

Love And Hate

JANET BLATT

Love and hate are the two most violent, turbulent emotions known to mankind. Although at first it seems that the two emotions are poles apart, after careful analyzation many outstanding similarities can be found.

The lengths to which each of these emotions have at times moved individuals is astounding. Both love and hate have prodded people into doing wild unpredictable things, often with dire and tragic results.

These two emotions are extremes in sensation. Love is the culmination of all feeling centering around devotion and affection, and hate is the culmination of all feeling centering around dislike and repulsion. Where hate is usually violent, love is gentle, but each is a true emotional experience.

These emotions are often the favorite subjects of dramatists, authors, and poets, because each can be expounded into an intricate and delicate pattern. Each has many channels and paths into which the literary mind may delve for inspiration and solace.

During one's lifetime one often meets sorrow, unhappiness, conflict, and a number of things which appear to be insurmountable barriers. It is during a period

such as this, when nervous strain is heavy, that one's emotions become muddled and hazy. At this time love and hate take on a new kinship. The senses can become so intermingled that love is undefinable from hate. We turn savagely upon those we love merely because we, ourselves, are no longer capable of distinguishing one tendency from the other.

Many times love and hate have played parts of major importance in shaping the history of the world. It is sometimes ludicrous, but true, to visualize the perils a whole nation and its people have been forced to face because of a single emotion.

Also, a certain type of blindness is induced by these two emotions. At times a prevailing sense of love or hate has a suffocating effect on the intellectual ability of an individual, or an effect on the alertness of his mind. He might be placed in great danger because he is controlled by one or the other of these states in mind; however, he refuses to open his eyes and look about him. By this refusal he eliminates all chance of escape.

The realization that these two emotions and their results are parallel is provocative. It incites one to look deeper into one's inner being and analyze the findings therein.