

## **Differences Between Love and Respect**

### 1. Motivation behind Research Paper

I am very interested in emotions. I have two reasons. First, it's because my friend was a lesbian. I was so confused when I heard about it. I knew that it was difficult to understand about LGBT, so I thought that I wanted to help her. Second, it is because I wanted to know my unclear emotions. I liked my friend, but I didn't know if I liked the person as a friend or in a romantic way. I have been interested in emotions, especially love and respect from these experiences.

### 2. Introduction

The aim is to raise awareness about the differences between love and respect by reading romance novels. I researched the words of expression on the Internet. I found the Japanese word, "Shitau". I wanted to learn the meaning of it, so I looked it up in a dictionary. "Shitau" means 1. to follow a specific person because you don't want to leave 2. to want to meet a specific person 3. to want to be a specific person. These three meanings were similar, but I thought 1 and 2 contained meanings of romantic emotion. While 3 especially contained the meaning of respectful emotion. I will prove the difference between these emotions in this research. The data collected for this study will include novels.

### 3. Results and Analysis

There is a difference between Love and Respect. First, I read “Kokoro” written by Soseki Natsume. I focused on the relationship between the main character and Teacher in this story. The main character respected the Teacher, but I wondered if it was a truly respectful emotion. There were phrases in this story, “Finally, you came to me because you were bored.” “It is possibly right. However, it is different from Love.” “These are the stairs to go up to Love. You came to me who is the same sex as steps to hug with the opposite sex.” “I think the two things have completely different characters.” “No. They are the same characters. ~.” From these phrases, I think that love and respect are very close to one another, but they are actually quite far apart. The border between them is very ambiguous. love is also in a higher position than respect.

Next, I read “kitchen” written by Banana Yoshida. In this story, there were Mikage and Yuichi. They were the phrases, “I can understand because I don’t fall in love with Yuichi. I will probably fall in love with him. It was my usual way that ran through with a dash when I fell in love. However it’s like stars glimpsed from the nubilous sky, I will fall in love every time that we have a conversation like now.” From these phrases, I think it changed from emotion having for friends to romantic emotion, also the emotion having for friends is the same as respect emotion. Therefore, I think love and respect are very similar emotions, but they are different emotions.

#### 4. Conclusion and Future Problems

As mentioned earlier, I think there is a difference between love and respect. I came up with this conclusion by reading “Kokoro” and “Kitchen”. These emotions’

borderline is different for each person. However, love is derived from respect. It is also true that love has a higher position than respect. I could understand love and respect were different emotions in this research, but this conclusion was vague. I couldn't concretely and clearly answer what and how they were different. I want to understand clearly what and how they are different in the future.

## 5. Reflection

I thought that love and respect were completely different emotions from my experiences. However, I understood they were the same group by reading the two literary works. I could make the hypothesis and answer this question, so I was fulfilled. I would like to read this essay to more people. That is because homosexual love is still unacceptable for some Japanese people. They will be able to know that love and respect are very similar emotions by reading this essay. I would like to convey that homosexuality is not a strange thing. I hope that the world will remove its prejudice and discrimination.

## 6. Work Cited

Natsume, Soseki. *Kokoro*. Japan: Shinchosha, 1952. Print.

Yoshida, Banana. *Kitchen*. Japan: Shinchosha, 2002. Print.