
Updates and Resources on Engaging Men & Boys



NAMEN News

Nov. 12, 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

The MenEngage Symposium

NAMEN is thrilled to be hosting the first ever regional [Symposium](#) on Nov 30 & Dec 2 (1 - 4:30 PM Eastern Time both days). The Planning Committee has been

working hard to create innovative and exciting learning and networking opportunities addressing the themes of intersectionality and decolonization. Confirmed speakers so far include, Karen Carrington, Rus Ervin Funk, Greg Gray Cloud, Tonya Lovelace, and Dr. Christopher Taylor.

One focus of this symposium is a 2-part review and discussion of the soon to be released regional *State of the Field* report. The first panel will be on Dec 2 as a part of the Symposium (2:20pm - 4:20pm Eastern Time), the 2nd panel will be on Dec 7 from 2 - 4 Eastern Time. These roundtables will provide an overview of this report and the key findings, followed by a conversation amongst women activists (on Dec 2) and male activists (on Dec 7) in reflection of these key findings, as well as exploring implications for our efforts to grow the movement forward in this region. Panelists for these two roundtables include:

Dec 2: Facilitated by Aapta Garg, NAMEN Board Member and Co-Chair of the Program Committee.

- Shelley Serdahely, Men Stopping Violence, Atlanta, GA
- Cynthia Roberts, Rhode Island Coalition Against Domestic Violence
- Amanda Capitummino, Sitka Against Family Violence, Sitka, Alaska
- Prax Li the Center for Sexuality, Calgary, Alberta
- Erin Leigh, Ottawa Coalition to End Violence Against Women

Dec 7: Facilitated by Alan Heisterkamp, NAMEN Board Member and Co-Chair of the Program Committee

- Shan Foster, YWCA of Nashville, AMEND Together
- Pheng Thao ManForward, St Paul, Minnesota
- Emiliano Diaz de Leon, Texas Association Against Sexual Assault
- Toby Fraser Lutheran Settlement House, Philadelphia, PA
- Jeremiah Levine, Men Edmonton

Participants feedback and critical input will also be welcome.

Board Nominations

NAMEN continues to seek nominations to serve on the Board of Directors. The Board meets every two months, and board members are asked to join/co-chair one of our active committees (Membership, Policy ADvocacy, Program, Development). They are asked to dedicate about 3-6 hours per month for Board meetings and communications, committee or working group participation and staff support and supervision, and other responsibilities as requested. ([See NAMEN Board Agreement here.](#))

Please help us identify prospective Board members. [Submit your nominations for the NAMEN Board here.](#)

Advocacy Updates

The NAMEN Policy Advocacy Committee continues to work on a plan for the US to adopt a Feminist Foreign Policy.

Finally, we have just started working with an ad hoc group to work with state Coalitions to “organize against anti-blackness.” Many of you have heard no doubt, of a [local DV agency that lost donors](#), board members and other support as a result of posting a “Black Lives Matter” sign. This is but one example of the kinds of anti-black pressure that domestic violence and sexual assault agencies and coalitions face. The NAMEN Policy Advocacy Committee is joining a conversation to identify what it is that we might be able to do to help counter this and support feminist intersectional victim advocacy.

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

Membership

The next *Member MeetUp* is scheduled for Nov 19, 3:00 - 4:30 Eastern time. The focus of this member meet up will be to share with you the draft *State of the Field Report*. As described above, this will be a part of the critical reflection of this report, so your feedback and input will be invited as a part of this conversation; and the feedback will be integrated into the final version of the Report.

News from the Field

UN women recently published a new report: [Work with Men and Boys for Gender Equality: A Review of Field Formation, the Evidence Base and Future Directions](#) (Alan Greig and Michael Flood) which examines the conditions that have shaped the emergence of this work. Male-focused gender transformative work has a history, or rather histories. Reviewing its evidence base in light of the forces and factors which have informed its emergence over time enriches our understanding of both the findings from, and the silences within, this body of work.

This discussion paper assesses the evidence base of the “men for gender equality” field in light of three aspects of its emergence as a field, namely:

- its un-interrogated use of the category of “men”,
- its recourse to social psychological accounts of gender norms,
- and the implications of its NGO form for its ability to collaborate with and be accountable to resurgent intersectional feminist mobilizations.

The paper proposes four directions for the “men for gender equality” field:

- It must focus on the gendered operations of power and injustice, specifically the uses to which masculinities are put in the maintenance of social hierarchies.
- It must press for political as well as policy change.
- This, in turn, calls for more “movement” and less “field”: a greater orientation towards anti-patriarchal social action.
- Finally, such social action requires that evidence-building and evidence-based practice be reoriented toward the extended timelines and complex processes of social change.

Resources

[Articles/Reports](#)

Exporting Harm: Impact of the Expanded Global Gag Rule on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights is the latest from of *Sexual and Reproductive Health Matters* (Vol 27, Issue 3). The nine articles in this issue all focus on the impacts of the recently revised and expanded US Global Gag Rule inhibiting US funded efforts to mention, discussion or advocate for abortion services.

The *Guardian* recently produced a new series: “[What does it mean to be a man in 2020](#)”

XY Online has this collection of articles on “[Donald Trump and Masculinity](#)” This collection includes both scholarly articles and those published in more popular press.

Women Make Movies has released a new film *Sisters Rising* which depicts the fight of Native American survivors of sexual assault to report personal and tribal sovereignty against the background of ongoing legacy of violent colonization.

Books

Black Love Matters: Authentic Men's Voices on Marriages and Romantic Relationships Ed by Armon Perry is a brand new book that explores Black men's perspectives and insights on relationships.

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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