

# Love and Stoicism

- Learning outcome 2 Summarise and communicate in writing key terms and theoretical approaches to the study of popular culture
- Themes of love - types of love
- Katniss and Peeta
- Stoicism – and moral goodness
- Katniss and stoic choices

# Love

- Love is complex
- Types of love e.g. romantic, friendship, parental etc.
- Love of one ?

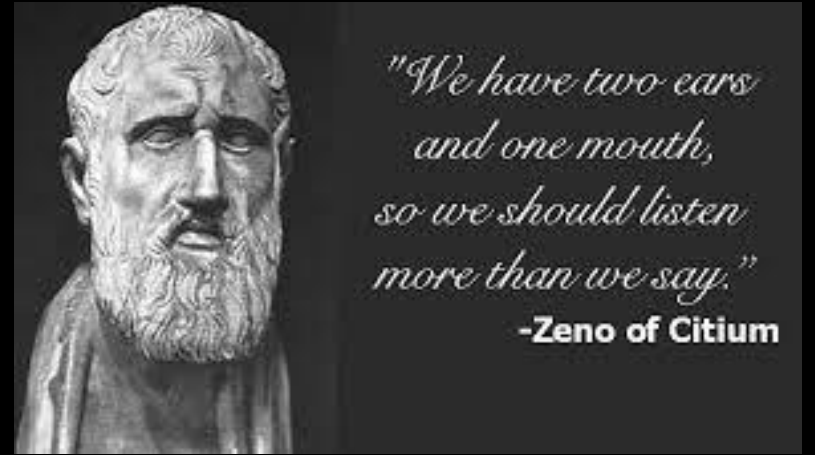


# Katniss

- Katniss in Hunger Games – romantic love (6.24 mins) and
- Peeta Mellark
- Brainwashed by Capitol to kill Katniss
- Katniss – picks whoever she cannot survive without



# Stoicism



- Founded by Zeno (334-262 BC)
- Moral goodness, living in the present, controlling one's desires
- Not attached to things you cannot control
- Wanting anything other than essentials causes unhappiness
- Moral evil = bad; moral goodness = good
- Other philosophers – Lucius Annaeus Seneca, Epictetus, Marcus Aurelius

# Character

- Whether one's character is morally good/evil
- Dependent on our choices
- Living in the present
- Nonattachment

## Things in our control

- Opinion
- Pursuit
- desire
- Aversions
- Actions

## Things not in our control

- Body
- Property
- Reputation
- Command
- Not our own actions

# Katniss the Stoic ?

- Strong moral code – sense of right and wrong
- Steadfast loyalty to her family
- Not concerned with material comforts
- But does have attachments to others ([grief for Rue](#))(6.41 mins)
- Forgives Peeta for actions over which he has no control
- Peeta chosen as her partner – what's morally right
- Makes sense rationally/morally
- Stoic choice



# Summary

- Love is complex
- Stoicism advocate moral goodness, living in the present, controlling one's desires
- Not being attached to the things you cannot control
- Our choices make us what we are
- Katniss – strong moral code which she adheres to
- Chooses Peeta – rationally and morally a stoic choice

# References

- Myers, A. E. (2012) Why Katniss Chooses Peeta: Looking at Love through a Stoic Lens In G. A. Dunn and N. Michaud, *The Hunger Games and Philosophy*. New Jersey, John Wiley and Sons
- South, J. B. (2003) *Buffy the Vampire Slayer and Philosophy*. Illinois, Open Court.