

**Tribhuvan University**

**Gender Inequality and Female's Economic Dependency in Henrik Ibsen's**

***Pillars of Society***

**A Thesis Submitted to Central Department of English  
in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirement for the Degree of  
Master of Arts in English**

**by**

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This thesis titled “Gender Inequality and Female’s Economic Dependency in Henrik Ibsen’s *Pillars of Society*” submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University, by Yogendra Prasad Guragain, has been approved by the undersigned members of the Research Committee.

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## **Abstract**

Ibsen highlights the women's economic, educational and social status because the patriarchy always dominates women by snatching their rights. His main thrust is to explore the female's situation through the history and in particular female's painful experience in a racist and patriarchal society and their struggle for existence. Marxist feminists believe that capitalism is primarily responsible for class structure in the society. In capitalist society, the optimal combination of the elements of the mode of reproduction, from the standpoint of capital, occurs within the nuclear family, whose oppressive features have been thoroughly examined in the feminist literature. Under capitalism, the mode of production determines the mode of reproduction. This instance does not stem from Marxism's inherent economic determinism but from the very nature of the capitalist mode of production as a whole. Feminist literary criticism continues in our time to be closely interrelated with the movement by political feminists for social, economic and culture freedom and equality. Ibsen focuses on women's emancipation, aims to understand women's oppressions in terms of race, class, gender and sexual preferences and its efforts lies in changing it. His view about feminism states it as women's fight for freedom. It is the search for equality in social, political, educational and cultural aspects.

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