

NORA

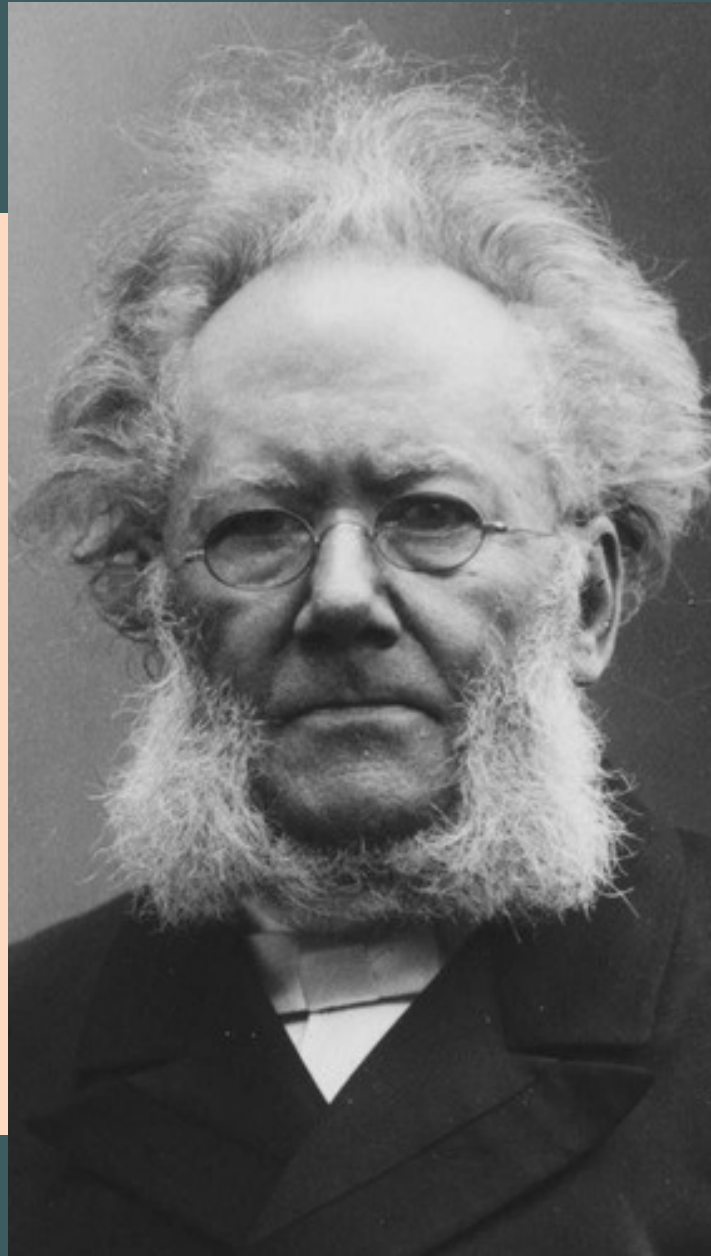


NORA of Henrik Ibsen

“a symbol throughout the world, for women fighting for liberation and equality”.

**HENRIK
IBSEN -**

**“NORA - A
DOLL’S
HOUSE”**



Most played throughout the world is probably “A Doll’s House” which culminates in the character of Nora leaving her husband Torvald and her three children – unheard of in 1879, when it was first performed, and still one of the most famous gender political moments in world literature.

Nora Helmer

The main
character of
Henrik Ibsen's
play

The role of Nora even holds an iconic status: Unesco's Memory of the World register calls Nora "a symbol throughout the world, for women fighting for liberation and equality".



“A DOLL’S HOUSE”

- Ever since “A Doll’s House” was first published, it has raised debate and controversy, both because of its splendid dramatic structure and because of its broad ideological impact.

**How did
doll's
house
impact
the
society?**

A Doll's House became a voice for women's rights issues, illustrating the challenges that women faced in a male dominated culture.

The Sacrificial Role of Women

In *A Doll's House*, Ibsen paints a bleak picture of the sacrificial role held by women of all economic classes in his society. In general, the play's female characters exemplify Nora's assertion that even though men refuse to sacrifice their integrity, "hundreds of thousands of women have."

Parental and Filial Obligations

Ibsen does not pass judgment on either woman's decision, but he does use the idea of a child's debt to her parent to demonstrate the complexity and reciprocal nature of familial obligations.

The Unreliability of Appearances

Nora initially seems a silly, childish woman, but as the play progresses, we see that she is intelligent, motivated, and, by the play's conclusion, a strong-willed, independent thinker.

By the end of the play, we see that Torvald's obsession with controlling his home's appearance and his repeated suppression and denial of reality have harmed his family and his happiness irreparably.

The constrictive nature of gender roles

In *A Doll's House*, Ibsen portrays a stereotypically gendered household with Torvald and Nora Helmer and then shows how characters—both male and female—suffer because of the roles society expects them to play.

Women at this time were expected to get married, have children, and stay at home to tend to their children and husband.

When a woman actually had a job and earned money, like Nora copying lines in secret, it was “like being a man.”

Women had very few opportunities to make money for themselves and had to rely on husbands or fathers to provide for their needs.