

## Notes on Lysias's Oration (9/23)

- N-1
  - Lysias wrote the defense for Euphiletus to read at his trial
  - Does the quality of the speech or its presentation by Euphiletus garner acquittal?
  - Called their own witnesses, presented no evidence, and did not have many of the other advantages one has today
  - Who chooses how the speech will represent the defendant, speaker or writer?
- N-6, 2C
  - Lysias defending himself by stating that he is doing a favor for society by killing Eratosthenes (keeping adulterers out)
  - Laws geared toward small population of free men, today they focus on individual rights and blanket more groups
  - Laws now take the rights of the individual into account rather than the good of society
  - Lysias is keeping his posterity, not passing his inheritance to a child that is not his own
  - Offense not in the man and his wife actually having the affair but the fact that Eratosthenes persuaded the wife into the act. Ruins his social standing
  - Roman Culture: a man can be prideful for sleeping with another man's wife
  - Kills one or another, if publicized would it make Euphiletus look bad?
  - Sexism: women were weak and could not perform adultery by their own volition
  - Eratosthenes met Euphiletus's wife at a funeral because women did not get out much and a funeral was one of the few places to meet them
  - Eratosthenes frequently met women and slept with them
  - Matter of pride to say that she was persuaded?
  - Did not trust his wife at first, but when they had a child he figured he did not have to keep an eye on her
- N-4, 1C
  - Threatens to torture servant girl. Presumed to be free, so how can he torture her?
  - Said he would torture the girl to get a confession, with no intent?
  - Slaves' testimonies would only be admissible if procured through torture
  - Premeditated, man was bound, should he have been convicted?
  - Being sued by the family of the victim. Lawfully committed, being sued for entrapment
  - Is it entrapment, wife was there and no other things were set up
  - Do laws apply to women? What happened to the wife?
- N-5, 1B
  - Peculiar that if the murder had been committed in a small room in the house it would have been considered sacrilege