Supergay: A Queer Analysis of the CW's Supergirl.
Abstract
An analysis of queer representation and allusions in superhero narratives has been a subject for debate in the both the queer and feminist fields. TI scholars have focused on the storyline of superheroes who have “come out” as part of the LGBTQQA+ community in comics and in media. However, my paper addresses how a presumed heterosexual character’s introduction into the community as a superhero can be seen as a direct retelling of a queer “coming out” experience in Supergirl (2015). I will discuss Kara Zor-El Danvers’ “coming out” story as well as how she interacts in society as an alien in a human dominated world, to reveal how this can be seen as a direct parallel of a queer narrative. I will also compare how Supergirl portrays a canon homosexual relationship with how the show specifically depicts Supergirl’s interactions with Lena Luthor through camera angles and acting cues that alludes to a veiled homosexual relationship. I will apply Tom Boellstorf’s essay, Gay Archipelago, to address Supergirl’s narrative as queer. As well as Susan Bordo’s novel Unbearable Weight, to describe Supergirl not only as a feminism icon, but also how society views her as an ‘other’ figure that confirms her queerness. In conclusion, by closely examining how Kara is portrayed in the show, both as a superhero as well as her interactions with other characters, we can conclude that Kara Supergirl is a queer depiction of the superhero narrative.

Keywords
DC Comics, CW’s Supergirl, Queerness, ‘Other’ Figure, Multiple Personas, “Coming Out”, SuperCorp, Fandom