

Tribhuvan University

Intersection of Racial and Sexual Tension in McMillan's *Waiting to Exhale*

A Thesis Submitted to the Central Department of English, T.U.

In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of

Master of Arts in English

By

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Letter of Recommendation

This thesis entitled, "Intersection of Racial and Sexual Tension in McMillan's *Waiting to Exhale*" has been prepared by Sunita Subedi under my supervision. I recommend this thesis to be submitted for the viva voce.

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Letter of Approval

The thesis entitled, "Intersection of Racial and Sexual Tension in McMillan *Waiting to Exhale*" submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University by Sunita Subedi has been approved by the undersigned members of research committee.

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Abstract

The present research in Terry McMillan's novel *Waiting to Exhale* deals with the negative impact of gender and race upon characters. It moves around the life of the four professional African American female characters, and their search for love, identity and empowerment. All these characters are guided by passion for finding "Mr. right" man in manmade society. These ladies are suffering from personal and professional life. They have to maintain their family and individual problems equally. Similarly, black male's imitation of white values is equally important aspect of the novel. John imbibes the culture and customs of whites in order to show the superiority of whites in him. His desires to send his children to the school run by whites, makes his family environment like that of white and later getting married with white girl clearly shows his imitative nature.

Contents

Acknowledgements

Abstract

I. Introduction to McMillan's *Waiting to Exhale* 1-11

II Race and Gender in *Waiting to Exhale* 12-28

III. Conclusion: Conflict and Resistance in the Life of Black People 29-30

Works Cited