

Tribhuvan University

Female subordination and resistance in Joan Barfoot's *Dancing in the Dark*

**A Thesis Submitted to the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Tribhuvan
University, in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of
Master of Arts in English**

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Letter of Approval

This thesis entitled, "Female subordination and resistance in Joan Barfoot's *Dancing in the Dark* " submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University, by Rajendra Kumar G. C. has been approved by the undersigned members of the research committee.

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Letter of Recommendation

Rajendra Kumar G. C. has completed his thesis "Female subordination and resistance in Joan Barfoot's *Dancing in the Dark*" under my supervision. He carried out this research from June 2013 to January 2014. I hereby recommend his thesis for viva voice.

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Khem Raj Khanal

Supervisor

Date.....

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Abstract

This thesis entitled "Female subordination and resistance in Joan Barfoot's *Dancing in the Dark*" explores the relationship between patriarchy and orthodox society, and the marginalized and objectified status of women in Canadian Community. This project shows how and why women become object of exploitation under the influence of conservative society which compels women to follow the traditional roles and duties that excludes females from important day to day activities. It also focuses on the female's realization of their pathetic condition and the sense of resistance against such dominating ideology. The females in Canadian Society are compelled to be used according to their husband's desire. They are subjected to physical and mental abuse in society. The protagonist of the novel, Edna Cormick lives her twenty years of life with her husband as a submissive wife. She denies the outer world by devoting herself to the health and welfare of her husband and home. But when she finds her husband neglecting her and having extra marital affair, she could not tolerate series of betrayal of her husband and kills him as a slap on the face of patriarchy.

Contents

	Page No.
Acknowledgements	
Abstract	
i. Joan Barfoot and the Feminist Approach to the Novel	1-12
ii. Female subordination and resistance in <i>Dancing in the Dark</i>	13-38
iii. Female Consciousness for Self Autonomy in <i>Dancing in the Dark</i> .	39-40
Works Cited	