"a play so simple in its action and so every day in its dress" Eric Bogh (Danish playwright) 1879

"there are thousands of such doll-homes, where the husband treats his wife as a child he amuses himself with, and so that is what the wives become... it is this young and delightful young woman’s duty, her inescapable duty, to leave this gentleman, this husband, who slowly sacrifices her on the altar of his egotism, and who fails to understand her value as a human being” Review in Social Demokraten 1879

"The lack of reconciliation has wide-reaching consequences for the effect of this play within the world of readers. As far as marriage is concerned, it is far too easy to get ideas which simultaneously thoroughly annul it, and suppress the woman from the equality with the man which the execution of the principles of Christian marriage finally have granted her" Frederik Peterson (Journalist) 1880s

"marriage was revealed as being a far from divine institution, people stopped regarding it as an automatic provider of absolute bliss" August Strindberg (playwright) 1884

"women are the creatures of an organized tyranny of men" Eleanor Marx (feminist socialist who translated the play) 1886

"I have never written any play to further a social purpose." Ibsen (in a speech to the Norwegian Association for Women’s Rights) 1898

"Instead of a drama of action or incident [Ibsen] offers us a theatre of monstrous epiphany, a perception of some illuminating truth arising of dialectical conflict." James Joyce (author) 1900

"Nora confronted every convention and the chivalrous masculine prejudice that caged her within a child’s toy structure, hoping to ensure that she would remain a housepet and infant there forever." Kate Millett (Sexual Politics) 1971

"Ibsen’s Nora is not just a woman arguing for female liberation; she is much more. She embodies the comedy as well as the tragedy of modern life,” Joan Templeton (The Doll House Backlash) 1989

"[it is] women’s disproportionate confinement in private spheres [that] correlates with women’s subordinate status" L Code (Encyclopedia of Feminist Theories) 2000

"You try to keep it in its box of 19th-century Scandinavia, but the things Ibsen writes mean it ceases to be about a particular milieu and becomes about marriage (or partnership) and money. These are universal anxieties” Hattie Morahan (actress who played Nora at the Young Vic) 2013

"The theme of A Doll’s House was the need of every individual to find out the kind of person he or she really is, and to strive to become that person." Michael Meyer(Ibsen biographer) 1965