



**MOI UNIVERSITY  
AFRICAN CLUSTER CENTRE**



---

## **AFRICA COLLOQUIUM SEMINAR**

### **MEN AND MASCULINITIES: PROMOTING GENDER EQUALITY IN RESEARCH**

Gender studies and research has focused on empowering women and girls. In Africa, the patriarchal system governing the traditional African society promoted a state of ‘power’ for the men/boys at the expense of women/girls. This explains the ever-present women empowerment programmes to address this historical injustice. However, there are concerns that gender studies and research seem to have lost men and boys despite evidence that some human rights issues disproportionately affect men/boys. For instance, cases such as paternity fraud, war and civil conflicts related deaths, suicidal cases, sentencing disparity, false rape allegation, criminal court bias, corporal punishment/violent behaviors in schools, and lack of mechanisms for male GBV victims are global issues that are found to affect men more. Globally, there are claims of schooling experiences that disempower boys. Harsh learning environment where boys are exposed to corporal punishment, feminization of the teaching force, lack of role models among other reported concerns. Consequently, recent statistics show that boys are falling behind girls in education and economic empowerment at a rate that if not checked will create the same gender disparities that the girls’ empowerment programmes were meant to address. Despite these statistics, the society still has left ‘the boy-child’ to find his own definition of masculinity. In some cases, the critics of the existing women/girl empowerment programmes and dominant masculinities are continuously silenced or sometimes just ignored which is disastrous to gender equality discourse. A better understanding of masculinity is necessary to promote gender equality. In this presentation, I argue that gender-aware studies of men and masculinities are in fact necessary for an intersectional analysis of gender relations which in the long run are beneficial for gender research. If we are to discuss, promote and achieve gender equality, then we need to invite and listen to all the voices including men/boys, women and girls. This presentation will trace the evolution of men and masculinities as necessary concepts in advocating for gender equality in the society.

**DR. JAFRED MUYAKA**  
UNIVERSITY OF ELDORET

WHEN  
**TUESDAY 08TH NOVEMBER 2022**

VENUE  
Join Zoom Meeting  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81249433570?pwd=d0hxZjc4ZUQwc2h4Zi9xeENhdU9XQT09>  
Meeting ID: 812 4943 3570  
Passcode: 368082

TIME  
**14.00 HRS NAIROBI**

---