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Insultive calls do not describe or report what already exists, but bring into the domain of intelligibility a new reality through citation of the prevailing conventions. The identity features introduced into the realm of reality aim at reducing the addressee/the subject into a subordinate position.

#### 3.2. Injurious [speech] acts and offensive representations in The Homecoming

Through a close examination of the insultive speech acts and the offensive representations of the female character in *The Homecoming*, one may realize the way the male characters in the play, as the representatives of the patriarchal power structures and the mouthpieces that recirculate the prevailing sociocultural discourses, try to derogate and demean Ruth. The male characters often draw on abjective discourses and archetypal images to constitute the female identity and to reduce it to a subordinate position in their struggles for power and dominance.

#### 3.2.1. Abjection of Ruth

In The Homecoming, Ruth is associated with the notions of "dirt" and "disease":

MAX. Who is this?

TEDDY. I was just going to introduce you.

MAX. Who asked you to bring tarts here?

TEDDY. Tarts?

MAX. Who asked you to bring dirty tarts into this house?

TEDDY. Listen, don't be silly -

MAX. You been here all night?

TEDDY. Yes, we arrived from Venice -

MAX. We've had a smelly scrubber in my house all night We've had a stinking pox-ridden slut in my house all night.

TEDDY. Stop it! What are you talking about?

MAX. ... He comes home without a word, he brings a filthy scrubber off the street he shacks up in my house!

TEDDY. She is my wife. We are married.

Pause

MAX. I've never had a *whore* under this roof before. Ever since your mother died. My word of honor. (*To Joey*) Have you ever had a *whore* here? Has Lenny ever had a *whore* here? They come back from America, they bring the *slopbucket* with them. They bring the *bed pan* with them. (*To Teddy*) take *that disease* away from me. Get her away from me.

TEDDY. She's my wife.

MAX (To Joey). Chuck them out. (Pinter, 1991, pp.49-50)

#### 3.2.2. Regression of Ruth's identity to archetypal representations

Almost all the male characters in *The Homecoming* reject receiving Ruth as Teddy's wife at the first sight. Lenny [Ted's brother] challenges Ruth's claim that Teddy and her are related by marriage. Max [Ted's father], however, after accusing Teddy of bringing a "dirty tart," "a smelly scrubber," "a stinking pox-ridden slut," "a filthy scrubber," "a whore," "a slop bucket" and "the bed pan" into his house, and after commanding him to take "that disease" away from him, finally accepts Ruth as Teddy's wife only when he realizes she is the mother of three sons all by Ted (Pinter, 1991, pp.49-50). From then on Max oscillates between Ruth's idealization as a good mother, at one moment, and her abjecting as a dirty tart, at the next. Later, Max undertakes an inquiry about Ruth's cookery (Pinter, 1991, p.53). When Ruth recounts some memories of the past before she met Ted when she was "different," she is immediately followed by Teddy who introduces her as "a wonderful wife and mother" (Pinter, 1991, p.58). Whereas Max and Lenny try to degrade Ruth to an object of male desire, Teddy degrades her to "a subordinate, supportive, little wife" whose existence is to be defined in relation to her husband [e.g. Helping him with his lectures] (Billington,1996, p.173). The play, as Richard Schechner observes, is "a probe of the dark male attitudes toward the mother-whore" (Billington,1996, p.183).

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Key words: Female Character, Harold Pinter, The Homecoming ... In this respect Elizabeth Sakellaridou in her book, "Pinter's Female. Portraits: a Study of the ... Ruth: You would have to regard your original outlay simply as capital investment.. This paper is a critical attempt to evaluate how Harold Pinter differs and departs from the traditional mode of ... The study is based on his text \_The Homecoming'.. Amazon.com: The Homecoming eBook: Pinter, Harold: Kindle Store. ... Look inside this book. The Homecoming by [Harold Pinter] ... she has never met. --This text refers to the paperback edition. ... The play was full of menace, irony, and shock, but with many bits that drew laughter. The father and his ... Get the pdf! Nothing .... Moonlight. The conclusion was drawn that allusions in Harold Pinter's plan ... Party, The Caretaker, The Homecoming. No Man's ... Moreover. original texts are.. Download full-text PDF ... to render a postmodernist reading of Harold Pinter's family play: The Homecoming. ... reviewed by Harold Pinter in The Homecoming.

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