

Suppression, Gender discrimination of black woman among selected works of Alice Walker

Literature review

Alice Walker is known as writer as well as feminist and especially well known for her novels, poems, and short stories which offer great insight into African-American culture and explicit focus on women.

During the years 1950-60, a variety of literary, cultural and political developments including the heightened visibility of Alice walker has posed. She expanding the presence of black women's experience and expressive tradition in Afro-American writing, and the impact of the woman's movement on African-American women's consciousness, fostered that has been termed "The black woman's literary renaissance" of the 1970.

"The third life of Grange Copeland" (1970) an epic novel that tracks three generations of a black-southern family through internal strife and struggle to rise from share cropping.

"Meridian" (1976) the novelistic redefinition of African- American motherhood, the novel takes a complicated look at black-white and black-black relation. A large section of the novel deals with a marriage between a white woman and a black woman.

Alice walker most famous work "The colour purple" in the year 1982 won Pulitzer prize which depicts the growing up and self-realization of a southern black woman between 1909 to 1947 and the novel was largely praised for the depth of its woman characters.

The present study has planned to analyse the role of African-American woman in selected novels including the "The third life of Grange Copeland, Meridian, and The colour purple of contemporary feminist writer Alice walker.

Rationale of the planned study

As per Alice Walker's novel, numerous ladies in the whole insensible of affection, never having been permitted to share their sentiments. The black women are suppressed in many aspects; woman of the black community is misrepresented among in their own community. Black woman who was suppressed and dominated socially, physically and sexually, try to get freedom from the dominance. Women have always been a part of literature throughout the ages, unfortunately they have often depicted as weaker and inferior, could not survive on their own, and could not do their work themselves.

Alice Walker was the first woman who coined the term "womanism" a term of black feminism which affirms women's culture, strength, and flexibility. Most of the black women are treated as slaves and they want to redefine their womanhood. The principal parts of the black-woman best owes as slaves they need to emancipate their adulthood. Therefore, the critical analysis of black women's characters in Alice Walker novels is necessary.

Objectives of the study

The main objective of this study is to create a new identity and give a voice for black women in American society in the recent era and make them self-confident socially, emotionally and spiritually.

Importance of the study

The research is an attempt to explore the suppression, gender discrimination of black women among selected works of Alice Walker. Alice Walker was an Afro-American writer, has encountered

the black women's freedom. She urges black woman recognize their connectedness to woman who historically have built bridges for them with their indomitable and independent spirit. The main argument of the research is to overcome the sufferings of black woman.

“For in the end, freedom is a personal and lonely battle; and once faces down fears of today so that those of tomorrow might be engaged”- Alice Walker