

Morrison's Black Women's Quest for love: Politics of Heart in *Song of Solomon*.

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Abstract

This paper explores the theme of love in Morrison's Novel, Song of Solomon. Love is the central issue Morrison refers to time and time again in her fiction. She gives her own unique definition of love that also provides insight into her social and political stance on black womanhood. Her Philosophy of love is absolutely different from the traditionally cherished stereotypical concept of love which is commonly worshiped in the dominant culture. In her Novel, Song of Solomon, she does not describe love as a pure, selfless passion but explores its different political dimensions with its all sort of cultural manifestations. Morrison explores the other side of reality and provides an alternative definition of love in her novel. Her Concept of love enables black women to resist 'matrix of oppression' (a term coined by Patricia Hill Collins to denote the intersecting oppression of race, class and Gender). Stereotypical concept of love as a selfless and self-sacrificing passion is used to oppress women and deny them subjectivity. Patriarchal society demands that women must love their children and family at the expense of their own individuality. Most of her black female characters are influenced by traditional concept of love, which stands for possession, distortion and self-annihilation. These women are incapable of developing a distinctive black female standpoint. Thus her Novel Song of Solomon deals with the theme of love with all its terrible consequences.

Keywords: *Love, Matrix of Oppression, Black Womanhood.*