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A Social-psychological Study of Charles Dickens's *Dombey and Son* 1848

An Extended Essay Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirement for a Master's Degree in English Literature and Civilisation

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Dedication

At the head of my dedication I can but set the name of the Almighty whose help always crowned my efforts with success.

I would like to dedicate this thesis to my family for the unstinting support they surrounded me with and for their words of cheer which always keep me going. To my circle of friends, for their unconditional love and their comfort whenever I was in need of.

Special dedication to Abd Rahim Kachour the journalist and most of all a dear friend about whose high morals no one would conquer and I had as anyone else had the good fortune to be acquainted with. For both Regueb Faiza and Rahhou Ilyes who gifted me with their kindness and for standing by me when no one did. To you my guardian angel Zoulikha I call you an angel for you brought everything beautiful and shone it into my life. To you Smart Queen I can say nothing for your worth I cannot put into words. I will not forget the little angel Anas Annous. For you dear friend Safia you are the one whom time made me learn its worth and taught me to treasure. Salima Harou you always make me silent with your nice words no one can do it better than you. To my friend Dr. Amina Aissaoui if there is someone after God and my teachers from primary to the university whom I am indebted for my progress that person would be you. To Asma Sheriffi I am blessed to have you in my life. Beniechou Asma the pure heart thanks for loving me with or without a thing. For you Meriem my friend from Linguistics just speaking to you gives peace within me and I believe anyone who would do will feel the same. Last but not least, to Biba and Dr. Ashwak my roomates for two years, and to Khira and Nora. You all became a portion of my life and added a touch of joy to my life. To nawal Belmahi and Meryam thanks for your amiableness which has ever been and will forever be the soul of our friendship. To all of you and to anyone who likes me I send all my love which is too big for speech.

All my love

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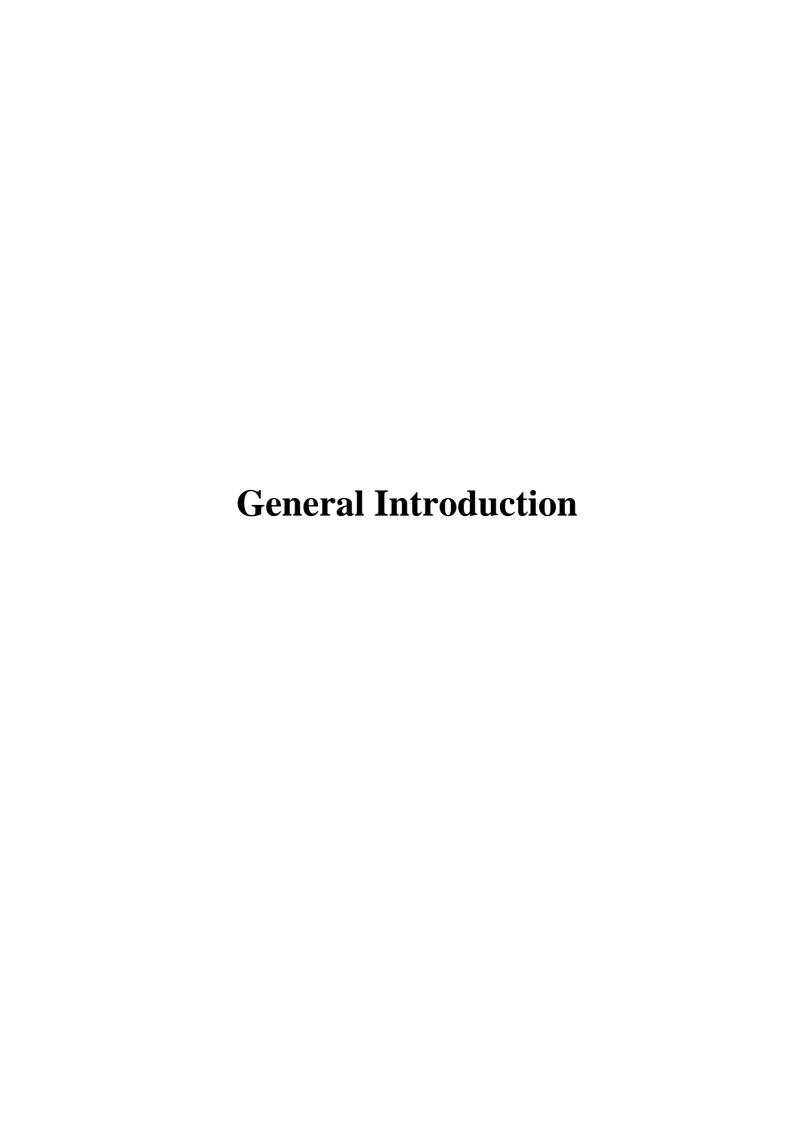A cordial acknowledgement is due to all of you.

Abstract

This thesis is framed about a study of Charles Dickens's novel *Dombey and Son* within the field of social psychology. Therefore, it is of purpose in this study to get knowledge of how Victorian society came to influence its people by looking at how characters in this novel interact with it. Four research questions are at the heart of this research: how was society at the time of the novel, how this society influenced its writer, how the characters and how the language he used reflects all this? To answer these questions, a social psychological approach was adopted. It follows that this thesis was divided into two chapters, the first in which a luminous insight into social psychology was provided, whereas the second chapter was intended to put this approach into application on the analysis of the novel. From this study it has been concluded that the composition of the Victorian society at the time pulled the strings that made the writer and his characters move, and that even if some characters like Florence seemed immune to its influence but this could no longer continue; this proves that society in a way or another shapes their deeds.

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General Introduction

General Introduction

From the dawn of time, and since ever mankind called it into existence, literature has transitioned from one epoch to another, each of which had its own bearing on it. From Romanticism which enveloped it with a fabric of love and romance to Realism which turned its attention to all what is of interest to their real-life experiences, the realm of literature blossomed, and in between them a new brand of literature sprung to the surface; the Victorian literature.

Victorian literature, which prospered under the patronage of her Queen Victoria, had moral and virtue at its heart with the romantic flavour hovering in its air. A wealth of writers, in the like of Charles Dickens, took up their pens, having it in their minds to eradicate the thorns of social evils which their societies were saturated with and wherein feelings were contaminated with interests which created a disconnect between the have and the have-nots; all of which spoke of the corrupted roots of that society and of injustice in its worst shape, and other problems which are symptomatic of materialism and which their eyes bore eloquent witness of. All was with one aim; to change the state of things. In order to do so, those writers had to throw blame at the feet of society, sprinkling their papers mainly with satire.

Psychology started to become a science in its own at the time. This was not without a legacy in the literature produced in Victorian England. Many novelists from the Victorian England drew upon this field and embrace it in their novels, giving their characters a psychological profile. Names such as, to name but a few, Charles Dickens, Jane Austen, Willkie Collins and George Elliot, were among those writers who were inspired by it.

Taking psychology as a starting point, social psychology emerged as a science which infused the seeds of psychology with those of sociology. It takes as its focus the individual and society, by looking at how this behaviour is, in a way or another, the product of his interacting with the world surrounding him. This new approach to psychology can be considered to fit into the framework of any novel as

the latter is made up of a constant interaction between the characters which people its world.

Foremost of the pen-and-ink artists that the Victorian literature spread thanks to is Charles Dickens. He could seal his name in the firmament of English literature as one of the grand writers that the literary milieu ever knew. With the universe of his characters, Charles dickens, fearing not to spread his thoughts upon paper, succeeded in reflecting the world around him, which provided the germs of his writings, into the leaves of his books which were on every score representative of the Victorian era. His works of art, though of Victorian nourishment, were acclaimed by the generality of people from all over the globe far and near. However *Dealings with the Firm; of Dombey and Son: Wholesale, Retail; and for Exportation* is his first *chef-d'oeuvre* with a viscerally complicated characterisation which reflects the psychological dimension the writer took. This novel is set against the richly textured panorama of the eighteenth century Victorian England and it images the money-driven Mr. Dombey who is painted as a materialistic person on whose banner of life is inscribed ''The Maintenance of his Riches'' and to this end, the necessity of having a son was highly considered and extremely cherished. The love of amassing fortunes lorded over every other in his bosom. And once the much-wanted child is born, Mr. Dombey would give every cause for the celebration of such an event. By contrast, and as his moral sight was blinded, the idea of having a daughter is utterly unwanted as the continuity of the firm depends on a son and only a *son*. Mr. Dombey in fact had already a daughter of six years of age who is incarnate fidelity and innocence in every fibre of her being, and who, as a matter of consequence, was out of all his calculations. He had defeated all her tentative effort that neither her tears nor any piece of behaviour she manifested to earn his affection could win his heart; and everything was carried away by the winds for his heart would never soften down to the tenderness of hers. The springs of this sheer negligence sends its roots to his egoism; never the others and always the self. It was not until the end that all the darkness which encompassed his heart and came to love his daughter as his chief asset, but this new-born affection towards her was not until the end; an end in which Florence offered her love to him the most tender, and proved though he broke any thread of affection she had in her little heart, other threads would revive in its wake forever.

This thesis sets out to answer a throng of questions that guided the progress of this study.

➢Hwo society looked like at the time in which the novel is set?

➢What is the psychological motives which lay behind writing this novel?

➢How is the psychology of the characters influenced by the others?

➢What are the literary devices used in order to reflect such an influence?

In order to answer these above-mentioned questions a social psychological approach is adopted to delineate the social psychological umbrella under which the novel *The Dealings with the Firm of Dombey and Son is laid*.

This thesis is divided into two chapters; in the first an overview of social psychology, its definition and the history of its evolvement into a full-fledged science is provided. It goes on to explore the most known experiments that were in operation and the researchers in the field who undertook those experiments through which this science flourished. The chapter also explores the variety of topics dealt with in the field under consideration.

The nucleus of the second section concerns itself with the study of *The Dealings with the Firm of Dombey and Son,* utilising this field as a tool of approaching the novel. The spotlight falls on the gallery of his works along with an overview of the main episodes in the chapters of life of this literary luminary. The chapter proceeds, in what shall follow, to bring the chronology backwards thousands of years to bring the reader so near to the Victorian era in order to disseminate how society looked like at the time in order to have knowledge of and how people experienced life. Asides from that, the reader is presented with the reasons of the writer's contempt of his society and the motives by which his characters acted.

Chapter One

Social Psychology:

Overview

1.1. Introduction

Human beings are part of a large whole which is society. This fact makes the existence of an influence between both inevitable, specifically on the psychological side of individuals. From this proceeds a need of a science which examines the ways through which society affects human behavior and thoughts. This emphasis on how an individual is affected by his surrounding milieu was determinant of the emergence of social psychology later on.

From what has been aforementioned, the purpose of this first chapter is to present the reader with an overview of social psychology, in which the meaning of this field and its burgeoning throughout history in its actual form will be introduced. It is also in the interest of this section to uncover the most prominent figures who laid down the parameters of this science and who contributed to its enrichment and it follows that the light will be likewise cast on their experiments relative to it. Added to that, this chapter will touch on the totality of topics that the field covers.

1.2. Definition of Social Psychology

Viewed as a whole, social psychology is concerned with unveiling the reasons that lie behind behaving in a certain way in a specific social setting, using a set of scientific methods to this end. According to Merriam Webster social psychology is the study of the manner in which the personality, attitudes, motivations, and behavior of the individual influence and are influenced by social groups, but for many, the most accurate definition of social psychology is that which the American psychologist Gordon Willard Allport 1985 came up with. According to him, "social psychology is the scientific study of how people's thoughts, feelings, and behavior are influenced by the actual, imagined, or implied presence of other people"(5). In the light of this quotation, Gordon views that any action performed by the individual is directly linked to the effect that the presence of other members of society produce on the individual; whether those people are

presently around him, or implied, i.e., in the form of their previous knowledge and experiences with the others, or as he imagines the situation; thus human beings are subject to the influence of their social settings even when left alone (Hinsz and Matz 3).

1.3. History of the field

Social psychology has its seeds into the ancient Greek philosophers; to the works of Plato and his student Aristotle. To the latter, a person is endowed by nature with the ability to socialize with the other members of society, and that he is social by birth, so in order to understand society we should first have an understanding of the individual's experiences and behavior. This was called an individual centered approach. The second approach and which is totally the opposite of the first, is that which Plato (427-334 BC) came up with and it is called the society centered approach which saw it in a different light; that it is rather dictated by the state and that society with its systems and its institutions can largely influence the development of the behavior, by governing this behavior and rendering it a responsibility upon the shoulders of each of its individuals. This can be clearly seen in the work of Plato *The Republic* in which he linked the growth of the human behavior to education. This means also that society and its members shaped the way people think, and that by their being among others, their thoughts are different from that when they are away from them. On his part, George William Hegel (1870-1931) remarks that the collective mind is dependent on the environment for his evolvement. (MacLeod 2007).

Social psychology becomes more influential when it is approached from a psychological standpoint by looking at the inner workings of the mind, starting from perception, motives, and cognition. In 1924, Floyd gave a definition to social psychology from the individual's viewpoint; thus with a more focus his psychological side:

> I believe that only within the individual can we find the behavior mechanisms and consciousness which are fundamental in the interactions between individuals...there is no psychology of groups which is not essentially and entirely a psychology of

individuals...psychology in all its branches is a science of the individual (House 163).

Floyd Allport pinpointed that all what proceeds from the individual as a behavior is because of the existence of some exterior stimuli; whether those stimuli are from other people or other things.

Sociological social psychology started to grow out of sociology. Researchers in sociology became more interested with all what is related to social psychology. 1920s and 1930s are considered the apogee of this field. It lays more focus on society such as social status and the social and cultural norms of this society. Therefore, Psychological social psychology focuses on the individual; how he perceives the world around him and the situation in which he finds himself, affecting his behavior in this specific situation (House 163).

Sociological social psychology was further developed by the emergence of sub-divisions to it. Symbolic Interactionism, and as its name indicates, focuses on how the individual communicates with his society through the medium of symbols to understand society or a given situation; whether those symbols are in the form of language or gestures, thus the relationship between the person and his society. It follows that the behavior of any person can be explained according to his own interpretation of the world around him which is more powerful than what is held true by society. This sub-genre of this field emerged in the second decade of the twentieth century with George Herbert Mead at its head, whereas as a term it was coined by Herbert Blumen (Carter and Fuller 1-2).

Another genre of sociological social psychology is Social Structure and Personality; social structure which encompasses social institution such as government, laws, stratification status, and norms, and how this social structure comes to shape the behavior of the individual. All in all, it concerns the influence of society with its social systems and the person's behavior and his psychology to better understand the relationship between the individual and his society (McLeod and Lively 77).

In his view, James S. House 1981 stated that ''SSP is concerned with charting the relationships between macro-social phenomenon and individual

personality, beliefs, and behavior, tracing along the way the precise mechanisms of influence and their particular psychological effects''; thus sociological social psychology explores the factors that affect the human behavior, and its effects on the psychology of the individual (Delamater and Ward 90).

The first work in this field was published in 1898 by Norman Triplett in which he noticed during a competition of bicycles that the participants were faster in riding when they were amongst the others than when they were alone. This meant that people tend to act in a different way when they are aware of the presence of the others as this promotes the spirit of competitiveness between them and the others. This theory came to be known later as social facilitation. In 1895, Norman studied the change that the behavior of those competitors underwent. This was the originating point that opened the portal for further inquiries. During the Second World War many researchers had their attention drawn to this phenomenon; among those researchers, who took interest in what Norman came up with, was Floyd Allport who is credited to have called this phenomenon social facilitation. This appellation is based on the fact that the presence of the others renders the performance of a certain task easy for the individual as it encourages him to spend more efforts. Though Norman Triplett was not at the root of the emergence of social psychology as a separate field, but he is credited to have started the first experiment in it (Goethals 5).

There was a question about who is credited with the first experiment conducted in the field; whether he was Norman Triplett or not. Some claim that it was not Norman but Max Ringelmann to whom this honor is due. Max Ringelmann came up with the concept of social loafing, which states that the amount of efforts put by each member of the same group in a collective task tends to decrease as no one of the members of this group can predict the outcome of the effort of each other member, so he attempts to limit his contribution in performing the task (Bennet and Naumann 117-118).

An Italian philosopher and journalist named Carlo Cottaneo is in fact the first who coined the terminology social psychology in one of the articles of his newspaper *Il Politecnico* in 1864, however, and due to the little readership of his journal, the usage of the term did not become known. Its usage was popularized by

Gustav Adolph Lindner 1871; this is because his books were widely read (Baumeister and Finkel 30).

Scientifically speaking, and thanks to the issue of many works related to the field, social psychology started to be considered as a scientific field in 1908, especially with the overarching books of Ross who is a sociologist and McDougall who is a psychologist, and whose works appeared in the same year 1908. Social psychology made a huge stride after the publication of Floyd's work in 1924 which came under the title *Social Psychology*, and in which he set the floor for a better understanding of the field. The significance of such a work was in the fact that when compared to previous ones especially that of *Volkerpsychologies* of Lazarus and Stendhal 1860 in which the idea of the existence of a possibility to measure the behavior in an experiment within a laboratory was unheard of, but this in his study was manageable by testing the responses of individuals in the presence of other members of society. Prior to this work there was another in which the scopes of the present social psychology were covered, it is that of Carl Murchison 1935 in his *The Handbook of Social Psychology* (31).

In 1859 Charles Darwin with his evolutionary theory which was published in his book *The Origin of Species*, greatly influenced the field as it asserts the existence of a link between our behavior and the development of society. Thus the human development occurs in accordance with that of society. The same idea was adopted by his cousin Francis Galton who stated that hereditary elements play a great role in creating a difference between the psychology of one person, the others, and his cognition.

In 1872, Charles Darwin *the Expression of Emotions in Man and Animals* in which he proposed that in order for human beings or animals to communicate, the only means to that is by expressing his emotions. This theory was followed by other researches of Herbert Spencer Bagehot and Carl Marx, using Darwin's theory of evolution which is based on natural selection to explain social evolution. Herbert explained human behavior as an attempt to balance between his inner self with the surrounding environment. This means that the history of humanity is the outcome of a constant attempt to adapt his internal world to the exterior one. This theory helped to better understand how the individual behaves in his society.

Lazarus Moritz and Heymann Stendhal in their *Volkerpsychologie*, or in English folk psychology, registered the fact that the individual is the product of his community; that his behavior is influenced by society such as language which is a social tool though it is a personal medium of communication for expressing the self and interacting with the others, but in its essence it is the product of the community. After them and in 1862 Wilhelm Wundt (1832-1921) proposed the idea of a group mind in which he drew a line between it and the individual mind in his *Treatise about Folk Psychology* (MacLeod 2007).

In America, Adolph Hitler is believed to have contributed to the development of social psychology. One reason for this is that there was a proliferation of research studies about the Second World War and the Holocaust or the war of extermination of the Jewish race led by Hitler. There were experiments led by the American army with the aim to know how publicity which is directed to the uplifting of the morale of soldiers had affected them and improved their enthusiasm. Another reason for this importance of Hitler in the development of this field in America is the fact that the latter's regime forced Jewish researchers and scholars out of Germany in 1930s. Among those who were Gestalt psychology researchers who departed from Germany to North America bringing with them the European ideas of this school of thought. Among those researchers, Kurt Lewin who later became known as the father of social psychology as he had a new vision which changed the face of the field in USA, and gave it a new soul to the extent that it became an American field (Stroebe et. al 14-15).

Kurt Lewin's addition was so significant as he shifted the focus of the study to the social problems in a laboratory in which the social variables are subject to real-life situations and stimuli in order to study the influence that leaders have on the behavior of those who follow them, but this time not as before, conducted in natural settings, but making sure that the experiment is kept as much as possible natural. Therefore, the war and the social problems that it gave birth to were of great impact in the development of this field as there was an increasing interest in the change of the behavior within a group. As a result, Kurt made experimentation a dominant method of research in social psychology (Ibid).

Social psychology became more cognitive in its approach of studying human behavior during 1970s. It took cognition methods which are the basis of the psychological field and adopted them to better know how society influences the individual behavior. This became known as social cognition. It started to be more interested in gaining a better understanding of how the human mind perceives and encodes the information he receives from the environment with its external stimuli, and stores it up in memory to later use it. Accordingly, they mingled cognition in the testing to explore the influence of those inner processes of the mind over the person's perception of the surrounding social setting, which in its turn would influence his behavior when he interacts with them (McDonald and Wearing 42).

The field reached a stage of crisis due to question about the spread of laboratories for conducting those experiments. USA became a scene of heat debates between social psychologists of the time. In America 1973, Kenneth Gergen in his article *Social Psychology as History* criticized the exclusion of those experiments to the role of the historical and cultural factors in the formation of the individual's behavior and personality. On his part, Rom Harré and Paul Secord 1972 in their *Explanation of Social Behavior* maintain that behavior is how a person perceives the world around him and how he comes to interpret it. Whereas a third point of view which came from Europe by Israel and Tajfel 1972 in their *The Context of Social Psychology* which they edited and in which they attacked the general wave of experimentation tradition, viewing it as confined in its scope. They further attacked the dominance of North America of the field as social psychology was interested in relation to American social problems. These views created a crisis among people about, if those proposed changes were adopted, what would be the effects of introducing those changes on researches in the field (Brown and Locke 4-5).

1.4. Main Figures

1.4.1. Kurt Lewin (1890-1947)

He was born on September 9, 1890 in Poland. He is known to be the father of social psychology because he marked a shift in the field in USA. Best known for his ''there is nothing as practical as a good theory'' which linked theory to practice. In the early phase of his life he studied medicine in Freiberg University in Germany and from there he went to Munich where he studied biology at the age of 19 in 1909. In 1914, Kurt became a soldier in the German army. His doctorate studies were carried in Berlin. In 1930s, and owing to the hostile policy adopted by the German regime against the Jewish scholars and researchers, he fled to North USA. At the postwar period, he started a series of researches about the role of media advertisement on the enthusiasm of soldiers. He brought with him the European ideas of Gestalt psychology to USA which he used to examine human behavior. He saw that human behavior is determined by his social setting. Thus human's interaction with their environment determines and predicts his behavior (Smith 2001).

1.4.2. Allport, Gordon Willard (1897-1967)

He is the brother of Floyd Allport born in Indiana in Montezuma on November 11, 1897 and died on October 9, 1967 in Massachusetts. He went to Harvard University to study psychology where he got his doctorate degree in 1922. In 1937, he wrote *Personality: A psychological Interpretation* then he started teaching at the same university in 1924. In 1939, he was appointed at the head of the Psychological Association (Britannica).

Gordon dealt with many concepts such as financial autonomy through which he separated the concept of motive from that of derive, stating that through time the derive factor of a person develops from his early motive and then becomes a completely separate entity from that motive. The fact that this derive grows to

become separate from motive meant that this derive can become the real cause behind a certain behavior. An example to better understand this concept is when a child wanted to excel in a play, say basketball, this desire is his first motive, but with time this motive grows to be an interest in this sport itself, thus his early motive became a derive which is totally separated from his early motive though it grew out of it (Silvia 123).

1.4.3. Floyd Henry Allport (1890-1978)

He was born on August 22, 1890 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin USA. He published his third text about social psychology in which he clearly identified the focus for the psychological branch of the discipline, covering many topics that are still studied today. In 1919, he got his doctorate degree in philosophy from Harvard University. After that, he taught at the same university till 1922 when he became an associate professor at North Carolina University and from there to Syracuse University where he started just as a member of it, but then he was promoted to the position of the head of department which largely contributed to the fame of this university. His book *Social Psychology* in 1924 is considered to be a milestone and a turning point for all the works which came after it, and also because he started to be credited of founding the experimental social psychology. Thus, social psychology shifted from being a science which studies social problems to a study of human behavior. Individualism lies at its heart; that the individual, not the group, constitutes the centre of the field, considering that society has nothing to do with his behavior and that a person is the agent of his own behavior (Dufresne1997).

1.4.4. Carl Hovland (1924-1961)

He was born on June 12, 1924 in Chicago USA and died on April 16, 1961 in Connecticut. In 1936, he got his doctorate from Yale University where he remained till his death, and then he became one of its members. He is credited of many substantial achievements in experimental psychology. During the Second World War he was given the mission of putting to experiment the ability of media

programs to motivate and persuade soldiers into action. To facilitate the task of persuasion, it became important to remove the resistance barriers to enhance the efficacy of those programs with all its informative and motivational messages to effect a change in their morale and move them into action. His theory of persuasion was about that the audience will be persuaded if the deliverer of the message is a reliable source of information. Though it does not necessarily entail an understanding of this message during the processing of it within the mind but it still helps to move them into action after. The sleeper effect, which is the concept that underlies this theory of persuasion, shows that even a message which is delivered from a less credible source, its ability to persuade increases with the passage of time; this is mainly because the name of the source which delivered the message starts to be forgotten and the audience will remember only the content of the message not the one who delivered. This means that the credibility of a source of information has the effect of delaying the understanding of a message after it has been processed in the mind until the name of that source which promoted it is quite erased from memory due to the passage of time; as the recipients of the message start to realize the value of the content of the message and that it was not that bad as they thought. This study shows that the unreliable source has an effect of refusing the message for some time, but this effect vanishes and it starts to be accepted because the name of the unreliable deliverer is no more remembered. Therefore, the sleeper effect is the delayed effect of a message, on the condition that though the source of the information is unreliable but the message it delivers should be reliable ''Carl Hovland''.

1.4.5. William McDougall (1871-1938)

He was born on June 22, 1871 and died on November 18, 1938 in England. In 1908, he published one of the most influential books *Introduction to Social Psychology* which was a turning point in the field of social psychology and in which he introduced his theory of instincts. This theory posits that all human behavior originates from a certain instinct which comes under aspects related to thoughts, feelings, or motivation elements. Therefore, instincts are the result or the reaction to some innate feelings which came before. An example would be that

when a person faces any danger, his fear, which is the emotion, will entail fleeing which is the instinct (Gale 2006).

1.4.6. Roger W. Brown (1925-1997)

He was born on April 14, 1925 and died on December 11, 1997. He became a professor of social psychology at Harvard University in 1952. In 1985, he published his textbook *Social Psychology* which is one of his contributions to the field. In 1962, he started his research in examining how children of three years old acquire language, using a recorder and at the same time transcribing this development of the acquisition of language amongst children. The children who were chosen for this long-term experiment were given the names ''Adam'', ''Eve'', and ''Sarah'', the results of which he published in his book *First Language: the Early Stages* (Pinker 199-205).

1.4.7. Stanley Schachter (1922-1997)

Stanley Schachter was born on April 15, 1922 and died on June 7, 1997 in USA. He is an American psychologist who largely contributed to the field of social psychology. He tried to explain the motives that stand behind a certain behavior; external and internal ones. He was one of the co-workers of Kurt in the post-war period in 1946 in USA to study social problems. His dissertation, which was in the form of an experiment of social behavior and how a person understands a given situation and responds to it, met with success. He introduced the methods of this experiment into his work about social affiliation. The latter argues that a person tends to look at how the others feel about a present situation in order to define and determinate what are his own feelings about the same situation. This theory was a huge finding as it entailed the understanding that feelings are not simply a reaction to external stimuli but sometimes they come after a mental process of a situation; thus, he came up with the idea that there are two factors that govern our feelings. The first is the bodily reaction and the second is a cognitive processing (Nisbett 1-7).

1.5. Experiments in the field

1.5.1. Robbers Cave Experiment

In August 954, A field research headed by Sheriff Muzafer, in common with other researchers, in which they examined the relations between different groups and the members of the same group. Thus, how they behave towards each other and with the other groups to see the degree of cooperation within the same group, and the conflict between this group and the other groups, then trying to solve the arising conflict. Consequently, the experiment was divided into three phases. In the first phase, the relationship between members of the same group is analyzed, and in the second one the researchers would create a conflict atmosphere between separate groups, then as a last phase bringing the conflicting parties to cooperate. The experiment was conducted in open air in a camp situated in Robbers Cave State Park in Oklahoma. They handled the situation with an extreme touch of reality in a way that the participants would not know that they were under an experiment. At the start, the two groups were only one group consisting of 24 members, but then they were divided into two separate groups of equal numbers; 12 on each side.

In the first phase the researchers did not let the children know that there was another group on the other side of the camp. During this first phase each group was in perfect harmony with its members, performing their tasks together. Each group took up a name for themselves. One group called themselves the Eagles and the others called themselves the Rattlers. Thus the first thing they come to think of was identifying themselves with those names. In the second stage, now the two groups are told of the existence of the other. In order to create a war between them, the researchers threw them into a competition with a one common goal and with the promise of a reward for the winner and nothing for the looser. As a matter of fact, it was observed that the two separate groups started to fall into conflict. Each group was full of confidence of their victory and of the failure of the adverse group. The fight reached the extent of insulting or even making attacks upon each other. It was obligatory now to make them get over their conflict, and here came the last stage. In it the researchers tried to solve the problem by promoting cooperation between the

warring groups. This was done by giving them a common goal, and that goal needed to be so difficult to ensure that it would compel them to unite their efforts to reach it; in a manner that to reach this goal with only one group without the help of the other is impossible. The results were as follows: in the first stage, the groups start to define themselves by giving a name to their groups and assigning roles to each of their members because they come from different families and they need to form a relationship to know how to interact with each other when trying to achieve the same goal together. In the second phase, when in conflict, the separate groups start to attack each other's camp either by insults, by hand, or simply to keep a distance between one another. In the third and last stage, when they are given a common and compelling goal, those groups start to get over their animosity and unite their efforts to achieve that new goal. In the conduct of this research, it was suggested as a final conclusion that the conflicts which arise in all societies is due to the scarcity or the non-existence of resources, in this case the rewards for only the winners and no reward for the loser, for some members of their societies; for example, people become aggressive when there is little or no job within their grasp (Muzafer 10-17).

1.5.2. Cognition Dissonance

Leon Festinger was a prominent social psychologist who was born in New York on May 8, 1919. He was among those researchers who worked with Kurt in his laboratory in USA after they migrated from Germany as a result to the policy of the regime against them. In Massachusetts Institute of Technology MIT, he started to develop a penchant for social psychology (Schachter 100).

His theory of cognition dissonance was another addition in the study of social behavior, in the sense that before this theory there was a long-standing theory called the reinforcement theory which holds that there is a great possibility of the repetition of a behavior if its consequences are positive. This reinforcement saw that the conformity theory of Asch in 1950s which holds that a person tends to conform to the majority of society though this may be inconsistent with his beliefs. The reinforcement theorists were against this theory of conformity as they saw that

to conform is to not be afraid of going against the majority. Festinger came up with a new approach which different the previous one. He called it cognitive dissonance in 1957. The turning point with this theory is that social psychology departed from its old tradition to a cognitive approach to explain social behavior. This theory viewed the life of human beings as a constant pursuit towards achieving consistency between their own beliefs and their actions, and that when there is an inconsistency between both, the person would feel a pressure and a need to render this consistent. This pressure (or dissonance) is caused by his awareness of the existence of such an inconsistency, and this would entail an attempt on the part of that person to getting rid of this pressure by rendering the situation consistent in order to achieve a certain comfort. The inconsistency is rendered more powerful if it goes against the person's convictions, principles, and what he holds true; thus against things of value to him. Here the pressure becomes more and more powerful and to solve it is either by changing his beliefs which is difficult for him, changing his actions, or simply to try to see things in a different light and adopt new additional beliefs (Metin and Camgoz 131-132).

1.5.3. The Milgram Experiment or Obedience Theory

It was conducted by Stanley Milgram who is one of the psychologists in Yale University in which he tested the concept of obedience when it is inconsistent with consciousness and morals. His experiment aimed to measure the influence of the orders given by the authorities and their prominent leaders, and to which degree can those orders compel the people to obey them. This experiment came as a reaction to study why lay persons obeyed Hitler to kill the Jews in what is known as the Holocaust which happened during the Second World War. Milgram in 1963 started to investigate this phenomenon in Yale University. He took some participants to test on them there. They were given different roles; some learners and the rest of them were teachers. One of the learners was made to sit on an electric chair in a room, whereas the teacher, along with an experimenter, were put in a separate room from where they could control the chair on which the student sat in the other room with the ability to see him through the glass. It was intended that whenever the student gives wrong answers he would be subjected to an electric shock, and that the volume of the shock increases with each new wrong answer.

The answers to the questions were by choosing one of four buttons each button is a probable answer to the question. The teacher was to give the student a word, asking the student to give him the correct matching word; thus to choose its right pair. Each time the teacher refused to obey the orders and give the electric shock to the student, the experimenter would increase the vehemence of his orders. There were four orders in the list of the experimenter. In the first one the experimenter would asking the teacher politely to continue his punishment to the student. Once the teacher refuses, the experimenter moves to the second prod by making the teacher feel the importance of continuing. If this second order is met with refusal the experimenter would tell him that it is really important that he continues. As a last step in the case of a fourth refusal, the experimenter would raise the vehemence of the orders by telling the teacher that he has no choice but to continue and that it is obligatory. The result was that the teacher obeyed at last and delivered electric shocks to the student; this proved that ordinary members of society and soldiers tend to obey their leaders even to the extent of inflicting harm on the others (Russell 17-18).

1.5.4. Social Facilitation

It is considered by the majority to be the first experiment in the field though it was conducted in 1898 i, e; before the field emerged. In it Norman Triplett tested the influence of the existence of the others can affect the behavior of a person. He observed during a competition of bicycles that the competitors tend to put more efforts when they are in front of other competitors and raise their velocity. Whereas when they are alone those competitors decrease their efforts. This phenomenon was called later on social facility by Allport in 1924, because the presence of other people facilitated the task for the competitor as it raised in him the spirit of competitiveness (Uziel 580).

1.6. Areas of research

1.6.1. Social Cognition:

It is a branch of social psychology. It takes the methods of cognitive psychology and applies them to social- life situations in order to study the way in

which a person perceives and comes to understand the world around him. This introduction of cognitive methods to the field of social psychology became to be known as the social cognition subfield. It looks at how people perceive information, encode it, and then store it up in order to use it later on. It seeks to know the way by which people understand themselves and those around them which makes them judge both and react accordingly, and this will be as a knowledge or experience which would help them to deal with and predict the outcome when they face a similar situation. Thus, this previous experience has an influence on their future experiences and would help them choose the most suitable decisions (Hess and Pickett 2018).

1.6.2. Attitudes and Attitudes Change:

This is one of the most important areas of investigation in social psychology. It looks at what are the elements of a certain attitude and the way through which this attitude tends to develop and even to change. According to Crano and Prislin 2006:

> An attitude represents an evaluative integration of cognition and affects experienced in relation to an object. Attitudes are the evaluative judgments that integrate and summarize these cognitive/affective reactions. These evaluative abstractions vary in strength, which in turn has implications for persistence, resistance, and attitude-behavior consistency (3).

Thus, from the above-mentioned quotation, it becomes clear that attitudes are a combination of both beliefs (cognition) and feelings (affection), and based on this combination the person forms a judgment or evaluation about the situation in front of him (an object or a person). Attitudes can affect our perception of the world.

Attitudes are supposed to be fixed but they are susceptible to change because of the influence of society. Attitudes will affect our behavior whether this behavior is done consciously or unconsciously (Cherry 2017).

1.6.3. Aggression and Violence:

Many theories underlie this theory; they are in the form of hypotheses put to detect the why and the how of an aggressive behavior.

1.6.3.1 Frustration-aggression Hypothesis:

This theory holds the belief that a person is aggressive because he was frustrated before. Thus linking aggression to a prior frustration, but this proved to not be always the case.

1. 6.3.2 Learning Hypothesis:

It takes from the theory of Thorndlike and Skinner ''operate conditioning''; that a behavior has the possibility to be repeated if it is rewarded or it has positive outcomes and *vice versa*. Applying this to the area of aggression, it has shown that if a person is rewarded for committing a bad behavior (aggressive), they would become aggressive. Therefore, according to this theory aggressive behavior is taught and learned.

1.6.3.3 Cognitive Labelling and Excitation Transfer Hypothesis:

This underlying theory of aggression is based on the idea of Schachter and his colleagues; that when people are unable to define their feelings in a certain situation, they tend to look at some surrounding identifier to know how their actual state of feeling is. If they found that the person in front of them reacted to a present event or situation in a way; for example anger, they will explain their own reaction to the same situation as being also anger (Burton and Anderson 374-375).

1.6.4. Social Influence:

It explains the change in the behavior of a person as the result of the influence that the others have on him. Conformity is that a person tends to change his natural behavior to be in conformity with the others as they constitute the majority, though in contradiction with his beliefs. Obedience also has a great effect. A person feels obliged to do something by the force of an authority. It is like a power exercised on him but the person who is forced believes that their order is for something good; he is not coerced into some action and has to choose to comply with it or not (Rashotte 4426).

1.7. Conclusion

In the previous chapter an overview of social psychology was provided. The chapter began by giving a definition to the field, moving to its history starting from the ancient Greeks to the twentieth century during which the field became fully fledged. The names of the key social psychologists are mentioned. The chapter tackled also the most famous empirical investigations which the researchers were hard at work to achieve. An insight into some of the main scopes of the field is also offered.

Chapter Two

Dombey and Son:

Social-Psychological Study

2.1. Introduction

Of interest in this second chapter is the analysis of *Dombey and Son*, sticking to the social-psychological approach which was the area of focus in the previous chapter. This chapter unfolds the most prominent portions of the writer's life and career, and in order to better analyze the psychology of the writer and his characters, it was imperative to go all the way back to the Victorian society, which was the greatest cornerstone in the empire-building, in order to bring into visibility how life looked like at the time. The focal point of this chapter is to investigate the psychology of Charles Dickens when first penning this novel and that of his characters; which was the product of the influence of society on them. In coming to the end, the chapter analyses this psychological dimension as relates to the use of language within the fabric of the text.

2.2. Biography of Charles Dickens:

No writer stood higher than Charles Dickens in the nineteenth century Victorian England, nor he was less distinguished in the literary landscape considered in the large. In England, on February 7, 1812, he was born Charles John Huffam Dickens to a family composed of 8 children, of whom he was the eldest. His works are indeed the very life and history of Victorian times.

In his infant years, he was made to bear a high measure of distress and the attendant hardships of survival, as then came a period during which his family' s descent into misery started, because of the debts his father left behind and which brought him to prison. Following the falling fortunes of his family, he stood in need of work at a very tender age at a time he has hardly reached his 12 of age in 1824, thus his instruction was cut short and to teach himself was elevated into a necessity. This hard life experience provided the inspiration for the body of his works and left its marks on its pages. Dickens started to work in a factory because his father was incarcerated after an accumulation of debts in 1823. The money he gained helped to enable him to return to pursue his education at school. In London 1829, he entered upon newspaper work as a reporter for the court, then a bright reporter in the Parliament of the House of Commons (Gradesaver).

He forged ahead on the path of his being an author who would later on step to the front ranks among all writers, by his first literary output which was in the form of a series of stories which reached publication under the nickname Boz and which were assembled in *Sketches by Boz* in 1836. This was directly followed by the *Pickwick Papers* which launched his name in the international literary scene as the greatest writer of his age (Biography.com).

He came into his own after publishing his book which came under the title *The Pickwick Papers* which brought his name afresh to the general reader and which was wide in the range of its appeal. Writing absorbed his interest and it became his site of resistance against social evils. The latter which became the essence of his whole body of works; through them, through the distinction of his descriptive style, and mainly through his characters that he had drawn with a sublime firmness of hand to render them indeed a true-to-reality mirror of people at that time period; by all of which he could voice his inner feelings and champion the problems that he and his society faced; such as poverty-related issues and injustice, to name a few (Pettinger 2018).

Over the span of all his lifetime, Charles Dickens crafted a multitude of about 15 novels which bore a realistic stamp for its portrayal of the dark underside of society, which made them gain in vividness. *Oliver Twist* was ranked as one of his best-loved literary accomplishments since it came out. A novel born of his being a suffering poor who endured the afflictions of extreme poverty early in his life, made him picture this brutal reality in this best of his works which was set in 1837-1838. In it he depicted the misery of Oliver's situation and the negative consequences resultant from it. Another novel which marked his career, and which was hailed as his masterpiece, is *David Copperfield* in which Dickens retold with all the weight of truth his trying times as a poor child and his ascendency to become a journalist. The novel was published in full in 1850, and it was his preferable, considering that he gave it his initials. The dark region of his novels, which became encircled with a dark veil of gloom, had its starting point in *The Bleak House,* which was written in the period 1852-1853, after receiving a rude shock as fate took from him both his daughter and father. Other artistic legacies of excellence appeared from his pen and won the applause of readers; such as *Hard Times* in 1854 and a tale of two cities in 1859 *Great Expectations* 1861 and *Our Mutual*

Friend in 1865; all of which maintained a clinging grip on the reader's minds till the present time. After *Oliver Twist* he released two works *Nicholas Nickleby* and *the Old Curiosity Shop* in 1842. He went forth on a tour to USA in 1842 which was the essence of his travelogue *American Notes for General Circulation*, in which he leveled the machinery of his criticism against the institution of slavery. The wheel of fortune met him with a rail accident in 1865, and though his injuries were not grave, but the shock of it lingered in the back of his mind. The curtain fell on his life after a stroke, leaving his novel *the Mystery of Edwin Drood* without completion (Biography.com).

2.4. Society at the Time

This literary curiosity is set against the factual background of the industrial revolution which made its inroads into the Victorian society, putting it on the verge of a radical change. In 1840s, the railway industry which is one of the symbols of the industrialization process produced great changes in Britain economy and trade. It was such a turning point in the British history that Britain was at the heyday of its economic flowering and became the first world power. The economic conditions largely influenced the life of British citizens as there was a spread of those whose greed for money made them run after the accumulation of funds (Booty95).

Seen on the scale of history, never did Great Britain welcome an age that could compare with the time when Queen Victoria was elevated to the head of her society. The Victorian prosperity was signalized by the industrial revolution which marked a turning point in the annals of British history as it brought about enormous changes that touched every aspect of life in the Victorian times. It made Britain the wealthiest nation in the world, thus Britain reached the sublimity of its glory as a world superpower. Under the empire of Queen Victoria, Britain witnessed overpopulation which was the corollary to the development of discoveries in medicine and the betterment of health conditions and also due to a massive migration towards urban areas to work in factories not as before depending on land. There industry proliferated and a better living conditions for people existed. Another reason can be that the rate of marriages increased because of the financial

situation of youngsters was far better. There was also the emergence of the new middle class which changed the face of the stratification of Victorian society. The era was generally marked by the expansion of education for all people (Devasi 1).

2.4.1. Family

After the manner of the Victorian times, distinguishing between one social class and another was not only on the basis of wealth but also inheritance and family connections (Mitchell 17).

The working class consisted of farmers, servants, and workers in factories. They were divided into sub-divisions; skilled and unskilled workers. Most of unskilled families were obliged to send their children to work to maintain their living standard and to access to education was not easy for them which made their educational level very low. Skilled workers were just 15 per cent of the whole working class which constituted the largest portion in the social ladder. Therefore unskilled and low skilled workers could earn just what was sufficient for their survival and consequently they needed each member of the family to work in order to avoid extreme poverty. Middle class which grew from 15 to 25 per cent during the reign of Queen Victoria consisted from one extreme of industrialists and bankers, and from the other extreme of poor clerks. The upper middle class which is a sub-division of it was made up of people who were professionals such as professors, doctors, clergymen, and officers. Education was of paramount importance; therefore they sent their children to study in boarding schools or private ones so that they could climb the social ladder. Aristocracy consisted mainly of landowners based on inheritance thus their income was either from investments or from inherited lands (Mitchell 18-25).

At the core of society is family, each of which has the maximum of eight members. Women were more interested in throwing parties and appearances rather than doing house chores and the care of their children was entrusted to an ayah or a nurse, which was characteristic especially for middle class and upper class society. Boys once they grow up into maturity they embark on a job, whereas girls were

destined to wait for their marriage and to train themselves for that thing before it (Devasi 2).

The fabric of Victorian society witnessed the ascendancy of the British middle class in the social ladder; which was characteristic of the Victorian reign as a result of industrialization. There was a shift from a society which was largely dependent upon inheriting fortunes from their families to a society which is based on business matters, with a special emphasis on saving money and hard work (Sparknotes).

2.4.2. Urbanization

The demographic development was brought to climax by reason of the better services, which made it an attractive locus to migrate to from the rural areas to the cities for a vision of new opportunities and a better life. Not only industrialization can be attributed to this change in social life in Britain, but also urbanization and the spread of the influence of the British Empire all together contributed to it. The city life that urbanization came up with a modern way of living and a new culture emerged (Woudenberg 6).

Britain was the most urban city all over the world. The city where urbanization phenomenon was more noticed was Victorian England society, especially in London; something which was further nurtured by the Great Exhibition which brought more people to London (Dyos and Wolff 4).

2.4.3. Industry

One of the characteristic markings of the era was certainly the invention of the steam-engine, the use of which came to its full display in coal mines, that helped to nurture all industries as it provided them with iron materials; thus the use of steam machinery led to the emergence and spread of factories (White 2009).

The working class especially those with skills in textile suffered from the increasing growth of machinery at their expense, and the demand was fort workforce to be at the service of factories or working in the railways. The latter was the main change that the Victorian era witnessed and facilitated the transportation of people and goods. The Liverpool and Manchester railway station was the first railway line in Britain (Denault and Landis 1999).

The industries relied on the steam- powered machinery and means of transportation. Even homes depended on coal which became the new way for heating instead of fireplaces and ovens. This dependence on coal led to pollution which threatened both human and nature and led to the spread of illnesses such as problems in respiration, and short height for men who were involved in the Second World War and who were born in 1890s; their heights were less than five feet and three inches (Hatton 2017).

Many industries proliferated throughout Great Britain. London was known for the building industry and also for its shipping industry and as it possessed the greatest port in the world. They relied on the unskilled workmen to do these jobs, which affected other professions such as carpenters and builders and rendered them seasonal and fluctuating; there was less and less demand for their services, which made them find themselves out of job. Shipping was so important and any retard in the arrival of their freight meant setbacks on all other trades since they all depended on it. Added to that is banking trade which was the main trade in London by the mid-reign of Queen Victoria. Shipping, banking, and manufacturing absorbed the majority of the workforce. In all, materialism was strong in the market and this made Victorian society a moneyed society (Woudenberg 17-20).

2.4.4. Child Labor

For families who lived in cramped conditions of living, to be able to help their poor purses called for the help of their children. These latter plunged into works in which they were beset by all manner of difficulties and often they are thrust into the midst of perils; the like of, chimney sweepers, rat catchers, factory workers, sellers in the streets, servants, pickpockets, and coal mines in which their

little bodies were overlabored by its difficulty to which they gave the little energies they had. Children were the first choice for those factories for their low salaries in comparison with adults. The appalling working conditions in mines created problems of sight due to the darkness which characterizes the place and as they were obliged to work there for long hours sometimes till 18 hours per day, they endured respiratory problems of because the air was laden with dust emanating from coal. Other health problems that can be cited are the diseases that the infested rats brought; without forgetting the casual hazard of explosion that occurs in the mines at any time. Chimney sweepers on the other hand were children of less than 12 years old and sometimes only five years old due to their thin body; this made them the most preferred for that kind of job. Another atrocity of child labor is that children had to enter inside the chimney which made them subject to wounds and bruises at the level of their skin because it touched the rough surface of the chimney when they clean it up down from soot. They sometimes get stuck there and left to die. Some children even became deformed because of the constant exposure to risks. All that and they were underpaid; the pay they received scarcely could help them in the provision of their food (Price 2013).

2.3. Plot Summary

The main building of the story *Dombey and Son*, the full title being *Dealings with the Firm; of Dombey and Son: Wholesale, Retail; and for Exportation*, recounts the life of a merchant by the name of Dombey who played the part of a person, in his lust for power, who was obsessed by the idea of having a son who would seize the helm of the ship of his family business. The firm would carry the name Dombey and Son. As a matter of consequence, familial ties had no consideration for him, and this made him put aside his daughter Florence, a little girl of 6 years old, as she was not born a male child. His wife died after giving birth to his long-looked-for son. Though he lost his wife, he considered it not a bad thing as she fulfilled her duty of giving him a son who now had become the object of all his attention. The family brought a wet nurse in order to take care of his son, but it was not for a long time as her services were dispensed with. The mission of rearing him was given to Louisa Dombey and her friend Miss Chicks. The child was born

gaunt and diseased, and in all probability he would be unable to run the firm when adult. He was sent to Brighton to recover. Though he was intensively cared for, but there was very little hope of his condition and he passed away very early at just 6 of age. This dark turn which his life took crushed him to the depths of his whole being as it meant the crumbling of all his dreams.

2.5. Psychology of the Writer

Most assuredly, Charles Dickens had very composite feelings which prompted him in writing, but it is equally sure that his coming from a poor background is the foremost of his motives. In the words of Humphry Houses 2002 one can know that, Charles Dickens became the mouthpiece of his society and his literary works possessed a basis of reality; this laid an impact on the mood of his novels and the diction he used:

> A great deal has been written and said about Charles Dickens as a writer for the people. Yet his chief public was among the middle and lower classes rather than the proletarian mass. His mood and idiom were those of the class from which he came, and his morality throve upon class distinctions even when it claimed to supersede them (House 1960).

Not in a similarity with the mainstream of Victorian writers who exhausted their ink in tackling things of yesterday, in the repertoire of their written experience, which does not mirror the moths which corroded their societies, and who set their novels in a time previous to their actual life, Charles Dickens, with an eye for reality, deviated from this standard which was in vogue, marking out a new ground as the interest in the problems of everyday life that society was ensnared in took possession of his breast and made him transport them into his writings, without trying to embellish its façade, in an attempt to stem the whirlwind of corruption which was ingrained in his society. This, among others, caused his name to endure in the Victorian readership proper and in the public minds in general, and rendered every piece of literature he produced timeless. Many events set the groundwork for the bulk of his writings. The railway is one of those aspects that he illustrated, by

throwing light on the fact that railroads started to be seen as an advantage for society (Mullan 2014).

As it came to happen, industrialization brought about enormous changes in the Victorian society with all its concomitant effects which resulted in the material prosperity of many people, but it also brought new modes of behavior such as materialism which had a significant effect on the precepts of the Victorians.

The negative effect of industrialization, which was mainly due to the invention of the steam-engine and which affected both nature and human beings, was one of the motives that actuated Charles Dickens in writing his novel *Dombey and Son* because the writer was worried about the changes that were underway. In it he showed the ugly face of life in the age of the industrial revolution which led to the pollution of air and thus became the enemy of both nature and people. The death of Paul is said to be because of pollution, and the only solution he is given was the air of Brighton not that of the city, but all that to no avail, because industrialization brought with it pollution which made the air poisonous and bad for health (Kemaloglu 174-176).

Dickens and through the use of language and through his studying the relationship between the human and inhuman in order to show that life is based upon the coexistence of both. He shows how the magnitude of industrialization was at the detriment of agriculture as urbanization swept over the agricultural lands. Dickens did that by using humor and irony. He depicted how nature took over their house; which is a symbol of urbanization, which makes his longing for a return to his earlier life so apparent:

> Mildew and mould began to lurk in closets, fungus trees grow in corners of the cellars. Dust accumulated, nobody knew whence nor how...The grass began to grow upon the roof and in the crevices of the basement paving. A scaly crumbling vegetation sprouted round the window-sills (351-352).

The aforementioned quotation shows Florence after her mother's death, and how the house was taken over by plants which rendered it a wilderness (Kemaloğlu 176).

He also shows that nature is a remedy for the person, and how it is bad to live away from it because of urbanization. This is clear in how little Paul was estranged from nature which further contributes to his death. As Paul listens to the sound of waves he is assailed by a sense of rest inside his soul. Though he was at his deathbed, nature brought quiet to him (177).

Charles Dickens describes the change of the environment when Mr. Walter Gay returned to visit the same place to look for Mrs. Richards's house, but he awoke to the realization of the fact that urbanization took the major part of the cities in London; he could not find the house as it was demolished and new buildings took the place of the countryside (Mullan 2014).

Railways as they were the epitome of gloom and doom had a great effect on the psychology of the writer. They permeate the novel in the same way they have done with the countryside. In the novel, the train is likened to a monster who takes the lives of persons away (Kemaloğlu 174).

The emergence of railways all over Britain changed the face of life there. This led the writer to touch on this issue by including passages in this novel which shows in a sublime way the degree of change that occurred because of the spread of its network which caused the destruction of many buildings and the obligation of finding a new place to live in (Woudenberg 13). Here is an illustration of this fact:

> There were railway hotels, office-houses, lodging-houses, boarding houses; railway plans, maps, views, wrappers, bottles, sandwich-boxes, and time-tables; railway hackney- coach and stands: railway omnibuses, railway streets and buildings, railway hangers- on and parasites and flatterers out of all calculation. There was even time observed in clocks, as if the sun itself had given in (Mullan 2014).

The story shows the lost values that society came to from the opening of the era, through Mr. Dombey and Mr. Walter his manager as they grew devoid of feelings and without morals because of the commercial life they led. They lost every sense of those around them as life for them is only material things to the extent that even their blood relations are considered and treated like any object or

the like; thus things without a soul and are treated without feelings. For instance, woman for Mr. Dombey in the character of his wife Fanny is treated like any piece of furniture'' his plate and furniture, and other household possessions which was well worth having'' (54), this is the same when it comes to his daughter Florence as he stated that'' merely a piece of base coin that couldn't be invested -a bad boy- nothing more'' (51). Therefore, nothing mattered for him only money and he had no feelings for anything else (Tamai 640).

The writer's indictment does not cease with this, he also leveled the machinery of his criticism against slavery and it is viewed as inhuman, by illustrating how employees were treated by their superiors as if they were slaves. This is shown through the words of Carker when he talked about Mr. Dombey saying that he works only with those who were subdued to his power and knelt to his orders (Tamai 640).

Dickens' feelings of contempt towards materialism crystallize through the voice of Edith and her feelings of hatred towards Dombey and Carker when she said ''I don't know against which it rose higher- the mater or the man'' (857). Edith here is demonstrating that they both possess a heart of stone which is representative of capitalism and that they are worse than each other (Tamai 641).

Edward Said in his *Culture and Imperialism* argued that'' the earth was made for Dombey and Son to trade in, and the sun and moon were made to give them light. Rivers and seas were formed to float their ships....'' (2); from this passage, Dickens novel is considered by Said to be the mouthpiece of the imperial policy of free trade (Jackobson130).

Though there was a proliferating economy but it had accompanying negative effects on social life. London became a city which was largely based on capitalism; this thing rendered its society a material one. This fact made Charles Dickens view of the social situation from a negative viewpoint; people grew more and more materialistic and this governed their relationships with the others around them as their values and principles underwent a huge change. Financial issues and greed for amassing fortunes became their chief concern. Dickens took direct aim at society and what its values came to, including this criticism into the lines of each of his books; he was mostly interested in portraying how money became the basis of their

relationships even with their families, which resulted in a lack of communication between its members and neglecting others. Respecting the others and evaluating them was based on financial matters; the psychology of people was materialistic (Woudenberg 22-23). From the following quotation, it is crystal clear that money was the foundation on which society stood on:

> What is new in the nineteenth century is the notion that greed for money lies at the very heart of almost all personal and social evil, that other forms of wrongdoing are superstructures erected upon this one essential foundation, and that it is diffused throughout the whole society (Smith 65).

In fact, money can be said to be in what is no doubt the thought of Dickens' whole life as he was affected from his early life by the incarceration of his father which awakened in him a sense of the importance of money and filled him with a desire to have a good deal of it in his struggle to be out of poverty lines, this is without meaning that he was only of a self-serving nature (Smith 80).

2.5. Psychology of Characters

As a novelist, Dickens adopts Rousseau doctrine which holds that mankind are good but are corrupted by society which is clear in his passage ''It might be worthwhile sometimes to inquire what Nature is, and how men work to change her, and whether in the enforced distortions so produced, it is not natural to be unnatural.'' (646). In it he sees that society and its –evils—are in a way or another the cause of human behavior and feelings and that no one is immune to it (MaccArthy 33).

2.5.1. Psychology of Dombey

In the pantheon of characters that people the novel, the title character Mr. Dombey was far and away what a Victorian man looked like. His sole thought which was the pivot that all his life turns around; he wants a caretaker of his business ''The earth was made for Dombey and Son to trade in, and the sun and moon were made to give them light...stars and planets circled in their orbits, to preserve inviolate a system of which they were the centre'' (2). Whereas Florence as she was a girl, she was put on the shelves ''But what was a girl to Dombey and Son! In the capital of the House's name and dignity, such a child was merely a piece of base coin that couldn't be invested- a bad boy-nothing more'' (3). Once he felt that Florence is taking a place in the heart of his son Paul, his fear of this made this vision of Florence, the previously irrelevant and quite non-existent, turn into his competitor. The degradation to which his character is tied down led him to think of depriving him of his sister by sending him away from her to limit his attachment to her. He thought of bringing a new wife Edith Skewton Granger to his house, but his concerns never set to rest rather they grew more and more as Florence love extended to her heart and she and Florence became so close, a thing which occasioned him heart burnings of envy, considering that they joined hands against him. The fact that Florence was able to inspire liking around her and could win both Paul and Edith to her side made her as an enemy in his eyes, and increased the load of jealousy that emanated from him towards her; a thing which further darkened his perception of her and the ice between them seemed all the more unbreakable, and whatever she would try to do to gain his fatherly affection would be useless for he was incapable of any emotional release; this worsened the night after a wedding party as he quite started to change his mind about his daughter and see her in a new light as this raised his alarm of her and made her image worse and worse: in short, the bad destiny of all his life. His refusal to let her act as a mother to Paul is because of this fear of her partaking of his place in Paul's heart (Zwinger 424-426).

The spectacle of the demise of his first wife Fanny was engraved in his memory as this would act throughout the story as a reminder to him of her reproach for his neglecting their daughter and made him ever remember it and feeling guilty;

a scene in which made him feel that he is non-existent due to the manifestation of mother-daughter love in front of him (Konoshima 1).

As his wife passed away no affection showed itself on the altar of that cold heart, not a tear he had for any sorrowful occasion, and she soon perished from his remembrance for he considered his marriage to her as an acquisition of a precious artifact or a commodity that he bought; merely a wooden thing which became missing in his house and not as a human being of living flesh and blood; in short without any genuine sense of loss. This is because in antiquity in Victorian society money was the currency even when it comes to dealing with people around them. His second marriage was a commercial contract; he bought her like in a transaction because he saw in her an opportunity through which he could be connected to families of noble descent. In the words of Edith the second wife, this can be clearly seen '' He sees me at the auction, and he thinks it well to buy me''. Even his son is just a medium by which he can prosper and maintain the continuance of his firm; and thus to gratify his self-pride, whereas Florence as she cannot bring him those things so she is despised and reduced to a state in which she is equaled to any other thing in his house (Brown 49-50).

Not a semblance of affection seemed to open the way for a future change in his nature. This hatred to his daughter increased after the death of his son as the latter when he was on his deathbed did not acknowledge the presence of his father and asked only for Florence telling her '' what is that? (238) when referring to him ''Floy, come close to me, and let me see you! '' (240) ; this made her father hate her more as he considered that she deprived him of his son (Kikendall 72).

In the same way that Mr. Dombey manages his business trade, he does with his house. This Utilitarianism has a footing in every aspect of his life and the love of riches surged through his very veins. This can be clearly seen in his concern to distance everyone from his son for he treats him as an enterprise. The fact that his son is now motherless entailed a need to have a wet nurse from the working class for his son; he considered it a bad fate for him and for his son because he has a fear that she would transmit to his son her morals and affections ''He will make what powerful friends he pleases in afterlife...Until then I am enough for him'' (49). His fears became tenser as he saw the possibility that his son would be considered of

her family relatives and claim a right in his riches as was the common idea about milk-feeding at the time and he hated the mere thought of being connected to their social class. He indulged in refusing each wet nurse and was inwardly happy to find flaws in each one of them, and even when he settled on one of those applicants and accepted to take her into his family, he still would make sure to she should be far from his son; Polly Toodle seemed to be this perfect wet nurse to take care of his son, but he warns her to keep distance of him as much as possible and to treat him as is shown in the conditions stated in the contract; just like a merchandise (Zwinger 423).

He even called her Richards which besides reflecting his patriarchy, it also shows his want to drop of Polly's mind any trace of her former life and made her loose all contact with her own family merely for she came from a working class background. This means that hated to be connected with them and it is a way to do with gender and class issues (Elfenbein 373).

2.5.2. Psychology of Florence

Florence who has all the graces of a good heart, and who, with her self-abnegation, never returned her father's inability to be brought to an appreciation of her manifestations of love with the like manner, could continue no longer in her passive route as she at the end left the house after she threw off any feeling to her former life (Malkovitch 48).

Albeit passive Florence is, without any manner of doubt, the embodiment of her society; she is the perfect example of woman in Victorian era. She personifies gender, and subjugation to male dominion, and who, like all her peers, regards home as the repository of their peace (Yelin 298).

Though he was cold in his treatment to her, she preferred home as for her it stands as the symbol of peace; a place where she can bury her silence than to make it known to others who would certainly have no feeling of her distress (Kikendall 71).

Florence self-denial is the outcome of her father's treatment of her as if not bone of his bone and flesh of his flesh, nor did he acknowledge her presence. She spoke of herself as if another person. For instance, after she was found by Walter Gay during her first flight, she identified herself as '' my little brother's only sister '', and even after marrying him she effaced her sense of her existence by telling him that she is ''nothing but your wife ''; thus confining her role in life as only a sister and a wife (Yelin 305).

Gender lays behind Florence being passive in her reaction her father cruel treatment. She is like all Victorian girls destined to leave her childhood dreams and be as her family wants her to be without being able to distinguish herself from the others because she identifies herself by those around her (Pykett 18-19).

Because of her being deprived of her mother, she received Edith with all the warmth of a daughter to her mother; a thing which Edith equally returns but they tried to conceal it as it was against what their surrounding environment dictated to them (Aikens 83).

Her ways changed when she was forced by Good Mrs. Brown, when she kidnapped her among people in Camden Street, to change her outward appearance by cutting her hair and dressing her poorly in order to rob her of her luxurious clothes. After setting her free to find her way to the city, Florence passes from infancy to maturity:

> Tired of walking, repulsed and pushed about, stunned by the noise and confusion, anxious for her brother and the nurses, terrified by what she had undergone, and the prospect of encountering her angry father at such an altered state; perplexed and frightened alike by what had passed, and what was passing, and what was yet before her...Florence, too called to her aid all the firmness and self-reliance of a character that her sad experience had prematurely formed and tried (57).

This passage makes it explicit that Florence passive nature started to be influenced by society and to evolve into maturity as she was now forced to rely on

herself to get over the wickedness of this woman. This happening first opened her eye to the difference between her theories and reality (Bond 2003).

In the same vein, and to take the point further, Florence character underwent another change after her second flight because her father's image changed in her eyes after being beaten. She rushed into the street without knowing where to go. This state of confusion that she was confronted with made her find her true identity. A need to sever all ties with her past assailed her to get rid of all those who exercised control over her life (Bond 2003).

This passage of the narrative shows this thoroughly:

> Florence loved him still, but, by degrees, had come to love him rather as some dear one who had been, or who might have been, than as the hard reality before her eyes... Whether it was that he was dead to her... but the father whom she loved began to be a vague and dreamy idea to her: hardly more substantially connected with her real life (686).

Thus, this is where really her lofty conception of the world changed, observant of her father's long rejection of her and the immobility of his feelings which made him like a ghost from the past as she now could know him better and to which degree he was void of them (Kikendall 76).

From the first, Florence had her father's happiness very much at heart and wanted to gain her his affection by showing, by every word and act, her filial love. Reciprocity of some sort to her repeated moves was desirable; however, all her attempts in that direction did not come to fruition as her feelings had not been received in the spirit she sought, and now all affection for him disappeared because of his being incapable of any emotional release and its constant rejection of her (Worth 78).

That she knew a change in his nature was never to be, and now that he dashed every hope in her and that her vision of him has cleared, it developed that the cumulative effect of Florence' repressed feelings, which caused her not a little suffering, broke out at last though she tried to resist them:

There was not one touch of tenderness or pity in it. There was not one gleam of interest, parental recognition, or relenting in it. There was a change in it, but not of that kind. The old indifference and cold constraint had given something: what, she never thought and did not dare to think, and yet she felt it in its force, and knew it well without a name; that as it looked upon her, seemed to cast a shadow on her head (Worth 78).

2.5.3. Paul Psychology

When little Paul, who is an incarnation of purity and powerlessness, came into the story his life was converted into an *inferno* as he was fated from the earliest part of his life to be the adult caricature of a child as he was obliged to come to maturity from his infancy with a view to transform him into the likeness of his father; a soul-killing fate charted to him by the others. He is destined to be the carrier of his father's name to endure the continuity of patriarchal and capitalist systems (Moglen 163).

The same thing that applies to Paul applies to all children in the Victorian time period. The adults, whose minds were clouded with the desire of making a man of him, took good care to make sure that this child would move from childhood to maturation as soon as possible because it was a norm in the eighteenth century that male children have to be treated as grownups '' If the change from childhood to manhood can be hastened safely, it ought to be hastened and it is a sin in everyone to not hasten it '' (15). The novel shows this through Mr. Dombey's treatment of his child only in the terms of his being the heir of his fortunes and the carrier of both his name and business. The grief-stricken Paul, who had the deprivation of indulging in the years of his infancy stored in his inmost recesses of his little heart, stood in the face of such a treatment ''shall we make a man of him? '' repeated the Doctor. '' I had rather be a child,'' replied Paul.'' (123). Here it is clear that Paul is utterly unwilling to accept their scheme to figure him of a mould which is not his and consequently his reply was to distinguish between the world of adults from that of children which are for him worlds apart (Pykett 21-22).

In this novel the writer shows in the same manner as his previous novels the perverse situation that a child lived in the Victorian era and how this society demolished his infantile dreams. The parental love of Mr. Dombey to his son is based only on the assumption that he would become a man, and not of his holding any estimation of his feelings. In a fever of impatience, a desire rankled in his heart for the acceleration of this transition which made him consider it a doom on the horizon of his commerce. He was forced to Dr. Blimber's school (MccArthy 24).

Paul roundly refused to be alienated from sister who became the only silver thread which runs through his melancholy life and by which he could stare into the future. He became distressed by the imposition of adulthood on him from an early age and made him want to emerge from this shell to a region of freedom and peace; nature became his safe-haven and thus he became more isolated from his father (Moglen 168).

The case of Paul gained resonance and he became the subject of investigation because of its dealing with the education of child to force the brain of the child into maturity; in this case in Dr. Blimber's School, the process of hastening adulthood transcended beyond the bounds of reason. In it he connected this tight pressure way of educating to the production engines used in industry; a pressure which ultimately causes his death (Shuttleworth 2012).

''Son with his fists curled up and clenched, seemed in his feeble way, to be squaring at existence for having come upon him so unexpectedly'' (1). In this statement Dickens shows the struggle to the light of day between little Paul and the powerful adult world (Roulstone 8).

The health issues that led to his death has its roots in the harms visited upon him owing to the pressures to which he was exposed from his early life; the burden bestowed upon him to be a man before time deprived him the enjoyment of his childhood (Roulstone 56).

2.5.4. Edith Psycholgy

Under the yoke of patriarchy, Edith suffers submission and control over her life. Even her right to be educated is overlooked like it was the custom at a time of male dominion which denied to women their place. Marriage is the only thing they are cultured about and is considered as being their sole solution to survive. Edith, who could never digest that fact, was always in pursuit of putting terms with the abiding norm and to batter down the walls of custom, but all her attempts were thwarted by Mr. Dombey and her mother; she was unable to conform to this situation and ultimately she fled to a European country (Yelin 298).

The fact that Edith could see no bright future that can rise to meet her outside the crucible of marriage left her without choice but to succumb to its force in spite of her contradicted ideas. She conceded to getting married with Mr. Dombey. By mid-Victorian reign, middle-class women had not a shadow of opportunity to live lurking outside wedlock. Though Edith accepted his offer, but fought against it in a tacit way by trying to change the vision of the position of women in the house of her husband. She was purposeful in her showing compliance with what he demands of her to do and how he wanted of her to behave, putting it openly that she did that only because she was asked to and without being convinced of them; as if in defiance to him. She is opposing the marital institution which rendered marriage as a mere bargain. She likened her life before marriage as '' horse in a fair...shown and offered and examined and paraded '' (Chap 27). That she was educated to suit her future husband and learned to be prepared for marriage:

> An expression of scorn was habitual to the proud face, and seemed inseparable from it; but the contempt with which it received any appeal to admiration, ... He might have read in that one glance that even for its (his money's) sordid and mercenary influence upon herself, she spurned it...He might have read it that, even baring her own head for the lightning of her own contempt and pride to strike, the most innocent allusion to the power of his riches degraded her anew, sunk her deeper

in her own respect, and made the blight and waste within her more complete (Chap 35).

Edith willfully made Dombey feel that he could not buy her with all his money and that her marriage to him is only on papers. On his part Mr. Dombey considered that she is part of this bargain just by the fact that she accepted it; this rendered her attempts abortive and made her feel her debasement (Yelin 312-313).

Dombey' attempts to belittle her were answered by keeping silent as she had no other way to contend with them. In the current of events and after her honeymoon ended, she was obliged to attend a party to celebrate her removal to a new home which was intended to be a way of mocking her. Time and again she fought against him but now she wrapped her words with silence which became her source of strength through which she could paralyze him into silence; for the fact of her not answering his shouting and mockery by a single word was an understood thing that he is nothing in her eyes. This made him out of words as a dumb (Ingham 151).

Edith was born in a house in which her father never regarded her with any look of interest, and to a mother whose desire is to sell her, without her own accord, in marriage into riches to the highest bidder in exchange of their royal decent, and she suffered from her being treated as a merchandise in the marriage-market just because she was born a girl; being presented to buyers ''I have been offered and rejected, put up and appeased, until my very soul has sickened. I have not had an accomplishment or grace that might have been a resource to me, but it has been paraded and vended to enhance my value'' (784). Though she hated herself for her compliance, but she rebelled against this harsh reality by not letting her true person die away for lack of utterance; thus it is through the means of her words that she betrayed the genuine voice of her heart:

> He sees me at the auction and he thinks it well to buy me. Let him! When he came to view me-perhaps to bid- he required to see the roll of my accomplishments. I gave it to him. When he would have me show one of them, to justify his purchase to his men, I require of him to say which he demands, and I exhibit it. I will do no more. He makes the purchase of his own will and

with a sense of his worth, and the power of his money; and I
hope it may never disappoint him (415).

Thus, she is expressing it implicitly by her words as her tool to challenge
him and to say it openly that she was bought without her will (Moglen167-168).

2.6. Character's Psychology through language

2.6.1. The railway

The image of the railway which the writer interspersed in his novel goes
beyond its picturing the spread of it as a means of transportation or a symbol of
development to the reflection of the psychology of the characters.

In chapter 20, and during a trip, the train is likened to a monster; a powerful
creature that is responsible of taking the lives of people away. In this the
psychology of Mr. Dombey is revealed to show his state of feelings after the death
of his son. This reflects the monstrous force of death that deprived him of his child
and to which degree he is saddened by this fact (Moore 42).

2.6.2. Christening

As regards the dark atmosphere with which the writer covered this happy
celebration, it was sad far from what was supposed to be. The writer painted it all in
dark colors and with words which convey the coldness of the scene to the readers.
Starting from the church, the procession, the climate, and everything associated
with this celebration; all was robed in the shroud of a gloomy mourning day. This
shows the misery which accompanies the birth of Paul and which foreshadows the
unpromising future which awaits him. It further evidences the coldness of Mr.
Dombey towards all his acquaintance (Barkley 2016).

2.6.3. The waves

The deprivation of Paul of being in touch with nature quickened his death. ''How fast the river runs, between its green banks the rushes, Floy! But it's very near the sea. I hear the waves! They always say so!''Presently he told her that the motion of the boat upon the stream was lulling him to rest (253). In his deathbed, the sound of the waves gives him both a sense of rest and makes him remember his mother. The same thing is true with Florence; '' the voice in the waves is always whispering to Florence, in their ceaseless murmuring...not bounded by the confines of this world, or by the end of time, but ranging still, beyond the sea, beyond the sky, to the invisible country far away!'' (876); the sound of the waves carried into their hearts a feeling which went beyond this world to the afterlife where their mother dwelt (Kemaloğlu 177).
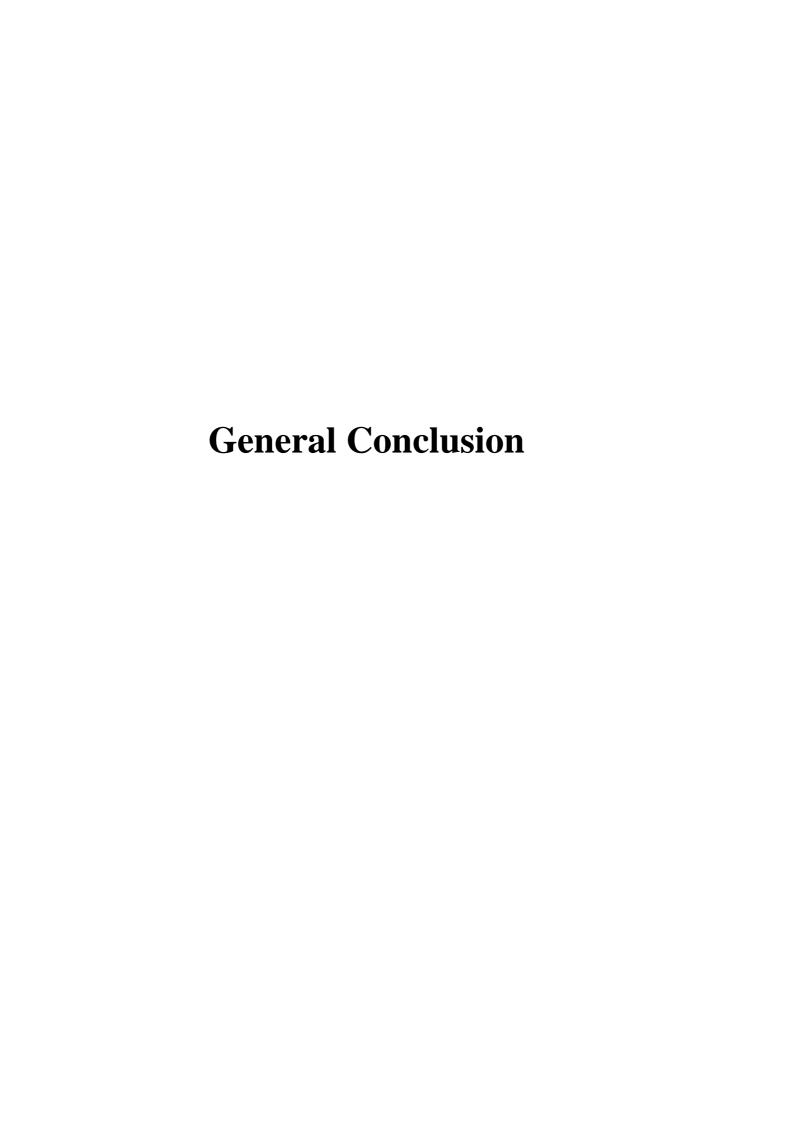
2.7. *Dombey and Son* VS *Hard Times*

Charles Dicken's both novels can be said to be novels of social criticism. In them the writer produced his attacks against the nineteenth century's educational regime; a process through which a child was supposed to attain manhood once he comes out of the other side of the channel; and therefore subordinated all things to the achievement of that goal. In the first novel, the writer shows the reader how a boy was subject to mental exercises to wean him from his infancy and into adulthood; whereas in the second novel the pupils are treated as vessels to be repleted with facts. On a psychological plane, the novels seem to contrast with each other. Whereas in the first little Paul refused to be thrust into the dark waters of the fate his father had fixed for him; to seek the light in another world is not to allow their taint light upon his white wings, letting them carry him to the far-off lands of his imagination alone and apart; in the second, as in the matter of Tom Gradgrind; did not try to escape the throes of reality and was shown to accept the facts at face value and mechanically apply them. More to the point, the first novel has a more psychological depth through the character of Paul.

2.8. Conclusion

The heart of this chapter was to study the novel Dombey and Son. The chapter started by giving a biography of Charles Dickens with a summary of its main events. In order to apply the social psychological approach to this novel, it

was necessary to understand how society was at the time to better know how the characters were influenced by people around them. After giving a detailed view of the Victorian society and the way by which the characters were influences by it, the chapter proceeded to analyze their psychology through language usage.

General Conclusion

Many things gathered together to give the Victorian society its shape. Capitalism and industrialization were the precursors of that time. These and others formed the foundations on which the Victorian society was laid. British society disintegrated into materialism and amoralism during the reign of the Queen Victoria. Greed and the pursuit after amassing fortunes became the chief concern of its people even if this was at the expense of others around them; their own families were no exception. To criticize this status quo was not a given to every writer. Charles Dickens, who is considered the greatest of writers in Victorian literature and under the sun of literature as a whole, went out of this circle. What he could not change with his hands made it requisite to seize the pen through which he could give vent to his feelings and to utilize it as a surpassing weapon to spell out his indignation against the *status quo*. This critical apparatus of his society, which was rendered more powerful by his expressive capacity which he honed into brilliance, is undoubtedly one of the factors which took captive the reading world and placed his name in a universal position.

The fact that *Dombey and Son* was his first mature novel placed it in distinction in the course of his career. In it he attempted to portray the aftermaths of the social evils that governed his age and how society was money-ridden and no room was left for emotions, especially for females in a male dominated surrounding. People were shown as the victims of such a society, and their lives were the story of sufferings and rebellion.
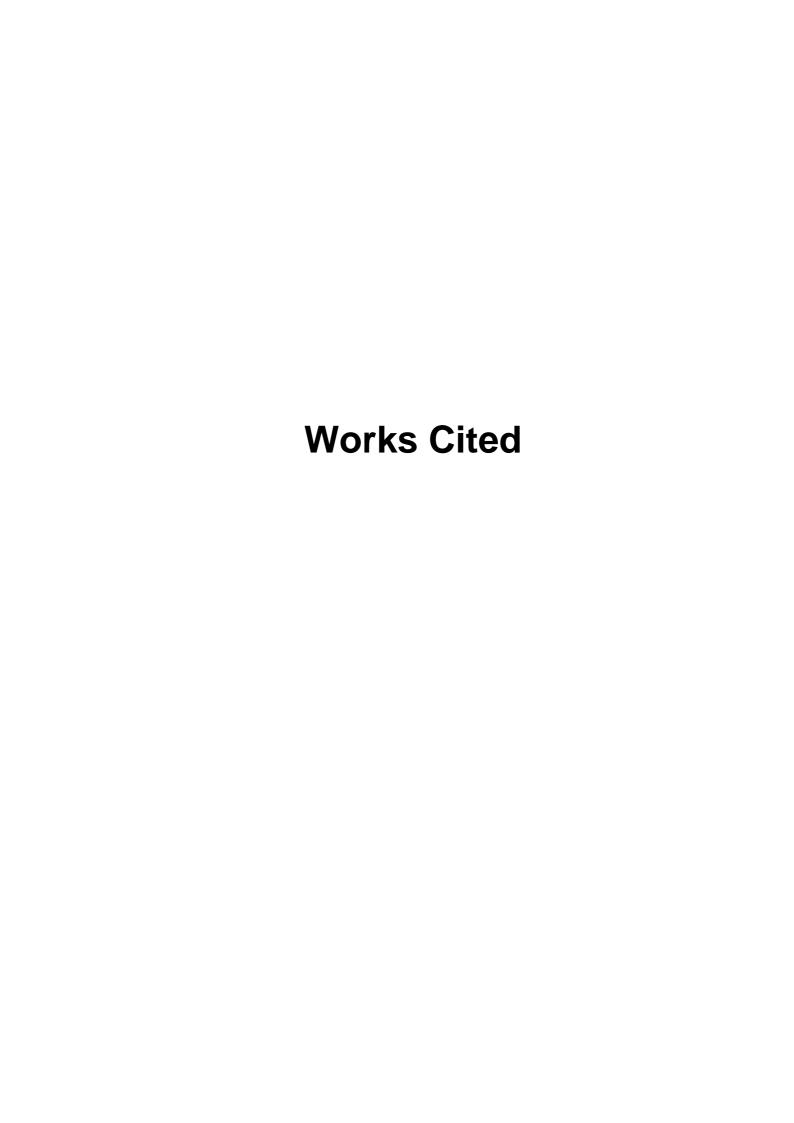
Throughout this work, the researcher attempted to study the composition of this society, and how the characters in *Dombey and Son* were influenced by people around them using a social psychological perspective. The way through which the characters in the novel interacted with their society and how their nature and behavior was influenced by their exposure to their society falls squarely within the frame of Social psychology and its emphasis that all people's feelings and deeds are the outcome of their society.

Characters in the novel weave together injustice they experienced at the time; they were the product of their society in the very sense of the word; this can be clearly seen through their personality, words and deeds. For the sake of example,

Mr. Dombey is a personage whose nature is equivalent of those in the era in which he lived as he measured things by the standard set up by society and he acted fully to that maxim. Never down to earth, Greedy of gathering fortunes and with a limited and purely business turn of mind, Mr. Dombey could but be the epitome of what a Victorian man really was. By all this, not even a little beam of love shed its radiance in the shadowy corners of his iron heart, nor did the whole circles of his acquaintance carried not even a feeble significance to him and the worth of which he lost. Little Paul, who is his son, from the cradle, knew no image of joy for his future was shrouded in blackness and childhood' days he was deprived to be that kind of men, even his sister he was denied access to her; a thing he flatly rejected. His second wife Edith, as all those of her gender who endured the same constrictions of oppression while in the jaws of their societies, and who could not sit comfortably with the long-held social norms of the time, wanted to cut the ropes with what her authoritarian society dictated through her struggle to unveil how women were considered as a mere merchandise bought in a bargain and thus they were just subservient in their role. Even the angelic creature Florence was entangled in this web of her society's own weaving and was just what that society made of her. She can be said to represents the subdued girl who dares not to break the norms of her society and who, though she was goodness in itself but lived in the shadow unloved on the face of that materialistic planet, preferred to befriend her loneliness instead of doing it; thus though she is burdened with the settled sorrows that she locked away in her heart of hearts, without reacting to her father's buried heart, but she reflects the way females preferred to be silent and obedient to their societies. Though she seemed like that sheet of paper that would never develop, yet her non-responsiveness to him did not last, as she is pictured to rebel against him at the end after her cup of sufferings overflowed.

In sum, as this work took its start, the researcher sought to answer the questions which have been raised at the outset about to which extent society shaped its members; of which both the writer and his characters are part. It likewise went on to analyze how the writer portrayed this influence through language usage. In truth, the fact that Charles Dickens was able to transform what he saw with his eyes into this novel as in all his novels cannot be farfetched.

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