

The Monthly Rag

Brought to you by the Feminist and Gender Studies Interns

Block VI 2010

"The Bible contains 6 admonishments to homosexuals and 362 admonishments to heterosexuals. This doesn't mean God doesn't love heterosexuals. It's just that they need more supervision."

~Lynn Lerner

Traditional Masculinity May Be Bad for Your Health

By Ronald F. Levant

The "big four" causes of death in this country are heart disease, cancer, cerebrovascular disease, and accidents.

Consider the statistics on accidents, the fourth leading cause of death in this country, which also takes the lives of far more males than females. Studies indicate that death rates from car accidents alone are almost three times higher for males. This differential can be attributed in part to the fact that men do more driving than women do, particularly when conditions are hazardous, and in much larger part to the gender role training that teaches men it's manly to flirt with death.

Males learn that aggression and violence are not only acceptable but that they should take pride in aggression and violence because that's how they prove themselves men. Males are taught to be tough, daring, fearless, assertive, to respond to threats with anger, and never back down from challenges — all of which conspire to propel males into life-threatening violent situations and prevent them from retreating or fleeing once they're in them.

When anxious, frustrated, threatened, or dared, in other words, an unfortunately large percentage of males are still reacting in accordance with traditional masculine dictates that require they act out aggressively rather than risk the shame attached to admitting fear or vulnerability.

The average male life span is seven years shorter than the average female life span — currently 72 years for males, compared to 78.9 years for females. Mother Nature didn't stack the deck against males. Culture and conditioning does that.

The unfortunate truth is that many men — young and old — would still sooner die than risk being judged unmanly.

Ronald F. Levant is dean of the Center For Psychological Studies at Nova Southeastern University in Fort Lauderdale, and author of several books, including *Masculinity Reconstructed*.

MEXICO

During a police operation in response to protests by a local peasant organization in San Salvador Atenco, more than 45 women were arrested without explanation. Dozens of them were subjected to physical, psychological and sexual violence by the police officers who arrested them.

More than three years later, these brave survivors are still waiting for justice. None of the officials responsible for their abuse have been held accountable.

Federal authorities had conducted an investigation that resulted in a list of 34 names of police officers who were suspected of being responsible for the abuses, but the federal authorities recently concluded that these individuals should be prosecuted at the state level. Now is the time to push for real justice and ask the Governor of Mexico State not to let this impunity continue.

Want to get involved or learn more?
Go to: <http://www.amnestyusa.org>
or contact Amnesty International at CC:
Katrina.Naeve@coloradocollege.edu

CC Amnesty International is a student-led chapter of Amnesty International that advocates for human rights and the protection of justice, freedom, truth, and dignity.

Women Assaulted by Police

"Any girl can be glamorous. All you have to do is stand still and look stupid."

~Hedy Lamarr, *Blazing Saddles*

"Feminism is a minority social movement, whose members murder innocent children in order to obtain sexual gratification."

~ Mike Adams

By Adison ~Class of 2011 Political Science Major

i want my kids to grow up in a house
with buddhists on one side
baptists on the other
and some queers across the street
so that they hear the laughter of a thousand lifetimes
converged in a single lane
at the edge of a capital city
with tiny urban feet running the length of a neighborhood with dreams
little legs crossed
in integrated circles
of color and joy
at the foot of a wise woman's words,
eager to learn an aging lesson
and the legends of sunday morning stories.

**but where can i find such a place
and does it even exist
and how can we build it today to share with our children tomorrow?**

Hi Andi,

I'm a junior and in returning from my time abroad I'm starting to wonder about this whole "hook up culture" at CC. I read last month's "Disengaging Hookup Culture," but I'm wondering now about practically speaking... how do I find a guy to actually DATE at this school? I'm starting to think I should just give up and get a cat. Are there guys out there who are not interested in treating women as sex objects? Where do I find them? How do we, as women, insist that they treat us as human beings and not pieces of ass?

Signed,
Looking for Love
(in all the wrong places?)

Dear Looking for Love,

Let me start out by saying that while I understand why people might want to date on campus, don't forget that there is a big world outside of CC as with people that are mature and aren't afraid of commitment. With that said, I think there is a large "hook up culture" on this campus, but there are many people, male and female who feel the same way as you. The women on this campus need to understand that we have just as much control over this situation as the guys do. If both the women and men on this campus want change to happen they need to be active in that change. Don't "hook up" if that isn't what you want! We are all young adults so let's start acting like it. Let's be straightforward with one another and cut the shit! If you are okay with the way things are, then continue "hooking up," but don't get upset when the other person doesn't want commitment. I'm tired of hearing, "Well they aren't dating but they would both be really upset if the other 'hooked up' with someone." If you care about someone why are you so afraid to commit to that person? No one says you need to get married or even date longer than this block, but why not give it a chance? If we are unhappy with things on this campus, as many of us are, let's be the change we are looking for. Don't "hook up" with someone who sees you as a piece of ass. Ask someone out on a real date! Better yet, hang out with someone while you're not half naked at a party and drunk!

-Andi

I welcome all of you to write in with your opinion on this matter, whatever that opinion may be.

Do you have a question? Something you don't understand? Do you want to know about resources or want more info about our publication?

Contact Andi: Andrea.Ruybal@ColoradoCollege.edu