

## Change Without Blame

Although men have made fewer changes than women, what changes they have made-as in fathering- have occurred without movements that blamed women. Fifteen years ago, few men were sensitive to orgasms or clitorises. Few had heard of the ERA. Few fathers-to-be joined their wives in the delivery room, in the preparation for the birth of their child. But soon men had changed in all these ways.

The changes that occurred happened without attacking women with equal-but-opposite rhetoric, such as “women hold a monopoly of power over the child,” or “Women have a fragile mothering ego perpetuated by a quiet matriarchy that sends men into the field to die while women conspire to sleep in warm beds at home.” Nor did men respond to blame by labelling it psychological abuse.

When we hear the phrase “the battle between the sexes,” there is an unspoken assumption that both sexes have been blaming equally. The battle, though, could easily be called “the female attack on men,” not “the male attack on women.” There is a distinction between responding to blame and initiating it. Men have changed less, but they have also blamed less. ...

*Warren Farrell, in Why Men Are The Way They Are, McGraw-Hill, New York, 1986, P.307*  
(from the 67<sup>th</sup> issue of Everyman, A men’s Journal)