



## **AFRICA IN MOVIMENTO / AFRICA ON THE MOVE**

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**TITLE: ALTERNATIVE REPRESENTATIONS OF WOMEN IN FILM: TV DRAMA AS A SOURCE OF GENDER TRANSFORMATION IN TANZANIAN SOCIETY**

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### **ABSTRACT:**

Literary works such as film constitute a privileged source for understanding society. Given that some of the films are about peoples' life and one reason to watch film is to learn about culture, then, films can be a source of women liberation not only a struggle to gain economic and political power, but also a struggle over the cultural definition of gender. In film, audience learn from those who challenge dominant discourses and those who are yearning to maintain the old and predictable dichotomies. In the process of challenging the dominant discourses, alternative ways of defining femininity and masculinity emerge. Thus the film can be the site that provides new discourses which emerge as a result of challenging the main stream representation of gender relations.

This paper aims at investigating the power of film in representing and shaping gendered positions in Tanzanian society. Specifically the paper intends to explore the dominant discourses that frame the discursive position of women in the Tanzanian TV drama and the available alternative discourses.

### **AUTHOR'S ACADEMIC PROFILE:**

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