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The Meaning of Men's Masculinity among University's Female Student: A Qualitative Study

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Abstract. Masculinity is a gender role that is socially pinned on individuals who are male. This study was conducted to determine the development of the meaning of male masculinity in university female students. There are increasing issues related to men and masculinity through the point of view of the opposite gender. The phenomenological study was chosen to determine the development of male masculinity among female students. The participants were female university students who have been studying for a year. Semi-structured interviews were conducted on female students and an interpretive phenomenological analysis (IPA) was used to interpret the life experiences of the participants. This study identified the themes of being masculine related to the physical, behavioral, and character aspects of masculinity: "having an aesthetic body shape", "mastering certain skills", "knowing how to treat women", "roles as a father", and having the traits described in the "masculine traits". In general, this study is an imagination about male masculinity from the point of view of females. This study reveals that significant other men, such as fathers and older brothers in the family, are the main models of masculine men who are the means by which the participants develop the meaning of male masculinity. A university is a place to develop a more varied meaning of masculinity.

Keywords: *Masculinity, masculinity imagination, masculinity development, social cognitive theory*

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