**Annotated Bibliography**

**Shakespeare’s approach to love and conflict in reference to his classic play Othello**

Kirsch, Arthur. *Shakespeare and Experience of Love*. Cambridge University Press, 1981.

Arthur Kirsch in his study of Shakespeare works mainly focuses on analyzing the concepts that made Shakespeare’s work legendary. He explores Shakespeare’s plays such as Othello and Measure of Measure where he believes that the concepts of conflict and love approached by Shakespeare can be related to religion and psychology. In his explanation of the concept of love, he studies the characters in Othello such as Desdemona and Iago in trying to explain love and conflicts that develop from betrayal. He thinks that the

Nordlund, Marcus. *Shakespeare and the nature of love: Literature, culture, evolution*.

Northwestern University Press, 2007. Nordlund evaluates the characteristics of love found in the works of Shakespeare. In this book, he believes love to be defined through cultural, evolutional and historical concept hence analyzing Shakespeare works through these lenses gives a different perspective of what Shakespeare love is. The types of love portrayed in Shakespeare’s work according to Nordlund are from cultural and social perspectives. These four types of Shakespeare love are romantic love, duty, friendship, and problematic love. Problematic love is expressed in one of his classical works Othello through jealousy. Other types of love in this play include duty, romantic love, and friendship.

Nowottny, Winifred. "Justice and Love in Othello." *University of Toronto Quarterly* 21.4 (1954): 330-344.

The author evaluates Shakespeare’s play Othello in order to explain how justice and love relate in the play. In this article, the author, therefore, focuses on the Moor in Act V where he explains that Shakespeare intended the play as a measure of how justice is perceived in relation to love cases. In this act with the moor being represented as the administrator of justice, the play seeks to emphasize the intensity of Othello’s crimes against Desdemona.

Schalkwyk, David. *Shakespeare, Love and Service*. Cambridge University Press, 2008.

Schalkwyk explores how most relationships in the historical era of Shakespeare were believed to involve some type of love. This being the basis of his book he analyzes how Shakespeare’s work could be explained following this concept. He evaluates Shakespeare’s plays and sonnets trying to explain how love relationships revolved around the social and structural definitions of service. Love was therefore seen to be determined by social conditions determined by the society as well as structural societal status. Relationships governed by structural societal status defined the interactions between monarchs and their subjects, masters and their slaves as well as aristocrats and their personal servant.

Stavropoulos, Janet C. "Love and Age in" Othello"."*Shakespeare Studies* 19 (1987): 125.

The author believes that Shakespearean work has been famed to reflect conflicting themes and concepts such as love and hate. In the play Othello, she explains that it is no different as some of the contrasting themes include love and hate, revenge and justice as well as truth and lies. She explains therefore that these contradicting concepts are used by Shakespeare to explain the social norms and expectations at this time where the differences of color between Desdemona and Othello were not acceptable despite Othello being a respectable man.

Sternberg, Robert J. "Love as a story." Journal of social and personal relationships 12.4 (1995): 541-546.

Sternberg in this article explores the characteristics of love stories as they occur in books where he explores Shakespeare’s work. In this article, he explores, in general, the relationships as stories citing examples from Shakespeare’s work such as Othello. The author seeks to define what these stories of love look like, where the stories originate and how the relationships in the stories develop. Sternberg describes the characteristics of an ideal story in regards to the theories of love where Shakespeare’s works seem to fit perfectly.