

**UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA NSUKKA**

**DEPARTMENT**

**COMBINED SOCIAL SCIENCE**

**(POLITICAL SCIENCE/SOCIOLOGY&ANTHROPOLOGY)**

**AN ASSIGNMENT DONE IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF THE COURSE**

**SOCIAL CHANGE AND SOCIAL PROBLEM (SOC 251)**

**TOPIC**

**SOCIAL MEDIA AS AVEHICLE OF SOCIAL CHANGE AND SOCIAL  
PROBLEM IN THE SOCIETY**

**BY**

**ENE IRUOMA FAVOUR**

**REG.NO**

**2015/201184**

**LECTURER**

**DR.NWOKEOMA**

**JULY, 2017**

## **PRESENTATION OF GENDER AND SEXUALITY IN MODERN COMIC WORKS USING LION AND THE JEWEL AND WIVES REVOLT**

### **GENDER**

Gender is the fact of being male or female. It is a class, kind and sex in which one belongs. Gender identification as male/masculine and female/feminine is associated with social role or set of behavioural and cultural traits, clothing etc. in which an individual is categorized in a society. It is also the act of being biased or stereotyped as regards to sex judgement in the society. Gender inequality and suppression are vital issues in most most of developing African countries. A conscious and bold steps have been taken by our contemporary writers to use the literary work of art to present how negatively this affects our society. We shall study this using Wole Soyinka's *Lion and Jewel* and J.p Clark's *Wives Revolt*.

**In Soyinka's *Lion and Jewel***, the titular character Sidi is faced with two lovers Lakule and Baroke. Soyinka used the character of Lakule to represent the western ideology and pattern of life which violates the societal norms and values of Africans. Lakule has no respect and value for womanhood and norms, he thought that woman like every other commodities can be acquired for free. He did not see them as something precious that worth spending your resources on.

When he met Sidi, he professed his love for her but stood on the ground of paying no bride price. Sidi tried all she could to make him

understand the important but he maintained his ground. When Sidi was defiled by the king Baroke, Lakule learnt what happened and told Sidi that since she is no more a virgin, she should accept this marriage without bride price, seeing no reason in respecting her value and doing the necessary thing. Also, by Lakule's taking her loss of virginity as an escape of doing what is supposed to do shows societal demand, influence and value of female virginity. Soyinka did not in any way ask Lakule if he is a virgin but the society will always stand on the female being a virgin as a prerequisite for marriage and courtesy which is gender bias.

In the side of Baroke, Soyinka used him to show us how women are being marginalised in the society. Baroke is a married man who is loved by his wives but keep looking and admiring young ladies. This shows men's unfaithfulness to their wives upon all the loyalty and obedient of the wives.

Also, women here were showed as commodity which you use and drop any time you want. Baroke keep marrying and marrying. His third wife, Adiatu who was closer to him was chased away when Sidi came to the house. This shows no respect for her feelings and emotions.

Baroke's forceful advances and love affair with Sidi is a gender suppression. Sidi is a girl that can be a grand daughter to Baroke, but he used his influence to subdue her and made mess of her life without paying her bride price or marrying her officially. All these are the way society keeps

molesting and abusing woman gender in Africa setting represented in the work of art.

In J.P Clark's *Wives Revolt*, the play depicts what is happening in Nigga Delta region of Nigeria. Here, these people see women as a sex object, being useful only in bed and bearing of children. Having mouth but can not talk.

In the work, a natural resources was discovered and when it was extracted, it was sold and the money gotten. It was shared among men neglecting the women as a member of society. This dividence was enjoyed alone by the male folk and when these women arised to talk/protest. The men in turn inflicted more harm on them by killing the only domestic animal they keep as a source of livelihood claiming that the women are using it as a means to bewitch them. The women planned and left the village but these people did not see it as being important to llok for them. They travelled across villages but these men showed adamant to their feelings and emotions.

## **SEXUALITY**

Sexuality is something that is characterised or distinguished by sex. It is an interest and concern for sexual activities. It is represented in so many works of art but I shall also use Soyinka *Lion and Jewel* and Clarks *Wives Revolt* as a case of study.

In *Lion and Jewel*, Baroke is presented by Soyinka as a sex maniac. He is married to several women but still not satisfied. He showed a Machvillian character and a trickery to get what he want. He knows that under normal circumstance that Sidi will not accept him. He pretended to be impotent and eventually ended in disfiguring her.

He (Baroke) did not even consider the fact that he is married, nor the age gap between both of them. He did not consider the fact that he is not officially married to her but followed his urge.

Also in Clark's *Wives Revolt*, these women reached a particular place when prostitution is used as an occupation and they started befriending them not minding their marital status (those women are married and those men are also married and those men are also married but did not consider that). In this work, there is a high sense of sexuality and sex orientation.

When those of their husband came for them, most of them have been infected by several diseases which they later transfer to their husband and it kept spreading.