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He'll Be OK: Growing Gorgeous Boys Into Good Men 10th Anniversary



Synopsis

At last, a straight-talking book that takes parents into the mysterious world of boys. How do you raise boys to men in a world where trouble beckons at every turn? How do you make sure they learn the right lessons, stay out of danger, find a path to follow? How do you ensure they'll be OK? Author Celia Lashlie has some of the answers. After years working in the prison service, she knows what can happen when boys make the wrong choices. She also knows what it's like to be a parent - she raised a son on her own and feared for his survival. As a crucial part of the NZ Good Man Project, she talked to 180 classes of boys throughout the country. Her insights into what boys need - and what parents can do to help them - are ground-breaking. In this honest, no-nonsense and best-selling book, Celia Lashlie reveals what goes on inside the world of boys, and that it is an entirely different world from that of girls. With clarity and insight, she offers parents - especially mothers - practical and reassuring advice on raising their boys to become good, loving, articulate men. 'At last, a mother's guide on the best way to raise sons.' - Courier Mail 'Lashlie writes with a refreshing candour and honesty.' - Courier Mail '... anyone who is involved in boys' education or has male children will benefit from reading this.' Good Reading

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I finally got this book at the urging of a Kiwi friend, who used the author's works to raise his own children. I've been having a lot of trouble as a single mother trying to raise two boys, so I've been desperate for ANY help. From the first chapter, I gained an almost instant understanding of what was going on with my boys - and, much to my delight, I learned that they're perfectly normal teenage boys! I immediately began seeing my sons' words and actions in a different light, and it has made a world of difference already. Those "ah-ha!" moments have been wonderful! We experienced a family tragedy just as I finished reading the section of the book on how boys deal with such things. My boys reacted exactly as predicted, but had I not read the book, I would have been hurt and angry at them for the way they handled the situation. By knowing that they did so in the "normal way" for boys, I was able to wait for them to ask for more information or comfort. I cannot thank Ms. Lashlie enough for her work on this book, as well as the "Good Man Project".

First book I had read written from a feminist perspective that does not present a total fatalistic end to men and boys. She captures a lot of important points. It is not perfect as it lacks the psychological and biological topics to understand a little more. I will tell a little part of my story, I started to recognize as a 5 to 6 years old, that something was wrong with me, aka erections in the morning. No one was able to tell me that was normal, the only response received with a scream was not to touch. Later in life the same thing with wet dreams, I had to go wash my pajamas in a clandestine operation. My father as intelligent as he is, spent most of the time drinking alcohol to prove out to all his workers that he had big balls. My mother was as fast to go and tell my dad I had done something wrong and I needed to be punished. The punishment in a Latin American country is always physical to boys. My mother always criticized my handwriting and believed any bad thing told by others. Including that I was cheating on class. The teacher (female) never recognized I had photographic memory. She wanted more money and placed me on extra classes and extra teaching at lunch time. My mother got tired of me, and threatened to send me to another school. This new school was a public school where they didn't need to spend money. However the zone director intervened. She requested exams to be passed. I got straight 10 or A in all subjects. She tried to talk to my mother, but my mother insisted that I was still a lazy boy that required special classes. The director said fine, she will provide the extra classes but I should not be moved of schools. That was the only person I could trust all my life, but I had very little time with her. The few classes started with typical oral questions, I responded everyone so the next classes consisted on going to the park and play, go to the zoo and have conversations. Of course I had straight A or 10 in elementary. Not even the brilliant 3 sister that I had, got it. Then it came high school, the harassment that I didn't understand;

it required blood and a second punishment by my mom and dad for being certainly spelled for few days, I couldn't build enough guts to do it. I almost flunk English in 9th grade, the reason is that I read all the novels, but to my surprise the whole test consisted to define every single god, semi-god of the Greek mythology. Is Greek mythology English literature? The punishment closed fists of my dad and when I was on the ground, kicking me all over. So that is how I learned not to talk, not to trust anyone. Do I talk to my parents on present days? Yes, but with reservations. I know they will feel lonely at the end. I see them once a year and they receive my wife and me like the happiest days in their life. But again, I reserve my emotions only to my wife. By the way English is not my first language so I hope I am excused of grammatical errors. After all, I am a lazy 47 year old boy that can verily pass 9th grade English. My personal recommendation is that sexual talk on boys needs to happen sooner than with girls, when girls may have the 1st menstrual period is too late for both sexes. Also, testosterone is a very powerful hormone that it is very difficult to control. The feeling of it is something that cannot be describe and it is frequently describe as anger. But once you learn how to control it, it may be described as having stinging ants all over your body and requires constant movement on the body to ease the feeling. I am happily married living in the United States and working for a wonderful engineering company in Detroit. By the way very divers people, my wife works for the same company. One good thing of my parents, they never had arms at home, otherwise I wouldn't survive. I might of been under ground with a bullet on my head.

Insight, humour, common sense... and hope. This book has it all, although I cried (yet again) as I re-read it. Thank you, Celia.

As a single mother of a 17yo son, I've been greatly helped to see much of my son's behaviour as "pragmatic" & not just out to piss me off. It has helped me to relax and let many situations flow without getting into arguments with him. I'm also doing more to "move to the side of the Bridge of Adolescence," and work harder to support (& not meddle with) his relationships with men. Thanks!

I read this book when my son was 13 years old and found it to be an interesting read. However, I have recently read the book again as my son approaches his 18th year. I enjoyed it thoroughly and gained a different perspective that has helped me to understand the young man in front of me, and the journey that he is undertaking. Celia Lashlie provides mothers with very sound advice. I would recommend this book to mothers of boys, especially if they are struggling with the changes that come with transitioning from an eager young boy, to an introspective young man.

Very good read. Easy, simple and at times, funny! As a man who went to a boys only school, I could relate to a lot of the points discussed. I believe every parent should read this book if they have boys

I have heard Celia give a talk. I was taken to make up a carload. I had never heard of her and did not know what I was going to. I loved her insight into boys minds and still need reminding to step back as a mum and that he will be OK. Hopefully. The book just reinforces actions and consequences and stepping back as a mum. If you have a boy aged 10 to 17 (or a partner who is still a kid at heart) this may be the book for you.....

I enjoyed the style of the writer as it made the book easy to read and was quite humourously written - without being cheesy funny. There were a lot of good practical examples - particularly for the Mums - but also 'lovingly' explained and without criticism for the mum you may have been. The only complaint I have is that the KINDLE version I bought had repeated sentences and paragraphs throughout and without any particular reason.

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