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COLOR JETTING; AN INCONSOLABLE PREDICAMENT IN AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY
THROUGH TONI MORRISON NOVEL *THE BLUEST EYE*

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ABSTRACT

Over centuries, race and racism has been trying to re-evaluate itself by its meaning, nevertheless, unfortunately and amazingly it is manmade and man-enforced phenomenon. It is defined as a learnt behavior and learnt emotions but not an acquired one. Registered as an extreme characteristic and dissimilar from one group conceived on another group, racism has been one of the brutal activities on human existence. A neo slave narrative *The Bluest Eye* by Toni Morrison is an extraordinary piece that brings the predicament of Blacks related to race in African American culture. Pecola Breedlove, the protagonist of the novel might be the victim of racism, but while reading through the novel, paradoxically, it is every black woman appears before the reader.

The present paper is remorse to elaborate the unnatural and unethical component of African American Culture, race, with the recent illustrations in America, having got understood the intensity of racism through Toni Morrison Novel *The Bluest Eye*.

Keywords: Race- Racism-manmade phenomenon-evil activity-predicaments-intensity of racism

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INTRODUCTION

“Racism is a man-made, man-enforced phenomenon..... may be defined as all of the learned behavior and learned emotions on the part of a group of people towards another group whose physical characteristics are dissimilar to the formal group; behavior and emotions that compel one group to conceive of and to treat the other on the basis of its physical characteristics alone, as if it did not belong to the human race.”

The above quotation gives adequate reasons to perceive the humiliation that Race has been plundering on human existence but there are every chances of eradicating the evil act. It is far from description, existing by being a Block in a White culture that symbolizes human dissolution and their survival in itself. They are treated as aliens in a foreign land, ashamed by alien values. They are the terminators from the society and titled as “the other” being devoid from the original norms of the society.

Discussion

Completely rejected by the whites, Blacks are the disintegrated section of the place. Whites are considered to be the epitome of good, truth and beautiful and Blacks are of bad, false and ugly. Blacks are the victims of freedom of expression and dignity. African Americans should be away from white citizens and found themselves discriminated against all fronts of economic, religious, educational, political and legal.

The Bluest Eye, a truly effective, a thoroughly described, an elegantly projected, a Toni Morrison Novel, published in 1970, examines the disconnected relationship of Blacks with Whites indiscriminately. Morrison, through her Novel, left no chance of bringing the black predicaments in to spotlight as a talented African American writer and social critic. In the present context, it is all about color that had an ugly impact on African Americans, especially on Pecola Breedlove, the protagonist in the novel and the paper brings this discussion in to limelight. .

The significance of the novel goes beyond its worth as a work of literature, because it narrates not just the mellow drama but it reiterates explicitly the adventures of the Blacks to establish themselves and their community from being apartheid from Whites because of race, provided they are no way inferior to anyone else, through her heroes and heroines. The little black girl thinks that if she could live up to the image of the blue eyed Shirley Temple; she will surely have that perfect life.

Pecola is a young black girl who desperately wants to have Blue Eyes, because she feels that blue eyes are the symbol of beauty and the blue eyed ladies in the African American society are loved by everyone. Pecola also wants to be loved by someone as just as Shirley Temple who has blue eyes.

Toni Morrison depicts the tragic life of the young black girl, who wants nothing more than to be loved by her family and her schoolmates. She surmises that the reason she is despised and ridiculed is that she is black. Actually, her skin is a much darker than most other black people, forms the main reason that she gets ridiculed. Consequently, Pecola sublimates her desire to be loved having blue eyes and blond hair. Though Pecola meets the other end of her life in a brutal sense, she goes insane and withdraws into a fantasy world where she becomes the most beloved little girl because she emerges having the bluest eyes of all.

The narration of the novel is actually a compilation of many different voices. The voice shifts between Claudia MacTeer's as a first person narrative and an omniscient narrator. At the end of the novel, both the voices merge, and the reader realizes it is an older Claudia who is looking back for her childhood. Morrison has been successful in giving multiple narrators in order to gain greater importance for her story. According to Philip Page,

“even though the voices are divided, they combine to make a whole, and "this broader perspective also encompasses past and present... as well as the future of the grown-up Claudia".

Morrison introduces Pecola, as a weak character both in the family and society since she should neither indulge in domestic decision making nor is bold being loved by someone outside. She was portrayed as a "case" for charity. Unbelievably, when she gets her period, she is stunned. When she finds out someone as to love her in order to acquire a baby, she is surprised how she can make someone love her.

The next time we find her lying in bed paralyzed with fear and aversion as her parents and brother fight viciously. Being an eleven year old girl, she is treated as the weakest member of her family and her society. She should not speak to end the domestic violence of her household, she should not act so as to stop it. Morrison here exactly begins the portraiture of this child's strong imagination. The child imagines as if she could do everything as a gesture of solvation. She would talk to her imaginary friend to perform miracles and in this connection she requests Soaphead church for Blue eyes, having which she innocently trusts that blue eyes are the symbol of adoration.

Morrison gives her readers a replica of this poor, innocent, ugly, little black girl and escalates the devastating incidents of daily life. Morrison proves how a little girl is a total and complete victim of whatever was around her. Whites are unpredictable to comment without second thought. For instance, at a book store, Pecola has three pennies which she has been saving to buy Mary Janes candy. In the store, the owner, Mr. Yacobowski, stops himself from looking at her, looks somewhere between retina and object and hesitates.

Pecola looks up at him and finds the vacuum where everything is filled in with curiosity. The total absence of human recognition, the grimed separateness thus completely demerits her, but this vacuum is not new to her. She has experienced the same lurking in the eyes of all white people.

When Pecola was purchasing candy she found Mary Jane's picture, smiling, blond, blue eyed white girl on the candy. Pecola was curious to see the picture, because she feels, she would become just as Mary Jane by eating the candy. These significant lines in the book are the direct intimation from Pecola for her complexion makes her utterly unimportant.

Morrison's novel illustrates the devastated effects of racism on African-Americans during the late nineteenth century. The novel is a bitter example that vividly explains how blacks were treated in unfair manner and, how most blacks were unable to resist oppression from whites during the period. They believed, the sole reason for their discontentment was because of dark skin. Unfortunately, the poverty and gender disparity that blacks faced, put them to segregate themselves from the white race instead of struggling for freedom and equality. Throughout the novel, Morrison exemplifies, obsessed with the beauty and happiness of white families and upper-class blacks, even the oppressive whites took a stand against the upper class whites during the time.

Toni Morrison says: "I do not want to show out with easy answer to complex questions. It's the complexity of how people behave under the stress that is of interest to me"

Here, she does mean that it is the complexity of how African Americans behave under the hardships of white hegemony, is what she is interested in. She has invented some of the most intense studies of the manholes in the white society puts on its black members in America. The social conversation experienced in her novels is a history of routine inescapable assault by a group of people which denies minimum humility to the blacks. She asserts---

"White brutality and insensitivity are part of the environment the black characters must struggle with, but they are most often conditions, institutionalized and often anonymous, rather than events with ritualistic overtones."

Thus, color or race is an inconsolable predicament in African American history that is eloquently discussed in Toni Morrison novel *The Bluest Eye*. One can perceive the blacks' grotesquely futile efforts to fly amidst the racial discrimination and social inequality in the white dominated culture.

It is no exaggeration, the modern 21 century has also witnessed the brutal phenomenon in a live Television show, in which a reputed Indian film actress was harassed by a white counterpart. There was a massacre happened on June 19th 2015 in the Emanuel African Methodist Church in Charleston, the holy city in South Carolina. It was an attack on Blacks by a white man, narrated as "Hate Crime shooting kills 9 in Black Church." Charleston mayor Joe Riley described the shooting as 'the most unspeakable tragedy.'

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