



Stand By Your Manhood: An Essential Guide for Modern Men

Peter Lloyd

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Being a man is brilliant. Except for penile dysmorphia, circumcision, paying the bill, becoming a weekend father, critics who've been hating on us for, well, pretty much fifty years - oh, and those pesky early deaths.

Fortunately, Peter Lloyd is here to tackle the controversial topics in this fearless - and frequently hilarious - bloke bible, which was a Daily Mail Book of the Week.

Part blistering polemic, part politically incorrect road map for the modern man, Stand By Your Manhood answers the burning questions facing the brotherhood today: Should we fund the first date? Are we sexist if we enjoy pornography? Is penis size a political issue? And do feminists secretly hate us? Frank, funny and long overdue, this is the book men everywhere have been waiting for.

Stand By Your Manhood: An Essential Guide for Modern Men Details

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From Reader Review Stand By Your Manhood: An Essential Guide for Modern Men for online ebook

Bobbie Derbyshire says

A fresh approach to masculinity that debates penis size, lads' mags, sex, marriage, contraception, parenthood, circumcision, societal norms, rape, health and lots more from the modern British man's point of view.

Knee-jerk disparagement of men is commonplace these days. I see it on TV and depressingly regularly on Facebook, where I make a point of politely objecting to it. Sexism is ugly, stupid, unfair and harmful whichever sex is its victim and however mild or humorous a particular instance may appear to be. Ask yourself, would you smile if the same thing were said about women?

Journalist Peter Lloyd has predictably been attacked as misogynistic for this highly readable book, just as Matt Haig? was Twitter-trolled recently for suggesting he might write on a similar theme. Lloyd and Haig are emphatically not misogynistic. Lloyd praises, extensively quotes and supports many feminist women in this book. He is not anti women; he is anti sexism. I am grateful to the feminist lesbian who recommended his book to me.

Man or woman, you almost certainly won't agree with everything in it. But may I prompt some of you to read it and think about it and do your careful best not to be sexist and your small bit to combat sexism against both your daughters and your sons?

Serhio Anatolievich says

All these 1 stars from Women - heartbreaking.

Vipin Singh Sehrawat says

Not bad at all!

Peter Siskos says

A great read and though humorous confronting

This is one of the most important books written in a long time. It's a big statement I know however deep down, even if we don't want to 'whinge' or acknowledge it, we know men are being attacked, more and more blatantly each day. Quite frankly we've been had, mainstream society certainly does not have our best interests at heart and this very important book sets it out, with statistics to back it up. You might find that by the book's end, your self esteem will be higher than it was when you began reading it.

Andy says

Stand by Your Manhood Good Reads Review

Who would have imagined that reading a book could cause so much trouble? When I read this my first thought was that I have been saying this for years and everyone has been treating me as though I haven't taken my meds.

I should first say that the views expressed here are mine and mine alone, and not necessarily those of my employers. This may seem odd, but will be less so by the end of this piece.

I work for a government sponsored agency. You will soon guess which, but such is the current mood within my organisation I would be foolish to mention them. I attend a department meeting about once a month where we discuss health topics, and one of the recurring health topics is trying to encourage men to be proactive about health matters. There have been loads of wheezes, but reading this book reinforced thoughts that I had been having about societal change perhaps being the solution. I then backed up this by mentioning content from the book, such as the bomb that went off and we were told about the dead women and children, but no mention was made of the dead men. I also spoke about how we screen women for breast and cervical cancer, but there is no reliable test for prostate cancer, which is a killer of men. I went on to speak about the horrors of genital mutilation, whether it be to boys or girls. Some of the participants of the meeting joined in and most didn't, which is not unusual. The audience were mostly women.

The following day there was an online letter in the local rag about an event we have here where men do manly things like burning stuff, and women gather together in the kitchens and make food, have a yarn and serve the food to anyone that comes along. My experience has been that the men enjoy doing their stuff and women enjoy doing their stuff, but the letter was bemoaning the fact that like everything else in life women get the raw end of the deal, so I responded putting over much the same arguments as I had at the meeting, but adding in young men from UK council estates dying in the many wars we are waging around the world, whereas their female peers were not.

A week or so later I was called in before my line manager to be told that my role in department meetings was data support, and I was only to add agenda items with his approval, and also that there had been a complaint about what I had written in response to the online letter. Someone had gone to the trouble of finding out who my employer was to make an unofficial complaint about me, and my employer had decided that I should be warned off speaking about the subject again, despite the fact that I was not speaking about my organisation, never identified myself as a member of the organisation, was on my own computer, outside working hours on my own web connection. This is fairly typical of the pernicious attack against men. An attempt to silence us for having an opinion.

All must be fine with the political party of which I am a member surely? Well, no to honest. I discovered that my local branch has a Woman's Officer. I don't have a problem with that, but they obviously didn't enjoy the question, can you tell me who is the Man's Officer. Apparently I should know that women have more issues than men. I decided that this must be a local quirk of my party, but no, on a national level there is a Woman's Group, but no Man's Group.

Whatever realm of life you look into you will see men being shafted. Women complain about glass ceilings, but never the glass floor that saves them from working in roles like driving and operating trucks that empty cesspits. If women are under-represented in an area they want to be it's men keeping them down. If men are

under-represented the excuse of "this occupation mainly attracts women" is trotted out. Women claim to want equality but when it comes to the disadvantages of retiring at the same time as men.

All men should read this book, and then campaign for equality.

Lars-Christian Elvenes says

I picked this one up more or less based on the title as I browsed the shelves of one of my local bookstores. Had not heard of it, and so I had no expectations.

Turns out it's a really good book. From a variety of angles, it looks at how men are being put down compared to women, and most importantly how it seems to be "ok" to do so. At certain points funny, at other points very serious. Especially when looking at health. The book is primarily focused on the UK, so I'll have to find out for myself what the numbers are for Norway (as well as cultural differences), but that was an eyeopener. If the numbers hold true, and the same situation happens here, that significantly less money and time is spent on men's health issues when compared to women's, that is a problem.

On the more humorous side, just about everyone has heard a joke regarding men's sizes down there, or seen a sitcom (or movie or other) where the women are talking and "he couldn't get her excited", "couldn't get her off", "couldn't get it up", "was small", etc. Try turning this around and make it two guys talking about a girl and see how often you see that conversation. Rarely, right? And would it be considered socially acceptable? Probably not.

I think the main takeaway from the book is a bit more awareness of the way men are portrayed in our culture was the most important. How many men actually really relate when they watch King of Queens or Everybody loves Raymond (which is beyond me, because it's the worst show in history)? What if we turned the roles around here. Would it be ok to have a sitcom with a hardworking Dad and a deadbeat mom who can't do a single thing right?

4 out of 5 starts simply because I feel at times the author tries a bit too hard to create funny puns in his writing, or at times stretches a wee bit when making associations. When you do that, you really need to have references, and they're not in the book. A companion site to the book would have been great, where you could go and check out the different case studies, references, as well as other important information from the book.

Definitely worth a read, especially if you're a guy, and certainly if you're a girl as well.

Bernard O'Leary says

Bollocks

Petra X says

Warning: Rant ahead, only semi-serious. I saw the title of this book and though it might be fun to buy for

Christmas, a joke sort of present. Then I read the reviews (marked *** skip straight to them if you don't want a rant) by men who feel hard done by and have constructed an artificial world in their heads where women, "feminists" and their ilk have conspired to suppress men. I wish everyone was equal with equal opportunities.

Men who do not support women or whose religions have relegated women to a very subordinate role with very few rights to speak up lose the friendship of women. The best marriages are those where the partners are both lovers and friends. In relationships that are not equals one partner has to look out for themselves by pleasing and not offending the other one. This leads to women being manipulative and passive-aggressive because they cannot speak out freely. Why would any man want this?

This is a quote from the book, "“Being a man is brilliant.... Except for ... circumcision, paying the bill, becoming a weekend father... oh, and those pesky early deaths. Suicide isn’t much of a laugh either. Nor is paternity fraud, schools failing boys, military conscription, conception by deception, the criminal sentencing gap, coughing up 70 per cent of income tax, dominating homeless statistics...”

Circumcision (view spoiler)

Suicide (view spoiler)

Early death (view spoiler)

Paternity fraud and conception by deception (view spoiler)

Schools failing boys (view spoiler)

Military conscription (view spoiler)

The criminal sentencing gap (view spoiler)

Paying up to 70% income tax. (view spoiler)

Dominating homeless statistics (view spoiler)

Weekend father (view spoiler)

***Review 1 "Feminism and its false and dangerous but persistent narratives" "In this book Lloyd discusses many issues that affect men, including: the marriage trap, male contraception, fathers' rights, the vile practice of circumcision, men's health (and the minuscule amount of money spent on it in comparison to that of women), feminism and its false and dangerous but persistent narratives..."

He doesn't discuss female circumcision, forced marriage, the truth about how the standard for non-gendered medicine is male - heart attacks etc. Most women don't even know what the symptoms are for women, only for men.

***Review 2 "As a teenager I stopped reading women's magazines because of the way they treated men. "..A poor woman who was expecting a child from a rich tennis player who she had had a short encounter with in a restaurant. it made me feel very lonely that I was apparently the only one who did not see him as the bad guy

(apart from cheating on his wife) but the 'mother' as someone not fit to raise a child. Still half a child myself I wondered what she would tell her daughter about how she was conceived. I also felt for the poor guy who had been tricked into becoming a father."

Boris Becker, married with two children, had a quickie on the stairs of a restaurant in London and didn't bother with a condom. It resulted in a daughter. The mother brought a paternity suit against Boris for maintenance of their child. What a wicked woman tricking poor Boris like that. Also his wife divorced him.

Will I get the book, read it and write a proper review? We'll have to see.

Btw I absolutely adore men and am in need of a special partner right now. Men with a large library and smile lines preferred.

Scott says

I thought about writing a longish, personal review about why this book is important to me, but then I remembered that (like most men) I'm not an exhibitionist, so I'll just talk about the book. Mr. Lloyd first came to my attention when I saw a clip of him being interviewed, and ridiculed, on a women's talk show for writing a book for men. That alone suggested I would want to read it. In this book Lloyd discusses many issues that affect men, including: the marriage trap, male contraception, fathers' rights, the vile practice of circumcision, men's health (and the minuscule amount of money spent on it in comparison to that of women), feminism and its false and dangerous but persistent narratives, and how society and media make us feel about our bodies. In a somewhat lighter section, Lloyd offers take-downs of various celebrities for the stupid things they've said in public, such as the insufferable, hypocritical Emma Watson ("Men aren't stupid and don't need a masterclass in equality from some 25 year-old." Yes! Thank you!) But it isn't all Lloyd's show; he also includes frequent contributions from experts in law, sociology, and medicine--many of them women and some of who identify themselves as feminists (probably the "good kind.")

Criticisms are minor; its populist tone is a little out of line with the seriousness of its subject matter, but if it gets more people to read it then that's a good thing. And I vehemently disagree with his hideous suggestion that only childfree people should be eligible for the draft. But that's just one point in the entire book.

Although the cover calls it a guide for men, I think it is equally--perhaps even more--important for women to read. None of this stuff is being talked about anywhere else, not in any authoritative sources anyway, and it needs to be. The other day I was talking to a friend about a new documentary that feminists are trying very hard to suppress (to the point of wanting to keep the director out of the country), and while she expressed interest in seeing the film, she said the thought the men's rights activists were "a joke." If you read this book, and are in any way fair-minded, you won't see men's rights as a joke any more.

Andrew Anyetei says

A really good book and it's the first one I actually finished and I have to say this book really is a game

changer for men in modern society, not to mention funny too. It highlights issues that men face but often ignored because of gynocentrism where female life is valued more than male and feminists fear it would undermine the victim narrative they place on society. It also make me become more aware of issues that I never thought of such as marriage, paternity fraud and it highlighted on how of feminising men can backfire e.g. the David Reimer story. However, I would like to point out why this book did not mention in depth about the concept of virginity on how women are praised and viewed as saints while men are shamed and viewed as outcasts. Other than that, I enjoyed this book, highly recommend read for men and women.

Gianni Adragna says

Are you a man? Read it.

None of us is perfect, and this book is no exception. It lacks precise references and at times it generalises too much. But the author is clear about it, he's an honest person. If you are looking for stats and data, at least he sends you in the right direction.

Andrew Vongkavivathanakul says

Much Better than Counseling

Really put things in perspective and help cope with my current situation. Im comforted by the fact that im not alone and others have been through much much worse.

Johari Taylor says

This book is a must read for every man as it demonstrates the plight of men in western society and their lack of rights on many issues.

This isn't a woman bashing book (as they definitely have their own issues too), so let's hope many women read this and that it springboards these topics into the spotlight as it isn't us vs. them as we're all in this together.

Zoubir says

The anti-thesis of modern feminism. I found it by coincidence, read it in two days. It's the kind of books that we might disagree with its writer in many points, but it's so well written and compiled, it's a witty and funny read. It deserves a 5-star rating.

Karen Mcfly says

Since people think men's human rights are a joke, Peter Lloyd's hilarious treatment of life & death issues seems apt

I took a human rights seminar at the politics department of my university in Potsdam/ Germany after a six week trip to Pakistan to visit my housemate from study abroad days in Nottingham/UK. Upon returning I had given a rather impromptu talk about the country in which poor and middle class men and women are struggling a midst chaos at a conference on human rights and religion. What I learned in said seminar was that suffering is gendered and the idea that men should have their humans rights protected is rather hilarious as the lecturer fell out into shrill laughter when I raised my arm and mentioned 'men' as a group of people who need human rights, after the usual suspects had been named (women, children, minorities). It was rather strange considering that before we had been speaking about boats of refugees drowning in the Mediterranean sea. And now all of a sudden the male lives in these tragedies were not worthy of protecting. Unfortunately at that time I did not have an answer when she asked me what sort of human rights men need. I mentioned the lack of father's rights which she seemed to acknowledge.

After the class I was left wondering why we apparently lack empathy towards men. I was not able to guess most of the men's issues which I am now rather familiar with. At that time I was just thinking that men don't become the despicable humans that family court views them as when they become fathers. Surely their mistreatment is because they are men and not because they are men with children. It was amidst the #yesallwomen campaign last spring, that made me ashamed to be a woman anywhere that men were around as I did not want to be associated with these harpies who were claiming that their lives were governed by their fear of men, that I found Warren Farrell's 'Myth of Male Power' and Paul Elam's youtube channel. Karen Straughan had been recommended to me before but at that time I was too worried of being accused of blasphemy if I shared her openly anti-feminist video. However, Warren Farrell and Paul Elam changed my life as they left me no option but to came out as in favour of men's rights and an end of the ideological treatment of gender issues as they articulated everything that I had witnessed in my 31 years on this planet earth. From thinking as a small child that adults were strange when a man had to sleep in his car until his wife would calm down but the social services would ask her how they could help her with her husband to as a teenager reading in my aunt's women's mags that women were oppressed while my aunt and grandma were shouting outside and my grandpa would quietly sit in a corner. From that time I stayed away from women's and girl's magazines until these sections started to encroach into the general news media. However, it was Boris Becker's case that made me treat everything that had gender written on it I encountered at university as toxic waste. Thus, I really enjoyed seeing it mentioned in Peter's book. It was a time before social media when tv and newspapers were flooded with the story of a poor woman who was expecting a child from a rich tennis player who she had had a short encounter with in a restaurant. it made me feel very lonely that I was apparently the only one who did not see him as the bad guy (apart from cheating on his wife) but the 'mother' as someone not fit to raise a child. Still half a child myself I wondered what she would tell her daughter about how she was conceived. I also felt for the poor guy who had been tricked into becoming a father. I honestly cannot begin to imagine the sense of betrayal and helplessness someone must feel in that situation. It is strange how our society has no empathy for men who get tricked into fatherhood but declares that there is a 'war on women' and that 'woman are forced to become pregnant' whenever there are attempts to make abortions more regulated (in particular in the US where it is practised in a way that shocks the most liberal European).

As I don't want to write my own book here but encourage you to read Peter's I will just summarize that what I liked most about the book is to see people who have questioned the ideological treatment of gender issues,

such as Paul Elam and Warren Farrell, be treated with the respect they deserve for their work as well as the extraordinary sense of humour displayed throughout the book. Since I was already familiar with most of the issues that the book deals with I was wondering whether it was worth spending the money since no libraries have it at this early point. But already from the excerpts I knew that I would just enjoy it for the ingenious treatment of the English language. Perfectly countered the stereotype that scousers cannot be understood ;-)

It's a book that I will be coming back to again and again and can only recommend to every man and woman interested in the lives of our friends, brothers, fathers, uncles, grandfathers, work colleagues and those sitting across us on the tube, subway, metro or S-Bahn.
