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## GENDER AND SEXUALITY IN MODERN COMEDY

Gender according to the Longman dictionary is fact of being male or female while sexuality is the things people think and feel that are related to their sexual desires

In the society the male always feel superior over the female

In Ben Johnson's "Volpone" Celia represent the epitome of feminist in renaissance literature, she is beautiful, submissive, quiet but her husband resist her control over her every movement. It is disturbing that her gender renders her a victim to the male characters such as cornovo and volpone who treat her as though she is a possession to be won. Johnson reveals hoe women are caught in a double bind

Though Celia is virtuous, she is kept under corvino's extremely careful and cruel control, corvine always keeps her indoors and forbids her from even venturing too close to a widow. At the time the play is set, men were responsible for finance and because of that they have power over women in relationship. Celia's sterling reputation initially gives her credibility in court, but her testimony is quickly undermined because she is a woman, she is considered to be an unreliable witness (even though she was a victim)

They believe that women are too emotional to be trustworthy and rational, even though the men who argue against her are known to be deceitful. The cruelty of the impossible position in which Celia finds herself in court illustrates that seventeenth century women couldn't win no matter how virtuous, women are considered to be inferior creatures

Jonson's position on gender roles can be clarified to an extent, through an examination of Corvine and Volpone, who in turn attempts to rape her. For a while it seems Volpone will get away with this rape attempt as several men conspire to say that Celia is lying about her accusation. At the end of the play, Volpone is punished but it seems that the primary reason for his punishment is his continuous deception of the play's other men rather than the attempted rape. It is difficult to discern Johnson's ultimate statement about sexual oppression. However it could argue that, while he shows sexual oppression violence to be reprehensible, Johnson believes that the oppression of the women is less important than the moral lesson about excessive desire and greed, lust and rape are bad

In the "Wives revolt" by J.P Clerk, the female gender were treated as though they don't belong to the society, in Erhuwaren street in urhobo they have a share which they always get from the government but the male share it among themselves and not only that they asked the women to drive their goats out of the village giving reason that some of them turn to goats in the night, they were not given the opportunity to contribute to the new rule and they implemented it giving them days to do that, the women got angry and had to protest, they left their community and went to Tothemortho eyara which is their enemy but their they faced another challenge of sexuality, a woman by name ighodayen who is known as the most gorgeous made of honor infected them by sitting on the toilet before them and infected them with a disease called cross-piece which is a pain in their vagina.