

## Critical Thinking About Sex Love And Romance In The Mass Media Media Literacy Applications Routledge Communication Series

This introduction to critical thinking focuses on an integrated, universal concept of critical thinking that is both substantive and practical. It provides students with the basic intellectual skills they need to think through content in any class, subject, or discipline, and through any problems or issues they face. Now available from Rowman & Littlefield, Richard Paul and Linda Elder's *Critical Thinking: Learn the Tools the Best Thinkers Use* focuses on the most basic critical thinking concepts. It includes activities that allow readers to apply these concepts within disciplines and to life. An added feature to this brief book is a focus on close reading and substantive writing. Content highlights include: Think for Yourself activities Discovering the parts of thinking and the standards for thinking Learning to formulate clear and substantive questions Making the design of a course work for you Close reading and substantive writing Becoming a fairminded thinker

Recent years have witnessed an astonishing cultural and legal shift when it comes to homosexuality and same-sex marriage. Many Christians see these changes as a defeat for Christian values, often painting Christian opponents as sell-outs to secular culture. But can there be a genuinely Christian case for same-sex marriage? This book makes that case. While sensitive to scriptural issues, it focuses on a question that cannot be answered by Scripture alone: What does love for our gay and lesbian neighbors demand? This question calls us to pair theological, philosophical, and scriptural reflection with something else: attention to gay and lesbian lives. We must attend to the psychological research and, more importantly, to the stories our gay and lesbian neighbors tell us about themselves and their experience. Love does not permit us to plug our ears with Bible verses. While this book argues that Christian love calls us to make same-sex marriage available, the deeper conclusion is that Christian values prevail when we wrestle with these questions in a spirit of love: love for those with whom we disagree, and love for those most affected by the decisions we reach.

An overview of the novel features a biographical sketch of the African American author, a list of characters, a summary of the plot, and critical and analytical views of the work.

"Bitten by Twilight presents us with an enlightened look into the world of vampires, werewolves, and fan culture and romance narratives. The editors and contributors to this book appreciate the significance of the stories, movies, and artifacts as a culturally gendered phenomenon and present a variety of lenses through which to appreciate this popular franchise."---Norma Pecora, Author of *The Business of Children's Entertainment*; Professor, School of Media Arts and Studies, Ohio University. --

The landmark story of how interracial love and marriage changed American history—and continues to alter the landscape of American politics When Mildred and Richard Loving wed in 1958, they were ripped from their shared bed and taken to court. Their crime: miscegenation, punished by exile from their home state of Virginia. The resulting landmark decision of *Loving v. Virginia* ended bans on interracial marriage and remains a signature case—the first to use the words “white supremacy” to describe such racism. Drawing from the earliest chapters in US history, legal scholar Sheryll Cashin reveals the enduring legacy of America’s original sin, tracing how we transformed from a country without an entrenched construction of race to a nation where one drop of nonwhite blood merited exclusion from full citizenship. In vivid detail, she illustrates how the idea of whiteness was created by the planter class of yesterday and is reinforced by today’s power-hungry dog-whistlers to divide struggling whites and people of color, ensuring plutocracy and undermining the common good. Not just a hopeful treatise on the future of race relations in America, *Loving* challenges the notion that trickle-down progressive politics is our only hope for a more inclusive society. Accessible and sharp, Cashin reanimates the possibility of a future where interracial understanding serves as a catalyst of a social revolution ending not in artificial color blindness but in a culture where acceptance and difference are celebrated.

Developed for use in courses on mass media and society, media studies, and media literacy, this book offers diverse theoretical perspectives and methodological approaches on the representation of romantic relationships across the media spectrum, including.

*Women's Lives: A Psychological Exploration*, 3rd Edition draws on a wealth of the literature to present a rich range of experiences and issues of relevance to girls and women. This text offers the unique combination of a chronological approach to gender that is embedded within topical chapters. Cutting-edge and comprehensive, each chapter integrates current material on women differing in age, ethnicity, social class, nationality, sexual orientation and ableness. The third edition reflects substantial changes in the field while maintaining its empirical focus through engaging writing, student activities, and critical thinking exercises. With over 2,100 new references emphasizing the latest research and theories, the authors continue to pique interests in psychology of women. *Critical Thinking 101* is meant to assist the American Voter in selecting candidates based on important key information. In the United States of America we have the opportunity to select people to represent us in local, state, and national government. The privilege of voting must be taken seriously since our choices impact nearly every aspect of our life. Therefore, we should to the best of our ability become informed citizens so that we may vote in our best interest to the fullest extent possible. This book explores numerous topics which will enhance the readers awareness of the issues and provides a concise range of ideas that will stimulate critical thinking. Also included are several chapters which will present useful information of specific health and daily management issues.

Sex and sexuality are undoubtedly on your mind. So don't you want a human sexuality text that's hip, that reflects your life situation, and that answers the questions you're eager to learn about but hesitant to ask? Filled with the information that students like you want and need to learn, the fifth edition of this with it text hits the mark as it addresses concerns that students have about themselves and their sexuality with scientific fact, sensitivity, unmatched candor, and humor. Beyond simply providing a foundation in the biology and psychology of sexuality, *SEXUALITY NOW: EMBRACING DIVERSITY* connects with you and other students by exploring contemporary issues, changing sexual practices and behaviors, and their impact. Complemented by informative illustrations and photographs, the book covers the range of sexual orientations, preferences, and behaviors and takes into account the diverse social, religious, ethnic, racial, and cultural contexts of today's students. The result is that you'll find lots of material to relate to as well as eye-opening discussions about sexuality today on college campuses, within the United States, and around the world. Important Notice: Media content referenced within the product description or the product text may not be available in the ebook version.

Only a generation or two ago, childhood in the United States was understood to be a unique and vulnerable stage of development; a time for play and protection from adult preoccupations and responsibilities. In recent decades however, we appear to have jettisoned these norms, and the lines that separate the lifestyles of even very young children from adults are blurring. As widely known experts on the team that

created this book explain, children begin formal education now in preschool, dress like adults, listen to the same music, play the same video games, explore the same Internet sites, and watch explicit depictions of sex and violence on TV and in movies. What is the impact of immersing children in a sexualized world? The Sexualization of Childhood first explains the nature of healthy sexual development. It then describes the ways in which children are being sexualized, and the physical and psychological consequences. It then looks at the lower and lower age at which girls are experiencing puberty, that reduction being fueled by the pseudoestrogens in so many of our foods and products, as well as obesity. Finally, it examines what we can do legally, politically, and as caregivers to protect children from developmentally inappropriate sexual experiences.

Gender: Psychological Perspectives synthesizes the latest research on gender to help students think critically about the differences between research findings and stereotypes, provoking them to examine and revise their own preconceptions. The text examines the behavioral, biological, and social context in which women and men express gendered behaviors. The text's unique pedagogical program helps students understand the portrayal of gender in the media and the application of gender research in the real world. Headlines from the news open each chapter to engage the reader. Gendered Voices present true personal accounts of people's lives. According to the Media boxes highlight gender-related coverage in newspapers, magazines, books, TV, and movies, while According to the Research boxes offer the latest scientifically based research to help students analyze the accuracy and fairness of gender images presented in the media. Additionally, Considering Diversity sections emphasize the cross-cultural perspective of gender. This text is intended for undergraduate or graduate courses on the psychology of gender, psychology of sex, psychology of women or men, gender issues, sex roles, women in society, and women's or men's studies. It is also applicable to sociology and anthropology courses on diversity. Seventh Edition Highlights: 12 new headlines on topics ranging from gender and the Flynn effect to gender stereotyping that affects men Coverage of gender issues in aging adults and transgendered individuals Expanded coverage of diversity issues in the US and around the globe, including the latest research from China, Japan, and Europe More tables, figures, and photos to provide summaries of text in an easy-to-absorb format End-of-chapter summaries and glossary Suggested readings for further exploration of chapter topics Companion website at [www.routledge.com/cw/Brannon](http://www.routledge.com/cw/Brannon) containing both instructor and student resources

This collection analyzes twenty-first-century American television programs that rely upon temporal and narrative experimentation. These shows play with time, slowing it down to unfold the narrative through time retardation and compression. They disrupt the chronological flow of time itself, using flashbacks and insisting that viewers be able to situate themselves in both the present and the past narrative threads.

Although temporal play has existed on the small screen prior to the new millennium, never before has narrative time been so freely adapted in mainstream television. The essayists offer explanations for not only the frequency of time play in contemporary programming, but the implications of its sometimes disorienting presence. Drawing upon the fields of cultural studies, television scholarship, and literary studies, as well as overarching theories concerning postmodernity and narratology, *Time in Television Narrative* offers some critical suggestions. The increasing number of television programs concerned with time may stem from any and all of the following: recent scientific approaches to quantum physics and temporality; new conceptions of history and posthistory; or trends in late-capitalistic production and consumption, in the new culture of instantaneity, or in the recent trauma culture amplified after the September 11 attacks. In short, these televisual time experiments may very well be an aesthetic response to the climate from which they derive. These essays analyze both ends of this continuum and also attend to another crucial variable: the television viewer watching this new temporal play.

Social media and new social facilities have made it necessary to develop new media design processes with different communication strategies in order to promote sustainable communication. Visual communication emphasizes messages that are transmitted through visual materials in order to effectively communicate emotions, thoughts, and concepts using symbols instead of words. Social networks present an ideal environment for utilizing this communication technique. *New Media and Visual Communication in Social Networks* is a pivotal scholarly publication that examines communication strategies in the context of social media and new digital media platforms and explores the effects of visual communication on social networks, visual identity, television, magazines, newspapers, and more. Highlighting a range of topics such as consumer behavior, visual identity, and digital pollution, this book is essential for researchers, practitioners, entrepreneurs, policymakers, and educators.

Today's media landscape is changing faster than ever, and students are experiencing these developments firsthand. *Media & Culture* pulls back the curtain on the media and shows students what all these new trends and developments really mean — giving students the deeper insight and context they need to become informed media critics. The 2013 Update also includes the must-cover events and trends students need to know to become informed media consumers and critics — from social media's influence on political events like the Occupy Wall Street movement and the Arab Spring revolutions and what the News Corp. phone-hacking scandal means for journalism to the continued growth of television streaming and apps and the advent of tablet-only newspapers. Read the preface.

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This book trains students to distinguish high-quality, well-supported arguments from arguments with little or no evidence to support them. It develops the skills required to effectively evaluate the many claims facing them as citizens, learners, consumers, and human beings, and also to be effective advocates for their beliefs. Chapter topics include the foundations of arguments, reality and value assumptions and ethics, inductive arguments and generalizations, reasoning errors, the power of language, media literacy, fairmindedness, and persuasive speaking. For critical thinkers who want to be discerning about the messages they read or hear; make decisions based on careful consideration of both facts and values; be alert to distortion in reporting and advertising; and, defend their own viewpoints.

Students need a book which can show them actual means of thinking their way into literary texts. Too often they are put off by the resistant surface of literature, or made apprehensive by its eminence, or are convinced that there is nothing more than the obvious to be said about it. This book aims to meet this need. It seeks to involve the student in the actual process of thinking about literature, showing how to start with one idea and move to further and often new insights. To this end it presents a series of demonstrations in which the reader is invited to participate, without having to accept the author's own interpretations.

An engaging and accessible introduction to a broad range of critical approaches to contemporary mass media theory and research A decade after its first publication, *Critical Media Studies* continues to shape and define the field of media studies, offering innovative approaches that enable readers to explore the modern media landscape from a wide variety of perspectives. Integrating foundational theory and contemporary research, this groundbreaking text offers the most comprehensive set of analytical approaches currently available. Twelve critical perspectives—pragmatic, rhetorical, sociological, erotic, ecological, and others—enable readers to assess and evaluate the social and cultural consequences of contemporary media in their daily lives. The new third edition includes up-to-date content that reflects the current developments and cutting-edge research in the field. New or expanded material includes changing perceptions of race and gender, the impact of fandom on the media, the legacy of the television age, the importance of media literacy in the face of “fake news”, and developments in industry regulations and U.S. copyright law. This textbook: Presents clear, reader-friendly chapters organized by critical perspective Features up-to-date media references that resonate with modern readers Incorporates enhanced and updated pedagogical features throughout the text Offers extensively revised content for greater clarity, currency, and relevance Includes fully updated illustrations, examples, statistics, and

further readings Critical Media Studies, 3rd Edition is the ideal resource for undergraduate students in media studies, cultural studies, popular culture, communication, rhetoric, and sociology, graduate students new to critical perspectives on the media, and scholars in the field.

This book is the first comprehensive and systematic study of cross-class romance films throughout the history of American cinema. It provides vivid discussions of these romantic films, analyses their normative patterns and thematic concerns, traces how they were shaped by inequalities of gender and class in American society, and explains why they were especially popular from World War I through the roaring twenties and the Great Depression. In the vast majority of cross-class romance films the female is poor or from the working class, the male is wealthy or from the upper class, and the romance ends successfully in marriage or the promise of marriage.

A straight-talking guide for modern parents by a former director of New York City public school health education explains how and when to talk to young children about sex and sexuality, sharing practical advice on topics ranging from sexting and cyberbullying to self-esteem and early sexual activity rates. Original.

A psychologist and bestselling author redefines love and sex addiction as a spectrum disorder, and offers a new approach for healing. For anyone who has wondered Why does everyone else seem to be able to make romantic relationships work, and I can't? What's wrong with me? Why is love so hard? Psychologist and bestselling memoirist Kerry Cohen is all too familiar with the questions she often hears from her clients—and has asked herself. Even though sex and love are some of the most universal, sought-after experiences we have, many of us lack the tools and understanding to approach them in a healthy way. Without knowing it, many people struggling with sex and love actually fall somewhere on the spectrum of sex and love addiction (SLA). Sex and love addiction is still wildly misunderstood. It's shrouded in secrecy and shame, and many counselors lack the training to address it—leaving people who need help without resources. Yet SLA isn't a binary of you are or you aren't, rather, it's a spectrum. Kerry Cohen knows this all too well as both a therapist and someone who identifies on the SLA spectrum. Based on research and her own clinical experience, Crazy for You dives into SLA and provides an inclusive framework for understanding relationships, along with practical exercises and advice for self-assessment, discovery, and healing: Part one explains the sex and love addiction spectrum, helping you determine where you fall on it and how you got there Part two introduces strategies for breaking the spell of sex and love addiction, like behavior modifications and self-awareness techniques Part three teaches you how to navigate healthy, safe, and fulfilling relationships

Shonda Rhimes is one of the most powerful players in contemporary American network television. Beginning with her break-out hit series Grey's Anatomy, she has successfully debuted Private Practice, Scandal, How to Get Away with Murder, The Catch, For The People, and Station 19. Rhimes's work is attentive to identity politics, "post-" identity politics, power, and representation, addressing innumerable societal issues. Rhimes intentionally addresses these issues with diverse characters and story lines that center, for example, on interracial friendships and relationships, LGBTIQ relationships and parenting, the impact of disability on familial and work dynamics, and complex representations of womanhood. This volume serves as a means to theorize Rhimes's contributions and influence by inspiring provocative conversations about television as a deeply politicized institution and exploring how Rhimes fits into the implications of twenty-first century television.

An award-winning author and transdisciplinary social scientist offers a must-read guide to paradigm change for creating a socially and ecologically sustainable future.

Great Myths of Intimate Relationships provides a captivating, pithy introduction to the subject that challenges and demystifies the many fabrications and stereotypes surrounding relationships, attraction, sex, love, internet dating, and heartbreak. The book thoroughly interrogates the current research on topics such as attraction, sex, love, internet dating, and heartbreak Takes an argument driven approach to the study of intimate relationships, encouraging critical engagement with the subject Part of The Great Myths series, it's written in a style that is compelling and succinct, making it ideal for general readers and undergraduates The Palgrave Handbook of Critical Thinking in Higher Education provides a single compendium on the nature, function, and applications of critical thinking. This book brings together the work of top researchers on critical thinking worldwide, covering questions of definition, pedagogy, curriculum, assessment, research, policy, and application.

Serialized storytelling provides intriguing opportunities for critical representations of age and aging. In contrast to the finite character of films, television narratives can unfold across hundreds of episodes and multiple seasons. Contemporary viewing practices and new media technologies have resulted in complex television narratives, in which experimental temporalities and revisions of narrative linearity and chronological time have become key features. As the first of its kind, this volume investigates how TV series as a powerful cultural medium shape representations of age and aging, such as in »Orange Is The New Black«, »The Wire« or »Desperate Housewives«, to understand what it means to live in time.

A rising star in philosophy examines the cultural, social, and scientific interpretations of love to answer one of our most enduring questions What is love? Aside from being the title of many a popular love song, this is one of life's perennial questions. In What Love Is, philosopher Carrie Jenkins offers a bold new theory on the nature of romantic love that reconciles its humanistic and scientific components. Love can be a social construct (the idea of a perfect fairy tale romance) and a physical manifestation (those anxiety-inducing heart palpitations); we must recognize its complexities and decide for ourselves how to love. Motivated by her own polyamorous relationships, she examines the ways in which our parameters of love have recently changed-to be more accepting of homosexual, interracial, and non-monogamous relationships-and how they will continue to evolve in the future. Full of anecdotal, cultural, and scientific reflections on love, What Love Is is essential reading for anyone seeking to understand what it means to say "I love you." Whether young or old, gay or straight, male or female, polyamorous or monogamous, this book will help each of us decide for ourselves how we choose to love.

This electronic version has been made available under a Creative Commons (BY-NC-ND) open access license. Table for one: A critical reading of singlehood, gender and time is the first book to consider the profound relationship between singlehood and time. Drawing on a wide range of cultural resources - including web columns, blogs, advice columns, popular clichés, advertisements and references from television and cinema, the author challenges the conventional meaning-making processes of singlehood and time. Lahad's analysis gives us the opportunity to explore and theorize singlehood through varied temporal concepts such as waiting, wasting, timeout, age, the life course, linearity and commodification of time. This unique analytical approach enables the fresh consideration of some of our dominant perceptions about collective clocks, schedules, time tables and the temporal organization of social life in general.

Volume offers a critical examination of the portrayals of relationships in the various media and debunks the myths perpetuated there. For courses in media criticism/media literacy, mass communication, & interpersonal communication.

The treatment—and mistreatment—of women throughout history continues to be a necessary topic of discussion, in order for progress to be made and equality to be achieved. While current articles and books expose troubling truths of the gender divide, modern cinema continues to

provide problematic depictions of such behavior—with a few heartening exceptions. The *Encyclopedia of Sexism in American Films* closely examines the many, pervasive forms of sexism in contemporary productions—from clueless comedies to superhero blockbusters. In more than 130 entries, this volume explores a number of cinematic grievances including: the objectification of women's bodies the limited character types available for female performers the lack of sexual diversity on the screen the limited range of desirable traits for female performers the use of gratuitous sex the narrow focus on heteronormative depictions of courtship and romance The films discussed here include *As Good as It Gets* (1999), *Beauty and The Beast* (2017), *The Devil Wears Prada* (2006), *Do the Right Thing* (1989), *Easy A* (2010), *The Forty-Year-Old Virgin* (2005), *Hidden Figures* (2016), *Lost in Translation* (2003), *Mulholland Drive* (2001), *Showgirls* (1995), *The Silence of the Lambs* (1991), *Star Wars* (1977), *Thelma & Louise* (1991), *Tootsie* (1982), *The Witches of Eastwick* (1987), and *9 to 5* (1980). By digging deeply into more insidious forms of sexual/gender discrimination, this book illuminates one more aspect of women's lives that deserves to be understood. Offering insights and analysis from more than fifty contributors, *The Encyclopedia of Sexism in American Films* will appeal to scholars of cinema, gender studies, women's studies, and cultural history.

Emphasizing that thinking well and writing well are invariably connected, *CRITICAL THINKING, THOUGHTFUL WRITING, 6e* delivers thorough coverage of the writing process, going beyond the traditional rhetoric to teach you how to evaluate sources, images, and arguments. This rhetoric with readings introduces the process of thinking critically as a powerful approach to writing, to critically evaluating electronic and visual media, and to life in general. Each chapter focuses on a critical-thinking skill--such as problem solving or analysis of complex issues--that is explored through Thinking-Writing Activities and thematically linked readings. Each of the readings challenges you to read actively, think critically, and then write about the readings. The Sixth Edition offers provocative new readings, a four-color interior design, expanded writing projects that help you fully interact with the writing process, annotations to student essays, and more in-chapter questions to help you reflect on the material. Important Notice: Media content referenced within the product description or the product text may not be available in the ebook version.

Emma Hancock wants to have an orgasm and cannot after all her efforts; she therefore seeks out a handsome, fertile man to help her.  
*PATRIARCHY SEX CONTEMPORARY EROTICA ROMANCE Erotica Romance Fiction Novella* (c) Copyright Cupideros, Tuesday, December 28, 2016 20,295 words

In *Guilty Pleasures*, Alice Guilluy examines the reception of contemporary Hollywood romantic comedy by European audiences. She offers a new look at the romantic comedy genre through a qualitative study of its consumption by actual audiences. In doing so, she attempts to challenge traditional critiques of the genre as trite "escapism" at best, and dangerous "guilty pleasure" at worst. Despite this cultural anxiety, little work has been done on the genre's real audiences. Guilluy addresses this gap by presenting the results of a major qualitative study of the genre's reception, based on interview research with rom-com viewers in Britain, France and Germany, focusing on *Sweet Home Alabama* (2002, dir. Andy Tennant). Throughout the interviews, participants attempted to distance themselves from what they described as the "typical" rom-com viewer: the uneducated, gullible, overly emotional (American) woman. Guilluy calls this fantasy figure the "phantom spectatrix". Guilluy complements this with a critical examination of the press reviews of the 20 biggest-grossing rom-coms at the worldwide box-office in order to contextualise the findings of her audience research.

In *MTV and Teen Pregnancy: Critical Essays on 16 and Pregnant and Teen Mom*, contributors from a variety of backgrounds and expertise offer potent essays about the MTV programs *16 and Pregnant*, *Teen Mom*, and *Teen Mom 2*. Divided into four parts, each section tackles the controversial representation of teen pregnancy from a different discipline. Part One explores gendered social norms and the shows' representations of teenage motherhood. Part Two prompts readers to consider the intersections of race, class, gender, and the social and cultural power structures often glossed over in these programs. Part Three turns its attention to teenage fathers, and Part Four draws from TV's representations of reality to discuss the impact these shows may have on the viewing audience. As the debates about these shows continue, this collection provides a valuable critical discourse to be used both inside and outside the classroom.

Our amorous and erotic experiences do not simply bring us pleasure; they shape our very identities, our ways of relating to ourselves, each other and our shared world. This volume reflects on some of our most prevalent assumptions relating to identity, the body, monogamy, libido, sexual identity, seduction, fidelity, orgasm, and more. The book covers common conflicts and confusions and includes work by established scholars and innovative new thinkers. Philosophically challenging but highly readable, the volume is ideal for a wide range of courses on love and sex, including those taught in philosophy and gender studies.

Originally released in 1998, *Documenting the Documentary* responded to a scholarly landscape in which documentary film was largely understudied and undervalued aesthetically, and analyzed instead through issues of ethics, politics, and film technology. Editors Barry Keith Grant and Jeannette Sloniowski addressed this gap by presenting a useful survey of the artistic and persuasive aspects of documentary film from a range of critical viewpoints. This new edition of *Documenting the Documentary* adds five new essays on more recent films in addition to the text of the first edition. Thirty-one film and media scholars, many of them among the most important voices in the area of documentary film, cover the significant developments in the history of documentary filmmaking from *Nanook of the North* (1922), the first commercially released documentary feature, to contemporary independent film and video productions like Werner Herzog's *Grizzly Man* (2005) and the controversial *Borat* (2006). The works discussed also include representative examples of many important national and stylistic movements and various production contexts, from mainstream to avant-garde. In all, this volume offers a series of rich and revealing analyses of those "regimes of truth" that still fascinate filmgoers as much today as they did at the very beginnings of film history. As documentary film and visual media become increasingly important ways for audiences to process news and information, *Documenting the Documentary* continues to be a vital resource to understanding the genre. Students and teachers of film studies and fans of documentary film will appreciate this expanded classic volume.

There is no papal document that has generated as much interest, controversy, and debate in recent times as Pope Francis's *Amoris Laetitia*. This document, which came out of two very divisive synods of Catholic bishops and leaders in Rome in 2014 and 2015, will probably be the most discussed document ever produced by a pope in modern Catholicism

on marriage and family life. This volume has gathered seminal commentaries on *Amoris Laetitia* by African Catholic theologians, social scientists, and pastoral workers. They offer African theological and pastoral responses to the principles and practices proposed by Pope Francis and the Synod on the family on such contested issues as same-sex relations, divorce and remarriage, and reception and denial of Holy Communion in the church, among other divisive issues. These important essays and commentaries show the strengths and weaknesses of this papal commentary and point out the missing link in the global conversation on marriage, family, and same-sex relations. Their argument for the inclusion of African perspectives and moral traditions in the search for a third way in finding an inclusive and integrated pastoral art of accompaniment is very compelling. The authors here also call for the inclusion of Africa's own unique challenges—like polygamy, childless marriages, and the impact of migration, civil conflict, diseases, ecological and population crises, and the rights of African women—in the global discussion on marriage and family life. They also challenge uncritical clichés in world Christianity that Africa's opposition to same-sex marriages (or Western propaganda about population or birth control and contraception) are conservative, while showing diverse African conversations on these topics in the search for abundant life on this beautiful continent.

This volume brings together diverse, cross-disciplinary scholarly voices to examine gender construction in children's and young adult literature. It complements and updates the scholarship in the field by creating a rich, cohesive examination of core questions around gender and sexuality in classic and contemporary texts. By providing an expansive treatment of gender and sexuality across genres, eras, and national literature, the collection explores how readers encounter unorthodox as well as traditional notions of gender. It begins with essays exploring how children's and YA literature construct communities formed by gender, ethnicity, sexuality, and in face-to-face and virtual spaces. Section II's central focus is how gendered identities are formed, unpacking how texts for young readers ranging from Amish youth periodicals to the blockbuster *Divergent* series trace, reproduce, and shape gendered identity socialization. In section III, the essential literary function of translating trauma into narrative is addressed in classics like *Anne of Green Gables* and *Pollyanna*, as well as more recent works. Section IV's focus on sexuality and romance encompasses fiction and nonfiction works, examining how children's and young adult literature can serve as a regressive, progressive, and transgressive site for construction meaning about sex and romance. Last, Section IV offers new readings of paratextual features in literature for children -- from the classic tale of *Cinderella* to contemporary illustrated novels. The key achievement of this volume is providing an updated range of multidisciplinary and methodologically diverse analyses of critically and commercially successful texts, contributing to the scholarship on children's and YA literature; gender, sexuality, and women's studies; and a range of other disciplines.

This distinctive volume explores how romantic coupleship is represented in books, magazines, popular music, movies, television, and the Internet within entertainment, advertising, and news/information. This reader offers diverse theoretical perspectives and methodological approaches on the representation of romantic relationships across the media spectrum. Filling a void in existing media scholarship, this collection explores the media's influence on perceptions and expectations in relationships, including the myths, stereotypes, and prescriptions manifested throughout the press. Featuring fresh voices, as well as the perspectives of seasoned veterans, contributions include quantitative and qualitative studies along with cultural/critical, feminist, and descriptive analyses. This anthology has been developed for use in courses on mass media and society, media studies, and media literacy. In addition to its use in coursework, it is highly relevant for scholars, researchers, and others interested in how the media influence the personal lives of individuals.

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