

RACISM, CLASS AND CASTE IN AUGUST WILSON FENCE'S.

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ABSTRACT

This paper is an attempt to read August Wilson Fence's in the light of "racism, caste and class. Racism is constructed by the society where people are pushed into lower class in the society based on the color. On the whole black people undergone lots of issues, both socially and economically to lead their lives but after twentieth century it started to improve some underwent the issues especially. The black people are neglected from the society but even more they struggled a lot and they were able to capture American culture and the society marginalized where it brings the people to be depressed through the mind and body. Racism affected many people around the world this prevented the black people from developing themselves economically and social intellectually it makes them dumped within by the group of communities or the higher class people.

The present paper is an effort to understand the conflicts of racism of Afro-Americans with special reference to the play "Fences" by August Wilson. This play mainly deals with life of the black people in world war II. It is a sixth play Pittsburgh cycle at 1950. It mainly deals with race revolution and culture of the United States. It has won Pulitzer prize for drama.

The main protagonist of the play is Troy Maxon a hard working man in working place where he tries to get promotion as driver but for that posting he faced much consequence as an afro-American man. He was not accepted the society where he felt very depressed and filled with lots of emotions to uplift himself in society but after long struggle he got a job with his son Cory Maxon. It's like generation to generation. He felt bad for his misfortune and he thinks that this situation should not be repeated to his family and should make a better future life than he has had his past and failures that greatly influences his mistake in the relationship with his son.

Troy feels that he has caught in a world which he does not belong to and Troy is not much interested to spend some time with his family but his desire is to be an independent. He feels pursuit of the American dream throughout generation. Troy and Cory seeks to involve themselves into the culture of the day. Troy is dissatisfied with his life. Racism calls off his dreams. He wanted his children to have a bright future in relationship as father and son.

Croy felt that is not affection to him and his father 's desires are thrown on him. Croy felt that his father doesn't care him as a son not care him as a son, but now troy gives him care and noted his behavior. So that troy makes croy to leave the football . Because troy experienced failure in sports that made him disappointed .But croy is much interested in sports especially in football and his ambition is to win the scholarship and go to college. In some situation troy was mistaking croy because troy feels that sports can't give him a good career and wealth.. Troy remembers that his father makes him to go out at the age of 14.

It is a good example of family drama, from this play the situation is explained that troy struggles to function as a father but rose even as a second wife she leads her family in correct manner. Rose shares her happiness and sadness to him. She took all her responsibility as a wife, as a mother. As a wife rose is concerned about the family, troy maintains an affection with rose. Rose is really injured through realistic world and even rose also accepts the illegal child of troy as her child.

The conventional way of husband and wife, father and son conflicts are subservient to the play's discussion of racism. Racism is sad reality in our nation that affects all types of people. Troy dreams of becoming a professional baseball player got ripped away because of his racial appearance. This single experience has slowly made him look at life differently. He easily gets fooled by his inner thoughts because of the past racial discrimination he endures and believed his self- created illusions.

Troy's life which is evident based on a certain decisions in the play causes tensions and conflicts with his family. Around our world ,achievements in the sporting world are still perceived in racial terms. In fact, success or failure can be explained just by citing a player's color. Racism comes from a desire to guard all of that, as well as our origins and our species. The source of racism begins with the individual and could only be resolved by addressing the action and individual.

Racism is basically characterizing people ethnically in accordance to certain traits that are distinctive. August Wilson, through his work , he communicates the struggles of the blacks living in the society and how racism affected their social life. Fences deals with the underlying issues and their ripple effect through families and society that are born of racism.

The main protagonist, Troy Maxson is an Afro-American man who works for the sanitation department and through his life and life and family, we get to uncover the devastating effects that comes with racism. The end of this social evil, new generation should not be taught forgiveness and equality of humanity. As a person of color I have faced racial discrimination in a number of ways throughout my life and live with those scars. I believe that by exploring African- American perspective and culture, and examining Americans legacy of racial discrimination all Americans have a chance to holistically precede into the future.

Troy scared by racism and by the cycle of abuse from his father seems doomed to repeat this Pattern with his family. The cycle of the function and separation seems like it will destroy the Maxson family and all of troy's relationship. Fences is a continuation of the study of the social standings of the black man. Those social standings can mean his place in society, such as the place where a man is not fit to play professional sports if his skin is too dark or it can mean his relationship with his family and friends, such as over protective father and husband.

Troy Maxson is a man living in the frustrating era that promised freedoms for African-American only on paper. The American dreams are held up before them, but would remain intangible until the next decade and beyond. Again the character struggles against the white society and their fellow blacks, while Troy successfully emerges as a garbage truck driver, a position held only by the white workers. He refuses to allow his son Cory to pursue his dream of playing college football.

Troy believes he is saving his son from the dream of job he thought it would be. Fences also presents family battles and the need to identify oneself in relation to one's family portraying the power struggle between Troy and Cory the material issues between Rose and Troy the responsibility for and eventually abandonment of brother Gabriel.

The blacks in the new America are not living according to the definition of democracy and the ideas of natural rights. In America, blacks are unable to enjoy the same facilities and opportunities as the whites. When the play opens, I find that Troy and his friend Bono talking about the former's challenge to the company and the union about the black's ability to do the same easy work that whites do. Rebellion and frustration are set to be the tone of the entire play. In his old age he longs for his rights and his life is a story of missed opportunities. This brings to light the kind of life the blacks are living in America.

Due to the lack of education and other training, blacks find it difficult to go for a white collar job. The entire social system based on racism is responsible for it. Troy struggles to keep the family together which gives us insight into the life of blacks in America. Troy lived during a time when the blacks were mostly treated as a "second class". The kind of social environment in which he grew made him the oppression exercised by the ruling whites.

The way he was treated blinded him to any possibility of whites giving opportunity exercised by ruling whites. In a way he is right too because blacks if involvement in sports it will not provide them a permanent way out of the life of economic deprivation and he is in favor of going for a job that can bring money to solve the problems of everyday life.

What lies at the root of these problems, conflicts are struggles of the blacks as degraded and inferior to the whites on the whole of Fences presents the picture of blacks who are deprived of many facilities and opportunities for the betterment of their life. The confinement of some blacks within the world of their limited experience. Raynell who is innocent and independent girl symbolizes hope for a better society in the time to come.

August Wilson reflects on his experience about racism of black people, connects everything back to the same that Troy Maxson was unhappy with his life and felt as if he were a failure. The failure was taken out on those he felt as a responsibility such as Rose, and Cory. Wilson used Fences and baseball to tell this story. It was not just a story of a life perceived as a failure, but a look into the mind and thoughts of African man.

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