If one way men can respond to the #MeToo moment is by listening to women, a good place to start is by reading books by and about women across the ethnic/racial and sexual orientation spectrum. Similarly, men seeking greater insight into men’s role in the changing sociocultural landscape can acquaint themselves with the rich body of work that men and women have produced over the past generation that focuses on men and multiracial, multietnic masculinities.

Because the #MeToo moment was catalyzed by women’s testimony about the harassment, abuse and violence they have experienced from men, and because men’s violence against women is one of the great, ongoing injustices of our time and all time, it is crucial that men who care about gender equality and justice engage directly with this difficult topic.

Fortunately, there are many great resources available to help men understand the roots of sexual and domestic violence and many other forms of abuse, and their connection to cultural ideas about manhood.

While it is not practical in this limited space to do justice to the richness of writing and filmmaking on these crucial matters, the following lists provide a good introduction for anyone—but especially men—who wants to proceed on the parallel paths of critical self-awareness and social justice activism. The lists are hardly exhaustive. There are many great works that don’t appear here, and the selections reflect an obvious U.S.-centric bias. With some exceptions, the lists also are biased toward material released in the past couple of decades. Nonetheless, what follows is a sampling of some of the best and most useful books and films available on this topic in the English language today.

—Jackson Katz

Books


Dying To Be Men: Psychosocial, Environmental and Biobehavioral Directions in Promoting the Health of Men and Boys, by Will Courtenay (2005)


I Don’t Want to Talk About It: Overcoming the Secret Legacy of Male Depression, by Terrence Real (1998)

Men Speak Out: Views on Gender, Sex and Power, Shira Tarrant, editor (2013)

Fraternity Gang Rape: Sex, Brotherhood and Privilege on Campus, by Peggy Reeves Sanday (2007)
PEOPLE’S GUIDE TO ANTISEXIST MEN’S ACTIVISM


Real Boys: Rescuing Our Sons from the Myths of Boyhood, by William Pollack (1999)


The Education of Kevin Powell, by Kevin Powell (2015)

The Gender Knot: Unraveling Our Patriarchal Legacy, by Allan Johnson (2014)


Violence Against Women in Pornography, by Walter DeKeseredy and Marilyn Corsianos (2016)


We Real Cook: Black Men and Masculinity, by bell hooks

Documentary Films and Education Videos

All films produced or distributed by Media Education Foundation (www.mediaed.org) unless otherwise noted.

Asking for It: The Ethics and Erotics of Sexual Consent (with Harry Brod) (2010)


The Empathy Gap: Masculinity and the Courage to Change (2015)


Hip Hop: Beyond Beats and Rhymes, God Bless the Child Productions (2016)

The Hunting Ground, Chain Camera Pictures (2015)

The Invisible War Cinedigm, (2012)

Killing Us Softly 4: Advertising’s Image of Women (2016)

The Mask You Live In, The Representation Project (2016)

Miss Representation, The Representation Project (2011)

The Price of Pleasure: Pornography, Sexuality and Relationships (2014)

Tough Guise 2: Violence, Manhood & American Culture (2013)


Ted Talks by Men

Among Ted talks addressing transforming masculinities and men challenging violence against women, consider watching those delivered by the following: Justin Baldoni, Jackson Katz, Michael Kimmel, and Tony Porter.