The article I was assigned to read is called “The Glass Phallus: (pub)lic masculinity and drinking in New Zealand. This article was written by Hugh Campbell and was based on an ethnographic study. The method that was used for this research was participant observation. Participant observation is when you set down observe and take notes. The research was performed in two pubs. One was performed in the South Island Village and the other one was performed in the Canterbury region of New Zealand. Campbell's research had more than one hundred interviews and at least two hundred hours of participant observations. Campbell's main focus was that bars also known as pubs is where men mainly gain public masculinity. Public masculinity is when men act tough around everyone including other men and want to be defined manly. This effect is not being noticed, and Campbell refers to this as the “glass phallus.” His study shows that men drinking in bars is where they gain and get to express their gender power and that is why they continue to visit pubs/bars.

The people that participated in this research were people that worked in farming. Such as, farm workers, farm owners, and a small part of bachelor farmers. Out of a whole thousand residents, pub drinking included 150-200 men. There was greater formal discussions with the members of the community. Campbell realized that the bar was divided by their class status at bars and that in tv shows, and commercials, alcohol was highly advertised in a way where man can feel normal about it. He also realized that high class man stood in the bar stools and
those who weren't high status would stood around the tables. Campbell decided to research these two different bars because they were in a community that was known as the drinkers town.

Some of the people in the community were excluded. There were three groups, one of the was tourist and workers who had just arrived, white collar professionals, and women. Campbell noticed that a few women would go to pubs so didn't include them. Not all men in the community were included because the time and space was delimited. He noticed that the men who lived near had enough time to visit a pub between work and home. The men who worked in farming engaged in pub drinking in a different pattern. Since some men couldn't attend everyday like others, they weren't able to successfully perform public masculinity. Cambell realized that there were two important characteristics of pub drinking to help reproduce public masculinity.

“Cock fighting” became an important characteristic and the disciples did as well.

“Cockfighting”, in where man make fun of each other's performance usually happens between drinkers at pubs. As this happens hierarchy, historical embedded and legitimately is established.

The disciplines of drinking was also an important key aspect in public drinking. According to Campbell the heavy drinkers learned the disciplines throughout their life. This means that each individual knows that they must maintain control over the aspects in public masculinity. Campbell notices that the men that knew the disciples of public drinking were those who had after work drinking sessions for many years. For example, cambell stated that one discipline was local knowledge. He claims that this knowledge involved both history and knowledge. He states that disciplines of drinking is having “intimate knowledge and a sweeping grasp of the details of a contemporary life in the community.” He also states that knowing how much alcohol to consume, where it won't affect their health and life is also important.
Even though there was public masculinity men never realized it. Men often acted like they didn't have responsibilities at home and single so that they can spend more time at the pub. For example. When Cambell asked a woman, who was outside the pub, “How many married men were in there?” She replied “They aren't any man drinking in this pub- not that you can tell anyway.” Instead of mean realizing what was masculine they would pay attention more to what was not masculine. For example, they wouldn't tell one another “You're a real man for drinking all the beer” instead they will tell them “You drink like a girl”, the men in these pubs weren't trying to actually be masculine they were avoiding being looked at and called feminine.

Discussion questions:

1) Do you think masculinity is something that we are taught by parents?

2) Do you believe men develop their masculinity at a certain age?

3) Do you believe that having public masculinity is a bad thing?