

Tribhuvan University

Masculinity in Crisis in Churchill's *Cloud Nine* and Highway's *Dry Lips Oughta*

Move to Kapuskasing

A Thesis submitted to the Central Department of English in the Partial

Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of

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Letter of Recommendation

This thesis entitled, “Masculinity in Crisis in Churchill’s *Cloud Nine* and Highway’s *Dry Lips Oughta Move to Kapuskasing*” has been prepared by Mr. Shyam Prasad Bhurtel under my supervision. I recommend this thesis to be submitted for the viva voce.

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Abstract

This dissertation on Churchill's *Cloud Nine* and Highway's *Dry Lips Oughta Move to Kapuskasing* exposes the traditional notions of masculinity on the verge of crisis. The crisis of masculinity implies the breakdown of heterosexism and the decline of men's power, authority and conventional masculine roles. The male characters, in both plays, involve in household activities and homosexuality, lose economic power, and fail to perform conventional masculine roles. Female characters, on the other hand, take previously male functions and enter into the mainstream of life outside the home and become more rational, and psychologically and intellectually confident and competent. The protected status of male masculinity was considered single, unified and coherent gender identity constructed from a range of socio-cultural possibilities. Because of the recent emergence of new gender and sexual identity, and alternative masculinities the notions of white hegemonic masculinity is subverted and new gender, racial, sexual and ethnic identity is constructed.

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