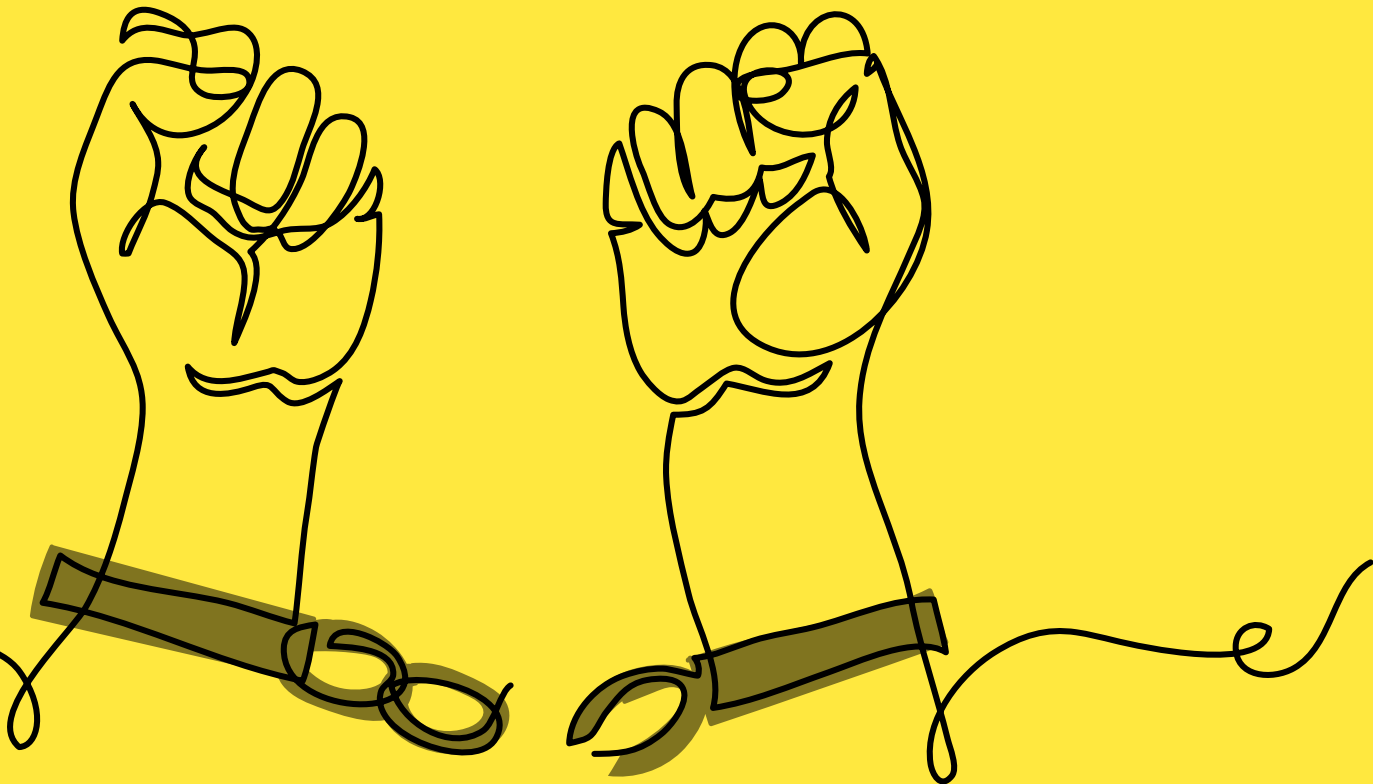


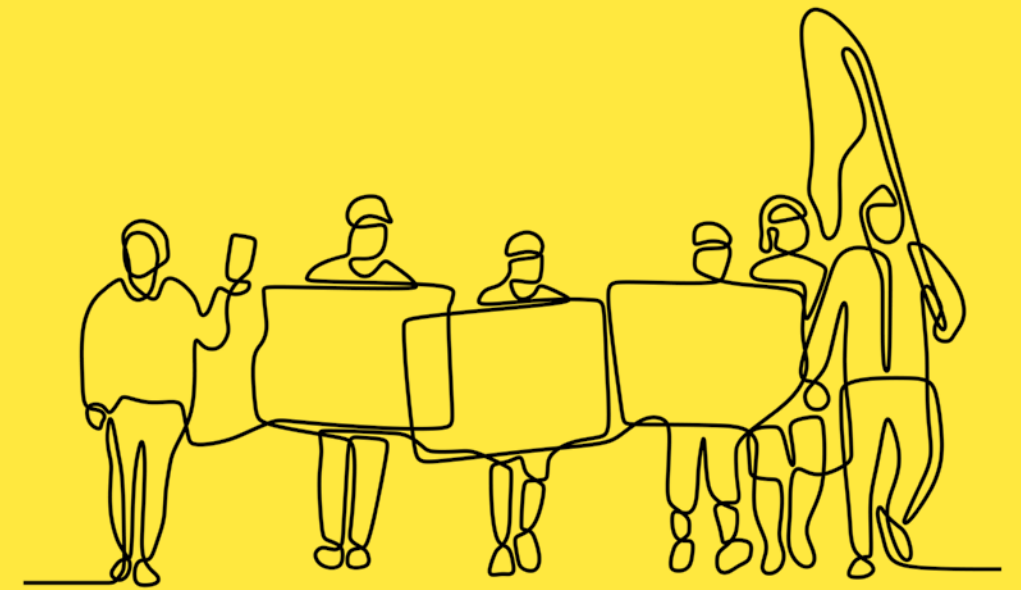
Who Controls The World?

*International Community
High School 12th Grade Authors*



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Behind the Book / New York

Behind the Book's mission is to develop engaged readers and writers in underserved NYC public schools by designing and delivering programs that are multi-disciplinary, culturally responsive, and promote deeper connections to books and their authors.

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Behind the Book

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Due to COVID all Behind the Book programs were provided virtually. We recognize and appreciate our teachers and students for persevering during this very challenging time.

In the interest of honoring student voice, Behind the Book presents students' work as received from the teacher.

This book was made possible by a generous grant from The Korein Foundation.

This book is dedicated to Class 2021.

*We all have to take the life train,
sometimes it takes longer to get to your stop,
but as long as you are on your way,
just call to let LIFE know you're late.*

We are characterized by being...

*one generation + incredible teachers ×
their creativity together =
A book full of diversity and creativity!*

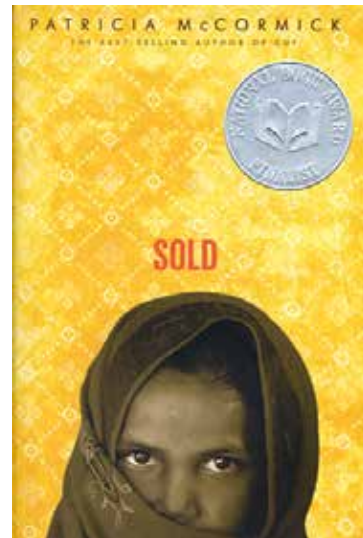


About the Program

Humans are complicated beings. We are influenced by many factors. The seniors in Ms. Akilah’s classes began exploring how race, gender, and economic systems influence beliefs and assumptions when trying to understand both society and individuals.

Students began with a discussion of why so much inequality exists in the world. They offered gender, capitalism, racism, class, education, religion, nationality, and patriarchy as major categories that have contributed to inequality. By examining these critically, people can challenge the power structures that keep people oppressed and can work toward a more just and equal society.

Patricia McCormick, author of the book *Sold*, visited the classes to talk about the sex trade and human trafficking. *Sold* depicts the life of a young Nepalese girl sold into the sex trade as a result of poverty, limited opportunities for girls, and lack of education. She shared how her book exposed many realities of the sex trade and led to increased efforts to protect and help young girls worldwide from being trafficked or sold into the sex trade.



Students chose a non-fiction text or character and, with the help of volunteers, wrote about the content through the lens of one of the critical theories discussed. They then expressed their understanding of these critical theories through artwork. They created symbolic paper sculptures based on demonstrations by Behind the Book teaching artist, Candice Humphries.

This book demonstrates our deeper understanding of how many factors influence people’s beliefs and assumptions and how inequalities will continue to exist unless we challenge incorrect beliefs and assumptions. We hope you will consider how race, gender, and economic systems affect all aspects of our lives.

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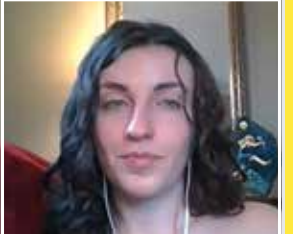
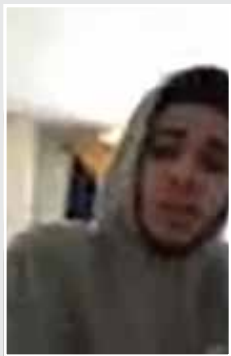


Crews 1 & 2



EXPLICIT UNDERSTANDINGS: What we know

 Mrs. Dubose, <i>To Kill A Mockingbird</i>	 Lakshmi, <i>Sold</i>
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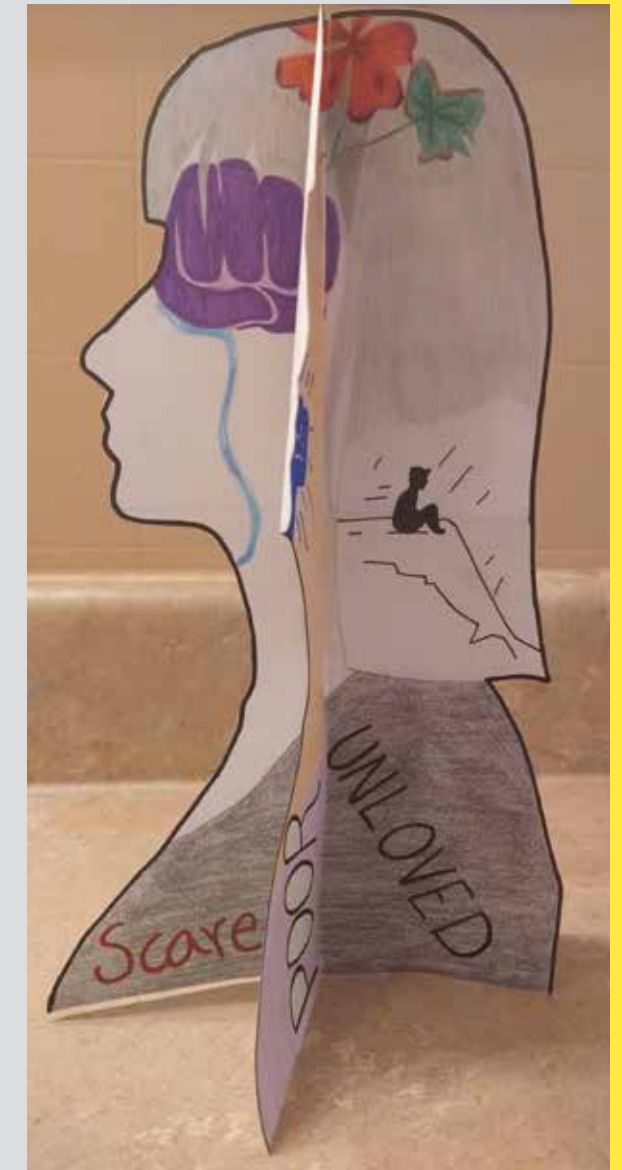


Elda

Mayella Ewell is a young white girl, known in Maycomb for being Bob Ewell's daughter. After her mother died Mayella had to replace her as the woman of the house. During the court scene is revealed that Mayella falsely accused Tom Robinson of having sexually abused her. She didn't have any proof of that more than just her testimony, which was later contradicted by Tom Robinson's, who claimed that Mayella tried to forcefully kiss him but he resisted her and did nothing to her. Despite this, in the end, he was still found guilty and was killed. Feminist Critical Theory helps us understand that having to follow traditional gender roles influenced Mayella's actions. During the court scene, in subtle ways, we learn that Mayella is abused physically and sexually by her father. The first hint is when she is asked if it's

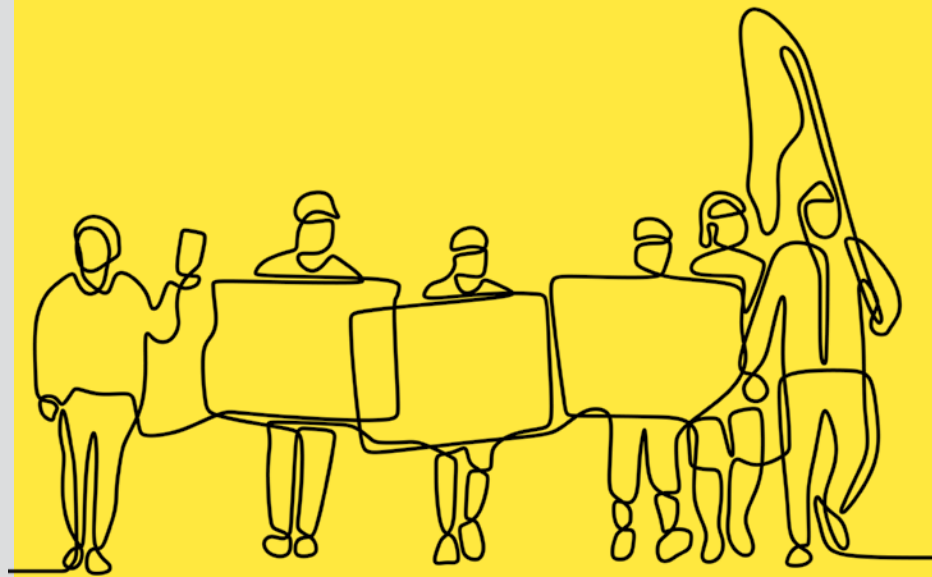
easy to get along with her father, she answers "He is tollable, 'cept whe-" and kept silent. And the second hint is given to us by Tom during his testimony when he said "she says what her papa do to her don't count." We also know she doesn't have much education and that she has no friends. Therefore she clearly has a miserable life and no one seems to care about her. But Tom Robinswwon was the only person to show her some decency by helping her with some of her chores without receiving a penny. And he was willing to help her every time she asked. And thinking about the type of environment she lives in probably she is someone needing love and kindness. And Tom showed her some kindness, but Mayella mistook it for love when Tom just felt sorry for her. And probably she wanted to have something good for

the first time in her life. So she made and carried out a plan to have what she was lacking, but things didn't go as she planned and her father saw the moment she kissed Tom Robinson. And thinking about the time she lives in, for a woman to try to tempt a man is very shameful and it was even worse because Mayella is a white woman and Tom is a black man. And so not having the power to get out of her situation because she has to fulfill the role of a mother for her siblings, practically being stuck with an abusive father in a house where probably she doesn't receive the respect she wants. And probably her father forced her to make up a false rape story after he had beat her up when she got discovered. So she agreed to condemn Tom Robinson to death.



Kate

Uncle-Husband is selfish and he just think about his benefiting himself and money. For instance, in the scene where Uncle- Husband and Laksmin are going to cross the border. Before arriving Uncle-Husband told Laskmin to call him Husband so the military would not stop them at the border. Uncle-Husband spoke language Laksmin could not understand. He and Mumtaz wanted to exchange Laksmin for money. This is a good benefit for both of them because Uncle-Husband will had his money and Mumtaz could had another girl in his brothel to get more money for her.



Lismar

Lakshmi *hun*. The way Lakshmi acts is so naive, so innocent to understand what Bajai Sita was really trying to say, when Bajai Sita is talking to her and asking her if she wants to become a "City Girl" so she could have everything Bajai Sita had to help at home with the money she was going to own. So what Lakshmi says is that she does want to be a "City Girl." The way the other characters think of Lakshmi is her being a little young girl who is not capable of predicting what was really going on in her life. The way they respond to this character es engaňando la by lying to her during the whole process of her life changing. The Critical Theory that might help us to understand the behavior of this scene is Feminist

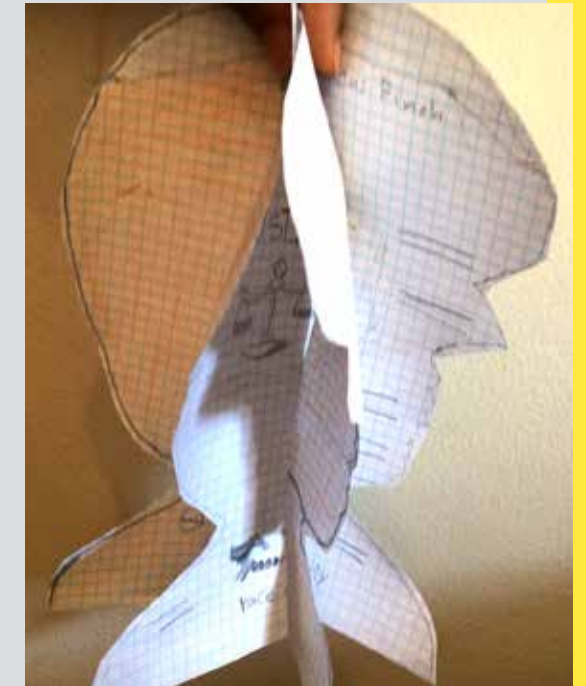
Critical Theory. The ideas that this Feminist Critical Theory has is internalize and internalization which is when certain beliefs become part of your nature and belief system like a tradition or a culture "thing." Where I use the Feminist Critical theory is when Bajai Sita ask Lakshmi if she wants to be a "City Girl," what it helps me to have a different point of view about the character of how internalize and internalization connects to Lakshmi in the sense of how women are made by culture and tradition, it was a culture or a tradición for women from her country for a girl to become a "City girl" to have "Everything they want" or what Bajai Sita had, or to have money.

Mamadou

Atticus Finch is a gentleman and a lawyer. He is one of the best and honest lawyers in Maycomb. He treats everyone in Maycomb equally; it doesn't matter if you are black or white. This is an example of Critical Race Theory because it shows that Atticus is one of those few people who was against slavery at that time. As a lawyer Atticus realized that black people deserve justice and freedom. That is why he decided to defend Tom Robinson because he knew that he was accused of raping Mayella Ewell because he was black and at that time there was no justice for black people. Whatever a white person says a black person did stayed forever. Because they were helpless and powerless. However Atticus, Bob Ewell (Mayella Ewell's father) and Tom Robinson knew who was the rapist. It was her own father that raped her. However it would have been a disgrace to her family if she tells that to the people of Maycomb.



So he decided to take her anger and shame on a typical innocent black man to make herself feel better. Therefore, she will carry that burden with her forever for accusing Tom Robinson about raping her and not telling the world it was actually her father.



Darwins

In *Sold* the stepfather was a gambler who only cares about money and himself. He sold his stepdaughter to a brothel so he can get money. He was a selfish and uncaring man. When we use Marxist Critical theory we can see that money drives people. All he wanted was money and the little girl wasn't his biological daughter so didn't mind selling her to a new "family". And if we also look on the feminism side we can see what he thinks about women. He consciously used her because he saw himself as dominant and didn't care less.



Thierno

Ama, mother of two children from different fathers, was living in a very landlocked village in Nepal, in a civilization where having a child for women is seen as instinct. These two children are what all matter to her as a working-class mother with not much support from her husband. She is doing all she can to raise her children with love and compassion. The desire to give them a better future leads her to commit a big mistake, may be the biggest in her life, by giving her agreement for her 13 year

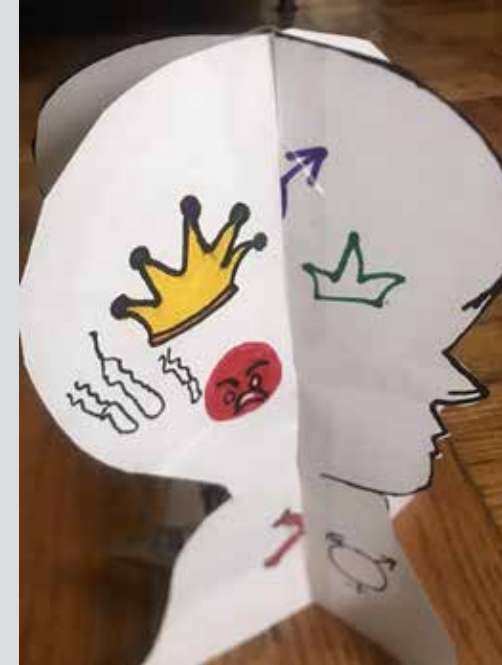
old daughter to go to a strange town under the pretext to work as a maid. However we learn from Feminist Critical Theory that this naivety is the result of society's beliefs, she is stuck in this society where women's fate is already decided by the environment. No decision and no idea from women can be taken into account. The same causes always produce same consequences meaning that she could act differently in a different environment.

Syed Tareq

The character I chose is Mumtaz, who is the owner of a brothel. She gives ruthless punishments to the new girls such as locking girls up for weeks, beating and starving them, as well as punishing any girls who try to escape or receive gifts from customers. Mumtaz acts like a boss who has control over the others who work in the brothel. Besides she ordered them and beat them physically. She is superior here. The other characters think of Mumtaz as the owner of the Happiness House and she buys them from others. She is superior and also she has the power to order them to do work as long as they have a debt. They are not to Mumtaz at the beginning when they came here, but when the character tortures them and gives them that hope if they finished their debt they will maybe free to leave that time. For that reason, they work for her but they are always scared of Mumtaz. Marxist Critical Theory

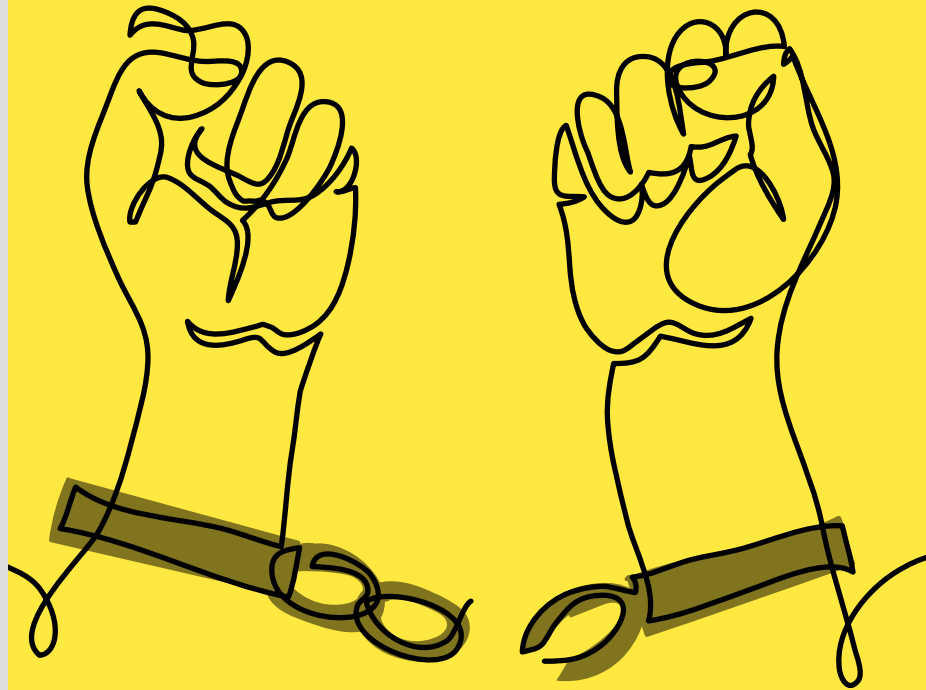
might help us to understand her behavior also those who (all girls) work for her in the Happiness House. Marxist Critical Theory is about two classes of people known as Bourgeoisie, those who control the wealth and the resources and Proletariat, the people who are low class and work hard for Bourgeoisie people for their living focusing on race, gender but not the socioeconomic system. The thing that helps me to see and understand this character is their behavior and how they treat others. All the bourgeoisie own something and control that. Like Mumtaz, she has her brothel and those girls are working for her. They also have a hope that if they finish their debt then they can be released from here. But Mumtaz charges them their eating cost, living cost, and all necessary things that they are using there. At a point, as much money they are earning each day will disappear because of those bills. So they will not

be released by working here and Mumtaz makes a cycle by buying them and continuing. Because each day how much they are earning Mumtaz charges them for basic needs. So the debt will be the same as the beginning. It's true for all bourgeoisie and they are creating chains that could help themselves and become controllers to the proletariat. I will say to view this character a reader needs to consider their behavior, how they act with others. Most of them think they are superior which is called bourgeoisie and they also have power. Additionally, we need to consider their position, what kind of people such as most of those people have a better relationship with politics or other government employees who can give them support, like as for Mumtaz the police give her protection to maintain this prostitution. For that, those government workers also get benefits.



Armi

Ama is a very traditional mother from Nepal. Her husband treat her like a maid and not like his wife, however in that country (Nepal) machismo is predominant because the wife has to do everything for the husband without excuses, for example the wife has to clean and cook and serve the husband's food and wait for him to eat before she can start eating, it is forbidden for her to eat with him or before him, it always has to be after he finishes. However this traditional gender role she has to accept it because she grow up with that vision of a women life, but for me that is a very Feminist Critical Theory look on this character. For now people in Nepal are still living with that kind of tradition but I hope in the future that can change and women can be respect and be treated the way they need to be treated.



Fatimata

Scout is a young girl who lives with her family, she is very intelligent, compassionate, and courageous. At the beginning of the novel, Scout was naive, curious, and a bit of a tomboy. When her classmate Walter came to her house, she bullied him, she said " what in the sam hill are you doing" as he poured out the syrup all over the food. However when we use Feminist Critical Theory to look at this character, we see that her behavior is not what a society expect a women to be, she fight boys without no fear, she want to discover everything even

though she will end up with a dangerous situation. In the 1930s women's key purpose was to look for a husband, give birth and take care of their husbands throughout their entire lives. ... Women were not supposed to divorce they were expected to live with their husbands even if it meant to live in miserable marriage. However these traditional gender roles didn't represent her. She is very rebellious and intelligent. Wearing pants, Scout did boyish things such as play with her brother and Dill and even get into physical fist fights.

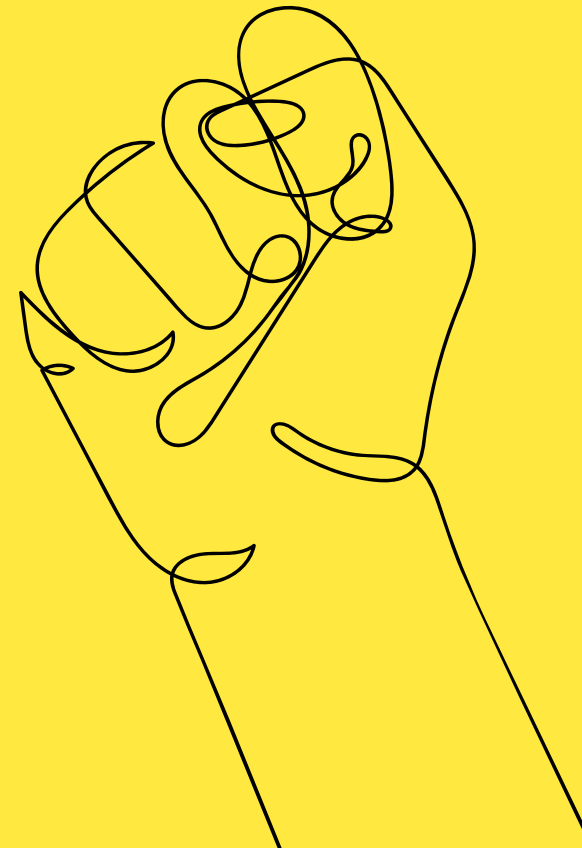
Maimouna

Lakshmi! a gullible, naïve and uneducated young girl that was driven into the world of prostitution. She was never engaged in sexual activity however after being brought to india she was forced to be engaged in such things. She didn't like this and wanted to go back home even though the situation at home was almost the same, but it was not that easy. Mumtaz the owner of the brothel where she is brought to lies and manipulates Lakshmi because she wants her to cooperate and make money for the brothel. Lakshmi believes and is hopeful that if she saves money she can buy her freedom. In Nepal and India women are treated like property, and can be bought and sold, and they have no human rights. If we use the feminist critical theory to describe this character, we can say that Lakshmi and many other girls were

in this situation because it was accepted in their society, was a normalisation for parents to force their children to engage in these types of things, it was a way for them to earn money. This was only wrong to those who think it is not right. Lakshmi didn't want to represent these traditional gender roles but still had to be engaged. Men can do whatever they want with women because they do not see them as equal. For example, Lakshmi stepfather tells her that she is useless and of no value unless she earns money or gets married to a man with money. Also her mother explains to her what teenagers in society should do and what you need to do for your husband once you get married. This is another traditional gender role for women in their society and it seems like they were living up to the society expectation.

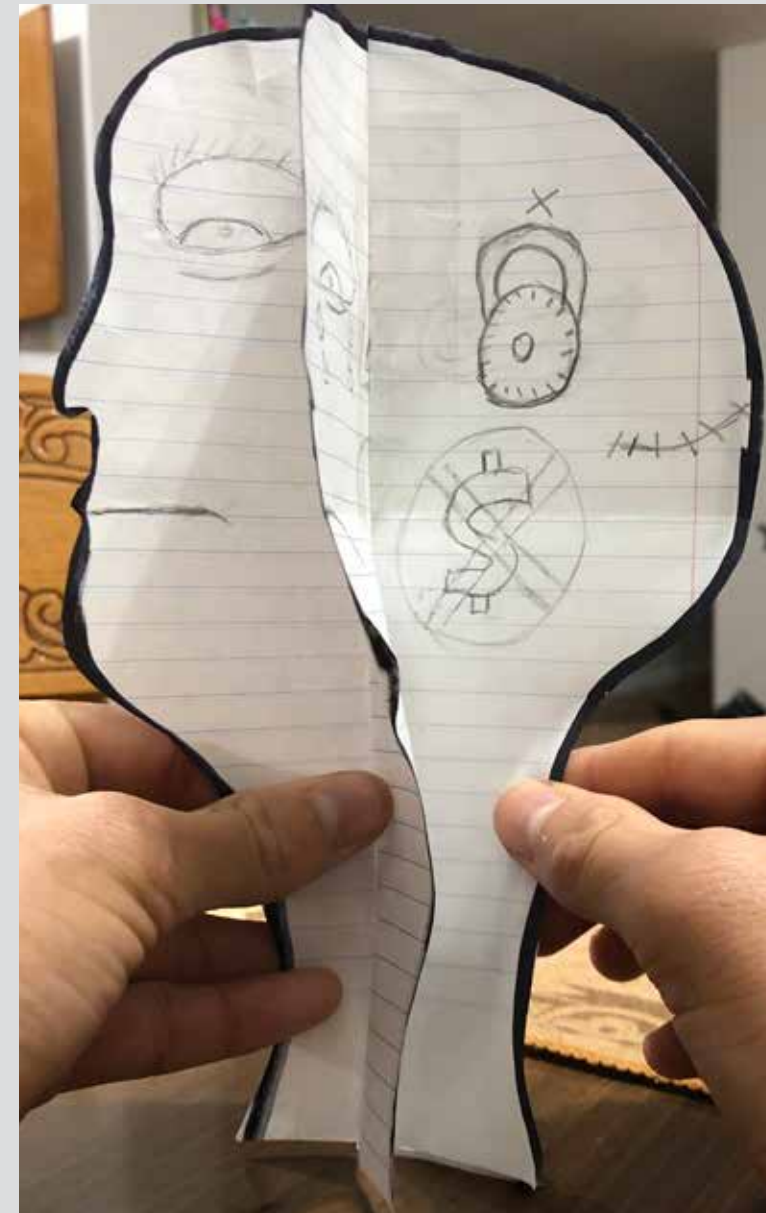
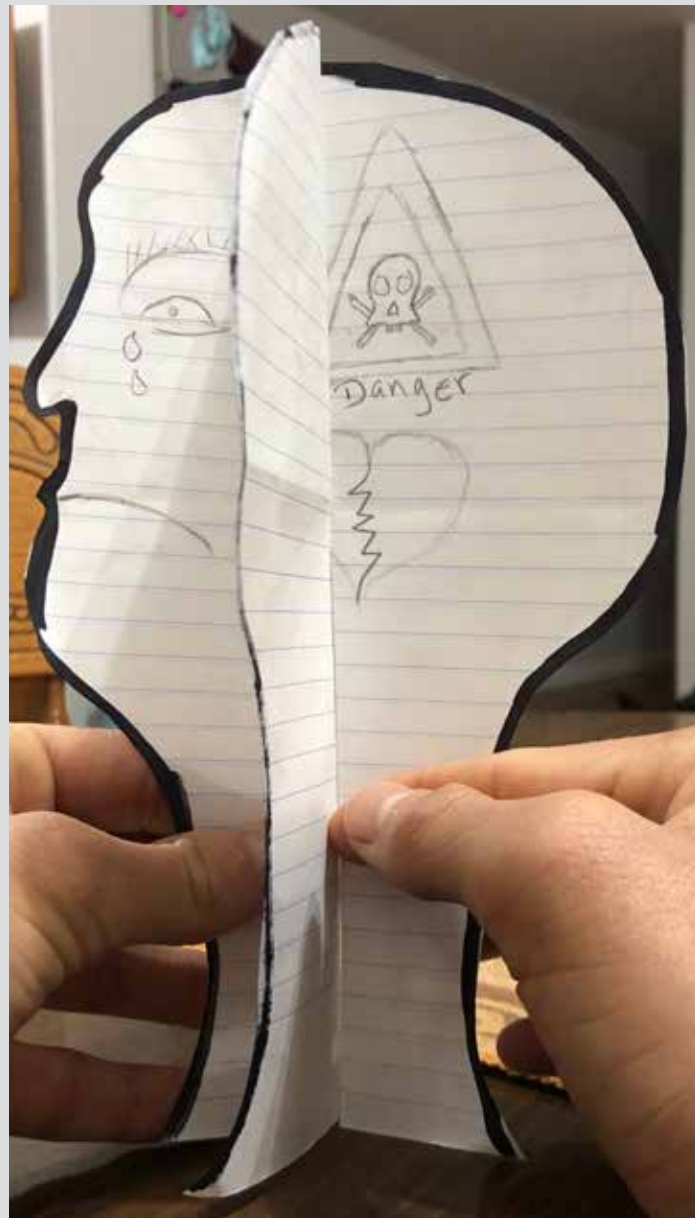
Edward

Atticus Finch is a very nice man. He gets well with almost everybody and also gives back to the people in need and he is a lawyer everybody used to greet him and say thank you for what they did for them. However when we use Critical RaceTheory he was called to defend a African American man that was a very racial case he was put on a tough spot. Atticus Finch had to defend Tom Robinson as the name of the man that's being accused of hitting a woman. At that time people were racist not all but a lot of people and Atticus was getting bad looks and bad comments for defending an African American man. And at the end of the case Tom Robinson was found guilty but he was not guilty. The guilty one was the dad of the woman the dad; he hit her but since the court didn't want to look bad they blamed Tom.



Guillelly

Lakshmi is a young, poor girl who likes to study. She does not have the same rights as men. Uncle Husband took Lakshmi to Mumtaz's house to sell her as a sex slave. At Mumtaz's house, Lakshmi was manipulated. They put make-up on her so she would look older than 13 years old. In Nepal, women do not have the same rights as men. In Nepal, women do not have the same rights as men. In Nepal, when we use Feminist Critical Theory we see that sexism exists. Women are treated poorly and discriminated against. And that men feel superior to than women and do not respect her for being weak.



Waldyn

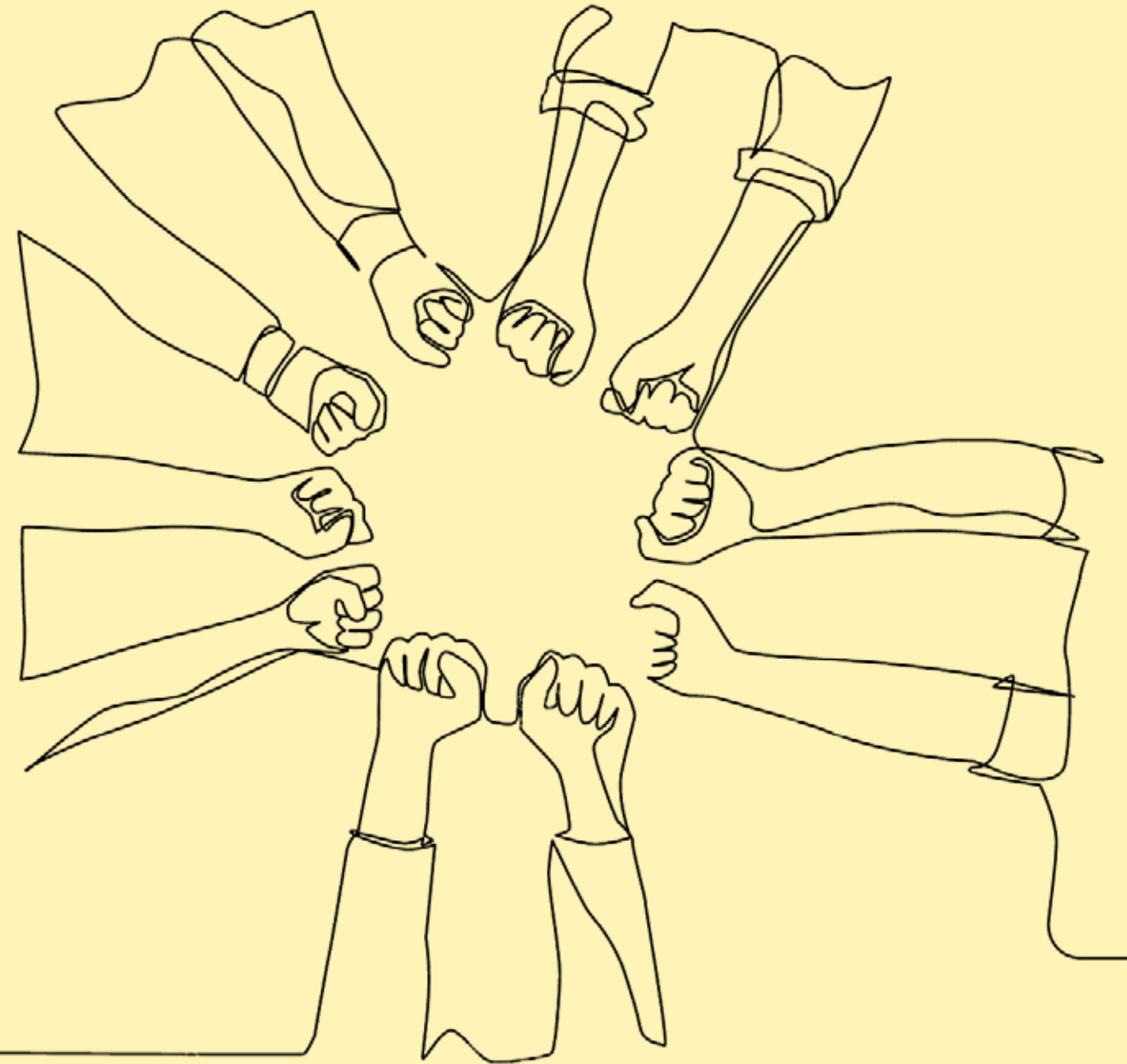
Lakshmi is a 13-year-old girl who lives with her family in a small hut in Nepal. Her family is very poor, but her life is full of simple things, like raising her black and white spotted goat and having her mother brush her hair by the light of an oil lamp. But now that the harsh monsoons in the Himalayas are taking away all that remains of the family's crops, a stranger told Lakshmi to seek work as a servant in the home of a wealthy village, which is not expected of girls. . is that they have sold it for prostitution.



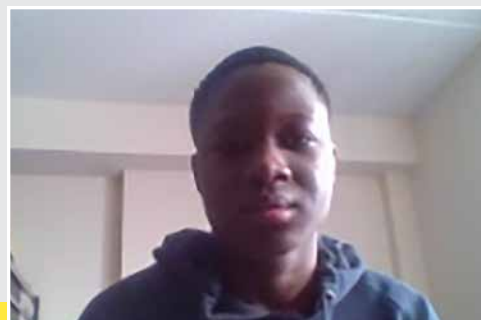
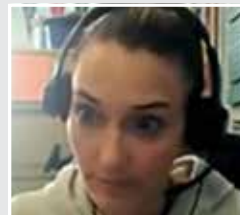
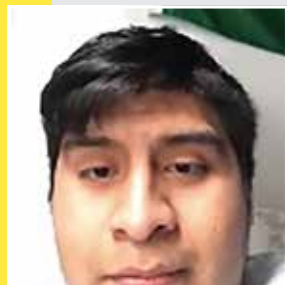
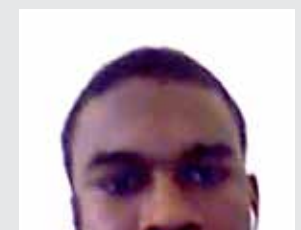
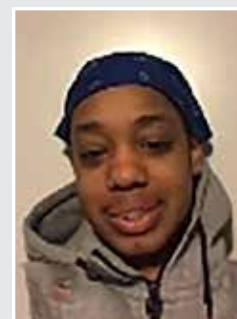
Pollob

Shahanna is from Lakshmi's country and helps Lakshmi get accustomed to her new life. They didn't really want to do that job but Society pushes them and forces them to do that. In the novel, Shahanna and Lakshmi become best friends, sticking together to survive Mumtaz's wrath. Shahanna is a nice girl. She really becomes helpful when Lakshmi needs her the most and tells her what she really needs to do to survive Mumtaz's wrath. How do they respond to this character? I would say Shahanna is a nice person and helps someone who comes from her country and from the same city to help her to survive. I would say Feminist Critical Theory because it tells us that Shahanna and Lakshmi's life get hell'. Because of society Shahanna and Lakshmi couldn't do anything to

help them to get out of that situation. The belief that women are naturally inferior to men. That shows that women are just made for men. They don't have any freedom, they can't enjoy their life the way they want. When I see Critical Theory it just helps me to understand that society did not give any power to women. Women always listen to their parents or their future husband make decisions they don't have much freedom. Shahanna teaches Lakshmi to be obedient in the brothel because Lakshmi needs to learn this to survive in that place. Shahanna teaches Lakshmi because Shahanna already went through this situation so she is just helping Lakshmi to know whatever happens in that place and what Lakshmi needs to do with the customer.



Crews 3 & 4

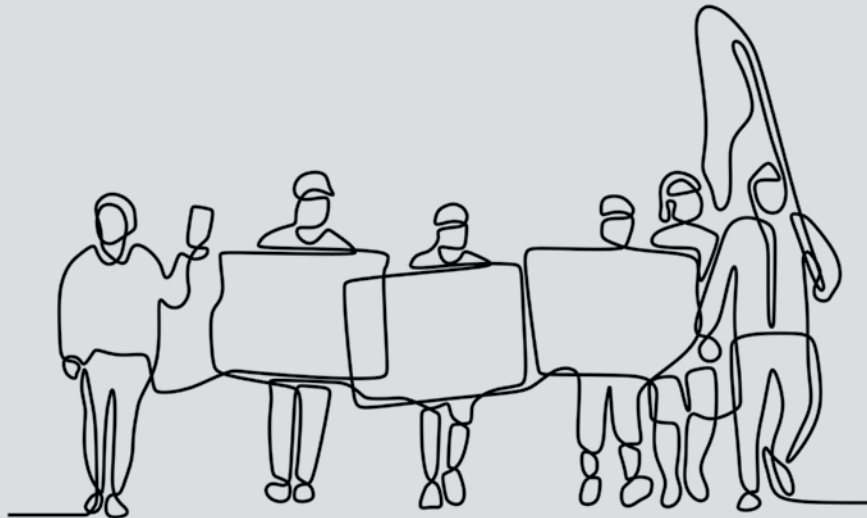


Huda

Mr. Tom Robinson is a young, right-handed black man. The whites accused him of assaulting a white girl they also wanted to kill him, but he was calm and desperate. He has a wife and children, and has no chance to do that as a black. Because in the fictional town of Maycomb, Alabama, during the Great Depression (1929–39) in

this time blacks were seen as not good enough, stupid and not right. When we use Critical Race Theory to look at this personality, we see that the behavior is shaped by the time and place he lives in. As a black he is supposed to get his rights as any one, but the white use racism against the black people.. Tom is one of the "mockingbirds" in the

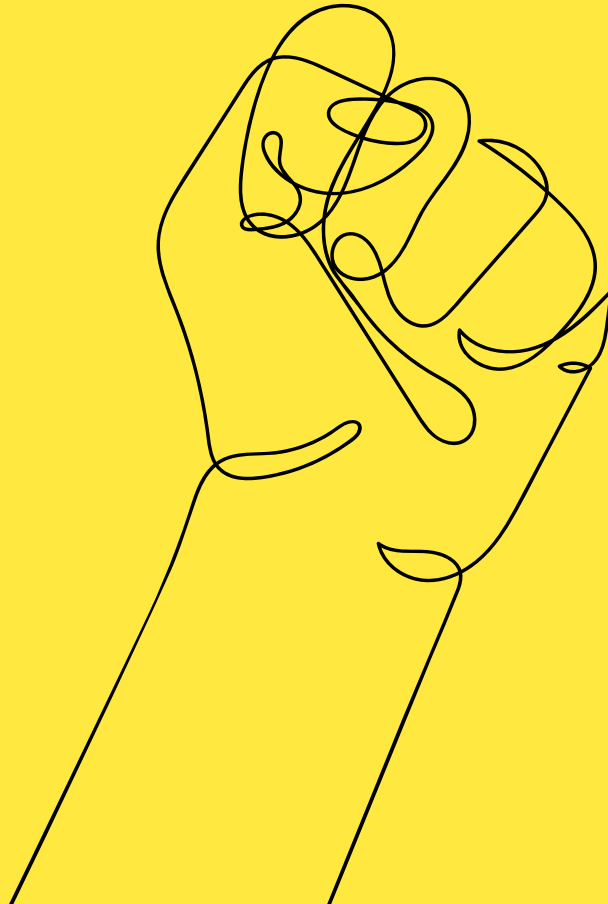
novel, an important symbol of innocence destroyed by evil. This shows how more white people had racism. However, there was a white lawyer who was supporting him because he knew the truth. It Didn't matter to the other whites to know the truth because he was a black color and that made him guilty.



Isatou

The name of the theory is Marxist Critical Theory.

It say cause inequality in the world is money because some people have much but some people have little bit. Classism: Some people believe that if you are poor is your fault or they judge you the way you look or because you lazy. But people need to understand one thing in this world everybody cannot be equal for the situation. In my opinion the way is people have different situation.



Gumersindo

Marxist Critical Theory says the cause of inequality is because there are different types of social classes in the world, there are upper class, middle class and lower class people that make the world. Proletariat is defined as working class people or people who do hard work for money. The people in a society who have regular jobs and earn a living contrary to the low class or it are a clear example of the proletariat are classes of citizens who have no property.

Feminist Critical Theory focuses on issues of power and seeks to explain the origins and consequences of gender relations, especially those that privilege men. Patriarchy is any culture that privileges men by promoting traditional gender roles. Men assuming that women are less competent. Some examples are men excluding women from "Men's" events such as businesses or recreational activities like golf.

Abdou

Mumtaz is an egoistic character from the book "Sold" because of the fact that she only cares for the girls when her interests are at play. She gave Lakshmi a medicine when she was sick not because she cared about her. Rather, she knew she would lose money if Lakshmi died. Other characters such as Monica and Lakshmi are easily intimidated by her. Though their respect to her is slim, they do not express it in front of her. These characters do their best to not get in bad terms with her even though that would be normal.

Marxist Critical Theory helps me understand that she thinks she can control other people because of the fact that she has enough money to pay for them just like the bourgeoisie is treated respectfully by the proletariat because the latter would like to be supported financially. She is expecting submission from other people because she knows she

has enough money to be considered a bourgeois by their standards and it helped her buy them. Now, when you pay for a product you expect it to have a certain value. That product has to bring something significant for you because you feel you have worked hard to get the money to buy it. What makes it even worse for the girl is that Mumtaz is the kind of person who has high expectations. So, she would go as far as trying to get from her products (the girls in this case), more than the revenue a normal person would expect. Plus, when a product is bringing big gains to the table, you normally wouldn't want to get rid of it.

A reader should know that Mumtaz is just like the normal human but with high expectations and a sense of egotism. Look at things from this perspective: wouldn't you demand refunds for a broken material you bought at a store? Mumtaz would do that. However, if she gives the girls away she is

surely not getting her money back from Uncle Husband because he wouldn't get his money back from Auntie who also wouldn't get hers from the stepfather. At the end of the day, Mumtaz is just running her business and she invested money in order to get something out of it. But what about the part where she wouldn't let Lakshmi leave even after she made enough money to buy her freedom? Well, like all business owners, Mumtaz is also looking to make profit; she didn't just spend her money to end up with the same amount. But she is only wrong in one thing (at least from the perspective of business): When she told Lakshmi she also had to pay up for the medicines she took. When you buy a product, it is your responsibility to take care of it after you use it because you're the one who will benefit from it. Imagine not cleaning your apartment then complaining to the landlord about cockroaches.

Cristian

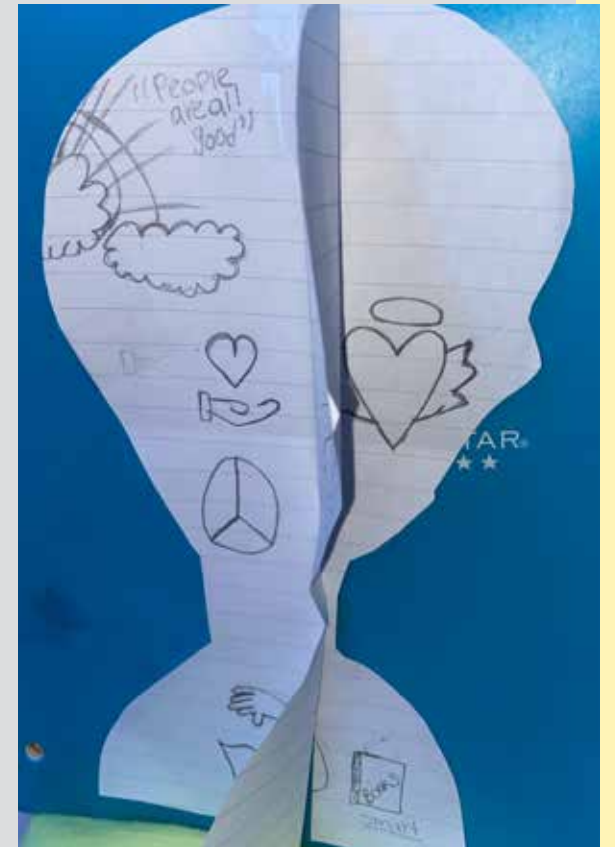
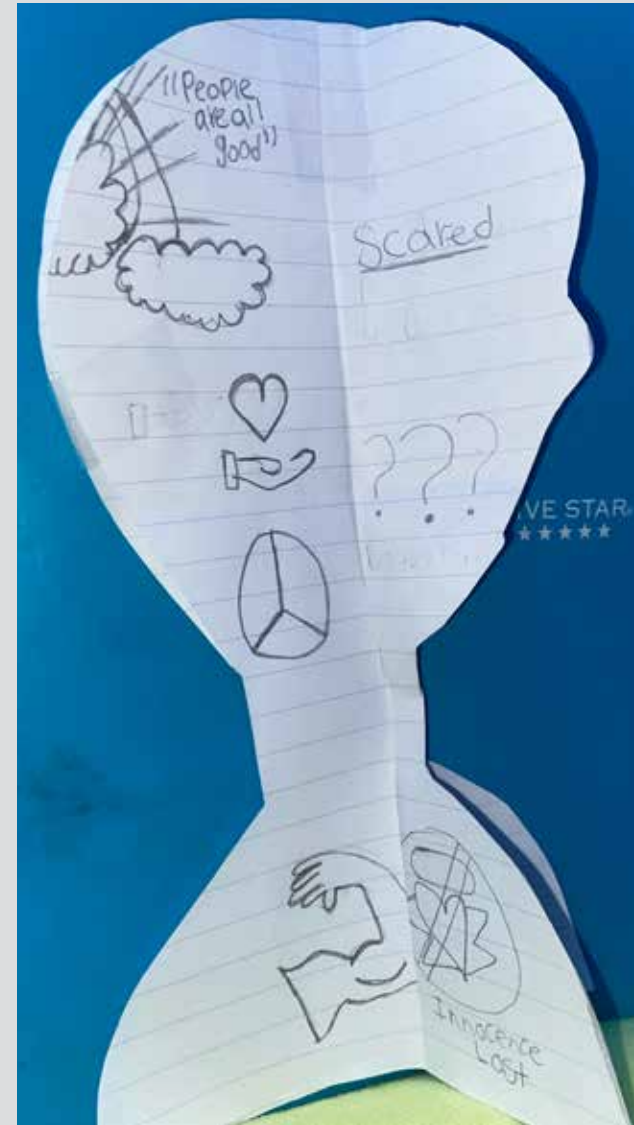


Chantal

Scout Finch is an unusual little girl. She is very intelligent and very confident for her age and she is very thoughtful of others, she only believed there was only good in people. She was judged by her Aunt for never dressing like "a lady should" in Southern Maycomb. Most of the other characters, such as Atticus, did not care or mind that she dressed like a tomboy, they loved her regardless. But her Aunt Alexandra did not like the way Scout dressed because

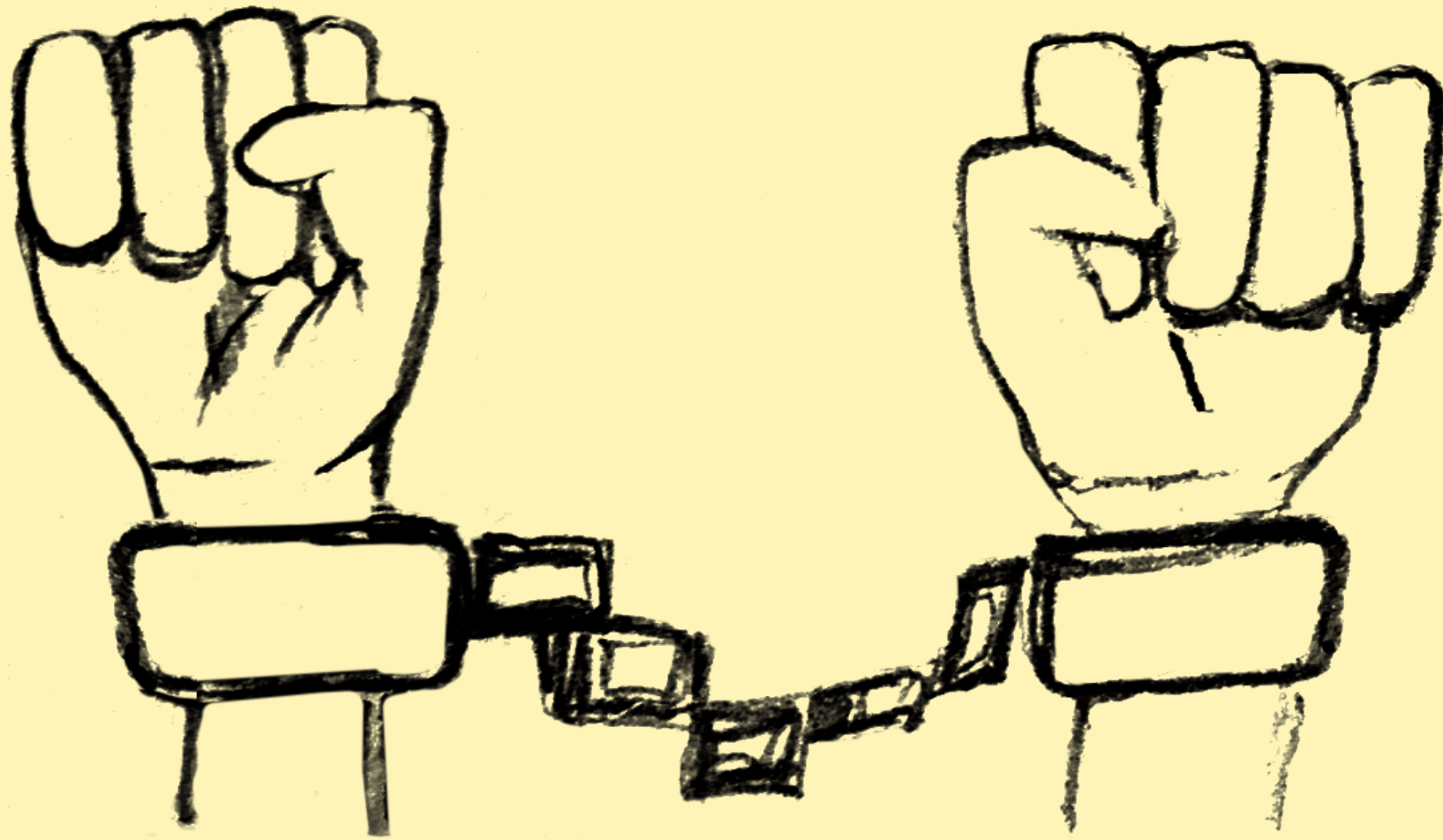
she always said to Scout that a young lady only should wear dresses, that a lady does not require pants. However, when you use Feminist Critical Theory to look at this character, we see that her behavior is shaped by the place and the time she lives in. As a white Southern little girl, living in the 1930s US South, she was expected to wear a proper dress all the time and learning manners like the other girls. But, these traditional gender roles did not represent Scout,

especially when she learns to climb trees with Jim and Dill, instead of being with the other girls. Scout did not live up to society's expectations, she was raised by her father, Atticus, to not care about what she can or can't wear because she is a girl. Also, she does not believe in any way that women can't do what men do, she doesn't follow gender roles based on the way she acts and dresses.



Mamadou

Lakshmi, Lakshmi is a young girl who was living with her mom and stepfather. They were a poor family. Lakshmi was sold by his stepfather to get money out of her so he can gamble and do his thing by making Lakshmi believe that she's going to work as a normal job. So she went to the city. She doesn't know the language and doesn't know anybody in the city. In her mind she thinks she's there to work. But she didn't know that she was sold already. She joined a house where she was going to be and it was actually a brothel where she was going to work as a prostitute. This also shows that females are treated as objects in society because they are the one who get sold most of the time and treated badly. For example in the story she was used as a prostitute to make money for other people.



Bousseye

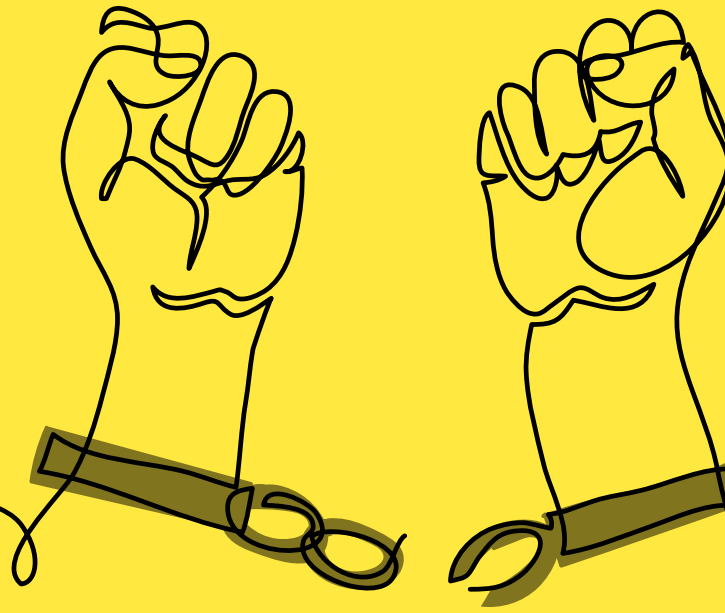
In the book *Sold*, Stepfather was controlling over the family and only cared about money and power.

He was greedy. Stepfather sold Lakshmi to her aunt for money. Lakshmi could never ask for money because Stepfather used it to buy a motorcycle. Stepfather would use all the money he got to gamble.

Feminist Critical Theory tells us that women are controlled economically and psychologically. Stepfather controlled Lakshmi and the money that she could be given. The stepfather never cared about her. The stepfather controlled his family and in that culture nobody can tell him what to do because that is his family.

Jan

Tom Robinson was a poor black guy who works at Mayella's house. He is accused of raping Mayella Ewell and was defended by Atticus in the story. He was accused because Mayella said he abused her. Even though this wasn't true people would not believe him. This is where we can use Feminist or Race Critical Theory because he was a black guy and in that time period black people did not have the way to defend themselves as they had no support for people who were bad for society. On the other hand, this does not mean that it is this way and that she was abused there, she only blamed him because he knew that the Sheriff was going to believe her since it was very obvious that he was from another social class since these people were nobody compared to a person with money.

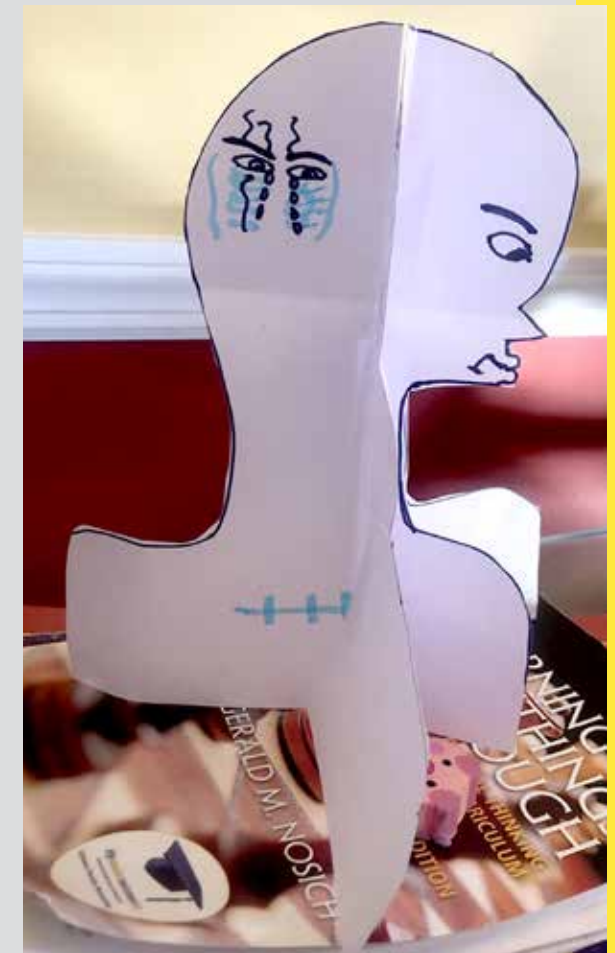


Eliant

Scout Finch, she's an open-minded kid that doesn't follow the criteria of what a normal girl should do, she doesn't want to be like the normal girls, that used dress and act like a lady, something that in that time was considered a problematic kid because of the stereotype of how a girl should act. Scout did not follow traditional gender roles because of how she was raised by her father. Her dad was not sexist and did not make her follow traditional standards of society on girls. However, when we use Feminist Critical Theory to look at this character, we see that her behavior is not shaped by the time and place

that she lives. Scout was expected to be obedient and always look "perfect". However, these traditional gender roles did not represent her. For example when she fought with a boy at school because her dad was defending Tom Robinson in the trial. A normal girl wouldn't stand in front of a boy to fight. But Scout was not the typical Southern girl in the 1930's she would climb trees and fight like a boy but she wasn't a spoiled kid. Mr. Finch was a good father and taught her how to be respectful. Another example is her Aunt Alexandra, she did not agree with her father and her with the decision that she can wear

what she wants because in the aunt's mind girls should wear the dress and act like a lady that they should follow a patriarchy not be themselves. But I cannot judge Aunt Alexandra because that was her belief while she was growing up and it's hard to accept what is wrong because all your life you were thinking that was correct, but she should not be the one judging Scout and Atticus because she should respect the decision of her brother and Scout. Not using the dress is not affecting anybody. People should dress and act as they want without harming.



Elischa

Ama is a very submissive and powerless woman. She does not have a job, all she does is cooking, cleaning, and taking care of the kids. One day the stepfather had sold everything they had and went gambling with the money. Powerless she was, Ama said nothing about it. However, when I use the Feminist Critical Theory to view this character, I can see and understand that Ama's silence and powerlessness are shaped by the society she lives in.

As a woman in Nepal, she was thought by the society that she is inferior to a man and was expected to be a submissive wife, never stand up for herself to her husband, and since the men are seen as superior they do not need to apologize for their actions. Ama knew that she didn't want to live in that kind of society but she couldn't do or say anything about it. That on the other hand explains why she was so happy when Lakshmi got

proposed to work in the city because it meant for Ama that her daughter could become a little bit more independent and capable of providing for her family which made her extremely happy because that is an opportunity that she didn't get. Ama was trapped by powerlessness and society's expectations. These reasons contributed to her personality.



Estarlin

Lakshmi sees a girl being abused by a group of men. They were mistreating her, throwing cigarettes at her and also spit on her. The men think she should obey her husband. Feminist critical theory helps us to understand what is happening. The men were mistreating the girl because that is normal in their culture. This culture is patriarchal so the men have the power over women. This tells us that women can't escape from men who mistreat them or be punished. Women are psychologically oppressed and this tells us that when the women see how others girls are mistreated they get scared and they won't try to do the same.

Cheikh

Mumtaz is the very cruel women who owns the Happiness House she used children as tool to make money for herself as she does it with no feelings for the children .However, when we use Marxist Critical Theory to look at this character, we see that her behavior is money that drives her

Smarlin

Ama is a great mother, a hard worker. In Lakshmi's eyes (her daughter), she is beautiful inside and out. Rather described as a typical village wife. However, when we use Feminist Critical Theory to look at this character, we realize that her behavior is due to the rules of the society where she lives. As a Nepalese woman, she could not get divorced, she has to work hard and must obey her husband. So, these rules represented her, specifically when she could never say anything about her husband's decision to sell her daughter; and it does not mean that she did not want her daughter or preferred her husband, she just followed the role of a woman. Also, when she did not separate from him even when he bet the money that she earned to support the house.



Ouahid

The stepfather is a selfish and shameless person, he spends literally his time giving orders to his wife and stepdaughter, gambling with his family's money which he doesn't even work for. However when we use Feminist Critical Theory we realize that his behavior toward his wife and stepdaughter that he constantly compare to an animal is shaped by his society. He lives in a town where most of the people are sexist and believe that women should stay home cook and take care of kids, that is why the stepfather does not consider them as an equal and calls his step

daughter an animal. Why did I say he was shameless? Well it's because we all understand that people in his town are feminist which mean most of the men with families work hard to provides and would not even want to take their wives money pr make their wives work because they have their pride as feminist but the stepfather is the exact opposite of them. Now let's step a little further and look at him with Marxist Critical Theory lens, as I said his wife and stepdaughter work to provide for the family and he takes the money and go gamble, we can say

that the stepfather is the bourgeoisie(the haves) in the family, he control the family's economic resources and take it for himself and the women are the proletariat(the have not) in the family, they do hard work to feel the stepfather's pockets. However these beliefs do not excuse the stepfather because everything he did still his choice, there is this saying that if you do something once it might have been a mistake but the second time is a choice.

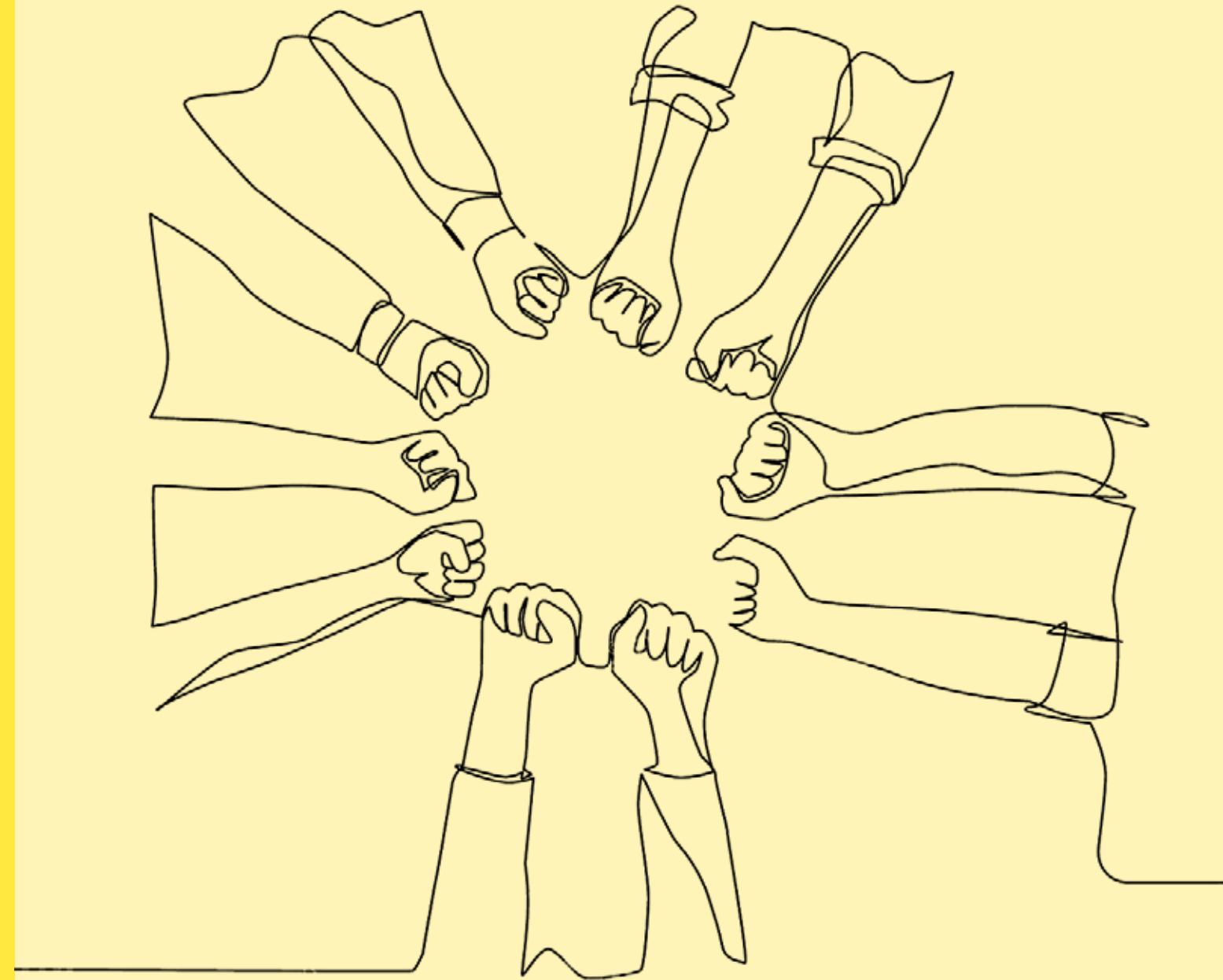


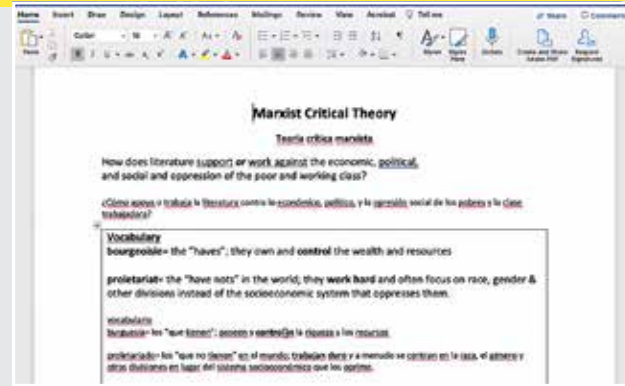
Jean Santana

The character I choose is Mumtaz from the scene of when she and Lakshmi first met. The way she acted that time was very different from what we know from Mumtaz, she was different. Very nice, polite and kind sooner than later we would know the reason behind this behavior. After Mumtaz finished the deal with the trader she uncovered her true face, the other girls who have known her for more time knew this already. They were afraid of Mumtaz but more than afraid they despised her, they describe her as reckless and evil. Mumtaz has been a victim of beliefs connected to both Marxist and Feminist theory. Marxist Critical Theory explains how hard it is to move from economic class to another because of the policies and the ideologies. The policies

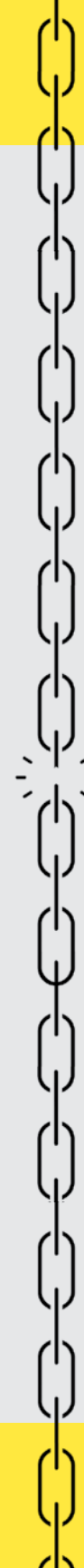
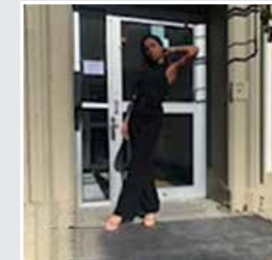
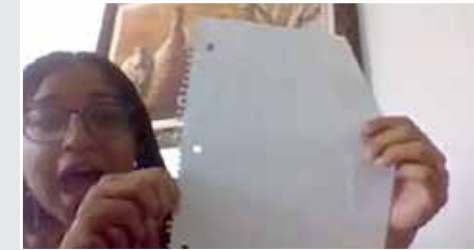
state that in order to move from class to class you need one factor in common being this wealth. Wealth is needed to move up, Mumtaz understood this so she chose to grow and start earning money working.

Mumtaz's situation truly changed as she started working but to worst. She became a prostitute as a victim of sexism there was no other job more than to work to please men. Tired and exploited she wanted to change her life but once again fell into the oppression of patriarchy and was forced to keep working for men but only in a different way. Instead of using her body she would look for other girls to become victims of economic inequality to take her place and be sexual workers.



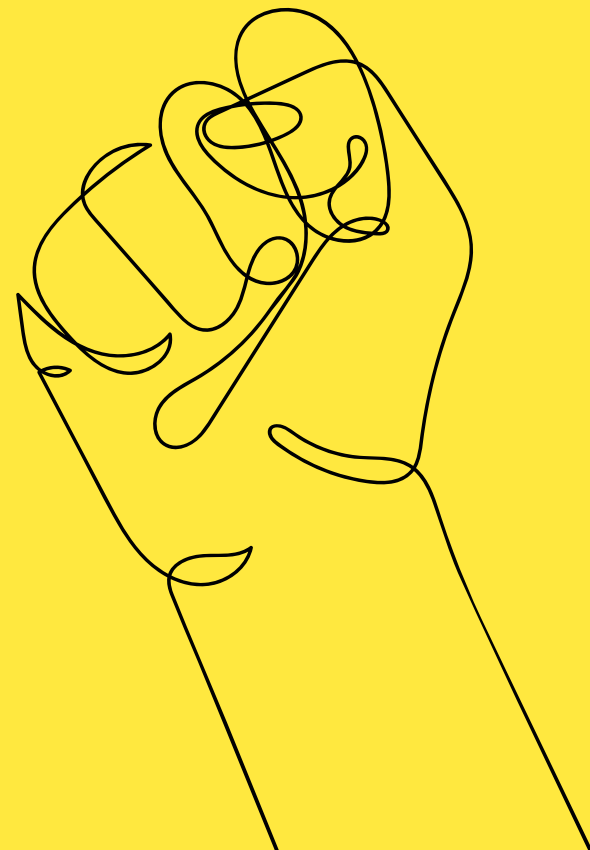


Crews 5 & 6



Olvin

Feminist critical theory assumes that sexism exists, the belief that women are naturally inferior to men. This means that males use their position of power to exert influence over women. One example given in the book.



Ross

In "Men don't cry" by Tyson, today the whole world society has created the stereotype that women are weak and need a man to go through all their adversities and that men are strong and cannot have moments of weakness for the simple fact of them being men. It has always been heard that men are the ones who have to go out to work, do what is necessary to support their family and that women should only stay at home taking care of the children, make food or simply stay at home because she is a woman and the man must keep her. It is a belief or also some religions force men to take care of their wives and daughters and they must stay at home. There are cultures that continue to generate these beliefs

Feminist Critical Theory assumes that "Women" are made by culture and tradition. This means

that people believe that because women are women, they should do things that only women do. One example of this is how women get paid less than men for doing the same job and same amount of time. Patriarchal is related in the text because traditional gender roles project men as rational, strong, protective, and decisive; They see women as emotional (irrational), weak, loving, and submissive. Internalization is also related with the text because basically we have all been accustomed to those beliefs that women are weak and men are strong, most religions are like this. This is important because it is showing us how we all define ourselves by gender regardless of the ability that each person has to do things.

Eimy

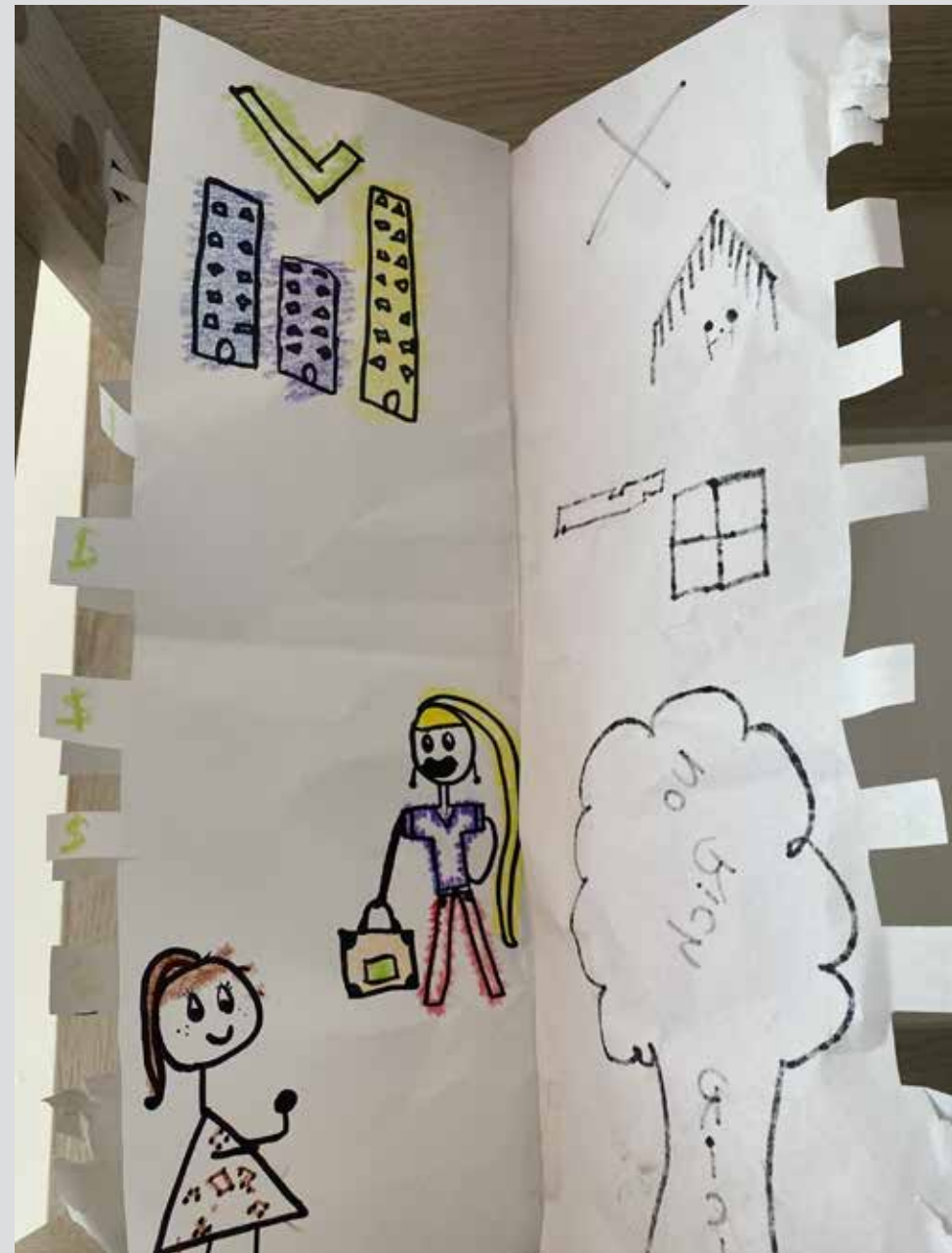
In *The Bourgeoisie & The Proletariat*, "Critical Theory Today" by Lois Tyson, in 2015 we are all clear that the people who move the world and have power over everything and the other people who work for their superiors, can be said that are "leftovers." The problem (the cause) is the abuse of other people inferior to them and it is clear that we are not all of the same class but that does not mean that we should mistreat anyone in particular. This more than just being money is also related to personality, and people who abuse feel arrogant and entitled to power, but on the other hand, people who are attacked feel cornered, without a choice, abandoned, and abused. I say it has a connection because when people have too much power, their ego grows with power. the ego does not let empathy flow into their hearts and therefore they are the type

of people who only seek their benefit without caring about the other.

The critical Marxist theory consists of how living beings are divided and the three catalogs in which the world and progress work are upper, middle, and lower class. Humanity is divided into two main categories, one of them is the bourgeoisie, which consists of people of "high value" or rich people with power. On the other hand, there is the part that is the proletariat, "leftovers" or people who do not have the same comforts; poor people, middle to the lower class to which I belong. This is like a game of chess, the weakest take the place of the strongest regardless of the other's attack. As long as the queen and the king protect themselves and win no matter how much their workers lose if they ultimately have the certainty of benefit only for

their own. For that reason, I think it is related to the personality of people and not so much with power because you decide whether to make life impossible for those who have nothing and not let the ego enter your life and humility go to the side. Because just as those people sent police to remove people from the park because they "they damaged their eyes" there is another who is aware even if they do not go through the same situation and think "they have no choice, they have no home, they are bothering you."

You are not what you have, you are what you project to people and the best thing is to be empathetic, which is something that many people lack and I always say that if we were all empathetic and were able to put ourselves in the shoe of others, world problems would gradually be finished.

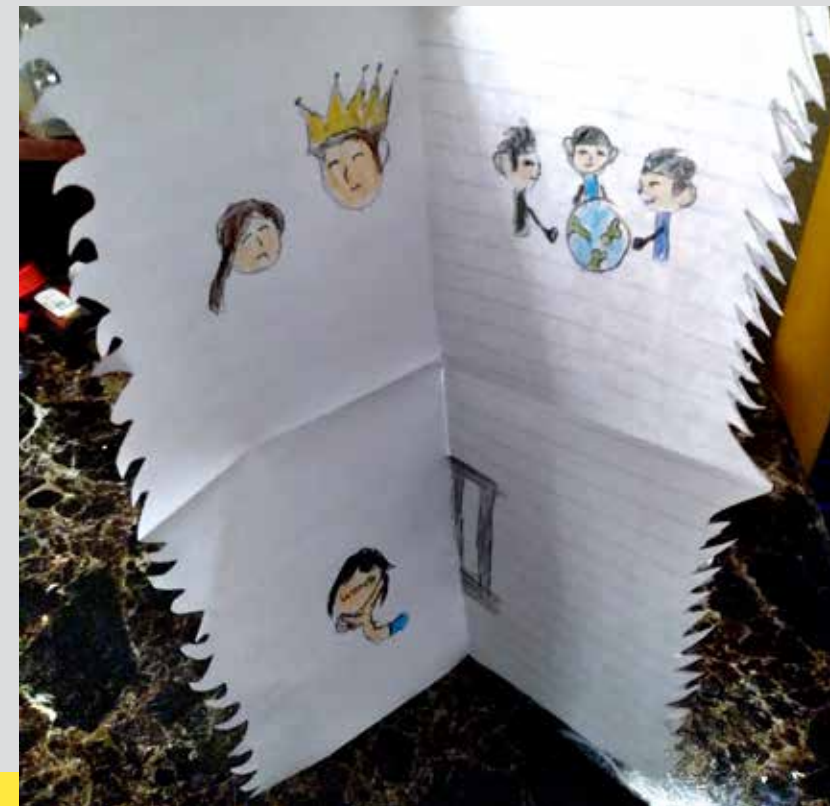
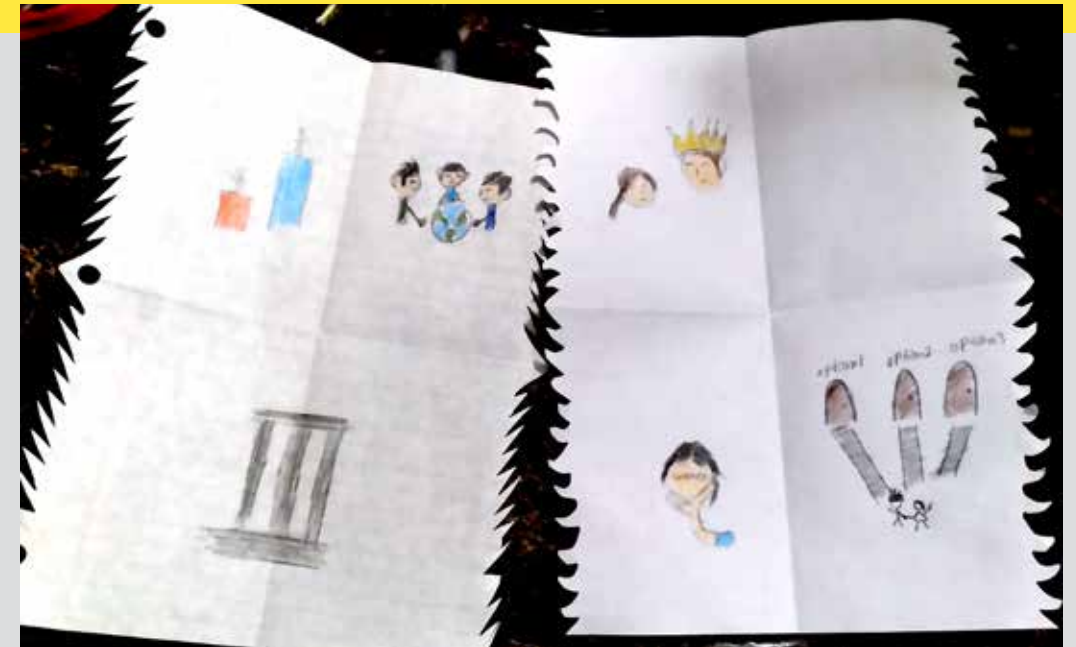
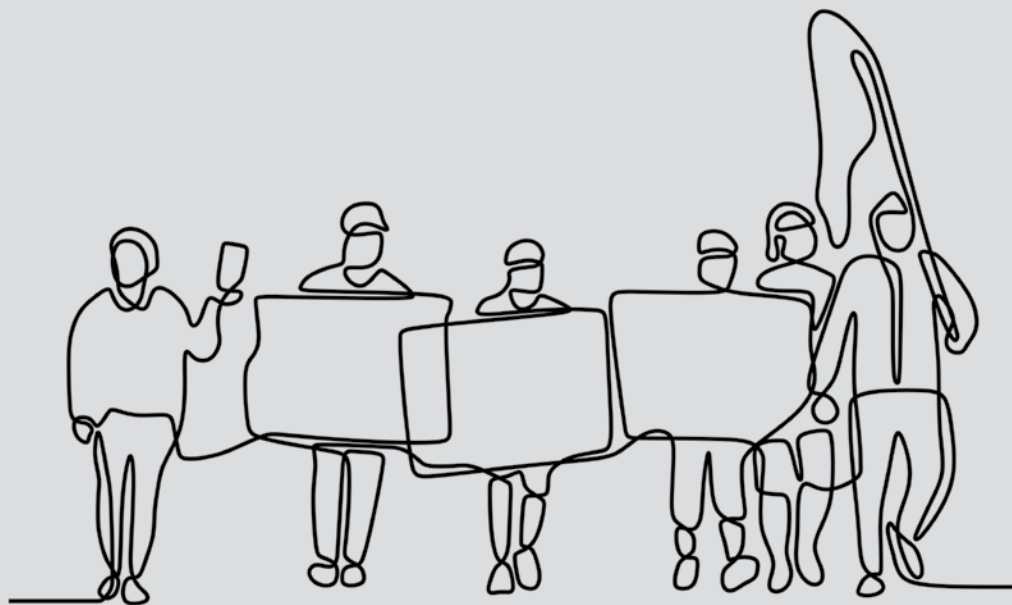


Angel

In "Women are objects" by Colette Guillaumin, the text says that women previously in some cultures are like an object that men can use and it is presumed that it happens in the time where women could not make decisions, the problem would be that

women are like a trophy and could not be anything without the authorization of the man and those who imply that those who are in that problem are women and men, what I said in the article is that it seems that at that time the man commanded and the

woman i've decided and I think this happened because the man was in some ways stronger than the woman or so it seemed.



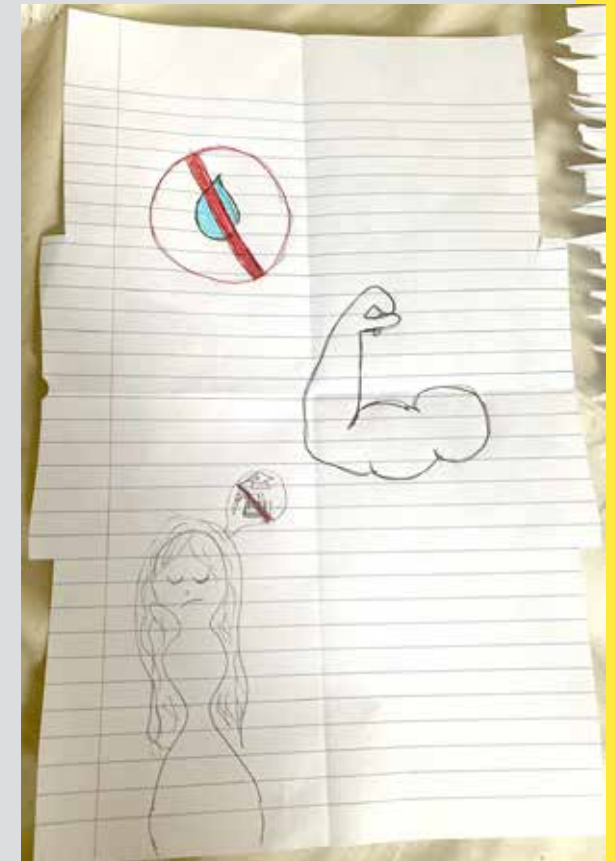
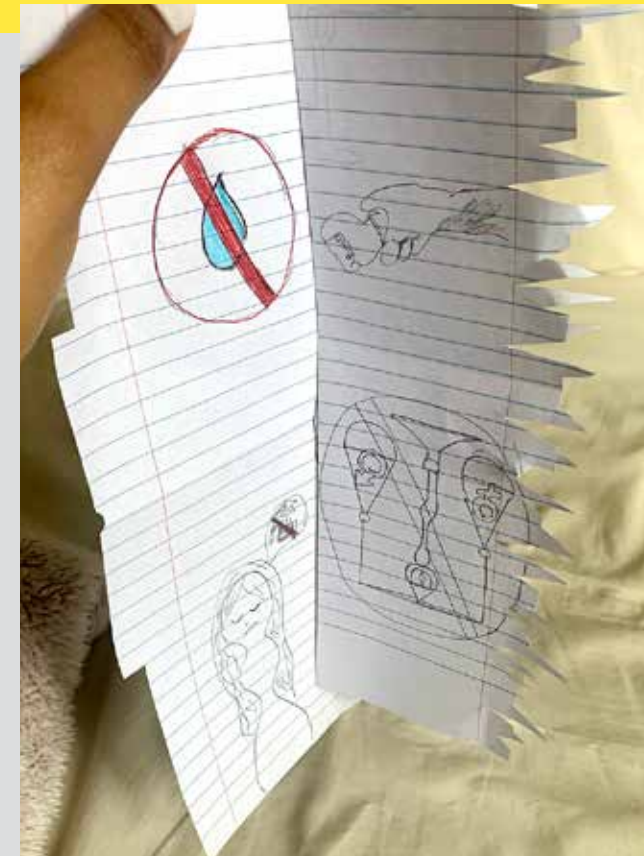
Harony

This text emphasized the idea that men have more capacity than women are, this not only happened throughout history but is carried within our society, even in 2021. The people that follow the patriarchal ideology think that women are weak and they can't do the work that men do and sometimes even though women do the same work they get paid less than men just because they are women. This causes a patriarchal ideology problem, which states that men show weakness and will be compared to women when showing emotion. One example is given when men show emotion by crying,

because this will be a sign of weakness and they will be equal as women. The text demonstrates that men are not supposed to cry because they need to be more strong or powerful physically and emotionally.

Feminist theory is the "extension of feminism to theory, fiction or philosophical discourse. It focuses on recognizing the nature of gender inequality. It studies the social roles, experiences, interests, trivia, and feminism of anthropology and anthropology in various fields such as anthropology and sociology, communication, media studies, psychoanalysis, ecology, family econom-

ics, literature, education and philosophy and political." In this critical theory women are supposed to be submissive with men's. In men don't cry we can see that people internalize this belief because everyone thinks that woman need to be at home but when they try to get the same job as men sometimes even though they can be good at this job sometimes women don't get the job.



Edward

The text *Bourgeoisie & The Proletariat* by Tyson, tells us about the Marxist perspective and how money divides us, and according to the Marxist perspective people are divided by two types of social classes, one is called the Bourgeoisie and the other called the proletariat. The bourgeoisie are classified as "those who have" also they are those who control the world's natural, economic, and human resources and the Proletariat are classified "as those who do not have", they are "the majority of the global population who live in substandard conditions and who have always performed the manual labor", in other words, The Bourgeoisie are the upper class and the Proletariat the lower class, also according to

the perspectives of Marxist differences in socioeconomic class divide people in ways that are much more (important) than differences in religion, race, ethnicity, or gender. Finally, the text tells us that lower-class people remain in the lower class because the struggle to survive keeps them down because that makes them not have time to become politically active and fight for their rights and also because it is difficult for them due to the policies.

According to the text *The Bourgeoisie & The Proletariat*, the only way that lower-class people can stop being lower class is by fighting for help and opportunities from the government but the text tells us that they cannot fight back because they need to

work hard to survive and that means that they do not have the time to fight for help or become politically active and that is a factor that keeps them down.

The text also tells us that another factor that keeps them down is fear since in some cases the police and other government agencies that under government orders have mistreated lower class people who are on strike fighting, such as striking workers who were arrested, beaten or killed in the early days of American unions. This causes them to have fear and also makes them less willing to fight for help.

Cho Zin

Feminist Critical Theory assumes that Western civilization is rooted in patriarchy. This means that males use their position of power to exert influence over women. One example given in the text is that women must work in the house all day, with no time off, and must listen to what their husband says. Two important vocabulary words of this theory are patriarchy and sexism. Those two words describe how men live their lives more easily than women because women do everything,

whereas men simply tell women what to do. The text states that men are permitted to perform sexual obligations on their married women, which means that men can sell their wives to brothels and make money off of them as if their wives' worth is merely an object. As a result, women are not treated as individuals. We simply object to the fact that men can use them to make money or work for them for free.

Lisi

In *Women are Objects*, a text from Lois Tyson's *Critical Theory Today*, it involves women and men. The situation in this nonfiction text is about how men use women as an object, by saying that they are used to being a lady in the house but she is not allowed to have what she wants. The text talks about how she cannot decide for herself or her own body how many children she wants to have. As in a marriage, her husband decides how many sexual actions they can have but there is a problem that is that during sex they can be treated as prostitutes but the only thing that makes it different is that they have to pay a prostitute and not their wives. On the other

hand, people have stated that women are also used to doing the duties men don't want to do. This could be happening because many men see women as little things that can only serve as a servant who has to do everything that the man says or wants to do with them.

Feminist Critical Theory assumes that Western civilization is rooted in patriarchy. This means that when you come from a culture where males are free to do what they want

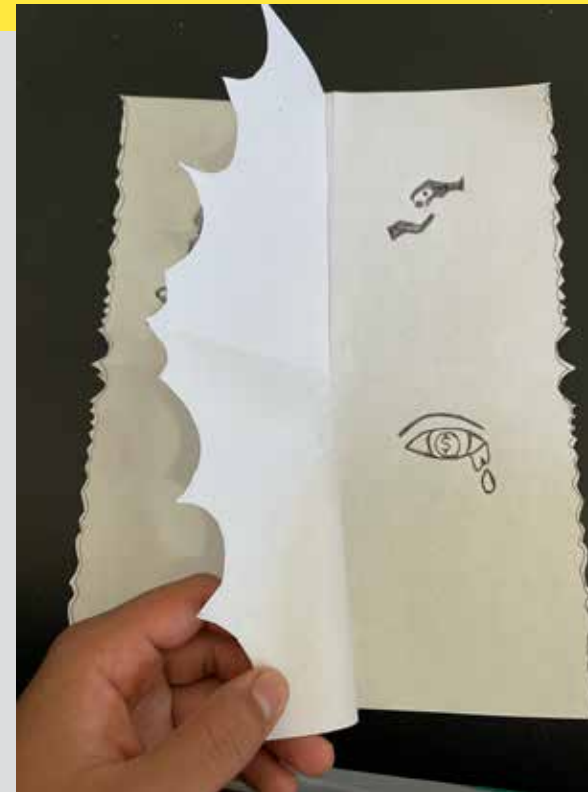
with any woman they are pleased to be, it doesn't matter if the women are against that because they are the prizes to every game the man wants to play. One example of this is patriarchy, a man's world where they all play with one another. The only thing they can actually have without any problem is the women because the women are toys for each winner in this game.



Mahmoud

In "America is 'owned and controlled by a small number of multi-billionaires" by Catherine Clifford, Bernie Sanders talks about what is happening in the United States of America. This started a long time ago but it increased in the recent years. All the Americans are involved in this problem but they are divided into two classes. The first class is the Billionaires (bourgeoisie) and the second class is the poor Americans (proletariats). The problem is the wealthy people who have money, power, and everything else control the majority of the American people. A few billionaires -maybe 1% of the population- control the rest of the Americans. They even mislead them and use them as a tool by controlling the media

and know how the other Americans think, what they want, and what they need. Then they use it against them by making them stay the same economically and politically. This will help the billionaires to grow their money and be in a high position in the government. Also they are trying to be the US president. This way they will have power and they know how the majority of the citizens want. People know that this is not fair for them because they suffer and live in bad condition while other people have billions of dollars and they do not even need it. Those billionaires are greedy and do not care about the people who are dying and sleep in the street.

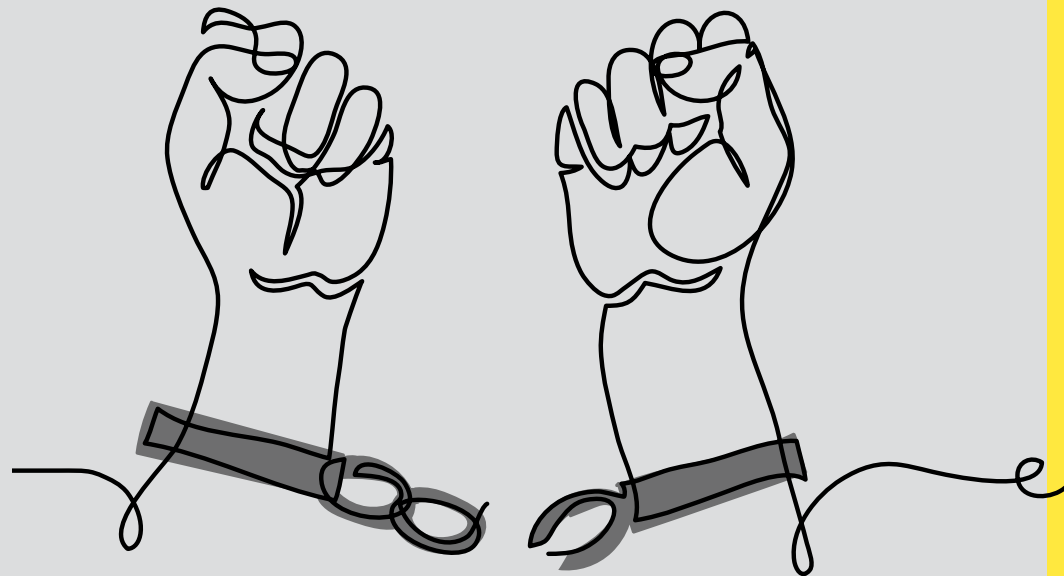


Laminou

In "The Bourgeoisie & The Proletaria by Lois Tyson", it's saying that not only the poor are being held down by the rich, cops and government agencies are part of their problems. People are being divided based on religion, race, ethnicity, or gender. The proletariat in America are being mistreated by those who are part of the government.

Marxist critical theory assumes that the system of money is what drives everything. We can see this in the text, "Who has the time to become politically active, or even politically aware, when one is struggling just to stay alive and feed one's children". This means that the poor are driven to get enough money in order to take care of their family. The Marxist critical theory argues against people

being naturally superior and will have more money. We can see this in the text, "the police and other government strong-arm agencies, who, under government orders, have mistreated the lower-class and underclass poor". This shows that because the poor are being oppressed by the government, they have no other way to be equal. This is not a natural superiority.



Nayely

Feminist critical theory believes that women are oppressed by patriarchy economically, politically, socially, and psychologically. They also believe that women are made by culture and tradition and is against traditional gender roles. Patriarchy is any culture that privileges men by promoting traditional gender roles. Gender roles refer to what society expects from men and women. For example the type of work that a woman does, the behavior, the way a woman dresses and the way a woman speaks. One example in the book *The Poet X* is the poem "More about to Twin," when we were little, I would

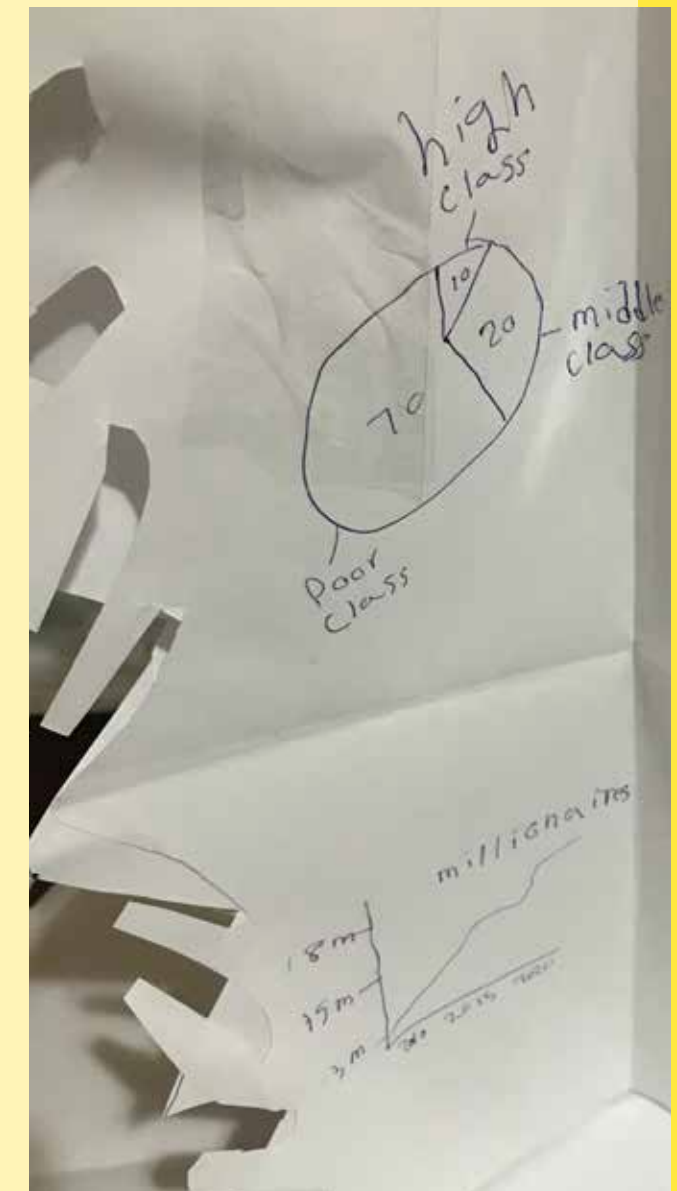
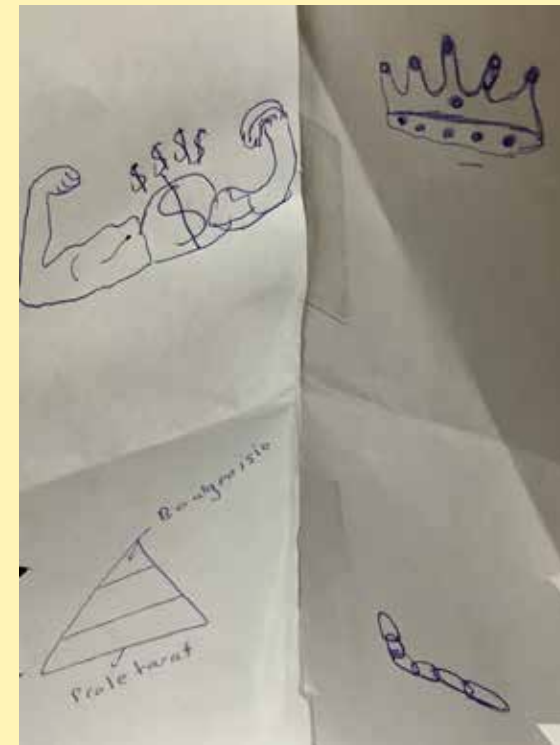
come home with bleeding knuckles and mami would gasp and shake me: "muchacha, siempre peleando! Why can't you be a lady? Or like your brother? He never fights." Xiomara's mother is always claiming that she always goes to the house with bleeding knuckles and asks why she can't be a lady. That is related to feminist critical theory because her mother expects her to behave like a lady who behaves well, that is kind and doesn't fight. Those are the traditional roles expected of a woman in a patriarchal society.

Mutahar

Marxist Critical Theory It is through the theories of class struggle, politics and economics that Marxist literary criticism emerged. The thought behind Marxist criticism is that works of literature are mere products of history. Marxist Critical Theory examples that money is the biggest problem in the world where the rich people want to take control over the community. Marxist Critical Theory argues against capitalism. Capitalism is an economic and political system in which a country's trade and industry are controlled by private owners for profit, rather than by the state. We can see this in the text Other elements oppressing them are the police and other government strong-arm agencies when government orders have mistreated the

lower-class and underclass poor or another word proletariat. proletariat is the "have nots" in the world; they work hard and often focus on race, gender & other divisions instead of the socioeconomic system that oppresses them. Marxist Critical Theory where it take a place in New York who involved the the bourgeoisie and proletariat and the problem was the bourgeoisie who who control the world's natural, economic, and human resources those are the high class people and the proletariat, the majority of the global population who live in substandard conditions and who have always performed the manual labor. All that happened during these days. So the problem was in text is that socioeconomic

class divides the people community. Which the bourgeoisie who take control of everything in the economy and money so they also take control of the country and their people. So the majority of people have to work for them. The people didn't do or say anything about the problem, they just do what they have to do work, collect money and feed their child. They didn't have time for all those things like protesting or doing something about the problem. Who has the time to become politically active, or even politically aware. They didn't fight for that because they struggling just to stay alive and feed one's children. This happens because the high class or the one who controls everything they want to control the world economy.



Yoanny

Critical Race Theory assumes that race is a social construct. This means Inequality is something that happens every day in the country of the United States with immigrants and with some people. We can see this in the text, the unequal power relations that grow from the sociopolitical domination of one race by another and that result in systematic discriminatory practices. Everyday racism fills and abounds more in the US governments and the economy does not support immigrants who come in search of opportunities to improve their lives and those of their families governments would unite and support each other to achieve a great enterprise together because the Immigrants are so mistreated and used discriminators in the US that governments do not take into account that many of us live with a

better quality of life due to their effort and work. Immigrants for not tending undocumented surrender labor or sexual exploitation because they treat them as less. Immigrants coming to the U.S. Surrender critical inequalities such as persistent economic, social and demographic, human rights violations, environmental changes such as conflicts over gender facing a different quality of life than the one they already had in their country of origin. Violence between immigrants makes them live in prison. After all, they can't do anything because they can be deported and put in the name of justice and send them back to their country. In the end, we have to fight to change the way of thinking of the world, residents, migrants, or Americans, we all have the same human rights and we are all equal.

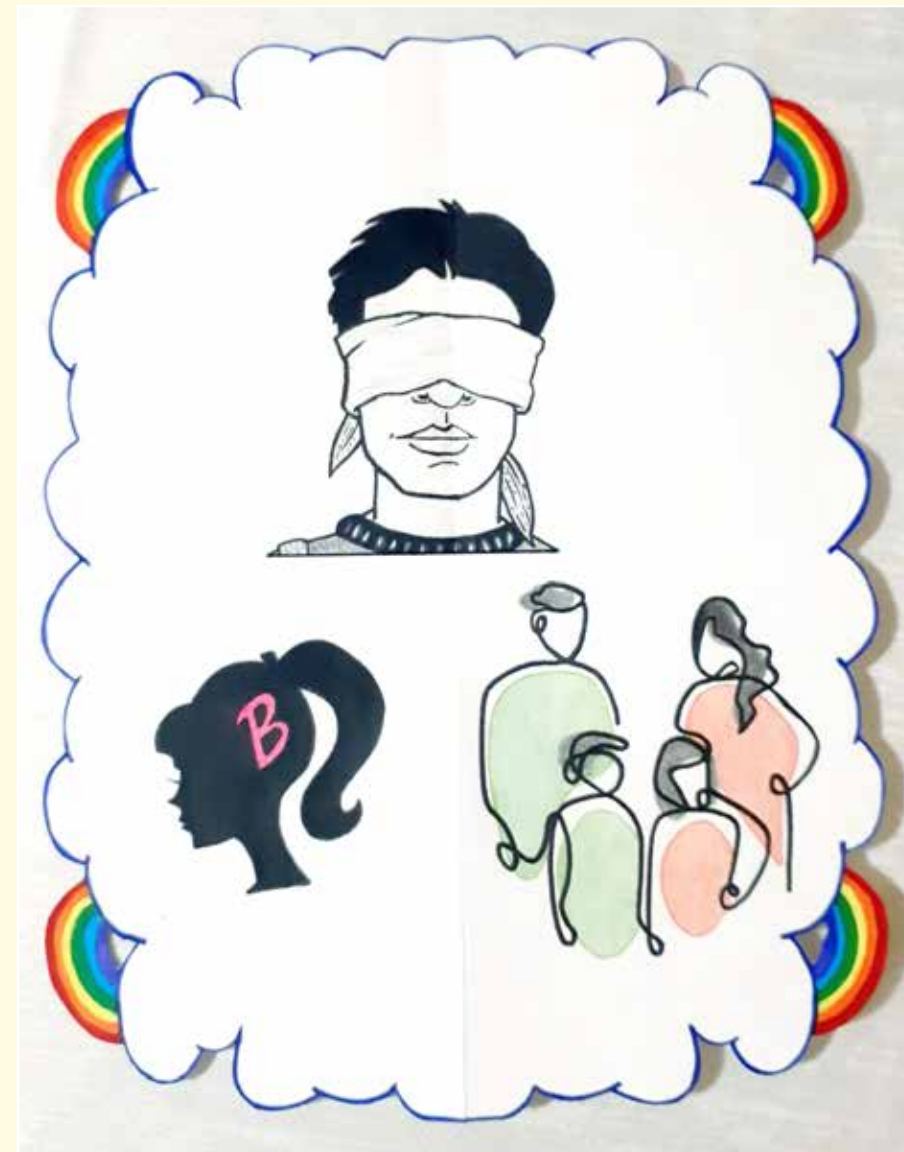
Anadely

In A Rainbow Creation by Lori Duron, one day she went to Target with her son CJ and he wanted to see the barbie section but did not ask for anything because he was so surprised because he was so surprised that need time to think about it. There is a problem, that because he is a boy they think that he will only like boys toys when the reality is that he likes both, he is like neutral toys which means that is for boys and girls, he likes dolls and dressing barbies. Society thinks that because boys have to use boy stuff and that's why the majority of toys are only girls and only boys there are no gender-neutral toys. This happens because society creates this stereotype where blue is just for boys and pink only for girls and the same for the toys there are for boys only and girls only when the colors do not have gender and the toys eithen.

Feminist Critical Theory assumes that "Women" are made by culture and tradition. This means that because they are women they have to do things that only women do. One example of this is how because he is a boy have to like only boys toys in the text, A Rainbow Creation. What happened in this story is that it may show us how a boy can like "girls things" that is not a thing that he learns about it. The patriarchy is also involved in this story because most of the time people say that the boys just have to play with balls, cars, dinosaurs, superheroes, trucks or trains, like this is a role for men. This is important because it shows how society creates how people can see many things and this is an example of that and how the genders have roles.

Chelsie

In A Rainbow Creation by Lori Duron, where she describes her and family reaction to her son's choice. Lori Duron has a son called C.J and he is quite particular to her because he doesn't go or fall into the stereotypical thought "there are things for boys and girls, separated. There's no in-between ". The story recalls one day when Lori and her son C.J were at Target. While shopping they encountered the toy section, but C.J wanted to see "Barbie stuff". He had never been exposed to that section where everything was "pink" as the story says. He got so fascinated by this new section, however his mom was frightened, worried and guilty because she realized that...



Erimendi

"Men don't cry" By Tyson.

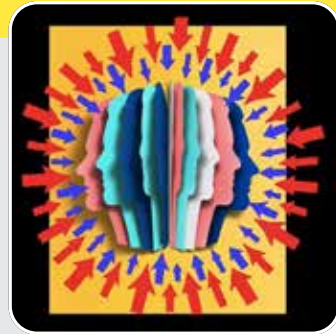
In the world, nowadays men do not treat women equally because men are stronger, more protective, and more vulnerable, while women are considered weak, affectionate, and submissive and that is why men are paid in a job a higher salary than women while doing the same job. Because of this, men must show that they are strong but if they show a sign of weakness they get teased as much as women. But many people don't treat women the same as men, they don't pay the same

salary if they do the same job, they can't do things like compete in races, etc.

The inequalities that women face in many areas of their lives violate their rights to participate, contribute and enjoy economic, social, cultural and political development. Two concepts related to this theory is Rights, to contribute, because all over the world where some people do not treat women with the same rights as men.



Crews 7 & 8

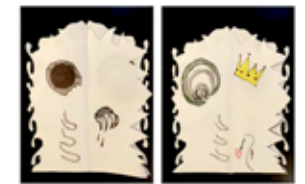
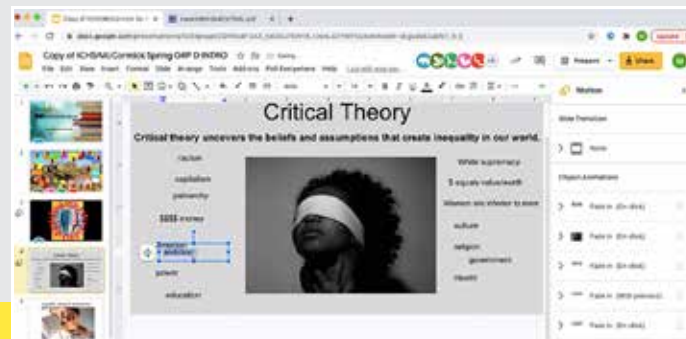


Why Critical Theory Matters?

It challenges the power structures that keep people enslaved and oppressed



in order for us to change towards a more just and equal society for all.



On one shape, cut along the middle, bottom fold. On the second shape, cut along the middle, top fold.

Slide the two cuts together, lay flat, and tape down the middle. Flip it over and tape down the middle on the opposite side.

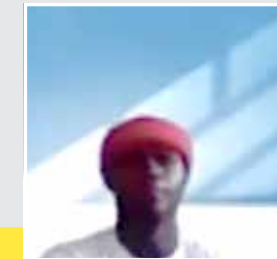


Diego Rivera, *Portrait of a Farmer*, 1913



Pablo Picasso, *Human Head (Fernand)*, 1909

Cubism is an art movement that began in 1907 with the artists Pablo Picasso and Georges Braque. Cubist artworks are known for showing multiple perspectives at once and sometimes even multiple points in time.



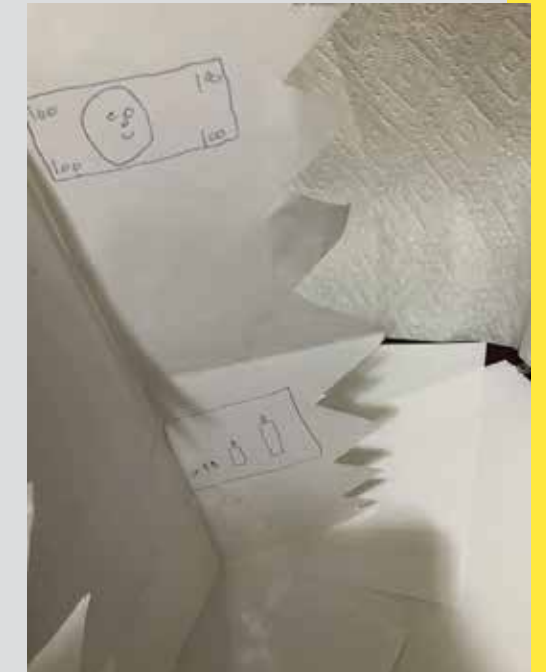
Almunther

In the text "Critical Theory Today" Lois Tyson, talks about different classes, the high class, the middle class who are struggling just to stay alive and feed one's children, and the homeless who cannot afford anything. The problem as the text defines it is that people's community is divided by socioeconomic class. The bourgeoisie control the economy and money so they also take control of the country and their people. Tyson asks, "Why don't the economically oppressed fight back? What keeps the lower classes "in their place" and at the mercy of the wealthy?" People are

too busy working extra jobs and long hours so that they can feed their family and they don't have time to be in politics and make change. All this happened because lower-class people did not fight back and kept quiet and accepted their life the way it is.

Marxist critical theory is the theory that shows and explains how society deals with all the different classes, who actually takes the power, and who has nothing working only to survive. Marxist Critical Theory says that money is how the bourgeoisie take control over the

community. The bourgeoisie are the "haves"; they own and control the wealth and resources. Marxist Critical Theory argues that everything is a product of the socioeconomic system and the ideologies it promotes. For example, which we see in real life where the rich people with their money can become powerful in political government. Donald Trump gets into the government and becomes the president with his money, therefore Trump is an example of how the bourgeoisie use their money to control the world.



Rosibel

Feminist criticism is concerned with “the ways in which literature (and other cultural productions) reinforce or undermine the economic, political, social, and psychological oppression of women” (Tyson, *Critical Theory Today*). The ideology of patriarchy causes inequality in the world because male dominance can control the economic, political, social, and psychological of women. For example, in many jobs they do not accept women because of their physical aspect, or because they believe that men have more physical and mental capacity, etc. Politically, I have always heard that women cannot control a country, that women do not know about politics. Society has painted women as weak people who society can do what they want with them. Many women are killed every day, the percentage

of femicide has increased in an indescribable way, and this happens because patriarchy and society make men believe that they can do what they want with women, and society really contributed to the femicides by giving men more priority in jobs, etc, that makes them believe that they are the ones who really control. And finally psychological because we have to endure all that and more because it is difficult to remove all those ideas, in a world made by a men’s ideology.

Feminist Critical Theory assumes that Western civilization is rooted in patriarchy. The text “Women are objects” is about a feminist, named Colette Guillaumin, where she explains that a marriage contract should not limit women, such as that women do not do trades on holidays, which means that women do

not clean or cook only on holidays. I want to emphasize that in my country, the Dominican Republic, the women do not cook only on Sundays and most of the time they do it because man has been instilled with patriarchal beliefs and women have internalized this culture. My question is, actually, can that be called culture or a rule made by a (machomen) patriarchy?. She also explains that in some cultures women are treated as objects since our partner or relatives cut our hair and sell it, and having children is an obligation that we must fulfill, nor do women have the right to say how many children they want to have. Women are a sexual object, men always want to be in control and always want to feel powerful in the relationship, so they decide when they want to be with their wife.

Sindy

Critical Race Theory assumes that racism exists in our society. This means race is in the details of our lives everyday. Another way to analyze race is when they look at the world and they assume that those things happen in society. Race we see every day by emotions, actions, people of color, experience in society, and how you look like. We can see race in this text, “Pelo Malo”, my own kind of beauty, when her own mom tells her she has “ pelo malo” which means “ bad hair”.

Saikat

"Women are objects by Tyson " points out that this problem starts from a long time ago and is still going on today. There's no contract in marriage that says how many hours or days women in the family household will have to work and no specific holidays which they have to work. In some cultures men forced women to sold their hair and milk. Still in society most men use women for their sexual obligation in both marriage and prostitution, but the difference is men have to pay prostitution to fill up their sexual obligation. The majority of women have to take care of children, elder people and the sick without any benefits, they take care

of their family without any selfishness. Basically men give tasks to women that men don't want to do. And also there's more things that are created by the man's world like women should be housewives and men should work outside. Some men feel like they must have a beautiful wife/girlfriend to impress other men. At the last we can say men invent the rules of the game, they play only with another and women are just to be found as prizes.

Feminist critical theory assumes that Women are oppressed by patriarchy economically, politically, socially, and psychologically. This means that women are abused by masculinity. One example of this in the text is,

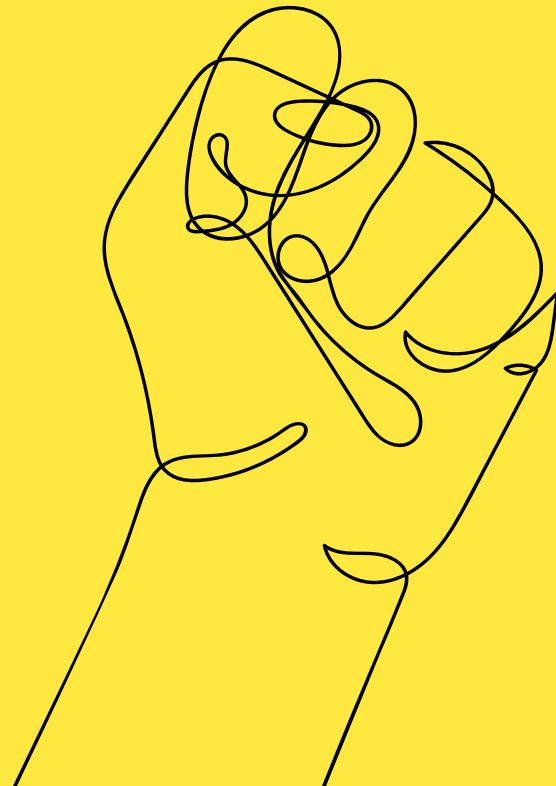
as mentioned before, that in some cultures, women's hair and even their milk are sold by male members of the family. Two important words in this theory are patriarchy and sexism. Patriarchy describes any culture that makes men's life easier by promoting traditional gender roles which make the women do a lot of hard work and men do easier work.. This kind of work is difficult to do. Sexism is the belief that women are naturally less than men. In patriarchy, sexism means that women are not really seen as people, they are merely things in a male economy to impress their friends and men don't care about the women or living a happy life with that woman.



Yari Mer

In schools in the USA, light skin students are treated better by their teachers and receive a better education. The article shows that light skin women are more likely to get hired by a job than dark skin women. Also the article says that light skinned African Americans earn more money than dark skinned blacks.

In critical race theory, it says the government gives priority to the light skinned or white people. Also, when the government values white skin or dark skin, society starts believing the same.



Benjamin

In "Women are Objects" by Tyson women are described as slaves. After all, women have more responsibilities than men because women have to take care of the elderly, children, and including their husbands. I think that happened at another time when women depended on men. This belief comes from a long time ago. This story involved men and women. In this story, the women had no time for them. They had to be in the house because the men had power over the women. Also, women had to take care of the elderly, their children and give pleasure to their husbands. According to the author, "In some cultures, women's hair and even their milk are sold by male members

of the family; the number of children a couple will have is decided by the male, and the children are still the legal property of the husband." At that time, society had patriarchal rules that they have power over women.

The feminist critical theory states that men have more power than women psychologically, socially and economically. One concept that is related to the feminist critical theory is patriarchy. This describes any culture that privileges men by promoting traditional gender roles. The last paragraph of the text states that men make up their own rules because the men have the power to make decisions while

the women wait for the men to make of them. "In short, patriarchy is a man's world: men invent the rules of the game, they play it only with one another, and women are merely to be found among the prizes." This is an example of the culture of patriarchy because men make the rules for their own benefit and women only have to listen to men's opinions. Another concept that is related to the feminist critical theory is traditional gender roles. Point 3 of the texts that I read state that women had the obligation to please their husbands because women had no decision of their own; it is like a slavery for women. That is their obligation because they are women.

Nallely

In *Women are Objects* by Tyson, all women are expected to work all the time. Women work hard, and many of them do not know what days they are free. I think it happened years ago. In the text, it says that the women of before stayed at home and the women of now work. Today's women are independent. Men and women are involved in this story because men are the ones who support the housewives. In this story, all men have authority, and women do everything men say. For example, Housewives have to stay at home take care of their children, their husband, and their family. According to the author, "the majority of the caretaking of babies, children, the elderly, and the sick...is done by unpaid female members." Such actions are happening because they were in a patriarchal society where women had no power.

The feminist critical theory states that women have to obey their husband. The man have more economic and social power than women. The behavior of women comes from their culture. One concept that is related to the feminist critical theory is patriarchy. Patriarchy is defined as any culture that privileges men by promoting traditional gender roles. In the second point of the text that I read it states in some cultures men make decisions for women's bodies and children are owned by men. Another concept that is related to the feminist critical theory is traditional gender roles, which are the traditional roles, specific to genders, that some people believe men and women should follow. Point 4 of the text says that women are expected to take care of babies and the elderly because they are women and that is a job for women.

Lisany

Women are Objects talks about Colette Guillaumin, a feminist in France. It happened a long time ago when men used women as objects. French feminists exposed the men of the Patriarchy, a system that women of the time had to follow in order to call themselves a good woman. Patriarchy is like a culture where a man treats a woman like an object. In my opinion, this machismo called patriarchy still continues today in the world. Actually, for many cultures and different religions, women have a label "the woman of the house" that they have to follow where the man takes care of all the work and the woman stays at home, cooking and taking care of the children.

Patriarchy and Sexism are connected because they define the superiority that a man has. Feminist Critical Theory says that ideas about gender cause inequality in the world because it makes the feminine side look weak, less strong, and without opinion. Feminist Critical Theory shows how men treat women and how they see themselves superior to a woman, making her the weak side. This connects with the text "Women are objects" because men only use women to satisfy their own needs, treating women as the weak side.

Ashly

In "Women are objects" by Tyson points to a French feminist named Colette Guillaumin, who claims to hold the idea that a marriage contract should not limit the time or days that wives or other women have to work at home. The author of this text clearly details how women have been oppressed by men and how men have appropriated women's bodies, time and decisions, raising wrong ideas about the duties that each woman has, leaving them without the right to act on their own and subjecting them to follow strict rules created for the benefit of men. In some cultures it is natural for men to sell women's hair to make money, and the number of children to have is also decided by men. However, women not only have obligations at home but also have sexual obligations which occurs in marriage and prostitution. Female members are given tasks that men notably do not want to do.

Feminist Critical Theory is concerned with the ways in which literature and other cultural productions reinforce or undermine the economic, political, social, and psychological oppression of women. This Critical Theory assumes that all of Western civilization is deeply rooted in patriarchal ideology. A patriarchy is any culture that privileges men by promoting traditional gender roles. This means that thanks to gender roles, men have been greatly benefited by giving them the privilege of making decisions and having control of themselves, adding that society has shaped us like this and has imposed it over the years. One example of this is the women's role in the house. The text states, "the caretaking of babies, children, the elderly, and the sick...is done by unpaid female members." The main obligation of women will always be at home, whether doing chores or caring for sick people, children or the

elderly. The ideology of patriarchy causes inequality in the world because by giving privilege to men, that makes women become inferior beings. Sometimes we think that if patriarchy did not exist there would be gender equality, but what many do not know is that there are other variables and concepts that further distance the hope of achieving equality between women and men. Internalization is one of the many causes of gender inequality. Internalization is when certain beliefs become part of your nature and belief system. Each country has a very different culture and means that when you are born and grow up in a place where they have beliefs and do things typical of that country, that will become something normal because it is what you are used to doing and believing since you were born. The text states, "In some cultures, women's hair and even their milk are sold by male

members of the family; the number of children a couple will have is decided by the male; and the children are still the legal property of the husband." There are places where these actions by men are normal, but if we see it from another place with a different culture, we find it as something that goes against our principles. The text "Women are Objects" makes women look unhappy due to the detailed descriptions of their daily lives. There will be many people who are against these beliefs, but since everything in life has an opposite side, sadly there are people with hearts as cold as an iceberg who do not care that women are oppressed and undervalued by men. We must assign ourselves the task of convincing both society and ourselves that gender equality can lead to peace.

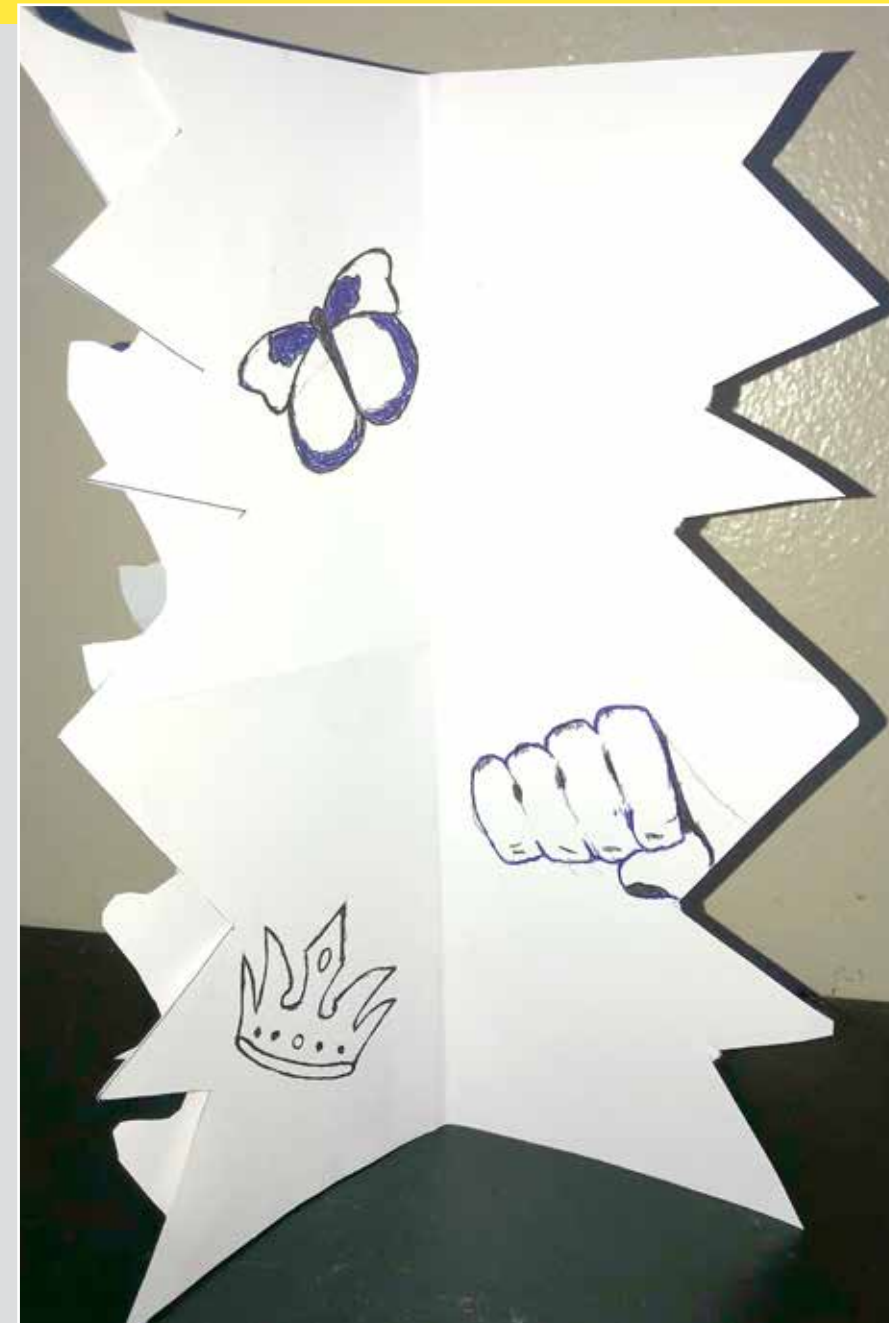
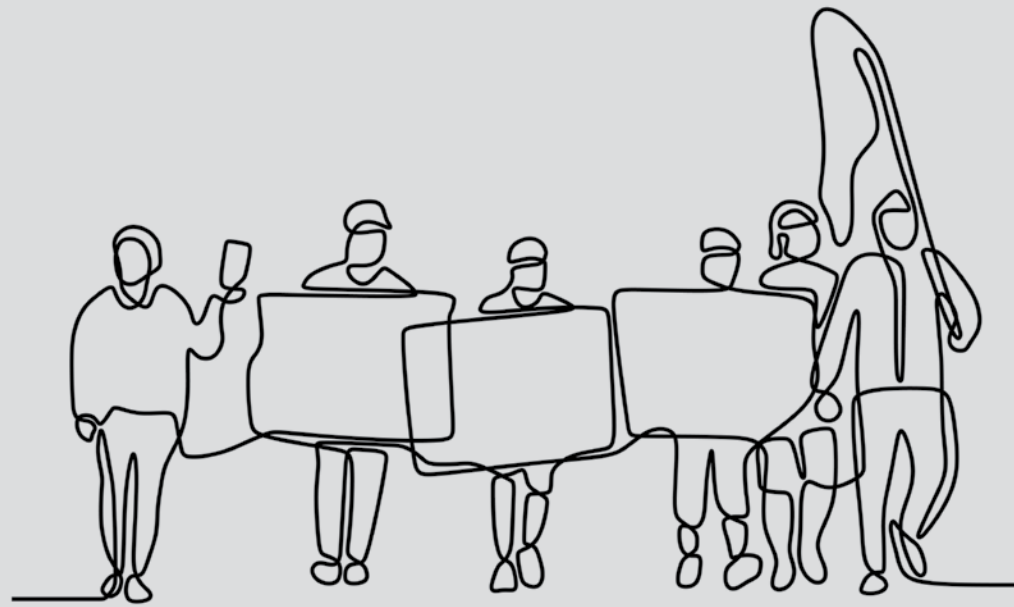


Sharif

In "Women are objects" by Tyson, it talks about how women are being used as objects. The man decides what the woman should do. Even the number of children is decided by the man. Also the woman has to give her body to the man whenever he desires. In the text it also says that women have to do tasks that men refuse to do. Lastly women are used by men to impress other men.

Feminist Critical Theory argues against sexism. Sexism is the belief that women are naturally inferior to men. We can see this in the text "Women are objects", when it says that men are the ones that decide what the women should do. The man has control of how many children the woman should give birth to. The feminist critical theory also assumes that western civilization is

rooted in patriarchy. We can see this in the text, when it says "women are merely tokens, markers, commodities (something that is traded) in a male economy." This means that women are worthless in the eyes of men. Women are used to impress others. It also says in the text that the world is for men and women are just a prize.



Leticia

In "The bourgeoisie and the proletariat" by Lois Tyson, he explains how the world is divided socioeconomically by the bourgeoisie, those who do not do any type of manual labor and who have a significant accumulation of goods and money that makes them wealthy people. On the other hand we have the proletariat, workers and laborers who, having no properties or possessing means of production, which are in the hands of the bourgeoisie, must sell their labor power in exchange for a salary in order to survive. From a Marxist perspective, what is the biggest difference between humans? Race, religion, gender, or socioeconomic class? Tyson shows that

the economic divisions have long transcended, yet the proletariat prefer to hang their heads and focus on religious and racial differences. But why does this happen? Why don't the oppressed rise up in a revolution against their oppressors? We know very well that companies are nothing without their employees but many of the employees do not have time or money to protest so they just get used to it and keep quiet.

Marxist Critical Theory is a set of concepts and ideas that explains how socioeconomic classes promote differences and inequality in society. It is characterized fundamentally by its

rejection of capitalism, consumerism and classism since the last mentioned systems promote a society with social classes and this is exactly what Marxism wants to abolish. The aim of Marxism is to prevent the bourgeoisie, who are a minority, from exploiting and getting richer and richer at the expense of the proletariat, who are the majority. Ms. Tyson also explains that if the proletariat united against the bourgeoisie and reached an agreement where everyone benefits equally, then the current power structure would be radically altered.

Nelson

You're Pretty for a Dark-Skinned Girl": The Continuing Significance of Skin Tone in "the Black Community" by J.N Salters

This problem is happening in the U.S.A. It is happening from a long time ago and the racism is continuing to spread . The people that are involved in this are the light skinned African Americans and the dark skinned African Americans. The problem is that even in black people lighter skin is better than dark skin. This perspective supports white supremacy by rewarding those closest to whiteness.

Black people are thinking that it is better to look less black they change their hair style, way they dress and speak. This is happening because black people have internalized racist beliefs.

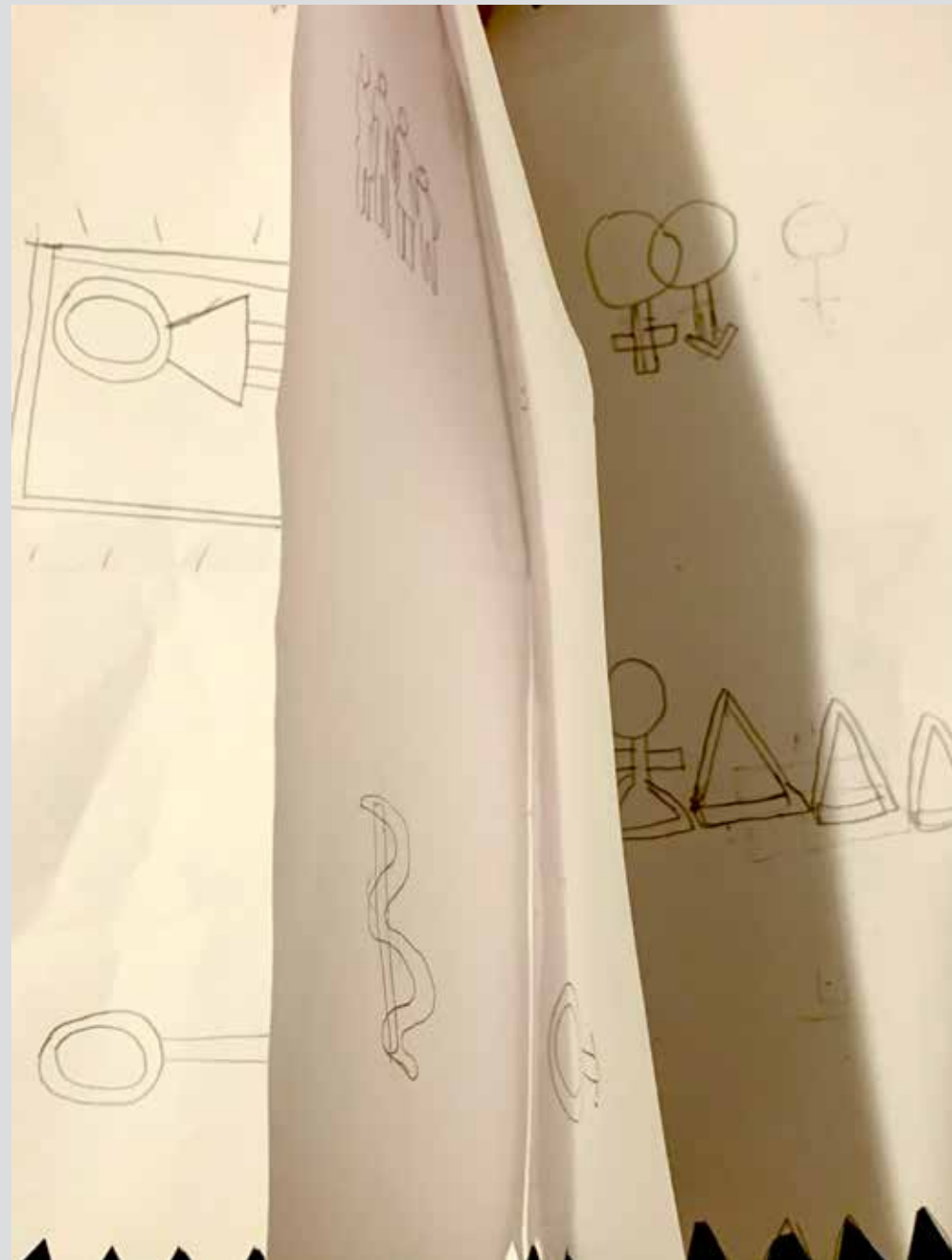
Shima

In the article "Women are objects." by Tyson, we learn about inequality that happened everywhere This happened a long time ago and still happens today. The author thinks patriarchy is not good for women. This happens because patriarchy says women are not equal partners that men are superior to women. Men make all the rules. Men don't think about the opinion of women, and for that reason women don't have the right to make decisions for themselves. The problem is about women having to take care of children and the sick people and women are unpaid and offered no holidays. These

unfair women are doing all the hard work but they don't get paid and this is unfair. And also women do jobs men don't want to do.

Feminist Critical Theory assumes that Western civilization is based on patriarchy. This means that men have power and can control the women . One example of this in the text is Women do not have holidays and do not get paid and also not limited time for work. Two important words in this theory are patriarchy and sexism. Patriarchy describes any culture that makes men's life easier by promoting traditional gender roles which make

the women do a lot of hard work and men do easier work. For example in the text, women take care of babies, the elderly and the sick because men don't want to do this work. It is very difficult work to do. Sexism is the belief that women are naturally less than men. In a patriarchy, sexism means that women are not really seen as people; they are merely things in a male economy to impress his friends and he does not care about the women or a happy family with that woman.



Teddy

In *No In-Between: Binary Thought* by Tyson, it states that patriarchy believes that women are inferior to men. Also, they think that there is something wrong with you if you believe in more than two genders. This way of thinking is happening all around the world. And it came from a long time ago. The party involves men, women, and girls and boys. Many Native Americans believe that there are more than two genders, and this way of thinking was before the European invasion.

Feminist Critical Theory assumes that Western civilization is rooted in

patriarchy. This means that women and men have different jobs, and women have to do what their husbands say. The text demonstrates that patriarchy believes that women and men have different roles in society. Sexism is shown in the third paragraph of the text. That paragraph says that women must obey men because men are natural leaders and women are obedient.



Crissith

“You’re Pretty for a Dark-Skinned Girl”: The Continuing Significance of Skin Tone in “the Black Community” talks about a short story of a dark skin tone girl, one day a boy tell her that informed me that he could never date her because I was “too dark,” but he would like to have sex with her. It also talks about how people with more lighter skin have more privileges like, working indoors and, at times, the opportunity to learn to read and to be emancipated by their white fathers, whereas dark-skinned slaves did not.

Critical Race Theory assumes that race is a social construct. Structural racism means that the better treatment of light skin in the past during slavery reproduce itself in the better job opportunities and greater social desirability of light skin African American

today’s society. One example of this is that some black will not marry a woman with dark skin.

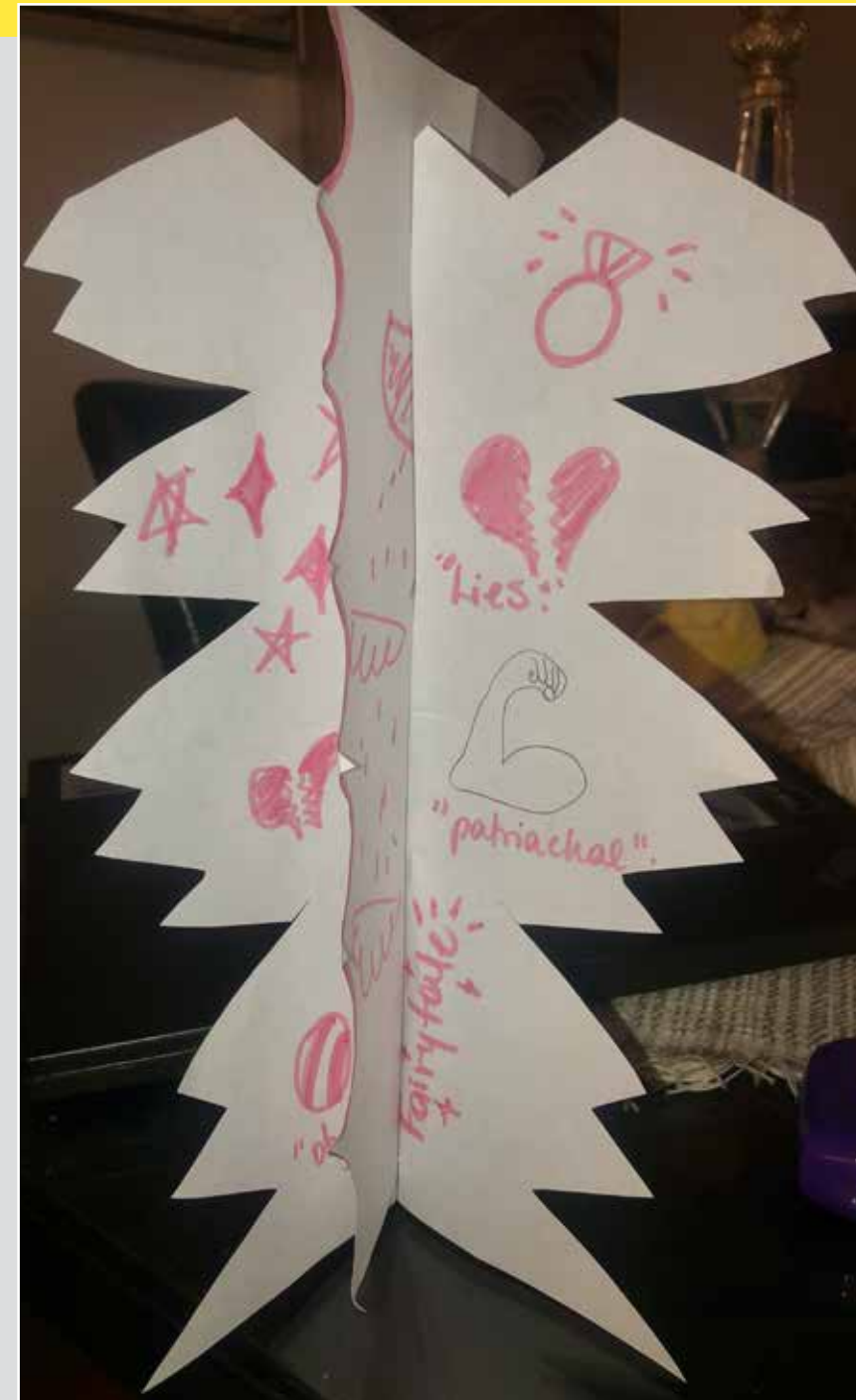
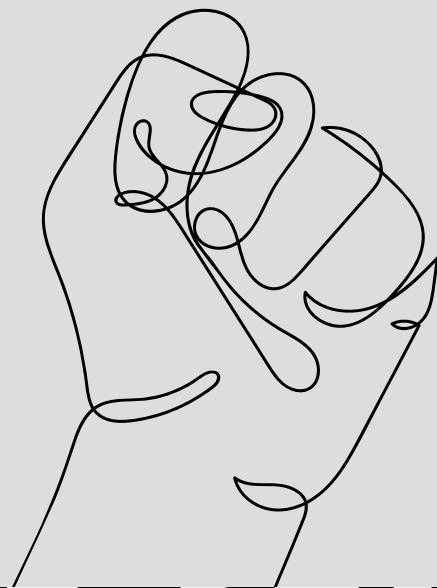
Another example from the text is that light skinned African American have higher incomes and live in better neighborhoods than dark skinned African Americans. In addition internalized racism is discrimination within communities of color against those with darker skin and more “African” features. Colorism is a part of intra-racial racism. This is an important concept or vocabulary for the text because a guy with a lighter color said to a girl with darker skin that what a blame that she is pretty but skin color is dark and that he would never have relations with a woman of darker skin color.

Gabriela

In the text "Women are objects" by the author Tyson, explains how back in the days, women were treated as objects in a Man's world. This text reveals that because it was a Man's world, Women did not have the right even to choose how many children they wanted to conceive. Also, in some cultures, women's hair and milk were sold by male family members. In addition to all of this information, basically, women had no right to choose over their body, a proper lifestyle, their actions and even their children.

Feminist Critical Theory assumes that Women are oppressed by patriarchy economically, politically, socially and psychologically. In the text "Women are objects" this assumption appears to be true when

in the text says that "In a patriarchy, women are merely tokens, markers, commodities (something that is traded) in a male economy." In a society full of patriarchy, this means that women are like these games that kids play and when they're tired of playing, they just say: I'M BORED. Tyson also explains that women's obligations with men not only occurs in marriage it also does in prostitution. The patriarchal man marries a woman crucifying her the rest of her life naming her his property, feeling entitled to pay for another woman to do what he wants with her. At the end of the day, they just use women as they please, and the society has to applaud them for their great feat.



Yelissa

In the "Good Girl" by Tyson. Women had to be a housewife, and she had to be perfect, taking care of the children and the man. This story happened both in the past time but also in the present, because the text refers to Victorian culture in England and middle-class American culture today. This story is about men and women and their roles in society. The problem in this story is that women are housewives and what they think or feel is not important. What is important is what they do for the family . This is happening because this is a patriarchal society. As it states in the text that I read

" She made the home a safe haven for her husband... and for her children, where they could receive the moral guidance needed to eventually assume their own traditional roles in the adult world." This means that the priority of the women was to take care of others and her own needs were not important. Women also guided their children on gender roles.

Feminist critical theory state that women are oppressed by patriarchy economically, politically, socially, and psychologically. It argues against traditional gender roles which are the traditional roles, specific to genders, that some

people believe men and women should follow. Two vocabulary words or concepts related to this theory are patriarchy which is any culture that privileges men by promoting traditional gender roles and the word internalizing which is when certain beliefs become part of your nature and belief system. These two concepts relate to the text that I read because women are treated as inferior than men and women believe that their job is to serve men.

Carlos

In No In-Between: Binary Thought by Tyson, The problem is that patriarchy believes that women are inferior to men. also, they believe that there is something wrong with you if you believe in more than two genders. This happened a long time ago and is still happening. This is happening all around the world. The party involves men, women, girls, and boys. Many Native Americans believe that there are more than two genders and this belief was before the European invasion.

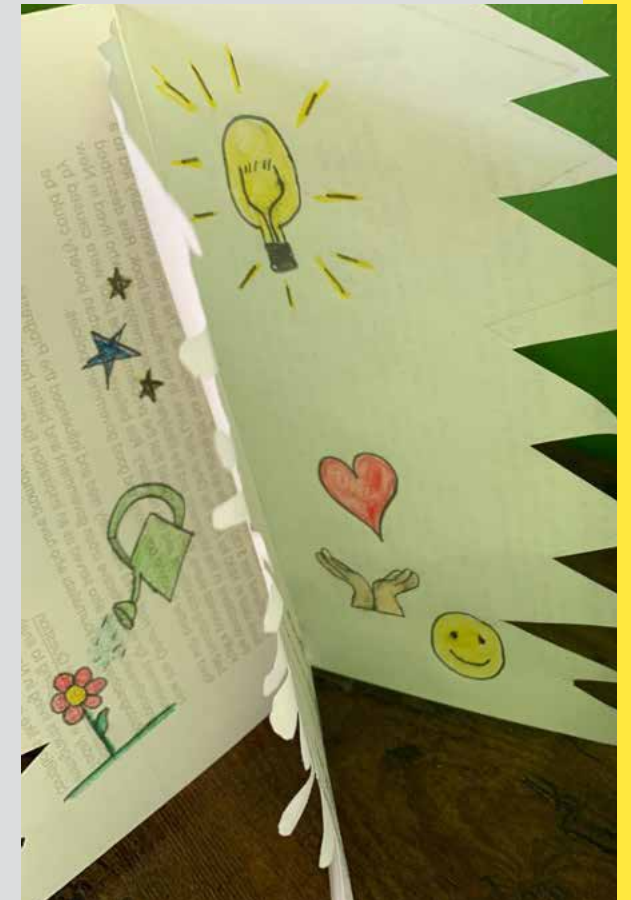
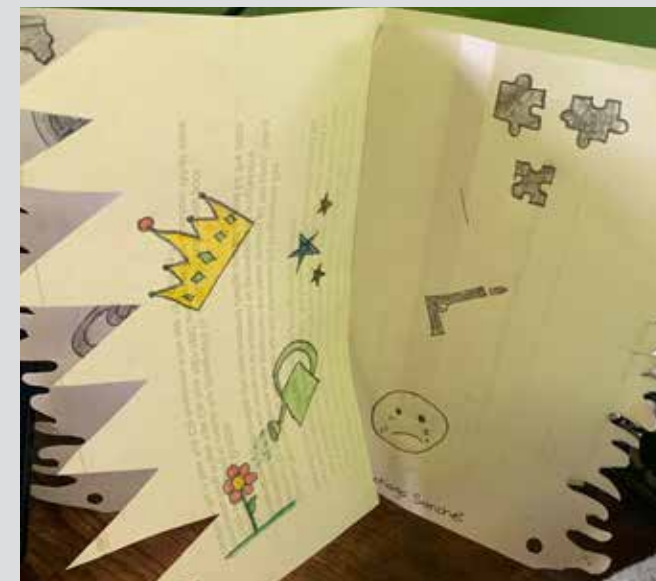
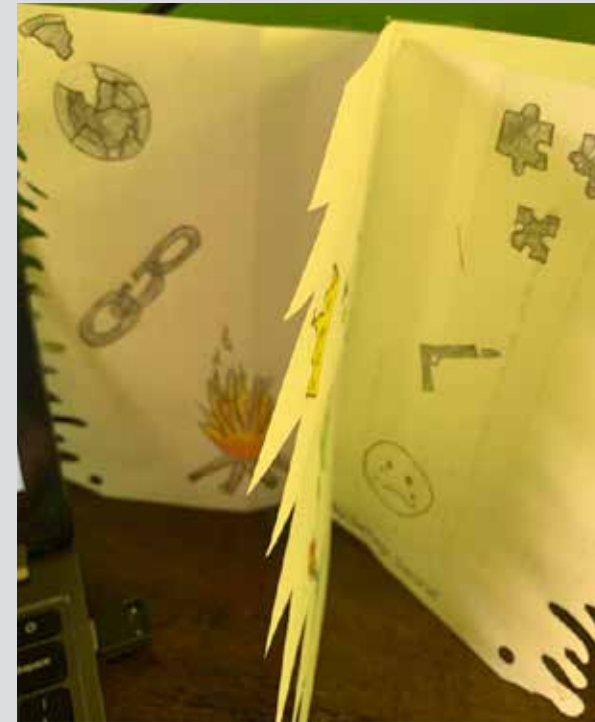
Feminist Critical Theory assumes that Western civilization is rooted in patriarchy. This means

that men believe that they are better than women. Two important concepts in this theory are patriarchal and sexism. Patriarchal beliefs that men have more advantage than women while sexism is the belief that men are superior to women. We can see this in the text, 5. No In-Between: Binary Thought these two concepts, when the author wrote,"Of course, it follows that women are naturally submissive to men, that men are natural leaders, and so forth."

Santiago

In A Rainbow Creation, the boy's name is C.J. who likes to play with barbie dolls and their parent's think that was wrong and he was to play with cars, toys for boys but one day they went to Target in the toy section and the boy went directly to the girl's toys. Some people think at the age of one or two gender-neutral toys go away and the toys are made especially for boys and girls to play with. Also, the parents of C.J. think they do something wrong with their son because he plays with dolls. and the parents feel like they want to hide him from the world. Toys are made specifically for boys or girls to play with. This difference in boy and girls toys (in stores and our house) made C.J. feel lost. I think when you are a kid you don't see the different types of toys because some

people think the cars are for boys and dolls for girls so when they see a boy playing with dolls is normal and at the same time for the girls, they have this type of mentality the make them ignorant but also when you a kid you don't define what you going to be on your life but some people think he is going to be gay or lesbian. However, like I was explaining the kid is not going to be like them because when the kids grow could define his or her self, When you are a kid you don't think about the difference of what is good or bad with for toy, the toy is nothing to worry about and C.J. could decide something to his life when he grows. Playing with dolls or cars is not going to change him.



Yerli

Racism started a long time ago. There were a lot of people pass through this uncomfortable situation. Sometimes people have bad experiences in their life that sometime they feel afraid to say something. A lot of people suffer with this kind of situation that is called racism but also bullying, an uncomfortable situation that make people afraid , nervous, sometime they do not want to talk about it. In my opinion is not good to use those uncomfortable word or racism to make people angry because you don't have any ideas how those people going to feel or react during this time.

In critical race theory we learn different race in our society when people make racism to other,that people are racist to people of

color. Mexicans Americans want to be apart of the immigrant story of those who come here with nothing and succeed. In the article we learn that mexican americans are being treated badly and are bullied. People of color in the U.S have these experiences. Everyday racism is saying bad things about people of color. Also we see institutionalized racism with the police. The police separating immigrant children from their parents and they mistreat people without no reason just for their like.

In my opinion all those things that happen in our world are not good because a lot of pass through with some type of this things. Sometimes people suffer a lot and they make bad

decision to do bad things in their life, sometimes people died with some kind of this situation because they do not want to talk and search their feel less people , scared , nervous , fearful etc. We do not want people die with some of this situation, we can make a better world if we help each other also respect each other opinion , other culture, language, clothes, color of skin does not matter how people look we need to love each other because we are equal - we are a group of people in one world.

Maria

In *The Good Girl* by Tyson, In the Victorian culture of England there was an endless cycle in which the same customs were instilled in children and their children's children. the woman had to be delicate, patient and submissive before the man. her voice is only heard if she benefits the patriarchy otherwise she was completely ignored. The woman has obligations to her husband and family, to stay out of everything, take care of her children and the house and comply with the orders of the husband or guardian because women could not guide themselves nor could they have rights over their own goods unless it is with the permission of her husband. also a good girl must remain uninterested in

sexual matters or in sexual life itself. She can only have relations with her husband with the simple fact of having children and not for her pleasure, because sex should have been seen as something disgusting for the woman, the simple fact of thinking something like sex was seen as something from the devil, This only applied to women. In other cultures like the American one, the woman is never too busy to work outside the home and keep her house and children spotless and to please her husband in bed. This shows that even though the woman is working, she must still continue with her role as mother and wife.

About the Visiting Author

Patricia McCormick is a two-time National Book Award finalist and the author of several critically acclaimed novels – including *Never Fall Down*, the true story of a boy who survived the killing fields of Cambodia by playing music for the Khmer Rouge. She is also the co-author of *I am Malala*, the story of Malala Yousafzai, the girl who was shot by the Taliban in her fight for education. Her books have been on the New York

Times Notable Books list, Publishers Weekly Best Books list, National Public Radio's Best Books list, and iTunes Best Books lists. Her book, *The Plot to Kill Hitler*, published in 2016, was named a Publisher's Weekly Top Ten. Her first picture book, *Sgt. Reckless, the True Story of the Little Horse Who Became a Hero*, came out in the fall of 2017. She lives in New York.



About the Student Authors

Together, we navigated this awkward virtual space

Maintaining a sense of community

Finding ways to read together

Offer opinions and reflection on texts

Some started new jobs

Applied to college

Took care of siblings while somehow managing to participate in class

Found reasons to smile and even laugh at times

Compose paragraphs

While a deadly pandemic raged on, school buildings opened, then closed, then opened again.

Continue to strive, Class of 2021.

Take strength in knowing that you are a part of a community of resilient individuals who can overcome the toughest adversities.

Be well.

About Behind the Book

Behind the Book brings authors and their books into classrooms to build literacy skills and foster a community of lifelong readers and writers. Working with classes from Pre-K through 12th grade, our series of workshops is designed to bring books to life and inspire students to reach their full potential. Behind the Book is embedded in the class curriculum, nurtures critical thinking, creativity, and self-confidence in New York City public school students. All programs meet the Common Core Learning Standards.

Common Core Learning Standards Addressed

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.11-12.1

Cite strong and thorough textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text, including determining where the text leaves matters uncertain.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.11-12.3

Analyze the impact of the author's choices regarding how to develop and relate elements of a story or drama (e.g., where a story is set, how the action is ordered, how the characters are introduced and developed).

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.11-12.9

Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.11-12.4

Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience. (Grade-specific expectations for writing types are defined in standards 1-3 above.)

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.11-12.5

Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on addressing what is most significant for a specific purpose and audience. (Editing for conventions should demonstrate command of Language standards 1-3 up to and including grades 11-12 here.)

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