

Tribhuvan University

Positioning Women in Lawrence's Selected Short Stories:

"The Overtone," "The Princess," and "The Old Adam"

A Thesis Submitted to the Department of English, TU, Faculty of Humanities and
Social Sciences, Ratna Rajyalaxmi Campus, in Partial Fulfillment of the
Requirements for the Degree of Master of Arts in English

by

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Declaration

I hereby declare that the thesis entitled,
"Positioning Women in Lawrence's Selected Short Stories"
is my own original work carried out as a Master's Student at the Department of
English at Ratna Rajyalaxmi Campus except to the extent that
assistance from other in the thesis design and
conception or in presentation style, and linguistic
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All recourses used for the thesis have been full and properly cited. It contains no
material which to a substantial extant has been accepted for the
award of any other degree at Tribhuvan University or
any other educational institutional, except where
due acknowledgement is made in the thesis.

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August 19th, 2018

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Letter of Approval

This thesis entitled "Positioning Woman in Lawrence's Selected Short Stories; "The Overtone," "The Princess," and "The Old Adam" submitted to the Department of English, Ratna Rajyalaxmi Campus, by Ganga Raya has been approved by the undersigned members of the Research Committee.

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Abstract

This research work studies D. H. Lawrence's, "The Overtone," "The Princess" and "The Old Adam" from the feminist perspective. It discusses male characters' domination upon female protagonists. Due to male dominated society, domination of men over women in every social, economic, cultural and religious aspects is prevalent. The patriarchy fosters the gender-based inequalities that describe men as superior and women as inferior, man as powerful and the woman as powerless. Such types of practices can be viewed in those selected stories. Basically, it examines especially female characters: Dolly, Renshaw and Mrs. Thomas who visit and revisit massive domination, agony, pain, frustration, torture from male world. While studying Lawrence's characters, researcher finds massive domination upon female. Feminist Approach really helps to depict the status of female's characters while living in patriarchal society. As in real life too, in patriarchal society, females are obliged to do indoor activities while males work outside.

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Introduction: Positioning Women in Lawrence's Selected Short

Stories:

"The Overtone," "The Princess" and "The Old Adam"

Female Status

Gender studies has become interdisciplinary subject especially of social sciences and humanities. It strongly believes that gender is formed by social and cultural aspect. Females feel sense of feeling inferior passes through father to husband's house. They tend to think that they are even weaker mentally and physically. Gender studies investigates how gender discrimination affects females in terms of social and political level. Gender studies analyzes the occurrence of gender. Gender is a term used to distinguish social and cultural sexual identity from biological sex. It is true that they are different sexually but they can do better if they get better platform. In gender studies, the term, gender is used to refer to the social and cultural constructions of masculinities and feminities, not to the state of being male or female in its entirety. According to *Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary* "gender" means: "The fact of being male or female, especially when considered with reference to social and cultural differences, not differences in biology issue of class, race and gender"(650).

Above lines clearly hint that gender denotes male and female but their role is determined by society and culture.

Similarly, *Encyclopedia Britannica* defines gender identity as:

Gender identity is an individual's self-conception as being male or female, as distinguished from actual biological sex. For most persons, gender identity and biological characteristics are the same. Gender identity is not fixed at birth; both physiologic and social factors

contribute to the early establishment of a core identity, which is modified and expanded by social factors. (210)

The above lines clearly hint that gender identity is not made by birth but constructed by society. Due to male dominated society, the concept of gender is created to dominate females.

Traditionally, most societies have only recognized two races: masculine and feminine which is created through biological sexes of male and female. History shows that gender roles have been changing over time and as required by the circumstances. For example, in most of the cases women rear children and do the household activities because they get hardly any time and opportunity to work outside. This has created a big gap between man and woman in terms of areas ranging from household works to office works to other social works. This has led to the discrimination between the two sexes.

The term, "gender" is always associated with socio-cultural and psychological behavior of people. So, in *A Handbook of Critical Approaches to Literature*, Wilfred Guerin expresses the same view. He says, "Gender studies examines how gender is less determined by nature than by culture" (236). It clearly hints that gender is not the outcome of innate quality but later it is generated by culture. Gender studies roles and behavior of individual creates a separate identity of man and woman. Each field came to regard gender as a practice, sometimes referred to as something that is performative. Jane Freedman says:

Sexuality, then, is a form of power. Gender as socially constructed embodies it, not the reverse. Women and men are divided by gender made into the sexes, as we know them, by the social requirements of heterosexuality, which institutionalize male sexual dominance and

female sexual submission. If this is true, sexuality is of gender inequality. (60)

Freedman also thinks that due to gender practice, there is the massive discrimination for the female and in such situation, they lack their identity.

In other words, the patriarchy fosters the gender-based inequalities that describe men as superior and women as inferior, men as powerful and the women as powerless. While sex is biological, gender is psychological and cultural that appears due to socialization. Socialization is the process of gaining norms and ideologies of society.

Similarly, Helene Cixous, a feminist gives importance to women's existence and her participation in society. According to her, "Women's imaginary is in exhaustible and her writing is wonderful like music and painting" (190). Cixous aims to say that male cannot understand female because they have soft hearted. So, their writing is also like music and painting. It also hints that via writing, female should depict their actual reality living in the world of male. She further expresses her experience of a woman who is a unique being. Here, Cixous emphasizes the power of women's body. So it is implied that the sex which we carry from birth is biological. It means that gender discrimination can be changed through awareness, education and other social factors.

Feminine and masculine relation has exposed in behavior due to the male and female sexual relation. Due to male dominated society, domination of men over women in every social, economic, cultural and religious aspects are prevalent. The patriarchy fosters the gender-based inequalities that describe men as superior and women as inferior, men as powerful and the women as powerless. One of the leading American feminists, Kate Millett, sees patriarchy as "grotesque, increasingly militaristic, increasingly greedy,

colonialist, imperialistic, and brutal, with a terrible disregard of civil liberties, of democratic forms" (511). She means that patriarchy always gives negative effect to females. So, she thinks that patriarchy is very ugly in nature. She is the writer of familial affairs as her novels explore the problems of a family in relation to patriarchal society of her age. Most of her novels represent everyday life of society and mingle satire and sentiment

Patriarchy, norms and values create different cultural practices and different roles of men and women in various societies and cultures. This can be implied that gender is socially or culturally constructed behavior of individual man and woman and can be changed according to the need and desire of the individual and society.

Traditional gender roles expose men as rational, strong, protective, and decisive; they cast women as emotional, weak, nurturing, and submissive. These gender roles have been used very successfully to justify such inequities. Still today, females have to handle low post like receptionist while male holds prestigious job from which he can get name and fame. In other words, discrimination in job is prevalent. For example, male always feel senior to handle leadership and decision-making position in the family as well as in politics. Male gets higher wages than female for the same job. If a female is capable to handle the work effectively, patriarchy makes them feel that they are not fit to do the work. It does not mean that females are not handling good post but their participation in such works is very few.

Therefore, woman is inessential in the eyes of men who want to accept her as other. Many people today believe such inequality are a thing of the past because anti-discriminatory law has been passed, such as the law that guarantees women equal pay for equal work. As Simon de Beauvoir writes:

One is not born, but rather becomes a woman. No biological, psychological or economic fate determine the figure that the human female presents in society; it is civilization as a whole that produces this creature, intermediate between male and eunuch, which is described as feminine that male behaves as a matter of fantasy and led toward female self-consciousness fragile lacking. (25)

The above mentioned lines tell that male and female are as equal while getting birth but later they became other and insignificant. For this discrimination, she blames males.

The belief that men are superior to women is the main reason behind this discrimination. A gender study has observed, to justify and maintain the male monopoly of positions of economic, political and social power, or to keep female powerless. Such practices can be analyzed in the story "The Princess". "The Princess" is the story about a girl who is brought up by her father to believe that she is royal and different from the rest. The female character of the story is badly tormented by male world. Once, she went to New Mexico where she met with Romero. She visited different place of jungle with him because she wanted to feel outer world, wild animals and birds. So, she convinces him to go with her far in the jungle. But, she becomes victim of male domination and raped by her guide. Same types of domination can be seen in the story "The overtone", a female protagonist; Renshaw gets good treatment until her husband knows about her sterility. Similarly, in the story, "The Old Adam", Mrs. Thomas faces massive torture and domination resulted due to her illegal relationship with Edward.

Truly, there is no recoded fact that females are weaker and inferior in comparison with males. It is only true that male and female are physically different but they are mentally same. For example, in this time, many females

are doctor, pilot, engineer. It means that if patriarchy supports that they can do better in every sector. Luitel believes that ability for workforce is similar with male and female. So, she argues:

Work intensity is given to female due to the cultural practices. We should think, instead, of identity as a 'production' which is never complete, always in process, and always constituted within, not outside representation. This view problematizes the very authority and authenticity to which the terms cultural identity lays claim. (110)

She clearly tells that work identity is always determined by male world. Society makes female to think that she is physically weak. So, it forces her to work in low prestigious job which will give low paid wage.

It is often said that biological or physical construction and deep-rooted conception are the reasons behind domination of women by men. It does not mean that all males follow patriarchal ideology. Some males are very liberal, helpful and generous to females. They think that gender ideology is worse and makes gender imbalance between male and female. In such condition, society does not move ahead smoothly. On the other hand, gender studies claim that to make female inferior, it creates bad words like witch. Furthermore, by using such words, males aim to make female weak mentally and psychologically.

As time passes, feminine consciousness gradually emerges among women and makes them realize the inhuman treatment of patriarchal system. From history, women have gradually felt a need to launch a united movement against these injustices, inequalities and violence so as to eliminate discrimination and narrow the hierarchy between the two sexes, as Millett Says: "You don't have any oppressive system without its continuance being

assured by members of the oppressed groups, that's true of oppressed people" (511). Millett is trying to say that to get equality, victimized females should raise their voice against male world. Otherwise, such repression and oppression will be continued in future too. Gender studies is often demonstrated as a single entity and somehow concerned with gender equality and freedom. Chris Beasley defines feminism as a "doctrine suggesting that women are systematically advantaged in modern society and as advocating equal opportunities for men and women" (27). Beasley means modern women are educated. They know their actual place in the society. They cannot be appendix of their husband. So, they seek equality in the world of male. The main common theoretical assumption as shared by all branches of the movement is that there has been an historical tradition of male exploitation against woman.

By the time, women became conscious of their position and discrimination in society, many feminists raised their voice to end this discrimination between men and women. It shows the consciousness of women who have begun to reject their own passivity. Feminism came into existence for the sake of women rights and human equality. Truly, feminism and gender studies have close relationship because both of them strongly support about female's identity and their place in the society. The main aim of the feminist movement was to develop women's personalities. It, therefore, studied women as people who were either oppressed or suppressed or rejected the freedom of personal expression. That's why, unlike ancient women, today feminists are proud of their existence. In this regard, Toril Moi, a feminist has written: "the word feminist or feminism are political labels indicating support for the aim of the new women's movement" (187). Moi is trying to say that to

get equality among male world, feminists appear and they talk about their dominated and powerless condition while living in the world of male. Along with this, they aim to support modern woman to get equality.

Such practices even can be viewed in D.H. Lawrence short stories in which gender has played crucial roles. For example, in the story "Old Adam", there is the gender disparity because a female protagonist is abused to make affair with her male lodger but male lodger feel boast to make love with his landlady. In the story, Edward is a lodger in the house of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas in London. Edward and his landlady fall in love but their love ends as her husband knows. It hints that due to patriarchy, males are free to make girlfriends openly but females are not allowed to do that, they have to do so in a secret. Males can feel boast if he remarries and bring second wife. In fact they are true lovers. In order to hide the reality, Mrs. Thomas behaves coldly with Edward. Mr. Thomas becomes more aggressive when he realizes that Edward has won the heart of his wife. Mr. Thomas returned home from the office and that time Mr. Thomas quarrels with his wife and Edward. Edwards begins quarrels with Mr. Thomas and they make verbal fighting. But Mr. Thomas and Mrs. Thomas's marital relationship is not good. Edward and Mr. Thomas say sorry with each other but Mrs. Thomas finally convinced her to devote herself to her husband, although, she loves and wants Edward. Edward is the person with whom she wanted to be close and spend life. She is attracted with Edward because of his physical appearance and manner but at last she devotes herself to her husband Thomas. Naturally, people attract with handsome man and beautiful girl. A male can make many affairs with other girls but females are restricted to do so. In the story, "The Old Adam":

The man she opened to was tall and thin but graceful in his energy.

He wore white flannels, carried a tennis- racket. With a light bow to

the maid, he stepped her on the threshold. He was one on the threshold. He was one of those who attracted by their movement.

(436)

The lines clearly hint that Edward is so handsome. Mrs. Thomas is a beautiful wife of the old husband. Later, she falls in love with a lodger, Edward Severn who is tall and thin, and has keen interest in tennis.

The gender role creates gender discrimination because in such situation, male always feel superior and boastful. As a result, feminist movement emerged which seeks equal right and status with men to decide on their careers and life. The patriarchy considers women weaker in every sphere of familial and social life. Wollstonecraft writes "females should show their rage with book against male and should save their body" (33). She means that female writers should depict bitter experiences while living in the male society. If males keep on dominating her, she should show rage against male's domination. She has to stay at home and nurse her kids. Men on the other hand, had to move out of the household into the world of struggle where hard working is necessary and required a professional, unemotional attitude. Female has to confine at home and look after her family members.

The story, "The Princess" is about a female character who has to follow male norms and values. Her father does not let her to go out. Being an aristocratic birth, she is obliged to follow the life of sophisticated values. She longs to be free but she cannot. Then, her father gives her the life which is controlled by her father. She is not free to do anything even is not permitted to go outside the palace. She wants freedom in her life. She wants to visit the outside world. Her father teaches her cold, rude behavior. After her father's death, she feels like free bird in the sky. Then, she starts to

imagine about the world outside the palace. She wants to get married with a gentle and supportive man and go away from the palace. She wants to settle down in another country.

Similarly, in massive males' domination, they take females as sex object. So, Beauvoir shows her anger saying "A wife's duty is to be in the bed to gratify the husband's lust but the husband is not aware whether he is gratifying the lust of his wife" (110). Domination of men over women in every social, economic, cultural and religious milieu of human life has precipitated the hierarchical power relation. Beauvoir emphasizes is that women perceive man as self (as subject) and themselves as other. Moreover, Simone de Beauvoir explicitly exposes the condition of women so that they could realize their existence. She says, "Women have been essential as the one born. To be a wife or a mother, she is stripped off motherly rights because motherly rights overpowered by fatherly rights" (145). She means that the women have become insignificant in the eyes of men who behave them as other and think themselves as self or subject.

Due to past massive domination upon female by male, people feel weak mentally which shifts from mother to daughter and granddaughter. If a male is sterile, female has to stay with him but a male seeks another wife. In the story "The overtone", Mrs. Reneshaw is quiet and has to follow patriarchal domination.

Their married life was happy in the beginning of their life. Their life seems to be perfect and harmonious. The lines tell: "yet they were married, they were good friends, it was said they were the friendliest married couple in the country. And this was it. And all the while, like a scent, the bitter psalm of the woman filled the room"(466). In the same story "The overtone", Mrs. Reneshaw faces male domination from society along with his drunkard and aristocratic husband. Their relationship in

the beginning was perfect. But, later their perfect love changed into ashes as her husband knew about her sterility. He behaves her very cruelly. The following lines hint: "And then she bit back her tears. For when he said, 'Pan is dead', he meant Pan was dead in his own long, loose Dane's body. Yet she was a nymph still, and if Pan were dead, she ought to die. So, with tears she went up to him"(468).

In Ancient Greece, Pan is the god rustic, music and impromptus. But here, Mr. Reneshaw to dominate his wife took help of Pan. Here, Pan is taken as the rustic music which is very sweet and graceful. Now, he does not find any charm in his wife, so, he says that Pan is dead. Hearing his words, Mrs. Reneshaw thinks to commit suicide.

Feminism and Issues of Females

Feminist deals with women's feelings, ideas attitudes experiences, problems and thoughts. Feminism is considered to be both an intellectual and political movement. Feminism is one of the dominating and striking modes of philosophy collectively developed by women. Feminism is related to the feminist social movement that seeks equal rights with men and freedom to decide their own careers and life patterns. The most important aim of growing feminist movement is to change society's prevailing stereotypes of women as relatively weak, passive, and dependent individuals who are less rational and more emotional than men. It seeks to achieve greater freedom for women to work and to remain economically and psychologically independent.

Male domination can be heavily seen in many cultural systems of the world. It is very easy for males in male dominated societies to keep females under pressure and to take negative benefit due to their dominated position. Elaine Showalter is a leading feminist who asserts that female should about their own but male should not address

female in their writing. So, she says: "Feminist criticism has demanded not just the recognition of women's writing, but a radical rethinking of the conceptual of literary study feminist criticism is international in its source and feminist critics cross national boundaries." (181)

The lines hint that males never understands female. So, they should not write about female. It means that only female can understand about female's feeling. So, they can exactly address female's feeling and sentiments. Even Male writers always show female as a weak being. The lines taken from "The Old Adam":

Finally, his efforts had moved even his opponent to pity. Mrs. Thomas was not pitiful. She scorned her husband's dexterity of argument, when his intellectual dishonesty was so evident to her. Severn uttered his last phrases, and would say no more. Then Thomas cracked his knuckles one after the other, turned aside, consumed with morbid humiliation, and there was silence. (449)

The lines clearly hint that Mrs. Thomas in front of her husband and lodger is weak. So, she could not use battle words, i.e. rude and harsh while they can use them. As she loves lodger, Edward feels superior with his own mistress & behave her as other.

The main aim of feminism is to show how men socially and physically dominate women. Virginia Woolf in her book *A Room of One's Own* says, "Women are simultaneously victims of themselves as well as victims of men and are upholders of society by acting as mirrors to men" (4).

Woolf may think that female is dominated by their birth because they get the problem of pregnancy and womb. When a woman lives in a male dominated society give many hardships to her. Due to patriarchal society, females are made servants in

every home. They are busy in their household activities. The following lines taken from the story "The Old Adam":

Without answering, and in her superb, unhastening way, Kate began to gather up the small garments. Both women were aware of the observant, white figure of the man standing on the hearth. Severn balanced with a fine, easy poise, and smiled to himself, exulting a little to see the two women in this state of hostility. Kate moved about with bowed defiant head. (443)

These lines tell that females characters like, Kate and Mrs. Thomas are so busy in their household activities. They have to cook food while males come near to hearth to ask for food.

Similarly, in the same story "The Old Adam", "Severn listened to the snap of her needle, looked from the movement of her hand to the window, where the lightning beat and fluttered through the lattice. The thunder was as yet far off" (444). Severn can enjoy a lot and visit outside world, on the other hand; his land lady always seems to be busy on household activities of cooking, sewing etc.

Society finds faults with females if they do not follow patriarchal norms and values. Females have to bear negative qualities like witch. So, due to males' nature of defining females, they have to be limited in household activities of nursing, caring, washing and so on. In male dominated society, a woman is never regarded as autonomous being. Ruth posits her view thus, "A conceptualization of the women's movement that strikes me as more helpful and more constructive is simply that of women moving toward greater strength and freedom both in their awareness and in their socio-political position" (444). She means that if woman gets equality and freedom, they can also do better in terms of socio- political position.

Truly, male writers show women's image as negative rather than showing towards the good aspects. Feminism concerns about marginalization of all women. It is the social movement that seeks equal rights for women giving them equal status with men and freedom to decide their career and life pattern. This movement itself grows out of previous centuries of struggle by women to set equal rights. It questions such long-standing dominant male centric ideology, patriarchal attitudes and male interpretation in the society where women have been excluded to marginality. Feminism is an aggressive conscious feeling of women who begin to reject their own passivity and aims to develop women's personalities. Male domination can be seen in H Lawrence's selected short stories. If a female has serious problem, male doesn't want to compromise but rather, he makes verbal debate. The following lines are extracted from the story "The Overtone":

What is it then?" she asked.

"Nay, that's one too many — a joke, eh?"

"I think," She said, "one has no business to be irreverent."

"Who?" he asked.

"You," she said, "and me, and all of us."

Then he leaned on the wicket, thinking till he laughed.

"Life's a real good thing," he said.

"But why protest it?" she answered.

And again, he was silent. (468)

Mr. Reneshaw thinks that her sterility makes her fun in the society and becomes joker in the society. Society is generally run by Males who have complete power to impose domination upon females.

In the story, "The Overtone" too, females are confined at home. If a female come late at home, she faces many questions. The lines taken from the story "The Overtone":

He sat outside, by the remnants of the fire, looking at the country lying level and lustrous grey opposite him. Trees hung like vapour in a perfect calm under the moonlight. And that was the moon so perfectly naked and unfaltering, going her errand simply through the night. And that was the river faintly rustling. And there, down the darkness, he saw a flashing of activity white betwixt black twigs.

The lines tell that Mr. Reneshaw comes home late and take entertainment staying near the fire.

Female lacks their identity and to dominate females, male uses commanding sentence. On the other hand, females has to use polite language like, "please", "kindly" etc. For example, in the story, "The Overtone": "Come with me to the top of the red hill," he said to his wife quietly. "But why?" she asked. "Do come. (450)". Here Mr. Reneshaw uses imperative word "come". Likewise, male does not want to understand female's sentiment and emotion. He wants to enjoy with her body. So, Mr. Reneshaw wants to see his wife's nude body and wants to make sexual intercourse.

Women's movement aims to make and feel the women mentally and socially strength and freed. Women are considered to be weak in term of education, culture and body whereas men are considered as strong in every aspect of life. Due to this deep-rooted gender conception, men dominate women. Its example can be found in the story "The Overtone" in which a female character, Mrs. Reneshaw feels happy until she knows that she is sterile. Later as her husband, Mr. Reneshaw knows that she cannot give the birth to a child, their relation goes on ruin. He comes home late and

without speaking with his wife goes on sleeping. The extracted lines from the story, "The Over tone" shows male treatment to his wife:

And she felt the nights behind like a purple bowl into which the woman's heart-beats were shed, like rose-leaves fallen and left to wither and go brown. For Mrs. Renshaw had waited for him. During happy days of stillness and blueness she had moved, while the sunshine glancing through her blood made flowers in her heart, like blossoms underground thrilling with expectancy, lovely fragrant things that would have delight to appear. (464)

Above lines is trying to say that Mrs. Reneshaw has to wait for her husband who is in tavern to drink alcohol but later coming at home late, he abuses her much. So, she feels that her nights are dark and her future is like rose leaves fallen.

Feminists are ultimately in pursuit of a more radical change, the creation of the world where one gender does not set the standard of human values. Female has become insignificant in the eyes of male. Many discussions attempt to fix origin of the women movement. The main target of the feminists has become to change or revolt against such misconception on gender construction, and to identify and remedy the sources of all kinds of oppression and subordination.

Feminists try to break the silence of women. All the feminists are concerned with the destruction of patriarchal ideology, its insufficiency and one-sidedness. Another feminist, Maria Mies says, "Feminists are those who dare to break the conspiracy of silence about the oppressive, unequal man-woman relationship and who want to change it"(6). She talks in favor of women's autonomy, and views that feminists are against oppressive male ideology and unequal treatment to women which imposed upon them to be silent. The lines from the story, "The Over tone":

Will you," he said, "will you take off your things and love me here?"

"I can't," she said.

He looked away to the moon. It was difficult to ask her again, yet it meant so much to him. There was not a sound in the night. He put his hand to his throat and began to unfasten his collar.

"Take off all your things and love me," he pleaded.

For a moment she was silent. (463)

The above line clearly asserts that male always wants to take sexual satisfaction from his wife. In other words, they take female as a sexual object.

Toril Moi defines feminists as; "The word feminist or feminism are political level indicating support for the aims of the new women's movement" (217). Here, new women mean educated women who feel insulted and inferior living in the patriarchal society. So, they seek equality living in the male dominated society.

Similarly, Moi's concept about feminism focuses it as a political movement, which aims at breaking the patriarchal boundary and hierarchy between men and women. Feminism is the search for equality in social, political, educational and cultural aspects. Or, in short, feminism is the quest for autonomous existence required by women. Likewise, Sandra Gilbert and Susan Gubar view as; "The feminist criticism wants to decode and demystify all the disguised questions and answers that have always shadowed of the connection between textually and sexuality, genre and gender, psychosexual identify and cultural authority" (334). For Gilbert and Gubar, feminist criticism makes clear relationship between text and male-female sexuality, sexual identification and cultural dictation upon female by male. There is no harmony between man and women in relation to the status in the

society. Women are silenced in the patriarchal ideology. Such tendencies can be viewed in the story, "The Princess".

"And yet she felt like a fish out of water, or a bird in the wrong forest"(484).lines clearly hint about anxiety of living in the male's world. The protagonist, Dolly has intense desire to view outside world but she has to stay at home. So, she compares her existence with a fish out of water.

Women, especially in the system of patriarchy, are not enjoying their humanity. Male believing in their muscular bodies and following practical norms of superiority, forget value of sentiment and emotion. Then, they become demon and rape waman. The lines extracted from "The Princess":

His arm was lifted, his brown hand pointing, his dark eyes piercing into the distance, as he sat on his black horse twisting round to her. Strange and ominous, only the demon of himself, he seemed to her. She was dazed and a little sick, at that height, and she could not see any more. Only she saw an eagle turning in the air beyond, and the light from the west showed the pattern on him underneath. (504)

To rape dolly, Romero shows strange activities. At first, he lifts her arms and later he reaches very near to her riding his horse.

Instead of developing women's personality, men give massive domination to them. Humanity and feminism can be enumerated as synonyms. Feminism came into existence for the sake of women rights and human equality. For feminists, such beliefs are values that are not detached from social life. But females are subordinated by their traditional norms. It also attempts to end various kinds of oppressions against women for their liberation. For example, in the story "The Princes" Princess, Dolly is massively dominated by her father who does not

allow her to go outside but she has great zeal to get complete freedom. The lines show princess feeling to be free and to see outside world:

In her voice, manner and bearing she was exceedingly still, like a flower that has blossomed in a shadowy place. And from her blue eyes looked out the Princess's eternal laconic challenge, that grew almost sardonic as the years passed. She was the Princess, and sardonically she looked out on a priceless world. (482)

The lines tell that the female protagonist wants to be free like nature and hates her situation which does not give comfort to her. So, she weeps many times seeing on the mirror. She has to do so because her father does not allow her to go outside.

In fact, feminism has probably existed as long as there have been women. Many people consider that Mary Wollstonecraft, a British political thinker, was the first woman who raised her voice against the patriarchy and for the rights of women. She also argues in the same essay that women are turned into weak and petty creatures by total neglect of proper education and by the moral and manners which are setup by the society. The issues for the rights of women had been raised by some of male writers as well as women writers earlier. Mill's *The Subjection of Women* (1869) and Margaret Fuller's *Women in Nineteenth Century* (1845) are good examples.

Simone de Beauvoir, Betty Friedan, Kate Millett, Germaine Greer, and Mary Elman are the feminists who brought a new consciousness in women's mind generating new ideas in their movement. They denied the belief, assumption and values defined by patriarchal institution, which validate the vulnerability of male domination and female operation. Mies focuses on the idea of ideology in sexual politics. Selden writes: "The unequal relation of domination and subordination is

what Millett called sexual politics". She opines that sex is biologically determined and gender is cultural concept. She used the term patriarchy to describe the course of women's operation.

Virginia Woolf gave the first blow on patriarchal structure in her *A Room of One's Own* (1928). She believed that women had always faced social and economic obstacles to their literary ambition. She was also very conscious of the imposed limitations of her own education. In this book, she explores deeper concerns- men's anger to women, misunderstanding between the sexes and above all psychological conditions under which women were brought up. Looking at the conditions of women writers in the past Woolf portrays very pitiable condition of theirs. She says that to write anything at the time was considered a sin for their attempt was not only criticized and condemned but also at the same time they were disfigured and deformed. Society had prevented a woman writer from writing openly. So, Woolf writes "She must have shut herself up in a room in the country to write and been torn asunder by bitterness and scruples perhaps though her husband was of the kindest and their married life perfection" (819). She means that females are not free to write. They lack sufficient time to write because they have to do many household activities. Females can get complete happiness in the absence of male's domination. Till her father's present, Dolly lacks freedom. So, lines of the story "The Princess":

And quite early she decided it was the New England mother in her whom they hated. Never for one minute could she see with the old Roman eyes, see herself as sterility, the barren flower taking on airs and an intolerable impertinence. This was what the Roman cabman saw in her. (480)

These lines tell that Dolly's eagerness to visit New England where was her mother's home. Till her father existence, she cannot do so. After her father's death, she seems free to travel.

De Beauvoir strongly opposed the tendency of viewing women as second sex or born to assist their male guardians. She believes that existence always comes before soul. Beauvoir objects men's attitude of discriminating between sexes as self and other men being the former and women the latter. Men writers have described women as flesh the one related to 'nature'. In the feminist world, a subtle and radical critical mood was launched by Simon de Beauvoir with her book entitled *The Second Sex* (1949). Through this book, Beauvoir established the principle of modern feminism. She focuses upon pitiable conditions of women in patriarchal society stating that where a woman tries to define herself, she starts by saying "I am a woman; no man would do so . . . man defines the human, not women" (Selden 134). It reveals the fundamental inequality between masculine and feminine. Selden argues that "men define the human, not women. Selden means that female understands females but not male. So, male writes should not write and define about female. Females all the times remain at home while male enjoy a lot going outside. However, as he comes at home, he shows his rage upon her. For example, in the story "The Old Adam",

Mrs. Thomas would have shocked him too much had he formed it. His passion had run on subconsciously, till now it had come to such a pitch it must drag his conscious soul into allegiance. This, however, would probably never happen; he would not yield allegiance, and blind emotion, in this direction, could not carry him alone.

Mr. Thomas come at home and is tired of work. It is his duty but he shows rage upon his wife.

In order to dominate female, males define female. According to Beauvoir, all the male writers assume the female as negative. In her book, the problems Beauvoir emphasizes is that women perceive man as self (as subject) and themselves as other. And she explicitly exposes the condition of women so that they could realize their existence. Beauvoir says:

Women have been essential as the one born. But she is stripped off motherly rights because motherly rights overpowered by fatherly rights. A wife's duty is to be in the bed to gratify the husband's lust but the husband is not aware whether he is gratifying the lust of his wife. (145)

She wants to say that woman is inessential in the eyes of many who want to accept her as other. She refuges the motion of female essence prior to individual existence and attacks the patriarchal myths of women that presume the false essence.

Male takes females as a sex object and other. They do not think whether she is married or not. Even if they find someone (married woman) is beautiful, they try to manipulate their mind using sweet words.

She made a helpless gesture with her hand. He was watching her closely. She seemed to him pathetically helpless and bewildered; she was eight years older than he. He smiled in a strange, alert fashion, like a man who feels in jeopardy. She bent over her work, stitching nervously. There was a silence in which neither of them could breathe freely. (445)

The lines are taken from the story, "The Overtone" tells that Mrs. Thomas is 8 years older than her lodger but he smiles at her to attract her in his robot body.

After being raped female always feel sense of humiliation, frustration and even they think to commit suicide. The Princess, Dolly from the story "The Princess" also feels the same:

And in the afternoon, she pulled the clothes over her head and broke into tears. She had never really cried in her life. He dragged the blankets away and looked to see what was shaking her. She sobbed in helpless hysterics. He covered her over again and went outside, looking at the mountains, where clouds were dragging and leaving a little snow. It was a violent, windy, horrible day, the evil of winter rushing down. (519)

After Dolly is raped, she weeps much but Remero doesn't feel ashamed to make her helpless.

Truly, in the story, "The Princess", her father is so old but he controls her activities. She is so active and can herself get off from the carriage but male dominated society makes her weaker. The lines taken from the story, "The Princess" clearly hint:

Men hinted marriage at her. Especially boys from college suggested it from a distance. But they all failed before the look of sardonic ridicule in the Princess's eyes. It always seemed to her rather preposterous, quite ridiculous, and a tiny bit impertinent on their eyes. (485)

The above lines expose the male domination. She was from upper class, so, people want her to get marry but she does not want because she wants complete freedom.

After Mrs. Urquhart's death, Mr. Urquhart wants to impose his royal behavior to his daughter. So, he restricted her freedom to go outside. So he orders Dolly:

Only you, my little Princess. You are the last of the royal race of the old people; the last, my Princess. There are no others. You and I are the last. When I am dead there will be only you. And that is why, darling, you will never care for any of the people in the world very much. Because their demons are all dwindled and vulgar. They are not royal. Only you are royal, after me. (477)

The lines clearly tell that after her father's death, she has to take care of the people from her kingdom. Her father in the above-mentioned lines also forbids her to go outside palace and mingle with them because they are not prestigious people.

Helene Cixous is modern critic, like Showalter and Beauvoir she also gives importance to women's existence and her participation in society. She writes, "I write women, women must write about women"(19). She clearly asserts that she writes in order to show female experiences and to uplift female. She requests all female writers to write about female. She expresses her experience of a woman who is a unique being. Cixous requests women to put their bodies into their writing. She says: "A woman's body with its thousand and one threshold of order will make the old single grooved mother tongue reverberate with more than one language" (151). Here, Cixous emphasizes the power of women's body.

Male to attract the female, they take the help of personality. After their desire of sex fulfilled, they neglect the female. The lines of the story, "The Princes":

Romero, in a black shirt and with loose black trousers pushed into wide black riding-boots, was fishing a little farther down. He had put his hat on a rock behind him; his dark head was bent a little forward,

watching the water. He had caught three trout. From time to time he glanced up-stream at the Princess, perched there so daintily. He saw she had caught nothing. (487)

The lines tell that Romero who is Dolly's tourist guide meets in New Mexico. To attract Dolly, he presents himself as a dandy. He wears attractive black shirt and trousers.

Females feel confinement and confusion in the patriarchal society. If she did not care by her husband, she feels frustrated and lonely. The same case happens to Mrs. Reneshaw in the story: "The Overtone":

I am myself, running through light and shadow forever, a nymph and a Christian; I, not two things, but an apple with a gold side and a red, a freckled deer, a stream that tinkles and a pool where light is drowned; I, no fragment, no half-thing like the day, but a blackbird with a white breast and under wings, a peewit, a wild thing, beyond understanding.
(473)

She thinks that she is in light because she has a husband but she also feels alone because she is not loved by her husband (due to her barrenness). So, she feels that light is drown. Here, light mean hope and happiness.

Male in order to maintain their superiority and status in the society, he doesn't allow female to go outside but they want to confine them at home. The similar case can be viewed in the story, "The Princess":

Mrs. Urquhart lived three years in the mist and glamour of her husband's presence. And then it broke her. It was like living with a fascinating spectra. About most things he was completely, ghostly

oblivious. He was always charming, courteous, and gracious in that hushed, musical voice of his. (475)

These lines tell that Colin Urquhart doesn't allow his wife to go outside for three years. At palace, her condition was pathetic because she has to follow her husband's rules so Colin can enjoy his freedom.

In front of her husband, female is treated as inessential and has to spend their life fearfully. The lines from "The Overtone":

There was something like fear in her voice. They went down the hill together. And he did not know how he hated her, as if she had kept him out of the Promised Land that was justly his. He thought he was too generous to bear her a grudge. So, he had always held himself deferential to her. And later that evening he had loved her. (463)

As Mrs. Reneshaw knew her sterility, she is quite afraid thinking that what her husband will do after. After revelation of her sterility, her husband behaves her differently. Later, their relationship goes on damaging. She cannot give the baby but she thinks to give all love to her husband:

And yet again she had come to him pregnant with beauty and love, but he had been afraid. When she lifted her eyes to him, he had looked aside. The kisses she needed like warm raindrops he dared not give, till she was parched and gone hard, and did not want them. Then he gave kisses enough. But he never trusted himself. (465)

The lines tell that Mrs. Reneshaw's plight after the reality is known. She wants to give kiss as a gift to her husband but he doesn't care about her feeling.

In the story "The Old Adam," Edward and Mrs. Thomas have love affair. She is beautiful wife of Thomas. She is attracted with Edward because she does not

get any love and care from her husband. Their love goes on blooming. Both of them fall in love but Mrs. Thomas has the fear of her husband. She sometimes thinks that if he knows the affair with him, her husband may give divorce. The lines tell about their affairs: "The young man loved her. She was such a little bright wave of willfulness, so she abandoned to her impulses, so, white and smooth as she lays at rest, so startling as she flashed her naked limbs about" (440). The line tells that young Edward also falls in love with her. Seeing his thin and robust body, she falls in love with her. However, sometimes, she startles remembering her husband.

She is really frightened with her husband. The lines from the same story: "And all the time her piercing voice reechoed from his low calls of warning and of triumph as he hunted her" (438). The line tells that all the time she has to be scared with her husband. She has a piercing voice but cannot do anything in front of her husband because he frightens her much. As her husband knows her affair with Edward, being angry, he scolds Edward and his wife much. Although both of them love truly, they decide to leave each other. The extracted lines from the story:

Perhaps you wouldn't mind helping me down with the box," she said quietly and coldly. He did not reply, as he would have done hours before, that he certainly should not help her because it was a man's job, and she must not do it. (455)

Above lines hint that Mrs. Thomas's decision to leave him but Edward does not say anything. Here, in her decision of leaving Edward is not only of her desire. She decides to leave Edward because of the fear of her husband. Male decides directly or indirectly what female should do or should not do.

Although radical feminism is similar to socialist feminism because it emphasizes the need for dramatic social change in order to achieve genuine

equality for women, radical feminists argue that Marxist explanation for women's oppression is inadequate. They usually clash with the ideals of the liberal feminist, because radical feminists believe that "society must be changed at its core in order to dissolve patriarchy, not just through acts of legislation" (Daly 3). Daly means that to put end of patriarchy, thinking pattern of the society should be changed. Otherwise, always feel sense of inferiority. Radical feminists believe that society is extremely patriarchal, and until patriarchy is transformed on all levels, the system will remain unjust. A minority of radical feminists are separatist feminists, who believe that men and women need to maintain separate institutions and relationships.

Male culture always dominate female. In the story, "The Princess", Princes longs for freedom but her father does not let her go outside. The lines:

She lived with her father, and he travelled continually, though in a modest way, living on his moderate income. And never going to America. The child changed nurses all the time. In Italy it was a Contadina; in India she had an ayah; in Germany she had a yellow-haired peasant girl. (476)

The protagonist, princess is from upper class and has everything but she lacks freedom. She longs to visit America but her father does not allow her to go outside. Father alone moves to and fro around the world.

Conclusion: Female Identity under Veil

As the feminist elements, equality and independence are important which are reflected through those selected stories. Those selected short stories mainly on its representation of female characters as passive, which are actually deprived of their freedom. Lawrence has presented female characters as a mere substance and is bound to repress their feelings, emotions and sentiments due to the social

restrictions of patriarchal society. Most of the characters hold the pangs of suffering and harmful nature which ultimately creates frustration, alienation and shocking experiences in their psychic and physical part. Due to massive domination of male-canonical world, they do not find any significant role in the society.

The three female characters like Mrs. Thomas, Dolly and Reneshaw of those stories tries to deny the stereotype of women as the subordination of men. For example, in the story, "The Old Adam", Mrs. Thomas does not hesitate to make illegal affair with own lodger Edward who is tall, thin and graceful, cultured and sensitive and supportive to her. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas have 3 years old daughter. Edward and Mrs. Thomas both are attracted to each other physically.

In one night, Mrs. Thomas and Edward were talking romantically with each other in the house and they were physically attracted to each other. In the meantime, Mr. Thomas returned home from the office and that time Mr. Thomas quarrels with his wife. Later, Edward begins quarrels with Mr. Thomas and they make verbal fighting. He becomes more aggressive when he realizes that Edwards has won the heart of his wife. In order to hide the reality, she behaves coldly with Edward. Next day, Edward and Mr. Thomas say sorry with each other but Mrs. Thomas finally convinced her to devote herself to her husband, although, she loves and wants Edward. He is the person with whom she wants to be close and spend life. She is attracted with Edward because of his physical appearance and manner but at last she devotes herself to her husband Thomas but their marital relationship is not good enough.

Similarly, the story, "The Princess" has got veiled identity. The Princess, Dolly, is not allowed to go outside of her palace. Her father never allows going out. But after his death, she goes to New Mexico where she meets with Romero but

Romero becomes attracted with her physically and tries to convince her to be close. But she does not show any sexual interest. So, he rapes her. Afterwards, she really feels bad and thought that man outside the palace are not good. Meantime, her people from her palace reached there and take her with them but she did not tell the truth to the relatives. She hides the reality that she was raped by Romero. Moreover, if a female is sterile she gets massive hate in the society. Its example can be found in the story "The Overtone" in which a husband behaves his wife as a wife until he finds her sterility.

In brief, the stories show fully patriarchal boundaries where women's role is merely of servants. They are only engaged in manual and non-intellectual works. Their roles have been limited by rules and regulations. They are presented as pessimistic characters. However, the researcher believes that male and female can be equal in every aspect if they get similar education, training and socialization.

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