

TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY

Treatment of Homosexuality: A Comparative Study of Tennessee Williams' *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* and Tony Kushner's *Angels in America* (Part-1)

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

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June, 2007**

Tribhuvan University
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Letter of Approval

This thesis entitled **Treatment of Homosexuality: A Comparative Study of Tennessee Williams' *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* and Tony Kushner's *Angels in America (Part-1)*** by Kapil P. Chetri has been submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University. It has been approved by the undersigned members of the Research Committee.

Members of the Research Committee:

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Abstract

Brick Pollitt and Prior Walter are treated as social pariah within their own societies. Tennessee Williams' *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* and Tony Kushner's *Angels in America* show how homosexuals like Brick and Prior are treated as social outcasts and their individual identities in crisis. The play sheds light on Brick's emotional and psychological disturbance. His internalized homophobia does not let him speak openly about his relationship with Skipper, where others view his homosexuality as 'suspect'. Brick is in a position when he can neither accept nor deny his intimate relationship with Skipper. Prior Walter is open about his relationship with Louis. Prior has been infected with AIDS and this new found infection is taken as a disease of the homosexuals acquired as a result of their sinful sexual activities. The American society was not willing to accept the possibility of different sexuality and gender identity of a person. This research tries to explore how homosexuals are treated as social pariahs by the people who follow the norms and standards of the mainstream. No sexual identity is inferior or superior in itself.

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