

TRANSITIONS

JOURNAL OF MEN'S PERSPECTIVES

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A message from the new editor of Transitions, *Tim Goldich*

I'm Tim Goldich and I've been asked to become the new editor of *Transitions*. I assure you that I take the position and the responsibilities involved very seriously. First published in 1982, *Transitions* is the longest running journal of its kind. Over the decades it has had lavished upon it, a treasure trove of fine writing contributed by NCFM's talented membership. It is a tradition that I intend to nurture. I hope to see *Transitions* live on far into the future.

In part, I was chosen as the new editor because I've written four books on the subject of gender politics. The first book—*Loving Men, Respecting Women: The Future of Gender Politics*—is available now (book and Kindle) on Amazon.com. The second—*Love and Respect in the Past: The History of Gender Equality*—is currently getting polished up and may be out within a year or so.

Having introduced myself, I now want to make my confession: I am angry! And I have my reasons. Don't we all? How else would any of us have broken away from a belief system as all pervasive

Continued on page 2

Inside This Issue:

- 1 A message from the new editor
- 1 Welcome to Transitions – a message from Harry Crouch
- 1 The DS-157 Nonimmigrant Visa Application Form
- 3 Andrea Dwumbell
- 4 Mr. Manners
- 5 Steven Svoboda – Book Review

Welcome to Transitions

By Harry Crouch, President

NCFM has continually published its *Transitions* journal since 1982. We are proud of its heritage, and we make a concerted effort to keep it running. But it does have its share of problems, as explained below.

For over thirty years, NCFM mailed print copies of *Transitions* to recipients. The cost became prohibitive with escalating publishing and handling charges. Editors came and went, leaving sometimes with little or no notice. Because editors are volunteers like the rest of NCFM members, finding replacements is a challenge.

Continued on page 6

The Supplemental DS-157 Nonimmigrant Visa Application Form By Carl Augustsson

With the 10-year anniversary of the horrible attacks of September 11th in mind, I decided to write an article about one of its effects: the introduction of the Supplemental DS-157 Nonimmigrant Visa Application Form. The existence of the Supplemental DS-157 form for nonimmigrant visa applications to visit the United States of America so outraged me that I decided to dedicate an entire chapter in the book I'm writing about the Men's Movement to it.

Following the attacks of September 11, 2001 on the United States of America, the United States government introduced the Supplemental DS-157 visa application form. What is infuriating about this form is that it is required exclusively of all *male* applicants between the ages of 16-45. For citizens of four countries that are considered to be state sponsors of terrorism: Cuba, Iran, Sudan and Syria, the form is required of all applicants over the age of 16.

Continued on page 3

“A message from the new editor,” *continued from page 1*

as is the feminist belief system except that painful personal experience revealed that belief system both *false* and unsustainable.

I started writing my book 20 years ago. At the time, I was socially dependent upon a group of feminist women. I shared holidays, meals, and birthdays with them. I loved and needed them yet I often felt “beat up” by their rhetoric. Being male, I felt their judgment of men reflecting on *me*, as if I was somehow personally responsible. I rarely stood my ground though, because they were gender-political *experts*. They obsessed over feminist matters among themselves, studied feminism in school, and had an entire library-full of feminist rhetoric to quote from.

I had no idea what to say when confronted with feminist anger and accusation. How was I to respond to the expectation that I should feel guilt-ridden and apologetic for being male and, to atone, I really ought to be out there championing the feminist cause? Ignorance of my own sexual-political perspective left me *defenseless*.

Can any of you relate?

Twenty years ago I sought books that would articulate the male perspective, *my* perspective on the issues, but, in their obscurity, I didn’t find any such books. So I resolved to write my own. Over the years that book I started long ago grew until it became four books. Anger was the emotional fuel that kept me obsessed, kept me at the word processor day after day, year after year.

And yet, I decided early on that if I was to write books and seek a high profile, I needed to do so responsibly. I needed to take the highroad, forgo my own personal anger, and endeavor to be as constructive as I possibly could. With that in mind, I come at gender politics with the aim of evolving the whole game.

If I could, I would de-escalate the Battle of the Sexes. I would see gender relations improve.

I would direct more love toward men. I would see men respected enough to be held accountable *and* loved enough to receive their fair share of caring, concern, and compassion.

I would direct more respect toward women. I would see women loved enough to receive their fair share of compassion *and* respected enough to be held *accountable*. Perhaps, if Woman’s power

was respected it might be officially *recognized* and the world might not be quite so intent on taking power away from men. If Woman knew her own power, perhaps she’d wield it in a more responsible, less vengeful manner.

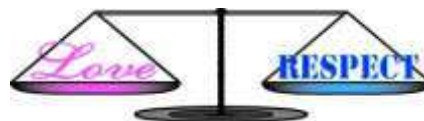
If I could, I would see the MP/FV (MalePower/Female Victimization) paradigm discredited as both false and poisonous. I believe this MP/FV paradigm is the ultimate source of *all* our gender political woes. For starters, belief in MP/FV leads to a belief in the ManBad/Woman Good paradigm—and we all know the injustices *that* spawns! Moreover, as long as the world believes that men have *the* power and women are *the* victims, the world will, of course, respond by taking power away from men and by protecting and advantaging the “victim” sex.

I think *both* sexes would be better off (less angry and spiteful) believing that It All Balances Out between men and women. I think that’s a message that could introduce Middle America to a gender politics that includes male perspectives, and do so in a manner that is at least *relatively* palatable to grassroots sensibilities. In fact, my hope is that It All Balances Out may seem positive enough and innocuous enough to gain entry into the mass media.

The MalePower/FemaleVictimization paradigm thus discredited, feminism would be left bereft of the ideology that sustains it. At long last, “female-ism” might be phased out in favor of something I’ll call equalism. I envision equalism ushering in a new age of gender negotiations leading to increased gender fairness and improved gender ideology and gender relations.

As I see it, It All Balances Out is something that may be espoused even as a matter of *principle*. It’s healthy. It’s an “olive branch,” a peace offering. *It is a leap of faith*. For both women and men, it is a progressive and magnanimous position from which to start anew.

So, that’s my soapbox speech. Thanks for reading – *Tim Goldich*



“The DS-157 Form,” *continued from page 1*

To quote the webpage of the State Department of the United States of America:

A Supplemental Nonimmigrant Visa Application, Form DS-157 provides additional information about your travel plans. Submission of this completed **form is required for all male applicants between 16-45 years of age. It is also required for all applicants from state sponsors of terrorism age 16 and over, irrespective of gender, without exception.** (Emphasis in original)

[http://travel.state.gov/visa/temp/types/types_1262.html]

While this form may look rather innocuous at first, as it is only one page long, it actually can be a long form to fill out. The reason is that some of the questions, depending on the life experience of the individual, are quite long. One such question (Question 9) is the requirement of listing every country visited in the last ten years including the year in which these countries were visited. For those of us who travel the world frequently, that is a difficult question to answer. For such people, the answer could easily include over 50 countries, many of which have been visited several times over the last ten years.

Another difficult question (Question 17) to answer is to list all of the schools and universities attended, excluding elementary schools. This would not in and of itself be bad were it not for the fact that these young men are also required to list the addresses and telephone numbers of all of these institutions. This can be a tedious and time consuming process. What is obvious here is that they are trying to see whether the applicant has studied at a Muslim madrasa. However, due to reasons of political correctness, they are not going to ask such a direct question. Therefore, thousands of young male applicants who are clearly not a threat to anyone have to tediously look up the addresses and telephone numbers of all the places where they have studied, when their only crime was being male.

Probably the most ambiguous question (Question 13) is the one which requires that the applicant list all “Professional, Social and Charitable Organizations to Which You Belong (Belonged) or Contribute (Contributed) or with Which You Work (Have Worked)” (DS-157). Can one not see how difficult it is for a man to remember *every* group to which he has *ever* had *any* connection to whatsoever? Obviously, the point of this question is to determine whether the applicant has ever had any ties to any radical group. But again, political correctness forbids such a direct question. As a result, thousands

Continued on page 4

“LADIES NIGHTS” ARE UNFAIR— BUT NOT FOR THE REASON YOU THOUGHT!

(transcribed by Peter Allemano)

NOTE FROM PETER: Hopefully someday I’ll become a better man — by getting in touch with and manifesting my “inner female” all the time. For now, I must settle for doing so only on occasion, primarily in Sensitivity Training class. Under the guidance of my guru, Deeptalk Choptank, I don my magic, transformational wig, take a deep breath, and allow her to take me over. Andrea Dwumbell is the grl’s name, and — whew! — some amazing insights came through when she spoke during my last session. Here is a transcript . . .

What a lot of nonsensical bandying back-and-forth there’s been during recent years about whether or not “ladies nights” and other promotional giveaways and discounts for women are fair! Some people point out that for-women-only incentives constitute discrimination against men — which, in a sense, they do. But men nevertheless benefit from them; the argument goes, because the promotions encourage women to patronize establishments where men go to *meet* women. Therefore, paradoxically, “everybody wins” when men are subjected to this kind of discrimination.

On the other hand, some people say, the promotions not only penalize men but cast women in an unattractive light — as opportunists — and thereby demean women. Besides, these people ask, how can women possibly be respected as men’s equals if they aren’t treated as men’s equals?

Well, listen up — because *everybody* is wrong...except for ME and my colleagues in the Women’s Studies Department at Ding Dong University!

First of all, make no mistake about this: “ladies nights” and other promotional giveaways and discounts for women not only are *unfair*, but — from a moral perspective — are dead wrong. Why? Because they reflect bigotry *against women!* By tolerating this degrading absurdity, we are acquiescing to the cruel notion that — under non-promotional circumstances — women should pay full price. But we shouldn’t! Women aren’t men’s equals. Women are *superior* to men!

Continued on page 7

“The DS-157 Form,” *continued from page 3*

of innocent young men are forced to answer a difficult, tedious, and ambiguous question.

Probably the silliest question (Question 12) is the one that asks the applicants to list the two previous jobs they’ve held. Again, it is also required to list the addresses and telephone numbers of these jobs. What is ridiculous about this question is that even terrorists have respectable “day jobs”.

One other noteworthy question (Question 15) is the one asking the applicant whether he has ever done military service. Think of how many men could unfortunately be able to answer “yes, but only because it was sexistly forced upon me”.

There is no question that the United States of America needed to do something following the attacks of September 11 in order to ensure that such an event never occurs again. Indeed, a number of important steps were taken. It is in large part thanks to some of these steps that the United States has not suffered another attack. However, there is no need to be sexist about it.

What is visible here is the worse use of political correctness. To have required this form of all Muslim applicants only would have been seen as discrimination. However, requiring it on the basis of sex is—assuming of course that it goes against men!—apparently not discrimination. Therefore, all men between the ages of 16 and 45 have been forced to fill out this ridiculous form. This includes men from such allied countries as Poland and the Republic of Georgia, many of whom have served alongside the US military in the War on Terror. This is an incredible insult to such close allies. In the end, “doing something” just to say that something has been done is worse than doing nothing at all. This stupid form does not make the United States of America any safer whatsoever.

It is also important to note that the Russians now require a separate visa application of all US citizens in which all of the above-mentioned questions are included. One cannot blame the Russians for this. Indeed, at least the Russians are not being sexist in their visa application form requirements, as all US citizens are required to fill out the longer form.

What is worse is the potential that this form has to set a nasty precedent. While it may be true that this form—at least on the surface—does not make it more difficult for men to obtain US visas, that is not to say that some other country could not later make it more difficult or even impossible for men of a certain age (or women for that matter) to obtain visas. It is also possible that countries may someday require visas of men of a

Continued on page 5

Mr. Manners

Mr. Manners is submitted by Bruce Kanter who claims he is a friend of Mr. Manners, although the two have never been seen together.

Dear Reader:

After over a year of unemployment Mr. Manners is back in *Transitions* (apparently my threat to let *Ms* or the *New York Times* publish the column worked). I have some past issues to vent about.

In my last column in *Transitions*, a letter argued that feminists have been against educational reforms when it is boys who are disadvantaged. A few days later, I listened to the National Public Radio show “Tell Me More.” The show discussed Education Secretary Duncan cracking down on racial and gender civil rights violations.

Sexual harassment cases were mentioned. Next racial disparities, saying that blacks received unequal punishment and more suspensions than white students. Perhaps this is more than political correctness and will help some black boys. But what about all the rest of the male student, after all boys are the more frequently suspended sex! 1.

In her book *Who Stole Feminism*, Christina Hoff Sommers quoted from an article from *The Pointer* which was cited by feminist’s as evidence of discrimination against girls. Sommers discovered instead that the article found “that boys received eight to ten times as many reprimands” (as girls). When both were misbehaving equally, boys received more “frequent punishment.” Furthermore, “boys were more likely to get reprimanded in a harsh and public manner.” Feminists seem to be involved in these new educational reforms and once again it appears that biases

Continued on page 5

“DS157”, *continued from page 4*

certain age, whereas women would be allowed to travel visa free. While it may be a bit of a stretch to suggest that something like that could ever happen, it was even more ridiculous prior to 2002 (the year in which this form was introduced) to think that there could ever be a case of a country introducing sexist visa application requirements.

What is particularly infuriating about this example is that, unlike many other examples of sex discrimination against men—such as sexist military conscription laws—this cannot be blamed as simply a holdover from an old system. It was enacted in 2002. The existence of this form therefore proves that the notion that it is acceptable to discriminate against men is sadly still alive. Indeed, what is even more disturbing is the lack of controversy.

The good news is that the United States is slowly moving away from this form. Increasingly, more and more US consulates around the world are adopting an online-based application—DS-160—one that is designed to replace all previous forms, including this supplemental DS-157 form. Within a few years it is likely that this form will have thankfully disappeared.

Carl Augustsson

Welcome to Transitions, *continued from page 1*

We were recently without an editor for over a year until Tim Goldich stepped up to the plate. In the meantime, we decided to move from mailing print copies to e-based publishing. If you are reading this you are reading our first e-based edition. The transformation is in progress as we learn about the software's capabilities and limitations.

Another daunting task is obtaining original material. We are fortunate to have Mr. Manners and Ms. Dwumbell as regular contributors but need other well written contributions. We would like one or two additional columnists who can contribute original work four to six times a year. If interested in having your words published in the longest running men's rights journal, please email us at transitions@ncfm.org.

We anticipate four issues a year rather than six. However, that may change if it appears we have sufficient volunteers and material to warrant six issues a year.

Continued on page 6

“Mr. Manners”, *continued from page 4*

against boys are being ignored. Could feminists be unfair?

Feminists have educated us about so much. For instance, not to blame the victim. Also, that drafting only males into war was not unfair to the 18 year old draftee. After all, don't men make the wars? Others such as Eleanor Smeal have taught us that drafting men is actually discrimination against women. Invariably such women turn out to be past draft age when these statements are made and it is thus too late for them to have the privilege of having their bodies controlled by the government. And we wonder why they're angry.

However, a few days after hearing the “Tell Me More” show Mr. Manners came across this quote from an autobiographical novel by influential feminist Andrea Dworkin: “I want to see a man beaten to a bloody pulp with a high-heel shoved in his mouth, like an apple in the mouth of a pig.” As someone who writes about hatred of women (even a book called “Misogyny”), one would expect her to be particularly sensitive about expressing animosity towards the other sex. Yet one could argue that her statement shows some negativity towards men (albeit subtle). Could she be biased

I mean it's not like former Harvard President Larry Summers who proposed a hypothetical argument that the lack of top women in science may be because men tend to be at the top and the bottom of academic achievers. Thus arguing that perhaps not only the inconsequential (based on the media's disinterest) idea that men being at the bottom of academic achievement, leading to homelessness, crime, jail time etc, is unchangeable; but also the serious problem that high achieving women may be destined to be near the top but not *the* top of some fields. These women would thus endure the fate of earning a high income and perhaps augment that wealth by marrying men at the top.

Continued on page 6

“Welcome to Transitions”, *continued from page 5*

Historically, *Transitions* has been available only to current NCFM members. Generally, a "current" membership means a member's dues are paid.

Transitions has also been distributed to various related organizations and individuals. This current issue is being more broadly distributed in an effort to share our organization with others.

As another benefit to current members, we've uploaded over 130 PDF versions of past issues into our online membership system. We're missing three past editions. Otherwise, it's a complete collection, which is the world's greatest journal history of men's rights activism.

We are digitizing a massive amount of historical audio/visual materials much of which will eventually be available to members too.

We hope you enjoy this edition of *Transitions*. To assure you receive future editions and help NCFM keep working toward making the world a better place for all of us, please become an NCFM member. You can join online at www.ncfm.org.

Harry Crouch

President NCFM

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If you are able to contribute \$10,000 or more to ensure the future of NCFM, please give us a call and ask about our restricted "NCFM Freedom Endowment."

“Mr. Manners,” *continued from page 5*

Needless to say, such intellectual discussions like the one attempted by Sommers have no place at an elite university. Whatever happened to pep rallies? Still Mr. Manners promises to be more skeptical of feminists in the future.

Footnote

1. Readers, feel free to contact the Department of Education on this lack of attention to boys.

OLD NEWS: Dear District 9:

No not the movie. I mean the people of New York's Congressional District 9, particularly the men. I would like to discuss your Weiner. I'm talking about when you send information and pictures about your Wiener over the internet. Who hasn't? Of course, I mean the sending of your opinions about the scandal involving your former Congressman Anthony Weiner.

Mr. Manners admits to being confused. Listening too much of the media's discussion, he can only surmise the type of behavior Weiner engaged in was uniquely a male one. Who then was Weiner corresponding with? And those who label Weiner another perverted male ought to consider that isn't it women who more often send pictures of themselves over the internet?

Mr. Manners understands that with Weiner being a political office holder, his behavior will get special scrutiny. But a lot of the discussion does not seem much different than what was said about Tiger Woods, whose job is hitting a ball with a stick.

The two prevalent themes in both stories was the betrayal of their families and the amount of women the two men were involved with.

If betrayal is an issue, shouldn't the full story include learning whether any of the women involved have husbands, boyfriends or children (I'm not advocating revealing names)? With the men being involved with multiple women, doesn't that mean more women than men were participating in these scandals? As for Weiner's behavior, he was merely complying with the known fact that the conscientious voter wants to see pictures of a man's genitals before deciding whether to vote for him.

Lastly, why do the media omit discussing the power differential in sex scandals, especially since such scandals often destroy the man's career, while starting one for the women?

Mr. Manners

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“Ladies Nights,” *continued from page 3*

The only possible satisfactory arrangement, therefore, is to allow women to get whatever we want, when we want it, and in the way we want it — for free at all times!

What’s that, you say? The economy will implode and before long there won’t be anything for *anybody*?

You idiot! You’re wrong! First, *men* will die of starvation. But then — before women can start dying too — a feminacentric utopia will evolve and replace the oppressive Patriarchal society we have today, bringing with it joy, peace, and universal at-oneness with the Great Transcendental Goddess. And how do I know that this will happen? It just *will!* Don’t ask me any more questions. Doing so would be rude and would also constitute oppressing me.

Kisses and winks,
Andrea Dwumbell

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NCFM Online Discussion Group

Members with current accounts are encouraged to participate in our Yahoo Discussion Group. This is a lively members-only forum in which we discuss related issues, NCFM business, and coordinate initiatives. Don’t miss out on the opportunity to keep abreast of what your fellow members are thinking. Join the group and let your voice be heard too. If you are a current member and have not received an invitation to join the group please send a request to Membership@ncfm.org.

Please help us help you make the world a better place for all of us!

Since 1977 NCFM has been dependent on private donations thanks to thousands of generous supporters. The list of NCFM accomplishments is extraordinary. We have helped incubate and launch numerous spinoff organizations and efforts, nationally and internationally. We have shaped legislation, won landmark appellate cases, and assisted tens of thousands of men and women with their personal situations. **We need your support.** It costs significant money to do what we do. NCFM has no paid staff. We are all volunteers. Please dig deep and send us whatever financial support you can. If you want to get involved, want to volunteer, we look forward to hearing from you. You can join NCFM at <http://ncfm.org/lead-with-us/join-ncfm/> or make a donation at <http://ncfm.org/lead-with-us/why-donate/>. We need your support. **We’re now asking you for it... we’re asking for your help.**

Thank you,
Deborah Watkins, Treasurer



After the 2012 NCFM National Board Meeting in San Diego. Left to right: Steven Svoboda (CA), Esq., Fred Sottile (CA), Harry Crouch (CA), Deborah Watkins (TX), Will Hageman (MN), Mark Bates (MN), Marc Angelucci, Esq. (CA), Ray Blumhorst (CA); not shown, Al Rava, Esq (CA), Bob Walker (CA), Chris Woodward, CPA (CA), and Lea Perritt, Ph.D (KY), Eric Ross, Ph.D (NY) and Chris Thompson (MT).

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Transitions is published by "The Coalition of Free Men, Inc." DBA "National Coalition For Men" and "NCFM", a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation. It is intended to be an educational forum for the articulation of new ideas on social issues affecting men and boys. First published in 1982, *Transitions*, to our knowledge, is the oldest and longest running journal or its type in the world. The views expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the views of NCFM or its representatives. Original articles are protected by United States of America copyright laws. NCFM invites and encourages others to republish original articles copyrighted by NCFM which appear in *Transitions*, provided credit is given to [1] the author(s) [2] NCFM along with the date of the edition of *Transitions* in which the article was published [3] the office address of NCFM (NCFM, 932 C Street, Suite B, San Diego, CA 92101) [4] NCFM's web address (www.ncfm.org), [5] unless expressly approved in writing by NCFM, not republished for profit and [6] a complete copy of the publication republishing NCFM copyrighted material is mailed to NCFM at the address immediately above or emailed to transitions@ncfm.org prior to release for pre approval by NCFM. To be clear, NCFM copyrighted materials cannot be republished without permission of the author and NCFM.

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Background picture: NCFM member's community improvement volunteers. We repaired and repainted 200' of brick wall which was part of the parking area of Ocean Beach in San Diego, California.

Loving Men, Respecting Women: The Future of Gender Politics

By Tim Goldich.

Chicago: Anima-Animus Publishing, 2012. www.anima-animus.com/wordpress . 468 pp. \$24.95.

Review by J. Steven Svoboda

My fellow National Coalition for Men (NCFM) board member and founder of NCFM's Chicago chapter, technical writer Tim Goldich, has completed the first volume in a projected four-volume book on gender politics. (Full disclosure: I have advised the author on my thoughts about his book and provided some suggestions on recommended edits and marketing approaches.) This work—despite being the author's first published book—is a masterly, towering achievement, which can be compared to Rich Zubaty's similarly creative but somewhat more confrontational books and even to the best of Warren Farrell's work. (Dr. Farrell himself, in an impressive testament to the book's persuasive power, graciously provides a three-page preface introducing it.) It continues to astonish and refresh me how, having read perhaps 300 books on gender and masculinity over the past decade-and-a-half (and having reviewed about 175 of them), I can still read books that are such a delight to read and that have as much fresh, original thinking as Goldich displays in *Loving Men, Respecting Women*.

The author manages to provide many new insights while at the same time probably providing the most extensive annotated review I have ever encountered of previous works touching on gender politics from a pro-male or pro-egalitarian perspective. I admire Goldich's facility, à la Dr. Farrell, at encapsulating his insights into pithy phrases. A couple of the ones that characterize the entire book appear in the book's very first pages: "Throughout history, both sexes have respected men more than they've respected women. Throughout history, both sexes have loved women more than they've loved men." And secondly, "in the benefits enjoyed and in the liabilities suffered, in the power and in the victimization, in the freedoms and in the constraints, it all balances out between Man and Woman—and it always has." The succinct version of this latter phrase, "It All Balances Out," appears in this all-capitals format at numerous times throughout the book and comes to seep into one's conscience gradually, though personally I have--without quite consciously realizing it--long lived by this motto. I love this motto, which the author admits has, even for him (as it has also for me) required a leap of faith to believe. "*It is a leap of faith.* For both women and men, it is a constructive and magnanimous and generous position from which to proceed." [italics in original]

Here are "four key statements" that the author lays out, in effect previewing the book's path:

“One: At birth, members of both sexes are assigned roles, conditioning, and socialization that facilitate and ensure a world wherein men are more respected/less loved and women are more loved/less respected.

“Two: Historically, men have been no more empowered to escape their biology, role, socialization, conditioning, and concurrent fate than women have.

“Three: The two sexes, equally powerless and equally powerful, have plied an equal overall force of influence upon the world and upon each other, engaged in equal complicity and partnership in the sculpting of our world, and are thus equally responsible for outcomes both good and bad.

“Four: Throughout history the enormous consequences and vast repercussions suffered by women for being less respected have been matched in full by the enormous consequences and vast repercussions suffered by men for being less loved.”

Like me, the author is a veteran of the New Warrior training and—while he does perhaps overuse the “I judge” phrase--does a generally excellent job at incorporating its lingo without allowing it to take over the book.

In one particularly pointed passage, Goldich writes, “Accountability and compassion must go hand in hand. Accountability without compassion is ruthless. It is what we more often direct at men. It is respecting men but not loving them. Compassion without accountability is infantilizing. It is what we more often direct at women. It is loving women but not respecting them.”

The author adroitly points out that while the male suicide rate is a shocking four times higher than the female rate among teenagers and a stunning six times higher for young adults, “the ‘crisis’ of our nation’s girls continues to receive most of the official hands-on attention. It’s an example of what I call the Zero-Empathy-Toward-Men Rule...” The author provides a rapid-fire sequence of pithy, gender contrasts that are again reminiscent of Warren Farrell: “Though it is no longer politically correct to ask female office workers to make coffee, the same stereotyping has us asking male office workers to move heavy filing cabinets or climb rickety ladders to change light bulbs.... [W]e pass laws that protect women from ‘sexist remarks’ even as we fail to enforce laws that would protect men who suffer ‘a 600 percent higher incidence of work-related accidents... including over two million disabling injuries and 14,000 deaths per year.’ [] We focus on the mostly male-occupied tip of the pyramid where the imbalance in power between the secretary and The Boss is plain to see. We ignore the vast base of the human pyramid, but it too is mostly male-occupied.”

Goldich makes the original observation that “better than 80 percent of the crippled, amputated, paralyzed, disfigured, and otherwise disabled people that you see are male. For women, success is gravy and courage is optional. Only men who fail to show courage will be labeled ‘cowards,’ ‘gutless,’ and ‘spineless.’ Only men who do not succeed will be labeled ‘losers’ and ‘failures.’ Only men who fail to pay will be rejected as ‘cheapskates’ and ‘tightwads.’” Perhaps even more to the point, “Every year men are raped in prison by the hundreds of thousands. Or is it over a million? We don’t care enough about men being raped to find out.” A fact I hadn’t heard before: “Wisconsin spends about \$1,000 per month on each male prisoner vs. \$2,000 per month on each female prisoner.”

Goldich tabulates (and then goes on to explain what he considers to be no fewer than fourteen separate (if partially overlapping) sources of female power: sexual leverage power, beauty power, presumed innocence/moral authority power, majority vote power, net worth power, spending power, procreation power, domestic power, greater power to elicit empathy, power of protection under chivalry, power to shame, power of accusation/lawsuit, academia power, and the power of feminism itself.

Thus the author brings the reader to a full understanding of his thesis—we are all victimized in different ways, yet as a society and as individuals we tend to immediately “get” the types of victimization that affect females while hardening our hearts and turning away from victimized males. Correspondingly, we more easily respect males while finding it more challenging to respect females in the same ways.

Goldich very usefully devotes considerable time to breaking down in detail the myth that women are discriminated against in the pricing of certain things for which they tend to pay more, such as dry cleaning, suits, shoes and haircuts, showing the reasons for the differential costs based on genuine differences in cost between, say, dry cleaning a man’s shirt and a typically much more elaborate, delicate women’s blouse. Again showing his facility with the Farrellesque bon mot, the author concludes, “Thus, a bill to outlaw ‘gender-based pricing’ would actually create gender-politics-based pricing.” The author goes on to demonstrate that it is far from an accident that women require more costly services and products “related to augmenting femininity.” It is hardly a mystery, after all. “Only those who lack awareness of the many perks, powers, and privileges that go with femininity will be perplexed as to why women willingly pay more for goods and services that emphasize their femininity.”

The author provides a number of “issues downloads” addressing specific gender topics such as health (“If it seems that men have less to complain about, that’s only because men do less complaining”), education, anti-male discrimination and the “wage gap,” misandry and “male bashing,” the “glass wall” of reproduction/parenting, the sexual harassment industry, and beauty and sexual inequities. The author really shines regarding the wage gap in showing that “[w]hen anyone other than a feminist looks into the situation, the only *authentic* pay gap is revealed to be a *reverse* pay gap resulting from discrimination against *men*” [italics in original]. Even more creatively, Goldich goes on to point out that, “To the extent that men still feel the need to do *whatever it takes* to earn money and achieve “eligibility” in the eyes of women, the “wage gap” is really just the *intrinsic-value gap* in disguise.” [italics in original] The author is also at his pithy best in discussing sexual harassment:

In every seduction, a man's efforts to change a woman's nos into maybes and her maybes into yeses, have him walking a fine line between being forceful enough to be sexually exciting but not so forceful as to be prosecuted. The really scary part is that the difference between the two exists only in the mind of the woman he is pursuing....

The sexual harassment industry is a men's issue because it is emblematic of the way women's issues receive such levels of attention, action, and priority as to shut the equal-opposite male perspective out entirely.

The author provides some useful, general conclusions from all his detailed analysis: "As a rule, where feminists complain of women being less respected... the complaints are probably valid. Where feminists complain of women being less loved... however, they are probably turning a valid male complaint into an invalid female one." Goldich is unafraid to tell us point blank that the rise of feminism is profoundly connected with the decline of men.

The author has no more patience with victim-masculists than he does with victim-feminists, and rightly so in my opinion. He again shows his skill at eloquent summations in writing, "The feminist victim-dictum is nothing more than ideology... leading perception... leading reality. It is carefully selected bits of reality—the negative bits of the female experience and the positive bits of the male experience—presented as if they constituted reality in its entirety."

Having effectively demolished the false paradigm of male power and female victimization in the first half of his book, the author goes on to "shed light on the full range of the female shadow (from gray to black)." Goldich makes it clear that he is undertaking this task "not to denigrate Woman but rather to exonerate Man as moral inferior and *sole source* of evil." [italics in original] He points out that no-questions-asked drop-off centers for women to anonymously rid themselves of their infants dramatically illustrated our refusal as a society to grapple with and confront the phenomenon of women selfishly dumping their own offspring. The coining by the medical community of "sudden infant death syndrome" and "Munchausen syndrome by proxy" shows society similarly providing "easy out[s] for mothers who kill [or abuse] their children."

The author builds a convincing case that, "To whatever degree of validity one can argue that if there were no men there would be no war, one can argue with equal validity if there were no *women* there would be no war." He later writes some beautiful, evidently heartfelt analysis sympathizing with even the soldiers forced to abuse enemy soldiers: "It is a terribly difficult concept to wrap our minds around, but the truth is, *all* these men, the Japanese, the Koreans, the Allied soldiers, *all* were victims. And *all* deserve our sympathies. Even the ones driven to unspeakable acts of cruelty deserve our empathy. *None* of these men entered the world with the intention of becoming monsters. They were *made* into monsters." [italics in original] In the end, Goldich unassailably concludes, "the vast majority of *the* most evil horrors that human reality can inflict have been inflicted upon men." [italics in original]

If the author is a bit more conciliatory and fair-minded than the relatively irascible Zubaty, he is a bit more inflammatory and confrontational than is Farrell, lacking that author's genteel patina. Thus it is that Goldich can memorably contrast men's historical deal with their current deal:

Historically/traditionally The Deal society offered Man read something like this: You risk and absorb all the very worst of it; occupy the dark side of the world and human nature and take on all that is most profoundly harsh and hazardous; in exchange, society will compensate you with extra credit and prestige. Under feminism the New Deal offered Man now reads: You continue to risk and absorb all the very worst of it; occupy the dark side of the world and human nature and take on all that is most profoundly harsh and hazardous; in exchange, society will compensate you with *nothing*. [italics in original]

He shows that we haven't looked at female power primarily due to sentimentality, which trumps logic.

Another plus for this author: he makes what is almost certainly the best use ever of the writers that preceded him, ably and succinctly summarizing the key contributions of literally dozens of earlier authors on masculinity and gender. I enjoyed the author's specific examinations of the dynamics of the relationships between John Lennon and Tiger Woods and their wives. Goldich also intrigued (and depressed) me with his detailed analyses of Joe Biden's support for only women's rights in the wake of his severe physical abuse by his elder sister, not to mention Barack Obama's remarkable lack of sympathy for any male concerns contrasted with the President's huge alignment with feminist issues. He also does a great job chronicling in depressing detail the horrific toll feminist politics has taken on the effectiveness and morale of our military.

The author sometimes verges in the direction of the long-winded and repetitive though as this book evolved to its final, published form, he greatly tempered this tendency. I personally liked his tone and arguments and so didn't mind the reinforcements of them.

Unfortunately the physical package in which the book appears does not even come close to matching the superlative message Goldich is offering. The tiny, perhaps quarter-inch-wide outside margins are unsightly and limit one's ability to make marginal annotations, which many readers are going to want to do with this fine book. Admittedly minor details with the footnotes such as repeatedly failing to add a period after the term "Ibid.", inconsistent capitalization practice, and nonstandard citation formats are collectively distracting and give a regrettable (and incorrect) impression of a slightly slapdash, amateurish author.

I can only end a review of this truly magisterial book with a quote of one of its central theses: "1) For every female complaint there is an equal-opposite male complaint. 2) For every female complaint there is female complicity." The author finishes the book by providing a useful, practical list of actions that can be taken in order to promote gender reconciliation and recognition that It All Balances Out. We can do no better than to rush out and buy his book and do our best to implement Goldich's recommendations. Three cheers for one of the most important books on true gender equality that has ever been written.

J. Steven Svoboda



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Names to be announced in the next issue of *Transitions*

You can see a complete list of past recipients at:

<http://ncfm.org/lead-with-us/awards/>



NCFM Twin Cities Chapter Report

By Will Hageman

In September 2011, the Twin Cities Chapter distributed 500 bookmarks with men's issues information and our web address to students in front of the student union at the University of Minnesota. Then we had a booth at the Spirit of the Saint Croix Festival in Hudson, Wisconsin.

In October we had a table at the Twin Cities Birth & Baby Expo, where we educated parents-to-be about the harm caused by circumcision. For the eighth straight year, we had a booth at the annual conference of Education Minnesota, the state teachers union. We distributed 1500 bookmarks and many articles about the boy-unfriendly environment of the public school system and what can be done to correct it. We also had a table at the annual convention of the Minnesota Episcopal Church.

In November and December we had tables in the student unions at Winona State University and Saint Cloud State University.

In January 2012, we had a table at an annual diversity festival in Brooklyn Park.

In February we had a booth at a volunteer expo in the Mall of America. We also had a booth at a Baby & Kids Expo in Mankato, where we educated more parents-to-be about the harm caused by circumcision.



www.ncfm.org/lead-with-us/join-ncfm

**MORE CHAPTER REPORTS
IN FUTURE ISSUES**

In March we had a table at the Blue Earth County Republican Party Convention. A candidate for U.S. House of Representatives came to our table and took our issues list.

In April we had a booth at a baby expo in Saint Cloud, where we educated more parents-to-be about the harm caused by circumcision. We had a table at the Republican Party convention in Minnesota's Second District. We also had a booth at the annual Tax Cut Rally on the State Capitol Mall in Saint Paul.

In May we had a booth at the Mayday Festival in Minneapolis.

In June we had a booth at Grand Old Day in Saint Paul, the largest one-day festival in the Midwest. We had a lot of traffic and distributed a lot of literature and wristbands, and this was one of the best events we've ever done. Also in June we had a booth at the Blaine Festival, and a table outside the Rochester Downtown Farmers Market.

In July we had a booth at the Hopkins Raspberry Festival.

In August we had a booth at the Dakota County Fair, for the eighth straight year. We also had a table at a Campus Community Fair at Minnesota State University in Mankato. Then we worked the Celebrating Arden Hills Festival in September.



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