Mohammad Shahidul Islam Chowdhury

Abstract

This presentation focuses on the interrelations between sexuality and society, and how they condition each other. From time immemorial, societies have developed and patronized cultures to many extents. Sometimes, it is according to the requirement of the people in general, and at other times, it is according to the demand of the existing politics – the politics of power. The axes of power have always dominated and regulated the basic themes and structures of culture. Sexuality has often been regarded as a binary element of societal culture, and the very ideology of power has tried to use it as a ploy for governing both culture and society. The role of sexuality has always determined social and religious institutions like marriage, family, and ethics. The broadened realm of sexuality and sexual relationship is what is widely practiced in the Western Civilization. The Eastern Civilization, or the Orient, nurtures creeds many of which are diametrically opposite to those in the Occident. The postmodern world has not complicated, but expanded the debates regarding the topics of human culture. The new definition of sexuality and sex-relation has opened new windows. By comprehending the theories in Judith Butler's Gender Trouble and Michel Foucault's The History of Sexuality, and by consulting the religious as well as the existing social positions of sexuality, this paper tries to realize the nature of sexuality, and how sexuality is related to its surrounding culture and society.

Bio

Mohammad Shahidul Islam Chowdhury is Associate Professor in the Department of English, East Delta University, Chittagong, Bangladesh. Mohammad is an English graduate from the University of Chittagong. He did his second MA in English Studies from the University of Sussex, England. He has published several articles in national and international peer-reviewed university journals. His research interest lies in modernist studies, short stories, gender studies, and women's writings.