

Tribhuvan University

Voicing the Voiceless in Patricia McCormick's *Sold*

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By

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Letter of Recommendation

Narayani Sharma has completed her thesis entitled “Voicing the Voiceless in Patricia McCormick's *Sold*” under my supervision. She carried out her research work from 15/6/2016 to 25/2/2017. I, hereby, recommend her thesis to be submitted for viva voce.

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Letter of Approval

This thesis entitled “Voicing the Voiceless in Patricia McCormick’s *Sold*”
submitted to the central Department of English, Tribhuvan University, by Narayani
Sharma has been approved by the undersigned members of the Research committee.

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Narayani Sharma

Abstract

The novel, *Sold*, by Patricia McCormick deals with the Marxist dimensions of commodification, objectification, oppression, suppression, domination of one human by another in the capitalist society. This is the novel that focuses on the trafficking of a thirteen year old Nepali girl who is sold into sex trade in India. Moreover other characters too suffered in the brothel. Being in the chain of restriction as well as dehumanized condition, can marginalized people be able to educate and liberate themselves? The very curiosity is being answered with using the Marxist notions of Objectification and Commodification. The novel become the epitome to show that emancipation of under-class people is possible in the same society but the opposite pole that means upper class people should possess a refined thoughts to have a harmonious society.

Under-privileged class who loses their human qualities and is compared to inanimate objects. Characters like Lakshmi, Street boy, Harish, Pushpa, Monnica, Anita etc are such characters who become the victims of objectification, however, some of them are shown to come up with backlash in the novel which paves the way for the present research for stitching the subject of revolutionary thrust in the spectrum of societal commodification of human and examined these issues through a close textual analysis applying Marxist theory of Reification and Commodification. The story *Sold* also suggests how marginalized class has established their agency to make their own decisions, to live dignified life.

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