

Tribhuvan University

Representation of Guilt Psychology and Healing in Redford's *Ordinary People*

**A Thesis Submitted to the Central Department of English
in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the
Degree of Master of Arts in English**

By

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September 2011

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Letter of Recommendation

Ms. Bindu Kala Rai has completed her thesis on “Representation of Guilt Psychology in Redford’s *Ordinary People*” under my supervision. She carried out this research paper from April 2011 to September 2011. I hereby recommend her thesis to be submitted for viva voce.

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Supervisor

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Tribhuvan University

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Letter of Approval

This is to certify that the thesis entitled “Guilt psychology and healing in Redford’s *Ordinary People*” submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University by Bindu Kala Rai has been approved by the undersigned members of the Research Committee.

Members of the Research Committee:

Internal Examiner

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Acknowledgements

I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to my research supervisor, Dr. Baikuntha Poudel, lecturer of Central Department of English T.U., for his scholarly guidance, fruitful suggestions, constructive comments, vibrating inspiration and essential materials. This wouldn't be a concrete thesis if there hadn't been his in-depth knowledge.

I am thankful to Dr. Amar Raj Joshi, the Head of Central Department of English, and towards all other teachers for their cooperation. I will forever be indebted to Versatile Group (Deep, Shobi, Jharna, Krishna and Buddhi) for their ever ready cooperation, genuine suggestion and for being around when I was in need. I owe my special thanks and gratitude to Mr. Rishi Chamling for his motivation and kind help. Likewise, I am thankful to friends, Bijay, Piyush, Jiwan, Jay, Mauliraj, Munni, Mamta, Manraj and for their helping hand.

I would like to express my special gratitude to my parents (Ganga pd. Rai and Shanta Kumari Rai) whose contribution can not be expressed in words. Without their kind concerns, it wouldn't be able to complete this research. I will forever be indebted to my family members, eldest sister Nara, elder brothers Chandra and Vijay, sister-in-law Muna and lovely neice Anu, who have contributed me in great deal for the accomplishment of this research paper. Besides these, I am really grateful to all of those who have co-operated me directly and indirectly.

Abstract

The movie *Ordinary people* is a 1980 American drama film that represents the contemporary problems most of the American middle class family and adolescent were facing. This movie deals with the aftermaths of an affluent middle class family's tragedy trying to return to normal life after the death of one elder teenage son, Buck, and the attempted suicide of their younger son, Conrad who lives under a cloud of surviving guilt psychology for not being able to save his brother in boat accident. He becomes the victim of psychological trauma who strives to restore the good health. Conrad's traumatic life and his struggle for healing is the main framework of the movie.

The director Robert Redford, through this movie, has presented himself in favor of aloof Conrad who has developed Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). By presenting Conrad he has artistically sketched the clear cut state of victim (psychological trauma) and also has recommended the treatment for healing, named psychotherapy which is very fruitful for victim of psychological trauma particularly PTSD.

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