

# Sons of the Movement

## FtMs Risking Incoherence on a Post-Queer Cultural Landscape



*Sons of the Movement* documents the female-to-male (FtM) transition process from an insider's point of view, and details the limitations of both surgical procedures and pronouns. Bobby Noble challenges both the expectations of masculinity and white masculinity. As a result, this text is equally invested in creating both gender trouble and race trouble, calling for a new provocative analysis of the field of gender studies.

This is an accessible treatise arguing that the relation among FtM transsexual masculinity, female masculinity, and feminism is an underexplored site of politics in the field. While FtM transsexuals have been viewed with some suspicion within feminist and lesbian circles, *Sons of the Movement* argues that since FtMs have the potential to offer a unique vantage point on both feminism and masculinity, FtM masculinity instead should be rearticulated as an alterative and pro-feminist embodiment of non-phallic masculinity.

### Author Information

Jean Bobby Noble  
Bobby Noble (PhD, York University) is an Assistant Professor of sexuality, gender, trans-gender studies and popular culture in the Women's Studies department of the University of Victoria.

### Reviews

"*Sons of the Movement* is a groundbreaking study of immense proportions. The book details not only the grassroots origins of some of the most challenging aspects of contemporary transgender and transsexual politics and culture, but it also raises very difficult and pertinent questions for social movements and social justice, in particular those of feminist and lesbian politics. The book is a radically inspiring critique of feminist and lesbian politics at the same time that it forces readers to confront very difficult political terrain in the area of male privilege in those same contexts. *Sons* is concerned with what happens after transition. This move away from the medicalized discourse of trans communities to the social, political, and cultural contexts is a crucial and important one and opens up new terrain in trans studies."

Rinaldo Walcott, Ph.D., Canada Research Chair, Social Justice and Cultural Studies Program, OISE, University of Toronto

"*Sons of the Movement* is a beautiful, paradoxical articulation and realization of a life and an analysis. The text brilliantly combines the author's own trans narrative, a cultural analysis of trans men, and a political rallying cry against identity rigidity and territoriality. While primarily centred on trans-men, *Sons of the Movement* details the intersecting embodiment of race, class, gender, and sexuality. As such, it demands we all rethink all identity politics."

Maureen Fitzgerald, Ph.D., Director, Sexual Diversity Studies Program, University College, University of Toronto

"*Sons of the Movement* is a beautiful, paradoxical articulation and realization of a life and an analysis. The text brilliantly combines the author's own trans narrative, a cultural analysis of trans men, and a political rallying cry against identity rigidity and territoriality. While primarily centred on trans-men, *Sons of the Movement* details the intersecting embodiment of race, class, gender, and sexuality. As such, it demands we all rethink all identity politics."— Maureen FitzGerald, former Director of the Sexual Diversity Studies Program, University of Toronto

### Subjects

Sociology of Gender and Sexuality  
Sociology  
Sociology  
Sexual Diversity  
Trans Studies  
Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies  
Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies

143 pages

6 x 9 inches

March 2006

ISBN: 9780889614611

Available at:

To request a review copy:  
info@canadianscholars.ca  
416-929-2774

### Table of Contents

Illustrations  
Acknowledgements  
Introduction

Chapter 1: Sons of the (Feminist) Movement: Tranny Fags, Lesbian Men, and other Post-Queer Paradoxes

Chapter 2: "Zoom, Zoom, Zoom": Emergent Boyz, Bois, Boys in Popular Culture

Chapter 3: Boy to the Power of Three: Toronto's Drag Kings

Chapter 4: Our Bodies are Not Ourselves: Tranny Guys and the Racialized Class Politics of Incoherence

Chapter 5: "Strange Sisters": Toronto Femme Frenzies

Chapter 6: Conclusion: Archive of Post-Queer, Incoherent Bodies

Works Cited

### Related Books

Queerly Canadian  
Maureen FitzGerald, Scott Rayter  
Resist

Trans Activism in Canada  
Dan Irving, Rupert Raj