

Preventing IPV Through Engaging Men & Boys

Engaging men and boys is critical to preventing Intimate Partner Violence (IPV). Men and boys can be powerful agents of change in challenging harmful norms and many want to be involved but do not know where or how to start.

Working with men and boys is also important because they are victims as well as perpetrators of violence. Those who support traditional gender norms and notions of masculinity are more likely to use violence against a partner (ii).

**includes sexual violence, physical violence, and/or stalking*



1 in 4 men are victims of IPV during their lifetime*.



Men are **primary perpetrators in 80% of IPV cases.**

(i)

Gender Norms, Masculinity, & IPV

Cultural norms that promote traditional gender roles and masculinity contribute to IPV perpetration, especially against women and girls.

- Men who strongly endorse "traditional masculinity ideology" (dominance, anti-femininity, and aggression) are 4x more likely to perpetrate IPV (ii).
- Men who strongly adhere to masculine norms are more likely to perpetrate violence against female partners (iii).
- Media consumption that glorifies male dominance increases acceptance of IPV by 47% among adolescent boys (iv).

As much as 34% of American men aged 18-30 think a man should always have the final say about decisions in a relationship. (v)



Programs that take a "gender transformative" approach by engaging men and boys in explicit questioning of gender norms and expectations as part of their work are particularly promising strategies for preventing IPV (vi).

Evidence of Success

Rigorous evaluations have demonstrated that various models of engaging men and boys as allies in IPV prevention can achieve significant outcomes.



38% decrease

in teen dating violence perpetration at 12-month follow-up (vii).

Coaching Boys Into Men

56% increase

in percentage of boys understanding what consent means (viii).

A Call to Men

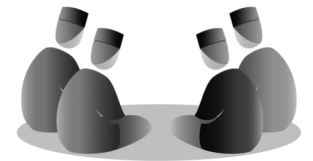
33% decrease

in negative and sexist gender attitudes held by teen boys (ix).

Manhood 2.0 Program

While successful IPV prevention programs that engage men and boys vary in their approach and design, their effectiveness relies in part on incorporating attention to (x-xiii):

- **Challenging harmful masculine norms** that associate manhood with dominance, aggression, and control.
- **Building skills** for healthy relationships, emotional regulation, and nonviolent conflict resolution.
- **Fostering peer support networks** that reinforce positive behaviors and accountability.
- **Encouraging men to be active bystanders** who safely intervene when witnessing harmful attitudes or behaviors.
- **Promoting male leadership in violence prevention** initiatives within communities.



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