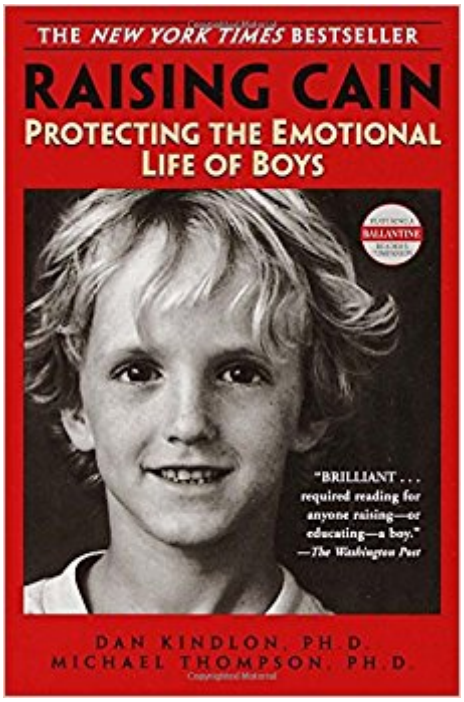
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Raising Cain: Protecting The Emotional Life Of Boys



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Synopsis

In Raising Cain, Dan Kindlon, Ph.D., and Michael Thompson, Ph.D., two of the country's leading child psychologists, share what they have learned in more than thirty-five years of combined experience working with boys and their families. They reveal a nation of boys who are hurting--sad, afraid, angry, and silent. Kindlon and Thompson set out to answer this basic, crucial question: What do boys need that they're not getting? They illuminate the forces that threaten our boys, teaching them to believe that "cool" equals macho strength and stoicism. Cutting through outdated theories of "mother blame," "boy biology," and "testosterone," the authors shed light on the destructive emotional training our boys receive--the emotional miseducation of boys.Kindlon and Thompson make a compelling case that emotional literacy is the most valuable gift we can offer our sons, urging parents to recognize the price boys pay when we hold them to an impossible standard of manhood. They identify the social and emotional challenges that boys encounter in school and show how parents can help boys cultivate emotional awareness and empathy--giving them the vital connections and support they need to navigate the social pressures of youth.

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Customer Reviews

Reviving Ophelia, Mary Pipher's groundbreaking book, exposed the toxic environment faced by adolescent girls in our society. Now, from the same publisher, comes Raising Cain: Protecting the Emotional Life of Boys by Dan Kindlon and Michael Thompson, which does the same for adolescent boys. Boys suffer from a too-narrow definition of masculinity, the authors assert as they expose and discuss the relationship between vulnerability and developing sexuality, the "culture of cruelty" boys

live in, the "tyranny of toughness," the disadvantages of being a boy in elementary school, how boys' emotional lives are squelched, and what we, as a society, can do about all this without turning "boys into girls." "Our premise is that boys will be better off if boys are better understood--and if they are encouraged to become more emotionally literate," the authors assert. As a tool for change, Kindlon and Thompsom present the well-developed "What Boys Need," seven points that reach far beyond the ordinary psychobabble checklist and slogan list. Kindlon (researcher and psychology professor at Harvard and practicing psychotherapist specializing in boys) and Thompson (child psychologist, workshop leader, and staff psychologist of an all-boys school) have created a chilling portrait of male adolescence in America. Through personal stories and theoretical discussion, this well-needed book plumbs the well of sadness, anger, and fear in America's teenage sons. --Ericka Lutz --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

A genuine enthusiasm for their subject shines through the pages of this enormously compelling book, as the authors share insights on boys' emotional development from birth through the college yearsAan increasingly high-profile topic in the wake of disheartening statistics about adolescent suicide and violence. In much the same way that Reviving Ophelia offered new models for raising girls, therapists Kindlon and Thompson argue that boys desperately need a new standard of "emotional literacy," showing how our culture's dominant masculine stereotypes shortchange boys and lead them toward emotional isolation. The authors turn a spotlight on the inner lives of boys, debunking preconceptions about gender, explaining the importance of nurturing communication skills and empathy in boys as well as girls, and steering boys toward a manhood of emotional attachment, not stoicism and solitude. They also challenge the ways in which, in their view, traditional school environments put boys at a disadvantage (why not hold off on reading instruction a year or two? they ask; why not five short recesses a day?). Such issues as drinking, drugs and the "culture of cruelty" among adolescents, in which "anything a boy says or does can and will be used against him," also meet with sensitive treatment. Separate chapters examine the relationships between fathers and sons and mothers and sons, and show how these can be protected and redefined. This thoughtful book is recommended for parents, teachers or anyone with a vested interest in raising happy, healthy, emotionally whole young men. Agent, Gail Ross of Lichtman, Trister, Singer and Ross. Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

This is a very interesting and well written book. I am a mother of 2 boys and this book actually gave

me some great insight into how their minds work. My husband enjoyed it a lot too. It’s a great book to have for parents of boys of all ages.

Insightful. Easy to read. Helpful. Betweenthe grandson, 1 preschool class, and K-1 class I suddenly have a lot of little boys in my life. This book not only is helping me with them - it’s helping me understand my husband and sons-in-law.

An important book for all of us. I was initially interested in reading it because of having younger brothers and my own young (4 yr old) son, but I believe it would do most of us a lot of good to better understand and focus on the needs and psyche of boys. Sometimes I feel like there’s now such a focus on the needs of girls (which of course I also support), that it seems the boys are sort of pushed aside and forgotten - which is just so unhelpful to both boys and girls. One of the main things that stood out to me from this book was remembering how boys equally need love, understanding, patience, affection and gentleness as much as girls do (including teen boys and men) even though we as society have painted them as being "tough", "unemotional", "thick-skinned", having to be "strong" all the time, and so many other unhelpful labels. I haven’t really even scratched the surface but I think there are some pretty good things in this book for just about anybody.

Very convenient! No need to go shopping! Five stars! Excellent!

Anyone who is raising a son must read this! Also highly recommended for educators.

If I were a college psychology teacher again, I would use this as required reading. We need to understand how us boys grow up. The boys’ journey is not simple and their growth drama deserves respect, patience, understanding, and care from all of us. This book has opened my eyes to a world that I forgot. Many thanks to the authors for capturing my attention and appreciation for growing up as a "guy".

This is a great book for parents of young boys, as well as for adult males or females. This book does a great job of explaining why boys (and men) behave the way they do emotionally. I couldn’t agree more with the cover quote by Daniel Golemen on my addition: ’Raising Cain gives a long-needed insight into that mysterious, magical land, the psyche of boys. Every parent, teacher -

or anyone who wants boys to flourish - should read this book.' As a Clinical Psychologist it has been a great recourse for my students and clients!

I wish I had read this book 30 years ago have not finished reading it but i will read it again as there is a lot to take in and put into practise have told soo many people about this good book as it gives good advice and helpful infomation when dealing with boys. It helps you to veiw boys with a more positive attitude and to bring out the best In them and to help them enlarge their vocabulary which tends to be a difficult thing for a boy to do. A very good book to read .

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