

**Tribhuvan University**

**Subversion of Gender Identity in James Joyce's *a Portrait of the Artist as a  
Young Man***

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

**By**

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**August 2010**

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**Letter of Recommendation**

Mr. Birendra Kumar Goud has completed his thesis entitled “Subversion of Gender Identity in James Joyce’s *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*” under my supervision. He carried out his research from September 2009 to August 2010. I hereby recommend his thesis be submitted for viva voice.

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Supervisor  
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**Tribhuvan University**

**Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences**

**Approval Letter**

This thesis entitled “Subversion of Gender Identity in James Joyce’s *a Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*” submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University by Mr. Birendra Kumar Goud has been approved by the undersigne members of the Research Committee.

Members of the Research Committee

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## **Abstract**

James Joyce, in his text *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*, creates a situation about the reversal of gender role by portraying the character Stephen and the prostitute, who stand against the gender roles traditionally assigned to them. It is a sort of protest to the patriarchy wherein males are promoted and prioritized and females are victimized due to the stereotypes associated with both of the sexes. But the very notion is dismantled in the text. Joyce subverts the binary opposition between feminine and masculine by carving out a clear picture whereby Stephen though being male demonstrates feminine traits and the prostitute masculine traits.

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