

ABSTRACT

This master thesis examines two novels which depict affairs between female teachers and male secondary school students: *Notes on a Scandal* by Zoë Heller and *Tampa* by Alissa Nutting. In the theoretical part, female sex offenders, erotic age-preferences, child sexual abuse, and educator sexual misconduct are discussed. In the practical part, the two novels are analyzed in relation to the scholarly findings presented in the theoretical part. Despite the great differences between the two fictional depictions of educator sexual misconduct, both novels contain numerous parallels to real cases. The most notable difference between them is their approach to gender stereotypes. Although *Notes on a Scandal* allows an alternative reading, it more or less reinforces stereotypes, while *Tampa* has the clear objective to conquer them.

KEYWORDS

female sex offenders, child sexual abuse, educator sexual misconduct, hebephilia, stereotypes, English literature, American literature