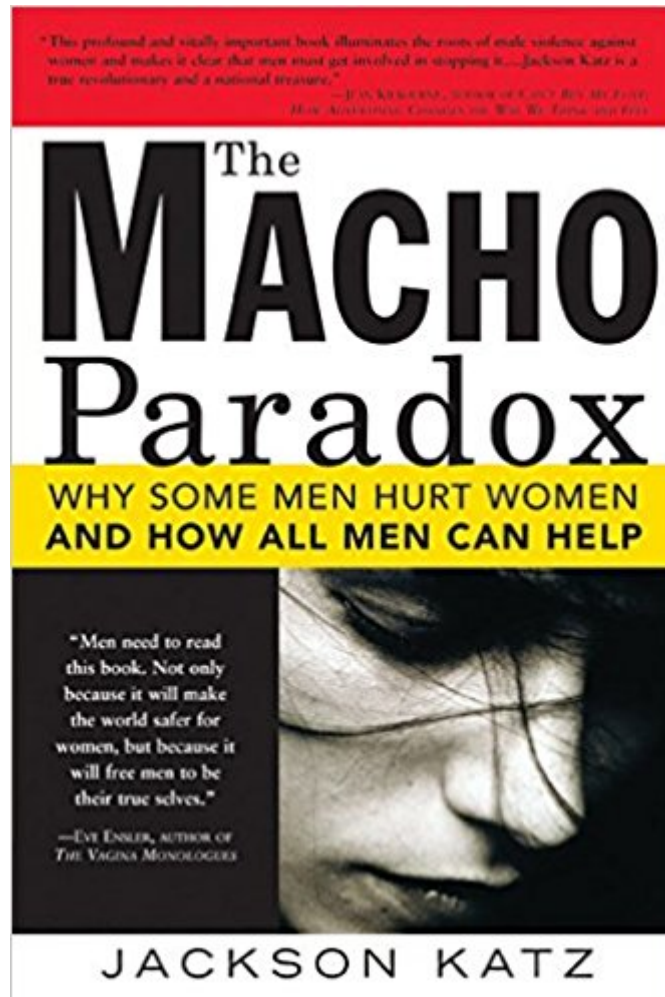


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The Macho Paradox: Why Some Men Hurt Women And And How All Men Can Help



Synopsis

Praise for *The Macho Paradox* "An honest, intellectually rigorous and insightful work that challenges readers to truly engage in a political discourse that can change lives, communities and nations."--Rosalind Wiseman, author of *Queen Bees and Wannabes* "Jackson Katz is an American hero! With integrity and courage, he has taken his message--that the epidemic of violence against women is a men's issue--into athletic terms, the military and frat houses across the country. His book explains carefully and convincingly why--and how--men can become part of the solution, and work with women to build a world in which everyone is safer." --Michael Kimmel, author of *Manhood in America*, spokesperson, National Organization for Men Against Sexism (NOMAS) "If only men would read Katz's book, it could serve as a potent form of male consciousness-raising."--Publishers Weekly "This book leaves no man behind when it comes to taking violence against women personally....After reading this book you can see how important it is to be a stand-up guy and not a standy-by guy, no matter what race or culture you come from."--Alfred L. McMichael, 14th Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps and now serving as the Sergeant Major of NATO "A candid look at the cultural factors that lend themselves to tolerance of abuse and violence against women."--Booklist "These pages will empower both men and women to end the scourge of male violence and abuse. Katz knows how to cut to the core of the issues, demonstrating undeniably that stopping the degradation of women should be every man's priority."--Lundy Bancroft, author of *Why Does He Do That?: Inside the Minds of Angry and Controlling Men*

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This book is both accessible and sophisticated in its approach. It covers political and social issues and popular culture in great depth. However, Katz pitches his argument to the broadest possible audience; he almost never uses jargon. I used the introductory chapter in a classroom with both high school and college students, and they all responded to the piece with enthusiasm. Another aspect of the book that elevates it above many similar works is Katz's use of personal anecdotes from his career as an anti-sexist activist to illustrate his points. These stories not only help to ground the book in reality, but they make it clear that the author has tested his ideas in the field of deeds. He has constantly sought out new audiences and been challenged to refine his approach. He advocates for a very inclusive model of gender violence prevention. He wants us to be honest with ourselves and call "domestic violence" what it is--men's violence against women. However, he also makes it clear that viewing all men as potential perpetrators is not the answer. Rather, encouraging men to take the issue personally and own up to their social responsibility, while encouraging others to do the same, can make a huge difference. For anyone who would like to learn more about men's violence against women, or gender and society in general, this book is a great place to start.

I wish I had 200 copies of this book. There are so many men I know that can find themselves depicted in Katz's clear and insightful reflections on male culture today. Why has the violence women suffer at the hands of some men been called a "woman's issue"? Where's the curiosity and creativity of more men when it comes to looking at why violence and sexual violence in particular are so epidemic? Or even, more dangerously, glamorized in aspects of the pornography industry? Forget "Pretty Woman" or "The Girl Next Door" and dive into real life. Katz has done his research and articulates a vision that should make every man stand up and collectively work to make this a world they are proud their daughters and sons will inherit. I really wish I had 200 copies....

Jackson Katz's book could be one of the most important I have ever read, hands-down. Two years ago, after my wife came home from a graduate-level class, she told me we needed to watch Katz's documentary, *Tough Guise* (MEF). The documentary revolutionized the way I viewed masculinity both in myself and in our culture. I then found Katz's book. *The Macho Paradox* does the exact same thing: Katz includes an amazing array of statistics as well as references to a variety of studies and cultural icons in order to prove his case--that masculinity needs a serious overhaul in our contemporary culture. No longer can we allow women to be abused in such rampant fashion. Katz explodes the myth that men are simply "born" with a bent towards aggression and violence; rather, he questions and explores what in our culture teaches men to behave the way we do. I highly

recommend this book to both men and women, as its message is one we severely need today.

As a male and professional firefighter working in a hyper masculine and sexist environment I found this book to be incredibly enlightening and encouraging as I work to embrace a healthier definition of masculinity and to fight the negative influences associated with my workplace and in broader culture as I build a better me. This book sparked immense interest in and better understanding of gender and violence issues to which I was mostly blind before. It led me to purchase and read *Men Speak Out* by Tarrant, *A Call To Action* by Jimmy Carter, and so much more material as I aimed to educate myself and realign my perspectives and behaviors. I gained valuable insight and perspective into the world of the women in my life. I have now embarked on a mission to do my part through self evaluation and peer education to fight sexism and be sure I am no longer part of the problems of our culture. I think especially for guys who align themselves with stereotypical definitions of masculinity, who are interested in being real men and creating a stronger and healthier self, and who want to work to build a better world for the women (mothers, sisters, wives, daughters, etc.) and men (fathers, brothers, sons, husbands) they love, this book is a must read. I purchased the book on kindle, liked it so much and felt it was so important to my own transformation and endeavors I bought a hard copy so that I can loan it to the important men in my life.

This is one of the best books I have read in a long time about how to end violence against women. The author analyses very well how the angle must be turned away from the women victims and how to make them safe, and rather towards men's actions and how to prevent them. He also looks at larger structural tendencies and mind sets which contribute to a "culture of rape" and subjugation of women. This is a book with a refreshing voice which shows how to go about strengthening gender equality.

Katz practically shouts the alarming seriousness of violence against women, mostly with simple statistics including that one in four women will become a victim. We all know people who are victims, yet we remain mostly silent. Katz makes it very difficult to remain silent and inactive, by making it very plain that we need to act, and that it is really men who need to change our behavior. He then switches away from simple, unavoidable, perhaps obvious truths and identifies sometimes subtle factors that turn men violent. I know it's uncomfortable; I don't like the guilt either, but every man should read this book. Every man should "man up" and act to stop the violence.

Dr. Katz did an amazing job with his book "The Macho Paradox". It goes into great depths about how all men (even the self-proclaimed "good guys") can help the fight against sexism, sexual harassment, sexual assault and rape. I liked that it was written from a male perspective, geared toward male readers, it really helps us as men identify with the issue much better on a level that we can relate to. It's not a book about guilt, it's a book about responsibility. And I would highly recommend it to anyone with a heart for women.

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