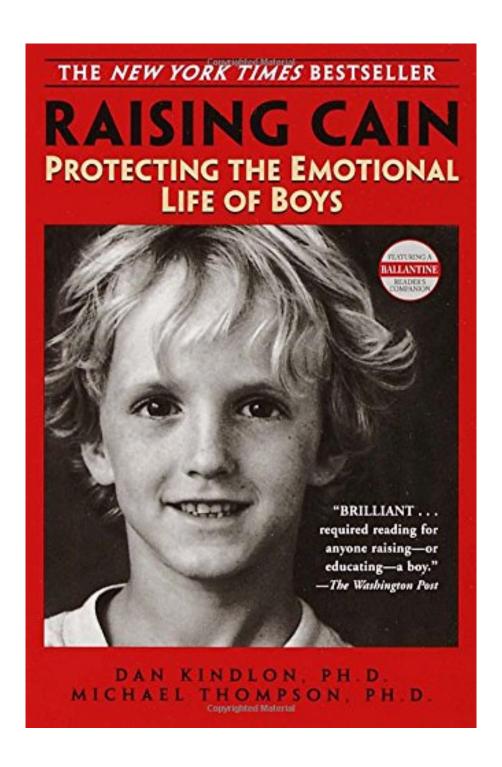


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#### Amazon.com Review

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

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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 Cutting through outdated theories of "mother blame," "boy biology," and "testosterone," the authors shed light on the destructive emotional training our boys receive--the emotional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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• Brand: PBS

Published on: 2000-04-04Released on: 2000-04-04Original language: English

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• Binding: Paperback

• 298 pages

## Features

• Great product!

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Most helpful customer reviews

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful.

Very useful book.

By Nero

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.

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful.

Helpful if you are interacting with boys (and men...) on a regular basis

By Rio Vista Momma

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.

7 of 8 people found the following review helpful.

but I believe it would do most of us a lot of good to better understand and focus on the needs and ... By Mina

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.

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