



Resocializing Masculinity: A Feminist Framework for Transformation

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Abstract

Transforming harmful traditional masculine norms is critical for achieving genuine gender equality and fostering healthier societies. This paper presents a novel feminist-informed framework for the positive resocialization of men, arguing that diverse feminist principles offer essential insights and strategies for guiding men toward more equitable, emotionally intelligent, and socially just expressions of gender. Moving beyond critiques of "toxic masculinity," this work synthesizes key theoretical contributions from various feminist perspectives – including liberal, radical, socialist, intersectional, and queer theories – to understand the complexities of gender resocialization. It explores the documented positive impacts of feminist engagement on men's well-being and relationships, critically examines feminist approaches to challenging harmful norms, and analyzes relevant initiatives and interventions. The paper also navigates the inherent critiques and challenges associated with applying feminist principles to men's transformation, underscoring the vital role of education and social interventions. By proposing a cohesive framework grounded in the breadth of feminist thought, this paper makes a significant contribution to the literature on men and masculinities. It demonstrates that a nuanced, inclusive, and feminist-driven approach is not only possible but essential for dismantling patriarchal structures and cultivating a future where all individuals, regardless of gender, can thrive free from the constraints of rigid and harmful norms. This work offers a compelling blueprint for scholarly inquiry and practical action towards gender liberation.

Keywords: Resocialization, Masculinity, Feminism, Gender Equality, Traditional Masculine Norms, Feminist Framework