



MEN'S PERCEPTIONS OF GENDER ROLES

QANUILIRPITAA? 2017

Nunavik Inuit Health Survey

The health and wellness of Inuit men was identified by regional leaders as an important theme of the *Qanuilirpitaa?* 2017 Health Survey. The present report focuses on men's perceptions of gender roles, and it is the first component of a more global assessment of men's health, which is presented in a separate transversal report.

The questionnaire on men's perceptions of gender roles was answered by Nunavimmiut men aged 16 and over. Three dimensions of these roles were analyzed: 1) how male gender roles are generally perceived nowadays; 2) men's self-assessment of their success as a man; and 3) how male gender roles are perceived in relationship with children and partners.

MALE GENDER ROLES PERCEPTIONS NOWADAYS

Approximately 3 men out of 4 mentioned that they valued the importance of education and of working outside their home, that there were good role models in their

community and that they maintained a good balance between traditions and modernity. More than 8 men out of 10 said that being autonomous was important to them, that they valued being a good father and that they wanted to maintain contact with their children in case of a relationship breakdown.

SELF-ASSESSMENT OF THEIR SUCCESS AS A MAN

The results show that hunting remains an important part of the Inuk male gender role. Close to 7 men out of 10 valued the importance of being a hunter and 6 out of 10 said that they needed to be tough and strong.

MALE GENDER ROLES PERCEPTIONS IN RELATIONSHIP WITH CHILDREN AND PARTNERS

Nunavimmiut men are divided regarding the difficulty of being an Inuk man in today's world. Although 75% consider that they are able to balance traditional and modern lifestyles, half of them find it difficult to be an Inuit man nowadays. The situation seems to be easier for men who are married or in a common law relationship, men who are employed, those who have a higher level of education, and those who are older. These men assigned a higher rating to their success as a man.

The last trend relates to the expression of emotions. Almost 6 out of 10 Nunavimmiut men find it easy to express their emotions. In contrast to what has been documented in the general male population of Quebec, elderly men are more likely to feel at ease expressing their emotions. Older men may be more connected to traditional Inuit values, in which the expression of emotions is not related as closely to gender as it is in the general population of Quebec (and Western cultures in general).

A second report including data collected from other thematic reports produced as part of the *Qanuilirpitaa? 2017* survey provides a general portrait of men's health and wellness in Nunavik and suggests insights that could contribute to improving the health of Nunavimmiut men.



Qanuilirpitaa? 2017 is a population healthy survey carried out in Nunavik from August to October 2017. A total of 1 326 Nunavimmiut aged 16 and over from all 14 villages participated to this survey.

Nakurmiik to all Nunavimmiut who contributed to this important health survey!

For more information: nrbhss.ca/en/health-surveys