

THE PRESENTATION OF GENDER AND SEXUALITY IN ANY TWO MODERN COMIC WORK

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What is Gender?

Gender is the range of characteristics pertaining to, and differentiating between, masculinity and femininity. Depending on the context, these characteristics may include biological sex (i.e. the state of being male, female or an intersex variation which may complicate sex assignment), sex-based social structures (including gender roles and other social roles), or gender identity.

What is sexuality?

In its broadest sense "sexuality" describes the whole way a person goes about expressing himself or herself as a sexual being. It describes how important sexual expression is in a person's life, how one chooses to express that sexuality, and any preference one may have towards the type of sexual partner they choose. The way we choose to behave sexually is as individual and complicated as the ways we choose to dress or earn a living. Human sexuality rarely falls into neat categories or lends itself to simple labelling, but rather is a rich and complex area of human experience.

Presentation of gender and sexuality in Ben Jonson's *Volpone*.

In Ben Jonson's *Volpone*, Celia represents the epitome of femininity in Renaissance literature. She is beautiful, submissive, quiet and helpless to resist her husband's control over her every movement. Although it is disturbing that her gender renders her a victim to male characters such as Corvino and Volpone, who treat her as though she is a possession to be won, this essay seeks to unravel the reasons as to why masculinity is threatened by female strength and autonomy, not to victimize the female characters within Jonson's play or to vilify the men as the root of this injustice. Because masculinity and femininity can not exist without each other, both men and women must be voluntarily or forcibly complicit to function within this binary. By examining female sexuality and morality in not only the characterization of Celia but also that of Lady Would-Be Politic, Jonson reveals how women are caught in a double-bind within the patriarchal structure of Renaissance England; they must either conform to their feminine roles or risk being alienated from their communities. Celia, the wife of Corvino (one of Volpone's victims) has entirely conformed to the feminine role of a proper married woman.

Presentation of gender and sexuality in Wole Soyinka's "Lion and the Jewel"

Looking at Wole Soyinka "the Lion and The Jewel", gender and sexuality is seen in and out of the work. In the work, female gender is marginalized as property. They believe that female genders are properties that could be bought, sold or accumulated. Baroka, the king of Sidi's village married

several women and amid the wives are still young girls. The respect for female gender is lacked

that the old king engages in what can be called child abuse. It is seen as child abuse because the

youngest wife can be his daughter but they don't look at it as abusing the female gender and that

is even the reason why he still wants to marry Side as his wife as old as he is. He uses this as way

of getting between the legs of all the ladies he wants to have. It is the sexuality of Side that

makes Baroka to keep on persisting that he will marry her. The sexuality of the female gender

most of the time is what attracts the male gender to them. This is portrayed in the character of

Baroka and Lakunle in their quest to get Sidi as their wife. Even Lakunle who claims to be

modern still falls a victim of this act. He looks down on Sidi for having a smaller brain but it is

still the female sexuality of Sidi that attracts him to her. This comic work also presents the

female gender as people who can be as easily deceived. The character of Sidi and Sadiku is

deceived by Baroka that he is now impotent and Sadiku tells Sidi, who still believes what Sadiku

says without questioning what she has heard from Sadiku