

Ok I have made my point about men and masculinity. I have tried to let you see why I think the way I do. I think men and women are different. Our world today hates that. Why hate it? What's wrong with being a man? I say there is nothing wrong with it. Patrick I have no dad, I have two moms or two dads. I don't need or have a male role model. Those are very fair questions and concerns. The problem as I see it comes back to Adam and Eve. It's not to argue over if they were real, or if that's the way humans began. The main focus was that creatures for the most part are clearly male and female. I believe we need them both to survive.

In our day we say that the sun rays can harm us. There is a UV index that tells us to be careful about the amount of sun we take in. The other day I heard a report that we need the sun more than we think. They said people are one third less likely to get a heart attack if they receive more sun. So, which is it: more sun or less? I find it's the same with male and female. An old TV variety show called Donny and Marie always sang **"I'm a little bit country and a little bit rock and roll."** That's the key. We need a little bit male and female in our lives. Each sex type gives us something the other does not. If your mom is absent it changes us, and the same can be said for our dad's. There is harm in not getting enough of either.

There are studies that say men without dads lean towards reckless things. Bad mothers can harm our compassionate side. There probably studies that refute those claims. I will say that those I have met that have been denied time with a mom or dad are seemingly different than those who did. Equally bad parents affect us negatively. I have however heard great stories of male and female mentors making a positive difference in the lives of children. It's why boys and girls clubs and Big Brothers and Sisters mean so much too so many. We need our male and female sides to round us out in life.

My dad and my mom give me a different perspective on things. My mom gave me a look at compassion and beauty. My dad is not beautiful (sorry dad). I need my mom when I hurt. I need my dad when I'm afraid (sorry mom). We all are somewhat male and female. Some people have more than others. I believe we are a little of our parents as we grow up. The borderlines on aggressive and compassion are forged by a mom and dad. Some don't have one or the other and it usually causes them to lean one way or the other. Both sexes can help us keep our ship upright.

This brings me to the female feminine side of life. We need girls and moms in our lives. Duh Patrick without your mom you don't exist. True but their feminine traits are essential to boys as well as to girls. When a mom is missing we lose something special. Do you think we love stuff, cry in a movie, or care about things because we were made that way? I don't believe that because of what I said in the last chapter. Most men are bulls in a china shop. We don't take the time to smell the roses like a woman would. The females in our lives help men see that the world is more than one dimensional.

In church circles women have been disallowed to be the head or lead of a church. Seems cruel but I know why. Men push on through without thinking. We tend to leave the compassionate at home. Our decisions sometimes are void of love and understanding. A woman will take time and understand the consequences. She will know the pitfalls and check her heart on matters. Whether it's right or wrong is not my fight. I mention this only because the church chose the robots over the heartfelt beauties. Men get it done but women would take more time. It seems strange to me because many churches are without a heart. A woman would have given them that side. Our men leaders need women more than we know.

My only reason for wanting men leaders over women is twofold. One is that we tend to turtle when a female is in control. We men aren't really happy about butting heads with a female.

It seems not right to do that. We tend to let them rule and say and do nothing. Allison Redford was the leader of the Alberta government for a time. She was able to wreak havoc in parliament and in the province. It took two terms to fire her. Why? I believe it's because the men would have looked bad if they challenged her authority. Men hate doing that to women.

The second reason I stated in the last chapter. We men have no male heroes. A male hero is now a dirty word. What male heroes we have left are not the fighting kind. They are champions of sexual preference, writers, activists, and Hollywood actors. Even our sports heroes cheat on their wives, cheat in the game, and cheat with steroids. Where have the honorable men gone? If all the leaders are women, what will men find in them? Female heroes are awesome but they are not male. Boys need men to affirm that they are men.

My mom and female bosses are dear to me. I respect them for what they give me. The direction a female leader gives is very good. We need female leaders. Women give something men do not. Their outlook on life is different than men. A boy grows up by observing men and dads. A female gives a boy insight and instruction on how to live within your life. She shows us how to love and how to care. Let's look at the female side that boys need.

My mom had us sit in the theatre and watch Bambi twice. After the first show we got more popcorn and did not leave. Sure it was sneaky but mom loved that show. My dad took me to Jaws and Poltergeist. Mom was not so much about the adventure but being caught up in the moment. Men tend to go from one thing to another. Women stop to smell the roses. We love family and time spent with people because of our moms. Women are social beings. They travel to the bathroom together. Men find a tree. Dear Abby is successful because she was not dear Albert. Men love things because women taught us to love them first.

My mother and many other women struggle with how they look. They need mirrors and weigh scales. Men for the most part don't care what they look like. I went to bowling one night when I was single with my shirt on backwards and inside out. A woman noticed (of course she did) and said "you need a good woman to fix that." Yes I did, but that also meant that I wasn't one. Women tend to notice things.

A woman friend of mine noticed that I was sewing a button on. She said women do stuff like that. I argued that men can do it too. She told me something that day that changed me forever. She said: just because you can doesn't mean you should." You know that is so true. She also told me that if I leave something missing in my life, a woman will feel she can fill that area. Now before you get all ruffled let me explain.

It's called the paper towel effect. My friend told me to leave the paper towel rack empty and see who notices. Well I have got to tell you I thought that was the stupidest thing I had ever heard. However, I was amazed at the results. It started when my mom came over. She went up one side of me and down the other over my empty paper towel rack. She had to fill it. I told her no, only a woman in my life can fill it. Trust me when I say "she thought I was nuts."

I used to run a singles group. A bunch of ladies came over and they all were amazed I had no paper towel. The next meeting some of them brought some over. This is nuts I thought. God must have made woman to be at one with paper towel not men. My wife always makes sure we have enough paper towels and she always notices when we run out. Basically if you leave something out that only a woman can fill they will love you more. Yes, even paper towel.

A man is just not right without a woman around. I am sure the gay community would disagree, yet even then there is one more female than the other. We need a soft side and a hard side. They work well together. In a fight there comes a point when we know the fight is over and

we stop. Women have boundaries men don't. A man has the ability to pull back and think about it because women modeled it for us. Men are wired to plunge ahead yet the woman demands common sense. Generally behind every great man is an even greater woman (check history). Gay or not man was not meant to be alone. We need another side to complete us.

Men and woman can do what the other does not. Yes a woman can shovel the snow (yet they hate it). Yes a woman can change the oil (but why do it when a man will offer to). Men could sew but with big hands and little needles why would we. Men can cook but a woman's dinner always tastes better in my mind. So let's talk about what women bring to the table "excusing" the pun.

A woman loves better. Are you sure Patrick? Yes that's why they call them chick flicks. A harlequin romance and a good romance movie are adored by woman. Yes men like them but they are targeted towards woman. They feel love in a way men don't. When a baby is born the man feels proud but a woman instantly loves the little critter. A woman wants the baby in her arms where a man shows it off. Men don't ever bring tissue to a movie, they just don't. A little puppy gets an "aww" from a woman but the man says "cool" or something. Women love soap operas on TV. Maybe it's that they recognize love better than men?

Ok let's talk about Valentine's Day. Someone said the other day we should call it woman's day instead. Generally women never bring gifts on that day. The man has to buy her something (try not doing that men). Maybe he plans dinner or an intimate evening to satisfy and woo her. (DISCLAIMER) There is a good chance of getting sex on that day by the way. Let's just let the fact be facts, women hold that day as special for them. If it's not true then why have it at all (stores spoiler alert). Maybe it's a retail thing. Think of it this way: is there a men's day? Do or would men care for a men's day?

Women know two ways to a man's heart. Give him food, sex, or both. When a woman is mad you get no sex, no food, and reunited with the couch. Women realize that if they win you in bed they usually have your attention. It might seem cruel but let me explain. When I was single I decided to abstain from sex like a good little Christian. I thought that women would appreciate that. The problem was that I took their power over me away. I never saw that coming.

One day a prominent lady in the church asked me if I was gay (repeat story from a previous chapter). She was concerned that I was not being physically interested in the single ladies. Another well liked Christian single lady asked me if she could touch just a little. Another asked if I could touch just a little. The more I said no, the more I became alone. I feel that a man's significance is found in the castle he builds. I also feel the woman's significance is found in ruling the castle. You might disagree but take a way a woman's power over you and you get wrath. I will be bold and say women like sex more than men. Men are easily satisfied and go to sleep. Women rate their encounter and ponder it.

It became frustrating dating in the church circles. The men came beside me and schooled me to be prudent. That is where I heard the term "what a man allows happens." They asked me to abstain from sex and honor the women in their church (they should talk to their women in their church). The women pondered why I was abstaining (gee Christian or not women are women). Although I was not gay, to them, I was acting like it. They wanted me to be intimate so they could be intimate. My abstaining took that away from them.

Men try this at home if you dare. When the next time comes for intimacy (if ever ha ha) tell her it was the best ever. I guarantee one day in the future she will bring it up. Ok don't try this at home. The next time there is a chance for intimacy; tell her afterwards that it sucked. You will probably be single or she will defiantly bring it up forever and ever. Men might talk about

sex more but I bet women think about it more. It can be strategic to them. Men try and strategically get sex (good luck with that).

They say that money and sex kill a marriage. I say its sex because affairs don't play canasta, they play in bed. Can you imagine someone saying "Oh sure I had an affair, no sex, just an awesome meal." No, well maybe they said "I had an affair with no sex and we went out shopping." Still no, but how about another scenario "She was hot and we stayed up all night doing the bills"? No, we had inspired sex stupid. We ravished each other. We did things our spouse never did. The silly part to me is that most of the time the spouse would but was never asked. Sex is paramount and complicated in a relationship. Women are plainly nuts about sex in many different ways.

Women know what they want the first time then six seconds later they change their minds. Fickle? No, but I believe they are always looking ahead. Women are contemplating the future. In a previous chapter I told you that my first wife told me she could not see us in the future. I wasn't thinking that far ahead, but she sure was. My new wife asks what's for dinner way before I do. Whether it's in sex, dinner, the future, or in anything else women are thinking and planning ahead.

Women know when it's the right time to feel compassion. My mom has beat me with a bath brush occasionally when I was a boy (unjustly too I was a good kid). That's just the way it was and I turned out fine thank you very much. She also kissed my boo boo's better when I got one. A woman's blowing on a hurt knee can take away the pain (how is that possible). A woman can hug you when you need one. She can cry with you (and for you) when your heart breaks.

Some men have fought till the death. Some men thought it best to hire children workers and bar women from equality. The society men build makes sense economically, financially, and

practically. Women add the other stuff men don't see and sometimes don't care about. Men could live this way because we do what is necessary to survive. Women remind us that each action has a reaction. They remind us that pollution is bad, child sex workers are destructive, and that women are people too. It's not that we did not believe it but women through the centuries have to point these things out for men to open their eyes. I believe the moral compass of our society is built by women. We create the system and they add the heart to it. Our society is a tolerable world because of women.

I call this the gopher affect (different from the paper towel one). One weekend we guys were on the road to a hockey tournament. We loaded up vans with us guys and our girlfriends. At one moment in time we were stopped on a four lane intersection at a red light. The van we were in and other cars came to a stop in the first three lanes. A gopher decided to cross the road at that very moment. He should have listened to the chicken. The light proceeded to turn green. Ok now the gopher was in trouble in the middle of the lane. We were sitting in the second lane. The little guy tried to go left but the car began to move. What was he to do?

We guys were all laughing as this gopher tried to find a way off the road. The girls on the other hand screamed and begged our driver to be careful for the little guy. The problem was the fourth lane which was open. The gopher saw that and booked it to the right. At that very moment (as you could imagine) a car barreled straight through killing the gopher. The girls screamed and the boys cheered. Women have hearts for things men find amusing or indifferent.

Women have common sense. They seem to know good people from bad. So why do they marry bad guys? However, many women get gut feelings about people or situations. Men tend to just trod along oblivious to the situation. Women tell us when to be careful driving (why?). Women ask if we can afford it (men say hell ya we can). Women say I don't like that place (men

say it looks fine to me). Women avoid creepy people (men tend to be creepy people). A woman knows stuff and that is a good thing. I call it a silent alarm men need to be not so stupid.

I have found that women notice stuff men could care less about. I call it the library of useless facts. We come into a store and my wife reminds me about what we did in here the last time. I say “oh when was that?” She looks at me like I should have remembered too. She says don’t eat here it was bad last time and don’t get the waitress (Brenda) over there, she gave bad service. Do I remember that crud? Maybe that’s why women need purses. They cart around everything men need but are unwilling to carry. It’s the same with a women’s memory. We men probably need it but not every freakin day!

In most cases men smell like an oil change, locker room, or a construction site. For most women they smell like heaven. I am a mail man and I have stopped in my tracks more than once after a woman has passed me (her smell lingers). I find it sad that work places are anal about perfume. A sweet smelling woman rocks!! They feel smooth and soft to touch. Basically they don’t feel like a man, thank God. A woman was designed to be everything a man is not. What is wrong with that?

When a woman tells a man he is wonderful he believes it. Equally if she tells him he is a failure he believes it. Men are totally influenced by women. They say many a good man has crumbled under a woman. Seemingly good men have been crushed by adultery and scandal. Is it the woman’s fault? I say it’s more about men being drawn to the woman like a bug to a night light. We listen to the soft words of a woman. We love to be hugged by our moms. Men are tolerable as men because of the women in our lives.

In closing we need the other side to complete us. I love the line in the movie “**As Good as it Gets.**” Jack Nicholson tells Helen Hunt “You make me want to be a better man.” Yup that

is a woman in a nut shell. Men are just not the real deal without a good woman in their lives. It can be a wife, girlfriend, or mom but we need a woman to make us better. I wish men did not treat women so badly as they do at times. It's like were abusing the one thing we need to survive. To me it's like polluting the air we need to breathe (probably not good). Driving the presence of a woman away from us is a killer to who we were meant to be. The statement is true "behind every good man is a woman."

In the singles group I ran I noticed one interesting thing: single after 30 changes you. No matter if it was male or female the lifer single person is different. They participated less and criticize more. They dressed modest as if they loved being single, yet here they were in a singles group. Someone said a singles group is about fellowship and not the pursuit of the relationship (right). The over 30 singles wanted a relationship (duh they said so) but they had lost the tools to fight for one. A relationship makes us better people.

I am not saying singles are not good people. You singles out there are wonderful people. We all could be better at everything we do. Why can't we improve ourselves with other people? We upgrade our phone to gain more tools to communicate. Relationships improve our tools too. We communicate better inside human interaction. Sometimes singles excommunicate themselves and it's hurting them. It's the same with males needing females. Women improve men.

The feminine side is in each man. A mom, sister, aunt, or wife trains her man to love the proper way. Femininity kills less, hurts, less, ignores less in a perfect world. I wonder why a woman feels she needs to lead? Most women that have changed the world left the worrying to their men. They made us better by having the time to change things for the better. A CEO wife has no time to be what we need in this world. They say this world is not as safe, caring, or loving

as it used to be. Maybe it's because too many women are trying to be the men. Maybe feminism is killing femininity. I for one certainly hope that is not the case.