

RELATIONSHIP CONFLICT

We can't ask people to give to us something
that we do not believe we're worthy of receiving.
- Brene Brown



Drowning	4
Fire and Sand	6
Warning Shot	2
Clemency	3
First Code of a DragonSlayer	36

BIG QUESTIONS:

How do we know when we are objectified in a relationship?
Why isn't the feeling of love enough to create a healthy relationship?
What does a healthy relationship function?

PLAY THE VIDEO: [5 LOVE SONGS THAT ARE ACTUALLY SUPER CREEPY.](#)

TALKING POINTS: Are these love songs actually creepy? Can a song or person be romantic and creepy? Is the possible creepiness a matter of perspective or based on objective words and behavior? Do you know of any serious 'love' songs that might describe questionable behavior?

WRITING RESPONSE TO PROMPT:

The best way to keep a prisoner from escaping is to make sure he never knows he's in prison.

– Fyodor Dostoevsky

Write about a time where you felt stuck, either physically, emotionally, or mentally. It doesn't have to be a personal relationship. It can be any kind of situation. Be very detailed and descriptive about the situation. Consider the quote by Fyodor Dostoevsky.

QUESTIONS TO SPARK REFLECTION:

When did you realize you were stuck in the situation? When did you realize you could do something to change the situation?

What did you do to change it?

Was there a process or steps you needed to take to make the change or were you able to automatically do something different?

ARTISTICT EXPRESSION:

Create an item or image that captures what you wrote about in your reflection to Dostoevsky's quote. You can use whatever supplies you feel will help to capture the item and emotion (crayons, markers, water colors.). No image print outs from the internet.

WRITING REFLECTION

Write about the experience in this assignment.

Why did you choose the item you chose from the response to the writing prompt? What does it symbolize? Do you feel like you captured the image in the artistic expression assignment? How does this creation relate back to the quote

**The best way to keep a prisoner from escaping
is to make sure he never knows he's in prison**

- Fyodor Dostoevsky

READ: FEMINIST PERSPECTIVE ON OBJECTIFICATION

1. Read the articles [WHAT IS GASLIGHTING?](#) and [AGGRESSION AGAINST WOMEN](#)
2. Students will annotate both articles, and can add articles from reliable sources as well as personal experiences to discuss major points.

DISCUSSION - OBJECTIFICATION

1. Read the two poems **Drowning** and **Fire and Sand**.
2. Identify the objects (nouns) in both poems. What do the items reveal about the relationship and the emotions of both partners? Using the articles, [WHAT IS GASLIGHTING?](#) and [AGGRESSION AGAINST WOMEN](#) how does manipulation and objectification function in the relationships in both poems? How might both partners be considered victims and how might both partners feel trapped? Consider personality and temperament.

DISCUSSION: ABUSE DYNAMICS

1. Read the article: [WARNING SIGNS AND RED FLAGS](#)
2. Read the article: [NARCISSISM AND ABUSE](#).
3. Read the article: [WHY DO I LOVE MY ABUSER?](#)

After reading the three short articles discuss the roles and relationship dynamics in the poems **Drowning** and **Fire and Sand**.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE QUIZ

Take the PBS informational: [DOMESTIC VIOLENCE QUIZ](#).

Discuss the information you learned from the quiz. Did you learn anything new about the occurrence of domestic violence? Discuss.

Discuss the video: [RIHANNA INTERVIEW ABOUT ABUSE & CHRIS BROWN](#)

READ & DISCUSS:

ARTICLES ON (1) LEAVING ABUSE & (2) THE MARISSA ALEXANDER CASE

1. **READ THE FOLLOWING SHORT ARTICLES:**

General Information on Leaving an Abusive Relationship

[ENDING A RELATIONSHIP AND LEAVING DOUBT SURVIVOR VIOLENCE](#), and

[SURVIVED AND PUNISHED](#), **WATCH THE VIDEO: [SIN BY SILENCE DOCUMENTARY TRAILER](#)**

(There is a full-length documentary available, but contains mature themes).

[DOMESTIC ABUSE VICTIMS GET A CHANCE AT FREEDOM](#)

2. **MARISSA ALEXANDER CASE**

[20 YEARS FOR WARNING SHOT – DID SHE STAND HER GROUND?](#)

READ AND DISCUSS THE THREE POEMS:

FIRST CODE OF A DRAGON SLAYER, WARNING SHOT & CLEMENCY

1. Analyze the poems for the objects (nouns) used in the descriptions. How might they be applied to the concepts of objectification?
How do they describe fear, frustration and anger?
Analyze the resolution in each of the poems. What actions do the victims take, what are the consequences?
2. Read the poems and relate them back to the articles on leaving an abuser. What information from the articles correlate with the poems?

REFLECTIVE WRITING PROMPT CHOICES:

INSTRUCTIONS:

Choose one of the prompts and write a **two-page paper** to complete this assignment.

OBJECT LESSON PROMPT:

At the beginning of this unit you responded to a prompt inspired by a quote by Fyodor Dostoevsky: *The best way to keep a prisoner from escaping is to make sure he never knows he's in prison.* From that prompt, you identified an object, artistically created a representation of the object and wrote about it.

Relate the object to the information you read and learned in this unit on domestic violence. Discuss what it represents in that context and how it relates. Discuss if the object you wrote about might go through changes to acknowledge and free itself.

LETTER WRITING PROMPT:

We have read a variety of strategies an aggressor might use to keep the victim in an abusive situation. We have also read about the motives for abusers staying in a relationship.

- a) Write about a scenario with two fictional people. Describe the situation in great detail.
- b) You have been invited to write a letter to the aggressor and the victim. What type of detailed letter would you write to both parties? Write two letters, one to the aggressor and one to the victim.

GO TO THE RESOURCE TAB

Information on Healthy and Unhealthy Dating and More

GO TO THE OUTREACH TAB

Brainstorm on ways to educate your campus and community

RESOURCE INFORMATION