**Background Research**

**Introduction**

Please note that on each section there is a table/s which show the queries used to obtain the information.

References are in the end.

Also, note that on the reference, it mostly says websites, even though most are journal articles; the reason why I selected the ‘Type of Source’ as ‘website’ is that it was accessed via the website, and thought that it would be easier to navigate to.

**What is brotherhood?**

Oxford dictionary state that:

1. *Brotherhood is friendship and understanding between people*
2. *Brotherhood is an organization formed for a particular purpose, especially a religious society or political organization*
3. *Brotherhood is the relationship of brothers*

[1]

On the book ‘*The Meaning Of Christian Brotherhood*’ [2], several meanings of the brotherhood have been explored from history.

In Ancient Greece, brotherhood was used to unite the nation, so the fellow citizens were considered as brothers.

In the old testament, men who believed in a similar god were considered as brothers. Thus, their relationship was considered as the brotherhood. To expand this idea, god was thought of as a father and all men were the sons of his making everyone brothers.

On the article ‘*Building Brotherhood for Combat*’ [3], it has been stated that “*It seems that relationships among soldiers can approach the same kinds of relationships that they feel for parents, children, siblings, or spouses.”* This suggests that soldiers have a very close relationship that they consider their fellow comrades as their own family. Furthermore, several times, the article implies that brotherhood is like a family unit in the military.

*McCreary and Schutts (2015) found that fraternity members define brotherhood along four dimensions and developed a scale to measure them. The two most altruistic dimensions – belonging and accountability – centered on accepting members for who they are and holding them to the written and values-based standards of the organization.*

The quote above has been taken from the ‘*Journal of Student Affairs*’ [4], it states that brotherhood is about members feeling that they belong to the group, being responsible for the individual’s own actions, embracing the member’s individuality and following the principles of the group.

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Reference | Query | Result |
| [2] | <https://app.2dsearch.com/new-query/5f64c4b549bd1d0004a4f906> | <https://books.google.co.uk/books?hl=en&lr=&id=81sU1FW5yxMC&oi=fnd&pg=PT12&dq=(brotherhood)+-Gang+-muslim+-Muslim+(%22What+is%22%7CDefine%7Cdescribe%7Cexplain)&ots=jl2LwQIjHo&sig=TTh9fVw1HsGaXtSoPoTcEUNjkIM&redir_esc=y#v=onepage&q=(brotherhood)%20-Gang%20-muslim%20-Muslim%20(%22What%20is%22%7CDefine%7Cdescribe%7Cexplain)&f=false> |
| [3] | <https://app.2dsearch.com/new-query/5f64c4b549bd1d0004a4f906> | https://www. questia.com/read/1P3-163543881/building-brotherhood-for-combat |
| [4] | <https://app.2dsearch.com/new-query/5f64c4b549bd1d0004a4f906> | <https://mountainscholar.org/bitstream/handle/10217/194265/JOUF_JOSA_v27-2017-18.pdf?sequence=1#page=94> |

**Advantages of brotherhood**

The academic journal article ‘*Building Brotherhood for Combat*’ [3] suggest that brotherhood is highly apparent in the combat which is one of the hardest jobs in the world according to Joanna Zambas who is a career expert [5]. The reason why the brotherhood is common in the combat because its the most effective way for solider to survive and also win, as concluded in the ‘The Deadly Brotherhood’ book [6], *‘… being brave meant having collective courage as a team, a deadly brotherhood. Drawing from one another’s determination and courage, American combat soldier daily demonstrated this modern form of bravery, a “team heroism that harvested enormous success.”*’

Secondly, a Journal “*Gandhism for World Peace, Stability and Brotherhood*” [7] state that *'Any individual who is full of love, brotherhood and peace is of tremendous value not only for himself, his family, or his country, but humanity at large. Mahatma Gandhi was one such being who has not hated even his enemies and followed the path of complete non-violence till his last breath.*' This implies that brotherhood could be one of the pieces for making world peaceful because you are able to see another man who is not related as your own brother.

Thirdly, research article ‘*The Dudes Club: A brotherhood for men’s health*’ [8] concludes that the club helped indigenous men promote their well-being. What is the Dudes Club? It’s an organisation with an idea of men helping men. It’s 3 objective includes:

* To build brotherhood between members
* To help men achieve greater well-being via education, dialogue and health screening clinics
* ‘*To enable men to regain a sense of pride and fulfilment in their lives*’

The club targets the most vulnerable group of men, e.g. homeless, drug abuse, etc.

It tries to achieve the objectives above by holding drop-in session every 2 weeks, where men socialise and participate in casual activities, and participate in an interactive health discussion run by a healthcare professional, etc.

I am now going to research on the advantages of sisterhood, as knowing about the benefits of the sisterhood could help me to explore more advantages of the brotherhood.

On the Academic Journal Article ‘*Sisterhood Is Powerful, Still’* [9], it claims that with the bond of sisterhood, they can break down the status quo of ‘male leaders’, which has been persistent for many generations. I could only imagine if the sisterhood has the potential to change something that has been like that for generations, then what can brotherhood do?

Finally, ‘*Violence Against Women*’ journal [10] states that sisterhood has potential to reduce sexual and intimate partner violence. Considering this, I would also think that brotherhood can also obtain something similar that’s more so relate to men, e.g. reducing bullying.

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Query | Website | Number |
| SAME QUERY | [http:/ /www.indianjournals.com/ijor.aspx?target=ijor:ijmss&volume=5&issue=7&article=020](http://www.indianjournals.com/ijor.aspx?target=ijor:ijmss&volume=5&issue=7&article=020) | [7] |
| SAME QUERY | <https://www.cfp.ca/content/62/6/e311> | [8] |
| <https://app.2dsearch.com/query/5f64d9a849bd1d0004a4f912> | <https://www.questia.com/library/journal/1P3-991647901/sisterhood-is-powerful-still1>. | [9] |
| SAME QUERY | <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/1077801211409726> | [10] |

**Disadvantages of brotherhood**

On the documentary ‘*Bra Boys*’ [11] [12], 29:50 the gang goes out surfing where they push/encourage each other too hard; resulting in some getting seriously injured. Why do the gang members carry out risky behaviours? This is explained on the book ‘*The Deadly Brotherhood*’ [6],

*nearly nine out of ten American combat soldiers in World War II found the strength to endure even the worst combat and continue fighting because they could not bear the thought of letting their buddies down. For most, the threat of death was preferable to betraying one’s combat brothers. This complicated blend of peer pressure, teamwork, and fellowship was the main reason why American combat soldiers fought successfully in World War II.*

The quotes above imply that soldiers in WW2 worked hard to prove themselves that they deserve to be part of the team. And the ones that couldn't prove were weeded out, e.g.

*Those who did not have what it took to live up to their responsibilities to the group were quickly weeded out.* [6]

So, the similar case might be true for the bra boys, some risked too much because they want to be part of the group, and wanted to make their brothers proud by risking and showing off cool tricks OR failing and getting seriously injured. Its about risking big to win big.

Secondly, in the *Bra Boys* documentary [12], time 1:17:27 you will see that the gang carry out anti-social behaviours.

The book ‘*Fraternity Gang Rape: Sex, Brotherhood, and Privilege on Campus*’ [13] states that fraternity and male group encourages rape.

Quotes from ‘*Mental health services for former gang members served by Aztecs rising: A grant proposal*’ dissertation [14]:

*'According to Cocozza and Skowyra (2000), at least 20% of youth in the juvenile justice system have serious mental health disorders.'*

'According to the 28 National Institute of Mental Health (2010), over half of the inmate population in the United States has a mental health problem.'

'48% could be categorized as psychopaths and displayed behaviors associated with antisocial personality disorder'.

'Among males, exposure to community violence and history of physical punishment predicted PTSD symptomatology'

'Exposure to violence has been associated with symptoms of depression'

The above quotes show many mental health issues that the gang members could face, these include the development of psychopathic behaviours, antisocial personality disorder and PTSD.

The psychopathic tendency could not only be nature but also nurture as well because Jordon Peterson [15] state that in order to fight the psychopaths, you have to become one with a good intention.

Quote from ‘*Beyond bad behaving brothers: productive performances of masculinities among college fraternity men*’ article [16]:

*Research on fraternity men focuses almost exclusively on problematic behaviors such as homophobia and sexism, alcohol abuse, violence against women, sexual promiscuity, and the overrepresentation of members among campus judicial offenders.*

The quote above implies that researchers focus on the bad behaviours of fraternity men, and the researchers must have looked at these behaviours as these could be the real problems.

The journal ‘*Covering the Rape Case That Changed India*’ [17] reports that a 23-year-old student woman was gang-raped on the public bus, who was severely abused as well as her boyfriend who was with her. I argued that the gang was able to carry out the rape because of the power of the group which is amoral, which gives the individual in the group immense courage. Although, it most likely not have been the only factor that encourages these men to carry out the rape, but the male group has to play part in it. I say this because of the quote [6]:

*nearly nine out of ten American combat soldiers in World War II found the strength to endure even the worst combat and continue fighting because they could not bear the thought of letting their buddies down. For most, the threat of death was preferable to betraying one’s combat brothers. This complicated blend of peer pressure, teamwork, and fellowship was the main reason why American combat soldiers fought successfully in World War II.*

This implies that soldiers in the WW2 gained strength and courage through the brotherhood (gang).

It's interesting to note that the conclusion that I have reached from the Documentary ‘*Bra Boys*’ [11] [12], Deadly Brotherhood book [6], and Sebastian Junger [18] interview on the Art of Manliness show [19] is that brotherhood is created in struggles, e.g. war, poverty.

After researching the advantages and disadvantages of brotherhood, I conclude that the power of the brotherhood; member proving each other that they deserve to be part of the team which gives them supreme strength and courage is amoral.

I say this because, on the book '*Deadly brotherhood*' [6], it has been summarised that '*... nearly nine out of ten American combat soldiers in World War II found the strength to endure even the worst combat and continue fighting because they could not bear the thought of letting their buddies down.*'. Similar, in the *Bra Boys* documentary [11] [12] (time 27:20 - 33) shows the courage is ignited by the gang where Bra Boys surf near the rocks and push themselves to the limits with each other’s' help where some even get seriously injured.

*'... there's nothing better than being with your brothers and friends, and psyching each other up to see who gonna charge the hardest'.*

Basically, brotherhood is amoral, the good and bad is formed with what the group does with its power. They can use to fight against injustice or be the injustice.

Additional, brotherhood being good or bad depends on the members and their purpose.

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| Ref | Query | Website |
| [11] | https://app.2dsearch.com/new-query/5f64e95149bd1d0004a4f913 | <https://search.informit.com.au/documentSummary;dn=200704403;res=IELAPA> |
| [13] | SAME QUERY | <https://www.questia.com/library/118088442/fraternity-gang-rape-sex-brotherhood-and-privilege> |
| [14] | " | <https://search.proquest.com/openview/ae8dfe9774f4543ea28a1576624a8a98/1?pq-origsite=gscholar&cbl=18750&diss=y> |
| [16] | " | <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/09518398.2014.901577> |
| [17] | SAME QUERY | <https://www.questia.com/library/journal/1G1-379981693/covering-the-rape-case-that-changed-india> |

**Why has brotherhood lost in our society?**

Looking at the disadvantages of brotherhood above, I would assume that society fears the brotherhood. Thus, tries to prevent male group formation.

On the interview [19] (time 17:51), *Sebastian Junger* mentions a theory where human have evolved with two opposing quality; one is maximising individual benefit, and another one is the impulse towards the community. Research paper that supports this would be great

[19] (time 13:37) suggest that we don't need tribe in our modern society because an individual can survive on their own, whereas during hard times, e.g. War, natural disaster and hunter-gather society, etc. People need each other in order to survive. For example: during hunter-gather society, you needed to know your neighbour in order to protect your settlement together from the people of a different tribe. Similarly, on the '*The Deadly Brotherhood*' book [6], it has been stated that soldiers needed to know and get close to their fellow team members, as they needed each other to not only survive but to win the war.

More research would be great?

**How have others gone about creating a male group within the society?**

Sebastien Junger says that '*conscious deliberate effort*' is required in order to create a communal tribe. And the people should be around your house (very close proximity); '*literally people around you*', not the workplace. [19] (time 13:37)

He gave an example of a person who decided to sleep on different neighbour houses each day in order to bring the community together.

On the book, ‘*The Way Of Men*’ [20], author Jack Donovan states that guys should create a gang by looking at the people that are around them and spending the times with the one who are more or less on the same page philosophically. He says that men should give time to each other and do some tactical things such as hunting, paintballing, martial arts, etc. This is to create the solid relationship.

On the article ‘*How to create a lifelong brotherhood*’ [21], several choices has been explored on how to create a male group. These include:

* Finding an existing group
* Creating your own group
* Moving to a different location which has the existing group
* Joining/creating a virtual group

**Why building an app is one of the best ways to solve this issue (lack of positive male groups in our society)?**

App will work as a reminder/promotion of male group to men in the society, it doesn’t matter if they use it or not to create the brotherhood, as long as they get the point that male group can be used positively if they put in work.

On the article, ‘*How to create a lifelong brotherhood*’ [21], it claims that creating/joining the group is the hardest part where most men fail to put in the work, therefore the app should make the initial process easier as individuals would just have to register to the site and starting creating or joining the groups.

Furthermore, to create your own group requires a lot of time because you will have to ask several people in order to find the like-minded people. And moving to a different location isn’t ideal for some people which could mean leaving their work and the family. Finally, the virtual group will never replace the face-to-face interaction between people.

On the app, you are most likely to find the right group to you, because only the like-minded people would register to it; who sees the benefit of the male group in their life; be that self-improvement, bonding with other males or accelerating in the path of individual goals.

Finally, the app is a great idea in terms of having more male groups in our modern society, as it follows the *Sebastian Junger* [18] advice, where *'conscious deliberate effort'* [19] is required to form tribes.

**What language to use?**

Since my software most likely going to be similar to Facebook, match.com and meetups. It is best to research what programming language they use.

1. Facebook
   1. [22]:
      1. Memcached
      2. HipHop for PHP and HipHop Virtual Machine (HHVM)
      3. Haystack
      4. BigPipe
      5. Cassandra (Instagram)
      6. Scribe
      7. Hadoop and Hive
      8. Thrift
      9. Varnish
      10. React
   2. [23]:
      1. PHP
      2. C++
      3. JavaScript
   3. [24]:
      1. Server-side: PHP
      2. Client-side: JavaScript
      3. SSL Certificate Authority: DigiCert
      4. CSS
      5. Structured Data Format: Open Graph, JSON-LD
      6. Markup Language: HTML5
      7. Character Encoding: UTF-8
      8. Image File Formats: SVG, GIF
2. Mach.com
   1. [25]:
      1. Client-side: JS
      2. Web Server: Nginx
      3. CSS
      4. Structured Data Format: JSON-LD
      5. Markup Languages: HTML5
      6. Character Encoding: UTF-8
      7. Image File Formats: PNG, SVG
3. Meetup.com
   1. [26]:
      1. CMS: WordPress, Gatsby
      2. Server-side: PHP
      3. Client-side: JS
      4. JS Libraries: JQuery
      5. Web Server: Apache
      6. CSS
      7. Structured Data Formats: Open Graph, Twitter Cards, JSON-LD, Generic RDFa
      8. Markup Language: HTML5
      9. Character Encoding: UTF-8
      10. Image File Formats: JPEG, SVG

Concluded:

* Client side: ReactJS
* Server-side: PHP

1. Facebook

Wasn't able to find right papers on the google scholar, so just used google to get the answers:

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| Query | Website | Reference |
| <https://www.google.com/search?q=what+programming+language+does+facebook+website+use&oq=what+&aqs=chrome.0.69i59l3j69i57j69i59j69i60l3.3007j0j7&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8> | <https://www.pingdom.com/blog/the-software-behind-facebook/#:~:text=Facebook%20uses%20several%20different%20languages,perhaps%20other%20languages%20as%20well>). | [22] |
| <https://www.google.com/search?sxsrf=ALeKk02enIGpKCeE0h1ZttnOtvQQnZZxaw%3A1600871356273&ei=vFtrX8aXEMaagQaE16PwAQ&q=facebook+programming+language+highly+used+language&oq=facebook+programming+language+highly+used+language&gs_lcp=CgZwc3ktYWIQAzIHCCEQChCgATIHCCEQChCgAToKCAAQsQMQgwEQQzoFCAAQkQI6CAgAELEDEIMBOggILhCxAxCDAToFCAAQsQM6AgguOgUILhCxAzoECCMQJzoECAAQQzoCCAA6BggAEBYQHjoICCEQFhAdEB46BQghEKABUNbQLli0ky9goZQvaANwAXgAgAGQAogBjSiSAQYyLjI1LjWYAQCgAQGqAQdnd3Mtd2l6wAEB&sclient=psy-ab&ved=0ahUKEwjG5ZXEvv_rAhVGTcAKHYTrCB4Q4dUDCA0&uact=5> | <https://www.houseofbots.com/news-detail/11442-1-top-5-programming-languages-mostly-used-by-facebook-programmers-to-developed-all-product> | [23] |
|  | <https://w3techs.com/sites/info/facebook.com> | [24] |

1. Match.com

Wasn't able to find professional papers for the programming language used by match.com. So, just Bing searched it

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Query | Website | My thoughts | No |
| <https://scholar.google.com/scholar?start=30&q=what+programming+language+does+match.com+use&hl=en&as_sdt=0,5&as_ylo=2019> |  |  | 4 |

I concluded that if there is no answer on the query above which is very generic, no matter what I make the query there will still struggle to find the answers. So I moved to another method of searching.

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Query | Website | Ref |
| <https://www.bing.com/search?q=match.com+programming+language&form=QBLH&sp=-1&ghc=1&pq=match.com+programming+lan&sc=1-25&qs=n&sk=&cvid=4971734EECDC4907AF5761F383D0B66B> | <https://w3techs.com/sites/info/match.com> | [25] |

1. Meetup.com

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| --- |
| Query |
| <https://yandex.com/search/?text=what%20programming%20languages%20are%20used%20by%20meetup&lr=123359> |
| <https://www.google.com/search?q=what+programming+languages+are+used+by+meetup&sxsrf=ALeKk00UwglS_J1sLLnplZvLtPuny-b_2A:1600879083292&ei=63lrX5q9EcrXgQaOxZzQAQ&start=10&sa=N&ved=2ahUKEwja3tmo2__rAhXKa8AKHY4iBxoQ8tMDegQIFxAu&biw=682&bih=759> |
| <https://www.bing.com/search?q=what+programming+languages+are+used+by+meetup&sp=-1&pq=what+programming+languages+are+used+by+meetup&sc=0-45&qs=n&sk=&cvid=A80DDD747B77446AB5FE3BCE8DA360CA&first=20&FORM=PERE1> |

Above are failed queries where I couldn't get the relevant results.

So went back to

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| --- | --- |
| <https://w3techs.com/sites/info/meetup.com> | [26] |

**Masculine colours**

[27] state that blue is the most preferred colour by men.

Similarly [28] also found that most men liked the blue colour.

As concluded by [29] who got their information from different studies, blue means calming, thoughtful, peaceful, reliable, expensive, male, warm, cold, death, purity, serious.

Finally, philosophically, Jack Donovan author of the '*The Way of Men*' claim that masculinity and darkness go hand-in-hand because masculinity requires overcoming the darkness. He says that men become men by overcoming fear which is what black colour means. [30]

Black means:

* Sad
* Stale
* Fear
* Anger
* Expensive
* Hi-tech
* Death
* Old
* Power
* Dignity

[29]

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Query | <https://app.2dsearch.com/new-query/5eb43ab7ada56b0004b9d9e0> |

Results are below from the query above:

* [27][27] CITATION Why15 \l 2057 [27] <https://yougov.co.uk/topics/lifestyle/articles-reports/2015/05/12/blue-worlds-favourite-colour><https://www.hotdesign.com/marketing/whats-your-favorite-color/>
* CITATION Col20 \l 2057 [28] [http: //www.joehallock.com/edu/COM498/datasets.html](http://www.joehallock.com/edu/COM498/datasets.html)
* CITATION Col16 \l 2057 [29] <http://eprints.whiterose.ac.uk/110943/1/Won_Westland_CRA2016_authorcopy.pdf>

**Group size**

The project's main focus would be on the group; brotherhood. So, the research was done to find the best size of the group. Via CITATION How19 \l 2057 [31] CITATION Dun20 \l 2057 [32] CITATION Dun19 \l 2057 [33] CITATION Vsa17 \l 2057 [34], it has been concluded that human can have a maximum of 150 meaningful relationships. This has been proposed by Robin Dunbar, who came up with the Dunbar's number CITATION Dun20 \l 2057 [32]. On the 'Modeling User' Activity on Twitter Networks: Validation of Dunbar's Number' article CITATION Bru11 \l 2057 [35], the Dunbar's number has been put to the test to see if this is still the case even with the mobile devices, and they concluded that Dunbar's Number is still relevant. Please note that CITATION Bru11 \l 2057 [35] has been peer-reviewed.

Most of the research has been done via google search, however, 2dsearch has also been used, as shown below:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Query | Reference |
| <https://app.2dsearch.com/new-query/5eb1c020606fd70004295091> | CITATION Dun20 \l 2057 [32] |

CITATION How19 \l 2057 [31] <https://www.goodtherapy.org/blog/psychology-facts/how-many-friends-does-average-person-have-0208197>

CITATION Dun20 \l 2057 [32] <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dunbar%27s_number>

CITATION Dun19 \l 2057 [33] <https://www.bbc.com/future/article/20191001-dunbars-number-why-we-can-only-maintain-150-relationships>

CITATION Vsa17 \l 2057 [34] [The Invention of Friends (Dunbar's Number)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O2qjRG6iV8M&t=97s)

CITATION Bru11 \l 2057 [35] <https://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0022656>

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| [5] | J. Zambas, "Top 25 Hardest Jobs in the World," CareerAddict, 25 10 2017. [Online]. Available: https://www.careeraddict.com/5-most-difficult-jobs-in-the-world. [Accessed 25 09 2020]. |
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| [12] | E. Sports, "Full Movie: Bra Boys - Russell Crowe, Koby Abberton, Sunny Abberton [HD]," YouTube, 12 08 2014. [Online]. Available: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YJM10sgMcig. [Accessed 20 09 2020]. |
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