

## LOVE

Love has been dealt with not only in literature, art, philosophy, sociology, and psychology, but also in many other scientific disciplines. Love is a highly complex subject and each of us directly links our own experiences with it. It includes topics such as: sexuality, friendship, Eros, family, relationship and much more. But what is love?

### Discussion plan: Love in the Internet

- Why should you be careful in the internet?
- How do you feel about online dating?
- Why should you be critical?
- How likely is it to find your true love on the Internet?
- Dating, sex and relationship on the net - what do you think?
- Is the Internet changing our perception of love?
- How does love in virtual space differ from love in real space?

### Exercise: Love

- "It is what it is, says love" is the refrain of a poem by the poet Erich Fried (1921-1988).
- Write down your thoughts to the poem.
- What do you think Erich Fried wants to tell us about love?
- What does the poem tell you?

### Erich Fried - "What it is"

It is madness  
says reason

It is what it is  
says love

It is unhappiness  
says caution

It is nothing but pain  
says fear

It has no future  
says insight

It is what it is  
says love

It is ridiculous  
says pride

It is foolish  
says caution

It is impossible  
says experience

It is what it is  
says love."

Fried, Erich. It is what it is. I. In: It is what it is. Love poems - fear poems - anger poems. Klaus Wagenbach publishing house 1996.

#### Activity: Your idea of love

o - Write down your ideas of love. What do you mean with love?

OR

o - Draw your own cartoon: Love is.....

#### Discussion plan: Love on the Internet

- More and more people are going online in search of love. Nowadays, many people get to know each other in chat rooms, communities or forums. Some fall in love on the Internet. But the Internet is dangerous. You can never be sure if the person you're in contact with is really who he or she is. Some

people exchange sexual matters with other chat partners.

- What should you pay attention to?
- Why should you be critical?
- How likely is it to find love on the Internet?
- Dating, sex and relationship on the net - what do you think?
- Is the Internet changing love?

## Literature

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Nussbaum, Martha C.: Constructing Love, Desire, and Care. In: Nussbaum, Martha / Elstund, David (Hgg.) Sex, Preference, and Family: Essays on Law and Nature. Oxford University Press 1997.

Nussbaum, Martha C.: Political Emotions. Why Love matters for justice. Harvard University Press 2015.

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Illouz, Eva: Buchbesprechung. Martha Nussbaum. Lieben bis zum Abwinken. In: Zeit Online. 2014.

<https://www.zeit.de/2014/42/martha-nussbaum-politik-emotionen>

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## Materials

Fried, Erich. Es ist was es ist. In: Es ist was es ist. Liebesgedichte - Angstgedichte - Zorngedichte. Klaus Wagenbach Verlag 1996.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mQc9YZ-fKm4>

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