

# **The Fluctuating Role of Male Homosocial Desire in Coetzee's Disgrace**

By

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## **Abstract**

*This paper aims to explore the homosocial relationships and associations that the major character of the novel, David Lurie has with the males that he encounters. David Lurie is a fifty-two-year-old twice-divorced university professor of English who seems to have lost his connections with both interior and exterior worlds. He has been accustomed to taking advantage of prostitutes and other females in order to gratify his sexual desire, culminating in his sexual encounter with his female student, Melanie that has him fired from the university. He does not have any close dealings with any male person, despite the fact that there are those who are supposedly his friends and others who even confide in him, and this perplexes him. This paper will endeavor to indicate his bonds in five varied situations with: 1) his male colleagues in trial, 2) the most significant one with Melanie's boyfriend, Ryan, who along with Melanie and David Lurie himself form a love triangle in an urban setting, 3) Melanie's Father, Mr. Isaac, 4) Bill Shaw, who calls Lurie his friend and finally, 5) Petrus who works for his daughter in the rural setting. In order to achieve the goal of this study, this paper will discuss Eve Kosofsky Sedgwick's *Between Men: English literature and Male Homosocial Desire*, a significant book that popularized the concept of Homosociality. In her book, Sedgwick introduced for the first time in sociology and literature, the love triangle and its relationship with, influence on and importance to the protagonist.*

**Keywords:** *Homosociality, Homosocial desire, Love Triangle, Male-Male Relationships*