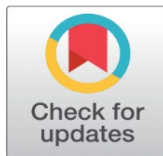
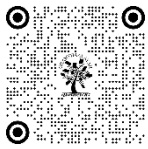


# A CRITICAL EXAMINATION OF GENDER INEQUALITY IN ALICE WALKER'S MAJOR FICTION

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## ABSTRACT

Since literature came into existence, women have been there. However, it is quite unfortunate that at various points in time, women wrote about themselves as fragile, inferior, incapable of surviving on their own, unemployed, or generous. Women are beautiful and obedient. They cannot think on their own, according to the guy. Much of the essence of females remained insignificant to love, and they were never permitted to share their experiences, according to the view of Alice Walker. They are also oblivious to how to account for the violation of their self-worth. They are suppressed in many ways; the black community women are misconstrued even in their community. Social, physical, and sexual oppression against black women has always been there, and because of that, they try to break free from that domination. Most black women are treated as slaves who want to redefine their womanhood and end the bondage forced upon them during slavery. This is a paper trying to subjugate and hide black women under suppression, slavery, gender discrimination, and how they differ. It studies black women's subjugation, self-realization, awakening, and self-emancipation. An Afro-American writer, Alice Walker, meets for the liberation of black women. He evinces solidarity with black women about their relationship with women who have historically built bridges for them with their indomitable spirit and versatile independence. The paper's argument, in short, shall be to defeat the sufferings of black women. The paper's argument, in short, shall be to defeat the sufferings of black women.

**Keywords:** Oppression, Empowerment, Self-Realization, Subjugation, Liberation



## 1. INTRODUCTION

Thus the theory of women's equality is referred to as feminism, whereby women should acquire the same social, political, financial, and property share with men. The activism surrounding women's rights intensified the establishment of women's equality rights that began at the end of the 18th century. These efforts eventually led to the emergence of the idea that women should possess the same rights as men.

Feminism includes various wings of movements such as the fight for civil rights; social, political, arts, and sexual equality. It acts as a shield for women's equality in civil, economic, sexuality, and protection from women's patriarchy. But his bravery is lost in the dark ladies, whose voice and free image seas drown in society on which her chivalry has relied for existence. The creation of conventional fiction needs influence often white-but some dark power has always been in the hands of men. Women saw an image of violence and viewed it as a property of men's joys. They even portrayed themselves as weaker and inferior sex; a passive object which was unable to think on their own and that they are not always dependent on men for their needs.

According to the assumption based on men denoted that it became impossible for women to live alone. Due to socio-colonial strength, it has been said to them that they were of the weaker sex or second sex. These are some of the conceptions of female writers who try through their fictional character of women in their writings to work and set up to justifiably solve women's questions within the context of their society. African women fighting an alien society are

brought to life in the novels of Alice Walker, an issue that Walker has raised in her lifetime in public forums. She expressed some of her most stressful concerns on issues such as the education of women, and the legal rights of women in marriage.

She is a contemporary writer capturing the essence of modern African women in heart and soul. She admired black people for their sense of Hurston as complete, complex, undiminished beings, her pride in black people, and how she traveled down her road. However, still not many women dare to identify their beliefs and act on those without giving in to threats imposed by the powerful. Everyday use is one great story showcasing many of Walker's ideas and concerns. It defines one such "heritage" meaning as a special part of black culture, especially concerning the art of quilting.

It is a foundational text for defining the core notion of Womanism as not just cohabiting, but specifically by the women in acknowledgment and construction of their identity. It expresses tribute to the untamed spirit of creativity that black women possess within their psyches. Images of her mother tending to the flowers in the shacks of the sharecropper that she lived in and had to make art out of such effort, become images that are symbolic of the black woman in search of empowerment and control over her destiny. Africanization is a process by which a developing country tries to reign in the respective cultures, ideologies, and conventional norms concerning women.

The term is generally tagged to African American women. In Alice Walker's essay, *In Search of Motherland*, the term first popped up. In a broad sense, both terms refer mainly to women of Afro-America. Mariama Ba in her novel called *So Long A Letter* says, "A black African, she should have been able to fit without difficulty into a black African society, with both Senegal and the Ivory Coast experiencing the same colonial power. But Africa is complex," divided. The typical psychological change that the protagonist goes through paves the way for seeing her character. The problem that follows is the Civil Rights movement concerning African American women.

Reality erased this discrimination of sexism, racism, and classism. Her cheeks were drenched in tears and giving herself the utmost dedication and engagement. Meridian is told to take the feminist legacy of 1950 as a historical background context. On the gender prejudices or sexual naivety, she is not urged to write. With many more connections made concerning the evilness of race and the evilness of gender and their meanings for the individual and the individual itself, she delivers to readers a glimpse of conditions previously and throughout the common right.

Walker, through these novels, projects the Civil Rights Movement onto the stage of history. Many of the first young activists of the movement eventually became disillusioned and retreated from public involvement. The paper analyses how television became instrumental by providing a direct focus on brave young people facing their antagonists in the late 1950s and early 1960s when rioters were destroying an entire section of American cities to pave the way for more building projects. With her parents' support, the girl grows, who develops insight from watching the civil rights movement on television, Ruth. Some weight is given to the last words of Grange to Ruth: "he has no chance, but she does." The consummation of the book underlines where it leads- Ruth's eventual fate, as well as that of an old man who has changed his own life and showed that change is feasible for individuals. With age-old characters, the author gives the depth of generations. Ruth and Meridian are products of the past; however, Walker has opted not to define the future. In *My Family's House*, pay attention to the characters, mind the purple color. This is a strong book of connection to the award-winning novel *The Color Purple* by the writer. The reader can, as would the heroine of the novels, remember her ancestors reading this book. This makes memory or reviewing their parents, wives, aunts, and women in their families. They also recall their ancestor's struggle, misery, injustice, defeat, achievement, and emancipation; women's enlistment, which made them continue in the world today.

Walker emphasized that African American women should learn about their forebearers since their knowledge keeps them from ignorance and fear of what happened to the dead and it will not make them fight or triumph over subjection." Today, as well as throughout the entire period of being subjugated into the hands of the white-dominated society, it carries on like for the women. Walker can dig up personal history by reading her novels. For her, it is the primary responsibility of any writer to include in his works the history of the past so that black people can remember or recall how those people fought for their rights, against discrimination against individuals and gender. The memories would carry to them how their forefathers fought for the privilege to have children and the privileges women were deprived of in culture. Here the writer has to talk about the religious and cultural life of their past, which would change the present life. The experience of ancestors gives the present black people smartness in configuring individual spirituality as well as wholeness. Walker's fiction is a revival of African culture history, spiritual life, and the condition of women, their transformation as well as upliftment. Temple of my Family brings out the memory of the past and one's historical relationship, it's claimed. Merlin Stone writes in *When God Was a Woman*.

The way-handled heroes like Columbus and their victims like the Arawaks embody the silent embrace of conquest and assassination in the name of progress, which is only one direction of a specific historical strategy within which history has informed states, conquerors, negotiators, and rulers. Besides, any other character in *My Family Carlotta's Temple* must still remember her history. Walker seeks to mark the signification of the important bond between relation, interdependence, and self-realization.

Through Arveyda, Carlotta constructs a mother-to-daughter bond. Miss Lissie brings back little boy memories amongst her past stories, which she can recall. Through various bodies, she can feel her manifestation. She knows she can go through her former life in Africa, where she saw chimps as her cousins living in the wild. Walker here tries to infer that in the ancient days, human beings usually interacted with animals, but now there is a rachis gap between oneself and others. There are differences in race, sex, poverty, or even humankind that have been pooled together and segregated. This kind of memory in the past transforms an individual who has undergone racial discrimination, gender disparity, sexual disparity, and patriarchy into one that changes society in the present day.

This paper is a critical attempt at black feminism and the subjugation of women by the patriarchal society of which the author and her characters are victims. The paper culminates in the writing of Alice Walker depicts the poverty begotten of and duplicity received in coping with male oppression and disloyalty in marriage. It touches on the infidelity of family and society. Alice Walker, as an activist and poet, is trying from her writings to create an awareness among the organization.

She seeks to remember the past such that people realize their mistakes and equality is struck between them. The status of black middle-class women in the present day is touching unequal. She is trying to say that you don't try to suppress or erase memory; you integrate that memory consciously and infuse it with creativity. The memory of Miss Lisse's past lives gives very advantageous if false methods of epitomizing the historical backdrop of dark womanhood in a solitary character century. The way she will have this sense of contentment is if she comes back a few times. *My Family Temple* gives yet another chance for Alice Walker to achieve her magic in bonding herself momentarily with the souls of others who created this magical link of brilliant minds.

## CONFLICT OF INTERESTS

None.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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