



## ***A STUDY OF HUMANITY OF WOMEN AS DEPICTED IN HENRIK IBSEN'S PLAY, 'A DOLL'S HOUSE'***

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By showing the gap between male and female social roles, through this play, Ibsen's objective was to see the problems of women as part of common humanity. It is through the central character Nora, that Ibsen brings into discourse, the experience gained by actively contributing to the struggle for "Women's freedom" that was being socialized then.

The main source used for this study is the text of the play. Written sources about women, human feelings of women and problems and challenges faced by women, along with a sample of a few family units directed to family counselling are also used as additional sources.

Nora's family seemingly well – established at the beginning of the play, is ironically destroyed by the efforts of Nora to protect the status of the family being well-established. The central conflict of the play rises from the secret loan obtained by Nora to save her husband from the fatal disease that he was suffering from. Consequent to the conflict, the false image of Nora built up at the beginning as a carefree, happy lady, collapses Nora falls into mental stress in her effort to cover this lie.

At the end of the play, when Helmer says "No man would be ready to compromise his respect, for his love", Nora retorts "Thousands of women do so" This clarifies that all women have sacrificed their humanity to maintain the balance between family and society. With the realization that she had been behaving like a doll before and after marriage, Nora leaves her husband and children by way of questioning the scope available for women's humanity in the family and society.

Whereas this questioning has become a practical problem in current society, the objective of this study is to build up a discourse about the problems and challenges presented to society and the family by examining how women's humanity has been depicted through the characters, occasions and incidents in Ibsen's play "A Doll's House"

**Keywords:** *A doll's house, women, humanity, family, society*