Brothers influencing sisters’ development outcomes: Exploring caring masculinities in Cambodia and Samoa

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Caring masculinities

“Caring masculinities constitute a critical form of men’s engagement and involvement in gender equality” (Elliot, 2016, p. 240).

Values of care: positive emotion, interdependence, and relationality

Cambodia: Supportive fathers, caring uncles, and empathetic brothers
Samoa: Cultural processes and caring masculinities

The *feagaiga*, understood to mean balance within relationships and the brother/sister relationship

*He [my brother] knows that my job is important, important to us as a family. He is proud that I have an office job; it has good prospects and is paid well* (Logo: FHH, Jan 2002)

*We live in the village but I work here in town in this place [guest house]. My brother will always drive me here and there. It suits me. I hate getting on the bus. It is much better to go by car* (Leausa: FHH, Jan 2002)

Conclusion: Men’s involvement

• Men long history of involvement in gender and feminist struggles (Connell, 2003)

• Advocacy, alliances, campaigns and work with men and boys – profeminist men; auxiliaries to feminism; still privileges the importance of felt experience and women requiring to spearhead

• Need to understand femininities and masculinities as plural

• Gender equality will not progress without men and boys involvement