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PEDAGOGIE**

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Université d'Abomey-Calavi (UAC), Bénin

Sous la direction du :

Dr Rissikatou MOUSTAPHA BABALOLA

Maître de Conférences des Universités (CAMES)



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LIGNE EDITORIALE ET DOMAINES DE RECHERCHE

LIGNE EDITORIALE

La *Revue Internationale de Langage et de Pédagogie (RIL@P)* est une revue scientifique spécialisée qui couvre les domaines de recherche tels que les lettres, la linguistique, la sociolinguistique, la didactique, les sciences de l'éducation et les sciences sociales. Les articles que nous y publions peuvent être écrits en français, en anglais, en espagnol ou en allemand. Ces articles sont reçus au secrétariat du comité de rédaction de la revue et envoyés en évaluation. Ceux qui ont reçu un avis favorable à leur soumission sont sélectionnés pour une réévaluation par les membres du comité scientifique en raison de leur originalité, des intérêts qu'ils présentent aux plans africain et international et de leur rigueur scientifique. Après les travaux préliminaires du secrétariat, le spécimen du numéro à publier est envoyé au comité scientifique et de lecture pour des corrections éventuelles et la vérification de la conformité des articles aux normes de publication de la revue.

Notons que les articles que notre revue publie doivent respecter les normes éditoriales suivantes :

La taille des articles

Volume : 12 à 15 pages ; interligne : 1,5 ; pas d'écriture (taille) : 12 ; police : Times New Roman.

Ordre logique du texte

Un **TITRE** en caractère d'imprimerie et en gras. Le titre ne doit pas être trop long (au plus 2 lignes);

Un Résumé est fait en français et en anglais ou en allemand (pour les articles rédigés en allemand). Le résumé doit comporter 50 à 200 mots maximum avec pour interligne 1. ;

Les mots clés au nombre de 05 font partie du résumé ;

Le second résumé ou abstract est juste la traduction du résumé original. Il est aussi fait de mots clés exactement comme dans le premier cas et suit les mêmes restrictions par rapport au nombre de mots ;

Une Introduction ;

Un Développement ;

Les articulations du développement du texte doivent être titrées et / ou sous titrées en trois niveaux au plus ainsi qu'il suit :

Pour le Titre de la première section et sous-section

1. Pour le titre de la première section

1.1. Pour le titre de la première sous-section

1.2. Pour le titre de la deuxième sous-section de la première section etc.

Pour le Titre de la deuxième section

2. Pour le titre de la deuxième section
 - 2.1. Pour le titre de la première sous-section de la deuxième section
 - 2.2. Pour le titre de la deuxième sous-section de la deuxième section etc.

Pour le Titre de la troisième section

3. Pour le titre de la troisième section
 - 3.1. Pour le titre de la première sous-section de la troisième section
 - 3.2. Pour le titre de la deuxième sous-section de la troisième section etc.

Conclusion

Elle doit être brève et insister sur l'originalité des résultats de la recherche

Bibliographie

Les sources effectivement consultées et citées dans le texte doivent figurer dans une rubrique, en fin de texte, intitulé :

Références Bibliographiques

Les divers éléments d'une référence bibliographique sont présentés comme suit : NOM et Prénom (s) de l'auteur, Année de publication, Zone titre, Lieu de publication, Zone Editeur, pages (p.) occupées par l'article dans la revue ou l'ouvrage collectif.

Dans la zone titre, le titre d'un article est présenté en romain et entre guillemets, celui d'un ouvrage, d'un mémoire ou d'une thèse, d'un rapport, d'une revue ou d'un journal est présenté en italique. Dans la zone Editeur, on indique la Maison d'édition (pour un ouvrage), le Nom et le numéro/volume de la revue (pour un article) suivi du Lieu de publication, de la Zone Editeur de la revue. Au cas où un ouvrage est une traduction et/ou une réédition, il faut préciser après le titre le nom du traducteur et/ou l'édition (ex : 2nde éd.).

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La rédaction n'admet que des notes en bas de page. **Les notes en fin de texte ne sont pas tolérées.** Les citations dans le corps du texte doivent être indiquées par un retrait avec tabulation 1 cm à gauche avec le texte mis en taille 11 et interligne 1.

Les références de citations sont intégrées au texte citant, selon les cas, de la façon suivante :

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Les citations et les termes étrangers sont en italique et entre guillemets « ».

RIL@P s'interdit le soulignement.

Le comité scientifique et de lecture est le seul organe capable de porter des jugements sur la scientificité des textes publiés. Le comité de rédaction de la revue s'occupe de la publication des textes retenus par le comité scientifique et de lecture.

Les avis et opinions scientifiques émis dans les articles n'engagent que leurs propres auteurs. Les textes non publiés ne sont pas retournés.

La présentation des figures, cartes, graphiques...doit respecter le format (format : 15/21) de la mise en page de *RIL@P*.

Tous les articles doivent être envoyés à l'adresse suivante : rilap2022@gmail.com et copie faite aux adresses (courriels) suivantes : rissikatouba@gmail.com / csohede@gmail.com.

NB : Un auteur dont l'article est retenu pour publication dans *RIL@P* participe aux frais d'édition par article et par numéro. Il reçoit, à titre gratuit, un tiré-à-part et une copie de la revue publiée à raison de quarante mille (**40.000**) francs CFA.

DOMAINE DE RECHERCHE

La Revue Internationale du Langage et de Pédagogie (RIL@P) est un instrument au service des chercheurs qui s'intéressent à la publication d'articles et de comptes rendus de recherches approfondies dans les domaines ci-après :

Lettres : littératures, cultures et civilisations ;

Langues : linguistique, didactique des langues, traduction, interprétation des langues et communication ;

Sciences de l'éducation ;

Sciences sociales ;

Les **sujets généraux d'intérêts vitaux** pour le développement des études en pédagogie, langues et sciences de l'éducation et sociales.

Au total, la *Revue Internationale de Langage et de Pédagogie (RIL@P)* se veut le lieu de rencontre et de dissémination de nouvelles idées et d'opinions savantes dans les domaines ci-dessus cités.

LE COMITE DE REDACTION

EDITORIAL

La Revue Internationale de Langage et de Pédagogie (RIL@P), publiée par le Centre Béninois des Langues étrangères (CEBELAE), est ouverte aux chercheurs des institutions universitaires de recherche et enseignants-chercheurs des universités, instituts universitaires, centres universitaires et grandes écoles.

L'objectif de cette revue est de permettre aux collègues chercheurs et enseignants-chercheurs d'avoir une tribune pour faire connaître leurs travaux de recherche.

Le comité scientifique et de lecture de *RIL@P* est présidé par le Professeur Médard Dominique BADA. Ce comité une trentaine de membres dont onze (11) Professeurs Titulaires et vingt-trois (23) Maîtres de Conférences.

Aussi, voudrions-nous informer les lecteurs de *RIL@P*, qu'elle est multilingue avec des articles rédigés aussi bien en français, en anglais, en espagnol, qu'en allemand.

**Dr Rissikatou MOUSTAPHA BABALOLA,
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SOMMAIRE

LANGUAGES : LITTÉRATURE, CIVILISATION, SCIENCES SOCIALES

- 1. A Socio-Educative Rendering of A Childhood in Charles Dickens' *Oliver Twist***
Casimir Comlan SOEDE.....13
- 2. Peace-Making in Literature: A Semiolinguistic Reading of Chinua Achebe's *Things Fall Apart* and George Orwell's *1984***
Abibou AKALA
&
Kassim YACOUBOU24
- 3. Violencia Autodestructiva de Personajes en la Literatura: Caso de Pascual Duarte y Okonkwo**
Amon Cathérine DJORO.....37
- 4. A Postcolonial Reading of Cultural Syncretism in Ifeoma Chinwuba's *Fearless***
Donissongui TUO50
- 5. La violence coloniale et la métaphore de la mort dans *Au Diable vos Totems* d'Abdou Ngom (2020)**
Mamadou Gorgui BA67
- 6. A Semiotic Approach to Chris Abani's Soteriological Vision of Friendship in *Graceland* (2005)**
Siaka FOFANA.....85

PEDAGOGIE : SCIENCES DU LANGUAGE, SCIENCES DE L'ÉDUCATION

- 7. Survival of Minority Language in Urban Context: The Case Study of Mancagne in Senegal**
Ibrahima SARR100
- 8. L'enseignement /apprentissage du Yoruba dans les centres Barka du Paefe au Bénin : état des lieux et perspectives**
Oba-Nsola Agnila Léonard Clément BABALOLA113
- 9. Stratégies d'amélioration de la qualité de l'éducation des enfants nomades à Tahoua, Niger**
Moustapha MOUSSA
&

Amadou ZAKOU
 &
 Soumana SEYDOU.....128

10. Les déterminants de la mise en œuvre efficace des stratégies d’animation de groupes à l’école primaire au Bénin

Gabriel Coovi BOKO
 &
 Comlan Germain Roch AHOKPOSSI.....141

11. Analyse des pratiques de formation à la différenciation pédagogique réalisée par des élèves-maîtres du CRFPE de Dakar

Amadou Yoro NIANG156

12. Tone and Semantic Shift in Madinka and Nafanra

Fousseni KONE.....174

LANGUAGES : LITTERATURE, CIVILISATION, SCIENCES SOCIALES

A SOCIO-EDUCATIVE RENDERING OF A CHILDHOOD IN CHARLES DICKENS'

OLIVER TWIST

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Abstract

Someone's belief in his destiny and hardworking determine his personal fulfillment by throwing away any social and societal rejection s/he was subjected to in his/her family, community or nation. Thanks to Karl Marx Marxism, the study deciphers people's socio-cultural divisions regarding social classes and the behaviours of their members towards their counterparts; and new criticism of John Crowe Ransom that deals with the text aesthetic in the way by which it functions and conveys messages, this study checkouts that there are evil acts against human beings regarding the maltreatment of a deprive counterpart namely an orphan child. This research work shows also that no human situation is either permanent or fatal if there is self- determination before the obstacle since anyone destiny has to be fulfilled in his/her lifetime.

Keywords: Rejection – Commitment – Fatal – Wickedness – Education

Résumé

La conviction de l'existence de son destin et l'attachement de tout homme au travail définissent son ascension sociale personnelle devant son rejet ou les mépris dont il ou elle fait objet dans sa famille, communauté ou nation. Grâce à l'approche théorique Marxiste de Karl Marx, cette étude a décrypté les divisions socio-culturelles dans les classes sociales ainsi que les comportements de leurs membres envers leurs semblables et celle de la nouvelle critique de John Crowe Ransom au regard de l'esthétique dans le choix des mots dans le texte, cette étude a prouvé l'existence du destin en chacun des hommes sur terre. La recherche a montré qu'il y a des mauvais comportements envers la personne humaine en général et en particulier en un enfant orphelin. Elle a également découvert qu'aucune situation humaine n'est ni permanente ni fatale s'il existe en ce dernier de la détermination de soi devant les obstacles de la vie car chacun est appelé à accomplir son destin avant de mourir.

Mots clés : Rejet – Engagement – Fatale – Méchanceté - Education

Introduction

The unbalanced societal situations that some people encounter during their life determine their positive or negative attitudes toward their counterparts in family or community. Despite social rejection from the part of the neighboring some people are subjected to, they finally arrive after periods of time to access a good social position in their families, communities or nations thanks to what has been predicted (destiny) and their self-fulfillment. Oliver Twist, the main character of Charles Dickens's *Oliver Twist* whose mother died shortly after his birth has to live in the workhouse in the hands of the board of the parish

in spite of being a so little boy. These social difficulties of living of an infant in a community direct the coming to the current research work.

With the help of Marxism of Karl Marx (1848) focuses on the novelist's characters' behaviours and the ones of their social classes; and John Crowe Ransom's New Criticism (1948) regarding the aesthetics in the development of the situations and the events in the novel understudy, the study enlightens on people misbehaviors that pollute and corrupt living together atmosphere of people from the same ethnics, clan, family, community and nation. It figures out in the first part and based on the novel how people's wickedness regarding the safeguard of their personal interest. Secondly, it focuses on hospitality and apprenticeship so as to help people to build an educated community for fair societal living conditions granting to all its countrymen.

1. People's Wickedness and Protectionism Behavioral Manifestations in *Oliver Twist*

Life's circumstances force sometimes people to undertake the living way they never desired or wanted. In *Oliver Twist*, the small boy Oliver Twist has lost his parents when he is ten months old. So, he is brought by hand to live with one of his uncles who will bring him later to the workhouse in parish. Moreover, the orphan infant lives continually in a hungry and destitute situation in the hands of the board of the parish. Thus, he cannot grow well. As a matter of fact, his size is disproportionate to his age when he is nine years old. "Oliver Twist ninth birth-day found him a pale thin child somewhat diminutive in stature and decidedly small in circumference", (C. Dickens, 1992, p. 6). Oliver is no more than an animal in the workhouse. He is humiliated. The authorities have the right of death and life over him. Many orphan children or children living with other people are victims of the same sort of behavior in our daily life.

In non-developed countries and some countries of commonwealth child housework's phenomenon is also noticeable. A child of poor background is engaged in to serve as maid for a daily bread under indescribable mistreatments. Aware of such a situation, the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) has established the charter on the rights of the child such as: right to life, right to be with parents, right to a home, food and clothing, right to be loved, cared for and kept safe, right to education right to physical development, right to have enough leisure time, right to protection from abuse, cruel punishment, overwork, being sold, being used as a soldier, being imprisoned. But, unfortunately, some people or most of the people fail to obey some or most of these regulations. This disobedience may be explained by economic poverty or by the fact that

some people are reluctant to help children who are not theirs. But it is surprising that some Christians could behave in such a horrible way.

In fact, the new law in force in the workhouse when *Oliver Twist* is nine years old worsens the children's living conditions in that house:

All poor people should have the alternative (for they would compel nobody, not they), of being starved by a gradual process in the house, or by a quick one out of it. With this view, they contracted with the water-works to lay on an unlimited supply of water; and with a corn-factor to supply periodically small quantities of oatmeal; and issued three meals of thin gruel a day, with an onion twice a week, and half a roll on Sundays, (G. Eliot, 2009, p. 13).

With regard to the bad conditions Oliver has lived in the workhouse, one can say that the parish authorities don't really have any affection for him. Child as a human being is a victim of maltreatment from the part of a more aged person who is supposed to grant him/her protection. Dickens gives the most uncompromising critique of the Victorian Workhouse which is run according to a regime of prolonged hunger, physical punishment, humiliation and hypocrisy. Moreover, in this novel, he shows England as a country of what Disraeli called "the two nations": the rich and the privileged and the poor living in inhuman conditions of deprivations, misery and humiliation.

A community cannot be well run with social bivalence. Some people cannot be more prone to vice than others. Indeed, in Victorian society, children are victim of granting a help from the part of their elders. Dickens' novel presents to the readers, a portrait of the macabre childhood of considerable number of Victorian orphans including *Oliver Twist* who are underfed. In this novel, Dickens shows that the Workhouse is a failed attempt to solve the problem of poverty and unwanted children. Poor people are deprived of all their right in their community. They cannot access well public places as reach people. Oliver is obliged to live aside other in unfair living conditions unless he dies to too as his parents. The child experiences hard living conditions. There is no charity for the poor.

The gap between poor and rich is obvious in Elizabethan era. Poor people are deprived of all the social rights. There are forced to work even being in hunger or ill. Steve Hindle witnessed the phenomenon in his book. He settled:

The Elizabethan poor laws, codified in 1598 and 1601 institutionalized the ancient moral distinction between the deserving and undeserving poor. The idea of the idle or the shiftless were unsuitable 'objects of charity' had scriptural roots in St Paul's letter to the Thessalonians: 'if a man shall not work, then neither shall he eat. (S. Hindle, 2004, p. 41).

Two social classes are well observed in Elizabethan era where rich people are privileged than poor men. Based on biblical reference Elizabethan people refuse to grant help and assist to

neighboring in harsh living conditions. Man shall not eat if he shall not work. But ill-man and an infant is weak since s/he is in incapacity to act for the satisfaction of his/her hunger as one of his/her fundamental needs.

Social class domination in the concern group's interest saving is noticeable in the era of the writer. For instance, Dickens as one of the novelists of the early nineteenth-century society is in conflict with the individuality and class supremacy that were prevailing in the period. Max Horkheimer states that: "in the era of free enterprise, the so-called era of individualism, individuality was most completely subordinated to self-preserving reason. In that era, the idea of individuality seemed [...] to become merely a synthesis of the individual's material interests." (M. Horkheimer, 1947, p.138). Individualism underlies the rise of the middle class in economic and social aspects. But it restricts individuality to maintain the established social order for its own benefits. In that prospect, Horkheimer said that: "individualism is the very heart of the theory and practice of bourgeois liberalism, which sees society as progressing through the automatic interaction of divergent interests in a free market" (Ibid.).

Contrastively, the lower class which situation is economically and socially talkative has to try and manage what it arrives hardly to find for its survival. Paupers in Dickens' time suffer a lot before being fed in workhouse. They are somehow made to do a saddish work. In fact, the little boy Oliver was forced to join a group of robbers before finding his daily breakfast. Life situation can sometimes make people to be unhappy with their new state. Max Horkheimer asserted that:

By echoing, repeating, imitating his surroundings, by adapting himself to all the powerful groups to which he eventually belongs, by transforming himself from a human being into a member of organizations, by sacrificing his potentialities for the sake of readiness and ability to conform to and gain influence in such organizations, [the individual] manages to survive. It is survival achieved by the oldest biological means of survival, namely, mimicry. (Op. Cit., p. 147).

Life hardships can be at the origin of someone's desire to rise on the social scale by leaving his rural environment and original condition for chasing the better. The social status of the individual is highly influential on his awareness of identity in the bourgeois society.

The dominated people are well influenced by the dominant class owing to its critical life situation in the community. Horkheimer argues that: "The more intense an individual's concerns with power over things, the more will things [social values and norms] dominate him, the more will he lack any genuine individual traits, and the more will his mind be transformed into an automaton". Oliver's migration to London in order to change his life

situation will negatively affect him at the moment. His social mobility to London makes to become of criminality as well observed in the Victorian society.

The good nature and skills of someone is spoiled while s/he is purchasing a better life status that s/he does not deserve. Oliver is not really predestined to gang group. The little boy, Oliver was afraid at the view of Fagin and his mates when they were picking the pocket of the old man. But by force he will start rubbering people as his mates later on. People's life is somehow drawn to a changing of their inner habits. Oliver is then trained as thief by his new environment in London. Andrew H. Miller asserts about Charles Dickens' novels that: "For Dickens, such submission means to lose all one's specifically human qualities of self-consciousness and freedom. [...] The individual may be destroyed altogether by society, and remain behind only as the trophy of somebody's successful manipulations." (A. H. Miller, 1957, p. 253). Victorian morals and manners in the form of "such Victorian middle-class virtues as industry, honesty, self-denial, chastity and deference" are imposed on Oliver to live as a robber member among his group in Victoria's society.

Classes' misbehaviours were well pronounced in the era of Victoria. A social class or group's member is neglected and has to serve at workhouse before being fed even though the later does not embody all the capacities of the required work. Infants and weak people are subjected to hard working in the places they are welcome or granted hospitality. They are even refused to get a convenient ratio. Oliver as an orphan and little boy had faced such a sufferance. He was forcibly obliged to head for London after a short time in the apprenticeship with the undertaker. Kathleen Lohnes narrated that:

Oliver, an orphan since birth, spends much of his childhood at a "child farm" with too many children and too little food. The farm is located roughly 70miles outside London. One night, after being served his portion of gruel, Oliver asks for a second helping. This is unacceptable, and Oliver is sent to work as an apprentice to an undertaker. Eventually, after suffering repeated mistreatment, Oliver runs away and heads for London. (K. Lohnes, 2018, p. 1).

The maltreatment of some category of people is witnessible in the time of Victoria. Children become careless before people that are supposed to care and defend them before hostilities. Thus, the way is opened against the weak person who has to find his/her own way of solutions so as to live. 'Oliver Twist runs away and heads for London'. The little boy does no longer want to live in so sadder environment where he cannot be well fed.

Love has to prompt human behaviours in his/her community regarding charity. Charles Dickens description of the injustices and miseries in his book, are of course those of the England people in the early nineteenth century. Human being cannot still be treated as an

animal. Oliver Twist is still an infant and he is not yet well-strengthened to undertake hard activities so as to feed himself. He needs the assistance of his parents; but who very quickly left him orphan at the charge of the community. Parishioners as part of the infant neighboring have to grant assistance to the infant Oliver, the orphan since they are called to pay to the poor a dole. This little amount of money has to be given to the pauper for the satisfaction of his fundamental needs.

The acceptance of a group's member is what determines the giving of a dole to a needed person like a pauper. Charity has to be in the attitudes of people of a community. Contrastively, the little boy Oliver does not meet that dole from the part of his community due to the fact that this help is abolished. The sponsors of the new Poor Law hope is to kill pauperism. The unemployed labourer is no longer allowed to exist with his family on an allowance from the parish. S/he is forced into the "workhouse and separated from his wife and Children" (C. Dickens, *Ibid.*, p. 8) and sent to other wards for work. Thus, things are done to maintain the poor in his/her state of the community. The pauper's life at the workhouse, both in amenities and in diet is designedly at a lower level than what deserves the rich groups.

Everything is plotted to discriminate socio-economically a counterpart of the community. If not, how a human being can be reduced to a diet of "three meals of thin gruel a day, with an onion twice a week, and half a roll on Sundays". (C. Dickens, *Op. Cit.*). Moreover, women are less treated and children under nine are to "be fed at discretion" (*Ibid.*). Thus, a child is not well fed but s/he is also deprived from his parents and forced to hard work as an aged valid person. An infant is therefore separated from parental guidance and love and even education for his/her well-being. *Oliver Twist* is Dickens's impassioned protest against the Elizabethan affairs systems of the period that treats poverty as a crime and regards the unfortunate with contempt and hostility.

The lack of humanity from people's part originates the social rejection observed in the novel. Human being has to be opened and sociable in his/her community. An orphan has to be assisted. As an orphan child, Oliver is brought up to the town since his parents are no longer alive. Instead of being well accepted and grant help so as to become a good citizen, the little man becomes desperately a thief and murderer. The evilness in people's attitudes toward the little boy makes him to lose the control of his destiny. Even his parishioners neglected him even though he is an orphan infant. By opposition, Graham Greene dislikes these attitudes from the part of Dickens' characters that cannot be generalized. In Greene's *The Heart of the Matter*, father Rank is affectionable. He expressed his affection to his parishioners that are in

difficulties by urging to change their evil attitudes. He said: “Do you know one of the things that worried me? I was afraid you wouldn’t be much of a Catholic without me around [...]”. (G. Greene, 1966, p. 219). A fair hospitality throughout charity has to be promoted and spread toward any human being in general and an orphan infant in particular.

Charity by assisting the needed person has to be shared not only within social groups but also it has to be extended to other people from the other social classes too. Oliver and his mother come from a lower social class. His mother was obliged to work in workhouse where she gave him birth. Oliver, an orphan has to be assisted up till his mature age. Charity which is: “an embodiment of a set of behaviours, actions and values that are rooted in ideas of fairness and empathy, the building blocks of justice and democracy [...] Acts of kindness, such as “holding someone’s hand if they are sad” and “helping homeless people” are considered charitable [...]”. (A. Body, 2019, p. 3). Thus, a homeless person, a sad man or an orphan needs assistance from the part of his/her counterparts.

Neither the undertaker nor the workhouse manager does not care about the living situation of Oliver, the orphan who is without any socio-economic support. Victorian era was the period where paupers are not well taken into account as it was well pronounced in its law acts based on *Spare the rod and Spoil the child* by Elois Thames that urges the caring of children without any distinction of class. But a pauper has also to fulfill his living goal since his life is shaped by his/her destiny. Commitment and the searching of better living conditions become the root of the undertaking tools of the pauper in his/her environment.

2. Self-Commitment and Fulfillment for a Safe Community Building

Everything that happens [...] shows beyond mistake that you can’t shut out the world; that you are in it, to be of it; that you get yourself into a false position the moment you try to sever yourself from it; that you must mingle with it, and make the best of it, and make the best of yourself into the bargain. (C. Dickens, 2014, p. 132).

Togetherness is tackled once again here by Dickens. One’s rejection from his/her community does not fulfill the whole social group. People have to know that by thinking to themselves alone, they are getting themselves ‘into a false position’. They have to ‘mingle with’ their community and ‘make the best of it’.

Social commitment for the well-being of the whole community has to be pruned by each member of the community. Thanks to Dickens’ awareness of social ills that derived from his traumatic childhood experiences when his father was jailed in the Marshalsea Debtors’ Prison under the Insolvent Debtors Act of 1813 prompts his engagement of the issue. At the

age of twelve the young boy started working in a shoe-blackening factory. This apprenticeship sharpened his mind since he was subjected to many maltreatments by the side of his mates and boss. Seemingly, Dickens plots his character Oliver Twist in that way of his own history so as to shed light on the practice of individualism his countrymen are experiencing but which is dividing them socially.

Social conscience on someone's destiny and fulfillment has to be emphasized on for the well-being of people and their community as well. Compassion and empathy towards the vulnerable and disadvantaged people have to be cultivated. English society was victim of social injustices. Class division, poverty, bad sanitation, privilege, meritocracy and the experience of the metropolis were available at that time. Dickens has used the novel as a repository of social conscience. However, as Louis James argues:

Dickens is at once central and untypical in the 'social novel'. A novelist universally associated with social issues, he was attacked for allowing his imagination to come between his writing and his subject, and his underlying attitudes can be evasive. In his fiction, most characters have a job; but Dickens rarely shows them at work. His novels are centrally about social relationships, yet his model for this would seem, as Cazamian noted, a perpetual Christmas of warm feelings, and the benevolent paternalism of Fezziwig in *A Christmas Carol* (1843). Even his explicit working-out of class and industrial issues in *Hard Times* (1854), based on a hasty visit to a factory strike in Preston, identified the factory problem not with economics but with the Utilitarian denial of human imagination, and juxtaposed the factories of Coketown against the bizarre world of Sleary's travelling circus. (L. James, 2006, p. 548).

Dickens was much more sensitive to social abuses. His imagination combines 'his writing and his subject, and his underlying attitudes'. In his writings he tries to make his characters at job places. That social commitment of the novelist shows his attachment to people's fulfillment for the goodness of the community.

Communities and their people's welfare determine their combat against criminality. Dickens' *Oliver Twist* emphasizes also on the phenomenon of criminality that was prevailing in the Victorian era. Richard Altick claims that: "of all Victorian writers, Charles Dickens was the most powerfully attracted by crime." (R. Altick, 1974, p. 127). And Philip Collins on some aspects of Dickens' interest for crime eradication said that Charles Dickens is:

More persistent and more serious than most men. Extraordinary in character as well as in literary skill, he had strong and conflicting feelings about criminals. He readily identified himself, in imagination, with their aggressive activities, but would also strongly repudiate this sympathy by extolling their adversaries, the police, and by demanding severe punishment for offenders against the law. (P. Collins, 1962, p. 1).

As already noted, Dickens's views on prison discipline as well as punishment underwent great changes during his mature life. Dickens was willing, in line with Victorian society at large, to be more understanding and forgiving when it came to female criminals and minors.

People's fulfillment throughout their well-beings makes to be engaged in the process of people and their community's development. Charles Dickens was in that logic. His preoccupations with the social injustices in England as revealed, darken how people are suffering in the Victorian times. Indeed, people from various age orphans and unmarried were obliged to join factories in England. Dickens's lifelong was also concerned with the effects of industrialization on English society. The work was dull and demanding but the pay was enough for him to become acquainted with London life. Consequently, Victorian public is more aware of the conditions that paupers were facing in the workhouses. (E. Thames, 1976, p. 3). And Jane Shuter added that: "Poor working-class families feared to end up at a work house, where thousands of homeless and broke families were forced to live." (J. Shuter (1997, p. 2).

Human being's misery becomes the issue to discuss for its collapsing or eradication by Victoria and her collaborators from the community. For instance and despite claiming that industrialization creates employment for human being fulfillment, one should also bear in mind that the move from rural to urbanized areas must have economically affected a large number of people. Some people managed to become members of the middle class or the bourgeoisie, while others became skilled artisans, tradesmen and professionals. So, rural people migrate to urban areas so as to change their social class regarding their fulfillment since "upper and middle class families usually lived in big and comfortable houses. Each member of the family had its own place and the parents made sure the children were taught to "know their place". For the parents the upbringing of their children was the most important responsibility". (J. Shuter, *Ibid.*, p. 7).

In the self-fulfillment issue, child labour that refers to the employment of children under the age of eighteen and forcing them to work under conditions which harm them physically, mentally, and morally, and deprive them of the access to education has to be taken as an issue of social injustice that does not prone fairness in a community. Child labour has been perceived as a product of the Industrial Revolution in Britain. For the massive industrial growth and productivity, it was required a large amount of human labour and the cheapest available manpower particularly the one of children who could easily be underpaid. For instance, in England, most of the child labourers were orphans or from poor families that were assigned to the workhouses.

The employment of children on a vast scale became the most important social feature of English life, and the prosperity of the English manufacturers. Children were condemned to hard working in workhouses. Thus, children's victimization and misery do not help for people

and their community fulfillment. They are therefore deprived their right to school to receive formal education. This deprivation regarding education forces them to become criminals or prostitutes in order to survival. This is evidenced by Oliver Twist's criminal friends, Fagin and his crew. Oliver, as a pauper received education only from apprenticeship where he has to follow the order of the blacksmith or the locksmith.

The exploitation is an offense against a category of human beings. Covering by poverty, Oliver starts his life in a farm house with a cruel old woman. Afterwards, Mrs. Mann, the old woman covertly corrupts the costs which is provided to that child by pretending that all are going to be normal. She justifies her deeds and said that:

Oliver should be farmed or in other words, that he should be dispatched to a branch-workhouse some three miles off, where twenty or thirty other juvenile offenders against the poor-laws, rolled about the floor all day, without inconvenience of too much food or too much clotting, under the parental superintendence of an elderly female, who received the culprits at and for the consideration of seven pence-halfpenny per small head per week. (C. Dickens, 1992, p. 77).

Dickens denounces how children have to work by having very low wages and of course by living without proper clothes and food. Fagin also exploited Oliver. He takes care of the unlucky children; he feeds them kindly. Afterwards the children must do all the Fagin's command. The workhouse has been an unsatisfactory home for Oliver Twist.

In short, the self-fulfillment of human beings depends not only on their acceptance in the community by their counterparts but also on the work opportunity granted to them. Any category of people cannot be rejected in the process of people and their community fulfillment as a whole. Dicken's novel stands as an important manifestation of Victorian social conscience in that prospect. His ethical and political potentials of literary fiction have their role to play for the harmony of the community regarding the novel understudy. Thanks to Dicken's *Oliver Twist*, a springboard for debates about moral and social reforms as far as unjust economic and social conditions of citizens are concerned is uncovered. Nevertheless, it is worthy to notice that someone's destiny has a part to play in the latter's self-fulfillment. Oliver Twist has suffered a lot in his lifetime; but at the end he was the one, the orphan pauper that inherits the properties of the Mr Brownlow.

Conclusion

This research work has shown that Charles Dickens' life experiences played a major role in shaping his writings. Charles Dickens's works greatly attacked the workhouse system because of its exploitation of the poor. As the number of the bourgeois increased, the number of the poor also increased and the government assigned church parishes to give aid to the poor, Dickens used literary art as a weapon to expose such social injustices which subjugated

minors to severe injuries and even premature death. Dickens's works played a major role in the British social reformation and the promotion of social justice. Through his character Oliver's life, Charles Dickens has given the reader conflicting views of how social positive change can be implemented in the lives of the poor owing to his/her hardworking regarding one's destiny. So, the current allows to conclude that no human situation is either permanent or fatal since things can change.

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