
Confessions

An Honest Male Perspective on

Issues Concerning Manhood and Masculinity

Copyright © 2013 by Javon Confessions: An Honest Male Perspective on Issues Concerning
Manhood and Masculinity Baker

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Dedicated to Traci & Calvin

Confessions: An Honest Male Perspective on Issues Concerning Manhood and Masculinity

Foreword

Welcome to the latest chapter of my life. If you are reading this thank you for your continued support. If this is your first time experiencing my work then thank you for your support as well. This book, Confessions, was born out of many discussions I have had with family,

friends, and sometimes strangers about what it means to be a Confessions: An Honest Male Perspective on Issues Concerning Manhood and Masculinity man. There were so many enlightening discussions that I became inspired to write a couple of the pieces in the book. After discussing the concept and sharing the pieces with some of my poet friends I was told how important such a project could be in the realm of manhood and masculinity. Not that it would change the world but what it could do was convince people to start thinking critically about what it means to be a man, where they learned the definition they know, and how much it really applies to the way they live their lives. After meditating on it I decided to move forward with it and see what comes about. What I came to learn was that I didn't know myself as well as I thought I did. I also realized that we often don't examine what makes men tick, act, and respond the way we do in society. I attempted to capture that from a few different perspectives with this book. Many of the stories are my own and others are not. Those that are not were inspired by real events and real people that I am very close to with the exception of a couple of the pieces. I hope you enjoy this collection of poems thoroughly and I encourage you to have the conversations. Talk about any of the topics I addressed controversial or not. Get it out there and let's see what we can change. Thank you again.

Other Works Confessions: An Honest Male Perspective on Issues Concerning Manhood and Masculinity by Javon Baker

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Acknowledgements

This book is very male-centric thus I will acknowledge a few men that are important parts of my life either directly or indirectly. I want to start off with my uncle Donald. Thank you for everything and I mean everything uncle. Without you I Confessions: An Honest Male Perspective on Issues Concerning Manhood and Masculinity wouldn't know half the things I know and without you spending as much time with me during my formative years, who knows what kind of man I would Confessions: An Honest Male Perspective on Issues Concerning Manhood and Masculinity be today. You have had such an impact on me and as I got older I know I didn't come around as much but trust me I still appreciate you as much as I ever did. To my cousin Lawrence, I am glad as we have grown up we have grown closer. Hanging Confessions: An Honest Male Perspective on Issues Concerning Manhood and Masculinity out with you is invaluable and I am really proud of the father that you are. Believe it or not I look at you as someone I could model my parenting skills Confessions: An Honest Male Perspective on Issues Concerning Manhood and Masculinity after. You have an endless love and hustle for your kids and it shows in everything you do. You are amazing for that. I can't wait to see you

deal with them in their teenage years though. I definitely appreciate you more than I say. Thank you. To my cousin Thomahl, you know I admire you on immeasurable Confessions: An Honest Male Perspective on Issues Concerning Manhood and Masculinity levels. I have been able to experience you growing through life's different stages and you take it all head on. You know I try to soak in as much of your wisdom as I can and your Confessions: An Honest Male Perspective on Issues Concerning Manhood and Masculinity family is a complete joy to be around. You are a great dad but I am most excited for you to publish your own book. You have much to share with the world. To Javelle, my cousin you Confessions: An Honest Male Perspective on Issues Concerning Manhood and Masculinity are growing to be a man and Confessions: An Honest Male Perspective on Issues Concerning Manhood and Masculinity as I promised you we will define what Confessions: An Honest Male Perspective on Issues Concerning Manhood and Masculinity that means together. I always will have your back as long as I am on this earth. Remember you promised Confessions: An Honest Male Perspective on Issues Concerning Manhood and Masculinity you would be better than me and I will hold you too that. Keep being a admirable young man and hold up your household as much as possible. Your brothers are counting on you. To Innocencio, my friend and fellow poet, you sir have taught me what it means to not only talk about growth as a man but show what the fight looks like when life gives so many other Confessions: An Honest Male Perspective on Issues Concerning Manhood and Masculinity Confessions: An Honest Male Perspective on Issues Concerning Manhood and Masculinity reasons to be less than what you are. Things are going to work out in your favor. Never again put your pen down and get back to challenging yourself. You are too great Confessions: An Honest Male Perspective on Issues Concerning Manhood and Masculinity not to do so. Confessions: An Honest Male Perspective on Issues Concerning Manhood and Masculinity To my Brothers, you know who you are, I wrote for you so for this I'll say I am here if you ever need me. To the rest of my uncles, cousins, and friends I love all you guys.

Confessions

Confession: The Real Man Conundrum

If “what is a real man” is the question

Then the duality of my answer is that it also serves as my confession

I don't know what it means to be a real man

Confessions: An Honest Male Perspective on Issues Concerning Manhood and Masculinity
And it's not that I'm a grown boy;

I just know not of an objective definition

See there is no Confessions: An Honest Male Perspective on Issues Concerning Manhood and Masculinity class or a manual by which one Confessions: An Honest Male Perspective on Issues Concerning Manhood and Masculinity can calibrate his manhood

There are just generations of opinions about the things a man would or should

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