

CHAPTER 4

CONCLUSION

In the analysis of Nate Jacobs' character from Euphoria Season One, several core traits and behaviors indicative of toxic masculinity emerge. Nate's actions are consistently marked by domination and violence, homophobia, and the devaluation of women. These behaviors are deeply rooted in his family background, upbringing, and insecurities.

Nate's need for dominance manifests through aggressive actions and threats, often escalating to physical violence, particularly towards women and those he perceives as weaker or different. His aggressive encounters with characters like Jules, Maddy, and Tyler highlight his reliance on intimidation and physical superiority to maintain control. This need for dominance is exacerbated by his homophobic attitudes, which reflect an intense fear of non-conformity to traditional gender roles and a rejection of any potential homosexual inclinations within himself.

The devaluation of women is another critical aspect of Nate's toxic masculinity. His use of misogynistic slurs, objectification of women, and insistence on controlling female behavior underscore a deep-seated belief in male superiority and entitlement. His interactions with Maddy, Jules, and other female characters reveal an ingrained pattern of seeing women as objects for his satisfaction rather than as individuals with their own autonomy.

The causes of Nate's toxic masculinity are multifaceted. His father, Cal Jacobs, serves as a significant influence, embodying control and aggression while also struggling with his own sexuality. Cal's pressures and expectations contribute to Nate's distorted perceptions of masculinity and strength. Additionally, Nate's discovery of his father's double life and his strained relationship with his mother further complicate his understanding of gender roles and relationships. Nate's insecurities and fear of homosexuality and familial downfall also drive his aggressive and controlling behaviors, as he desperately attempts to conform to societal expectations of masculinity and maintain his family's image.

Nate's behaviors align with the concept of hegemonic masculinity, which refers to dominant societal norms of masculinity. Hegemonic masculinity normalizes negative actions, prejudices, and reinforces gender inequality. Nate's actions exemplify the toxic extreme of hegemonic masculinity, leading to harmful behaviors towards women and society. The toxic masculinity depicted by Nate Jacobs not only has harmful impacts on himself, but also on others. As a result, he developed mental problems such as anger issues, manipulative nature, and violence. This also affects other characters who endure physical and mental abuse from Nate, including Tyler, Maddy, and Jules.

The analysis of Nate Jacobs' toxic masculinity traits and behaviors from Season 1 of "Euphoria" provides valuable insights into the complexities of gender dynamics and societal expectations. Through the analysis of Nate's character arc, it becomes evident that toxic masculinity is a multifaceted construct deeply rooted in cultural norms and personal insecurities. By studying characters like Nate Jacobs in

“Euphoria,” we can understand how hegemonic masculinity influences behaviors and society.