

The “Strict” Right Man



The Objector

The Objector



The Moralist

The Moralist



The Gentleman

The Gentleman



The Saint

The Saint





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Disclaimer

THE MAN MATRIX is an attempt to create a different set of axes on which to evaluate and assess men’s behaviour. It accepts the validity of individual men’s neurological and psychological makeup as something that does not need to be changed. It aims to generate a set of distinctions between men based on personality styles, along with a broader understanding of men’s psychospiritual development process—both for men themselves, and for women seeking to understand men.

The language and pronoun use focuses on cis-heterosexual men and assumes the interest of cis-heterosexual women, for reasons explained elsewhere. It may equally be used by parents, friends or colleagues of those men, and by people of any gender who find it useful and relevant.

The information in this report is intended as a reference, or map, that offers a particular way of assessing the landscape. No statement purports to be the absolute truth. It should be viewed holistically and as a means for supporting individual growth, not as “evidence against” nor as a means to “alter him”. You are invited to treat it in that way and to use it with intelligence and compassion.

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Suite 350, Private Bag X31, Saxonwold, 2132

Gauteng, South Africa

info@alembic.co.za

Visit the author’s website at

www.neilbierbaum.com

PERCEPTION

How people see him

IF PEOPLE wanted to identify him at, let’s say, a book launch, they’d just have to be there at the exact time that’s on the invitation. That’s when he’ll arrive. If anything, they might miss him because he was five minutes early. He’ll be dressed appropriately for the occasion, and he’ll follow all the protocols when he arrives, without fuss. After all, that’s what a person *should* do, right?

He could be caught frowning, or perhaps even glaring, at anyone who doesn’t follow protocol—who doesn’t do what they *should*, or what’s *right*. Someone who sneaks a place near the front of the author’s signing queue, for example, or who answers their phone while the author is giving their speech.

When people get to know him, they’ll soon discover that he’s quite big on people doing what’s “right” and not just what they “want” based on their own personal whims and fancies. To that extent, he might be reminiscent of the character Tommy Lascelles in the Netflix series *The Crown*. Lascelles kept a tight lid on any tendency that the monarch—or any member of the royal family—might have had to express their individuality at the expense of the institution. They must do what’s “right”.

He’ll generally show up to be most proper, in terms of both his manner (and manners) and his dress style, even to the point of being quite “tight”. His fashion palette will more than likely be



dominated by solid panels and clean lines—and by shades of black and white. After all, that’s how the world is, right—everything either black or white? In a world where men no longer wear ties, there’s a good chance he’ll still wear one, or, if he’s going casual, keep his top button fastened.

His properness will also show up in other areas. If someone at work submits a report, for example, he’ll be inclined to send it back for them to correct the spelling errors before he’ll even consider the content. They’ll experience him as being like the teacher who marked them down for handing their term project in late. Naturally, he could be seen as quite harsh, unfair and critical.

He’ll tend to say no a lot. He’ll deny people—and even himself—things that most people would allow, or he’ll just be much more rigid about sticking to what’s “right”. For example, let’s say his teenager wants to see a movie with an age restriction one year above their current age. He might not allow it, even though their birthday is only six weeks away. If his wife allows it, and he finds out, she’ll suffer the wrath of his righteous indignation. Or he may take his kid to paintball, and have a secret desire to try it himself, but not allow himself to because pointing a gun, even a toy gun, would go against his moral principles. He’s likely to criticise anyone who does allow or do any of those things.

BOON (OFFERING)

Why people like him

The “Strict” Right Man In a word, honour. Without men like him showing the way, the world would long ago have lost its moral compass. As it is, that compass is rather murky right now. However, this man is its keeper, its torchbearer. In a world driven by expedience, he shows how it’s possible, and even desirable, to do the right thing, even when it’s hard.

He does for the world what the teacher does for the classroom. His mere presence brings order and sets the standard and the example. Sadly, his presence is needed to maintain that. While the few who are like him would continue the behaviour after he leaves, the majority of people will start to do their own thing and soon the place will erupt into chaos. After all, history is littered with examples of the damaging effects of corruption. To put some names to that, we can say that he does for the world what Gandhi did for India, Martin Luther King Jr for America, and Nelson Mandela for South Africa. And to drive home the point, look at what happened in all those places when those men were not around.

At an individual level, he has a strong moral compass and obvious integrity. His word will be his bond and people will feel that—they’ll instinctively feel that they can trust he in that way. If they ask him to do, or not do, something and he agrees,



he’ll pretty much stick to that agreement. If he says he’ll be somewhere, he will—on time, or even early. He’ll tell the truth, sometimes to his own detriment.

He’s the man most likely to be a proper gentleman and follow more traditional ways of doing things. He’ll open the door for a woman, set the table, know what knife and fork to use, and clear up after himself. His house will be clean and tidy with everything in its proper place, and in good working order. He’ll finish tasks and put away after himself.

He’ll be passionate about righting the wrongs in the world and could well get involved in a social campaign of sorts. He’ll always be looking for ways to raise the standards and improve the way things are done. He’s a good man to have around when someone wants to set up a business process. He’ll have a knack for that sort of thing, even if he isn’t formally trained in it, and even if it’s not his job.

In fact, he’ll be the one most likely to notice inefficiencies in a workflow system and he’ll put in the effort to create an alternative or “proper” system, even if it’s not his job, and sometimes with little regard to whether people will actually want it or not. If they do resist at first, he’ll know that once they try it and see how much it improves things, they’ll thank him for it.

DEVELOPMENT

His journey through the four stages of maturity

The “Strict” Right Man The journey to maturity for every man involves the establishment of the ego and its inevitable dark side, or shadow, followed—hopefully—by the integration of that shadow. As described in the Man Matrix introduction, a man’s shadow effectively contains the data belonging to that one element of life that he tries to avoid or escape from, and which he tries to deny in himself. The “Strict” Right Man tries to escape from the kind of uncontrolled, or “bad” behaviour that humans—including himself—are capable of. This means morally bad behaviour, as well as behaviour that is misdirected, chaotic or too individualistic.

He most likely grew up in an environment where there were strict rules and little choice but to comply with those rules—or in a chaotic environment, where he developed his approach as a defence against that. Either way, it was a survival mechanism. Therefore, he’ll always feel safer when there are rules, standards and procedures, and he’ll believe that everybody regards rules in the same way that he does—in other words, that if there are rules, people will naturally follow them.

As an adult, he’ll try to avert any “bad” behaviour by doing his best to impose ethical standards and rules, and protocols and procedures, on himself and the world. He’ll deny any spontaneous or disruptive individuality in himself by strongly following



those rules and protocols. This will provide the theme for his rebellion during the red stage, and for his criticism of the world during his white stage. For example, he’ll criticise, condemn, judge and even try to punish people who “disobey” certain social norms or standards. Any such behaviour by himself will be strictly disallowed or, if it ever occurs, denied.

As he matures, he’ll subconsciously gather evidence that proves him wrong—yes, wrong. In other words, he’ll accumulate data as a result of contradictory life experiences that the world is different from his childhood universe.

At first, he won’t pay too much attention to this data, but eventually it will start to break through. He’ll have some undeniable feedback from life in the form of people or experiences. Something in him will recognise that he no longer needs to defend himself in the way that he did back then. In other words, it’ll gradually dawn on him that he can bend or even break the rules sometimes, or make mistakes, and survive. If he lets other people bend or break the rules, the sky won’t fall on their, or his, head. It won’t be the end of the world. Nobody will die. If he accepts and integrates this shadow data, he’ll progress to the point where he can be flexible and apply the rules contextually while not weakening his conscience nor losing any of his properness or ethical clarity.

Invite people to support his growth by sharing this information.



“Will he be my unicorn?”

What “I’ll alter him” shifts you can (and shouldn’t) expect from him

The “Strict” Right Man As his partner, colleague, parent or friend, you’ll probably recognise and hopefully appreciate his high standards of integrity and orderliness, and his honourable ways. Yet you might sometimes wish that he would somehow miraculously transform into a less critical, more flexible and forgiving, perhaps even light-hearted and positive, version of himself. These “missing” elements may lead you to compare him negatively with the types of men that do demonstrate those patterns of behaviour.

For example, you might wish that he would be more chilled and laid-back in the way that he treats the kids and runs the home, the way the “Listening” Sensitive Man is, instead of being such a disciplinarian. Or you may wish that he could see the positive—the silver lining, the glass-half-full—in everything, instead of always seeing the faults, the mistakes, the things that could have been done better. In other words, that he’d be more like the “Optimistic” Ideas Man, whom he considers to be careless, if not reckless. Then you might need him to be a little less judgemental and critical of people who’ve not met his standards, and maybe got themselves into a spot of bother, and instead be more generous, the way the “Helping” Best Man would.

The bottom line is, He’s not going to “change” into any of those types of men. In fact, the more you try to “alter” him, or in other words try to



get him to “change into” one of those types of men, the more likely he is to dig in his heels and resist.

That said, you might have a point, and so he might learn to take on one or two of those men’s behaviours from time to time. Yes, he might try being less certain that his rules and standards are the absolute right ones, or even the only ones. He might be more flexible and forgiving, especially when it’s not a life-or-death matter. He might impose less rules on the people whose lives he manage. He might even let people get away with a few things, give them a chance, punish them less, use less stick, and more carrot.

While there’s some of this he could start doing right now, it will happen naturally as a result of maturity. It’s what the process of integration is all about. After all, maturing and integrating is about becoming less one-sided. It’s about not treating every situation in the same way, based on his own fears, but instead treating each situation on its own merits. So, if you’re supporting him on that journey, you can drop a few hints along the way, using some of the approaches suggested in the “When will he grow up?” section of this report, and be patient.

Get the full report!

Get the full report to learn more about:

1. How he sees the world (his dominant worldview);
2. Why he drives people crazy (his one-sided behaviours and tendencies);
3. His core fear (the underlying driver of much of his behaviour);
4. A full 8-page report on his journey through the four stages of maturity;
5. Two more “handouts” containing information you can use:
 - a. What he looks for in a partner / colleague / friend and what you can do to “win him over”;
 - b. What you can do to support him on his journey to maturity;
6. Plus a set of self-coaching questions to ask yourself and/or him.

Yes, take me there!



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