has make-up been a major subject of political dialogue in the U.S.

But 40 years later, journalists, talk show hosts and comedians had a field day with the powder and mascara used by Florida Secretary of State Katherine Harris. She burst onto the national scene trying to certify Texas Gov. George W. Bush as the winner of the state's electoral votes, undoubtedly not expecting her cosmetics to get almost as much ink as Florida's dimpled and undimpled chads.

Harris--whether you see her as a heroine or a diehard partisan--became the inheritor of a growing
trend in American politics. The men can look like
unmade beds and that fact goes unmentioned, while
the bodies, hair and makeup of women receive intense
scrutiny. The philosopher Susan Sontag refers to it as
“the double standard of aging.”

The scrutiny of Harris was unrelenting, and largely
unflattering. A profile in The Washington Post noted that
Harris' lipstick was of “the creamy sort that smears all
over a coffee cup and leaves smudges on shirt collars,”
that she "applied her makeup with a trowel" and
compared the texture of her skin to that of a plastered
wall.

**Men's Appearance Unremarkable, Women's to
Be Remarked Upon**

A Democratic operative labeled her Cruela deVil,
the villainess of "102 Dalmatians," and the term got
repeated everywhere. The Boston Globe said maybe
she was planning to unwind at a drag bar, because of all
her makeup, and the Boston Herald called her a painted
lady. Jay Leno called the election "tighter than Katherine
Harris' face."

The reaction to Harris underlines an unspoken fact
of media life: Men's appearance is almost always
unremarkable and unremarked upon, while women's is
nearly always to be remarked upon, often to the
exclusion of other qualities.

There was almost no media comment, for
example, on the physiognomy of the spokesmen for the
two campaigns, James Baker and Warren Christopher,
men of a certain age who indeed look their ages. The
physique of Republican Vice Presidential nominee Dick
Cheney only became the subject of news articles when a
mild heart attack led to question of his weight gain. Had
that not happened, his girth would have been most un-
newworthy.

This double standard is almost an exact replay of
one of the biggest political stories of the past decade:
the impeachment saga. Once again, there were major
female players and major male actors, but the only ones
whose faces and bodies were routinely scrutinized were
the women's: Monica Lewinsky, Linda Tripp, Paula
Jones and Hillary Clinton. Three out of four of these
women actually felt compelled to alter their faces or
bodies after the searing light of the media spotlight
focused on them.

Paula Jones, who accused President Clinton of
sexual harassment, got a nose job. Monica Lewinsky,
after endless media stories about her weight, joined a
commercial weight-loss program and became its
spokesperson for a time. Linda Tripp, who "ratted" on
Lewinsky, endured constant comments on her weight,
hair and dress--to the point that she reportedly got a
makeover, including liposuction, to project a better
image.

**Women Judged by Only One Standard--The
Looks of a Girl**

Compare Linda Tripp with another major figure,
Special Prosecutor Ken Starr. Like Tripp, he was middle-
aged, very average in appearance and hardly a snazzy
dresser. Neither of these two people would have stood
out in a crowd of bureaucrats on Washington's F Street.
But there was almost no comment at all about Starr's
personal appearance, weight, hairstyle and so on, while
Linda Tripp was a moving target.

As for Hillary Clinton, her hairdos, hips, legs, hair
color and the like have been subjects of endless
comment.

As Sontag points out, there are two standards of
appearance by which men are judged--the boy and the
man. The boy has a slim waist, smooth skin and thick
hair. The man can be considered handsome with a
thickening waist, wrinkles and a hairline that's barely
there. Sean Connery, in his sixties, was dubbed the
sexiest man alive by People magazine.

For women there's only one standard: the girl.
Whether she's nineteen or 49, a woman is judged by the
girl standard. The media is very attentive to this
unwritten law. In films, aging male stars play romantic
leads with leading ladies 30 years younger.

And observe most news anchor pairs around the
country: They look like some guy and his second wife.
Observe the talking heads on cable: These look like
grandfathers and their granddaughters chatting. Why are
so many female commentators young and blonde, while
almost no male pundits look like boys?

The double standard of aging has real
consequences. Its main effect is to silence women. How
many men would put themselves forward in the public
arena knowing that the texture of their skin and their
girth would be constantly examined? Women who step
forward must pay the price of critical scrutiny, while men
are nearly always exempt.

**The Double Standard Strikes When Women Are
Old Enough to Exert Power**

The double standard strikes women at the exact
point in their lives when they can begin to exert real
power, at middle age and beyond. Aside from the
occasional supermodel or actress, women in their
twenties rarely have much power, just as most young
men do not. But as men age, they inherit the cloak of
invisibility, or at least acceptability. That is the
unwritten law. In films, aging male stars play romantic
leads with leading ladies 30 years younger.

As for Hillary Clinton, her hairdos, hips, legs, hair
color and the like have been subjects of endless
comment.

But women are only allowed to go from girl to
trying-to-stay-a-girl. A columnist in the Boston Herald
wrote of Harris, "There seemed to be something
humiliating, sad, desperate and embarrassing about
Harris yesterday, a woman of a certain age trying
too hard to hang on.” Katherine Harris is 43, not exactly a crone.

Women are mocked in the media for aging; they are not acceptable unless they have been face-lifted or lipo-suctioned. This is a powerful mechanism for keeping women unseen and unheard at the very time they might exert power. Some societies require women to be covered head to toe to appear in public. We have our own version of the chador: an unwritten rule dictating that if you are a woman, you had better not appear to age.

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The Barbara Gittings Gay & Lesbian Collection

Barbara Gittings was the first true lesbian and gay activist. She joined the fledgling movement in 1958 and, shortly afterwards, with the unflagging assistance of the great love of her life, Kay Tobin Lahusen, she emerged as one of its most articulate representatives.

Throughout the decades, Barbara and Kay helped initiate and uphold a strategic militancy that was crucial to the American movement's earliest growth. She was in the forefront of the battle against now-discredited psychiatric theorizing. She stood on the ramparts in the earliest picketing demonstrations.

Barbara founded the first East Coast chapter of the Daughters of Bilitis, the nation's original lesbian group. She became the editor of America's first lesbian movement magazine, The Ladder. Among her primary motives had been to make the process of coming out easier for closeted, distressed women and men.

Today, her pioneering efforts have earned Barbara a much-deserved honor: the naming after her at the Independence Branch of the Free Library of Philadelphia, of a gay and lesbian collection that is housed, appropriately, within the very shadow of Independence Hall. Philadelphia, where Barbara has lived most of her life, is setting an example, honoring this amazing, indefatigable woman whose entire life has been dedicated to helping others. Gay Today recommends that other library collections of gay and lesbian works be named after Barbara Gittings. The least we can do, in fact, is to thank her in a meaningful way, honoring her name wherever library collections of gay and lesbian books exist.

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Men and Masculinities Journal

NOMAS and the Men's Studies Association (MSA) help sponsor an academic journal called Men and Masculinities. Edited by NOMAS spokesperson Michael Kimmel, Men and Masculinities is a refereed journal publishing the most recent gender studies research on men and masculinities. It presents empirical and theoretical articles that use both interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary approaches, employ diverse methods and are grounded in current theoretical perspectives within gender studies, including feminism, queer theory and multiculturalism. Volume 3, Issue 4 will be available in April, 2001 and can be ordered from the publisher, Sage Publications at http://www.sagepub.co.uk/. The contents for the upcoming issue are below:

Articles
From Mensch to Macho? The Social Construction of a Jewish Masculinity, ELISE MARTEL
Masculinity and Monstrosity: Characterization and Identification in the Slasher Film, KLAUS RIESER

Exchange
Proud to Be a Man? RICHARD SCHMITT
Male Pride and Antisexism, HARRY BROD
Some Final Thoughts, RICHARD SCHMITT

Book Reviews
Writing Masculinities: Male Narratives in Twentieth-Century Fiction by Ben Knight, ANDY BARNES
Nine Lives: Adolescent Masculinities, the Body, and Violence by James Messerschmidt, JAMES GARBARINO
Men in Love: Masculinity and Sexuality in the Eighteenth Century by George E. Haggerty, NORBERT SCHURER

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Milestones:

With this issue, BROTHER plans to establish a section called "Milestones" to announce information about members that may be of interest or use to other members and readers of BROTHER. If you have news to share with other members or know of someone who does, please contact us by e-mail at info@nomas.org or PO Box 455, Louisville, CO 80027 or call the Editor at 303-860-1617.

Ancestors Found

Thanks to William A. Beck for information on the following two NOMAS "ancestors" who were missed in the list published in Winter 2000 BROTHER.

Robert (Bob) Morgan (deceased) – one of the founders of the Pittsburgh Men's Collective and, for many years, the mentor of the group.
Jim Hanneken (deceased) – an active member of the Pittsburgh Men's Collective and, for several years, the director of Second Step, an agency working with men prone to abusive violence.


Based on a landmark national survey of 300 men, and in-depth interviews with 70 others, FatherLoss is the first book that focuses specifically on how sons cope with the deaths of their dads. Chethik offers rich portraits of a variety of father-son relationships, and focuses on how the death of a father affects sons differently, depending on when in their lives it occurs. (from the publisher's notes) Available at www.bn.com


This book explores the frightening ways our prisons mirror the worst aspects of society-wide gender relations. It is part of the growing research on men and masculinities. The collection is unusual in that it combines contributions from activists, academics, and prisoners. Find more information at: http://www.temple.edu/tempress/titles/1478_reg.html

Gone Independent – Doug Gertner has opened a private practice as scholar and consultant focusing on men's issues, fatherhood programs, and management development. Named for the large, flightless Australian bird known for its male parenting, Doug operates under the name Emu Associates and consults for two fatherhood programs and teaches graduate courses in education at the University of Colorado at-Colorado Springs and the University of Denver. Contact Doug at dougandmaggie@mindspring.com

New Web Sites – Rose Garrity proudly announced the launch of a new Web site at http://anhc.home.att.net/. It's a neat, easy-to-follow site with lots of information about the programs at A New Hope Center. Check it out!

Phyllis Frank also announced a new website dedicated to the Rockland County Gay Pride Parade at http://www.
NOMAS Activism

The Immigration and Naturalization Service invited comment on a proposed rule change to recognize women who are victims of domestic violence as a "social group" under its rule on Asylum and Withholding Definitions. The NOMAS EMV-Net wrote the following letter in response to this invitation for comment. The cut off date for comments was January 21, 2001. No ruling has been issued as of this writing.

A detailed article on this issue was published on January 9, 2001 in the Webzine Salon (http://www.salon.com/news/feature/2001/01/09/asylum/index.html). Written by staff editor Fiona Morgan the article describes the plight of Rodi Alvarado, the Guatemalan refugee who fled her home for the United States after more than 10 years of rape and beatings at the hands of her husband. Guatemalan authorities view domestic violence as a "family matter" and not a crime. It was Ms. Alvarado's plight that caused INS officials to propose the rule change during the Clinton Administration. Ms. Morgan makes the point that the proposed rule amendment will be submitted by the INS to the Bush government where it may or may not be approved. No ruling has been made to date. BROTHER urges you to write, fax, email or call your elected representatives, the INS and the White House and support the approval of this bill. If you don't have Internet access and need help obtaining names and addresses of elected officials, please contact BROTHER at 303-860-1617 or by writing to us at the address on the masthead. The following letter was sent to the INS on behalf of NOMAS by the Ending Mens' Violence Network.

Director
Policy Directives and Instructions Branch
Immigration and Naturalization Service
425 I Street, NW, Room 4034
Washington, DC 20536.

Reference: INS No. 2092-00
January 9, 2001

Dear Sir or Madam:

On behalf of the Ending Men's Violence Network (EMV-Net) of the National Organization for Men Against Sexism (NOMAS), we are writing to recommend the adoption of the above referenced rule on Asylum and Withholding Definitions which would recognize women who are victims of domestic violence as a "social group" for the purpose of obtaining asylum in the United States.

The EMV-Net, through its work with anti-violence groups around the United States, can attest to the fact that women are too often the victims of persecution and mental and physical torture in the form of domestic violence simply because they are women. Many religious fundamentalists in a variety of sects teach that women are inferior to men and are therefore deemed appropriate victims in the eyes of their gods. Afghanistan has become an extreme example of this sort of victimization since the Taliban took power but many other countries permit domestic violence as an institutionalized victimization of women simply because of their gender.

Undoubtedly you have heard this message from a wide range of organizations and individuals who are concerned with the rights and freedoms of women and all people to live free from violence in their homes and in their countries. As the oldest pro-feminist men's group in the United States, we add our voice and our strong endorsement for the adoption of this rule.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. If you have any questions or need any clarification, please call us at 845-634-5729.

Very truly yours,
Jon Cohen
Chair, Ending Men's Violence Network
NOMAS

Jim McDowell
Member, Ending Men's Violence Network
NOMAS
BIASED JURY -- On February 7, 2001, Stanley Lingar was executed by the state of Missouri for a murder committed in 1985. The circumstances around the murder, trial, conviction and sentencing indicate that the prosecution introduced the fact of Mr. Lingar’s homosexuality in order to prejudice the rural jury during their sentencing deliberations. The content of the letter below which was sent to the Governor of Missouri and joined NOMAS’s voice with those of the ACLU, the NGLTF, Americans for a Better Way, and many others, explains the basic issues. More information can be found on various Websites.

If we can’t convince our governments to stop murdering people, how will we ever convince the populace?

February 3, 2001

Gov. Bob Holden
Governor’s Office--Jefferson City
Missouri Capitol Building, Room 216
P.O. Box 720
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0720
VIA FAX: (573) 751-1495

Dear Governor Holden:

On behalf of the Task Group on Homophobia of the National Association for Men Against Sexism (NOMAS), I am writing to ask you to commute the death sentence of Stanley Lingar to life in prison. I believe it was impossible for him to receive a fair sentence given the prosecution’s unfortunate stratagem to turn the jury against the defendant by playing on socially ingrained heterosexism and homophobia. The introduction of Stanley Lingar’s sexual orientation was irrelevant and potentially inflammatory.

There is no question that Thomas Scott Allen’s death was a horrible and senseless thing. One’s heart must reach out to the family who suffered this loss in such a terrible situation. NOMAS is fundamentally against violence and we abhor what happened to this young man. However, we are also concerned that the state based its case on the testimony of a co-defendant who was granted leniency in return for testimony, and whose version of events was inconsistent with the medical evidence. And that Mr. Lingar’s attorney’s inexperience may have resulted in the jurors not hearing important mitigating evidence including an abusive background, mental impairment, his remorse and his potential for rehabilitation.

With national and international concerns about the fairness and reliability of the death penalty in the United States, commuting Mr. Lingar’s sentence would show the world that Missouri can lead the way to a more humane society. We at NOMAS hope you will feel the same way.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Very truly yours,

Allen Corben
Chair, Task Group on Homophobia
National Organization for Men Against Sexism

NOMAS urges all members to become politically involved and write to your elected officials, local and national newspapers, websites etc., and make your feelings known on matters of importance to you and to the pro-feminist men’s movement. NOMAS Task Groups and the National Council are committed to becoming more involved as an organization and will keep readers apprised of developments in the pages of BROTHER and soon on the website at www.nomas.org. We welcome your suggestions for issues of local or national import that you feel NOMAS should raise its voice about. Please contact us by email at info@nomas.org of PO Box 455, Louisville, CO 80027
Cool Websites for Hot Issues

The following Websites have been suggested by members as being of interest to themselves and thus probably to other members of NOMAS and the pro-feminist men's movement.

More than 43,000 women will die from breast cancer this year. This website, through corporate sponsors, provides mammograms for low income women who otherwise might be unable to obtain this valuable procedure. Plus, the site provides a wealth of retail merchants who donate a percentage of your purchases to pay for even more mammograms. Go see, click, save and shop to help beat this killer! – http://www.thebreastcancersite.com

“What news looks like when women matter.”
Women’s Enews is a project of the Women, Policy and Media Program of NOW Legal Defense and Education Fund. The goal of Women’s Enews is to provide a professional news service to the public and the media, policy makers and opinion shapers, covering the news about issues of importance to women. – http://www.womensenews.org

White Ribbon Campaign

Men Working To End Men’s Violence Against Women.
365 Bloor St. East, Suite 203, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M4W 3L4
Phone: (416) 920-6684 or 1-800-328-2220
Fax: (416) 920-1679
E-Mail: whiteribbon@direct.com
ICQ#: 14563233
website: www.whiteribbon.ca or www.whiteribbon.com
http://www.whiteribbon.ca/

The breast cancer research stamps are still available. Priced at 40 cents they cover the new 34 cent first class postage and provide six cents each for cancer research. More than $7,000,000 had been donated by the middle of 2000. Available at postal service offices or at http://www.usps.com.

One In Four is a group of men who educate other men about sexual assault. They are walking across America to bring attention to this issue. Please visit their site and support them. – http://www.oneinfour.com

Feminist.com is a grassroots, interactive community by, for and about women. We aim to facilitate information-sharing among women and encourage mobilization around political issues. – http://www.feminist.com

Tomboy Tools’ goal is to provide the highest quality tools and home improvement techniques to women, empowering them to be confident and competent do-it-yourselfers -- Tomboy Tools’ new definition of TOMBOY!

Our Mission: DADs provides tools to strengthen father-daughter relationships and to transform the pervasive cultural messages that value daughters more for how they look than for who they are.

Dads and Daughters
26th National Men & Masculinity Conference

The 26th National Men & Masculinity conference is the finest occasion for activists, academics, workers in mental health, diversity, faith communities, domestic and sexual violence, and anyone interested in gathering, organizing, and working to end all forms of oppression and injustice and to celebrate choice, alternatives, and possibilities. This year NOMAS celebrates 26 years of the pro-feminist men's movement with a conference on

**MANifesting Global Justice: Creating Inclusive Communities.**

The conference will take place July 20 - 22, in Denver, Colorado, on the University of Denver campus. This is the second time a conference will be held in the Rocky Mountain States. We welcome your submissions for workshops and keynote addresses as well as entertainment and other activities. Your ongoing support and participation is a statement that men can stand together, with feminist women allies, to create a fair and just society.

**Call for Workshop Proposals**

NOMAS is interested in workshops that evaluate current advances in the field of men's studies and examine diverse aspects in gender identity, gender roles, masculinity, and the experiences of men's lives, to identify ways in which the lives of men and women might be enhanced. Presentations (90 minutes) are welcome on a wide range of topics including, but not limited to, men and feminism, racism, homophobia, fathering, men and spirituality, prostitution and pornography, men and violence, sexual and domestic assault, men in the arts and history, constructs of gay masculinity, men in prison, multiculturalism and diversity, men's health and more. To propose a workshop, please send us the following information on a separate sheet of paper (one sheet for each workshop proposal). 1) brief title of presentation; 2) name(s) of presenter(s); 3) 25-word bio of each presenter; 4) 70-word description of the presentation; 5) special considerations for locating/scheduling your workshop and equipment needed.

Please send submissions to info@nomas.org or mail to NOMAS M&M26 PO Box 455 Louisville, CO 80027-0455. The deadline for submissions is June 15, 2001. Please share this information with your colleagues and institutions. Please feel free to contact NOMAS at info@NOMAS.org, or visit our website at www.NOMAS.org. Note that you must be registered as an attendee to offer a workshop.

**Call for Papers for Men's Studies Association Meeting**

The Men's Studies Association (MSA) is now accepting research papers and presentation proposals for its 13th annual meeting, in conjunction with M&M26. The meeting will be held on July 20 from 9AM to 4PM at University of Denver, Denver, CO. The MSA is interested in proposals that evaluate current advances in the field of men's studies scholarship and examine diverse aspects in gender identity, gender roles, masculinity, and the experiences of men's lives. Undergraduate and graduate students are encouraged to submit. If accepted, submission abstracts will appear in a special edition of BROTHER.

Please send: 1) brief title, 2) name(s) of presenter(s), 3) 50-word vitae, 4) 250-word abstract, 5) description of special considerations and equipment needed, to David Greene and Carole Campana at dgreene@ramapo.edu or to NOMAS at info@NOMAS.org. Please visit www.NOMAS.org for more information.

**Sponsorship/Advertising Opportunities**

NOMAS welcomes sponsorship and advertising to support its national conferences. With local and national advertising, website publication, press and mailing campaigns, sponsorship and advertising get wide distribution for very reasonable cost. There are several types of sponsorship available including Contributor – $500; Sponsor – $1000; Benefactor – $2000; and Underwriter – over $2000. Sponsorships entitle organizations and companies to varying levels of publicity in our conference materials as well as free registrations. Advertising is available at $150 – full-page; $125 – half page; $60 – quarter page and $35 – business card size. Non-profit sponsors that cannot afford a financial contribution are welcome for "in-kind" arrangements. For more detail please see our website at www.nomas.org, email us at info@nomas.org or call Moshe Rozdzial at 303-666-7043.
NOMAS: The National Organization for Men Against Sexism  
Registration Form- (Please read the following information)  
26th Conference on Men and Masculinity (M&M26)  
University of Denver, Denver, CO  
July 20-22, 2001  
MANifesting Global Justice: Creating Inclusive Communities

Your Name_____________________________________________________________  
Address________________________________ City, St. Zip______________________  
Home Phone____________________________ Work Phone ____________  
E-Mail___________________________________ Organization/Affiliation_____________________

Emergency Contact Info (Name and Phone): ____________________________________________

| Full Conference (2 1/2 days) Registration Fees | Before 5/30/01 | $150.00 |  |
|------------------------------------------------|---------------|---------|
| Before 6/21/01 | $175.00 |  |
| After 6/21/01 or on site | $200.00 |  |

Full registration entitles you to attend all conference sessions and keynotes, receive entry to all entertainment events attend the banquet, receive all official conference documents and attend the conference opening/closing and receptions

| Part Conference Registration Fees | Full day, Saturday, or Sunday | $130.00 |  |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------|
| Walk-in fees per workshop and event will be posted at the door |  |
| Opening and reception, or single keynote/event | $ 15.00 |  |
| Saturday Banquet and program | $ 35.00 |  |

Part registration entitles you to receive conference material.

Financial Aid Adjustment  
☐ Check here if requesting a scholarship. Please indicate amount ______ and rationale_________________

50% off registration fees may be available to youth (18-25) and seniors (over 65). Other discounts may be available based on income.

Room (air conditioned) and Full Board
Available on the campus of the University of Denver -- Double occupancy in dorm room: $60.00 per night

Wed____ Thur____ Fri____ Sat____ Sun____ No. of nights ____ x $60.00 = $______

(please note: Wednesday and Sunday are for National Council Members only)

☐ Check here if you have special dietary or other requirements. Please indicate ___________________________

☐ Check here if you have roommate preferences. Please indicate ___________________________

Registration for Pre-Conference Institutes  
If registered for full conference  
$75.00 |  |

$50.00 |  |

(9 AM-4 PM on Friday, July 20, 2001 -- please check the institute you wish to attend:

☐ 13th Men’s Studies Association Meeting (academic papers)  
☐ Ending Men’s Violence (EMV-network)  
☐ Undoing the “ISMs” (diversity training)

Conference Parking Pass $5
NOMAS Membership (optional): $50 (general), $15-50 (sliding scale)  

Donation to the Financial Aid Fund
I would like to contribute to the M&M conference to sponsor a youth or senior attendee.  

$______

Total (please add up all fees and donations and indicate total amount here)  

$______

Amount enclosed (please enclose at least 50% of total registration not including on-campus housing costs)  

$______

Balance due  

$______

Acknowledgement: Registrations will be acknowledged by mail/e-mail

Payment of Fees: Payment of registration fees must accompany all registration forms. Make checks payable to: NOMAS M&M 26  
PO Box 455  
Louisville, CO 80027-0455