# RAISING BOYS IN A KRUPTONITE WORLD



FAITH FORMATION THROUGH A GENDER LENS

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## GENESIS 1:26-27

Then God said, "Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth,

## GENESIS 1:26-27

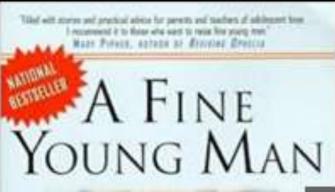
and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth." So he created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

 Male/Female both created in the image of God - equal

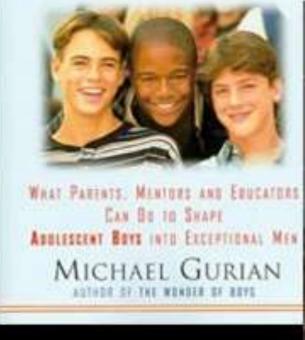
Created male/female - different

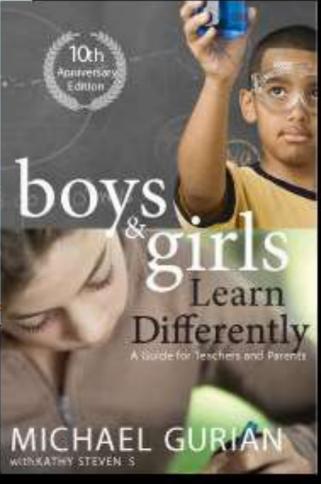


### DR. MICHAEL GURIAN



Nature





Nurture

Culture















## Why do boys do that?

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## TESTOSTEM SIL

- Aggression hormone
- Energy hormone
- Action hormone
- Risk-taking hormone



### is a POYER hormone





1. Can leap tall buildings in a single bound.



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SUPERMAN



2. Can crawl up walls.



2. Can crawl up walls.

SPIDERMAN



3. Uses a hammer to beat down his enemy.



3. Uses a hammer to beat down his enemy.

THOR



4. Uses his speed to catch the bad guys.



4. Uses his speed to catch the bad guys.

THE FLASH



5. Is good with Arrows.



5. Is good with Arrows.

THE GREEN ARROW



6. Uses the latest technology, often hidden in his utility belt.



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BATMAN



7. Can fly in a suit of armor.



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**IRON MAN** 



8. His strength turns him green.



8. His strength turns him green.

THE HULK



9. His incredibly small size gives him an advantage over his enemies.



9. His incredibly small size gives him an advantage over his enemies.

ANT MAN



10. Experimental science made him strong and good with a shield.



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CAPTAIN AMERICA



#### BONUS: What robs Superman of his Superhero power?



BONUS: What robs Superman of his Superhero power?

KRYPTONITE



## CHALLENGE FOR BOYS IN THE 2 IST CENTURY

Growing up in a world increasingly permeated by kryptonite

 Growing up in a world robbing him of his God-given purpose in life

### 

is expressed, in part, through a growing bias against testosterone. On another Sabbath, Jesus entered the synagogue and taught, and there was a man there whose right hand was withered.



Luke 6:6-9

The scribes and the Pharisees watched Jesus to see whether he would cure on the Sabbath, so that they might find an accusation against him.



Even though he knew what they were thinking, Jesus said to the man who had the withered hand, "Come and stand here." He got up and stood there.



Luke 6:6-9

Then Jesus said to them, "I ask you, is it lawful to do good or to do harm on the Sabbath, to save a life or destroy it?"



Luke 686-9

### Boys are growing up in a world that increasingly EMASCULATES men



#### We see

## 

expressed in an unintended bias against boys in school.

- 70% of all D's and F's go to boys
- Boys are 60% more likely to be held back in kindergarten
- For every 100 girls suspended from elementary and secondary school, 250 boys are suspended.
- For every 100 girls expelled,
   355 boys are expelled.

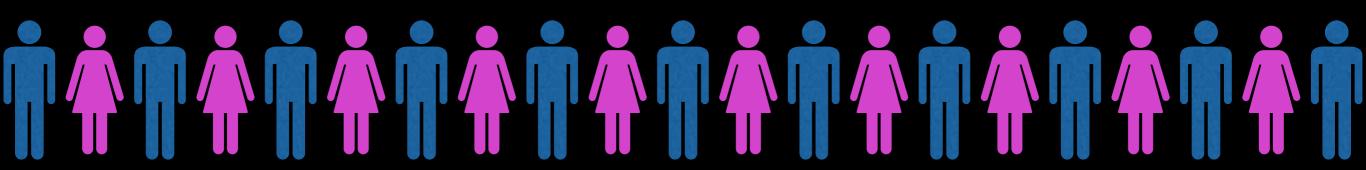


- For every 100 girls diagnosed with a learning disorder,
   276 boys are so diagnosed.
- For every 100 girls diagnosed with an emotional disturbance,
   325 boys are so diagnosed.
- Boys are 3 TIMES as likely to be treated for ADHD



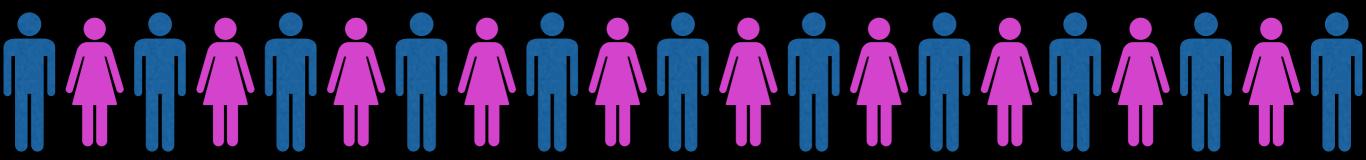
- 85% OF STIMULANT ADDRESSING MEDS ARE PRESCRIBED TO BOYS IN THE U.S.
- Over the last 20 years, the reading skills of the average 17 year old male have declined.
- Colleges have a reached a tipping point with 60% of enrollees being women

• In the 60's and 70's, the U.S. government spent \$100 million to get our girls caught up with boys in education.



• In the 60's and 70's, the U.S. government spent \$100 million to get our girls caught up with boys in education.

• The U.S. government has invested \$0 to help get boys caught up.



## 

# is expressed in the lack of a vision for authentic manhood.

- No longer the provider
- No longer the only sperm bank
- Many had no dad
  - 40% of boys grow up without a dad
  - U.S. most father-less nation of industrialized world
- Many become the stereotype

























## WHERE WILL THESE MEN GET JOBS?

- 80% of the fastest growing jobs will require post-secondary education or training
- In this recession, 80% of jobs lost were to men
- In 2009, the majority of workforce for first time is women

## WHAT KIND OF JOBS WILL THEY BE?

 Almost I in 4 boys with college educated parents can't read a newspaper with understanding.

## WHAT KIND OF WOMAN WILL WANT TO MARRY THAT KIND OF A MAN?

#### CHALLENGE FOR THE CHURCH

• 70% - 90% of boys leave the church in their teens and early 20's.

Most never come back.

## 1) 21st Century boys are lost.



- 1) 21st Century boys are lost.
- 2) The Church stands positioned to fight for our boys



- Put on the mantel of manhood
- Surround with mentors
- Lead/Guide
- Set free
- Cheer them on



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