

**Title: The Anti-Family in The Wall by Pink Floyd: A Legendary Rock Album
Deconstructing the Image of the Traditional Family**

Abstract:

The purpose of this paper is to demonstrate how Pink Floyd within the lyrics of their album *The Wall* deconstruct the concept of the traditional family by portraying a negative image of it, of its members, and of the relations within it. The lyrics will be addressed from a literary scope; in this sense, this analysis will take the lyrics of the album as a text that has a meaning that can be read and interpreted. In order to achieve this, the analysis will take into consideration some of theoretical principles of Cultural Studies, one of the most *in* literary approaches today. However, this literary approach will only represent the initial theoretical foundation. As a matter of fact, the analysis will have the premises of some thinkers which have devoted several of their works and investigations to exploring the nature of institutions and authorities as its main support. Some of these thinkers are Michel Foucault, Louis Althusser, and Bertrand Russell.

This analysis will focus mainly on the images of the mother and the father as portrayed by the band. Furthermore, by exercising the rhetorical analysis of the lyrics and having a clear theoretical support, I will try to demonstrate how the relation between the parents and the son (the latter represents the speaker or narrator of the story) exemplify notions such as Foucault's panopticon, disciplinary power, and the abnormal, surveillance, control, and prohibition. These findings will expose the contradiction between the family in *The Wall* and the traditional family.

This paper has a significant value within the context of this congress due to the fact that it represents an effort to approach a text which is not considered literature as a piece of art that has a literary value. This analysis will also demonstrate how cultural gaps can be reduced through the academic exercise. Having a Latin American scholar approaching a British text using theory from French and Welsh thinkers to support his case represents a clear example of cultural pluralism. This standpoint is not only a cultural and contextual analysis which focuses on the social values of such a significant institution as the family, but also promotes a relation between the academia and cultures, literatures, and forms of art which are not considered to have academic value.

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M.L. David Boza Mendéz:

He graduated from the Masters Program in English Literature from the UCR. He has been published in different academic, cultural, and artistic spaces such as *Revista de Lenguas Modernas de la UCR*, *Bandlands*, and *Revista Herencia*. He has worked for the international organization ICOMOS investigating and pictorially collecting heritage constructions in Costa Rica. Among his academic interests are postmodernism, power relations, history of institutions, and deconstruction.