Performing Masculinity in Bars

Synopsis: In this study, observations are made regarding male performance of their masculinity in bar settings while taking into account environmental characteristics that may help influence either a positive and safe environment or vice versa.

Abstract: In this study, observations are made regarding male performance of their masculinity in bar settings. Environmental characteristics present while men are performing their masculinity around men and women are considered. Researchers (Boswell & Spade, 1996) have found that the male to female ratio, the setting arrangements, the volume of music, the number of perceived couples, etc. had a contributing role for sexual coercion. A myriad of factors are described to contribute to barroom aggression (Wells, Tremblay, & Gaham, 2012). Factors to be determined are predicted to have a role in influencing men to perform their masculinity differently. For example, a male will perform his masculinity differently when “hanging around with the guys” as opposed to attempting to attract a woman. Exploring this masculinity performance can help develop a clear understanding of factors in and around bar settings that could create either a positive and safe environment or vice versa.