

Christian Masculinity in a Feminized Generation

Some universities today are forcing incoming freshmen “who self-identify as male” to take introductory courses to “purge themselves from toxic masculinity”. *Apparently the ideal male in the feminist world is a gelding. We would do better to study how to purge society of toxic feminism.*

Getting rid of “toxic masculinity” would not be objectionable if it was defined properly, but what they desire is to change men to become acceptable to lesbian feminists. Real (feminine) women like genuinely masculine men already, and don’t want to marry girly-men or irresponsible momma’s boys.

So what is meant by “toxic masculinity” in today’s women’s studies departments? Men who are men: physically strong, competitive, aggressive, bold, and are not ashamed of it. Men who were not intimidated, drugged, and badgered into submissiveness through their years of indoctrination in pre-school, and public re-education.

What then **should** we consider “toxic masculinity”?

Those who use masculine traits without the restraints of morality, Christianity, and civilization. They are characterized by violence, irrational aggressiveness, sexual perversions, and other criminal behaviors.

At the opposite extreme, what is “deficient masculinity”?

Those whose masculine traits are purely physical (they shave and cannot sing alto), but live in their mother’s basement for free, and spend their time playing video games and trolling on the internet. They have no interest in finding a job or a wife. They have no real goals, and live for temporary gratifications.

So what **is** masculinity?

- Manly activities or interests? (sports, hunting and fishing, guns, fast cars, dating pretty women, tools, snowmobiling, etc.) While these are common manifestations, or results, of masculinity, they are not what make you masculine.
- Manly bearing? (firm handshake, walking and running like a man, throwing a ball like a man, etc.) Same answer – these don’t make you masculine, it is just the way men act.
- Some might think it is profanity, dirty jokes, ridicule of women or girly-men, tough-talking, drinking, smoking, gambling, boasting, etc. These are not masculine traits, but the way some men act to make themselves feel masculine.
- How about “doing whatever I want, whenever I want”? Nope - that is just irresponsibility and fleshly sin.
- Intimidating or beating up on weak people? No, that is mere criminality.

“Raw” masculinity includes the traits that are different between boys and girls. i.e., the traits that are more or less determined “by the genes”. *Boys are generally louder, rowdier, rougher, and have different interests than girls, even from a very young age. They are often more inclined to “independent behavior”, impulsiveness, or distraction. Because public schools no longer allow corporal punishment, the only ways teachers can maintain classroom control is by soft punishments, or diagnosing them as ADD and then drugging them into submission with Ritalin.*

Real femininity and masculinity go beyond these basic boy/girl traits, through **maturity**. *That is to say, it is masculine to be responsible, capable, polite, kind, etc. It is feminine to be gentle and lovingly submissive to a husband. Most traits apply to both men and women (strength, compassion, gentleness, ...) but are manifested differently in each.*

So what we want to develop is not the exciting and irresponsible masculinity of “James Bond” or pro athletes, but the plain, old-fashioned maturity of responsible Christian behavior.

To know what real, Christian, masculinity is, we should look at the valid roles we have, from God. **Masculinity includes whatever traits, attitudes, and capabilities are required to grow into and fulfill our various God-given roles. i.e., to be the men God made us to be.** (The same definition holds for femininity, but as the roles differ, so do the traits.)

1. Early manhood (before marriage)

- a. Basic maturity – physical, mental, emotional, spiritual
- b. Education, training, or learning a trade
- c. Self-supporting (not living in mother’s basement, not living on government welfare, begging, or permanent community charity)

2. Husband – it is generally not God’s will for men or women to continue unmarried. Sometimes people do not want marriage because of fear, or selfishness, or irresponsibility.

- a. **Provider** – YOU are the provider in the family. A woman may desire a job under some circumstances, but she should not feel compelled to have a job, just to make ends meet. If you need more money, upgrade your skills and believe God to provide. Your wife should be able to concentrate on her own responsibilities as a wife and mother without having to cover for your financial inadequacy. While you are the provider, you and your wife should be in agreement in seeking God and believing for your needs.
- b. **Protector** – men are generally stronger and more aggressive than women. We are to be their “white knights”, to protect them from other men, animals, and sassy, disobedient children. In this society, it may also be wise to consider providing her with a license to carry, and a weapon she is capable and trained to handle, as an “equalizer”.
- c. **Lover** – Yes, in bed, but more. Listen to her, and honor her. Love her as your own body. Eph.5:25-33
- d. **Faithfulness** – faithful to your wedding vows, not giving her any reason to question your resistance to “other attractions”. But also faithfulness in general – your word is your bond.

3. Father – God’s will is that we be fruitful and multiply (Gen. 1:26). That is, to propagate the human race, but especially with “godly seed” - children who will continue in the Christian faith and pass it along in turn to their children.

- a. **Provide** – provide what they need, not everything they want
- b. **Protect** – not just by your own hand, but by teaching them to defend themselves when necessary
- c. **Love** – love for children is obviously different than for wife, but they should never question whether you really love them. Listen to them, encourage and pay attention to their interests
- d. **Discipline** – Start early. Require obedience, and respect for their mother. Don’t refuse to use “the rod of correction”, but in this society, be careful how and where you do it.
- e. **Teach** – children take much longer to grow up than animals, because they must be taught, not just how to get food and shelter, but principles of morality, Biblical truth, and how to be civil and productive members of society.
- f. **Example** – your children should know from your life what a real father, husband, employee, Christian should be.

4. Member of society

- a. Useful and honourable occupation – capable, diligent, trustworthy, responsible, learning new skills
- b. Church member – (not just having your name on a role, but to be born again, as a member of Christ’s body) in attendance, support, prayer, encouragement, counsel
- c. Leader, wise elder – we can’t all be political, church, or community leaders, but we can be leaders and examples in our families, looked up to for expert occupational advice, and able to be consulted for wisdom and consultation.

Our masculinity or femininity will be perfected as we advance, not just in age, but in real Christian maturity. This comes through reading/studying the Word and conforming ourselves to it, through consistent prayer, and through responsible fellowship in a local church assembly.