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By:

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2016

Inner Conflicts in Calliope's Intersexuality in Jeffrey Eugenides' *Middlesex*

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CALLIOPE'S INTERSEXUALITY IN EUGENIDES' MIDDLESEX

ABSTRACT

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This study aims at finding the inner conflicts, including the causes and the

resolutions to the conflicts, experienced by the main character in the novel

Middlesex written by Jeffrey Eugenides.

Middlesex is an epic novel written in memoir mixed autobiography about an

intersexual person of Greek decent. This issue has become important, especially in

sexual movement, for surgical or hormonal alteration is usually taken to create more

socially acceptable sex characteristics without having a thorough counceling to the

intersexual person.

Using objective criticism as the tool of the analysis, the writer analyzes the novel

through its intrinsic elements. Nevertheless, analyzing a novel using intrinsic

elements cannot be entirely separated from its extrinsic elements. Therefore, the

writer includes the novel's extrinsic elements whenever he needs to support his

analysis.

On gender and sexualities, the writer frames his analysis within social

constructionist theory, specifically that of Judith Butler on gender as performance.

Keywords: novel, Middlesex, sexuality, gender, intersex