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AN INTERVIEW WITH VIVEK SINGH, A YOUNG MEN'S RIGHTS ACTIVIST FROM INDIA

Jerome Teelucksingh and Vivek Singh



ABSTRACT

Seeing other men suffer gender discrimination, and facing it himself, led Vivek Singh to the men's rights movement. He created Newsofx.com, an online portal which promotes and highlights men's issues and which advocates for true men's equality. Along with Alan Millard, he co-authored Men's Rights are Human Rights Too: A Manifesto. The authors will grant Men's Rights Associations the right to copy sections from the manifesto if they are given proper credit.

Keywords: boys, males, masculinity, men, MRA

INTERVIEW TRANSCRIPT

Jerome: Tell me a bit about yourself. How long have you been involved as a Men's Rights Activist? What made you interested in helping men?

Vivek: I am Vivek Singh, owner and publisher of the website, *Newsofx.com*. I am from India and a journalist by profession. I am a postgraduate student pursuing a Master's degree. I am a Men's Rights Activist, International Men's Day and World Day of the Boy Child India coordinator and Global Media Co-ordinator for both of these days. I have been involved in the men's rights movement for the past 6 years, and I have operated the website *Newsofx.com* for the past three years. Seeing other men suffer gender discrimination, and facing it myself, led me into the men's rights movement. Other men's-equality advocates have provided me additional knowledge which I can use to help others and to support the cause.

Jerome: Tell me more about *Newsofx*? What is the underlying philosophy, or what are the group's objectives? Is this the first such group you have been involved in?

Vivek: *Newsofx.com* is an online portal which promotes and highlights men's issues. I created it three years ago. We fight for true men's equality. For more information on the philosophy of the group read my book (co-authored with Alan Millard); it's *Men's Rights are Human Rights Too: A Manifesto*. No, this is not the first such group I have been involved in. Also, I am connected with National Coalition for Men (NCFM), Men's Helpline, International Men's Day, World Day of the Boy Child, Save India Family Foundation and Justice for Men and Boys, as well as with Men's Equality.

Jerome: Is it a registered charity? Who comprises the members? Is membership free?

Vivek: No, it's not a registered charity. It's a wing of International Men's Day and World Day of the Boy Child. The membership is diverse and comprises myself, Vivek Singh, Alan Millard, Tim A. Goldich, Dr. Carl Reinhold Augustsson and Kumar S. Ratan. Yes, the membership is free, but to keep the website up and to bring more such content on YouTube as podcasts we need financial assistance.

Jerome: Are there many young (under 35 years) Men's Rights Activists (MRAs) in India?

Vivek: As far as youth are concerned, there are none except for me per my knowledge.

Jerome: Tell me more about the work of feminists in India. Are they against your work?

Vivek: Yes, they are against our work. They support false grievances and only use them to create controversies and bring them into the limelight for political gain and power.

Feminism in India is totally against families and men. And very surprisingly, the victims of the feminist movement are not just men but women, children, and old-aged parents. I would be accurate in saying it's merely due to promoting their movement's propaganda and misandric motives.

Jerome: In your view, during the past ten years, has the masculinity crisis worsened or have you seen signs of improvement in India?

Vivek: As to what I have witnessed, it has worsened in the past ten years. As I observe in our abovementioned book, "Many reap the benefits of men and their masculine attributes but condemn masculinity without due credit for the good that men have accomplished. For every male criminal there are thousands of male heroes." But this still extracts from men any innate value as individual persons in their own right that women have.

Jerome: How have you and your groups observed International Men's Day and World Day of the Boy Child in India?

Vivek: Every year on the occasion of International Men's Day and with its association we, as a part of Men's Helpline too, organize Purushartha: an award show for men who have done a lot for the community.

And for World Day of the Boy Child, we are currently doing online webinars and discussions every year which we intend to continue in person after the Covid pandemic lessens, possibly next year.

Jerome: Do you believe that activists should collaborate with governments to solve problems affecting men?

Vivek: Yes, activists are the only ones who work on the ground and are aware of each and every issue related to men. They only can suggest the problems and their probable solutions faced by the victims for their good. They don't have any other motives, only to use any support they may receive for the cause.

Jerome: Tell me more about your book, *Men's Rights are Human Rights Too: A Manifesto*. What is it about? Has anyone been critical of it?

Vivek: Alan Millard and I have authored a manifesto for men's rights. This manifesto is a comprehensive work which covers diverse segments of men who are mostly overlooked and deprived of justice by Government, Law and Society. These segments include single men forced to marry, married men undergoing separation, separated men denied equal child custody rights, and equal justice applying to adult men across age groups and family members of men in general. Male persecution is prevalent as domestic violence laws, and sex laws have been changed specifically to target men, even redefining the definition of rape in the process. Alan and I are open to granting Men's Rights Associations the right to pick up sections or copy sections relevant to them from the manifesto while giving us proper credit. This manifesto can be easily adapted for use in most countries as men are deprived of their basic legal rights in most countries across the globe.

Jerome: What is the reason for the high rate of suicide among men in India?

Vivek: In 2019, there were more than 41,000 female deaths due to suicides in India, while the incidents were more than 97,000 for males. Some of the causes for suicides in India were due to professional problems, abuse, violence, family problems, financial loss, sense of isolation and mental health issues

Jerome: Is the issue of false rape cases in India a problem?

Vivek: Yes. Today's consensual sex cannot be tomorrow's rape. But as the rape laws are sex-biased against males in India, girls are enabled to extort money and take

revenge. Even men use women as a tool to defeat their competitors by blackmail. A man uses a woman to defeat his competitor by paying a woman to make false, Me-Too allegations. It's called 'Honey Trapping' as men use women as bait to set other men up. Once this fraud becomes common, and it is recognized as such, it's likely any genuine rape victims will not get justice.

Jerome: Do politicians in India assist the men's movement?

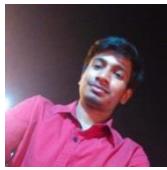
Vivek: No, neither the political party in power nor the opposition assist the Men's Rights Movement. They only see women as a vote-bank that they need to appease. Justice is a myth and scam in India.

INTERVIEWER AND INTERVIEWEE PROFILES



Jerome Teelucksingh is a Lecturer in the History Department at the University of the West Indies. He revived International Men's Day (19 November) and also initiated the inaugural observance of World Day of the Boy Child (16 May). Dr. Teelucksingh has been promoting International Men's Day since 1999, and it is now celebrated in approximately 70 countries.

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Vivek Singh is a journalist and author from India. His passion for men's rights develops as he explores a world filled with gender discrimination against men. Vivek owns and publishes the website, Newsofx.com. He serves as the International Men's Day and World Day of the Boy Child coordinator for India. Vivek also serves as the Global Media Coordinator for both days. Along with Alan Millard, he co-authored [*Men's Rights are Human Rights Too: A Manifesto*](#).

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