

Up until recent times and still now in conservative circles, conquest and male violence is celebrated when it is part of a nationalist enterprise: the expansion of the power of a nation or state. (Trump, for instance, uses such discourses.) So-called “patriotic glory” frequently means the domination of foreign peoples and territories, either by making them colonies or by subtler means. The era when European powers had vast colonies only ended in the twentieth century. Given that military violence has been celebrated for thousands of years, one may wonder: How much is violence still a part of our culture’s construction(s) of masculinity?