



**Deconstructing Domestic Violence:
(What's That Piano Doing on the Beach?)**

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A thesis presented to the Faculty of Arts
of the University of Adelaide
for the degree of Master of Arts (Women's Studies)

**University of Adelaide
Women's Studies Department**

April 1995

Table Of Contents

Abstract.....	3
Declaration	4
Acknowledgments.....	5
Introduction.....	6
The Problem of Domestic Violence	13
"The Piano"	
The First Fifteen Minutes	20
"Domestic Violence" and "The Piano"	34
The Aftermath.....	47
Reflections	51
References.....	54
Bibliography.....	57

NB: Chapters 3 and 4 contain appendices in which parts of the film's narrative are transcribed. These appendices are represented by a change of font, from "times" to "*nadianne*".

Abstract

This thesis takes a deconstructive approach to the phenomenon of "domestic violence" it problematizes its discourse and the victim\perpetrator paradigm on which it relies.

Jane Campion's film "The Piano" is referred to as a text which both represents domestic violence and was received and acclaimed as a "romance". Some of the implications of fore-grounding the representations of domestic violence within the film's narrative, for the discourse, are considered.

Declaration

I certify that this thesis does not incorporate without acknowledgment any material previously submitted for a degree or diploma in any university, and that to the best of my knowledge and belief it does not contain any material previously published or written by any other person except where due reference is made in the text

Acknowledgments

Eugene P. O'Boyle

Dr Margie Ripper

Robert L. Zanetti (who died on 29.6.94)