

**Module Outline for Course Participants**

**Thinking about Men and Masculinity**

Adapted for the Anglophone Caribbean by:

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This module was developed as part of **‘Introduction to Advancing Sexuality Studies: A short course on sexuality theory and research methodologies’**. The short course was developed by the Caribbean Region of the International Resource Network and presented through a partnership with the Institute of Gender & Development Studies at the University of the West Indies, St. Augustine (Trinidad & Tobago). The original module was developed by the Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health and Society, La Trobe University, Melbourne, Australia, *and* the International Association for the Study of Sexuality, Culture and Society.

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This module was adapted by Dr. John Campbell and the Caribbean IRN in partnership with the University of the West Indies (2013). The original module was created by Professor Gary W. Dowsett (with input from Dr Sean Slavin, Ms Gillian Fletcher, Mr Murray Couch, Dr Duane Duncan and Dr Jon Willis), and adapted by the Advancing Sexuality Studies short course team at the Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health and Society, La Trobe University, Melbourne, Australia (2009, revised 2010).

**Abstract**

The concept of masculinity is now used in widely differing ways to problematise issues relating to men and boys, but stands as an accepted category of scholarly inquiry and political endeavour. Once, masculinity was regarded as merely a set of attributes or a quality that a man or boy had more or less of. Yet, in the media, at the UN and academic conferences, and more recently in policy development in health care, education, international development, welfare and justice, masculinity has become the conceptual framework for trying to understand a set of longstanding, if newly recognised, social issues. This module explores these issues and relates them specifically to questions of sexuality.

**Module aims**

This module aims to:

* + Provide participants with an overview of contemporary sociological thinking about masculinity, men and men’s sexuality.
  + Provide a theoretical account of the ways in which ideas about masculinity are changing and explore some of the effects of these changes for men, especially those in the Caribbean.

**Participants will:**

* + Develop a broad understanding of how masculinity has been conceptualised in gender and sexuality theory.
  + Explore the impact of contemporary social and cultural processes related to globalisation and consumerism on practices of Caribbean masculinity.
  + Analyse contemporary debates in the field of masculinities related to sexuality and discuss possible future issues facing men at regional Caribbean and global scales.

**Required pre-reading:**

Chevannes, B (2005) Grannitree. Learning to be a man. Culture, Socialization and Gender Identity in Five Caribbean Communities. Jamaica. University of the West Indies Press.

Coomarsingh, K. “’Tie the Heifer, Loose the Bull:’”: Gender Inequality in the Caribbean.” *What Is Psychology?* http://www.whatispsychology.biz/gender-inequality-in-caribbean Jan. 2012.

Crichlow E A (2004) ‘History, (Re)Memory, Testimony and Biomythography: Charting a Buller Man’s Trinidadian Past. *Interrogating Caribbean Masculinities*., ed Reddock R. 185 – 224.

**Optional pre-reading:**

Bordo, S. (1999) Hard and soft. The sex which is not “one”. The Male Body. A new look at Men in Public and in Private. New York. Farrar, Straus and Giroux.

Connell, R. W. (2005 [1995]) The Science Of Masculinity. *Masculinities*. Berkeley, University Of California Press.

Miller E. (1995) Marginal Men: psychological aspects. *Men at Risk*. Jamaica, Jamaica Publishing House Ltd.

Poole R (1990) Modernity, rationality and ‘the masculine’. *Feminine Masculine and Representation*. Eds, Threadgold & Francis. 48-61. London, Allen & Unwin.

**Overview of module**

Session 1. Introductory lecture

This lecture introduces students to the dominant approaches to understanding masculinity, from role theory and masculine socialisation theory to hegemonic masculinity. It also looks closely at contemporary pressures on male sexualities and at the relationship between masculinity and sexuality, observing the part homosexuality has played in sustaining a social hierarchy of masculinities.

Session 2. Raising boys

In this session, participants will read the stories from the "Grannitree" before answering a series of questions in small groups.

Session 3. Changing masculinities

Session 3 explores the impact of objectification, commodification, and anxiety on contemporary understandings and practices of masculinity. Participants will analyse a variety of images before reporting their findings back to the larger group.

Session 4. Men's sexual futures

Session 4 is a group discussion that explores four possible future issues in men’s sexual lives. This session requires participants to explore the future of Caribbean men. Three readings will inform the discussion: "Loose the Bull and Tie the Heifer," “ Men at Risk” and “‘History, (Re)Memory, Testimony and Biomythography: Charting a Buller Man’s Trinidadian Past.”

**Further reading (includes lecture bibliography):**

Abelove, H., et. Al. Eds. (1993) The Lesbian and Gay Studies Reader. New York Routledge.

Abramson, P. (1990). "Sexual Science: Emerging Discipline or Oxymoron?" Journal of Sex Research 27:147-165.

Abramson, P. R. and S. D. Pinkerton, Eds. (1995). Sexual nature, sexual culture. Chicago, University of Chicago Press.

Allen, Caroline F. 1998. Caribbean Bodies: Representation and Practise. In Caribbean Portraits. Essays on Gender Ideologies and Identities, edited by C. Barrow. Kingston: Ian Randle Publishers.

Allyn, D. (2000). Make Love, not War: The Sexual Revolution, an Unfettered History. Boston, Little, Brown & Company.

Bancroft, J., Ed. (2000). The Role of Theory in Sex Research. Bloomington, IN:Indiana University Press.

Baur, K., Crooks, R., Our Sexuality. (2002) Pacific Grove CA., Wadsworth Publishers.

Bullough, V. (1994). Science in the Bedroom: A History of Sex Research. New York,

BasicBooks.

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Chevannes, Barry. 2002. Gender and Adult Sexuality. In Gendered Realities: Essays in Caribbean Feminist Thought, edited by P. Mohammed. Kingston: University of the West Indies Press.

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Crichlow E A (2004) ‘History, (Re)Memory, Testimony and Biomythography: Charting a Buller Man’s Trinidadian Past. Interrogating Caribbean Masculinities., ed Reddock R. 185 – 224.

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Decena, Carlos. *Tacit Subjects: Belonging and Same-Sex Desire among Dominican Immigrant Men.* Durham: Duke University Press, 2011.

Dinshaw, C. (1999). Getting medieval: sexualities and communities, pre- and postmodern. Durham, NC, Duke University Press.

Dreger, A. (1998). Hermaphrodites and the Medical Invention of Sex. Cambridge, MA, Harvard University Press.

Fausto-Sterling, A. (1999). Sexing the Body: Gender Politics and the Construction of Sexuality. New York, Basic Books.

Fradenburg, L. and C. Freccero, Eds. (1996). Premodern sexualities. New York, Routledge.

Freud, S. (1961) Beyond the pleasure principle. London, Hogarth Press

Greene, J.E., (1993). Race, Class and Gender in the Future of the Caribean. Kingston, Institute of Social and Economic Research.

Kempadoo, Kamala. 2004. Sexing the Caribbean. Gender, Race and Sexual Labor. Oxon: Routledge. Chap 2:Pp15-51.

Kilbourne, J. (2000). Can't Buy My Love: How Advertising Changes the Way We Think and Feel. New York, Simon & Schuster.

Laumann, E., J. Gagnon, et al. (1994). The Social Organisation of Sexuality. Beverly Hills, CA, Sage.

Lips, H. (2001). Sex and Gender. Mountain View, CA, Mayfield.

McLaren, A. (1999). Twentieth-century sexuality: a history. Oxford, Blackwell.

Mead, M. (1963). Sex and Temperament in Three Primitive Societies. New York, Morrow.

Mohammed, P., Ed., Gendered Realities. (2002) Kingston, The University of the West Indies Press

Miller E. (1995) Marginal Men: psychological aspects. Men at Risk. Jamaica, Jamaica Publishing House Ltd.

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Pomeroy, W. (1972). Dr. Kinsey and the Institute for Sex Research. New York, Harper & Row.

Poole R (1990) Modernity, rationality and ‘the masculine’. Feminine Masculine and Representation. Eds,Threadgold & Francis. 48-61. London, Allen & Unwin.

Pourette, Dolorès. “La figure du makomè : masque de l'homosexualité masculine dans les mondes guadeloupéens.” gensdelacaribe.org. last 2006. <http://gensdelacaraibe.org/recherche/articles.php?id_story=20> .

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Threadgold, T. and A Cranny-Francis, Eds. (1990). Feminine, Masculine and Representation. Sydney, Allen & Unwin Australia Pty Ltd.

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Weeks, J. (1997). Sexuality. New York, Routledge.