



NAMEN News

Sept. 17, 2020

We welcome your thoughts in inputs on the content and information we share. If you have comments, suggestions or concerns, please contact [Rus Funk](#), Program Consultant.

What's up with NAMEN

NAMEN Announces the Dates for the 2020 Symposium Kick Off.

NAMEN will host its own Symposium this year, corresponding to the [Global Men Engage Symposium](#). The **NAMEN Symposium Kick off will be held on Nov 30 and Dec 2, from 1 - 4:30 (Eastern time) both days**. An ad hoc committee is busy planning not only for these 2 days of events, but for a series of events and programs that will go through June of 2021. The events and programs will be organized in coordination with the events and programming being offered by the Global MenEngage Alliance.

Please **hold these dates**. This will be an exciting kick off event which will include both inspiration and informative programming.

[Advocacy Updates](#)

The NAMEN Policy Advocacy Committee (PAC), after in depth work during the summer, submitted a draft Advocacy Strategy to the NAMEN Board on Sept 10. The Board will be reviewing this document during their December Board meeting. In the interim, the NAMEN PAC will be sharing this draft with feminist women's advocacy organizations to seek their input and critical reflections.

On Sept 14, the Trump administration published a [new proposed rule](#) to extend the global gag rule to global health contracts. This is the first time that the global gag rule will ever apply to contracts, as opposed to only grants, potentially impacting a whole new set of global health organizations and programs overseas. It is [estimated](#) that close to 40% of global health funding is provided through contracts.

The NAMEN Policy Advocacy Committee is currently reviewing this new rule and determining if and what our position will be on this. We are exploring commenting on this rule in the coming weeks.

The NAMEN PAC is also working with the Global Alliance Advocacy Working Group to engage more deeply in the [Generation Equality Forum](#). NAMEN is in conversation with US based feminist organizations working as a part of this Forum to explore NAMEN's potential role in acting in solidarity with these organizations to advance these efforts.

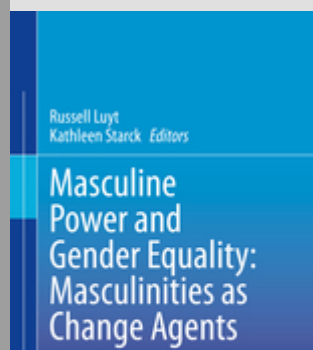
If you are interested in joining the Policy Advocacy Committee, or learning more about our efforts, contact [Rus Funk](#), Chair.

Programming

The Program Committee submitted the draft *State of the Field Report* to the NAMEN Board in early Sept. This Report reflects on the current efforts in Canada and the US to engage and mobilize men, explores the current tactics being used, identify primary audiences of men and boys that are being engaged, identifies key trends that are emerging and reflects on the key lessons that appear to be being learned in this process. We expect this report to be released in time for the Symposium kick-off, and the Program Committee is planning a series of events during the Symposium to share this report widely.

Resources

Book Review



Masculine Power and Gender Equality: Masculinities as Change Agents Ed by Russell Luyt and Kathleen Stark (2020 Springer Press)

This is an outstanding new resource that focuses on men as change agents in the realm of policy cultural change. It is a text book, so the audience this is written for is primarily academic, but there is still excellent resources and information in this text for practitioners (although the cost of the book is going to be prohibitive for most practitioners).

The 10 chapters include both theoretical/conceptual discussions of the work of men to engage as change agents, as well as several chapters that video on specific examples -- including men in the finance sector, men in politics and men working with adolescent men.

I found the chapters by Jeff Hearn, “The Politics of Absent Men or Political Masculinities with out the Polis”; Stephen Burrell, “Male Agents of Change and Disassociating from the Problem of Violence Against Women”; and Russel Luyt and Kathleen Stark “Only for the Brave? Political Men and Masculinities: Change Agents for Gender Equality” to be particularly insightful and compelling.

As Luyt and Stark describe in their opening chapter, “our understanding of political masculinities should be rightly informed by the account of hegemonic masculinities, but not reduced to it.” and ...”masculinities should be examined at multiple levels of analysis” (P 4). The purpose of this book is to examining masculinities in relation to power, and power dynamics, and the opportunities, possibilities, and challenges of masculinities as change agents within and among these power dynamics. As Luyt and Stark go on to explain, “Yet other questions relevant to understanding power and how it is exercised through political masculinities remain:

1. What counts as political domain? To what extent are all domains political or alternatively it is useful to distinguish between different degrees of ‘politicalness’?
2. ...the claiming and gaining of political rights, and the role of political masculinities in these process. (page 5 - 6).

This book provides powerful analytical foundation for understanding practices to engage men as change agents and can be used to develop potentially powerful practice methodologies to do so. The analysis provided by this text helps to move efforts to engage and mobilize men beyond efforts to reach men to respond to, engage and mobilize other men; and move towards efforts to engage and mobilize men to engage in structural change efforts.

Articles/Reports

[“COVID-19 and Gender Equality: Countering the Regressive Effects”](#) By Anu Madgavkar, et al July 15, 2020

[Fostering Healthy Masculinity in Challenging Times](#) (Promundo 2020).

The astute reader of NAMEN News will recall that we shared this resource in early June. That issue was particularly full of resources, and given the ongoing nature of the pandemic and the continuing stress the pandemic places on all of us, along with growing evidence of the impacts of the pandemic on men, masculinities and gender equality, we thought it worth sharing this report again.

[Grant Making with a Racial Justice Lens](#)

We recognize that pretty much none of you are grantmakers. Still, this 2020 report provide concrete and actionable steps for grantors on ways they can move meaningfully support racial justice work. As practitioners, this tool can be helpful with you as you advocate with your funders to support work that is more impactful and effective.

[The 2020 Sustainable Development Goals Report](#) (Gender Equality, pg 34; Reducing Inequalities, pg 44; Climate Change, pg 50)

This years report reflects the degree of progress made towards the achievement of the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

[Transforming Masculinities: A Training Manual for Gender Champions](#) (TearFund, 2017).

This very practical manual provides an overview for training Christian faith leaders on how they can work to promote gender equality and prevent sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV). It provide a detailed outline, with full description of all available activities, to offer a 2 or 3 day training for Christian leaders (based on work in the Democratic Republic of Congo).

For those of you who are or are considering working with faith communities, this resource may be a great addition.

Webinars/Vids

[Emerging Strategies to Engage Men in Addressing the Gendered Impact of COVID-19: A Virtual Forum](#) the Interagency Gender Working Group (IGWG), Male Engagement Task Force

Tuesday, Sept 22, 2020; 9:00 - 11:30 AM (EDT) "Join us to learn about key challenges, opportunities and strategies for engaging men in the responses to COVID-19.

Topics include:

- Data and the Gendered Impact on men's health and well being
- Men and Mental health and the stress mitigation during COVID-19
- Men and gender-based violence in the time of COVID -19
- Men and household and caregiving roles during COVID-19
- Men and work related pressures during COVID-19

[Making Technology Gender Inclusive](#) by [Breakthrough](#) Sept 22 - 23

This 2-day Summit aims to understand the different nuances around gender and technology with a focus on girls and women.

September 22, with 3 panels, will gendered access to technology, how to empower explore women and girls across socio-eco-cultural structures through technology and more.

Sept 23 will focus on Stakeholder Roundtable Consultation that will bring in sectoral experts to discuss the issue and also provide possible solutions that can bridge the gender gap with access of technology and end violence against women in the digital space.

Upcoming Events

[March for Black Women](#) Sept 26 at 12 noon organized by Black Women's Blueprint. (NOTE: we were unable to identify what time zone this event is occurring, we assume eastern time).

[Walk a Mile in her Shoes](#) in Support of White Ribbon Campaign Sept 26 - Oct 2.

"A walk to end gender-based violence, Racism and All forms of Discrimination."

Last Note

NAMEN is reliant on your support for our efforts and growth. Please invite your friends, colleagues and others to [join NAMEN](#), and consider making an additional [donation](#) to support NAMEN as we continue to grow in our efforts and effectiveness.

This message was sent to you by the North American MenEngage Network

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