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From Awareness to Action:
Advancing Sexual Health Promotion

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Tackling misogyny and sexism In Irish schools

*By Dr. Conor Hogan,
University of Galway*



What is misogyny?

“Feelings of hating women, or the belief that men are much better than women”.

-Cambridge Dictionary, 2025.



What is sexism?

Sexism is the “...the belief that the members of one sex are less intelligent, able, skilful, etc. than the members of the other sex, especially that women are less able than men.”

-Cambridge Dictionary, 2025.

“Its [misogyny] affective power invokes spectres of rape, sexual assault, hate-fuelled insults and gas-lighting”.

-Rachel Loewen Walker University of Saskatchewan, Canada, 2024

“Sexism is socially constructed by the system to benefit boys and men in the United States.

Sexism is more than gender bias, gender prejudice, and gender discrimination. Gender discrimination refers to negative behaviours toward girls or women, and it can occur at every level ... of the society”.

-Jun, 2024.



What is the manosphere?

“A decline in democracy and harmful content spread on social media platforms are helping to drive a backlash against feminism, and the growth of misogynistic and retrograde ideas about the roles of men and women and society.”

-United Nations, 2025.



“The “manosphere” refers to a heterogenous group of online communities that broadly promotes anti-feminism, misogyny, and hateful ideas about women, trans, and non-binary people. These communities attract, among other others, involuntary celibates (Incels), Men Going Their Own Way (MGTOW), pick-up artists (PUA), and Men’s Rights Activists (MRA).”.

-Nature.com, 2025.

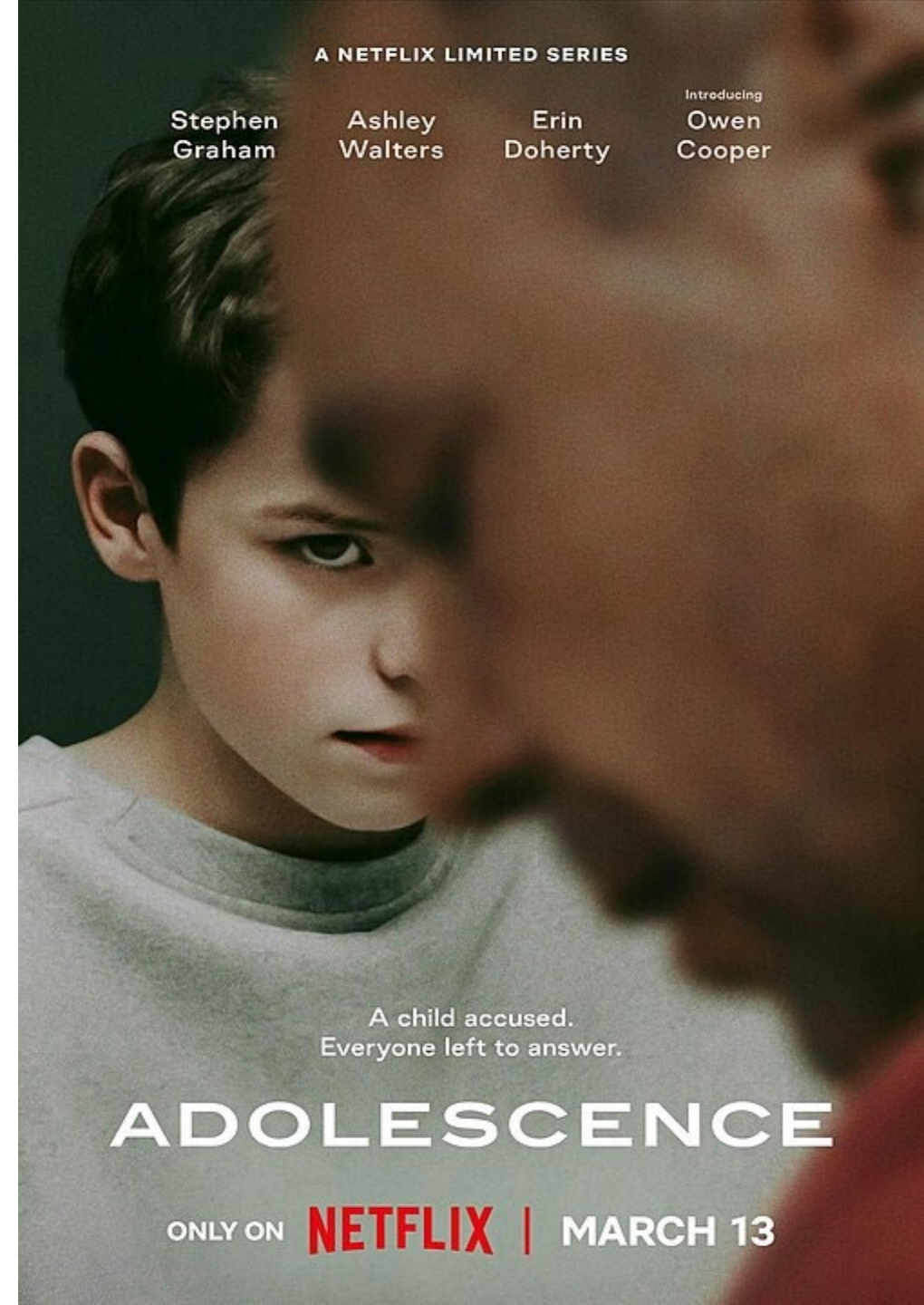
"I am absolutely sexist, and
I'm absolutely
a misogynist."

- Andrew Tate in The Independent, 2022



“I think it should be open to schools to decide whether or not its part of their curricular, part of their work, and it should really complement the work that's already underway as part of SPHE [Social, Personal and Health Education].”

-Minister of Education Helen McEntee, 2025.





“The rise in popularity of far-right misogynistic online influencers, such as Andrew Tate, among teenage boys, in particular, has had a very real impact on how and when teachers tackle gender equality in the classroom.”

-Arnold, and Fox, 2025

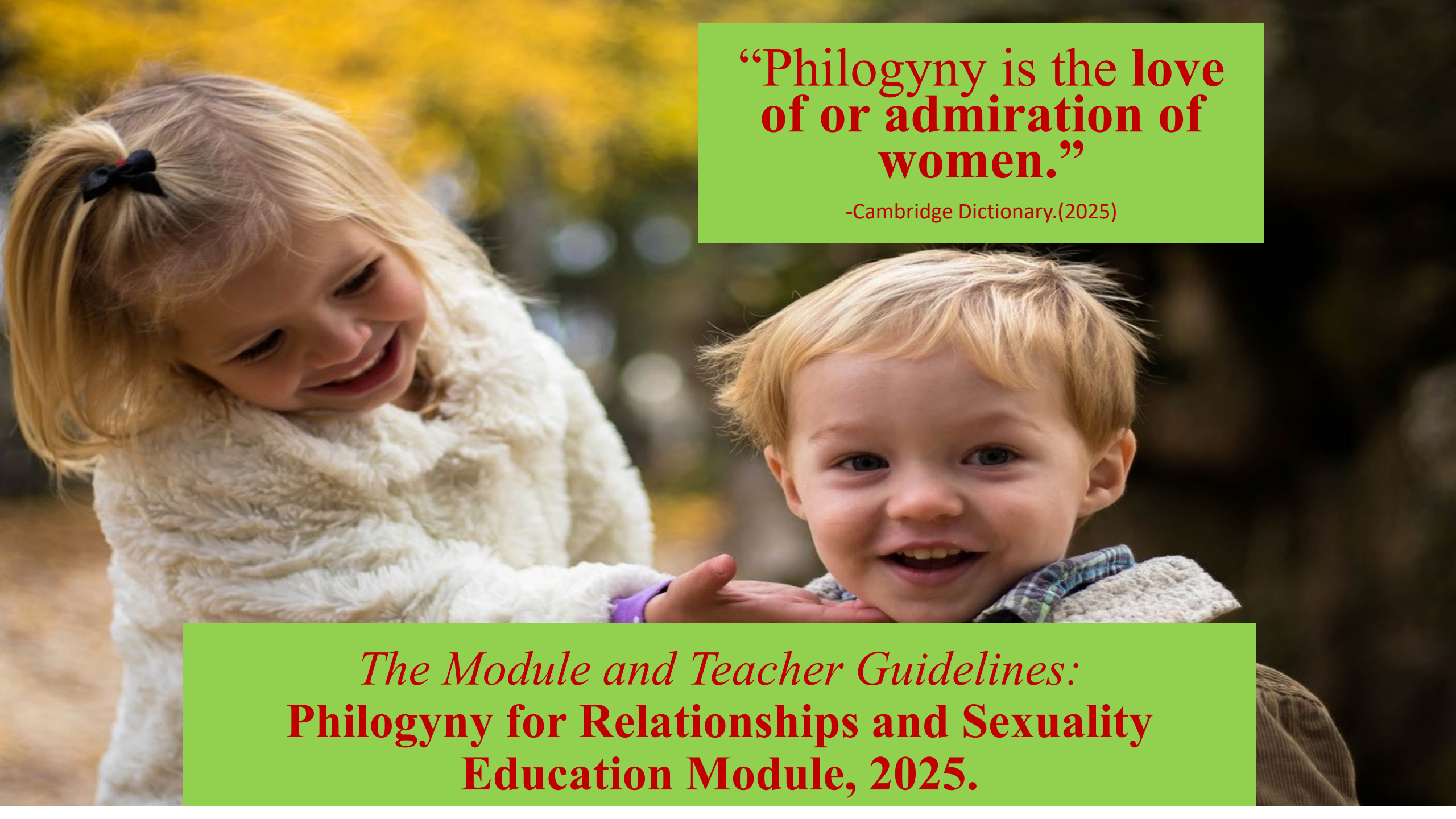
In social media, there is a spread of:

“...misogynistic, homophobic and transphobic ideology...

“...including the espousal of a toxic and aggressive form of masculinity, are then repeated by students in the classroom often in the form of resistance to discussions of gender equality and diversity”.

-Arnold and Fox, 2025





**“Philogyny is the love
of or admiration of
women.”**

-Cambridge Dictionary.(2025)

The Module and Teacher Guidelines:
**Philogyny for Relationships and Sexuality
Education Module, 2025.**

The 2025 Pilot Study:

- Only 25% understood the word misogyny,
- No one had heard of the term manosphere,
- No one had heard of the term philogyny,



One 16 year old boy spoke of the cool cars that Andrew Tate had and of a video that was circulating online about screenshotting females and using AI to make them naked women,

- 100% of them did not want misogyny and all did not know how to change it.



Thank You For Listening To My Talk!

Contact Me:

Hogan_Conor@Yahoo.ie