

Notice for the PhD Viva Voce Examination

Ms Hephzibah Preethika F (Registration Number: 2070513), PhD Scholar at the School of Arts and Humanities, CHRIST (Deemed to be University), Bangalore Central Campus will defend her PhD thesis at the public viva-voce examination on Friday, 28 March 2025 at 11.30 am in Room No. 044, Ground Floor, R & D Block, CHRIST (Deemed to be University), Bengaluru - 560029, Karnataka, India.

Title of the Thesis	:	Echoes of Silent Screams: Journey from Abuse to Recovery in Select American Memoirs
Discipline	:	English Studies
External Examiner - I	:	Dr S Vijayarani Associate Professor Lady Doak College Madurai - 625002, Tamil Nadu
External Examiner - II	:	Dr Neelanjana Pathak Associate Professor and Head St Aloysius College, Penty Naka Sadar Sadar Main Road, Jabalpur Madhya Pradesh - 482001
Supervisor	:	Dr Sharon J Assistant Professor Department of English and Cultural Studies School of Arts and Humanities CHRIST (Deemed to be University) Bengaluru - 560029, Karnataka

The members of the Research Advisory Committee of the Scholar, the faculty members of the Department and the School, interested experts and research scholars of all the branches of research are cordially invited to attend this open viva-voce examination.

Place: Bengaluru
Date: 18 March 2025



Registrar (Academics)

ABSTRACT

Throughout history women have endured different forms of violence, with sexual violence and rape being particularly heinous. It wasn't, until the emergence of second wave feminism, in the 1970s that their voices began to be heard. Women began sharing their stories through memoirs to shed light on the horrors of rape, the effects of trauma and its lasting consequences. The research focuses on the marginalized voices of three American women who have written about their sexual abuse in their respective memoirs Roxanne Gay, *Hunger: A Memoir of my Body* (2017), Nikki Dubose, *Washed Away: From Darkness to Light* (2016) and Neesha Arter *Controlled: The worst Night of my Life and its Aftermath* (2015).

Through the eyes of the protagonists, the research sheds light on rape myths and stereotypes that hindered them from disclosing their abuse. The study delves into the profound impact of trauma highlighting how it affects the protagonist's self perception, their emotional struggles and their relationship with their bodies. The research examines the recovery process, focusing on how the protagonists come in terms with their abuse and how they sought redemption by writing about their journey.

Keywords: *Sexual Abuse, Memoirs, Victim Blaming, Trauma, Impacts, Recovery, Writing*

Publications:

1. **Hephzibah Preethika F**, Sharon J -Sartrean insights on understanding the repercussions of rape trauma in the gripping narratives of Roxanne Gay and Neesha Arter. *World Journal of English Language*, vol. 14, no. 3, 7 Mar. 2024, p. 264, <https://doi.org/10.5430/wjel.v14n3p264>.
2. **Hephzibah Preethika F**, Sharon J- Silenced, Scarred & Shattered: Unmasking the Wounds of Child Sexual Abuse in Select American Memoirs (Accepted in *World Journal of English Language*, vol.15, no. 1, January 2025)