

BA in English
Course Title: History of English Literature
Course Code: ENG-418

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Ans to the Q.no.02

Title: Sociological Issues in Oscar Wilde's Play "The Ideal Husband".

Introduction:

Oscar Wilde's play, "The Ideal Husband," explores various sociological issues predominant in Victorian society. Through clever exchange, multifaceted unexpected developments, and interesting characters, Wilde exposes the hidden hypocrisy and moral twofold standards of the time. This essay will dive into the sociological issues Wilde raises in **"The Ideal Husband," focusing on themes of social class, gender roles, marriage, and corruption.**

Social Class:

One of the essential sociological issues addressed in "The Ideal Husband" is the unbending class structure of Victorian society. Wilde reveals how social status and abundance were profoundly interwoven with power and impact. The play's characters, such as Sir Robert Chilton and Ruler Gutting, explore their lives with a constant awareness of the significance of keeping up with their social position and appearance.

Wilde criticizes the privileged societies of privileged society by exposing the masks individuals make to conceal their flaws. He challenges that one's social class determines one's ethical person and argues that elites frequently conceal their corruption behind a facade of respectability.

Gender roles:

Wilde also explores the restrictive gender roles imposed on ladies in Victorian times. Woman Chiltern, Gertrude and Mabel are depicted as strong-willed and free characters who challenge customary gender norms. They strive for independence and assert their own desires and ambitions.

Through the personality of Mrs. Chieveley, Wilde illustrates the restricted options accessible to ladies who sought power and impact in a male-overwhelmed society. Mrs. Cheverly resorts to control and double dealing, emphasizing the social constraints that push ladies into strange ways of asserting themselves.

Marriage:

Marriage, as a social institution, is another significant aspect of the "ideal husband". Wilde criticizes the possibility of marriage as an agreement based on societal expectations rather than certified love and companionship. The play questions the profound quality of individuals who wed for social progression rather than close to home association.

The strained marriage between Sir Robert and Woman Chilton reflects the consequences of secrecy and double-crossing in a conjugal relationship. Wilde suggests that a marriage based on misdirection and pretense can't flourish and reveals the harmful effects of social pressure on the institution of marriage.

Corruption:

Wilde highlights the corruption predominant among the political and social elites of Victorian society. Through the personality of Mrs. Chieveley, she reveals the unscrupulous idea of those in positions of force. Mrs. Chieveley's extortion and Sir Robert Chiltern's manipulations not just demonstrate the depths to which individuals will sink for personal increase yet serve as a wide editorial on the ethical rot inside society.

Wilde challenges that abundance and impact consequently equivalent moral superiority. He suggests that corruption can saturate all levels of society and that genuine ideals should not be resolved solely by one's social status or monetary status.

Conclusion:

In "The Ideal Husband," Oscar Wilde discusses the sociological issues of his time, uncovering the hypocrisy, gender imbalance, and moral corruption pervasive in Victorian society. Through his depiction of complicated characters and their interactions, he challenges established social norms and calls for a reexamination of the values whereupon society is fabricated.

Wilde's play serves as a constant investigation of social structures and provides insights into the human condition that are still pertinent today. Analyzing social class, gender roles, marriage, and corruption, "The Ideal Husband" prompts us to ponder our own society and consider how these issues keep on shaping our lives. It serves as an update that the pursuit of real human association and moral respectability will beat shallow appearances and societal expectations.

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