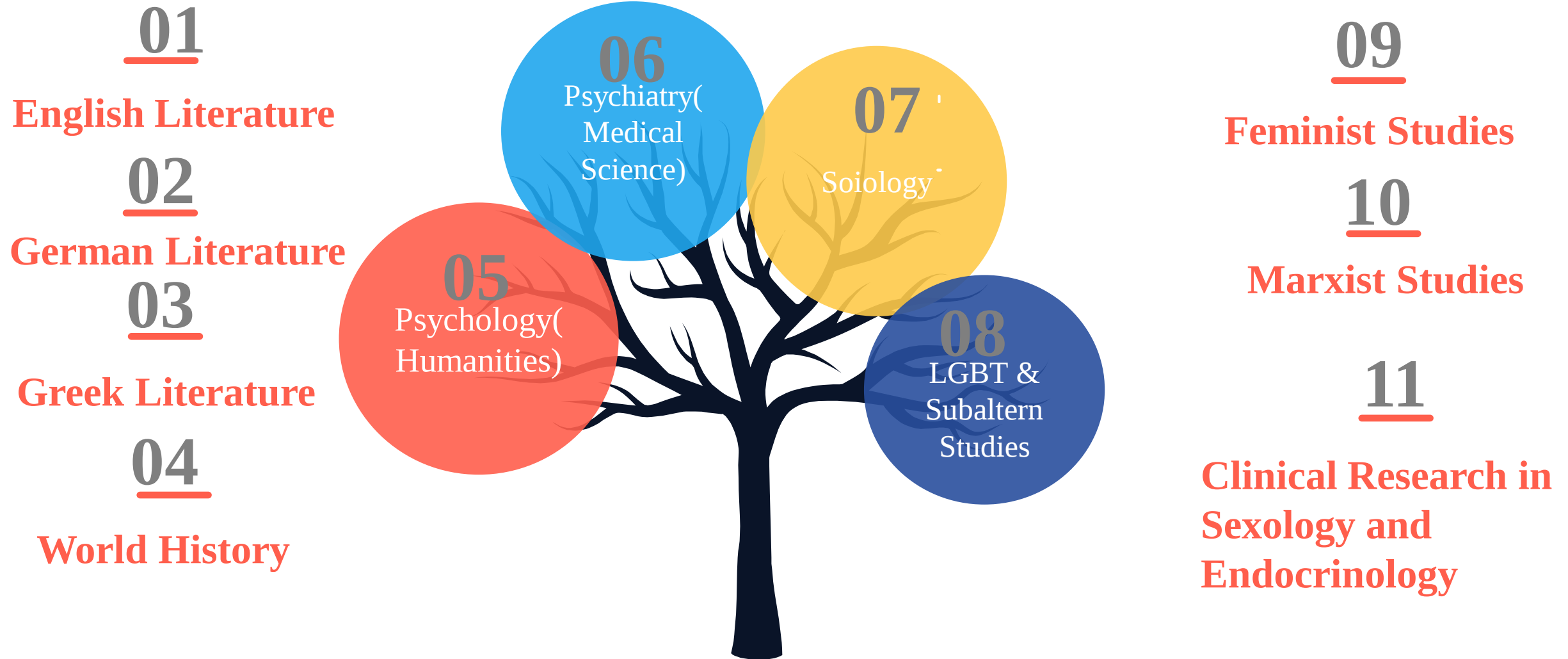


**A RECONSIDERATION OF THE
PLAYS ADAPTED BY BERTOLT
BRECHT TO SUIT THE
EXIGENCIES OF THE FEMINIST
THEATRE**

**FOR THE DEGREE OF
DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN ENGLISH**

**BY
KULKARNI PURNIMA SALIL
UNDER THE GUIDANCE OF
DR. ASHOK THORAT**

A RECONSIDERATION OF THE PLAYS ADAPTED BY BERTOLT BRECHT TO SUIT THE EXIGENCIES OF THE FEMINIST THEATRE



The Thesis Reconsiders The Following Brechtian Adaptations For Scrutiny

Originals (Years First Produced)	Brecht's Adaptations (Years First Produced)
Sophocles' Antigone (441 BC) Jean Anouilh's Antigone (1942) First performed in Paris in 1944 during Nazi occupation	Antigone_(1947-48)
Christopher Marlowe's Edward II (Elizabethan age: 1592)	The Life of Edward II of England(1924)
John Webster's The Duchess of Malfi (Jacobean age: 1614)	The Duchess of Malfi (1943)
John Gay's Beggar's Opera (Augustan age:1728)	The Threepenny Opera

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Aristotle's Dramatic Theory vs Brecht's Dramatic Theory



- Dramatic
- Catharsis
- Hamartia
- Pathos
- Theatre for Entertainment

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- Epic
- Verfremdungseffekt
- Theatre of Scientific age
- Social Dialectical Drama
- Instrument of Social Change

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Sophocles' Phenomenal Works



Ajax
Antigone
Oedipus Rex
Electra
Oedipus Colonus

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Sophocles' Antigone

vs

Brecht's Antigone



- Written in 414 BC
- Follows the Dramatic model
- Antigone : A Tragic Figure
- Antigone accused for Blasphemy
- Antigone as mouthpiece of Self Conviction and Self Respect

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- Written during the Nazi Period
- Follows the Epic model
- Antigone as a Anti-Hitlerite Figure
- Antigone accused of Opposing Despotism
- Antigone as Radical Feminist

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Hitler's Attitude to Women Opponents of Nazi Party

- Social Restrictions
 - Procreation
 - Oppression
- Physical Torture
 - Death
 - Brutal Punishment
 - Violence
- Psychological Barriers
 - Repression
 - Suppression
 - Depression
- Dietary Restrictions
 - Millet
 - Wine
 - Starvation



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Marlowe's Phenomenal Works



- Doctor Faustus
- Jew of Malta
- Tamburlaine the great
- Edward II

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Marlowe's Edward II

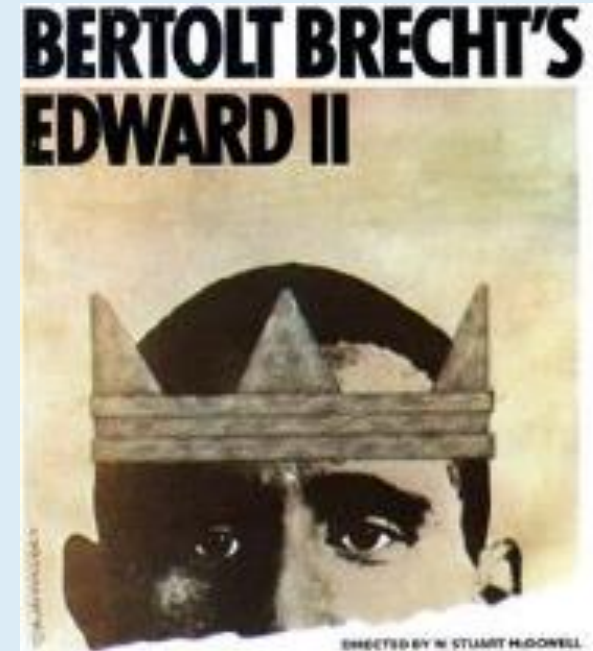


- Homosexuality Camouflaged
- The word “sex” replaced with the word “sport”
- Male Bonding and Friendship
- Edward as a Misogynist
- Edward as an Irresponsible Monarch

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vs

Brecht's Edward II



- Homosexuality Flagrant
- Sex used to depict Gay Love Affair
- The Male Protagonist as Bisexual
- Edward as an Anti Feminist
- Edward as an Irresponsible Husband

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Marlowe's Queen

vs

Brecht's Queen



- Victim of Patriarchal Despotism
- Extra Marital Affair Unjustified
- Pathetic Figure

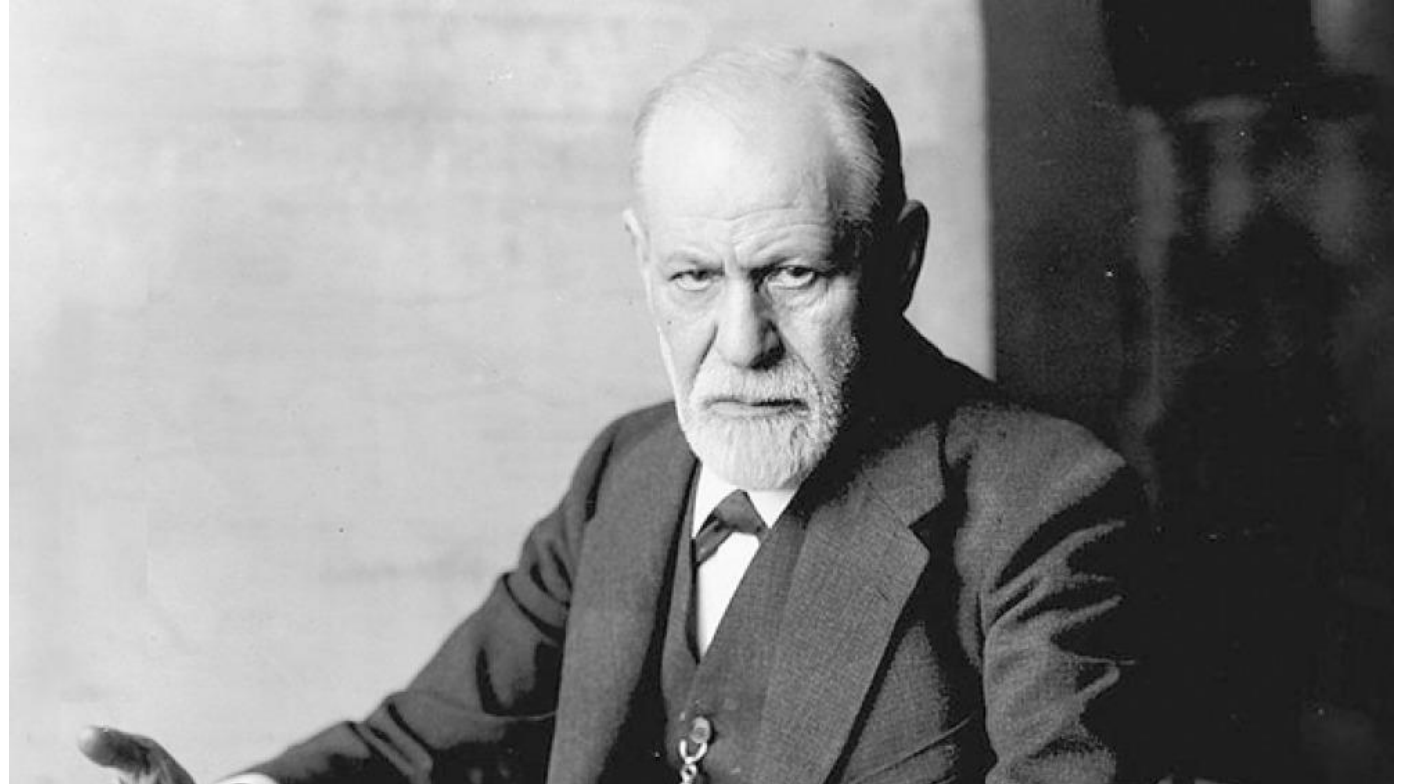


- Victim of a Homosexual Love Affair
- Extra Marital Affair Justified
- Mouthpiece of Bonnie Kaye "A Gay Husband Activist"

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Freud's Views on Sexuality

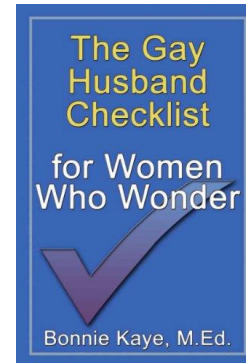
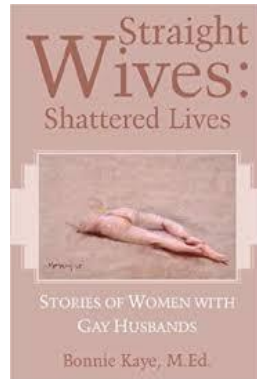
- The Theory Of Sexuality
- Homoeroticism
- Bisexuality
- Anatomical, Mental And Psychological Aspects Of Sex
- Homosexuality Vs Heterosexuality
- Unfocused Sexual Libidinal Drive
- Sexual Inversion : Separation of Procreations and Sexual Activity
- Sexual Aberrations



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Bonnie Kaye's Official Gay Husband Checklist

- Absence Of Opposite Sex Arousal
- Erectile Dysfunction
- Decline Of Sexual Activity After Procreation
- Absurd Changes In Personality
- Blaming The Partner For Being Over Sexed And Aggressive
- Feeling Of Being Trapped In Marriage
- Pops Up Of Gay Pornography
- Oxytocin Boosts In A Homosexual Relationship



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Carolyn Moos: Celebrity Basket Ball Player



- Her Husband Jason Colins Turned Gay After Marriage
- Her Hopes To Have Children Were Completely Shattered

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Webster's Phenomenal works

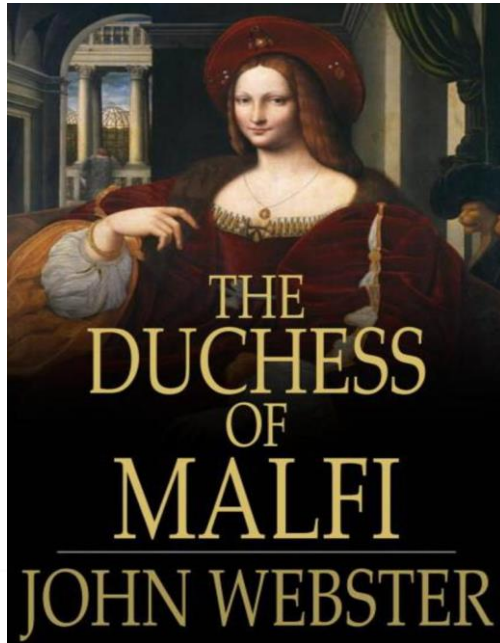


Jacobean Play Wright
Duchess Of Malfi And The White Devil

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Webster's Duchess vs



- Ferdinand's Incestuous Desire Camouflaged Under The Cover Of Sexual Innuendos
- Duchess' Name Not Mentioned Throughout
- Ferdinand Suffers From A Psychological Problem Called Lycanthropia
- Webster's Ferdinand Symbolizes Sexual Voyeurism

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Brecht's Duchess



- Ferdinand's Incestuous ` Desire For His Sister Is Made Prominent
- Duchess' Name Angelica Teresa
- Ferdinand Absolutely Conscious Of His Desire And Retains His Sanity
- Brecht's Ferdinand Symbolizes Fraternal Phallocentrism

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Radical Feminist Andrew Dworkin



- Pornography And Male Supremacy
- Unequal Power Relationships
- Portrayal Of Women as Sex Objects
- Women Treated Either As Virgins Or Whores
- Offence Against Women

John Gay's Phenomenal works



- Beggar's opera (1728)
- His verses include The Shepherd's Week (1714)
- Trivia

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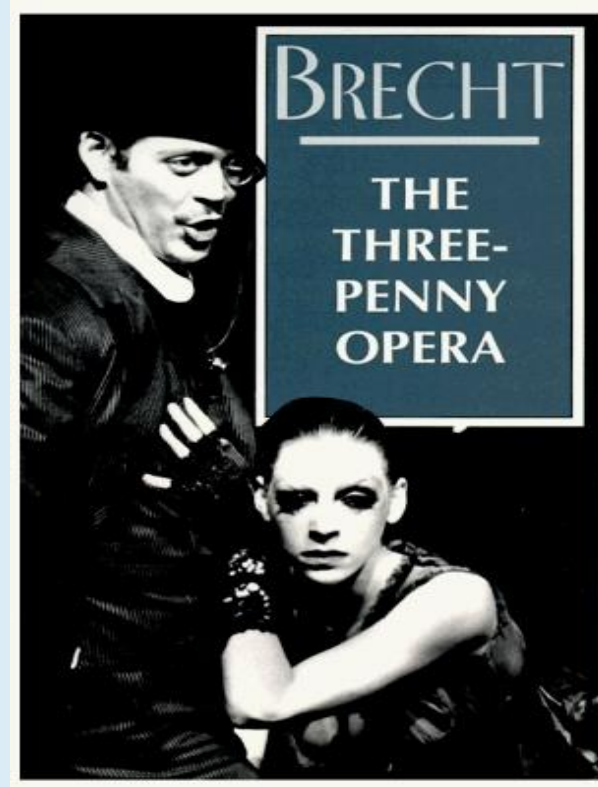
Beggar's Opera

vs Three Penny Opera



- Restoration Comedy.
- References To Prostitution As A Lascivious Activity.
- Secrete History Of Georgian London.
- Audacious Ebullient And Uninhibited Portrayal Of Sex Workers.

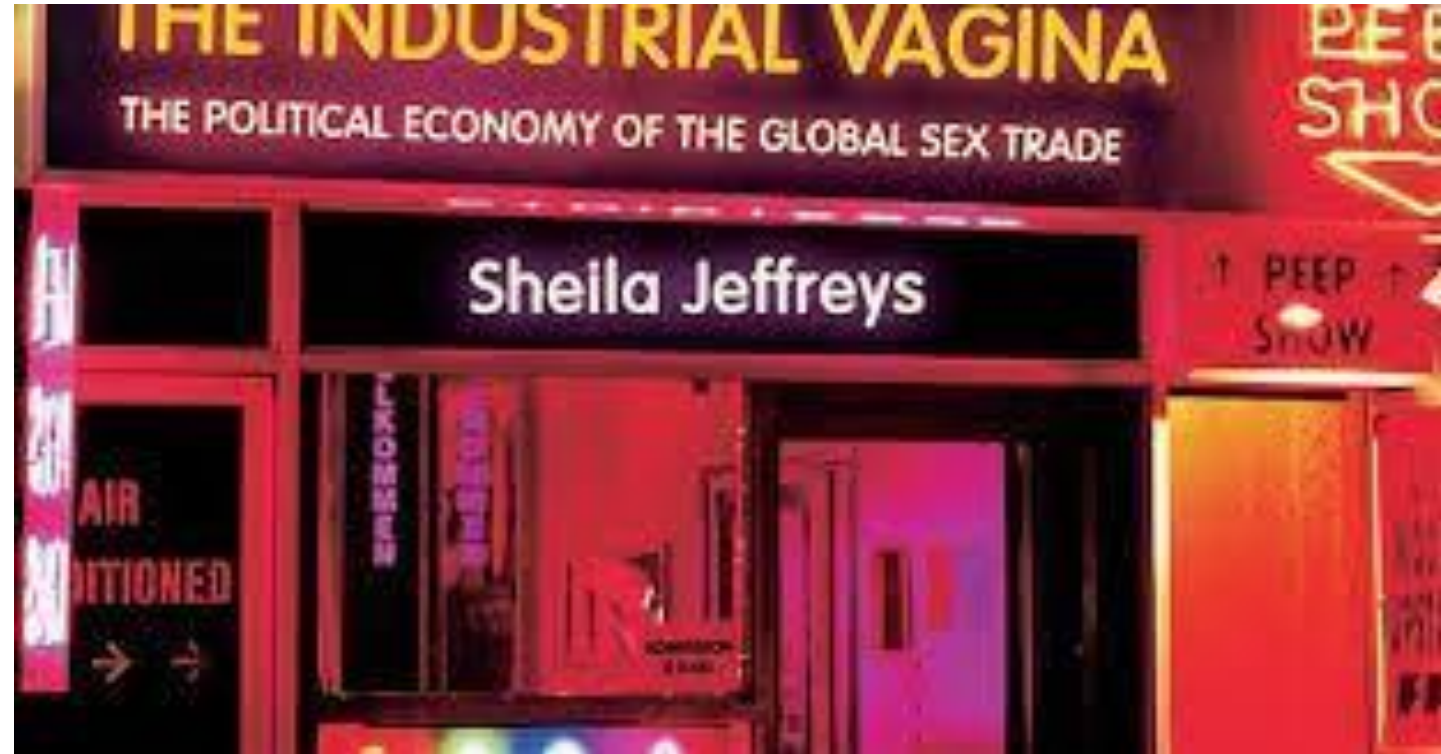
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- Example Of Epic Theatre.
- Reference To Sex Workers As A Lucrative Business Opportunity.
- Scope Of Research For Third Wave Feminists.
- Under Played And Under Stated Portrayal Of Prostitutes.

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Revolution In Sex Trade



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Emancipation of Sex Workers through Brecht's Three penny opera

The researcher raises the following questions

- Do the Brechtian sex workers become victims of patriarchal oppression?
- How do we validate and make known the experiences of female characters in Brecht?
- Should Sex work be eliminated or encouraged ?

Various Feminist views

- Marxist Feminist View
- Domination Feminist View
- Liberal Feminist view
- Radical Feminist View



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Conclusion

- It Is A Meaningful Comparative Study Between Original Plays And Brechtian Adaptations.
- The Research Would Enhance Women's Study Circles All Over The World And Will Play A Pivotal Role In Areas Like Brechtian Theatrical Techniques, Their Relevance Today, Their Affinities With Feminism And Feminist Theatre.
- The Research Has A Wide Range Of Pedagogical Implications.
- All The Adaptations Are Suited To Empower The Audience By Bringing In A Positive Social Change

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Thank You

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