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English Dr.Mandler  
HW#43

A) Loyalty does not have an expiration date as much as having conditions for breaking it. If the other party has been abusive or unfaithful, then that is grounds for breaking loyalty. If your life depends on breaking the bond of loyalty without harming the other party, then the bond should also be broken.  
B) Odysseus is not being disloyal to his wife. Odysseus' life was at the mercy of Calypso. To completely shun Calypso was to risk losing any source of food and water. In addition, the author writes "In the nights, true he'd sleep with her in the arching cave -- he had no choice -- unwilling lover alongside lover all too willing... But all his days he'd sit on the rocks and beaches, wrenching his heart with sobs and groans and anguish," (157). Odysseus found a need that assisted in his survival, yet his heart was always with his wife.  
C) Other characters have varying views of Penelope's loyalty. Telechamus witnesses first hand that Penelope remained loyal to Odysseus by never marrying any suitors. The suitors believe Penelope to be conniving and seductive, or at least some use that as rationale to continue overstaying their welcome in Ithaca.   
D)In the Odyssey, there has yet to be an example of a double standard. Women and men can cheat on each other, and they may or may not face the same issues depending on the situation. For example, the suitors expect Penelope to break her loyalty to the previous king because they only think he is dead. People such as Helen, may even describe themselves as a whore, but face no real repercussions. Odysseus is also expected to break loyalty by Calypso since she knows she is more beautiful than Penelope. Odysseus, for sure, regrets his disloyalty.