

The Socio-cultural Depiction of a Swazi Woman

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ABSTRACT This paper is a feminist study on character portrayal in Swazi plays and society. A Swazi woman is portrayed as a character who assumes various roles in literary work: the cruel killer; jobless, a witch, an object and a heartless creature. The main focus of feminist standpoint is to look at the experiences of women and the meaning that is attached to those experiences. It emphasizes gender inequality and the power imbalance in socio-cultural situations. It is a qualitative study which depicts various socio-cultural incidents. The portrayal of women in the plot structure of some cited Swazi plays from exposition, dialogue, conflict and climax to denouement, reflect a stereotyped perception. Culture in general, is looked at in relation to gender and the feminists approach.