Abstract

Taiwan lesbian novels usually evolve around the theme of lesbian eroticism and the struggle during "coming out of the closet"; on the contrary, the theme of family has usually been absent. This thus makes "The Rebellious Girl" and "Love Motel" worthy of further examination as they stray from the traditional lesbian writing. Besides exploring in depth the relationships lesbians have with their family of origin, these two novels also deal with the lesbians' family of procreation and the lesbian community as a big family, all of which make up a huge segment of the lesbian life.

This dissertation hopes to study how Taiwan lesbian novels portray lesbians and the different forms of families in their life and as a result, reveal the authors' objective in the (re)presentation of these families.

In both of the novels, the authors used the family of origin to explain the causation of homosexuality in lesbians; portrayed real-life lesbians' family of procreation to change the stereotype that the mass media has constructed and finally, represented the lesbian community in T bars as family members residing in their homes in order to achieve a purification process. These are thus the authors' three different unique methods of dealing with the mainstream society's stereotypes and discrimination towards lesbians.