# Article information:

Australian news media constructions and categorisations of primary caregiving fathers - Sarah C Hunter, Damien W Riggs, Rebecca Feo, 2019  
<https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/0957926519870045>

# Article summary:

1. The study explores how the category of "primary caregiving father" is constructed in Australian news media articles.

2. The analysis found that constructions of fatherhood in news media work to align primary caregiving fathers within hegemonic ideals, despite their roles being inconsistent with normative gendered categorization.

3. Descriptions of traditional uninvolved fathers were contrasted unfavorably against the "new" primary caregiving father, positioning them as the norm, and accounts of men's decision to take on the primary caregiving role relied on rationality and stoicism, positioning them as normatively masculine.

# Article rating:

May be slightly imbalanced: The article presents the information in a generally reliable way, but there are minor points of consideration that could be explored further or claims that are not fully backed by appropriate evidence. Some perspectives may also be omitted, and you are encouraged to use the research topics section to explore the topic further.

# Article analysis:

The article "Australian news media constructions and categorisations of primary caregiving fathers" by Sarah C Hunter, Damien W Riggs, and Rebecca Feo explores how the category of primary caregiving fathers is constructed in Australian news media. The authors use a Discourse Analysis informed by Membership Categorisation Analysis to analyze 193 newsprint media articles. The study finds that despite fathers taking on roles inconsistent with normative gendered categorization, constructions of fatherhood in news media routinely work to align (or re-align) primary caregiving fathers within hegemonic ideals.

The article provides valuable insights into the ways in which news media constructs and categorizes primary caregiving fathers. However, there are some potential biases and limitations in the study that need to be considered. Firstly, the sample size of 193 articles may not be representative of all Australian news media coverage on primary caregiving fathers. Secondly, the study only focuses on newsprint media articles and does not include other forms of media such as television or social media. Thirdly, the authors do not explore counterarguments or alternative perspectives that may challenge their findings.

Furthermore, while the study highlights how traditional uninvolved fathers are contrasted unfavorably against primary caregiving fathers to position them as the new norm, it does not provide evidence for this claim. Additionally, the authors suggest that accounts of men's decision to take on the primary caregiving role routinely rely on rationality and stoicism to position them as normatively masculine but do not provide sufficient evidence for this claim either.

Overall, while the article provides valuable insights into how news media constructs and categorizes primary caregiving fathers within hegemonic ideals, it has some potential biases and limitations that need to be considered. Further research is needed to explore alternative perspectives and counterarguments to better understand how news media constructs fatherhood in Australia.

# Topics for further research:

* Alternative perspectives on news media constructions of primary caregiving fathers in Australia
* Representation of primary caregiving fathers in Australian television and social media
* Critiques of the Discourse Analysis and Membership Categorisation Analysis used in the study
* Evidence for the claim that traditional uninvolved fathers are contrasted unfavorably against primary caregiving fathers in news media
* Evidence for the claim that men's decision to take on the primary caregiving role routinely rely on rationality and stoicism in news media
* Intersectionality and the construction of primary caregiving fathers in Australian news media

# Report location:

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