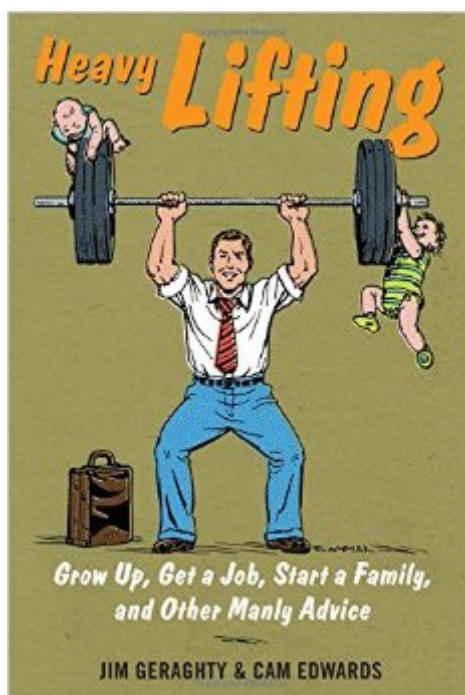


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Heavy Lifting: Grow Up, Get A Job, Raise A Family, And Other Manly Advice



Synopsis

What has happened to men in America? Once upon a time, men in their twenties looked forward to settling down and having children. Today, most young men seem infected by a widespread Peter Pan syndrome. Unwilling to give up the freedom to sleep late, play video games, dress like a slob, and play the field, today's men wallow in an extended adolescence, ostensibly unaware that they're setting themselves up for a depressing, lonely existence. In this hilarious ode to male adulthood, Jim Geraghty and Cam Edwards—two happily married, 40-year-old men—have a simple message for their younger peers: Grow up!

Book Information

Hardcover: 256 pages

Publisher: Regnery Publishing (October 26, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1621574148

ISBN-13: 978-1621574149

Product Dimensions: 6.1 x 1 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (28 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #409,783 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #327 in [Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Social Sciences > Gender Studies > Men](#) #345 in [Books > Parenting & Relationships > Family Relationships > Fatherhood](#) #541 in [Books > Humor & Entertainment > Humor > Parenting & Families](#)

Customer Reviews

We live in an age where the Progressive Ideal is eternal youth and eternal adolescence. A life of partying, clubbing, dating, bedding, entitlement, but little of the traditional goals previous generations considered the ideals of adult life: work, career, marriage, family, and pleasing accomplishment. The authors of this fun book, Jim Geraghty and Cam Edwards, have had their fill of the present day and see the ideals of the pre-Baby Boom generation as something to revive — if in modern dress and terms. That is, they recognize that today is not the 1950s but that the character of Ward Cleaver in marrying June and raising Wally and the Beaver made a great deal of sense that led to happiness and fulfillment. We could do a lot worse than learning from his fictional example. Ward Cleaver was make believe in form but not in substance. He was so widely accepted for entertaining families in the 1950s because those families lived by those ideals at least in aspiration. I am a child of the

1950s and grew up in the 1960s. I remember Ward Cleaver and identified with the Beaver, even if he seemed a bit simple to me. True, I liked my own family more. But I was supposed to. My parents were married at 19 and my father was a pilot who flew planes around and transported wounded during World War II. He worked hard all his life and so did my mother. I grew up fully expecting to leave home at 18, go to college or get a trade like my father and older brother. Eventually, I would marry and have my own family. That is the way the world *worked*. And it does work better that way.

Can't think of a better definition of a failed man than a deadbeat dad. If you bring a child into the world, your purpose in life is to be involved with that child and guide him to adulthood. Fatherhood is a job you don't get to quit. Fathers teach sons how to be men; they teach daughters what to expect from men. -- page 128 This quotation from co-author Jim Geraghty certainly flies in the face of the prevailing wisdom in this country where we are told that it takes a village to raise a child. It is so much nonsense. Today's twenty-somethings have been indoctrinated since kindergarten with a destructive set of values that lower expectations and in all too many cases arrests development. Thus we have a generation of young men still living in their parents' basements, many of whom are essentially afraid to participate in adulthood. Jim Geraghty and Cam Edwards have come to the rescue with a new book that some might deem controversial. *Heavy Lifting: Grow Up, Get a Job, Start a Family and Other Manly Advice* unabashedly espouses the traditional values that were embraced by "the greatest generation". I never thought I would live to see the day when a book like this would be necessary but in my view it is a long overdue breath of fresh air. Aside from urging young men to leave the comfort and security of mom and dad's place the authors also address other pertinent issues such as how to co-exist with a new roommate, how to dress for success, how to go about looking for that first real job and mustering up the courage to ask the special young lady you fancy for a date. They go on to discuss such potentially destructive behaviors such as addiction to video games, porn and alcohol.

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