

**The Concept of Parenting in Harper
Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird***

B.A. Dissertation Submitted
to the
Department of English, School of Languages,
Doon University, Dehradun in partial
fulfilment of the requirement for the
award of the degree of
B.A. (Honours) in English
by
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2022

Declaration

I hereby declare that the dissertation entitled ‘The Concept of Parenting in Harper Lee’s *To Kill a Mockingbird*’ is an original work composed by me and in any way has not previously formed the basis for the award of any degree, diploma or any other similar title.

The dissertation embodies the results of investigations, observations, and experiments carried out by me. I have neither plagiarized any part of the dissertation nor have I submitted same work for the award of any other degree/diploma anywhere.

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Certificate

This is to certify that the Dissertation entitled „The Concept of Parenting in Harper Lee’s *To Kill a Mockingbird*“ submitted by Kaushal Bhatt has been done under my supervision. It is also certified that the work in this Dissertation embodies original research and hard work of the candidate.

The assistance and support received during the course of investigation and all the sources of literature have been fully acknowledged.

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Acknowledgement

I would like to thank my supervisor, Dr Chetana Pokhriyal, Head of Department of English, for her constant support and generous attitude towards me all through the way while working on this dissertation. Even after having such a busy schedule, she was fully committed to helping me and all the other students writing their dissertations under her supervision. I would also like to appreciate the efforts and endeavors of my mentor and guide, Ms Raina Singh, who was always ready with the answers to all of my doubts and queries.

Further, I would like to express my gratitude towards all of my impeccable professors and teachers, without whom I wouldn't have been able to come near the end of my graduation. Their teachings and ideas have directly or indirectly influenced in the making of this dissertation.

I would also thank the administration of the University for providing me and all the students with a beautiful campus in the midst of a soothing environment, and all of the other facilities that make an ideal place for studying. Along with that I would highly appreciate the works of the whole of the college's staff, security members and the helping hands, who work tirelessly for the better functioning of the institution and the ease of students.

It would be unfair not to include my dear friends and batch mates, who were always with me throughout the journey of my graduation. And being a hosteller from day one of my college life, I would like to give my heartfelt regards to the hostel and mess committee,

and all of the jovial students residing there for creating a home-like place and atmosphere that helped to do well in the academics.

And finally I would thank my parents, whose never ending love and support allowed me to study in this wonderful University. They also encouraged me in all of the hard times when I needed some positivity in life. Words are not enough to express their sacrifices. And along with them, I would also thank my siblings, cousins and all other family members for always cheering and adoring me.

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Abstract

This dissertation titled “The Concept of Parenting in Harper Lee’s *To Kill a Mockingbird*” focuses on the ideas and aspects of the upbringing of children that come out of the novel. It explores the various dimensions of the ways in which children are affected by the adults around them and how it forms their perspective. It starts with the discussion of parenting as one of the major themes of the book. It further goes on in an attempt to analyze the character that plays the role of an ideal parent in the story. Then there is the breakdown of the societal factors that affect in the mental and moral development of the young and innocent souls. And in the end, the symbolism present in the book is talked about, that conveys some important lessons to learn and which also renders the readers to contemplate over this specific realm of the story. The following dissertation is the result of going through the novel several times and analyzing those incidents that contribute in providing the greater glimpse of the ideal ways of parenting of children.

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Chapter I

Introduction

Harper Lee (1926 - 2016) was an American novelist who rose to fame and limelight when she wrote one of the most influential novels, not only of her life, but of the modern literature too. Although *To Kill a Mockingbird* is one of her only two published novels, it cannot be but loved and admired by anyone who once starts reading it. Lee won the Pulitzer Prize for the novel in 1961 and the „Presidential Medal of Freedom“ in 2007. The book was also voted Best Novel of the Century in a poll by the *Library Journal*. However, these honors are not enough to measure the impact and influence that her work has created in the lives of all the readers.

Lee quotes, “I never expected any sort of success with *Mockingbird*. I was hoping for a quick and merciful death at the hands of the reviewers, but at the same time I sort of hoped someone would like it enough to give me encouragement” (Newquist 1964). And it is clear that someone just didn’t like it a little, but everyone who read it completely fell in love with Lee and her creation. It remains her only major work and when asked about why she didn’t write more, she only replied that she has said everything she had to say. And all of her readers know it very well that indeed she has said so much and has given a new perspective of life to countless people.

Truman Capote, Lee’s close friend (who was the inspiration for the character of Dill Harris), says, “Someone rare has written this very fine novel, a writer with the liveliest sense of life and the warmest, most authentic humor. A touching book; and so funny, so

likable.” (*To Kill a Mockingbird*, first edition) It is a book that is so full of life and optimism that there is always more to discuss about it and it will continue to inspire and impact generations to come. The autobiographical elements of the book are one of the most significant features of the book. They make every line of the book trustworthy and full of realism. Lee’s real life incidents that have inspired the book’s contents give a great shape to the novel and make the readers relate with it even more. Her portrayal of characters, her unique tone of narration and the subtlety in the descriptions of a child’s world in the novel are some of the factors that make her work to be cherished by people of every age.

About the Research:

The following dissertation focuses on the subject of the concept of parenting with respect to the critically acclaimed and appreciated novel *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee. Although the novel is one of the most popular and admired books in the modern world a lot has been written and worked upon it since its publication, this paper is an attempt to throw light on the subject that has been less talked about. This research work is quite unfamiliar from the previously done works on the novel. This work is not about the discussion of any particular character or theme of the book, but about the influence that it has on the contemporary world and its possibility of being a maverick to the society. The aspect of topic that shall be addressed in this research work can be comprehended through the title itself. The book has a lot of areas of debate and discussion – symbolism regarding American culture and history, character analysis (majorly of Scout and Atticus Finch), racial discrimination in America, rape in race, class and gender and so forth. However, this paper shall cover the general ideology of the upbringing of children in the modern world

in a way that bestows them with the perspective of life and gives moral stability in their characters. It shall also try to analyze the relationship of parents and children in today's world and highlight the ways to make that bond stronger, narrowing the generation gap and creating personalities that might benefit the society.

The topic covered in this research area can be relevant and will hold true to the readers, as it highlights an important concern of the modern times. The incidents and cases as of talked about in the novel symbolize the daily happenings in the lives of parents and children. The realism of the novel makes it more believable and worth following in real life. One of the most significant parts of the book is that it deals with the effects upon the children and their coming of age with regard to the ongoing mayhem around them. The child characters are the base of the book and play an integral part. The children have been guided with the true glimpse of the society as should be done in reality too. More than just education, the importance of adding values and ethics to the characters of the young ones can be seen throughout the storyline. The main adult character of the book can be perceived as the great artist of parenting that we need for the growing ones in the modern epoch. The art of parenting is simple yet full of subtlety and requires great amount of practice and perseverance. It's not just about molding the children in the right shape and bringing changes in them but also about making them able to influence people around them and creating social stability in the world they live in. The factor of schooling also comes when the bringing up of children is being talked about. The importance of setting up a better way of educating children so that it does not remain something that is to be a burden to anyone is also a topic to have a discussion upon. The role of not just parents, but of all the adults affecting the lives of children and influencing them is important for this art of parenting.

Aim of the Research:

The major objective of this topic is to raise an important concern about the growing ones and discuss on the much-needed means to build up a better parent-child relationship in this fastchanging world. Through this research, several readers might be able to view the novel in a new light and come out with ideas to work upon the previously mentioned issue. This can also be an initiative for the adults to make the children realize that being the duckling among the flight of swans is not a sin. That being a good person is not a thing to be ashamed of. And no matter what happens, even if the world or our own kind is against us, we always do have a choice to follow the right path. It is not necessary to do great, conspicuous deeds in order to be deemed as a great person. But it is our small attributes that define our character and make us a better person. Being generous and kind-hearted is considered a weakness by many in today's world. However, a true parent helps his kids in believing that these traits are the true mark of a developed character.

Because being good is actually being great.

There are also some questions that arise before or after going through these pages. How can the relationship of parents and children be made better? What can be the purpose of schools to achieve this feat? Is the topic worth talking about? Do we really need to understand the art of parenting? There are several other doubts that will arise and it cannot be guaranteed that all of the questions will be answered in this research perfectly. But an attempt is to be made in order to get a better understanding of the issue.

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Chapter II

The Concept of Parenting in Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird*

Parenting, if defined, can be called „a process of raising, promoting and supporting the physical, emotional, social and rational state of a child to adulthood and across the lifespan“. It is a vital part of human nature because it begins with the beginning of life (of children) and moulds them into better persons. It is like the passing of a mantle from a parent to his child, because children are the reflections of their parents. And there would hardly be a person who might go against this fact. The values and characteristics of the young ones are influenced by the traits of their genitors. The environment and the conditions under which they are bred up render the foundation of their character. Parenting is one of those processes taken way too lightly like other common human practices. However, it is an art and not every person is capable of being a great artist, especially when it comes to their own progeny. Eventually every child grows up but not everyone gets to know the purpose of growing up.

According to Susan H Landry (PhD Scholar), “children’s development of the cognitive and social skills needed for later success in school may be best supported by a parenting style known as responsive parenting. She believes that with the help of repeated positive experiences; a trust and bond develops between the child and the parent” (Landry 11). But what actually are these positive experiences? And can they bring parents and children a little closer? Because that is exactly what we need in today’s world, where parents and children keep tearing apart because of modern culture and increasing generation gap. But as it is said, every malady has its cure; the cure for this malady can be found in Harper Lee’s evergreen and immortal novel, *To Kill a*

Mockingbird. Lee's novel is not just another book about children's coming of age, but it can be perceived as a guide to every parent, and to every child too, on how to get along and make their bond strong.

Lee's world of the Maycomb County as portrayed through the young eyes and tender heart of Scout Finch represents some of the many universal traits that are a part of a parent and a child's relationship. The amount of responsibilities that should be on the shoulders of both of them is disguised in the characters throughout the story. The coexistence of the world of children and that of the adults is one of the most significant parts of the book. Allan Gurganus, the American novelist and essayist, believes that "it is the beautiful representation of Lee of the 1930's American society that enables the readers to picture everything that they get from the story" (Gurganus 23). And these representations work so efficiently on the readers' minds that gradually goes up to the realization for both the young and adult readers about the importance of their relationship and the need to respect the ideas and beliefs of one another in order to set up a mutual sense of understanding.

As we lead further into this chapter, there will be seen the studies of the concepts and ideals of parenting in accordance with the book itself; through the discussion of iconic quotes, major incidents of the story and the influence of certain characters that are crucial to get through this idea of the upbringing of children in a better way.

Parenting as a Major Theme:

Harper Lee has focused on several issues of the American society in the early 20th century in *To Kill a Mockingbird*. Through the story, she goes on exploring the themes of racial

prejudice and discrimination, good against evil, injustice, courage, bravery, knowledge and education. However, one of the most salient and consistent part of the novel deals with the effects upon the children and their attitudes and also their coming of age with respect to the society and precisely, with the world of the adults.

The book comes up with an important notion that children are influenced and affected by all the people around them throughout their lifetime. They get mostly impacted from the environment in which they live and are bred up. And therefore parents play an important role for them in creating such environments; because they are the ones who can affect them in their behavior, feelings and actions towards the outer world and the people of the society. Children, who are brought up with hatred, anger and ignorance tend to perceive the world in a bad light. And on the contrary, children brought up with affection, attention and nourishment are more likely to pass on the same attributes towards others as well.

Lyla, literary scholar, says, “one of the books protagonists, Atticus Finch, has become one of fiction’s most beloved fathers for his extraordinary parenting skill” (Lyla 9). And it is because of his sensibilities, his daughter Scout matures earlier than other children of her age. While, on the other side, the antagonist Bob Ewell puts himself in a position that he is despised by everyone around him and even his children fear him because of his traits. Another scholar Sweet says, “Atticus refused to give in ways of other parents and his persistence in teaching his children to be the most respectful people that they can be, proves that he is a quality parent” (Sweet 5). While many other parents in the town judge his parenting, he continues to teach his children life lessons in unique ways.” The most iconic quote of the novel and of Atticus Finch comes out when his children are getting

shooting lessons from Uncle Jack. Atticus is the person who is not shown having fun in these kinds of activities. However, his one of the most important advices as a parent to his kids and to every other kid out there in the world comes out in that episode. "Shoot all the bluejays you want, if you can hit 'em, but remember it's a sin to kill a mockingbird" (Lee 99). It is the first time Scout hears Atticus saying that it was a sin to do anything. These lines of his not only give a glimpse of his character, but also put light on the importance of guiding children in the right way so that they follow the good path in their life. These lines also become important for two major reasons. The first one being the fact that the title of the book comes out of these very lines, and also comes out the glimpse of parenting as a prominent theme in the book. The other reason being the person who delivers these lines. Atticus, who throughout the story gives away all of his teachings and character enhancing lessons to his children with a calm demeanor, is full of intensity and excitement when he casts out these spellbinding words. These lines are not like the other advices Atticus gives his children, because they have deeper meaning hidden in them. These lines can be assumed to come out from the contempt for the people who are higher in class, status or power and who are responsible for the plight and predicament of the already subdued people in the society. It is Atticus's way of reminding his children that no matter how great they become, they should never commit the felony of mistreating the wretched and hapless people in their world. This life changing lesson is not just given by a fictional character to his children, but by an author to the whole world. These lines, therefore, should be celebrated not only in the world of literature, but in the world of parents and children as well. These lines are the soul of the book that gives a new light to the idea of parenting.

The character of Scout Finch also shows us how a child should be to his parents.

Along with her father's great teachings, she herself holds the sense of understanding the ways of the world that make her quite ahead of her age. She might act like a stubborn child many a times, but in the end she remains the one to be admired and adored for her great character. She remains the one who follows her father's traits and comes out as a better person (even though she might not be considered one by some fellow characters in the book). Therefore she becomes the immortal example of a well bred child who is the result of one of the best and purest forms of upbringing of children.

The Atticus Influence:

When Scout asks Atticus, "But it's okay to hate Hitler?" a response comes that sums up his character. He says, "it is not, it's not okay to hate anybody" (Lee 271). Who else in the world would have responded to a child's question like that but Atticus Finch? Such a person he is. He cannot hate anyone. Love is the founding factor of his character. He does not have influence, but he is the influence, not just to his kids, but to everyone who follows his ways of living life. He is the parent who gives answers to every one of his children's questions, whether silly or witty. And he is the answer in the form of refuge to anyone who seeks comfort in their parents' ways from the outside world. The person who can make such a statement of not hating even Hitler is indeed a person and character worth talking about.

From the very first appearance of Atticus Finch and the way he is described, the readers get to know that he is different from other parents. His early impression in the book is like – "he played with us, and treated us with courteous detachment" (Lee 6). He acted

as both father and mother to his children. He used to appreciate his children for their minor achievements instead of ignoring them. He respected every individual's opinions and beliefs, no matter how different they were from his own. He is described as a calm and placid person who minded his own business and also used to ask his children to not pry into other people's affairs and let them live their lives as they desire.

Atticus Finch is the character that needs to be studied because he is the kind of parent every child deserves to have. He has the power to convert even the most cold hearted of persons. V Joncas, in his paper published in 2009 described Atticus as a "timeless parenting model in a work of fiction" (Joncas 32). He is the character that touches the soul of the readers and inspires them to be a better version of themselves. In the words of Miss Maudie, "he can make somebody's will so air-tight can't anybody meddle with it" (Lee 100). He can be called as the prime example of an ideal parent that we have ever seen in the works of modern literature. There are several instances in the book where he stands out as a unique parent having great ideas and techniques to raise children with a stronger character.

He is the person who would always comfort his children when things went wrong. He wanted his children to have better upbringing and so he used the tools of love and attention for his children. He tried to make his children see everyone in good light, no matter how harshly they treated them. He believed that "a gang of wild animals can be stopped, simply because they're still human" (Lee 173). He maintained an even character inside and outside the house. As Scout says, "Atticus don't ever do anything to Jem and me in the house that he don't do in the yard" (Lee 51). As a parent, he was composed all of the time and talked very politely to everyone. His little efforts (although might be unintentional) in his generous behavior were a means to teach his children that they should

always have a cool temper and nature, no matter how they are tempted. In one of the instances, when he gets the insult of a lifetime when he is spat on his face by Bob Ewell and threatened to death, his reaction in front of his kids is – “I wish Bob Ewell wouldn’t chew tobacco” (Lee 239). Atticus was the person his children could always look up to for all their questions. And he also believed that children’s questions are important and should be answered in a right manner. When Scout asks Uncle Jack what a whore lady is, he gives her an answer disguised in a story. When Atticus gets to know about this, he tells his brother that:

When a child asks you something, answer him for goodness’ sake. But don’t make production of it. Children are children, but they can spot an evasion quicker than adults, and evasion simply muddles ‘em. (Lee 97)

He believed that children shouldn’t be kept hidden from anything. The answers to a child’s doubt should be handled with patience. He had the power to deal with sensitive topics in front of children. When Scout asks him what rape is, he defines it as “the carnal knowledge of a female by force and without consent” (Lee 149). Such were his parenting skills that he could handle his kids in any situation and that are why they found comfort in him. Although he was a single parent, he did the part of their upbringing better than many living couples. People around him didn’t like his ways of teaching his kids and used to say that he was spoiling them, especially the girl child. Even Alexandra, Atticus’s sister, didn’t like his ways of dealing with Scout. But it is evident from the text that Atticus did a better nourishment of Scout than anyone else could have done. And anyone

who knew Scout would have confirmed the fact, like Miss Maudie, who believed Atticus to be an excellent father.

It is people like Atticus Finch who influences their children and groom them into better persons. In today's world, where people have no tolerance and can't even stand the person sitting next to them, there is need of people like Atticus who have the power to not only have impact over their children, but the people around them too. Every home deserves an Atticus, every child deserves an Atticus but Atticuses are not easily found. They are formed after great patience and perseverance. Atticus is not just a person, he is a concept, a factor that influences the people of the society. He someone always be called upon and trusted. He is someone the children can have respect for and always look up to.

Relationship of Children and Society:

Another aspect of *To Kill a Mockingbird* that comes out with respect to the upbringing of children is their relationship with the society and the people who live around them and influence their traits. Children are mostly affected by the parents at home, but a part of them also draws its characteristics from the society. However, the influence of the society can be from minor to great extents, depending upon the environment provided at home. In the book, the story is set around the time when American society was not so liberal like today and had a lot of vices, among individuals and in society as well. In several ways, Lee has tried to showcase the vicious side of society that is full of prejudice, stereotypes, hatred, discrimination against black people and also the people have who have bad influence over children, either of their own or someone else's. But at the same time she has also

highlighted the positive side of the society that gives faith and hope to the tender hearts of children who try to follow the good traits of that side.

Miss Maudie Atkinson is the character in the book that represents those people of the society that belong to that very small group of people that understands children and respects their opinions. When Scout describes Miss Maudie, she says, “She had never told on us, had never played cat-and-mouse with us, she was not at all interested in our private lives. She was our friend” (Lee 49). Miss Maudie is that part of society which children need to continue having faith in the people outside their home. She is one of those few people that play a crucial role in the upbringing of children when they don’t have anyone at home. She can be called the Atticus that lives outside their house. Calpurnia is another character that also represents a part of society. She is not like Atticus or Miss Maudie but she still has her social influence over them, whether it is about reprimanding Scout for not behaving properly with Walter Cunningham, when he eats in a bizarre way because of the way of his people; or about giving her and Jem some important piece of advice regarding the society – “folks don’t like to have somebody around knowin’ more than they do. It aggravates ‘em” (Lee 139). She is one of those persons who give children a perspective of the society and the ways of people, because it becomes important for children to know the realities of the world – whether they are comforting or harsh. Like when Atticus tells Jem and Scout about the dark truth of white people treating black people unequally after losing the case – “I don’t know but they did it. They’ve done it before and they did it tonight and they’ll do it again and when they do it, seems that only children weep” (Lee 235).

The institutions of knowledge also come under the social factors affecting children. From the text, it can be understood that schools might not always work in an ideal way for

the children to get them educated properly. These institutions of edification therefore often become the medium of murdering the moral growth of the innocent ones. Children are not able to trust the adults when they see the differences in the preaching and the actions of their teachers. Like when Miss Caroline is not able to manage the different types of kids in class because of their varied ways of being brought up. Or when Scout rants over Miss Gates who thinks it is okay to hate Hitler because he has persecuted so many Jews but at the same time hates the fellow black men of her own country (Lee 272). These attributes of adults lead to nothing but skepticism and mistrust in children's minds.

Symbolism:

The usage of symbols in the novel disguised as something is an important part of the novel. The most salient symbol used in the book is obviously the mockingbird. It is the symbol that has almost no literal meaning in the text. However, it has been used throughout the novel disguised as the victims who are innocent, but are murdered (metaphorically) by the evils in the society. Mockingbirds depict innocence and therefore it has been called "a sin to kill a mockingbird" (Lee 99). It is also said in the book –

Mockingbirds don't do one thing but make music for us to enjoy. They don't eat up people's gardens, don't nest in corncribs, they don't do one thing but sing their hearts out for us. That's why it's a sin to kill a mockingbird. (Lee 100)

The mockingbird symbolizes all the characters of the novel who suffer for nothing. The first one of them is Tom Robinson, a black man who is charged of rape against a white girl. Even before the verdict of the court, he is perceived guilty by the society (mostly white people). He is portrayed as a hard-working religious man who struggles to feed his family. But only because of his race he is downtrodden by the people. And the people seem to side more with Bob Ewell, the father of the alleged victim, who is a white man (even if he is a drunkard and a curse to his family). The other mockingbird is Arthur Boo Radley, who hasn't done any harm to anyone (not since he was a young boy). However, he is seen and referred to as an abominable creature who always stays inside his house and feeds on rats. He isn't liked at all, even by his own family and the children also develop fear and contempt for him. Jem is also an innocent mockingbird who becomes a victim of the grudge of Bob Ewell. He gets punished for no crime and he gets a defect in his body that stays with him for years to come. But apart from these mockingbirds, the children can also be seen symbolized as mockingbirds, whose innocence is killed by their parents, society, schools and the people who do not understand them. Clara Martin writes, "Even children can grow into prejudices and are quick to judge others based on what they are taught and what they observed. As Scout so plainly says that she was born good but had grown progressively worse every year." The outer world, that is often full of so much hatred makes the children forget the language of love and makes them miserable. The word mockingbird plays an important role in the novel. Lee has used it as the symbol to portray the suffering and destruction of those who had nothing but goodwill and benevolence for others. Tom Robinson only wanted to help Mayella in her household chores because he pitied her plight that was caused by her father. He didn't even charge her anything for his help because he just wanted to make her troubles less. But still he faced consequences for

being the nice person and ended up with the price of his life. In the same way, Boo Radley, who was once alleged for causing mayhem in the neighborhood with other boys when he was young, didn't use to come out of his house and was a threat to no one. He tried to give the children gifts secretly to make them happy, and also gave Scout a blanket without anyone knowing it. He only wanted to live the way he liked, alone and not to be disturbed. However, the people of his surroundings had vicious conceptions of him and despised him. They also talked of him as a monster that would make the listeners despise him too. But he comes out to be the hero of the story, who saved another mockingbird, Jem Finch. The mockingbird in the form of Boo Radley is killed (metaphorically) for being and looking different than what is acceptable to the society. And Jem, who only wanted to be a gentleman like his father and do good for others, falls victim to the malice of the man who cannot stand what is right and is scarred for life.

Several of the mockingbirds are killed every day in the form of children. The innocent ones cease to live when they are made to wear the clothes of ordeals and restraints that come from their own kind of people. The innocence of children is one of the features that separates them from adults. Their innocence is the cause of their doubt and questions about life and which are necessary too. And their innocence becomes the reasons of the growth of their moral character. However, when this mockingbird dies, it adds up to the vices of poor upbringing.

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Chapter III

Conclusion

This dissertation been written with such a topic to make people see *To Kill a Mockingbird* in a different light than it is generally seen. Most of the research papers based on the book focus on racism, the Great Depression of the 1930s, prejudice, knowledge, education, social inequality and law and order. Therefore an effort has been put in this paper to explore the perspective of children and understanding their needs for their better upbringing. Harper Lee has herself said that she is not author or scholar and *Mockingbird* is her first book. However, she has given the gift of a lifetime to the literature world. And more than that, she has given that guide to the adults that would allow them to acquire a new perspective of treating children.

This book by Harper Lee is the answer to every one of a parent's dilemma and every one of a child's doubts. It is one of the finest works of modern literature that comes along with a lot of life changing lessons. Apart from that, it has a lot about the concept of parenting as an art of shaping children. It is a work that changes conceptions and discards misconceptions of people regarding the upbringing of children. It is the very book that brings one of the most impactful and influential characters of all time, Atticus Finch. He believes that "one never really knows a man until he stands in his shoes and walks around in them" (Lee 308). He teaches the world not to judge people from how they appear or behave. Appearances are often deceptive. Sometimes, the malevolent looking people come out to be the most generous ones out there. And many a times people don't get the love they deserve because of their looks or behavior. Therefore, it becomes very important to mark the foundations of the young ones by providing them the larger perspective of the world and its people. It should always be taught that one should be benign and compassionate towards other people. Parents should be friendly towards their children and so should the children be towards them. The kids ought to be taught the languages of love and affection so that they see everyone with a good intent of heart, because "most people are nice when we finally see them" (Lee 309). According to Clara Martin,

To Kill a Mockingbird is a testament to seeing the world through the eyes of a child – things are unfair, people are treated poorly, and the good guys don't always win. But it doesn't mean the good guys have to stop fighting for what they know is right. One of these „good guys“ is Atticus Finch, who can change the lives of people. The voice of the child is the voice of the mockingbird, a symbol of innocence. The only way this story that deals with

racial injustice in Southern America of the 1930s could be told was through the voice of a child. At the end of the novel, it is Scout who finally sees Boo in the light of her porch as a person and not as a ghost. The perceptions of children change when they finally start seeing people. (Martin 13)

In the end, it revolves around children and the adults. The little ones are always in a need of a parent that truly resonates with them and shares the bonding of love and connection. And more than just a parent, they need someone whom they can completely trust, because if they can't trust anyone at home, they wouldn't be able to trust anyone outside in the great world. The parenting of a child is an aspect that should be emphasized more in literary works, as has been done in *To Kill a Mockingbird*. Because literature really makes the difference as it works miraculously. The ideals of parenting that cannot be taught in other ways can be taught through the stories and real life instances in the form of literature. Parenting is not just about raising children and making them self reliant, but it's more about making the little ones get a better glimpse of the society. It is a way of forging better characters out of children that happens not through force of power, but through patience and sensibility. It is a medium to give them the sense and understanding of the rights and wrongs of the world so that they can be proud of doing the right thing; for themselves and for the sake of other people.

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