

B4: CHANGES IN MASCULINITIES

AIM

By the end of the session, participants will have:

- ▶ Explored generational changes in the social expectations of manhood and their implications for changing patriarchal masculinities.

STEP-BY-STEP

1. Explain the aim of this session.
2. Give a short presentation on the key concepts that will be used in this session: the social expectations of manhood, generational change and positive change toward ending patriarchal masculinities (see Notes for the Facilitator.)
3. Explain that this session will look at how masculinities have changed over different generations and what this means for how we might challenge patriarchal masculinities now. Ask participants to volunteer to join one of four small groups: Grandfathers, Fathers, Men Now, Sons; if the groups are unbalanced in terms of numbers, even up the numbers by asking participants to join another small group.
4. Give each small group the following tasks:
 - ▶ **Grandfathers' generation group:** Create a short (5 minutes or less) role play showing:
 - How important each of the Three P's (Provider, Procreator, Protector roles) were as markers of manhood for your grandfathers' generation and the pressures on men to conform to these roles.
 - What happened to men who were unable to live up to these roles.
 - What happened to men who chose not to conform to these roles but instead chose to live equal and respectful lives with women.
 - ▶ **Fathers' generation group:** Create a short (5 minutes or less) role play showing:
 - How important each of the Three P's (Provider, Procreator, Protector roles) were as markers of manhood for your fathers' generation and the pressures on men to conform to these roles.
 - What happened to men who were unable to live up to these roles.
 - What happened to men who chose not to conform to these roles but instead chose to live equal and respectful lives with women.
 - ▶ **Men Now generational group:** Create a short (5 minutes or less) role play showing :
 - How important each of the Three P's (Provider, Procreator, Protector roles) are as markers of manhood for you as men now and the pressures on you to conform to these roles.
 - What happens to men who are unable to live up to these roles.
 - What happens to men who choose not to conform to these roles but instead choose to live equal and respectful lives with women.

Time: 75 mins

Materials:

- ▶ None

Training Tips:

- ✓ This activity is designed to be used with a male-only group . If you are working with a mixed-gender group of participants, the generational groups could be re-named Grandparents, Parents, Men and Women Now, and Children.

- ▶ **Sons' generation group:** Create a short (5 minutes or less) role play showing:
 - ➔ How important each of the Three P's (Provider, Procreator, Protector roles) will be as markers of manhood for your sons' generation and the pressures on your sons to conform to these roles.
 - ➔ What will happen to men who are unable to live up to these roles.
 - ➔ What will happen to men who choose not to conform to these roles but instead choose to live equal and respectful lives with women.
5. Allow the groups up to 15 minutes to discuss and create their role plays, then bring the groups back together. Invite the Grandfathers' group and then the Fathers' group to run their role plays, and then debrief with the following questions:
- ▶ *How significant were the roles of Provider, Procreator, Protector for your grandfathers' and fathers' generation?*
 - ▶ *In what ways did these roles rely on and reinforce ideas about and practices of patriarchal masculinities?*
 - ▶ *What happened to men who were unable to live up to these roles?*
 - ▶ *What happened to men who chose not to conform to these roles but instead chose to live equal and respectful lives with women? How common was this?*
 - ▶ *In what ways, if at all, did these roles change from your grandfathers' to your fathers' generation? Why did they change? What do these changes tell us about how to challenge and change patriarchal masculinities now?*
6. Next, invite the Men Now group and then the Sons' group to run their role plays, and then debrief with the following questions:
- ▶ *How significant are the roles of Provider, Procreator, Protector for men now and for your sons?*
 - ▶ *In what ways do these roles rely on and reinforce ideas about and practices of patriarchal masculinities? How do these roles affect women's experiences in the party/organization?*
 - ▶ *What happens to men who are unable to live up to these roles?*
 - ▶ *What happens to men who choose not to conform to these roles but instead choose to live equal and respectful lives with women? How common is this? How can we support more men to choose to live equal and respectful lives with women?*
 - ▶ *In what ways, if at all, are these social expectations of manhood changing for your sons? Why are they changing? What do these changes tell us about how to challenge and change patriarchal masculinities now?*
7. End the session by summarizing what has been discussed in terms of the importance of and ways to challenge and change patriarchal masculinities now.