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Eldra Jackson: How I unlearned dangerous lessons about masculinity | TED Talk

https://www.ted.com/talks/eldra_jackson_how_i_unlearned_dangerous_lessons_about_masculinity

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

masculinity

n. the qualities or attributes traditionally associated with men, such as physical strength, courage, assertiveness, and so on; the state of being male or manly

synonym : manliness, virility, machismo

(1) **masculinity** norms, (2) toxic **masculinity**

Research has shown that rigid ideas of **masculinity** can contribute to domestic violence and other forms of abuse.

kidnapping

n. the act of taking somebody away illegally and holding them captive

synonym : abduction, snatch, kidnap

(1) **kidnapping** attempt, (2) mass **kidnapping**

She received a year's imprisonment for aggravated **kidnapping**.

brood

v. to think much and deeply about something that makes one annoyed, anxious, or angry; (noun) a group of young birds or other animals all produced at one hatching or birth

synonym : offspring, hatch, family

(1) **brood** about the defeat, (2) a **brood** of chickens

The terrible result **brooded** over her all day long.

mantra

n. a word or phrase, often repeated, that is used as a focus for the mind during meditation

synonym: hymn, chant, phrase

(1) campaign **mantra**, (2) chant the **mantra** of structural reform

She repeated her personal **mantra** to herself to stay motivated.

ailment

n. a slight but often persistent illness

synonym: illness, disorder, infection

(1) heart **ailment**, (2) age-related **ailment**

He got timely treatment for his physical **ailment** of severe back pain.

joyride

n. an act of reckless or unauthorized driving for pleasure or excitement, typically in a stolen car or one belonging to someone else

synonym: pleasure ride, adventure, escapade

(1) **joyride** adventure, (2) **joyride** with friends

Two teenagers were arrested after taking a **joyride** in a stolen car.

wreck

n. a ship that has sunk or has been destroyed; a vehicle that has been badly damaged in an accident

synonym: collapse, destruction, devastation

(1) the house was a **wreck**, (2) a worthless **wreck**

The divers accidentally discovered a **wreck** on the ocean floor.

relegate

v. to assign or dismiss to a lower or less important status or place; to demote

synonym: demote, assign, transfer

(1) **relegate** a matter to another authority, (2) **relegate** task

The underperforming team was **relegated** to a lower division.

chore

n. a routine or tedious task, often related to household or manual labor

synonym : task, duty, job

(1) **chore** list, (2) household **chores**

Cleaning the house is a **chore** that only some enjoy.

dictate

v. to state or give order with total authority; to say or read aloud for somebody else to write down or to be recorded

synonym : read out, prescribe, order

(1) **dictate** a letter to secretary, (2) **dictate** to the associate

The allies **dictated** the terms of surrender to the country.

solitary

adj. existing, living, or doing without others

synonym : lonely, unsociable, singular

(1) use of **solitary** confinement, (2) a **solitary** traveler

He never uttered a **solitary** word.

confinement

n. the act of confining or limiting movement, often by keeping someone in a specific place or within a specific area; a state of being physically or emotionally restricted or limited

synonym : captivity, imprisonment, detention

(1) **confinement** cell, (2) house **confinement**

The prisoner spent months in solitary **confinement**.

stab

v. to cause harm with a sharp, pointed object, such as a knife

synonym : poke, thrust, jab

(1) **stab** at the enemy with a knife, (2) **stab** in the chest

He was **stabbed** many times with scissors.

hesitant

adj. unsure or uncertain about what to do or how to act; reluctant or unwilling to take action or make a decision

synonym : indecisive, uncertain, reluctant

(1) **hesitant** response, (2) **hesitant** to take action

She was **hesitant** to speak in public but eventually overcame her fear.

thug

n. a violent or criminal individual, especially one who is part of a group or gang

synonym: gangster, hooligan, criminal

(1) local **thug**, (2) notorious **thug**

The police arrested the **thug** who robbed the convenience store.

hesitancy

n. the state of being hesitant or unsure; a delay or reluctance to act or make a decision

synonym: reluctance, indecision, doubt

(1) have no **hesitancy** in making requests, (2) social **hesitancy**

Her **hesitancy** to speak up in meetings hindered her career advancement.

rag

n. a piece of cloth, especially an old one, torn or cut into strips and used for cleaning

synonym: cloth, fragment

(1) a **rag** of cloud, (2) **rag** doll

He used an old **rag** to clean the grease off the car's engine.

windy

adj. characterized by or affected by strong winds; of or relating to the wind; describing a person who talks a lot, often in an exaggerated way or without saying much substance

synonym: airy, gusty, breezy

(1) **windy** hillside, (2) **windy** eloquence

The weather is too **windy** for us to go on a boat ride.

facade

n. the face or front of a building, especially a large one; superficial or false appearance intended to conceal something unpleasant

synonym: front, camouflage, masquerade

(1) the outside **facade** of a castle, (2) **facade** of wealth

A gentle **facade** concealed his powerfulness.

jig

n. a lively dance with a fast tempo and typically involving hopping movements; a device or tool used for guiding or directing a cutting or drilling tool

synonym : dance, reel, minuet

(1) dancing a **jig**, (2) **jig** grinding machine

The traditional Irish **jig** is a lively folk dance involving much footwork.

molest

v. to harass, bother, or annoy someone, often sexually; to touch or handle someone in an unwelcome or inappropriate way

synonym : harass, harm, abuse

(1) **molest** a woman on a train, (2) sexually **molest** his stepchild

The organization campaigns for stricter penalties for those who **molest** children.

babysitter

n. a person hired to look after a child or children while the parents are away or occupied; someone who provides temporary care and supervision for children in the absence of their parents or guardians

synonym : childcare provider, nanny, nurse

(1) need a trustworthy **babysitter**, (2) experienced **babysitter**

Our regular **babysitter** was sick, so we had to find a replacement at the last minute.

sow

v. to plant seeds in the ground to grow crops or plants; to establish or set in motion

synonym : plant, scatter, seed

(1) **sow** wheat in a field, (2) **sow** discord

She carefully **sowed** the seeds in the garden.

crucible

n. a vessel made of ceramic, metal, or other materials used for melting or fusing substances at high temperatures; a difficult or trying experience that tests one's character or resilience

synonym :

melting pot, cauldron, furnace

(1) electric **crucible** furnace, (2) fire **crucible**

The scientific experiment required the use of a high-temperature **crucible**.

stale

adj. no longer fresh, new, or interesting; dull or uninteresting

synonym: old, uninteresting, dull

(1) a **stale** joke, (2) **stale** smell

The bread was **stale** and not fit for eating.

fester

v. to become infected or inflamed and filled with pus; to become increasingly bitter, resentful, or irritated over time

synonym: rot, decay, deteriorate

(1) **fester** below the surface, (2) **fester** for far too long

The wound began to **fester** after it was not properly cleaned.

seep

v. to flow or leak slowly and gradually through small openings or spaces; to ooze or trickle out gradually

synonym: leak, ooze, trickle

(1) **seep** cool and moist air, (2) **seep** into paper

The rain began to **seep** through the roof, causing damage to the walls and floors.

exorcism

n. the act of forcibly driving out an evil spirit or demon from a person or place, typically through a ritualistic ceremony or prayer

synonym: purification, cleansing, dispossession

(1) **exorcism** ceremony, (2) demonic **exorcism**

The priest performed an **exorcism** to rid the haunted house of its evil spirits.

testament

n. a thing that proves the existence or truth of something else

synonym: proof, testimony, testimonial

(1) give properties by **testament**, (2) **testament** to the

superior quality

His wealth is a **testament** to his success.

determinant

n. a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result

synonym: cause, factor, element

(1) environmental **determinant**, (2) a **determinant** of crop yields

One **determinant** of success is having a positive attitude and a strong work ethic.

macho

adj. characterized by a strong sense of masculinity or male dominance, often in a way that is perceived as arrogant or aggressive

synonym: masculine, aggressive, virile

(1) **macho** culture, (2) maintain a **macho** image

His **macho** posturing was just a cover for his insecurities and lack of confidence.

eradicate

v. to get rid of or destroy something completely, especially something bad

synonym: destroy, eliminate, exterminate

(1) **eradicate** the deficit, (2) **eradicate** racial discrimination

We are trying to **eradicate** this disease from the world.

illiterate

adj. unable to read or write; lacking basic education and knowledge in reading and writing

synonym: unlettered, uneducated, unschooled

(1) **illiterate** population, (2) computer- **illiterate**

Despite attending school, he remained **illiterate** and unable to read or write.

groupthink

n. a phenomenon where a group of people, often characterized by strong loyalty or common interests, make decisions or hold beliefs that are not necessarily rational or intelligent but rather reflect the desire to

conform to the group's views or avoid conflict

synonym : conformity, consensus, herd mentality

(1) **groupthink** mentality, (2) **groupthink** phenomenon

The company's failure was attributed to executive **groupthink**, which led to poor decision-making.

Session 2: Spelling

1. di____e to the associate
v. to state or give order with total authority; to say or read aloud for somebody else to write down or to be recorded
2. electric cr____le furnace
n. a vessel made of ceramic, metal, or other materials used for melting or fusing substances at high temperatures; a difficult or trying experience that tests one's character or resilience
3. a so____ry traveler
adj. existing, living, or doing without others
4. demonic ex____sm
n. the act of forcibly driving out an evil spirit or demon from a person or place, typically through a ritualistic ceremony or prayer
5. gro____nk phenomenon
n. a phenomenon where a group of people, often characterized by strong loyalty or common interests, make decisions or hold beliefs that are not necessarily rational or intelligent but rather reflect the desire to conform to the group's views or avoid conflict
6. j_g grinding machine
n. a lively dance with a fast tempo and typically involving hopping movements; a device or tool used for guiding or directing a cutting or drilling tool
7. dancing a j_g
n. a lively dance with a fast tempo and typically involving hopping movements; a device or tool used for guiding or directing a cutting or drilling tool

ANSWERS: 1. dictate, 2. crucible, 3. solitary, 4. exorcism, 5. groupthink, 6. jig, 7. jig

8. wi__y eloquence *adj.* characterized by or affected by strong winds; of or relating to the wind; describing a person who talks a lot, often in an exaggerated way or without saying much substance
9. s__p cool and moist air *v.* to flow or leak slowly and gradually through small openings or spaces; to ooze or trickle out gradually
10. have no he_____cy in making requests *n.* the state of being hesitant or unsure; a delay or reluctance to act or make a decision
11. need a trustworthy bab_____er *n.* a person hired to look after a child or children while the parents are away or occupied; someone who provides temporary care and supervision for children in the absence of their parents or guardians
12. re_____te task *v.* to assign or dismiss to a lower or less important status or place; to demote
13. social he_____cy *n.* the state of being hesitant or unsure; a delay or reluctance to act or make a decision
14. campaign ma____a *n.* a word or phrase, often repeated, that is used as a focus for the mind during meditation
15. notorious t__g *n.* a violent or criminal individual, especially one who is part of a group or gang
16. computer-ill_____te *adj.* unable to read or write; lacking basic education and knowledge in reading and writing

ANSWERS: 8. windy, 9. seep, 10. hesitancy, 11. babysitter, 12. relegate, 13. hesitancy, 14. mantra, 15. thug, 16. illiterate

17. a det_____nt of crop yields *n.* a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result
18. maintain a ma__o image *adj.* characterized by a strong sense of masculinity or male dominance, often in a way that is perceived as arrogant or aggressive
19. sexually mo___t his stepchild *v.* to harass, bother, or annoy someone, often sexually; to touch or handle someone in an unwelcome or inappropriate way
20. te_____nt to the superior quality *n.* a thing that proves the existence or truth of something else
21. the outside fa___e of a castle *n.* the face or front of a building, especially a large one; superficial or false appearance intended to conceal something unpleasant
22. s_w wheat in a field *v.* to plant seeds in the ground to grow crops or plants; to establish or set in motion
23. s__b in the chest *v.* to cause harm with a sharp, pointed object, such as a knife
24. di_____e a letter to secretary *v.* to state or give order with total authority; to say or read aloud for somebody else to write down or to be recorded
25. toxic mas_____ty *n.* the qualities or attributes traditionally associated with men, such as physical strength, courage, assertiveness, and so on; the state of being male or manly

ANSWERS: 17. determinant, 18. macho, 19. molest, 20. testament, 21. facade, 22. sow, 23. stab, 24. dictate, 25. masculinity

26. mass kid_____ng *n.* the act of taking somebody away illegally and holding them captive
27. he_____nt response *adj.* unsure or uncertain about what to do or how to act; reluctant or unwilling to take action or make a decision
28. kid_____ng attempt *n.* the act of taking somebody away illegally and holding them captive
29. s__b at the enemy with a knife *v.* to cause harm with a sharp, pointed object, such as a knife
30. er_____te racial discrimination *v.* to get rid of or destroy something completely, especially something bad
31. use of so_____ry confinement *adj.* existing, living, or doing without others
32. mo___t a woman on a train *v.* to harass, bother, or annoy someone, often sexually; to touch or handle someone in an unwelcome or inappropriate way
33. fe___r below the surface *v.* to become infected or inflamed and filled with pus; to become increasingly bitter, resentful, or irritated over time
34. house con_____nt *n.* the act of confining or limiting movement, often by keeping someone in a specific place or within a specific area; a state of being physically or emotionally restricted or limited
35. er_____te the deficit *v.* to get rid of or destroy something completely, especially something bad
36. a st__e joke *adj.* no longer fresh, new, or interesting; dull or uninteresting

ANSWERS: 26. kidnapping, 27. hesitant, 28. kidnapping, 29. stab, 30. eradicate, 31. solitary, 32. molest, 33. fester, 34. confinement, 35. eradicate, 36. stale

37. the house was a wr__k *n.* a ship that has sunk or has been destroyed; a vehicle that has been badly damaged in an accident
38. environmental det____nt *n.* a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result
39. household ch__es *n.* a routine or tedious task, often related to household or manual labor
40. a br__d of chickens *v.* to think much and deeply about something that makes one annoyed, anxious, or angry; (noun) a group of young birds or other animals all produced at one hatching or birth
41. fire cr____le *n.* a vessel made of ceramic, metal, or other materials used for melting or fusing substances at high temperatures; a difficult or trying experience that tests one's character or resilience
42. con____nt cell *n.* the act of confining or limiting movement, often by keeping someone in a specific place or within a specific area; a state of being physically or emotionally restricted or limited
43. fa___e of wealth *n.* the face or front of a building, especially a large one; superficial or false appearance intended to conceal something unpleasant
44. a r_g of cloud *n.* a piece of cloth, especially an old one, torn or cut into strips and used for cleaning

ANSWERS: 37. wreck, 38. determinant, 39. chore, 40. brood, 41. crucible, 42. confinement, 43. facade, 44. rag

45. ma__o culture *adj.* characterized by a strong sense of masculinity or male dominance, often in a way that is perceived as arrogant or aggressive
46. a worthless wr__k *n.* a ship that has sunk or has been destroyed; a vehicle that has been badly damaged in an accident
47. local t__g *n.* a violent or criminal individual, especially one who is part of a group or gang
48. ill____te population *adj.* unable to read or write; lacking basic education and knowledge in reading and writing
49. he____nt to take action *adj.* unsure or uncertain about what to do or how to act; reluctant or unwilling to take action or make a decision
50. br__d about the defeat *v.* to think much and deeply about something that makes one annoyed, anxious, or angry; (noun) a group of young birds or other animals all produced at one hatching or birth
51. st__e smell *adj.* no longer fresh, new, or interesting; dull or uninteresting
52. mas____ty norms *n.* the qualities or attributes traditionally associated with men, such as physical strength, courage, assertiveness, and so on; the state of being male or manly
53. give properties by te____nt *n.* a thing that proves the existence or truth of something else

ANSWERS: 45. macho, 46. wreck, 47. thug, 48. illiterate, 49. hesitant, 50. brood, 51. stale, 52. masculinity, 53. testament

54. jo_____e with friends *n.* an act of reckless or unauthorized driving for pleasure or excitement, typically in a stolen car or one belonging to someone else
55. gro_____nk mentality *n.* a phenomenon where a group of people, often characterized by strong loyalty or common interests, make decisions or hold beliefs that are not necessarily rational or intelligent but rather reflect the desire to conform to the group's views or avoid conflict
56. chant the ma____a of structural reform *n.* a word or phrase, often repeated, that is used as a focus for the mind during meditation
57. experienced bab_____er *n.* a person hired to look after a child or children while the parents are away or occupied; someone who provides temporary care and supervision for children in the absence of their parents or guardians
58. age-related ai_____t *n.* a slight but often persistent illness
59. s__p into paper *v.* to flow or leak slowly and gradually through small openings or spaces; to ooze or trickle out gradually
60. jo_____e adventure *n.* an act of reckless or unauthorized driving for pleasure or excitement, typically in a stolen car or one belonging to someone else
61. heart ai_____t *n.* a slight but often persistent illness

ANSWERS: 54. joyride, 55. groupthink, 56. mantra, 57. babysitter, 58. ailment, 59. seep, 60. joyride, 61. ailment

62. ex____sm ceremony *n.* the act of forcibly driving out an evil spirit or demon from a person or place, typically through a ritualistic ceremony or prayer
63. re____te a matter to another authority *v.* to assign or dismiss to a lower or less important status or place; to demote
64. s_w discord *v.* to plant seeds in the ground to grow crops or plants; to establish or set in motion
65. ch__e list *n.* a routine or tedious task, often related to household or manual labor
66. r_g doll *n.* a piece of cloth, especially an old one, torn or cut into strips and used for cleaning
67. fe___r for far too long *v.* to become infected or inflamed and filled with pus; to become increasingly bitter, resentful, or irritated over time
68. wi__y hillside *adj.* characterized by or affected by strong winds; of or relating to the wind; describing a person who talks a lot, often in an exaggerated way or without saying much substance

ANSWERS: 62. exorcism, 63. relegate, 64. sow, 65. chore, 66. rag, 67. fester, 68. windy

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. Despite attending school, he remained _____ and unable to read or write.
adj. unable to read or write; lacking basic education and knowledge in reading and writing
2. Our regular _____ was sick, so we had to find a replacement at the last minute.
n. a person hired to look after a child or children while the parents are away or occupied; someone who provides temporary care and supervision for children in the absence of their parents or guardians
3. The rain began to _____ through the roof, causing damage to the walls and floors.
v. to flow or leak slowly and gradually through small openings or spaces; to ooze or trickle out gradually
4. She was _____ to speak in public but eventually overcame her fear.
adj. unsure or uncertain about what to do or how to act; reluctant or unwilling to take action or make a decision
5. The underperforming team was _____ to a lower division.
v. to assign or dismiss to a lower or less important status or place; to demote
6. The police arrested the _____ who robbed the convenience store.
n. a violent or criminal individual, especially one who is part of a group or gang
7. He got timely treatment for his physical _____ of severe back pain.
n. a slight but often persistent illness

ANSWERS: 1. illiterate, 2. babysitter, 3. seep, 4. hesitant, 5. relegated, 6. thug, 7. ailment

8. The scientific experiment required the use of a high-temperature _____.
- n.* a vessel made of ceramic, metal, or other materials used for melting or fusing substances at high temperatures; a difficult or trying experience that tests one's character or resilience
9. She carefully _____ the seeds in the garden.
- v.* to plant seeds in the ground to grow crops or plants; to establish or set in motion
10. He used an old _____ to clean the grease off the car's engine.
- n.* a piece of cloth, especially an old one, torn or cut into strips and used for cleaning
11. One _____ of success is having a positive attitude and a strong work ethic.
- n.* a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result
12. The company's failure was attributed to executive _____ which led to poor decision-making.
- n.* a phenomenon where a group of people, often characterized by strong loyalty or common interests, make decisions or hold beliefs that are not necessarily rational or intelligent but rather reflect the desire to conform to the group's views or avoid conflict
13. She received a year's imprisonment for aggravated _____.
- n.* the act of taking somebody away illegally and holding them captive
14. His wealth is a _____ to his success.
- n.* a thing that proves the existence or truth of something else

ANSWERS: 8. crucible, 9. sowed, 10. rag, 11. determinant, 12. groupthink, 13. kidnapping, 14. testament

15. The organization campaigns for stricter penalties for those who _____ children.
- v. to harass, bother, or annoy someone, often sexually; to touch or handle someone in an unwelcome or inappropriate way
16. The allies _____ the terms of surrender to the country.
- v. to state or give order with total authority; to say or read aloud for somebody else to write down or to be recorded
17. We are trying to _____ this disease from the world.
- v. to get rid of or destroy something completely, especially something bad
18. The priest performed an _____ to rid the haunted house of its evil spirits.
- n. the act of forcibly driving out an evil spirit or demon from a person or place, typically through a ritualistic ceremony or prayer
19. He was _____ many times with scissors.
- v. to cause harm with a sharp, pointed object, such as a knife
20. The prisoner spent months in solitary _____.
- n. the act of confining or limiting movement, often by keeping someone in a specific place or within a specific area; a state of being physically or emotionally restricted or limited
21. He never uttered a _____ word.
- adj. existing, living, or doing without others
22. The terrible result _____ over her all day long.
- v. to think much and deeply about something that makes one annoyed, anxious, or angry; (noun) a group of young birds or other animals all produced at one hatching or birth

ANSWERS: 15. molest, 16. dictated, 17. eradicate, 18. exorcism, 19. stabbed, 20. confinement, 21. solitary, 22. brooded

23. Cleaning the house is a _____ that only some enjoy.
- n.* a routine or tedious task, often related to household or manual labor
24. Research has shown that rigid ideas of _____ can contribute to domestic violence and other forms of abuse.
- n.* the qualities or attributes traditionally associated with men, such as physical strength, courage, assertiveness, and so on; the state of being male or manly
25. The wound began to _____ after it was not properly cleaned.
- v.* to become infected or inflamed and filled with pus; to become increasingly bitter, resentful, or irritated over time
26. The traditional Irish _____ is a lively folk dance involving much footwork.
- n.* a lively dance with a fast tempo and typically involving hopping movements; a device or tool used for guiding or directing a cutting or drilling tool
27. Two teenagers were arrested after taking a _____ in a stolen car.
- n.* an act of reckless or unauthorized driving for pleasure or excitement, typically in a stolen car or one belonging to someone else
28. The weather is too _____ for us to go on a boat ride.
- adj.* characterized by or affected by strong winds; of or relating to the wind; describing a person who talks a lot, often in an exaggerated way or without saying much substance
29. Her _____ to speak up in meetings hindered her career advancement.
- n.* the state of being hesitant or unsure; a delay or reluctance to act or make a decision
30. A gentle _____ concealed his powerfulness.
- n.* the face or front of a building, especially a large one; superficial or false appearance intended to conceal something unpleasant

ANSWERS: 23. chore, 24. masculinity, 25. fester, 26. jig, 27. joyride, 28. windy, 29. hesitancy, 30. facade

31. His _____ posturing was just a cover for his insecurities and lack of confidence.

adj. characterized by a strong sense of masculinity or male dominance, often in a way that is perceived as arrogant or aggressive

32. She repeated her personal _____ to herself to stay motivated.

n. a word or phrase, often repeated, that is used as a focus for the mind during meditation

33. The bread was _____ and not fit for eating.

adj. no longer fresh, new, or interesting; dull or uninteresting

34. The divers accidentally discovered a _____ on the ocean floor.

n. a ship that has sunk or has been destroyed; a vehicle that has been badly damaged in an accident

ANSWERS: 31. macho, 32. mantra, 33. stale, 34. wreck