

Diversifying Early Childhood Education:

Providing Opportunities, Support, and Resources for
Males in the Field of Early Childhood Education
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Stereotypes, Stigmas, and Biases

- Educators in the Early Childhood Educational field should be only for women.
- Assumptions of most men working with children are pedophiles. Male Early Childhood Professionals make parents uncomfortable in regard to the changing of clothes/diapers, escorting/monitoring children at the restrooms, and allowing children to sit on the men's laps during certain activities (reading/circle time).
- Are men as nurturing as women when interacting with children?
- Treating male colleagues as handymen (fixing doors, cabinets, etc..) plumbers (plunging clogged toilets, sealing leaky faucets, etc..), and janitors (taking out trash, hauling heavy loads, etc..) in the workplace.

Supporting Diversity and Equity of Men in ECE

- Progressive Education: The teaching staff should reflect the diversity of the children in the classroom.
- How do we provide Equity for Men in ECE?
 - Father Engagement/Parent Education Programs
 - D.A.D. Project: <https://dadproject.org/>
 - Evaluating/creating the “Male Friendliness” of the School Environment.

Recruitment and Retention of Male Educators

- Provide male involvement in the recruitment process and in higher education (advisors/mentors, facilitators, and role models).
- Workshops/Conferences focusing specifically on Men in the Educational Field.
- Creating awareness and receiving support from the supervisors, directors, dept. chairs, deans, professors, parents, etc..
- Memberships to professional organizations, social media, and blogs.

Links to find more supporting data:

- www.menteach.org (USA)
- www.ecmenz.org/ (New Zealand)

Facebook Groups:

- Men and Child Care:
 - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/195109553871100/?ref=bookmarks>
- Men in Education Network (M.E.N.) Interest Forum
 - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/182180819494/?ref=bookmarks>
- Men in Early Childhood Education
 - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/423989947622417/?ref=bookmarks>
- International Manny Association
 - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2021658197945116/?ref=bookmarks>
- World Forum Working Group on Men in Early Childhood Education
 - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/wfmen/?ref=bookmarks>
- The MENtor Program for Males in ECE
 - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/242796672474560/?ref=bookmarks>