

1. Defoe's *Roxana* in the Light of Feminism

This research analyzes the Daniel Defoe's *Roxana* from the prospective of feminism. The novel delineates situation of women of pre Victorian period. In eighteenth century marriage institution was taken as the main controlling tools of women. Rejection of marriage proposal was the early form of resistance of women in pre -Victorian time. Defoe projects Roxana resisting against ongoing patriarchy of eighteenth century. Question of individual freedom appears as the main subject of discussion in pre -Victorian era which appears in this novel through the persona of Roxana. By using the notion of freedom, women search their position in their family and demand to choose their husband themselves. Most of the eighteenth century novels concentrated on the theme of marriage, child birth and divorce which is issue of women and their freedom. eighteenth century middle class values are based on patriarchal ideology which controls women by using marriage institution. In *Roxana*, Roxana resists traditional system of marriage which is icon of patriarchal institution and tries to establish her individual freedom which is near to modern feminism.

The novel concerns the story of a fallen woman the second time Defoe created in his writings. The plot is about fake marriage of Roxana with wealthy merchant. The woman who takes on various pseudonyms, including "Roxana," describes her fall from wealth and thanks to abandonment by a fool husband. Roxana moves up and down through the social spectrum several times, by contracting a fake marriage to a jeweler, secretly courting a prince, being offered marriage by a Dutch merchant, and is finally able to afford her own freedom by accumulating wealth from these men.

The novel displays some of the most powerful arguments against the position of wives, and extols the status of mistress. During eighteenth century period men's luck was observed on the eyes of female characters and women characters were taken

as the serious issues of domestic world. In *Roxana*. The issues female position and their roles such as mistress, prostitute and wife are the main subject matter of discussion. The novel describes the matter as Roxana says, "I found, that a Wife is treated with Indifference, a Mistress with a strong Passion; a Wife is look'd upon, as but an Upper-Servant, a Mistress is a Sovereign; a Wife must give up all she has [...]; whereas a Mistress makes the Saying true, that what the Man has, is hers, and what she has, is her own" (132). There was debate on the situation of women whether she belong to men or men belong to her or both are independent in their life. The novel analyzes the ongoing issues of women which was debatable in the then time.

Daniel Defoe was born in London in 1660 as the son of non-conformist, middle-class parents. At the age of fourteen, his parents sent him to the famous academy at Stoke Newington. In 1692, Defoe filed for bankruptcy. He began to experiment with realistic dialogue, setting and characterization. He wrote many books on religious and moral subjects. He is also called the father of English Novel. In his novel, he uses first-person narrator and develops protagonists often undercut his normal themes. He is known as the first English novelist and his novel *Robinson Crusoe* is famous novel of English literature. Defoe spent his time covertly editing other newspapers as he worked on novels such as *Robinson Crusoe* (1719), *Roxana* (1724), a *Journal Plague Year* (1722), and *Moll Flanders* (1722). His novel *Roxana* (1724) is a less popular novel among other writings. It could not come out to reader after many years because the issue which comes in the novel is not suitable to the time when it was written.

Since writing this novel, many critics and commentators comment on the novel. Michael Boardman is one of them, writes, "Despite the uncertainty of Defoe's intentions most contemporary critics agree that in *Roxana*, the author was writing an

unfavorable critique of capitalistic society, and not simply stressing the virtues of women" (23). The issue which mentions in this novel is not suitable in pre Victorian society. It speaks against the patriarchal norms of the time and valorizes the freedom of women. The novel reflects ongoing socio-cultural situation of the time. In this regard, Homer Brown argues:

The basic configuration of mother and child that lies just under the conscious surface of the narrative in *Roxana* transforms the fiction into symbolic plot. Otherwise unaccountable vignettes in Roxana's story reveal themselves as emblematic instances in the history of this primally shaped relation. The triangulation between Amy, Roxana and the landlord, as I suggested at first, shows one such archetypal transference of maternal function. Roxana, acting out, elevates Amy into a position of magnified power; she incorporates her into the regressive fantasy. The conversation that immediately precedes the scene deals, we recollect, with Amy's greater fertility. (91)

Above lines show the sociological and historical aspects of the novel. The novel talks about the situation of women at the end of eighteenth century. More than that, the novel captures the ongoing debate related to gender and sex related issues such as marriage, love and prostitution. The novel raises the issue of colonization which Terry Castle describes, "Roxana's dress is an important metaphor for imperial expansion, and so is her purchase of a slave. Roxana alike then, prosperity could be found in the slave trade, and in the moneys and knowledge of the world found in that trade. Like Defoe, Roxana could "give up my virtue," but "not give up my money" (147).

However, as a caveat to the ideas expressed directly above, one can note here that strength of Defoe's historiographical works, is his knowledge of geography. In this regard, Harold Perkin expresses:

It is apparently this knowledge which at least partially allows Defoe to make the proposals he does about Africa, as well the colonization of the West Indies and the Americas. Significantly, the importance of this knowledge, that is knowledge of colonial "others," of geographic regions to be exploited, is something then that both Defoe, and as we have seen, Roxana have in common. (27)

Above lines analyze socio political situation of Defoe which is based on slave trade and colonial mission. In some parts of his novel there found slave trade and colonial mentality based on merchant based economy.

The novel represents the condition of women and their mentality toward money, love and sex which John Richetti says, "Defoe's heroines are in desperate need of money, this essay argues that she does not rely on financial support alone, but rather won shifting their identities through impersonation for their security and autonomy" (33). During the late seventeenth century, London became the world trade center. They increased income of working class people by increasing the number of wives and children, joining the labor force and shifted in middle and higher ranks. Along with advanced marketing control and guidance, and renovated commercial advertisements and techniques, the emerging consumer demand during late seventeenth and early eighteenth-century England gave rise to a change from a fashion which was royal in origin to that which was directly aimed at the mass consumer market. The projects the effects of fashion which is related the identities of women in contemporary time. In this regard, Scheuermann, Mona states:

Through assuming different identities, the heroines not only weave their interpersonal and social relationships, but are also able to avert danger and violence on crime-ridden streets. Her impersonation, which traverses class and gender boundaries, enables her to rise above the poverty line and enjoy a long and successful career as a thief. As a variant of Roxana, resolves her problems through changes of clothes. The centerpieces of her engagement are Turkish dress and Quakeress clothing that crisscross race and religion. (313)

Above lines show the situation of heroines who appears herself in different identities in the novel. Due to uprising economic and social environment, traditional role of women is changed. Women begin to demand equal right and opportunity in life.

Harold Perkin portrays the situation:

Defoe's views placed him on the progressive end of a spectrum of evolving cultural attitudes toward marriage. In England in the early eighteenth century, many people perceived a tension between the traditional view of marriage as transactional way of joining families or increasing a man's financial stability and an everyday practical view of marriage as companionate a way of joining like-minded, mutually affectionate men and women. Some historians have interpreted this perception of conflict as a reflection of a cultural shift. In his seminal study of domestic life, *The Family, sex and marriage in England, 1500–1800*. (27)

Defoe demonstrates that the cultural shift from traditional to modern in the form of marriage which is not purely the invention of over generalizing historians. Homer clarifies the situation as:

Defoe, like most Protestant social critics of his time, based his views on his interpretation of the Bible, which helped him justify the coexistence of a progressive stance toward women's minds with a more traditional stance toward marriage's purpose. . . . didactic statement about the ethics of marriage, but Defoe wrote about the subject throughout his career. Defoe presents a series of dialogues between various members of a household; the husband and wife consistently speak as affectionate equals and appeal to their love for one another in times of strife. (568)

The novel projects the domestic environment which describes the conversation of husband wife and other family members. At the same time, he also describes the ongoing wave of freedom and its effects which encouraged women to fight against patriarchy. Defoe's primary goal is the spiritual well being of his readers, with a mind to the emotional and intellectual factors that contribute to the spirit. Nonetheless, contentment is essential to Defoe's understanding of marriage, and he describes happiness as a reflection of a couple's success in conducting the marriage wisely. In this regard, Defoe himself argues in this novel, "All that can be called happy in the life of man, is summed up in the state of Marriage; that it is the Center to which all the lesser delights of life tend, as a point in the circle; that, in short, all the extraordinary enjoyments of life are temporary and trifling" (96).

The novel projects the upcoming wave of feminism through nameless female characters and who talks with Roxana about love, marriage and sex on the basis of changing socio economic and psychological environment of England. Virgini Birdsall analyzes the situation of Roxana and writes:

Roxana does not regret her failures of motherly affection, only her failure to support them financially and secure them a comfortable place in society. While Roxana's treatment of her children is certainly problematic, Roxana does not extensively interrogate the problem in her narrative, and when she does, she describes her distant and disengaged parenting as a byproduct of her immoral sexual choices. When critics do not will, and if we trust Roxana's delusions, we come to misinterpret Amy as an aspect of Roxana's psyche. (123)

Above lines show the situation of Roxana whose economic situation is better though she is suppressed by patriarchy. Her relationship with Amy is controversial and ambivalent. It could not describe Amy and Roxana's relation in detail. John Richetti says:

Roxana cannot provide details of Amy's background and character that she herself does not know, leaving Amy a somewhat mysterious figure. It is not clear how Amy comes to be Roxana's maid, and the novel tells us nothing of Amy's life before she enters Roxana's household. As a result, it seems that Amy initiates her attachment to Roxana without provocation or invitation. (33)

Amy is not as clear as Roxana though he is male counterpart of her. Roxana had money but Amy had not which plays significant role between Amy and Roxana's relation. Though Amy establishes love for Roxana has no limits. In this regard, Clark, Robert analyzes the unconscious condition of Roxana and says:

Roxana, such powerful and unconditional devotion becomes a destructive flaw. Nonetheless, in more moderate circumstances, Defoe describes such affection and fidelity as the key to marital success. In

Conjugal Lewdness, Defoe writes, “the matrimonial duty... [is] founded in love; ’tis performed in the height of affection; its most perfect accomplishment consists not in the union of the sexes, but in the union of the souls. (27)

Defoe presents love not only as a necessary condition for a happy marriage but as its animating and uniting force. He cautions, “Matrimony without love is the cart before the Horse, and Love without Matrimony is the horse without any cart at all” (32). A couple must love one another in order to enjoy a happy marriage, but without marriage to structure it, love has no purpose or direction. The situation, Mona Scheuermann, describes:

Amy’s love retains both purpose and direction for most of the novel: it drives her loyalty to Roxana and ensures that their relationship outlasts all of Roxana’s alliances with men. Indeed, Amy’s loss of control over her love for Roxana coincides exactly with Roxana’s marriage to the Dutch merchant that is to say, after Amy has ceased to be the primary object of Roxana’s affection. Shortly after Roxana has rekindled her romance with the Dutch Merchant, she sends Amy to discover what has become of the German Prince. Amy travels to Paris to speak with the Prince, but the Prince suffers a hunting injury, and Amy must wait two weeks for him to return to the city. (319)

Above lines show love relationship between Amy and Roxana and its effect which fall on their life. Amy and Roxana’s relationship is one of the examples of pre - Victorian love which is ambivalent and creates controversy in practical life. When Roxana sends Amy for news about her old lovers, she reinforces that Amy, like them, is a figure from her past. It is no surprise that Amy responds by becoming cold and

uncommunicative. If we read Amy as a scorned wife, abandoned for the Dutch merchant, her disloyalty and disobedience make sense; she murders Susan because she is angry with Roxana, and Roxana's love is no longer keeping her in check. This shows ongoing debatable man woman relationship which is guided by changing socio economy and psychological situation of the characters.

The term "feminism" derived from the French word *femine* was coined by the Utopian socialist Charles Fourier. The term was first used to denote the support for women's equal legal and political rights with men. Now feminism also refers to any theory which sees the relationship between the sexes as one of inequality, subordination or oppression. Thus, the aim of feminism seems to identify and remedy the sources of all kinds of oppressions and subordination. The feminists think that femininity is their gift given by god. So, they take it as the weapon to fight against patriarchy. They put female in the supreme place and show that women are also bold enough to decide whatever is better for their life. Kate Millet states, "Feminism is the quest for female autonomy" (22).

Above comments and criticisms show that the novel has studied various point of view though it has not systematically studied at feminist point of view which is one of the burning issues of eighteenth century. So this study is concentrated on the issue. To analyze the issue of women, the research has been divided into three chapters. All the three chapters concentrate on proving the hypothesis of the study. The characters in the novel reveal feminist ideology by criticizing the patriarchy. The first chapter presents the general introduction to this research including the background to the present study, views of the critics on the author, and his writing and an introductory outline of the present research. A theoretical guideline of the analysis, presentation

and analysis mentioned in the second chapter and conclusion has been mentioned in the third chapter.

II. Roxana as Critique of Patriarchy in Defoe's *Roxana*

Roxana is one of the controversial novels of Defoe which portrays the situation of women through analyzing marriage institution, love, sex and patriarchal values of society. The novel brings the idea of traditional vision, concerning women common in the contemporary time, portrays women as modern definition of femininity, "I thought a Woman was a free Agent, as well as Man, and was born free [...]" (Roxana,147). Roxana searches female identity in her life by leaving the Dutch merchant which bonds on marriage contract which she describes, "Nothing but giving up liberty, estate, authority, and every-thing, to the men, and the woman was indeed, a mere woman ever after, that is to say, a slave" (148).The arguments of the merchant, expresses a more traditional view of marriage. She deliberately breaks the traditional view of marriage and resists the ongoing patriarchal values of eighteenth century's society. She valorizes the liberty of women. The following lines clarify the situation:

I did not understand what coherence the word honor and obey that with liberty of free women; that I knew no reason the man had to engross the whole liberty of the Race and make the women notwithstanding any disparity of fortune be subject to laws of marriage of their own making that it was my misfortune to be woman but I was resolve it should not be made worse by sex and seeing liberty seemed to be my property, I would be a Man women for as was born free, I would die so. (152)

Above lines show the situation of eighteenth century's women who are dominated by male dominated cultural values. They were bounded by marriage institution. Marriage institution was used to control women. Roxana resists and breaks the contract of marriage and protests patriarchy. She got engagement with rich merchant.

In this regard, she says, "Amy would have taken me as wife but would not entertain me as whore; was ever women angry with any Gentleman on that head? And was ever women so stupid to choose to be a whore, where she might have been an honest wife" (140). Men used the word whore to humiliate women and control them showing patriarchal ideology. During eighteenth century, there was freedom for rich middle and upper class men to change wife though there is no right for women. In this situation, middle and low class women resist the patriarchy and reject marriage. They resist patriarchy through divorce. The concept of whore is not justifiable because without being wife no women become whore in life. All the married women are engaged in the same way in sexual activities like a whore. In this regard, Roxana speaks:

The opposite circumstances of a wife and a whore, are such and so many, and I have since seen the difference with such eyes, as could dwell upon the subject a great while, but my business is history; I had a long scene of folly yet to run over perhaps the moral of all my Story may bring me back again to this part and if it does, I shall speak of it fully. (119)

Man is equally responsible to change a wife into whore so that the subject is less worthwhile for discussion. In novel Defoe projects the facts by describing the life of Roxana.

The novel projects the life of English people during the time of colonial period when new invention bringing changes in the traditional concept of society. Old cultural values were replaced by new one. Traditional roles of women are shown to be revised in the new structure of society. In this regard, Roxana says, "He was mute a good white ; at last says he come my dear you are the first women in the world that

ever lay with a man and then refused to marry him and therefore there be some other reason for your refusal and have therefore, one other request and that is" (130).

Women's world is not so different from men because both live in same socio economic environment so they should get equal right and opportunity in life. Defoe brings the voice of women through female characters. In this regard, Roxana speaks, "I told him, I had perhaps differing notions of matrimony from what they receive custom had given us of it that I thought a woman was a free agent, as well as a man and was born free and could she manage herself suitably might enjoy that liberty" (132). Women have also right to manage themselves. Feminists write for freedom, autonomy and self identity. They think that men should take female as their necessary counterparts and help them to come in the independent arena. Women must be regarded as important beings in the society. Accepting such reality, some male writers began to write giving the autonomous power to women character in their literary writing. Women protagonists have individuality in their texts. Consciousness about female as equal human being is somehow the contribution of feminist movements. Feminists view that only a feminist struggle will particularly change relations between man and woman that concerns issues such as sexuality, violence, gender discrimination, emancipation, freedom and equality for women.

This idea is similar to the definition of feminism which demand freedom and equality of women. Men have no natural right to encroach women's liberty in the name of discipline and morality. Both are equal in nature though their role is different in day to day life. The concept brings in this line, Roxana says "Never women in as such station live a fortnight in so complete a fullness of humane delight for to have the entire possession of one of the most accomplished prince in the world and of the politest, best bred men"(62). Love and beauty is in compassion in Victorian age which

Defoe describes by giving the references of nameless women's activities. In this regard, Roxana states:

I had given you the whole detail of this story, to lay it down as a back Scheme of the way how unhappy women are ruin'd my great men; for the poverty and want is an irresistible temptation to the poor, vanity and Great Things are as irritable to others, to be courted by a prince and by a prince who was first benefactor. (59)

Above lines show the practices of patriarchal notion of life which project women as ambivalent figure. Feminism is a movement to deliver the view of society which gives women the subordinate position. Women had to live in the discriminatory male-made culture on the basis of sex. Such culture was the main boundary for women for the freedom of expression of their experience. Jane Freedman says that "distinction between biological sex and the social creation of the 'eternal feminine' is a precursor of the distinction between sex and gender that is common in much feminist theory" (14). The concept of patriarchy or sexism is the major ideological value which feminist critics share as their motto. All the feminists agree that the entire cultural phenomena are dominated by a patriarchal value. Patriarchy plays role not only in political system but also in literary and philosophical system. There is a hierarchy made between male and female where male is the standard and female is subordinate. The woman is made to be subjugated by male. Simone de Beauvoir mentioned her view in this context in her famous work *The Second Sex* (1949). In her work, Beauvoir has demonstrated how women are marginalized, subordinated and hegemonized by patriarchal ideology. Feminists are also concerned with challenging the patriarchal ideology. In the literary texts, women are always in secondary role. They are ordinary, unimportant and marginal. Feminism criticizes male literature

being one sided evaluation of literature. Beauvoir says; "One is not born, but rather becomes, a woman . . . It is civilization as a whole that produces this creature . . . which described as feminine" (89).

Patriarchal ideology suggests that there are only two identities of a woman, if she accepts her traditional gender role and obeys the patriarchal rules, she is a "good woman"; if she does not, she is a "bad woman". These two roles also identify woman as "madonna" and "whore" or "angel" and "bitch". These two identities are defined according to the place and the time in which they live. According to a patriarchal ideology, 'bad woman' violates patriarchal sexual norms in some ways: they are sexually forward in appearance of behavior, or they have multiple sexual partners. Men sleep with "bad women", but they do not marry them. In this regard, Maria Mies, states:

The "good women" is rewarded for her "good" behavior by being placed on a pedestal by patriarchal culture. She has no needs of her own, for she is completely satisfied by serving her family. For pre-Victorian culture in England she was the "angel in the house". She made the home a safe haven for her husband, where he could spiritually fortify himself before resuming the daily struggles of the workplace, and for her children, where they could receive the moral guidance needed to eventually assume their own traditional roles in the adult World. (91)

The good woman does not want her own self identity in the society. She only knows about the traditional rules. But the "bad women" who are power seeking always want newness in the society. They are courageous that they can do what male can do. So, they want their self identity.

It is said that happiness of a woman remains on man's hand. This is the provision made by patriarchy to discriminate and control toward women by men. Usually men misuse marriage institution control over women. In this regard, Roxana says, "Like a Marriage, that I could not imagine: we had both of us used Amy with so much Intimacy, and trusted her with everything having such unexampled Instances of her Fidelity, that he made no scruple to kiss me" (34). Friendly relationship is impossible between men and women. Men try to control women by using his muscle force which is guided by patriarchal culture. Defoe gives an example of bed and justifies the matter, "At night, when we came to go to bed, Amy came into the chamber to undress me, and Master slept into bed first; then I began, and told him all that Amy had said about my not being with-child, and of her being with-child twice in that time" (43). Amy and Roxana's relationship is also guided by the same philosophy. The relationship creates a kind of ambivalence relationship between each other. The following lines clarify the situation:

The only favor I ever asked of him, was for his gentleman who he had all along entrusted with the secret of our Affair, and who had once so much offended him, by some omission in his duty, that he had found it very hard to make his peace; he came and laid his case before my women. (75)

The situation of women is different from men. Relationship between men and women is guided by the concept of gentlemen image which is one of the main features of pre-Victorian novel. In this novel also everything is determined by gentlemen concept. Gentle men are different from ordinary individual who play great role in the life of women than the common individual. The novel projects the gentleman dream in this way, "He did this by removing all but prefatory signs of an intervening narrator or

author, and telling a life history from inside the mind of the central character in an unformalised language rich in concrete nouns and primary qualities” (170). In the discussion of sex and gender in human social life, one term emerges as particularly, and that term is natural; in public debates concerning the origins of so-called sex differences and the nature of relations between women and men. Every society has different roles and status of male and female, the cause of difference is their own culture and society. So, from primitive age to recent period males are supreme in the society. So, they create the rules and regulations for their own benefit. They create many boundaries and tags for female, not for male. Females are marginalized in social sector, economic sector, and political sector. Academically also females are backward.

The society gives roles and regulations to male and female. They see female differently, for instance daughters are not sent to school, and deprived from rights for property, political and others. Traditional gender roles cast men as strong, rational, protective, and decisive; they cast women as emotional, weak, nurturing, and submissive. These gender roles have been used very successfully to justify the act of excluding women from equal access to leadership and decision-making positions in every field as in the family, political, academic and economic areas. The main cause of difference is patriarchal society. Patriarchy is thus, by definition, sexist, which means it promotes the belief that women are innately inferior to men. In the case of Defoe, as in the case of many later realists, the slight remoteness of the content is domesticated by the common-essential nature of the characters’ mentalities, by their desire to explain themselves and judge themselves in terms of Christian ethics, and by their choice of story and incident which will take the reader close to concerns which continue to have political and moral relevance. In the context of *Roxana* some of the

values determined by society could not properly work. The following lines describe the situation:

Roxana herself tells the reader in passage after passage that she repents her history of whoring, theft, false pretences and veniality, but this does not stop her rejoicing in the amount of money she has gained from her immoral activity. If the moral position of heroine is ambiguous or hypocritical, then so is that of the novel itself, for it makes its money by exploiting our salacious interest in its subject matter, seducing us already from the title page with the offer of insights into upper-class and sexual and financial intrigue. (ix)

Above lines portray how Roxana resists patriarchy and tries to establish women identity in male culture. She attempts to enjoy freedom in life by breaking the norms and values formed by patriarchal society.

The novel begins by projecting the situation of women in pre-Victorian time when some of the values of society are guided by church and Christianity. Defoe shares some of the religious values and tries to project the situation of women which are as follows:

I have indeed, head my father say, that he was pester's with a great-many of those, who, for any religion they had, might e'en have stay's where they were, but who flock's over hither in droves, for what they call in English, a livelihood; hearing with what open arms the REFUGEES were receiv'd in England. (7)

Above lines show the English livelihood of pre-Victorian time which is highly influenced by religion. There was also a practice of early marriage and polygamy.

Male could do everything for women. Narrator expresses her view about the day to life of pre-Victorian age and says:

I was (speaking of myself as about fourteen years of age) tall, and very well made, sharp as a hawk in matters of common knowledge; quick and smart in discourse; apt to be satirical; full of repartee, and a little too forward in Conversation; or, as full of repartee, and a little too forward in conversation; or, as we call it in English, BOLD. (8)

Narrator got married when she was fourteen. There was no option to reject marriage purpose by parents. She accepted everything in the name of fortune. This satirical tone of narrator shows the situation of women in pre-Victorian time. Women have no right to choose her husband in society. Pre-Victorian values urged that each woman should work for their happiness. Fortune of women remains in the happiness of men. The following lines show the situation:

Ladies, marry a full any Husband rather than a Fool; with some other Husbands you may be unhappy, but with a Fool you will be miserable; with another Husband you may, I say, be unhappy, but with a fool you must; nay, if he wou'd he cannot make you easy; everything he does is so awkward, everything he say is so empty. (9)

Patriarchal values of life provide freedom male to dominate women. He may have right to do everything in life basically he is the main and controlling factor relationship. Women are passive and only audience of the relationship whereas she also equally participates in the process. In this regard, she says:

After I had been married about four years, my own father died, my mother having been dead before; he like'd my Match so ill, and saw so little Room to be satisfied with the conduct of my husband, that tho'he

left 5000 livres, and more at his death, yet he left it in the hands of my elder brother. (11)

Narrator got married due to cultural obligation. He could not escape from this obligation except silently accept the man who comes before her. The situation, she describes, “huntsmen and horse-courses, and men meaner than himself, which is another consequence of a man’s being a fool; such can never take delight in men more wise and capable than themselves; and that makes them converse with scoundrels, drink belch” (12). The man whom she got married is not like her because he introduces himself as symbol of power and dominates her. She confesses the situation which she meets in life though her man never realizes the fact. In this regard, she says, "I confess I did not see too much loss in his parting with me, as at first I thought I did; tho’ it was hard and cruel, to the last degree in him, not giving me the least notice of his design; and, indeed” (15). Narrator’s family is not so noble. Most of her relatives are poor though she could not afraid with the situation and ready to accept everything and confesses, “There was a poor Woman that had been a kind of a dependent upon our family, and who I had often, among the rest of the relations, been very kind to; my maid put it into my head one morning to send to this poor woman” (17). In the role of women there found something reversed and they undergo those processes, but Beauvoir condemns these myths saying that they are way of making natural process and male-made myths are false. She further says men too are mysterious. She claims:

The myth of a woman is a luxury which can appear only if man escapes from urgent demands of his needs, the more relationships are concretely lived the less they are idealized....but along with luxury there is utility; their dreams where irresistibly guided by interest.

Surely most of the myths had roots in the spontaneous attitude of man toward his own existence and toward the world around him. But going beyond experience toward the transcendent idea was deliberately used by patriarchal society for purpose of self justification; through the myths this society imposed its laws and customs upon individuals in a picturesque, effective manner it is under a mythical form that group imperative is indoctrinated into each conscience. (999)

Beauvoir criticizes the male-made myths about women that myth is just a mirage which is not related with reality at all. She further criticizes the cultural identification of women as merely negative objective or 'other' to man. Thus, Beauvoir asks the feminists to break the patriarchal norms and values and establish female's distinct ideology which is necessary for women's self-identity and autonomy. The relationship between Mr. Rochester and his wife is same with the relationship with master and slave. It is full of difficulties and darkness in relationship between Mr. Rochester and his wife which is created by patriarchal norms of society. In this regard, she says, "During my being in such an agony, they went to my maid Amy at another part of the same room, and talk'd with her; Amy told then all my circumstances, and set them forth in such moving terms, and so to the life, that I could not upon any" (18). Mr. Rochester feels pride on patriarchy and searches good women. He forgets his situation and only shows interest on beautiful women. In this regard, he says, "This was what these good women propos'd, and bade me leave the rest to them. I was at first, sadly affected at the thoughts of parting with my children, and especially at that terrible thing, their being taken into the parish-keeping" (19). Relationship between Amy and Roxana determines by beauty and wealth which is one of the significant feature of pre-Victorian love relationship. If men have money they have right to behave all women

as servants. In the way, beautiful women also resist patriarchy by rejecting men on the occasion of marriage. The situation is “mad-woman, and had ordered her to go and stop the maid Amy, and turn all the children out of the doors again; but she had been at the door” (20). There is demarcation between poor and rich. Poor women are related as servant and rich men try to force them to become wife by showing lack of life. Amy describes the situation, “While the poor woman was telling this dismal story, in came the gentle woman's husband, and tho' her heart was harden 'against all pity, which was really and nearly related to the children” (22). Eighteenth's century patriarchal ideology controlled women by showing money and virility rather than spiritual relationship. Poor women have no right to marry gentlemen because they are put under social hierarchy because patriarchy discriminate them. Amy says, “Then the poor women put in, and said, but, madam that is sending them to starve indeed; for the parish has no obligation to take care of 'em, and so they would lie and perish in the street” (23).

Defoe projects the situation of women on the socio-economic as well as family structure of eighteenth century. Roxana searches her female identity by resisting male values of the society. Roxana is fully aware of living outside the law and she breaks up the social factors to her own ends. Although one could say that, as long as she lived with her first husband, she was more sinned against than sinning, once she agrees to go to bed with her lodger and then with her lover and other lovers. She runs the risk of being accused of adultery and/or bigamy, the penalty for the latter being death - her first husband not being dead, as we learn afterwards. She describes the situation of women and says, “Amy made him a curtsie, and the poor girl look'd so confounded with joy, that she could not speak, but her colour came and went, and every now and then she blush'd as red as Scarlet, and the next Minute look'd as pale as

Death” (26). In eighteenth century women world used to be under control of male.

Following lines of the novel justify the situation as, Roxana says:

He valued me infinitely above all the women in the world; that tho' he was under such engagements that he could not marry me, his wife and he had been parted, for some reasons, which make too long a story to intermix with mine yet that he would be very things else that a woman could ask in. (32)

Above lines show the situation of a woman who is forced for marriage with known man. Patriarchal ideology categorized women on the basis of male desire and interest.

In this regard, Amy speaks, “O let no woman slight the temptation that being generously deliver'd from Trouble, is to any Spirit furnish'd with gratitude and just principles: This gentleman had freely and voluntarily delivered me from misery, from poverty, and rags” (33). There is no legal provision to provide justice to women.

Husband and his family decision are final for women. They can reject her anytime if they feel the woman is wrong.

A nameless women is abandoned by her husband in youth, “I was abandon'd of a husband in the prime of my youth and vigour, and he of a Wife in his Middle-Age; how the end of marriage was destroy'd by the treatment we had either of us receiv'd; and it wou'd be very hard that we should be ty'd” (39). This shows the brutality of patriarchy which hints women in the name of morality and family discipline.

A man neglects the demand and desire of women and imposes male values upon her. Amy describes the situation as, “So far does fooling and toying sometimes go, that I know nothing a young woman has to be more cautious of; so far had this innocent girl gone in jesting between her and I” (41). Patriarchal values of family play

vital role in men women relationship which Amy says, "She was terribly concern's at it, and so was he too: come my dear, says I, when Rachael put her handmaid to-bed to Jacob, she took the children as her own don't be unease, I'll take the child as my own" (44).

Patriarchal ideology plays an important role to establish men and women relationship which Amy describes, "He treated me with abundance of civility, and condol's handsomely the loss of my husband and likewise the manner of it; he told me, he understood he was coming to versailles, to himself, to show him some jewels that it was true that had discovered" (53). It shows the male dominated discipline which enhances patriarchal values of life in family.

Amy describes the situation, "No madam, it seems that is not the case for hard them saying , the gens arms were here today by special order, some of them being to march towards the Rhine and these attend for orders but they go back tomorrow to Orleans where they are expected" (78). It shows the condition of women in eighteenth century period.

In eighteenth century, women lived under the order of men. They have no liberty in life so women struggle for liberty, "I had a library of taking my women, Ann what with me and stood where we were very well accommodated for the observation which I was to make" (78).

Fortune of men and women are undermines by patriarchal values which following lines describe, "Thought of, but shou'd have pistol's himself, if any such thing had happen'd while he was there that he left [me] his white, all the money he had in the world, but 25.l which was as little as he could take with him, to seek his fortune in the world, he could not doubt" (81). It shows the colonial values of whites and emphasize on desire of wealth and measure everything on the basis of money

and virility which is related to colonial mission. Male is projected as colonizer and society provides right to capture women. In this regard, Amy says, "Alash! Says Amy marry! Who will marry her in the poor condition she is in? And so that their discourse ended for the time. All this was meer talk on both sides, and words of course for on father enquiry, Amy found that he had no such offer" (83). The situation is similar to the colonization, everyone to marry Amy, like a colonizer have right to colonize beautiful land of the world. They think they have right to do this.

The events of marriage projects, "but I was hinted , so it was the next morning he laid me down, on my toilet, a purse with 300 pisstoles: I saw him lay it down, and understood what her meant , but I took no notice of it, till I came to it causally then" (87). The lines show the pre-Victorian mentality which is guided by patriarchy.

On the basis of guideline of patriarchy men, try to control women, "We have some very agreeable conversations upon this subject and once he told me with a kind of more than ordinary concern upon his thoughts, that he was greatly beholden to me for taking this hazardous and difficult journey" (93).

Narrator has some experiences which are related to love affair of a girl. He makes the event inevitable part of history of his life and speaks, "I shall cut short the history of this prosperous wickedness, with telling you I brought him a third son, within little more than eleven months after outreturn from Italy that now I lived a little more openly, and went by a particular name which he gave me" (95).

He could not bring out from the situation where he lives and thanks the situation without any proper mission and says, "I thanked him but scrupled very much the travelling so far in a strange country and especially with such a Treasure

about me that whether known, or conceal'd I did not know how to venture with it" (101).

In her *Sexual Politics* (1969), Kate Millet has cited the fact that power is exercised in the society by subjugating women. She emphasizes that women should be given power to develop their status and career. She says, "Patriarchy dominates and subordinates the female to the male or treats the female as an inferior male. Power is exercised directly or indirectly in the civil and domestic life, to constrain women" (137). In the large canvas of male literary works, women are presented just as sexual objects, whose roles are subservient to those of the central male protagonist. Violence and domination seemed to be the main idea by which the unequal power relations in the area of sexual politics are maintained. Women began to understand that patriarchy had its origin not in the realm of public politics but only in men's control over women's bodies, particularly their sexuality and their generative capacities.

Millet analyzes the sexual politics of literature in her work. She considers politics an institution through which power is exercised in the society. Her work paved way for the readers to reconsider their evaluations fundamentally about some male writers. Sexual politics are used as the catchy term which she says: "The essence of politics is power" (205). Violence and suppression upon women by patriarchy is the main issue raised by Millet. She considers that patriarchy is the main cause which suppressed and dominated women from freedom. Patriarchy doesn't give the equal status for women. It always keeps women in the marginalized space. Women's place in patriarchal society is deplorable and pathetic.

Male dominated courtesy plays an important role to maintain love relationship between men and women. In some cases they use some of the French civil and convince each other which reflects as, " The Jew understood me presently, continuing

in a kind of rage, and spoke in French, yes Madam, it does concern you much, very much, very much repairing the words shaking his head, and then turning to Dutchman. Sir says he tells her" (102). There is a debate and discussion of fortune and misfortune though they are unknown about the matter.

Patriarchal values controlled women by showing misfortune and encourage men by portraying fortune which describes in the following lines: "My misfortune, sir said I is that I have no to consider, have no person to consider with, or advise about it I find that innocence may be oppress'd by such an impudent fellow s this; he that does not value a perjury, has any Man's life at his mercy; but sir said I" (106). The lines show the men women relationship of eighteenth century period which is based on patriarchal values and norms.

Money plays vital role for men. A wealthy person can have right to control women. This value is the outcome of colonial money minded mentality which enforced women to fight against the values. The situation Amy describes, "I wanted and as he had propos'd as to my money, he gave me first of all an accepted bill, payable at Rotterdam, for 4000 pistoles, and genoa upon a merchant at Rotterdam, payable to a merchant a paris" (108).

Jewells and gift become the controlling factors through which rich people used to control women. The situation describes, " there I entered into a negotiation, by his means for my jewels, and he bought me several Jewelers, to look on them, and particularly , one to value them and to tell me what every particular was worth" (111). Male values undermine women's love and exchange it with money and ornaments.

Materialistic values of love plays vital role to suppresses women which describes, "first, I gave him a particular Account of everything that happen'd material upon my voyage ; and how we were driven into Harwich by a very terrible storms;

how I had left my women behind me so frightened with the danger she had been in" (122). The lines show the colonial milieu of eighteenth century which compares journey of sea with the journey of love. In both journeys, there is male virility. There need to maintain balance in these journey of love and voyage. This metaphoric relationship describes in this novel in this way:

I should balance all obligations but that , in short, it was that seeing providence had (as it were for that purpose) taken his wife from him, I would make up the loss to him; and with that ; he held me fast in his Arms, and kissing me, would not give me leave to say no, and hardly to breath. (126)

Above lines show the husband wife relationship which is more guided by material prosperity and less by mutual relationship. Defoe shows pre-Victorian assumption of love and marriage determined by physical things. In this regard, she says, "That the very nature of marriage contract was in short nothing but giving up liberty, Estate authority, and everything, to the man and the woman was indeed a mere woman ever after that is to say a slave"(123). Patriarchal values undermine female qualities and show the brutality of male. The situation elaborates in the following lines: "I return that a woman is single she was a masculine in her politick capacity that she had then the full command of what she had and the full direction of what she did that she was a man in her separated Capacity to all intents and purpose that a man could be so to himself. (133)

Patriarchy creates problem to maintain mutual relationship of between men and women. Most of the time male virility tries to hold women and make them as the slave of men. Male values defines women as weak creature as, " women had been weak enough to yield up to last point before wedlock, it would be adding one

weakness to another, to take the man afterwards to pin down the shame of it upon herself all days of her life" (136). This assumption delineates the patriarchal notion of love and marriage which projects overall relationship on the basis of male values. In this regard, Amy speaks:

That what he spoke refer to my words above that the woman, if she thought fit refers to my words above that the woman, if she thought it might entertain in a man as the man did a mistress and that I seem'd to mention that way of living as justifiable and setting it as a lawful thing, and in the place of matrimony. (135)

Above lines show male values of life based on male values and undermine women either by defining as whore and slave. If women behave as obedient wives, their position is no different from maids. In the same way, if she tackles with men she is defined as whore. In some cases women resists patriarchy by disobeying marriage proposal such as, " woman in circumstance ever to give to a man for certainly it was never known that any women refuse'd to marry a man that had first lain with her , much less a man that had gotten her with child" (139). It shows that men have right to choose wife though women have no right to choose husband. If she rejects proposal that won't be taken as a good sign.

Defoe shows male dominated love relationship of eighteenth century society. In eighteenth century, society women also tried to search their position and resist male values which have been continuing in English world. He wants to see mutual relationship between men and women and shows the balance views on this novel. The following lines of the novel clarify the situation:

I was persuaded he had some more than human knowledge in a word his advices to me to repent were very affectionate his warning of evil

to happen to me were very affectionate his warning of evil to happen to me were very kind and his promise of assistance, if wanted him were so generous. (144)

Various consequences and circumstances show the relation between men and women which reflect the ongoing debate of women right and equality describes, "Woman in my circumstance often time meet with I had consider'd all that before hand and having sent Amy before hand and remitted her money to do it she had taken me very handsome house in street, near chairing cross had hir'd me two maids" (146). Amy and Roxana relationship shows falling situation of patriarchy in England. Women tried to introduce themselves as equal to men which Amy speaks, ". . . this with some other securities made me a very handsome Estake of above a thousand pounds a year enough one woul'd think to keep any woman in England from being a whore" (146). The following lines further clarify the situation as, "company had order him to tell, me they hope they should see me in the dress I had to appear in the first day which had been so acceptable, that it had been the occasion of this new meting and madam says he be there are some in the assembly, who it is worth your while to oblige" (159). These lines introduce the concept of pre-Victorian world which is based on merchant culture. Most of the societal values and norms are guided by merchant values even in family relationship. Defoe projects the circumstances in this novel through the persona of Roxana. In this regard, Roxana says:

I would be tr'd by and think them no burthen and for other obligations he scron'd to except anything from me, but what he knew, as a woman of humour, I could grant; then as, to maintenance, he told me, he would soon show me that he valued me infinitively above 500 l a year and upon this foot we began. (164)

She changes her own laws to rule her behaviour towards her fellowmen. The justice she fears is not human however, but divine. She feels fear of heaven. The sinful life she lives, and to experience a certain feeling of remorse, as she says she lives a secret hell within. In this regard, she sparks, "my lord came readily into this proposal, and went further than expected for he found out a lodging, for me in a very handsome house, where yet he was not known" (165). Defoe also demanded equal right for women and raises the issue of gender relationship and marriage system in this novel. Roxana describes the situation of women as , "I may venture to say, that no woman ever liv'd a ; life me of six and twenty years of wickedness, without the least signals of remorse without any signs of repentance, or without so much as a wish to put an end to it" (167). The difficulty which she mentions in this way:

Jewells and gold watch; and there was indeed, no great difficulty to make Any look like a lady, for she was very handsome well shapp'd woman, and gentle enough the coach man and servants were particularly order'd to show her the same respect as they wou'd to me and to call her Madam collins, if they were asked any questions about her. (172)

Pre-Victorian society treated women as goods and tries to hold them by using wealth like a rich men purchase valuable goods from market. Amy describes the situation of Roxana and says , "Her reasons were good , tho' at first was not plea'd when I heard of it, but I was convince'd afterwards, that she was in the right ; for if she had told me of it, I should have been in great perplexity between the difficulty of concealing myself from my own child" (175). Family relationship between men and women was not so healthy in eighteenth century which creates problem in each of the household activities. Occasionally, men undermined women by using the word whore and sys,

“. . . morning when I had been lying away sometime in my bed as if somebody had asked me the question, what was I a whore for now. It occurred naturally upon this Equity, that at first I yielded to the importunity of my circumstance” (178). Equality and freedom is only for men in eighteenth century which ironizes the socio political situation of women in English crown. Roxana metaphorically projects the situation and says, “to this lodging (if I hit upon to your mind”) you may go tomorrow morning in a Hackney Coach with no body but me and leave such Cloaths and Linnen as you think fit but to be sure, the plainest you have” (186). Roxana observes the situation which is new for her. In this regard, she says, “she seem'd to think it strange at first, considering how close I liv'd but nothing to say when she found I did not value the experience; so in short, I resolv'd wou'd have a coach”(189). Roxana becomes bold in her decision and says, “I was going to have told a bold lye and said, I know nothing of them, but I found it was impossible to conceal it so I said, indeed, I think I know the farthest of them; but I have neither spoken to him, or so much as seen him for above 11 years well then says she” (194). It shows the situation of ongoing uprising of female voice which resists male ideology.

The new discourse appears about marriage and love, "we have several discourse upon the subject , but still I let her know I was resolve'd he should not know me but at last I confessed so much that tho" (194). Roxana further speaks, “It was one afternoon about four o'clock my friendly QUAKER and I sitting in her chamber up stires, and very cheerful, chanting together, (for she was the best company in the world) when somebody ringing hastily at the door” (196). The concept of gentleness is unsuitable for Roxana because the definition of gentle is based on patriarchal values of the time. Roxana speaks, "however, after the perceived the woman was gone, he made a kind of a hesitation, looking a little round him indeed, said he, I thought the

gentlewoman was not withdrawn" (199). She realizes the situation which is unsuitable for her and says, "I confess I could not hear all this without being mov'd very much and yet I continued a little stiff and formal too, a good while I told him, that before I cou'd give him any reply to the rest of his discourse" (200). Amy's ambition shows the ongoing consequences which she describes, "Any an ambition Jada knew my weakest part, namely that I lov'd great things and that I lov'd to be flatter'd and courted ;said abundance of kind things upon this occasion" (205). Merchant based societal values indicates the male dominated situation which as, "The merchant I had entered into close conferences upon upon the grand affair; I had left off taking my platonicks and of my independency, and being are woman, as before and having cleared up my doubled too" (206). Roxana resists pre-Victorian male values which are going to change due to changing socio-economic situation of England. Which she describes, "I told him, he was mistaken in me that had told him so much of married state being a captivity and the family being a house of bondage that when I married" (207).

Patriarchal values of society use marriage and family system to control over women and compare them to the goods. In this regard, she says, "I consider'd the wealth I was mistress of that I was able to live like a princess tho not a princess and that my merchant for had told me all the affair of his misfortune was far from being poor or even mean" (208).Patriarchy devalues women by fear and threaten them to show misfortune. In this regard, Roxana says, "He is alive madam said she but it is not much matter I had as likes as he had been dead so we went to up stair again of my chamber and there we began as serious discourse of the whole matter" (210). She further describes the situation as, "Woman becomes an imaginaries and I believe May

as easily die with grief, or run mad with joy as affair in his fancy appears right or wrong as if all was real and actually under the management of the poem" (211).

Defoe shows the seed of ongoing feminist movement of late seventeenth century which critically examines though the characterization through Roxana. In this regard, Roxana says, "I remember when all these disorders were upon my thought in one of the visits my friend the merchant made me, he took notice, that he perceived under some unusual disorder" (212). Marriage is used to control women and suppress them as slave after marriage. Defoe shows the situation of marriage system and its effects which fall on women. Roxana further describes the situation, "You had a married wife here made her a lady and put her in Expectation of being something else still when she comes abroad pray have you examine where you are able to supply all extravagant" (226). She further clarifies the situation as, "I know not what to say of her ;she was so much above us and so seldom seen that we could know little of her but by report , but we did something see her too she was charming woman indeed and the footman used to say that she says to be sent for court" (254). It shows that how Roxana resists patriarchy in her life and tries to establish female autonomy and self in life. The concepts of self-identity and autonomy are closely related and inseparable. The concept 'autonomy' expresses the positive goal for the feminist movement. It is the freedom from domination regarding the bodies and lives, Maria Mies says, "The feminist claim to autonomy . . . means a rejection of all tendencies to subsume the women's question and the women's movement under some other apparently more general theme or movement" (41). Self- identity and autonomy are associated with persons.

There are so many concepts about selfhood and autonomy in the feminist movements. But the most common concept among feminists is 'individual

independence', self determination of the individual woman', or 'the right to individual choice'. The emphasis on individualism refers to the autonomous existence. Women in the patriarchy fight for their individuality. Women have united for their self-identity which is taken as the essential thing for women's development. If the person is independent she/he can live her/his life well. Feminists think that woman is a biological person or subject. This is the main feature of women which characterizes the feminist writing. In Louis Marin's view, "... writing of the self gives rise to a theoretical and methodological occasion allowing us to grasp with greater rigor and precision the manner in which these two sets of signifiers function" (199). The individualistic sense of uniqueness and self consciousness is wide spread which is not shared to the same extent by people. Self is inseparable from to the network of kinship relation and nation use the pronouns 'I'. Every person has feelings of self-identity and need their own autonomous. Identity is the social construction. Looking at the western female self, Alison prentice and Ruth Pierson say; "Women have a human should not have to make a greater sacrifice of autonomy than men" (164). Women in the patriarchal society have false identity. They are restricted to go outside from the house. Feminism is the movement which demands autonomous existence and true identity of female. For true identity and autonomous are the necessary components.

Writing for self identity is for visual portrait and signification. All the markers of possession and of the appropriation of the written object emerge from the tensions inscribed within 'I'. Self is the representation of 'I'. Women are in search of 'I' or subjectivity Simone de Beauvoir says; "In sexuality and maternity woman as subject can claim autonomy; but to be a "true woman" she must accept herself as the other" (100). The feminist ambition to maintain and recreate this innermost subjective human essence in women is expressed and preserved in the concept of autonomy.

Everyone is free to fulfill all her/his desires and needs that individual freedom is identical.

With the choice of the self- activity and subjectivity of the person Maria Mies focuses her view on autonomy and says:

... autonomy means the preservation of human essence in women . . .

It is also a struggle concept which was developed to demonstrate the women wanted to separate from mixed, male domination organizations and to form their autonomous organization, with their own analysis, programs and methods. (40-41)

The feminist approaches mentioned above are useful to find out the main causes how the protagonist of Defoe's novel *Roxana* resists deep-rooted patriarchal norms and values. The feminist discourse has provided chances to understand the text better. It has shown the way to know the female problems, identity and existence and their search for self identity and autonomy in terms of marriage, love, social and political status.

In short, Defoe analyzes the cause and consequences of male domination of women in late eighteenth century. He also delineates ongoing equal right movement of eighteenth century the period. Late eighteenth century women resist patriarchy by resisting marriage institution which is the main subject of representation in the novel.

III. Resistance against Patriarchy in *Roxana*

Defoe projects the seed of feministic movement of eighteenth century which later developed in the form feminist movement and other gender related movement. Defoe shows the situation through the characterization of Roxana who protest male values and tried to celebrate equal right to man. Roxana and other female characters resist male dominated cultural practice by breaking the contract of marriage. Women are dominated and manipulated by using marriage institution. Roxana and other nameless female characters resist marriage system and try to liberate from male domination. During the time of Defoe most of the upper and middle class women were dominated by patriarchy through early marriage practice. Man had right to choose wife but there were no right for woman to choose her husband. She had to follow her male relative's suggestions and accept the proposal what they put before her. Marriage is defined as fortune and forced on women to grasp fortune. If a woman had rejected the proposal she was defined as misfortune woman. Roxana breaks these kinds of cultural barriers and breaks the contract of marriage and celebrate freedom in life.

Roxana is a novel with an emphasis on the situation of women who are suffered from the domination of patriarchy. Patriarchy brings various mythical tips to colonize women and put them under their control. There was no opportunity of freedom and equality for women. Men had right to control female by showing the fear of sin. Defoe shows such unethical matter in the novel through characterization of Roxana. She was also influenced by some religious ideology later she resists all these male made idea and ready to break the patriarchal norms of values of society. It is informed by issues that concerned her creator: trade, imperialism, and slavery. Each was used to create networks of knowledge and power over the world within sight of

both Defoe and Roxana. The acquisition of this knowledge was, in turn, directed toward moral and spiritual values of marriage. It is depicted and discussed as a variety of failed marriages, illustrating a society in which the practice of marriage has deviated disastrously from its purpose of an emotional and spiritual, as well as economic bond. In *Roxana*, Defoe represents the devastating effects of the failed marriage system on an individual's psyche and soul. Patriarchal ideology is responsible for all which Defoe artistically presents in this novel by providing the references of socio economic and cultural situation of late seventeenth century. Due to colonial exploration and modernization traditional concept of love, sex and marriage appears as different form which creates problem in the continuation of traditional patriarchal philosophy of marriage and sex.

In short, Defoe's *Roxana* is one of the revolutionary texts of English literature which introduces women as revolutionary figure of the society. Roxana and other various nameless women and Roxana criticize ongoing male dominated marriage system of the time. At the end, Roxana breaks the contract of marriage which is almost impossible at that time and celebrate freedom in life. So, that novel brings the voices of women forcefully in the form of fiction.

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