

CONTENTS

List of Figures	ix
Introduction	1
Part 1: Theoretical Reflections	7
1. On Bio-ethnography	9
2. Manhood	19
3. “Authentically Egyptian” Masculinity	29
Part 2: Sayyid’s Childhood (1950–65)	39
4. My Father and My Family	43
5. Working at Weddings with My Father	51
6. Reflections on Oral History and Gender	59
Part 3: Coming of Age (1965–77)	65
7. Frustrated Love and Thwarted Ambitions	69
8. Entering the Trade	79
9. Performing Masculinity: Sayyid’s Reflections on Being a Man	85
Part 4: Responsibilities (1977–86)	91
10. Marriage	95
11. Migration	103
12. Materializing Manhood: Sayyid’s Reflections on Money	113

Part 5: Becoming a Real Man (1987–2005)	119
13. A Respectable Job	123
14. Working Behind the Dancers	131
15. Friendship	137
16. Female Display of Manhood: Sayyid's Reflections on Womanhood	143
Part 6: Old Age (From 2005 Onward)	149
17. Entering Trade Union Politics	153
18. Pilgrimage to Mecca	159
19. Reflections on Manhood in the Making	171
Final Thoughts	177
Sayyid's Final Reflections	179
Notes	181
Glossary	195
Bibliography	201
Index	207