

## ***Gender Based Violence in a Masculine Society***

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**Background:** Gender based violence has often shown it's self to be an act of power. In other cases it has been a tool to subdue or control others and most of the time the opposite sex so what best way to enforce this than through masculine behaviors that favor or create inequalities between the sexes. We also saw that most programs worked with women as survivors and negated men as perpetrators of gender violence. Therefore, something had to be done to engage men too.

**Gains:** Having small group's men deliberate on gender norms and masculine behaviors and how they can be barriers or the causes of tension between men and women. Having men develop Digital stories that demonstrate how societal conditioning impacted on their behave and how negatively it impacted on the opposite sex and then coming out of that to say that will not abuse they will respect all women and men equally. Women's movements need to collaborate together with men's movements without prejudice.

**Challenges:** Stakeholders and Institutional integration as some of this institutions still work on the old partrichal system which is the same system that enforce masculine behaviors. Having comprehensive programs that deal with men prior the perpetration and after as a perpetrator. How do we fully work with the indigenous knowledge systems and incorporate them in a comprehensive process for prevention.

**Conclusion:** Masculine behaviors are huge contributor to Gender based violence and need to be addressed. There is a need to encourage men to express their emotions, to respect, and to understand that the best power can have is power shared. And involve mean the prevention we will be one step near reducing gender based violence.