

SEXUAL VIOLENCE IN WESTERN DISCOURSE: A CRITICAL DISCOURSE ANALYSIS OF EMMA DONOGHUE'S ROOM

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ABSTRACT

The present study scrutinizes the discourse of the subject novel as a specific case to unveil the sexual violence in western countries. It is based on the scrutiny of the ratio and frequency of rape and abduction cases in USA in general and in America in specific. The framework that has been chosen for analyzing and interpreting the text of the novel in order to explore the themes of rape and abduction is the theoretical 3D model of Norman Fairclough. This model works on three basic levels i.e. the first one being textual analysis, the second is interpretation and the third is explanation that only deals with socio cultural practices shown under the garb of the text or the words. The first section of textual analysis has dealt only with three things i.e. lexicology, metaphors and intertextuality. The whole thesis has been split into several chapters for the ease of the readers. Several facts and figures have been included in order to clarify the aggravating situation related to abduction and rape in America and USA. The results have been drawn on the basis of statistics. This novel has not been explored previously so the recommendations provide the readers with a wide range of vistas to work upon in order to explore it further in different dimensions. But the researcher in this research has tried her best to cover each and every aspect of the novel under the perspective of 3D model of Fairclough in the field of CDA and the researcher has tried to support results from the facts and figures in order to generate flawless results. Furthermore, the research is purely qualitative so there is no interaction with human subject and there is no dealing with any type of questionnaires interviews etc. But some statistical data is included only to throw some light on the fact of ever increasing rate of the crime of sexual harassment, rape and abduction in Western countries specifically in America.

Keywords: patriarchy, rape, abduction, psychological imbalance, 3D model

INTRODUCTION

Emma Donoghue an Irish- Canadian playwright, novelist and historian-has been a very proficient writer and a keen observer on one hand and a real blue stocking on the other. She has written many novels, short stories and plays but one of her novels worth mentioning is 'Room' written in 2010 in which she was nominated for a distinction named Man Booker Prize. 'Room' is an international widely read novel and has been transferred to the screen to win further applause. She is also the writer of many other master pieces for example *Frog Music*, *The Wonder*, *The Lottery's Plus One*, *Akin*, and the most recent one *The Pull of the Stars*. She is, no doubt, a writer of versatile talent and multiple disciplines. She has written dozens of novels, a number of short stories and even dramatic works and even has been a winner of great very awards. 'Room' deals with the theme of sexual violence and abduction. The other dominant themes of the novel are male dominance, power relation, female as an inferior and delicate/weaker creation. It is based on a historical case called Fritzl case (2008) in which Elizabeth Fritzl- a young girl-was held captive for twenty four long years and was sexually abused by her own father Josef Fritzl. The case of Elizabeth Fritzl and that of Ma is almost similar. The captives that are women are the same, the conditions under which the captives are held are same and the treatment or the abuse of the abuser is also the same. The only difference between the two is that Fritzl case is based on reality while the case of Ma is based on fiction created just following the lines of Fritzl case. It is in fact the story of a girl who was 19 years old, whose name has not been declared throughout the novel, and who has been abducted while she was coming back from her college. She was abducted by a criminal who has been involved in several abduction and rape cases and was an elderly man called Old Nick. He keeps him for 7 long years inside a stinky bad smelling room which had toilet kitchen laundry and the bedroom under the same roof. She got pregnant for two times. As a result of first pregnancy she gave birth to a baby girl who died soon after her delivery. The story of the delivery of the baby girl and her death was very sorrowful and heart rending. In the second pregnancy she delivered a baby boy called Jack who is also the spokesperson of the novel. Jack is the narrator of the story and he is a 5 years old boy. The story of his and his mother's activities inside their prison room, the story of their mental traumatic situations and the physical torture of Ma, the story of the Great Escape and lastly the story of the social pressure that they faced when they came in the society are the major accounts heard by the

little boy which is the subject matter of this novel. The most crucial part of this novel is the interview that the lady interviewer took from Ma when she was free. So the story is largely based on the themes of sexual violence and crime in American society or Western society in general. 'Room' is based on frame narrative in which Jack- a boy of five years tells the whole story. It means that Jack is the spokesperson or the portrayer of the writer herself. Critical Discourse analysis is the study that is taken up for deep analysis of any discourse or a text. It finds its roots in Critical Linguistics (CL) that was founded in 1970s. Rogers, R. (2004) asserts that the basis of critical discourse analysis as a recognized field of linguistics was truly laid by Critical Linguistics (CL) in 1970s in Britain. Critical Linguistics (CL) itself in turn is based on Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL) of Halliday. Van Dijk says that critical discourse analysis or CDA deals with the study and the analysis of any text either written or spoken in order to unveil power relations, inequality, biasness and dominance. CDA analyzes how these sources of power are produced, transmitted and reproduced with in a particular political, cultural, social and historical context. It makes clear the underlying links between society and discourse that might be unclear to a layman. According to the assertion of Fowler et al.,(1979), Critical Linguistics (CL) points to the fact that "there are strong connections between linguistics structures and social structures"(p.185). It also brings language and social structures together or it is an amalgamation of linguistics and social science and operates as to connect language and discourses with social structures and social on goings. Fowler et al., (1979) also states that: "language is an integral part of social process" (p.189).

Norman Fairclough is a renowned linguist whose 3D model is very effective in understanding any discourse that is based on power relations. Fairclough (1995) tells that the early discourse analysis totally rejected and ignored the interpretative practices of audience and hence his model gives force to the interpretative practices of audience. Fairclough's theory says that people use language in order to gain certain social purposes and there is a deep relationship between the society or the social structures and the routine social practices or social events. Another main tenet of Fairclough's model as to put in his own words is "A contribution to the general rising of consciousness of exploitative social relations, through focusing upon languages". To analyze any discourse by applying his model needs three important objects of concern. These are the texts, the discourse practice and the sociocultural practices. Analyzing texts means the analysis of linguistic features in terms of semantics, grammar, vocabulary, cohesion and organization and the sound systems. Discourse practice means the production and the consumption of the text. It means that how the text is produced by the writer and how it is perceived or consumed by the reader. The main objective of this paper is to throw light on the various cases of sexual violence in western countries and how different sexual violence cases took place in the west?

LITERATURE REVIEW

Khan (2016) states in 'A Critical Study of Discursive Power in the Selected Passages of Khaled Hosseini's A Thousand Splendid Suns' that "Power is discursively exercised" and also that "It is omnipresent asymmetrical social relations and it works on manifolds and multi dimensions". Critical Discourse Analysis of this novel is based on parallel themes of feminism and patriarchal system where females and children of Afghanistan are perpetually being victimized by power abuse. There is also a clear distinction between "power in discourse" and "power behind discourse" where power in discourse means any conversation or dialogue in text that gives idea about the exercise of power. Power behind discourse is hidden power. Uggla, F. (2012) has attempted to highlight the stereo type imagery and colonial discourses in Tourism Discourse by the application of Fairclough's 3-Dimensional model of Critical discourse analysis. Danytè, M. (2019). All Writers Are Border Walkers: Emma Donoghue Between History And Fiction In *Astray* And *The Woman Who Gave Birth To Rabbits*. The researcher asserts that the novelist Emma Donoghue as taken up the genre of historical fiction. Sir Walter Scott in 19th century was the first person who uses history to write fiction and his novels called *Waverley* novels are historical novels. The approach of Emma Donoghue to this genre is fresh and innovative medley of fiction and archive that she has beautifully opted for *The Astray* (2012) and *The Woman Who Gave Birth to Rabbits* (2002). What these words are hallmarks in the tradition of historical novels.

Ladrón, M. M. (2017), in *Psychological Resilience in Emma Donoghue's Room*, the research talks about the resilience that is the psychological construct in which it is studied that how the victims of highly traumatic cases recover and muster up courage to cope up with their condition. They try to heal and in the end they are successful in their remaking. So there is a reversal of the condition of the characters of the novel from the agony of life towards the celebration of life. They no more try to struggle to synchronize themselves to the society. The criticism and the hardships being imposed by the society no more matter for their easygoing lives. Most of the reviews of the novel have been directly and indirectly connected with most of the cases of abduction and across the continent. All of these cases brought about great many changes in the minds of the victims. But the great skill and the positive side of

the author of the novel is that she has changed the dreadful perspective to the blissful perspective. Nirwana, N., & Khaswar, N. (2020). In the factors affecting human understanding, the researcher has tried to probe into the mentality of the characters of the novel with the application of the philosophy of John Locke. John Locke has bifurcated people gaining human understanding of knowledge in two ways in his essay, “An essay concerning human understanding”. The first one is sensory experience and the second one is inner experience. The research paper is basically related with Jack that is how he perceives knowledge of the world by his sensory and inner perceptions.

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK AND METHODOLOGY

Sexual violence has become a prominent scandalous case in various parts of the world. It has become a very repetitive theme in various novels and has been highlighted in various magazines and journals and can be seen as a hot debate on many T.V channels. This study aims to highlight various instances of sexual violence, its impacts on social and mental perspectives as seen through the word choices or lexis. The novel under study contains several dialogues, gestures, words and titles etc. that provide ample food for the CDA analysis based on the model of Fairclough. It is basically a qualitative research. A qualitative research analyzes and interprets non-numerical data as opposed to quantitative research. It takes language or a text, audios, videos or photographs etc. for the analysis. The very basic objective of the qualitative research is to comprehend social realities related to individuals, groups or cultures. This approach is exploratory and hence it questions the issues like “why” or “how”. The results of qualitative method helps understand various social realities in depth and that how people perceived or understand their social and cultural values and how they act in their respective societies. Critical discourse analysis has been used as a conceptual framework in this study. One of the major concerns of this work is the evaluation and exploration of the discursive powers according to Fairclough’s concept of power in and behind discourse, 1989 in Emma Donoghue’s novel ‘Room’. This model has been applied on the selected sections or passages of the novel under study. Power is exercised discursively and operates on social, political and institutional levels. Linguistics has been serving as a powerful means to exert power. Certain words, epithets and titles, dialogues and descriptions show that power is exercised for achieving multiple ends for example, social status, interests, social image and supremacy. Power is highly context dependent so the context or the background themes and the social and cultural scenario of this special case have been discussed in this paper.

Fairclough’s Approach to CDA

As mentioned above that the current study applied Fairclough’s three dimensional model of CDA owing to the applicability and the suitability of this model to the novel selected for the study. The three dimensional model of Fairclough says that discourse is viewed from three perspectives i.e. discourse as a text, discourse as a discursive practice and the discourse as a social practice. In this way he designed his approach on three dimensions or aspects: description, interpretation and explanation. These three dimensions have been briefly discussed as under:

i) Discourse as a text or Description

At this stage, the major focus is the text. Various textual or linguistic features such as grammar, vocabulary or word choices and other textual components are discussed. Discourse as a text means the analysis of the text with respect to linguistics that is based on semantics, phonology, lexicology, general grammar and cohesion-organization above the sentence level. Above sentence level means, as Fairclough himself claimed, every sentence in any text can be analyzed on the basis of three important functions that are relations, representations and identities.

ii) Discourse as Practice or Interpretation

In the three dimensional model of Fairclough, this is the second stage that deals with the process of text production and consumption or discourse production and interpretation. Text production involves the process of generation of any text while text consumption refers to the ways or approaches which the readers take or opt in comprehending and understanding any particular text. For Fairclough, “discourse practice straddles the division between society and culture on the one hand, and discourse, language and text on the other” (p.60). One of the basic core concepts of this stage is intertextuality which is purely interpretative. The intertextual properties of any text are basically present in its linguistics features.

iii) Discourse as a Sociocultural Practice or Explanation

As evident from the name that this stage deals largely with the facts that discourse is a mirror image of sociocultural practices of any society. It ties directly with the social structures (power and dominance) and other social practices (exertion of illegal power and ideologies). This stage throws light on economic, political, social and cultural scenario of any particular society merely by probing into the underlying meanings of the words or texts. At this stage, any particular event can be clearly understood and comprehended. So, all the three stages are strongly interlinked and are

bound to be applied together in order to critically analyze any text. All these three stages work together to analyze the situational, institutional and social practices respectively. The methodology applied in this research paper will be the application of Fairclough's three dimensional model of critical discourse analysis in which the description or the textual analysis is the basic and necessary component. While doing textual analysis, the fields of semantics, pragmatics and lexicology are being opted. In the field of semantics the theory of implicature will be employed, in the field of pragmatics the background of writing the subject knowledge will be discussed and in the field of lexicology various terms and words and titles will be elaborated. Furthermore the second and third level of Fairclough's model that is interpretation and explanation will be dealt briefly.

ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

Description

i) Cognitive distortions:

This term 'cognitive distortions' was spoken by Dr Clay when he was telling about his examination of Jack. His mental state was imbalanced. He could not make pace with the newer 'outside'. The newer environment and surrounding made his mind null and void. He was totally tortured by persons, places and even things.

ii) Hell and back:

Lawyer of Ma and Jack was a very nice guy. He handled them quite politely and humbly. He told Ma that they have been in the he'll before. That room was not less than a hell for them. They have been in the hell for seven years and that was very tough time for them to face.

"That bast- the accused, shall we say, he robbed you of the seven best years of your life already"

iii) Robbed:

Morris, being a loyal and cooperative lawyer, was very friendly and honest man. He was the only man who trusted the lady and showed sympathy for her and her innocent child. He realized them that they have been robbed of seven golden years of their lives. Years, days and moments never come back. What is gone is gone in the end. They have been brutally handled and badly treated. Living on scraps, they were bound to oblige the brutal man at every cost. They, in the words of lawyer Morris, have wasted their beautiful and fruitful years with him there in worst prison Room.

iv) Murder:

Old Nick was under a battery of charges. He was a murderer, an illegal reaper, a cruel oppressor and a distasteful man above all. Before Jack, Ma had another pregnancy that was her first pregnancy. Later, in the fourth part of the novel, another fact is revealed when Ma unknowingly or knowingly tells Jack about her first child who was a girl and was dead by probably entangling of placental cord all around her body. She was handled brutally in the room by Old Nick and he did not take Ma and her in any hospital to make them secure. But instead he just cut placental cord and murdered her and buried her somewhere in the backyard under some bush. This was the highly cruel situation a person can imagine. Lawyer Morris described him to have a charge of murder as well.

v) Home; soundproof cell:

Jack was highly hostile to everything that belonged to the outside. While in the room of the clinic, he was still differentiating between what is home and what is not. To him only room was the home. The place which could only bring the sense of belonging, solace to the mind and peace to the inner self is called home. Clinic's room number seven was also just a soundproof cell where unwanted noise could not enter. It had also no sense of attachment or belonging in it for the child who was mentally sick being suppressed and oppressed for five years. It could not be called 'home'.

vi) Separation anxiety:

Jack was an unwanted and illegal child and to put in the words of Old Nick, he was merely a "basket case". He did not belong to anyone legally as Dr Clay was talking to Ma. The case of Old Nick, Ma and Jack was in process and the thoughts of being separated from her child haunted Ma severely. Being a mother, she was always having apprehensions regarding Jack. He was the only ray of hope and the only beam of light inside that prison Room. He made her life changed even in prison. He was the only person who could make her at ease in every situation. And above all, Jack was the escaper and the emancipator of Ma. He did great and unbelievable task at such an early age of five years only. Ma had great attachment with him because she has. Lost her first child and who gave all attention and love to Jack who was her only support. That is why when they were talking about the separation of

Jack as an illegal child from Ma, she abruptly spoke that Jack and she are never departing or separating no matter what happens.

vii) *Social reintegration:*

Society has no space for culprits. The one who is shunned by the society takes years and decades and even centuries to reconcile him with the society again. Ma was also a dejected and rejected culprit. Although, she was abducted and raped brutally, she faced what could not be faced; she was still a fallen creature. She had been fallen from the eyes of society. The girls and the ladies, who have been abducted, raped or are mothers of illegal children are socially abandoned. Similarly, Ma faced cold eyes and frozen attitudes of people who were part of her circle before. Nobody was lenient towards her broken heart and shattered soul. No one was going to accept her with the filthy character of her.

viii) *Self-Blame:*

For sins, people usually blame themselves. Being abducted and raped and then socially forbidden was actually a pressing reality for Ma. Ma was very depressed for her social status. Although, her character was pure and she was chaste. There was no reason to panic for her social standard. But she was ashamed of herself for one reason or the other. She somehow made herself a culprit in her own mind. Such was the mental suffering she had been going through since the day she was abducted. Every coming day seemed to be distasteful and disgusting more than the one before.

ix) *Interview section:*

The most important part of the novel is the fourth part. Especially, the interview part has crucial importance for it covers all the important talk to explore the psychological state of mind of the victim and her social standard as well. As we know that Ma had an intention to face the world, boldly and to raise her voice against the exploitation of the fair sex and against their confinement and trafficking, she was irrespective of what her social status is and how people would perceive her. The following word choices are taken from interview part.

x) *Bad dreams:*

Violence and exploitation cannot be wiped off the minds of the victims for a long time. Ma went through the bone breaking trials in her past. She was broken and shattered by the realities and her hard life. The lady interviewer, who was a kind and polite lady, told her to negate the bitter realities of her life from her mind and to wash off the dirty memories associated with his bloody rapist and captor. She called the memories of the past to be the bad dreams as dreams are not kept in memories and after sometimes the dreams fade away from the minds.

“There’s another new website she finds Then she goes to other sites with only words like confinement and trafficking.....”

xi) *Confinement and trafficking:*

Confinement and trafficking has been the great problems of the western countries in general and of American society in specific. Or it would be no lie to say that it has been a great dilemma since the man is born. Ma was the victim to such an evil. It was actually a website that was opened by Ma and seen by the little angelic narrator. Ma had in fact intended to raise her voice against this evil and to show the world not to victimize the fair sex and that fair sex is not weak or frail to face the society’s criticism. She is empowered to raise voice against make dominated societies.

“Well, everything’s strange, because you’re like a visitor from another planet, aren’t you?”

xii) *Visitor from another planet:*

Jack has been defined as a visitor from another planet by the interviewer because he had been a perpetual victim of psychological imbalance and unsteady working of mind. He was almost alienated by the ‘outside’. Everything of the outside seemed to be hostile and sinister towards him. The sense of being alienated from all the persons, places and things was so high that he talks about the room very often and at times he resists going back to his room where he finds eternal solace in his little confined world.

This must be the most tiring week of your life”

xiii) *Tiring week:*

The week after their 'Great Escape' was highly critical for Ma and Jack. They had been seen with cold eyes and did not welcome by anyone except the people related to their investigation and medical psychological treatment. Even they had no relationship even no blood relationship who could have cordially accepted them. Jack was never

accepted. He was just considered to be the son of the beast and an illegal basket case. Grandma, grandpa and even Paul and Deana, his uncle and aunt were cold towards him. Both the mother and the child were the only support for each other. Nobody was going to embrace them. They were both socially and emotionally depending on each other only. They had a little world of their own where nobody dares to enter for they were socially rejected and dejected.

xiv) No offense:

Character of grandpa is actually the symbolic character to show the rigidity of the society for illegal things. Grandpa took the acceptance and even the sight of Jack to be a sort of offense. He perceived Jack as the stain on the character of Ma, himself and his own family. A woman who has been abducted and raped and who has been away from her home for days, months or years is socially unacceptable. She has no place for her in her society, not even in her own family and blood relations. She, along with all her belongings, is rejected by everyone and is a curse for the whole society. Likewise, Ma and Jack were offensive for grandpa and when Ma implores him to accept her along with Jack; he said "no offense".

xv) Good things versus bad things:

Good things and bad things and ups and downs are the part of life. Going through good and bad times create the spirit of life. The interviewer called her days of imprisonment to be the bad things. Some unexpected and uncertain incidents occur in the lives of all people. Some can endure through bad times and others cannot. Ma also endured in the bad times with bad things but in the eyes of the lady interviewer, her good time had been started in which she could be free to enjoy her life in her own way or the way she always longed for being a woman and a mother. Bad times suggest the pressure and illegal enforcement of the will of the bloody rapist and captor.

xvi) Without books or professionals or even relatives:

Life ahead was a great challenge looking in face of Ma. Everybody knew that Ma has been subjected to the worst slavery where she could not even leave the prison house and hence lived in a highly handicapped and helpless situation. Her own relatives and even her own mother and father seemed to be reluctant to accept her for she was wasted. The interviewer enquired in her interview about Jack who. Was Ma's only belonging and only blood relation left in the world? She asked about how she would raise her child in such a challenging and blaming world without books or professionals or even relatives. Ma answered in a very bold way that she can do everything for him and to keep him safe and sound to let him grow physically and mentally without any disturbance. She changed her stance and attitude towards the most hated person of the world that was Old Nick, just for the sake of Jack. Just to keep him safe and sound, she changed her cold attitude towards Old Nick to warmer one in order to keep peace inside the room.

xvi) Condemned to solitary confinement:

Solitude is often relaxing and untiring but in certain cases solitude becomes a punishment. Solitary confinement appeared to be a hell for Ma. It was perhaps some condemnation that fell upon the poor lady that she was compelled to live inside the prison room for years just to satisfy the voluptuous lust of a beastly man. Every sensible person, like the lady interviewer, was well aware of the condition of the victims. She knew that Ma had no fault with her sagacity. In fact, it was her lot that deceived her. It was perhaps predestined that she would be victimized for most illegal work that is to satisfy the lust of a man and to be pregnant twice without having any legal relationship with him. It had been a great curse for her and her condemnation to solitary confinement at last brought her to the inhumane level of treatment where her own blood relations seemed to be reluctant to accept her and her child. She was befallen and a failure for life.

"Escape, right, and the arrest of the, ah, the alleged captor. Now did you get the senses, over the years that this man cared- at some basic human level, even in a warped way-"

xvii) Basic human level:

The exploiters of humanity, rapists, kidnappers, criminals and culprits for any crime are definitely devoid of human characteristics. They are not even worth calling humans. The lady interviewer, while questioning Ma, just threw light on the character of Old Nick and her relationship with Old Nick. She just enquired about the life years spent in prison with that hated person. A person, who kept a young beautiful girl full of life, in prison Room for seven years, murdered his own first child and kept the other one quite on scrapping, raped her regularly and fed them on junk as if giving them a treat called Sunday treat, could not be called as a human. Such person is not only on basic human level as the lady said. Old Nick was rather a beastly man, null and void, having no emotions for his partner and not even for his own children. He was cruel in true sense. He practiced all evil and bad things.

Interpretation

Rape cases and the cases of abductions are very common in this age especially in the Western world. Although all of the people of the society are directly and indirectly involved and are responsible for such cases yet there is social stratification for the Fallen and rejected women who has been butt of Criticism throughout their remaining lives. They are always rejected and dejected and are unacceptable at any cost. There is always set criterion of acceptance and rejection of the female in every society. And it is the characteristic of every society to reject and demolish the very being of every girl and women who has been the victim of cruel patriarchy especially when she is raped and lost her virginity. God has created the communities for human beings to live in fraternity, to give support to each other and to share the grievances of each other, especially the victimized ones. But here in this novel the victimized and grief-stricken women has been thrown off by her community and even thought on blood relations are not incline to accept her even after the absence of 7 long years. His own brother and his mother thoughtful to embrace her in new version of her where she had an illegal child with her. His father is the strictest person towards her. His character and disposition shows the quality of the male driven society. So, in a nutshell community is a torturing entity. It is not meant to lessen the grieves of its fallen subjects rather it is a means of adding to the grieves of its subjects. Right from the creation of man until today there are always different rules for male and the female. The rules are strict for the female and lenient for the males. Even the male subjects of the society are considered to be the creator of the rules not for themselves but for the females of the society. Emma Donoghue has tried to veil out such realities of harsh society. She is clearly a feminist and shows concern for the female other society and to bring forth the real face of the male subjects of any society. She has a true understanding of the fact that in this modern age even the women are being derived by the men. In this age of Civilization and freedom the patriarchal system is still surviving. A female cannot find any space, support and even harbor if a man of her society is not willing. She is totally dependent upon her male companions in order to survive in the society. So, the theme of feminism is the very important theme that has been explored by the writer.

Explanation

There are several instances in the novel that put forward the ideology of the author. Sexual violence, as we know, is the major theme of the novel and also the issue of the day. It is common all over the world especially in America and other Western countries. The novelist is very skillful in portraying the real picture of her society. For example, we find realism as she he talks about media, illegal children, the condition of the raped girls and those of abducted ones, strained relationships and the society on the whole. Along with these themes there are continuous undercurrents of other related themes of feminism, role of fate, innocence and social disintegration. The history of the cases of abduction and rape cases is very long. The figures of the rape cases in US are always rising in the years that have been recorded. According to one study of 1997 it is shown that almost 91% of females are raped and only 9% men are raped in US. The statistical data of the women who experience rape once in their lives is 15 to 20% as declared by the different reports. Report from the U.S. Department of Justice Bureau of Justice Statistics from 1995 to 2010 tells that the ratio of sexual assaults has been considerably decreased. In 2018 uniform crime report highlighted 127, 258 rape cases in the year that were reported to the police for law enforcement. The national crime victimization survey of 2016 revealed the figure of 431 840 reports of sexual assault and rape across the country. Then a survey held at centers for Disease Control reveal the fact that one woman out of every 5 and one man out of 71 has been the in the charge of having attempted or done rape once in their life in the year 2010. And among all these reports the analysis shows that 21% of women have been rape by the group rapist. But here one concept is to be e highly considered that NCVS and UCR, although are the notable institutions, still their reports are under counted and are fake to certain extent. There are various reports that are truthful on the one hand and misleading on the other. For example, the report of 2013 is considered to be underreported and many of the facts and figures were deleted and even not reported at all. In the next year in 2014 Police it veiled most of the realities related to the rape cases to show its own efficiency. A survey was done that included the rape cases of 12 plus age girls and boys. Bureau of justice statistics stated that 34.8 8% rape cases were reported in 2013 while the ratio of the cases was 29.3 in the year 2004. So it is clear that there was a huge rise in the illegal cases of sexual assaults over the years and there was a great increase from 29.3 to 34.8.

CONCLUSION

It is concluded from the facts and figures that have been given in the above sections and debates that the ratio of rape cases is very high in the countries like America which boast of being the leading countries of the whole world. Although there are many evidences that support the argument. For example, we come across various Institutions of the society of America that are functioning in the best way to decrease the crime rate. But still there are certain breaches that are the hurdles in the way of progress. Hence it is concluded that the cases of abduction and rape have been increasing with the passage of time and with the running of the years. And the captives or the prisoners who

are mostly young girls and women are treated like animals. They are treated in a very inhumane way. The rapists are most cruel of all the human beings. Despite of having one of the greatest security systems of the world America has been failed to curb the cause of such brutal and illegal cases and even failed to lessen the number of such cases in the country. Not only in the remote areas, but in the areas where there is great population and masses these exploitative cases are increasing day by day. It is further concluded that along with the tension and the serenity of the case of the protagonist and her child and the grim and dark situation that lurked throughout the course of the novel, the novelist has tried to throw light on various other aspects of the American society. She has tried to delve deep into the minds of the characters in order to show their inner states of mind. The patriarchy and male dominance has also been elaborated in the characters of Old Nick, father of Ma and some other characters. The critical eye of the whole society has also been the subject and a great theme of the novel. So in a nutshell, it must be clear that the novelist has treated her story not only to discuss the rape cases and tragic tragedy of Ma but she has tried to give the whole view the whole American society from individual to the families and the groups and the general people. She has tried to turnout the psychological states of her characters in order to elaborate her own point of view.

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