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This paper proposes a reflection on the meaning given to the masculine homoerotic relations in Roman society. It goes on from a perspective of sex-gender studies which link the discourse about sexuality, gender, and the social place of men. This way, it offers new possibilities of views about such relations besides the ideal conceptions of the Roman elites. It also analyzes discursive conflicts in the definition of “masculinity” as a way to justify the social place of each group. It uses literary documents and Pompeian inscriptions in a dialogue with new historiography works on the subject.