



## REPRESENTATION OF FEMINITY AND FEMALE IN SALMAN RUSHDIE'S *SHAME*

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### ABSTRACT

*Rushdie's novel is an extremely complex work containing rather ambiguous representations of women. Nevertheless, it is a woman-focused novel in which Rushdie powerfully sketches how many women are victimized by male oppressors. The portrayals of the women themselves, however, have generated great controversy among many literary critics; while some accuse Rushdie of recreating misogynistic stereotypes and falling into the same binary oppositions which characterize patriarchal ideology, others have congratulated him on the strength of his female representations, believing that *Shame* carries a positive message.*

Ania Loomba argues that women in (post)colonial states often became the victims of a "double colonisation" (140). This idea has also been formulated by Gayatri Spivak in "Can