

Name: _____

Class: _____

Date: _____

Wait, Did You Say “Taming”? Highlighting Misogyny in *The Taming of the Shrew*

Examine each of these quotes from *The Taming of the Shrew*. Paraphrase them in your own words (modern-day English!), and then explain why each quote is problematic.

1)

“For in Baptista’s keep my treasure is:
He hath the jewel of my life in hold,
His youngest daughter, beautiful Bianca”

Paraphrase:

This is problematic because...

2)

“I will be master of what is mine own.
She is my goods, my chattels; she is my house,
My household stuff, my field, my barn,
My horse, my ox, my ass, my anything;”

Paraphrase:

This is problematic because...

3)

“This is a way to kill a wife with kindness;
And thus I’ll curb her mad and headstrong humour.
He that knows better how to tame a shrew,
Now let him speak; ’tis charity to show.”

Paraphrase:

This is problematic because...

4)

“Thy husband is thy lord, thy life, thy keeper,
Thy head, thy sovereign; one that cares for thee,
And for thy maintenance commits his body
To painful labour both by sea and land,
To watch the night in storms, the day in cold,
Whilst thou liest warm at home, secure and safe;
And craves no other tribute at thy hands
But love, fair looks, and true obedience;
Too little payment for so great a debt.”

Paraphrase:

This is problematic because...