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## From the Theme Editors

The "Masculinities 2" issue, which is the continuation of the "Masculinities 1" themed issue published in June 2021, includes articles contributing to the field of critical studies on men and masculinities, an interview with the Initiative for Critical Studies of Masculinity, and a section called "essays" consisting of a film criticism and two autobiographical stories of masculinity.

İlkay Özküraplı's article "Shall We Talk About 'Men'?": A Feminist Criticism of Hegemonic Masculinity" analyzes Raewyn Connell's concept "hegemonic masculinity", a significant and distinctive concept for masculinity studies, within the contexts of feminist epistemology and feminist methodology, an analysis which we believe to contribute to the theoretical discussions in the field. The author emphasizes that masculinity studies will remain inefficient without feminist criticism.

The article "Hegemonic Masculinity on the Road: A Relational Perspective to the Car Driving Performances of University Students in Turkey" by Olgu Karan, Ayşegül Kocamüminler, and Şevval Tanman conducts a comparative study on the behaviors of female and male drivers in traffic where patriarchal codes dominate. Karan, Kocamüminler, and Tanman examine the sociology of traffic, a highly ignored field in social sciences in Turkey. Based on focus group interviews conducted with university students in Ankara, the authors claim that the behaviors and attitudes of drivers of different sexes are shaped by (toxic) hegemonic masculinity norms. We believe that this study will contribute to not only masculinity studies but also traffic sociology discussions.

This issue offers two articles regarding male violence towards women, a heartbreaking and significant concern. The first article is "States of Masculinity Reproduced in News Commentary: A Netnographic Review of the Murder of Pınar Gültekin" by Yıldız Derya Birincioğlu and Zeynep Burcu Şahin. Based on a comprehensive netnographic study, the article addresses the comments on the murder of Pınar Gültekin, one of the recent cases of violence that have had great repercussions in the media. Birincioğlu and Şahin suggest that let alone being critical, the comments on the case are shaped by nationalist-conservative, sexist-misogynic, polarizing-discriminative, abusive-violent, religious-moral, and incriminating-judgmental discourses that construct masculinities.

Derya İnce's article "Re-thinking Women Who Defended Their Lives Against the Violence of Hegemonic Man" focuses on women who defend their own lives. Its main concern is the current social-legal environment in Turkey where we face new cases of violence against women, and novel discussions regarding the İstanbul Convention, the Law No. 6284 on the Protection of the Family and the Prevention of Violence against Women, and even women's achievements and rights in the Civil Law. Examining women's experiences, İnce

addresses the situations in which women who are victims of male violence have to act in self-defense when the justice system falls short.

Kenan Demirci's article "Masculinity in Advertisements: What Does the Spoken Animated Character in Pizza Advertisements Signify about Masculinity?" analyzes the male discourses in advertisements. Analyzing the advertisements of Dominos Pizza, Demirci emphasizes that the figures in these advertisements are far from being feminine or androgynous and reproduce the authoritative and insensitive aspects of hegemonic masculinity.

We believe Özlem Atar's article "Masculinities In Muslim Women`S Post-9/11 Novels: Men In The Night Counter And Saffron Dreams" will contribute to the discussions in the field of literature and masculinities. In this article, Atar reviews the representations of masculinity in Alia Yunis' novel *The Night Counter* and Shaila Abdullah's *Saffron Dreams*.

The last article of this issue is "Potential Moments of the Relationship between Conservatism and Masculinity: LGBTI+ Sex Workers in Gaziantep" based on Gökhan Gökgöz's field study conducted with LGBTI+ individuals in Gaziantep. In his study, Gökgöz examines the interaction between new social movements and LGBTI+ individuals and the historical journey of how LGBTI+ individuals are viewed in Turkey. Moreover, he reads the discursive routes and maps of meaning of LGBTI+ sex workers with an interpretive perspective.

In our interview with the Initiative for Critical Studies of Masculinity, we talked about feminist theory, masculinity studies, men's movements, and feminist movement in Turkey within critical studies on men and masculinities, and the initiative's short-term and long-term studies and activities.

The aim of the "essays" section in this issue is to contribute to the growth of autobiographical narratives based on men's self-confrontation with their constructions of masculinity and their ways of "being male", men's inner conflicts when it comes to getting a share of the patriarchy, and men's objections to male hegemony in Turkey. In his essay "Being a Regular at the Market of Personalities: An Autoethnographic Narrative of Masculinity", Nazım Fırat Şemin tells us an autoethnographic narrative from childhood to adulthood within his relationship with his father. Ali Draga describes the transformations experienced in his father's and his own relationship with their masculinities after his cat Kuzey had entered their lives, by sections from the interviews he had with his father in his article "My Father, Me and Kuzey: Looking at Hegemonic Masculinity from the Animal-Human Relationship Perspective", which is shaped by an autobiographical narrative. Alican Eralp discusses the issues of fear and heroism through Srđan Golubovic's film *Krugovi*, through the positions of those who are not the perpetrators or victims of violence, namely the audience, and by connecting them with their own experiences in his article "The Right Not to Be a Hero".

The issues "Masculinities 1" and "Masculinities 2" have shown us the growing interest in the field of critical studies on men and masculinities in our country, and how fruitful a wide range of researches could be for new discussions. We hope that the readers read the articles and essays on this issue with similar interest and excitement, and many original studies would further contribute to the field.