

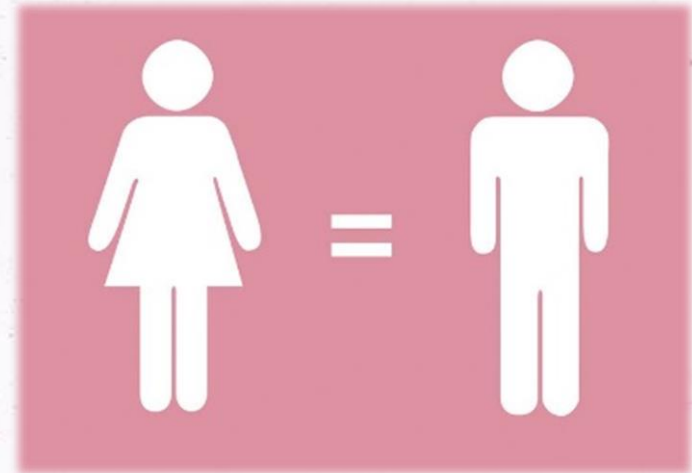
THE CONSTITUTION OF THE ITALIAN REPUBLIC

ARTICLE 2:

The Republic recognizes and guarantees inviolable rights of man, for the individual, and for social groups where personality is expressed, and demands the fulfilment of the fundamental duties of political, economic, and social solidarity.

ARTICLE 3:

All citizens have equal social dignity and are equal before the law, **without distinction as to sex**, race, language, religion, political opinions, or personal or social condition.



WOMEN IN LITERATURE

- Robert Browning (Victorian poet):

- *My Last Duchess* (1842)

she was killed by the Duke

- James Joyce (Modernist poet), in Dubliners (1914):

- *Eveline* → her inability to act

- *The Dead* → the relationship between Gabriel and Gretta.



MY LAST DUCHESS AND WOMEN'S RIGHTS

- Dynamics of power based on gender → it switches from woman to man
- The Duke has a problem with his wife behaviour → even though her actions seem reasonable to readers
- He wants to control her but he can't → she wants to be free.



THE FRESCO

- The Duchess has been made immortal in a **Duke's fresco**
- Now he decides
 - ✓ **who can look at it and**
 - ✓ **who the Duchess can look at.**
- He prefers the frescoed version to his wife because **he can dominate it**
- The woman is **objectified**



VIOLATED WOMEN'S RIGHTS

Right of freedom of action
Right of free thoughts



The Duchess behaved **spontaneously**.

- The only way to control her was to kill her = **FEMICIDE**
- **Violation** of the second article of the Constitution of the Italian Republic.

