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**“I HAVE THE BOWED LEGS OF A FAILED
FOOTBALLER”: AN INTERPRETATIVE
PHENOMENOLOGICAL STUDY OF BULGARIAN
MEN’S UNDERSTANDINGS OF GENDER,
AND MASCULINITY IN THE UK¹**

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Abstract: *This article used Interpretative Phenomenological Analysis to examine how individuals living in London and Edinburgh, and originating from Bulgaria, a former meeting point of East and West, understood masculinity and gender. The experience examined was that of being a Bulgarian man in the United Kingdom. The analysis illustrated three themes. They were that Bulgarian men interviewed spoke of doing what they thought was right while adhering to social norms, to conceiving of their bodies as partially an expression of their masculinity, and to the importance that they attached to collective structures. These results indicated some similarities with earlier studies done in the United Kingdom, especially Scotland.*

Keywords: masculinity; gender; Bulgaria; phenomenology.

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Contribution:

Peter Pangarov – Extract of the Master Thesis of the author, Research, Analysis and Results.

Billy Lee – Supervisor, Editor, Provider of the information basis of the analysis, preparation of the text for submission.

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