

# Men' stake in a gender balanced + caring world

Gary Barker, CEO and Founder

Equimundo: Center for Masculinities and Social  
Justice

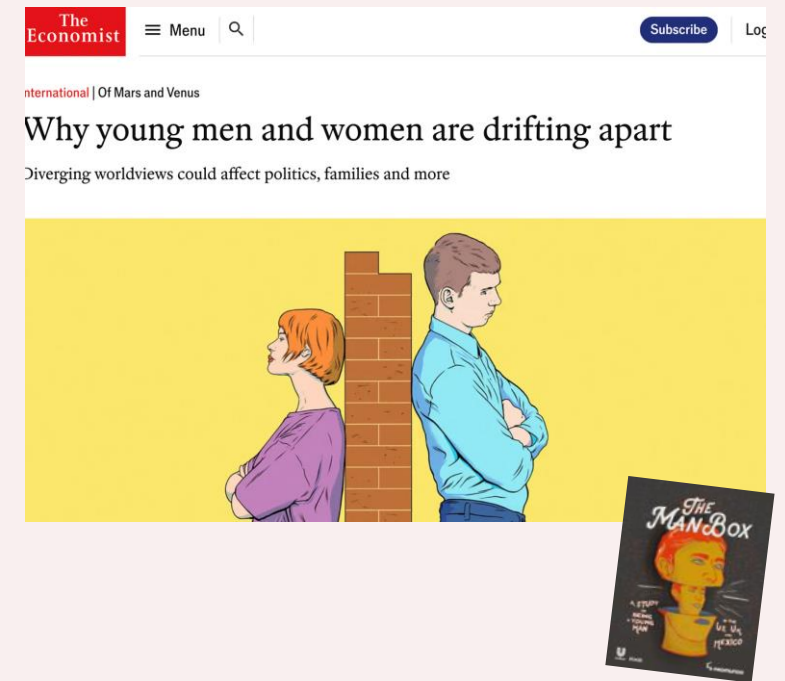
# WHERE TO START ON ENGAGING MEN AS ALLIES FOR A GENDER BALANCED CAREGIVING?

Surveys in multiple countries show we're **going backwards** on men's support for gender equality

>**Half of young men in many countries say they oppose feminism** and gender equality

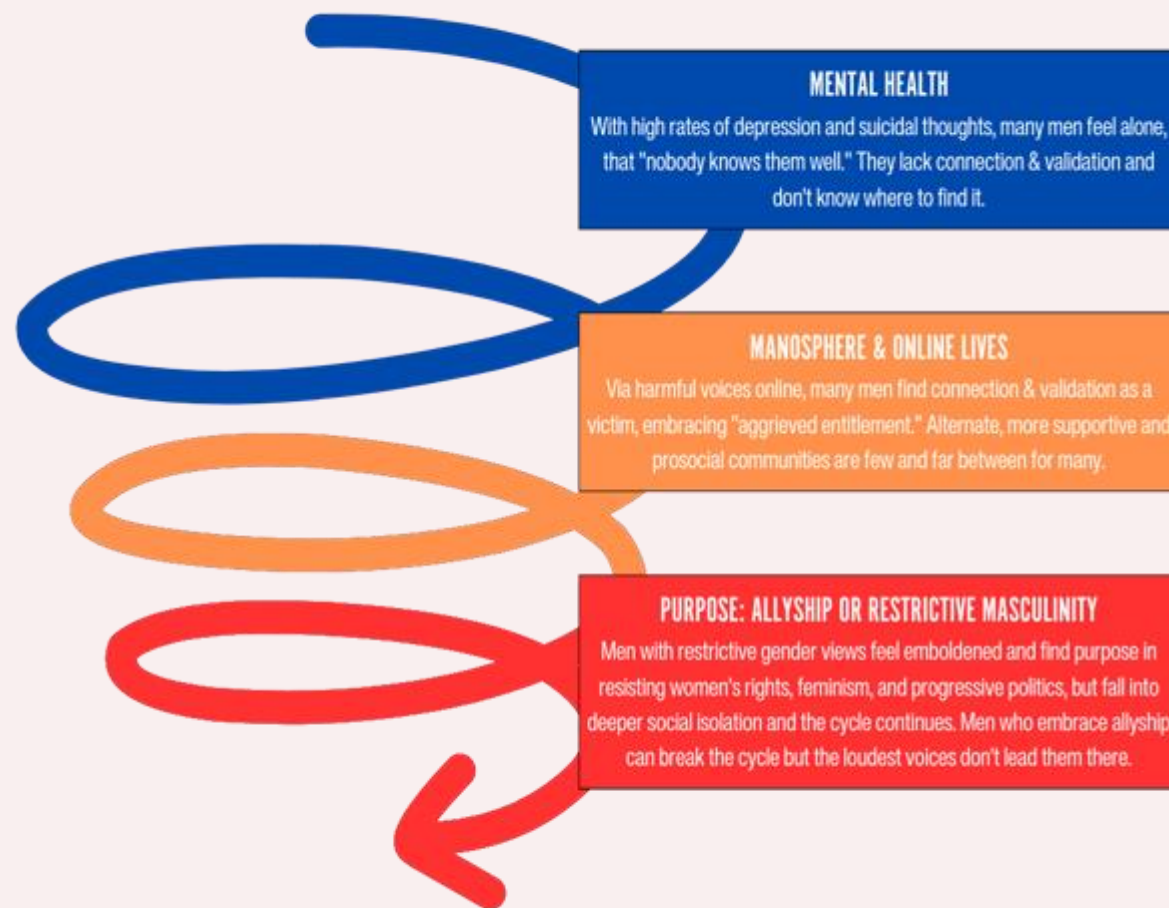
Meanwhile, **young women and non-gender-conforming individuals worldwide are demanding gender justice** including at work

*Why are we drifting apart? What are the implications for engaging men in caregiving? Might care be a solution?*



# Young men and the global crisis of connection

Spiral of confusion, social connection and finding solace in the manosphere and confusion – *and a perceived sense of economic precarity*



# Some men seeking new versions of success

Study of men by UK-based group New Macho found:

- **Men used to want ...** financial success and material things
- **Now they *also* want ..** daily happiness, a life partner, meaningful relationships, health and well-being

*The media, peers and workplaces often continue to sell the “old” version of success*

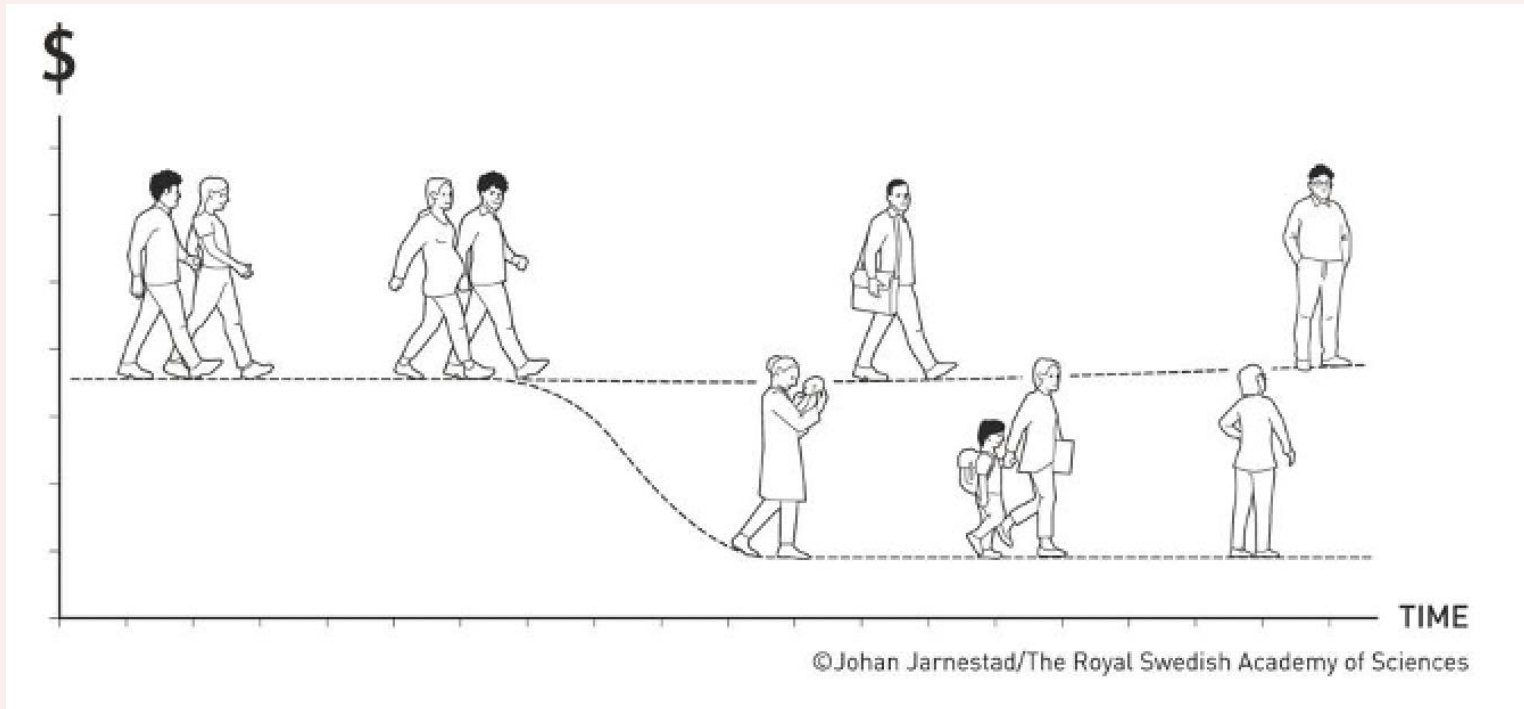


# The heart of the gender pay gap: *who does the care work*





**Even in the most egalitarian countries and workplaces, this trend continues ....and is proving sticky to change**



# MEN ARE DOING MORE HANDS ON CARE

Across 17 countries, mothers are still doing more care than fathers ... but the *gap is narrowing*



**1.36** TIMES house cleaning

**1.32** TIMES physical childcare

**1.26** TIMES emotional childcare

**1.17** TIMES cooking

**1.16** TIMES care for their partner

**1.11** TIMES household logistics

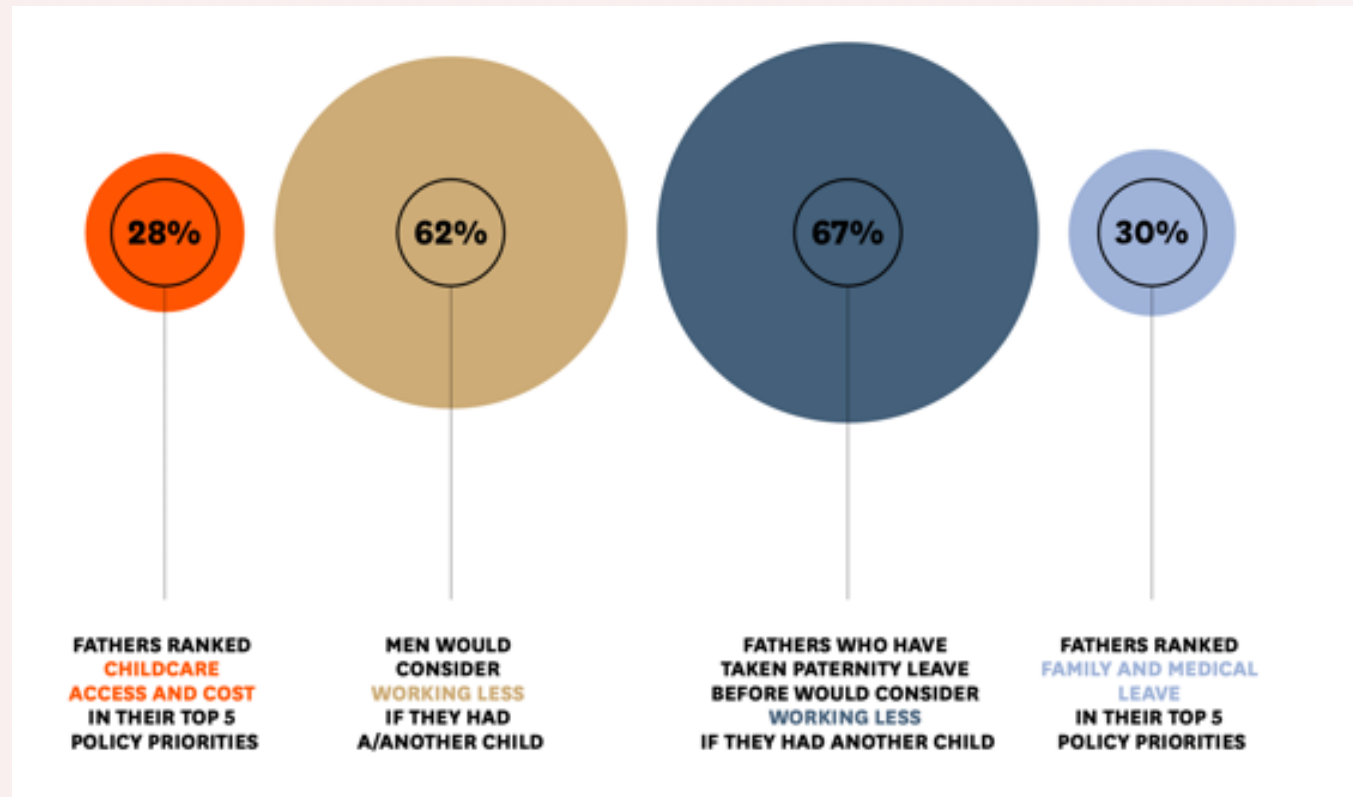
**1.08** TIMES physical care for elders

**1.08** TIMES emotional care for elders

**1.07** TIMES care for persons with disabilities

# AND MEN INCREASINGLY CARE ABOUT CARE

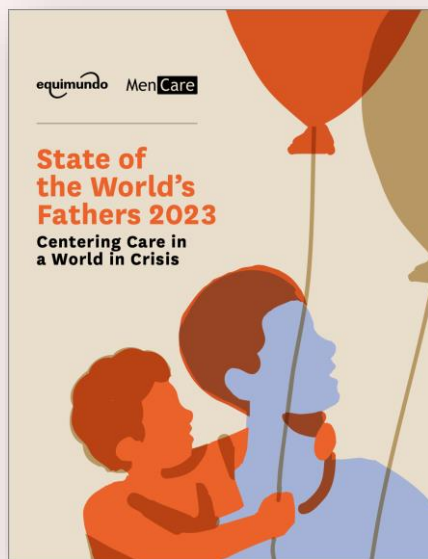
*Men want to care ... and they rank care policies at work and beyond as highly as women do*





# WHEN WE CARE FOR MEN, MEN CARE FOR OTHERS

Findings from 17 countries in latest *State of World's Fathers* report affirm that when men are engaged in *emotional* self-care, they are more likely to engage in other forms of care:

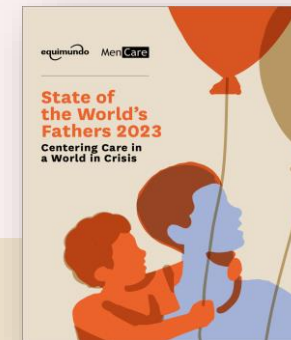


# CAREGIVING BRINGS US HAPPINESS

Men and women who said they were satisfied with how involved they were in raising their children were

**1.5 times**

***MORE LIKELY TO FEEL GRATITUDE ABOUT THEIR  
LIVES***



**GLOBAL RESEARCH FINDS THAT WHEN MEN CARE, THEIR SONS CARE MORE**

## SONS TAKING AFTER FATHERS IN DOMESTIC WORK



Mean number of domestic work tasks (zero to three) done by male respondents as adults, divided based on their fathers' participation.

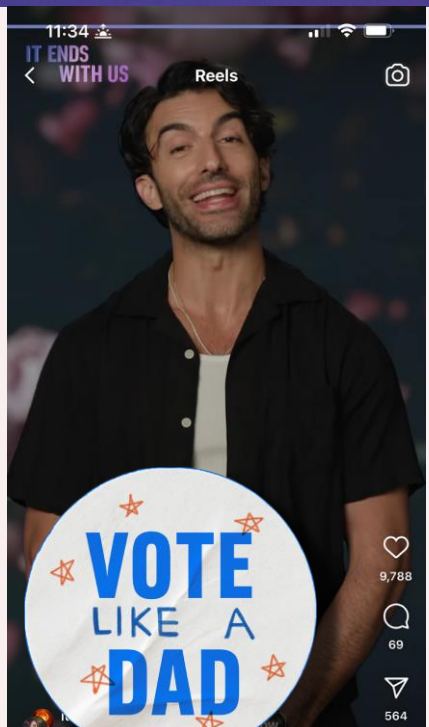
# ENGAGING MEN IN ADVOCACY FOR CARE POLICIES

**GLOBALLY, more than half of both mothers and fathers said that political activism for care leave policies was important to them.**

*So, where are the men when it comes to care policies?*







There are **2.5 million** households in the US **headed by a single father**, yet less than half of all fathers in the US have access to any paid leave.

Sources: Census.gov; Equimundo's State of America's Fathers 2023



**88%** of male caregivers say that **increasing investments in child care**, elder care, and care for people with disabilities is a **policy priority**.

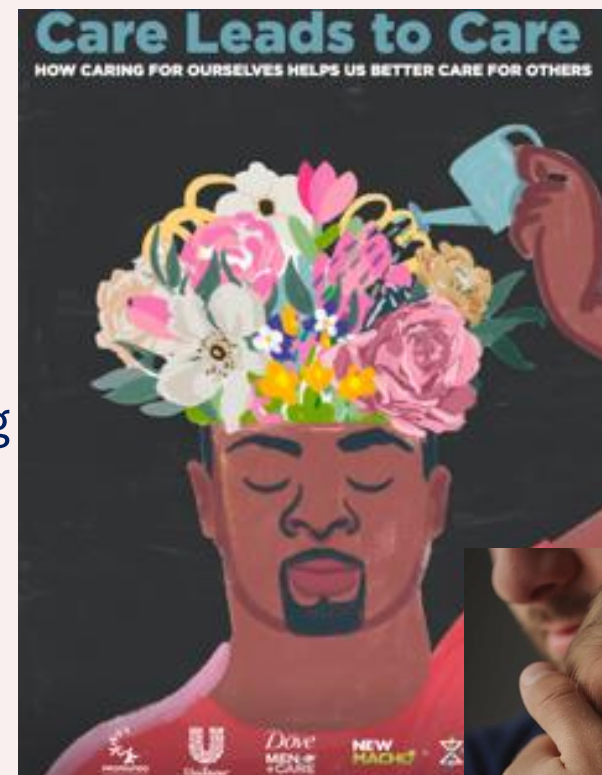




# HOW TO BRING MEN INTO THE CARE AGENDA?

- Narrative shift and storytelling
- Care policies that include and make visible men's caregiving
- Talking to male voters as fathers and caregivers
- Starting early in boyhood
- Pay attention to the gender gap in care professions
- Support to the most vulnerable fathers and families, including those where violence present

TALKING ABOUT HAPPINESS, SELF-CARE, CARE FOR MEN AND LINKING CARE AND DEMOCRACY



Under the auspices of the President of the Senate of the Parliament of the Czech Republic Miloš Vystrčil,  
supported by the Government Commissioner for Human Rights Klára Šimáčková Laurenčíková

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