

## DR. THOMAS KEITH

Director, Writer, Producer, Educator

Dr. Keith received his bachelor of arts in philosophy from California State University, Long Beach and then received both his Masters and Ph.D. in philosophy from Claremont Graduate University, Claremont, California. He has published several articles in professional journals and popular magazines where Dr. Keith emphasizes inclusiveness and a multidisciplinary approach as the proper direction issues of race and gender studies should take instead of compartmentalizing, and hence, marginalizing these important issues. He has, in the past few years, expanded his area of interest to include media studies in an effort to evaluate the images and values that resonate in popular media and culture today. Fusing philosophy and media studies, Dr. Keith initiated what he calls "Media Ethics" into introductory courses in ethics and value theory at the college and university level, while also becoming a strong voice in the advocacy of media literacy at the earliest ages of primary education.

Dr. Thomas Keith teaches philosophy at California State University, Long Beach and California Polytechnic University. He specializes in American philosophy and pragmatism with an emphasis on issues of race, class, and gender. In 2008, Dr. Keith directed and produced the bestselling film, *Generation M: Misogyny in Media & Culture*, which is used in classrooms around the world. Dr. Keith speaks at conferences and university campuses around the country on issues of sexism, misogyny, gender training, and male culture.



## 🌀 Past Speaking Engagements 🌀

NCORE Conference (San Diego)

University of Oregon

University of Vermont

University of Montreal

St. John's University (Minnesota)

St. Francis College (New York)

SUNY Plattsburgh

California State University, Fullerton

California State University, Long Beach

Redlands University

White Privilege Conference (Minneapolis)

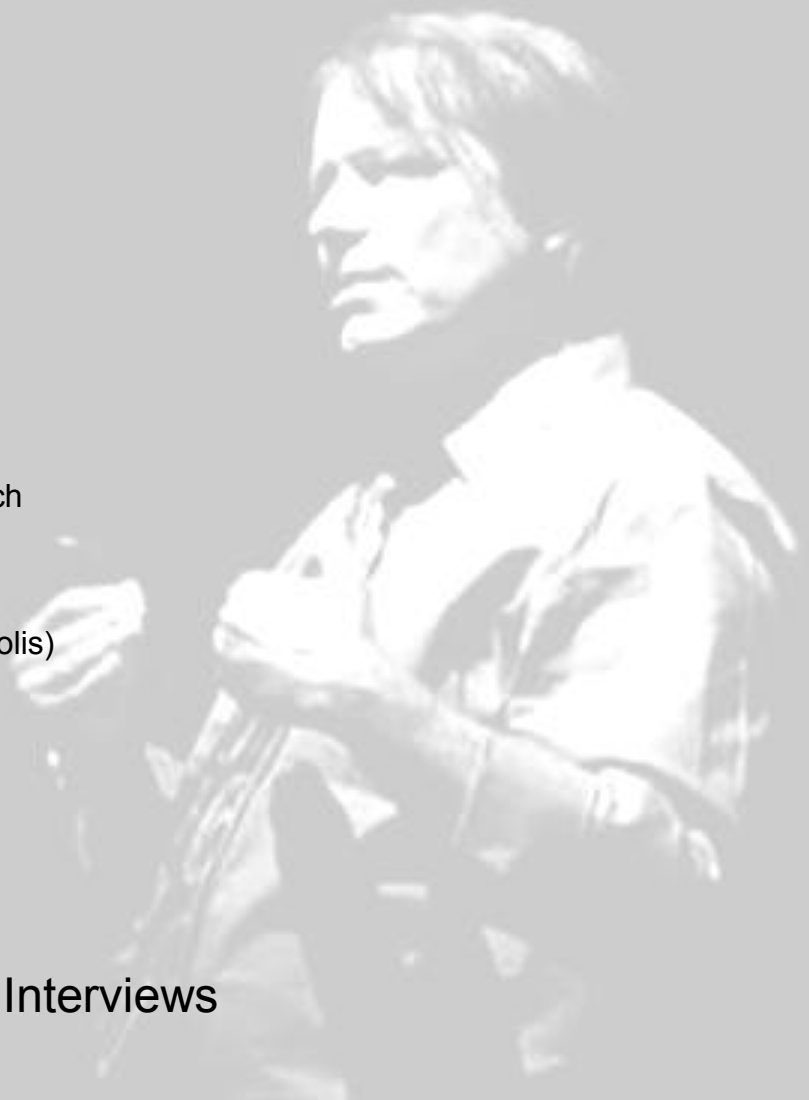
APA Conference (Berkeley)

Middlebury University (Vermont)

## Radio Interviews

KBeach Radio – Gender Roles

XMRadio – Let's Consider the Source



## What people are saying...

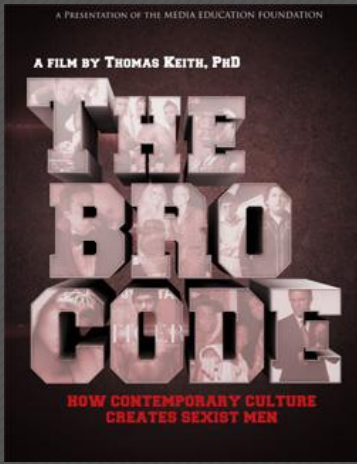
"In March of 2008 Dr. Thomas Keith's film "Generation M: Misogyny in Media & Culture" debuted at SUNY Plattsburgh to a packed house comprised of students, faculty, staff, and community members. The film, with its biting commentary on the dysfunctional sexism that abounds in the media and throughout various facets of American culture, was ripe for discussion.

The discussion that ensued was as provocative as the subject matter itself. At times, certain audience members who struggled with coming to terms with their own misogyny, reacted passionately and not surprisingly, sometimes hostilely to what the messages suggested about men.

Dr. Keith, as the facilitator of the film's discussion, presented an exercise in grace under pressure. He appeared to be completely at ease in those moments when the discussion got most tense. He navigated his way through treacherous moments when it appeared the conversation could have easily been lost. I have been a fan of Dr. Keith's for quite some time, but he took his game to a completely different level with the making of "Gen M."

If you understand how powerful it is to see a movie a second time and the detail (in terms of nuances) you acquire from that experience, it is a strategic move to bring both the film and film maker to your conversations if you want to not only experience the obvious, but also access the details of the journey as well. " —*J. W. Wiley, Ed.D, Director of Center for Diversity and Lecturer, Philosophy & Interdisciplinary Studies, SUNY Plattsburgh*

# The Bro Code Reviews



"Filmmaker Tom Keith's powerful indictment of contemporary culture carries within it an undercurrent of optimism. Despite its horrific portrait of men behaving badly -- and dangerously -- the days of "Jersey Shore" manhood are numbered. When *The Bro Code* is screened on campuses, more male filmgoers than you might imagine will crack the code, reclaiming both healthy masculinity and their full humanity."

- Rob Okun | Editor, *Voice Male Magazine*

"Filmmaker Thomas Keith gives us a show-n-tell glimpse of the mass media and marketing machine lauding 'permission' upon males to act like thuggish jerks, cads, and misogynistic monsters, disrespecting women with ramped up, amped up buffoonery ranging from 'rape jokes,' to crass, coarse entitlement. Why do boys feel they have the right to behave this way? Look no further than music videos, movies, ads and a pop culture of pornification, *The Bro Code* conveys."

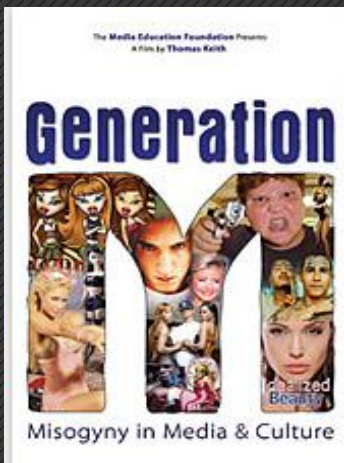
- Amy Jussel | Executive Director of *Shaping Youth*

"*The Bro Code* is an important and engaging film that exposes how boys think about and react to the gendered, highly sexualized, and radicalized landscapes that they inhabit. The insights the film offers for feminism are truly important. One comes away from *The Bro Code* aware of how important it is to engage boys in anti-sexist education and to help them navigate a consumer society that has mainstreamed pornography and overrun the popular culture with demeaning images of women. This is a crucial addition to Gender Studies and to our understanding of how our culture indoctrinates boys into a sexist and sexually brutal world view. It is certainly a wake up call: we need to pay attention to the private lives of boys."

- Athena Devlin, Ph.D. | Co-Director, *The Women's Center* | St. Francis College

In MEF's powerful new release, *The Bro Code*, filmmaker Thomas Keith takes aim at the forces in male culture that condition boys and men to dehumanize and disrespect women. The message he uncovers in virtually every corner of our entertainment culture is clear: It's not only normal -- but cool -- for boys and men to control and humiliate women. By showing how there's nothing natural or inevitable about this mentality, and by setting it against the terrible reality of men's violence against women in the real world, *The Bro Code* challenges young people to step up and fight back against the idea that being a real man means disrespecting women.

Featuring interviews with Michael Kimmel, Robert Jensen, Shira Tarrant, J.W. Wiley, Douglas Rushkoff, Eric Anderson, and Neal King.



The film tracks the destructive dynamics of misogyny across a broad and disturbing range of media phenomena: including the hyper-sexualization of commercial products aimed at girls, the explosion of violence in video games aimed at boys, the near-hysterical sexist rants of hip-hop artists and talk radio shock jocks, and the harsh, patronizing caricatures of femininity and feminism that reverberate throughout the mainstream of American popular culture.

Along the way, *Generation M* forces us to confront the dangerous real-life consequences of misogyny in all its forms - making a compelling case that when we devalue more than half the population based on gender, we harm boys and men as well as women and girls.

Featuring interviews with gender violence prevention educators Byron Hurt, Jackson Katz, and Jean Kilbourne.

## Generation M Reviews

"Generation M is concerned about sexism and gender bias in everyday life. Holding up to scrutiny mainstream entertainment - from children's toys to video games to music - filmmaker Thomas Keith exposes the consequences of gender stereotypes that are often ignored or taken for granted. By exposing how mainstream American media hypersexualizes girls and promotes violence among boys, *Generation M* ties together complex issues of misogyny, sexism, and pop culture in ways that are sure to stimulate insight and debate. *Generation M* isn't the final word on the subject: The film provides language and tools that help continue much-needed conversations about these tough topics."  
- *Shira Tarrant, PhD | Author of Men and Feminism*

"If you have shown any of the *Killing Us Softly* video series by Jean Kilbourne or Jackson Katz's film *Tough Guise: Violence, Media, and the Crisis in Masculinity* in your classes and found them very useful for discussions on sexism, objectification, violence, and the media, you will find this video even more compelling to use. ...Undergraduate students at all levels would certainly benefit from the film in courses varying across the field of sociology and beyond. It would be appropriate for critical thinking discussions on gender, violence, media ethics, popular culture, socialization, the nature-nurture debate, and more."  
- *Tricia Davis, University of Wisconsin, River Falls | Teaching Sociology*

"In an age when sex sells, media educators must look at what such a message communicates to teenagers. By citing endless examples of barely dressed singers, scantily clad dolls, and men's misogynistic treatment of women, this documentary reveals how women are trained to think of themselves as sex objects. The once respected "feminist" is now disregarded. The once craved sexual freedom is really just a new opportunity to participate in one's own exploitation. *Generation M* argues that teenage girls should explore their identities and sexualities on their own terms and not be bombarded by messages about how to explore sex."  
- *Nora Hicks | Afterimage*