

RAISING ETHICAL SONS

TALKING ABOUT CHALLENGING SEXISM

By standing up to sexism when we see it, we can all be part of creating a more equal society for women and men.

Full Stop Foundation

Working to end sexual assault and domestic violence



Why is teaching our sons to challenge sexism and gendered violence important?

We hope that the conversations you have with your son are a starting point for building a society where men and boys do not tolerate sexism or gendered violence from anybody – their friends, relatives, or co-workers.

Research shows that if we make it normal to stand up against sexism and gender-based violence in social settings, more people will have the courage to intervene when they see situations of sexism and gender-based violence.

This is the only way we can really put an end to violence against women.

Watch this video from **UN Women's #HeForShe** campaign where men from all walks of life come together to talk about why ending gender inequality is important to them.



To make challenging sexism and gender-based violence normal for your son, you could talk about some of the following things:

Situations where you intervened after seeing sexist behaviour, or after witnessing gender-based violence.

Help your son see how gender stereotypes and sexist jokes are related to a culture that condones violence against women.

Ask your son to think about how the girls and women in his life might feel when they hear sexist or aggressive comments from men. Ask him how he wants the girls and women in his life to feel instead, and help him think of ways that he can either challenge sexist attitudes or show support to girls and women when they experience sexism.

Be an example to your son by challenging sexist attitudes and behaviours when you encounter them together. You can also talk through these situations later, and give your son helpful advice for how to respond when he encounters sexism.

SOURCES

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