

# Bring Back Manly Men: An Examination of How Extreme Male Gender Stereotypes Are Portrayed in the Media

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## References

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## What's the issue?

- Harry Styles as first solo male cover model of Vogue U.S. in Dec. 2020
- Conservative author, Candace Owens tweeted: “There is no society that can survive without strong men... Bring back manly men.”
- Non-binary author, Alok Vaid-Menon posted on Instagram: “Do I think that white men should be upheld as the face of gender neutral fashion? No.”

## “Manly Men” Stereotype

- **Confucius’ theory of self-cultivation:** we are shaped by internalizing social values through repeated practice
- Exaggerated portrayals of violence and aggression in action movies and video games teach young boys this toxic stereotype about what it means to be “masculine”

## LGBTQ+ & “Gaystreaming”

- **Gaystreaming:** “Positively oriented portrayals of LGBTQ+ people remain overwhelmingly white, cisgender, able-bodied, physically attractive, affluent, urban, and/or male-identified.”
- Styles is profiting from his image as an ally without the firsthand experience of being a member of the LGBTQ+ community