



Male Privilege in Our Culture

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The Problem

- The most psychological event in a male's life is being cared for by his **personal mother** from infancy to first grade – then from 1st grade thru 6th grade with mostly female teachers.
- To the extent his personal mother is unable to meet his needs he will experience too much of her (overwhelment) or not enough (abandonment) or both.
 - **Overwhelment** results in a pervasive sense of powerlessness.
 - **Abandonment** causes him to distrust his own worth and the reliability of the world and results in insecurity as well as addictive, angst-fueled search for a nurturing Other.
- The child instinctually, intuitively, knows what is needed and feels both anger at betrayal and sorrow at the loss of the necessary nurturant Other.
- As a result of his childhood, he will have a “Mother Complex” (Worldview) that will be carried into adult life and projected onto women and events in general.

Patriarchy

Patriarchy is a cultural contrivance created by men over 3000 years ago to compensate for powerlessness and to ensure the survival of their tribe.

Men – Role: Defend the homeland; Provide for the family.

Women – Role: Subservient to husband; Raise children.

****** Note: *Men's Powerlessness results from being cutoff from their inner "feminine"* ****** Denotes Takeaways

No Blame & Courage to Grow Up

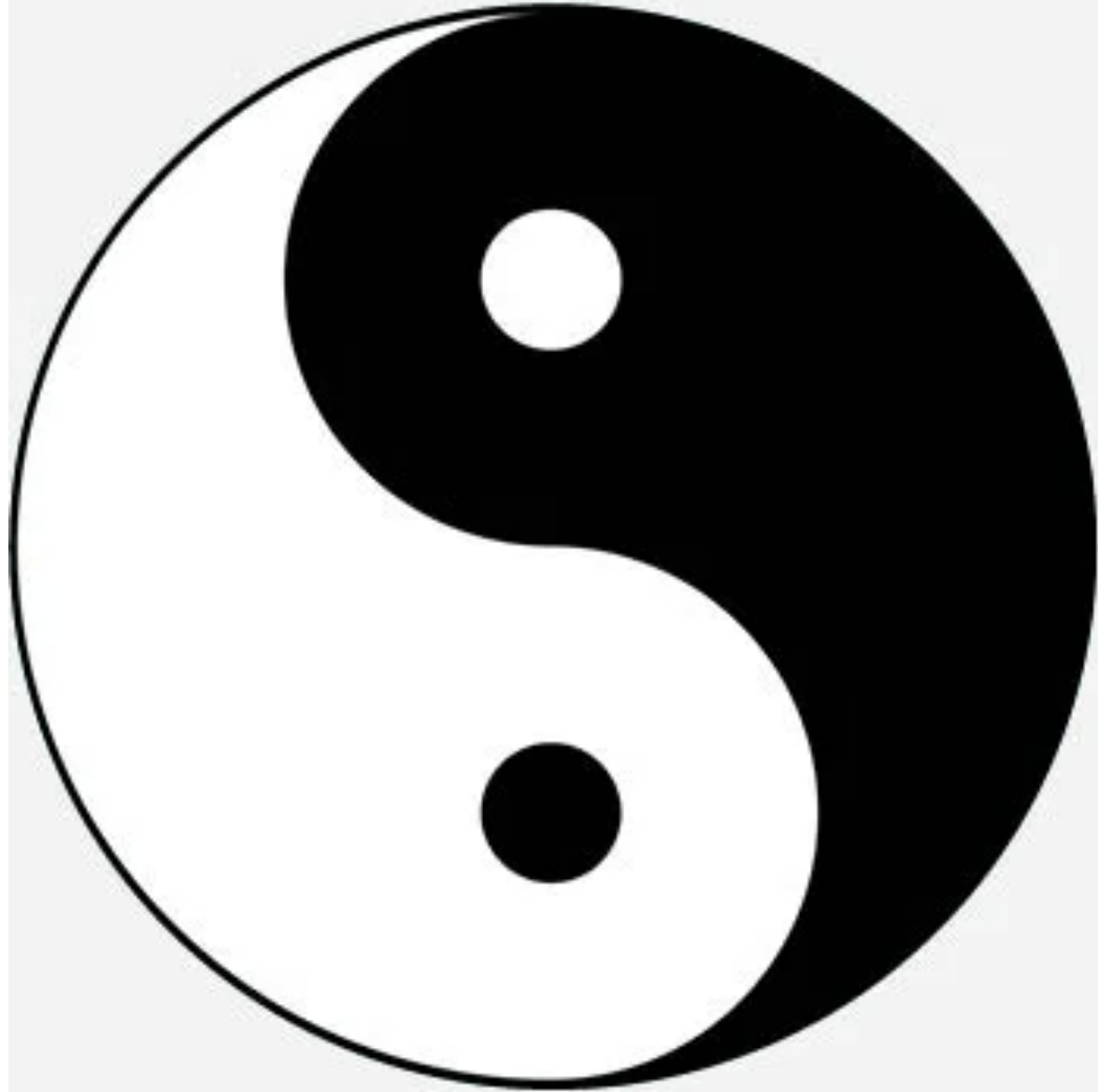
- ** Until all are equal no one is equal. – applies to both **Gender** and **Race**
- ** “The greatest burden the child must bear is the unlived life of the parent.”
- Carl Jung
- ** **No man can be himself until he has confronted the childhood “Mother” experience he internalized and carries into all subsequent encounters. Only through the courage to confront this potential abyss can he become independent and free of anger. If he still blames mother or women, he has not yet grown up; he still seeks the protection, or avoids the domination, of “Mother.”**
- James Hollis -- *Under Saturn’s Shadow*

The Eight Secrets Men Carry Within

- **Men's lives are as much governed by restrictive role expectations as are the lives of women.**
- **Men's lives are essentially governed by fear.**
- **The power of the feminine is immense in the psychic economy of men.**
- **Men collude in a conspiracy of silence whose aim is to suppress their emotional truth.**
- **Because men must leave Mother, and transcend the mother complex, wounding is necessary.**
- **Men's lives are violent because their souls have been violated.**
- **Every man carries a deep longing for his father and for his tribal Fathers.**
- **If men are to heal, they must activate within what they did not receive from without**

TO HEAL MEN MUST

- **Remember the loss of the fathers.**
- **Tell the secrets.**
- **Seek mentors and mentor others.**
- **Risk loving men.**
- **Heal thyself.**
- **Recover your soul's journey.**
- **Join the revolution.**



Breakout Exercise

What were father's overt and covert messages to you about women?

What were your mother's overt and covert messages to you about women?

5 Minutes each man on each question

Gender Roles Throughout History

- Through most of history women were expected to raise children and men were expected to provide food and safety for women and children.
- Gender roles were more distinct and ridged than they are in contemporary Western Society.
- By mid 20th century women were expected to marry, stay at home, and care for the house and children.
- By 2010 80 percent of women were in the workplace.
- Today husbands and wives share chores, child rearing, and wage earning.
- Women live longer, bear fewer children, are becoming better educated, and in the labor force in great numbers in any time in history.
- Now woman can do any job men can do including fighter pilot, astronaut, and CEO.

HOWEVER





We Still Have Lots Issues

- Male supremacy attitudes
- Workplace Gender Issues
- Sexual Harassment
- Sexual Discrimination
- Pay Equity
- Hiring Bias
- On-line Misogyny
- Domestic Violence
- Psychological Abuse