

Annotated Bibliography

Aviram, Hadar. "Dainty Hands: Perceptions of Women and Crime in Sherlock Holmes Stories."

Hastings Women's Law Journal 22, no. 2 (2011): 233–56.

This journal article is divided into multiple parts, all examining the concept of female criminality in the Victorian Era, but for my project, I am only interested in the section that examines women in the *Sherlock Holmes* stories. In her analysis of the women in the Sherlock Holmes stories, the author of the article points out that unlike Cesare Lombroso's ideas about criminal women being of other ethnicities or impoverished backgrounds, the criminal women in Doyle's stories do not seem to follow any stereotype. The author also points out that the women in Doyle's stories are just as likely to be the victim as they are to be a perpetrator or an accomplice. Although Doyle might have female criminals from all ethnicities included in his stories, the author does point out that European women are portrayed as reluctant participants in crime, whereas women from the colonies were portrayed as insane.

This article will benefit my research because it focuses on how Doyle represents women in the Sherlock Holmes stories and how those representations relate to widespread Victorian ideas concerning women. The two tables the author includes in her work classifying the women in Sherlock Holmes and how they are represented will also be very helpful because it provides me with essential information about the women in the stories that I could not have learned from my distant reading textual analysis. This article also provides me with a few ideas of what I could look for in my own textual analysis, such as if women are ever represented as intelligent or brave or if women of different ethnicities are more likely to show up alongside negative adjectives.

Hall, Jasmine. "Ordering the Sensational: Sherlock Holmes and the Female..." *Studies in Short Fiction* 28, no. 3 (Summer 1991): 295-303.

This journal article argues that Sir Arthur Conan Doyle utilizes women to establish Holmes as a patriarchal hero by providing him with an irrational world he needs to make rational. The author also points out the significant focus that the stories have on men attempting to take a woman's inheritance away from her, and the author argues that Doyle's choice to focus on this plot line was probably a result of the Women's Property Acts of 1870-1882. Lastly, the author points out that another extensive plot line of the stories has to do with women being made into sexual objects that need to be freed from their male oppressors by the seemingly more masculine Holmes.

This article will be very helpful to my research because it has given me an idea of keywords I should examine through textual analysis. For example, this article gave me the idea to examine if the apparently often references to sexual violence in the stories increase as the sexual purity movement gains traction. This article also gave me the idea to see if women are genuinely connected with being irrational in the stories.

Bonar, Fraser R. "'I Ejaculated!': Linguistic Masculinity in Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's THE ADVENTURES OF SHERLOCK HOLMES." *The Explicator* 76, no. 3 (July 3, 2018): 138-41. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00144940.2018.1482452>.

In this journal article, the author discusses the use of gendered language in *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*. The author focuses on the use of the word ejaculated and how only male characters utilize it, and how they only use it when they feel the need to reassert their masculinity. He clarifies that the word is used as the verb meaning to "utter suddenly" and not in reference to "the ejection of semen from the body" like it is so often

utilized today. The author ends the article by pointing out that even though Doyle might not have been thinking about the duplicity of the word ejaculate while writing, this use of gendered language in Doyle's stories still creates a distinct literary identity for *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*.

This article is important for my research because it examines what I plan to examine myself: how the text in *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes* is representative of ideas concerning gender in the Victorian Era. Although he looks at it specifically from what the text can show about the role of males in the story, and I will be examining it from what the text can show about females, I can still utilize some of his own points to guide my work. For example, I can examine his point about the word ejaculate as a male-gendered word and explore to see if there are other words that only men can use in the stories.