

Thoughts and Discussion on Organizing Epicurean Community

Post by “Don” of January 2, 2026 at 11:59 AM

[Quote from Adrastus](#)

I also want to make the aesthetic choice to have it be a "Men's" group explicitly in the title in the same way the Boy Scouts allows girls if they really want to be there and fit in.

I would find it hard to square that circle. The Garden was famously open to everyone: friends, strangers; men, women; enslaved, free. That was one of the criticisms against it back in the day. Saying you want to explicitly create a "men's" group but would "allow" women "if they really want to be there and fit in" seems to go against the egalitarian nature of the Garden. I would find it hard to think of women who would want to join an explicitly "men's" group with that aim in its title. That said, if you want to create an Epicurean Men's Study Group, by all means, that's up to you and it could have its place. But I find the idea that women would be allowed if they fit in to be a little problematic.

The Boy Scouts example is actually a good example of why not to do this. In [an article from 2024](#): "starting in February of 2025, the entire organization will become *Scouting America* to reflect its commitment to serving all genders in all programs." So the entire organization is now Scouting America to be more inclusive.