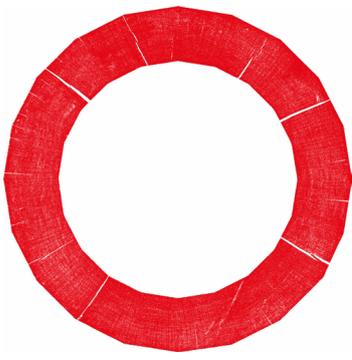


## Activities: Key Stage 3

### First interview with Emilio Doorgasingh playing Leonato

- 1) Find the Week 1 audio interview with Emilio Doorgasingh playing Leonato on the Playing Shakespeare web-site. In the interview Emilio talks about Leonato's character and motivation.
- 2) Work in a small group. Emilio describes Leonato as someone who is a good governor and a person who is respected within the city of Messina. With your fellow students, discuss Leonato and find evidence from the play which shows that Leonato is respected as a successful leader of the city.
- 3) Read the lines from Act 2 sc1 lines 294-305 where Leonato agrees to the wedding between Hero and Claudio and compare it with the earlier scene Act 1 sc2 lines 3-23 where Antonio tells his brother Leonato that Don Pedro has been heard saying he wishes to marry Hero. Discuss how these two moments show the way fathers at the time Shakespeare was writing expected to decide who their daughters would marry.
- 4) In the interview Emilio discusses the way the cruel shaming of Hero during the wedding upsets Leonato's life. Read Act4 sc1 again and identify how the events affect Leonato:
  - a) The opening of the scene when it looks as though the marriage will be completed without problem;
  - b) How he reacts when he is first convinced that Hero is guilty;
  - c) Leonato's words after Hero has fainted and Claudio and the others have left (Act 4 sc1 lines 113-252) show him experiencing a range of feelings.
- 5) Discuss what you think it is in society at the time which makes Leonato so convinced that Hero is lying even though he has known her for her whole life.



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## **Activities: Key Stage 3**

### **First interview with Emilio Doorgasingh playing Leonato**

- 6) In the final part of the scene Leonato listens to Hero saying she would rather be killed if she is not telling the truth. Discuss his response and how her words influence his earlier feeling that she must be guilty.
  
- 7) Read Act 5 sc1 where Leonato shows his brother Antonio how upset he is by the way Hero has been treated. When Claudio arrives Leonato challenges him to a duel. Decide how you think this scene will affect the audience's view of Leonato. Should he be forgiven for his earlier behaviour towards Hero?
  
- 8) Create a poster with an image of Leonato from the web-site in the centre. Surround this image with the elements of society which influence his reactions to the shaming of Hero.