

Revealing the Significance of Critical Stylistics Analysis in Patricia McCormick's Novel "Sold"

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Abstract

Patricia McCormick's novel Sold depicts human trafficking throughout Human trafficking is a major problem that affects people all over the world. After being promised one thing and receiving another, women and children are forced into trafficking. In the world of human trafficking, women are especially vulnerable. Numerous diseases and threats exist. Human trafficking which considers a major problem in present time. These women have little to no protection. 'SOLD' sheds light on the global problem of human and sex trafficking of child . critical stylistics refers to the stylistic activity of investigating and investigating the ways in which social meanings are demonstrated through language .This study aims to say the linguistic critical stylistic analysis the them of sex –child trafficking by adopting Jefferies (2010) textual conceptual functions and other stylistic devices to help in analyzing the extracts that are representing child sex trafficking , the model element adopted in this study : are representing action event state, negation and hypothesizing and metaphor and irony .

Key words : critical stylistics , sold , human trafficking , ideology , stance

الكشف عن أهمية تحليل الأسلوب النقدي في رواية باتريشيا مكورميك

المستخلص

، يستهدف هذا البحث فهم كيفية تمثيل موضوع الاتجار من خلال اللغة والأساليب الأدبية المستخدمة في رواية لباتريشيا مكورميك تقدم صورة مفصلة عن ظاهرة الاتجار بالبشر. تستعرض الرواية تفاصيل العمليات التي تجبر فيها النساء والأطفال على الدخول في شبكات الاتجار بعد أن يتم تضليلهم وخداعهم بوعود كاذبة. تركز الرواية على قصة فتاة صغيرة تُدعى لاكشمي، تبيعها عائلتها الفقيرة في نيبال لتعمل كعاهرة في ملاء جنسية في كلكتا، الهند . بفضل أسلوبها الوصفي المشوق، تجسد الرواية الصور الواقعية للمشهد الذي يعيشه النساء والأطفال الذين يتعرضون للاتجار. تنقل الألم واليأس والشجاعة التي

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يظهرونها في محاولة البقاء على قيد الحياة والهروب من قبضة الاتجارين. يتم تسليط الضوء أيضاً على الظروف القاسية التي يتعرضون لها، بما في ذلك الفقر والعنف والاستغلال الجنسي والأمراض تنتقل الرواية ببراعة بين مشاهد القهر والاضطهاد التي تعانيها لاکشمي في البيئة القاسية لصناعة الجنس في الهند، وذكريات المريعة لحياتها السابقة في قريتها الهادئة. تكشف الرواية عن تفاصيل صادمة حول التعذيب الجسدي والنفسي الذي يتعرض له الضحايا، والاستغلال الجنسي والتجبر على ممارسة الأعمال الجنسية ضد إرادتهم باستخدام تحليل لغوي نقدي يعتمد البحث على وظائف المفهوم النصي لجيفريز (٢٠١٠)، والتي تشمل تمثيل الأحداث والأوضاع والنفسي والاستباق والاستعارة والتناقض، لفهم الطرق التي يتم بها التعبير عن المعاني الاجتماعية في النص. يوضح البحث إلى زيادة الوعي بمشكلة الاتجار بالأطفال في الجنس وتعزيز التحركات المجتمعية لمكافحتها.

1. Background of Sold By Patricia McCormick

Patricia McCormick writes *Sold* to exploit the world for paying attention to the wrongs things. She also writes *Sold* to find out more about the sexual system ,and what happens to these girls that are getting abducted into labor while thinking otherwise most of the time She explains in *sold* to find out more about Human trafficking and how it happens so often. Thus, McCormick writes this novel to reveal how human trafficking is inhumane act that happening now days.

Human trafficking which considers a major problem in present time. A girl of thirteen years old is sold to a Happiness House where she is working as a sex slave to get money for Mumtaz and also her way out back home. The story is a coming to age story which made her grow up too fast with other girls used as prostitutes with no way out . Some may believe that this novel was to entertain the audience or persuade the reader to be more active or vigilant about global issues around the world . However, most agree that this is something that needs to be addressed on bigger scale because it 's a crime.

Researching human trafficking can further all evidence and information on the topic which the books had multiple points to emphasize on . Patricia McCormick writes *sold* to inform people about the experiences of others lives and the way they are living with this happening to them or have happened . Her personal trials have taken an emotional route to connect with Lakshmi .

2.The Statement of the Problem

The present work is concerned with finding how human trafficking as an ideology is stylistically introduced (expressed) in selected novels. Critical stylistics argues that all texts are ideologically based. According, to Jeffries there are sets of analytical tools through which critical stylistics uncovers the ideologies hidden in the text thereby saving the analyst from subjectively looking for them in an attempt to confirm preconceived assumptions.1-What are the stylistics strategies employed by the writers in dealing with given topic ?2-What are the types of

human trafficking utilized in the selected novels? 3-How are the stylistic tools used to express the topic under study ?

3.Critical Stylistic Perspective

The term critical stylistics refers to the stylistic activity of investigating and investigating the ways in which social meanings are demonstrated through language. This stylistic inclination is primarily stimulated and shaped by Critical Discourse Analysis and Critical Linguistics (Norgaard et al 2010,p. 11). It is largely attributed to Lesley Jeffries' work, which builds on CDA work by employing various methods of analysis to help "show up (...) connections between language, power, and ideology" (Fairclough 1989; cited in Evans and Schuller (2015,p.132), but it follows in the footsteps of Widdowson's (1998) critique of the discipline. Critical stylistics seeks to answer the question "what the text is doing" by employing a variety of linguistic tools of analysis to uncover the ideologies that underpin literary and non-literary texts. It also bases its framework on Halliday's theory of grammar as social semiotic and the critical linguistics which is based upon.

Consequently, Jeffries (2007) coined the term "Critical Stylistics" when she attempted to investigate the dominant discourses on the female body in society in terms of how language both constrains and enables women to live their lives (Ulrike 2013,p.75). Critical stylistics aims to combine the strengths and merits of both stylistics and CDA in order to unpack the way writers embed their ideologies, as well as other social concepts, into their writing, whether literary or non-canonical. Critical Stylistics makes an attempt to connect CDA and stylistics. CDA claims to demonstrate how language is involved in non-obvious social relations of power and dominance (Coffey 2013,p.30). It is primarily used to investigate factual information, such as political texts, which are frequently obtained from media outlets. Stylistics, on the other hand, is generally defined as "the study of style," and it essentially deals with analyzing "literary language" in order to clarify the relationship between language and artistic fiction, even though this may necessitate the illustration of ideologies. Critical stylistics offers a solution to the broken thread between stylistics (textual choices) and CDA, i.e. ideology. Critical Stylistics began at Huddersfield University with the publication of the book Critical Stylistics: The Power of English (Jeffries 2010), on which this current study is based in terms of its adopted model. The goal of Critical Stylistics is to "assemble the main general function that a text has in representing realities" (Jeffries 2010,p. 14). It presents a set of tools that are expected to be more comprehensive than any other account in the body of work in CDA, though it is not necessarily exhaustive.

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Roger Fowler (1986) was one of the pioneering advocates of the critical school. Simpson (1993) also has touched upon the connection between stylistics and linguistics in his book *Language, Ideology and Point of view*. Both of these scholars have developed tools for the critical text analysis and Simpson employed his own methods in stylistics, all before Lesley Jeffries published her abovementioned book in (2010) amalgamating CDA and stylistics with a special prominence placed on the actual linguistic manifestation of social meaning, along with the required tools of analysis (Dorpar 2015,p. 1)

These tools, known as 'textual conceptual functions' (TCF), aim to reveal the implicit ideologies created by the linguistic choices made by the text producer. They provide a more developed and comprehensive methodological system, which CDA currently lacks (Jeffries 2010,p.1-2). Staying true to stylistic methods, critical stylistics uses views and discoveries from formal linguistics as a foundation for text explication; and, as with recent movements, it is defined by a growing concern that extends beyond the boundaries of description and canonical literature (Alaghbary 2014,p. 156). Critical stylisticians use "linguistic features that are already well-described in very many semantic-grammatical theories and models" as an analyzing tool for "the various ways in which texts allow/ask us to conceptualize the topics they address, and to provide some means of accessing this representational practice" (Jeffries 2010,p.14). They expose the manipulative ways in which language is used and how ideologies are "communicated, reproduced, constructed, and negotiated using language." It should also be noted that the scope of this comprehensive investigation is broad, encompassing media, legal, corporate, and political texts, all while including in their body of work and interest the traditional stylistic concern with canonical literature.

4. The ideological Perspective

Critical stylistics makes the claim that all texts are ideologically influenced, whether consciously or unconsciously; in other words, it is invested in uncovering and revealing the hidden ideologies in discourse and texts (Olaluwoye 2015,p. 88). It presents a set of analytical tools that allow the analyst to shed objective light on hidden ideologies in texts. Critical stylistics' major achievement is to provide a more comprehensive and methodical framework of an analytical tool.

It is critical to emphasize that all discourse analysts and linguists (stylisticians) regard all discourse as ideologically charged (Jeffries 2010,p.8). As a result, it is not an exaggeration to say that this latter point is considered an unavoidable fact of all discourse. This is not to say that, as is commonly assumed in political circles and the media, the term "ideology" is necessarily

associated with politically motivated goals and self-centered intentions. In addition time, it is important to realize that not all ideology is equal; clearly, some ideologies have a negative potential, others may be moral or righteous, and others may be a matter of cultural constraints . It is important to emphasize that no discourse can be free of ideas, and thus of ideology. As a result, ideologies can be carried through language and expressed either explicitly or implicitly.

According to Subramaniam (2008,P.40), the term "ideology" is "indeterminate and tricky." He goes on to explain that this is related to how it is perceived; either as all-inclusive or as only covering certain elements. He asserts that the theoretical constructs that pertain to ideology and ultimately give it its outlook are what he refers to as "a shared or collective consciousness...a belief system" that binds members of a specific community together . Ideology can take many forms, including ideology as collective consciousness, ideology as religion, and ideology as manifested by power and domination, which entails the study of ideology as a tool of domination in society.

5. Methodology

5.1 Framework of Model of Analysis

Jeffries (2010) suggests a comprehensive model based on the work of Simpson (1993), Halliday (1985) *An Introduction to Functional Grammar*, and Short (1996) *Exploring the Language of Poems, Plays, and Prose*. It is made up of ten tools in total, which are: naming and describing; Representing Actions/ Events/ States. (Simpson's Transitivity model 1993); Equating; Exemplifying and Enumerating; Prioritizing; Implying and Assuming; Negating; Hypothesizing. (Modality as in Simpson 1993 which is based on Halliday 1985); Presenting others' Speech and Thought. (Short 1996); Representing Time, Space and Society . Besides these tools the searcher add stylistics devices such as metaphor, irony .

a) Naming and Describing

Names can call and name things in different ways. A name is not limited to the reference of the noun. It also includes the words that accompany the nouns, the co-texts like adjectives, post-modifiers, clauses, and the nominalized verbs (Jeffries, 2016, p.164).

b) Representing Actions/Events/States

This textual- conceptual function represents the selection of transitivity. It shows the semantic function of a noun phrase concerning verbal elements. It reveals how a speaker or a writer expresses the situation according to actions, events, or states. In such a way, it aims to show who shoulders the responsibility of the resulted action (Jeffries, 2016, p.164).

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c) Equating and Contrasting

Jeffries (2010) sets syntactic triggers to create equivalence and opposition. It is one way to explain a text by different words, and it is a way to find out peculiar work in context (Jeffries,2016, p.164).

d) Exemplifying and Enumerating

Exemplifying and enumerating are related and hard to differentiate. Therefore, the readers need to employ “pragmatic inferencing” to identify them. The difference between them is that when exemplifying occurs in a text, the list is indicative. With enumerating, the list in a text is comprehensive (Jeffries, 2016, p.164). **e) Prioritizing**

Prioritizing is found when text producers prioritize parts of the content of the utterance. It occurs in subordination, information structure, cleft constructions, and some other syntactic clues (Jeffries, 2016, p.165).

f) Assuming and Implying

It is associated with presupposition and implicature. There are some features of implicature, which fit into the interpersonal (pragmatic) level of meaning. Besides, there are textual triggers of presupposition (assuming) and implicature that are not contextual (Jeffries,2016, p.165).

g) Negating

It is the way of building non-existent worlds (specifically narrative) to promote and enhance an ideology, like fearing, desiring, or believing, for a reader. It evokes positive and negative reality (Jeffries, 2016, p.165).

h) Hypothesizing

Presenting hypothetical reality can be shown by adopting the modality system. Halliday (1994) thinks that the modal system fits in the interpersonal meta-functions of language. However, Jeffries (2016) thinks that modality is ideational in its textual conceptual meaning. It can show the impact on the reader or hearer in different ways (Jeffries, 2016, p.165).

i) Presenting the Speech and Thoughts of other Participants

This tool shows others speech and thought through the division of direct and indirect speech and direct and indirect thought. According to Jeffries (2016, p. 166), it is related to the textual function.

j) Representing Time, Space and Society

It shows how the text organizes its deictic center and draws the reader's attention towards that deictic center. In that way, a reader or hearer takes a view situation from within the text, and so they become more sensitive to textual ideology (Jeffries, 2016, p.166).

6. Data Analysis

6.1 The theme of Child –Sex Trafficking

To start the journey of the sold analysis based on the model already explained in the previous point of critical stylistic analysis of human trafficking.

Extract 1

“One more rainy seasons and our roof will be gone, says Ama. My mother is standing on the long ladder, **inspecting** the thatch, and I am on the ground , **handing** the laundry up to her so it can bake dry the afternoon sun. There are **no clouds in sight. No hint of rain , no chance of it** , for weeks. **There is no use in telling** Ama this, though. ... tin roofs winking cruelly back at her. A tin roof means that the family has a father who **doesn't gamble** away the landlord's money playing cards in the tea shop. **A tin roof** means the family has a son working at brick kiln in the city . **A tin roof** means that when the rains come , the fire stay lit and baby stay health”,
(McCormick, 2006,p.1).

In the extract above , The novel begins in the small, unnamed Nepalese village where Lakshmi grows up in the Himalayan mountains. Lakshmi and her mother, Ama, begin the story by inspecting the thatch roof of their hut. Lakshmi's mother is worried about what will happen when the heavy rains arrive because the family cannot afford a tin roof. This give the reader a clear picture about the Nepalese society and Lakshmi, comes from a poor family who lives in Nepal's rural mountainsides. In this extract the protagonist Lakshami describes her lives and they her condition with her mother and her step father. The negation of verbs appears may times in this extracts to give ideological significance to the kind of the world of the speaker , negation allow the reader give hypothetical version of reality , it marked as being unreal, in this extract Lakshami wishes that she lives in rich and happy family. A tin roof is repeated every sentence referring to poverty caused by gambling and dunked father and the absence of son in the house .In this sense Lakshmi is comparing implicitly what Lakshmi hope to have a happy and healthy life because her stepfather is gambling addiction makes life even more difficult for the family. The most common struggles the family faces are a lack of money and, more often than not, a lack of food. Lakshmi understands that a girl's life is not valued in her society, so she does not object when her stepfather suggests that she leave school and go to the city to find work. Another aspect of the ideology find in the text is normalization one of the element of naming for verb such as inspecting , handing for emphasis the hard life which they live. Clearly, it could be

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find the element of opposition that deep seated conceptual meanings, as it appears to be the case interpreted in text to attract reader to make sense the text – concerned the underlying ideology of the text by applying the textual conceptual function , the writer tries to manifest how Naples's society is poor and the woman is always suffer from cruel treatment from the men such rural areas.

Extract 2

“ Before today , Ama says , you could run as free as **a leaf in the wind** .Now , she says , you must carry yourself with modesty, bow your head in the presence of men , and cover yourself with your shawl.

Never look a man in the eye.

Never allow yourself to be alone with a man who is not family .

Never look at growing pumpkins or cucumbers when you are bleeding .

Otherwise they will rot”.

I ask Ama .” why ,” I say “ must women suffere so?”

“ This has always been our fate,”she says.

“Simply to endure,” she says “ is to triumph”

(MocCormick,2006,p.15-16)

In the this extract Lakshmi mother tries to shape her daughter about traditional Nepalese society i.e patriarchal society , the moment of her first blood , she becomes a woman this is referred by deictic marker of time .The mother uses extended metaphore by comparing Lakshami life before like free as a leaf in the wind , and now becomes a young laday must behave like a woman . “Before” is followed by “could” indicate freedom, “now” is followed by necessity marker modal verb must referring for obligation , thus refereeing to deontic modality for creating alternative wold for reader to turn his attention to reality of situation of the character lives , this led the reader to ideological effect on the recieipient of such text.

Whilst, the future is locked in unconditional “ never” here the word never is repeated three times as an exaggeration using overstatement in the text for emphasizing that future of Nepalese girls is unknown .In the same time the word never denotes negation of syntactic tigress for packing up the ideology that the text producer i.e writer wants to say that there is no real future for rural Nepalese girl because of their poor families. Girls cannot go to school , they work to help their families.

Because of patriarchal society , women are always submissive, in the extract above it could be notice that women should never look at the men and to be alone unless to one member of her family. Always the men dominate in society. The status of woman is powerless than the man in society .According to the extract above there is a rhetorical question that writer asks , she does not need an answer , just to redirect the attention of the reader or to let him think of the answer “ must woman suffer so” ?.McCormick tries to reveal the hidden ideology of Naples society that women suffer a lot and they have no power and dominated by men always have the burden of children and have to work for their families.

Extract 3

The next morning my stepfather **brings** me to **BajaiSita’s store**.He is **carrying** Ama’s empty firewood basket and yet he is wearing his vest, his watch, and his best trousers.

“ Lakshmi want to go to work in the city,” he tells her.

I **feel** my self grow taller with his words.

Bajai Sita regard me through little lizard eyes “ Is she hard worker”? she asks.

She needs a thrashing on occasion” my stepfather says,

“ but she is not lazy as some”

My cheeks flame with indignation, but I say nothing .

“Are you willing to do whatever is **asked of you?**” she says .

I nod.

“ yes,” I say. “ I will do as I am told” (McCormick,2006,p.52)

In the extract above the climax of the story starts , when McCormick tries to tell the reader the domination of men upon women in Naples society and the powerless of woman they always scarifies themselves for their families, Lakshmi sees herself to go to work in the city to help her mother and her stepfather is gambling selling everything in the house instead of given money to his family. The verbs bring , go , carrying , represent material action of verb which is intentionally or(consciously) happen ,whilst feels refers to mental state processes , these two types of verbs denote to transitivity which loaded with the ideological meaning in the real world Bajai store , here in this extract refers the woman as mediator for selling girls and transfer them into city for being working in the brothel house. Here the writer using implied metaphor by comparing trading women to store , in the meantime using understatement element for expressing less words to express meaning. In addition to that it could be found a rhetorical question which in intend for Lakshmi , and reader to make an element of suspense what the job is going to be work in the city , when her stepfather offers to sell her in the Bajai store.?

Conclusion

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In conclusion, the three excerpts demonstrate how the crucial stylistic devices cooperate to reveal the idea of sex slavery in the chosen novel. The researcher discovers that the text creates a worldview that is intrinsically radical by combining modality, transitivity, and transitivity and modality are woven together in the text to create an inherently exciting world view . The selected critical stylistic tools vary in their existence in the selected extracts. The concept is revealed by linguistic choices or tools for revealing the human trafficking ideology of violence, struggle. It could be said that critical stylistics tools helping to deducted social ideology of the text of trading ,and sex exploitation of girls in poor countries .

Patricia McCormick's novel *Sold* explores numerous layers of meaning. Although the story brings up the subject of girl trafficking, it also touches on native society, its poverty, and patriarchal discourse tradition with some distortion. Investigations of the treatment of women in Nepalese communities and the cost of human life are ongoing. Is it really a skewed Western perception, or are the third world nations really suffering from the severe psychological toll of keeping quiet and being unconcerned about the significant issues like those in the novel and suffering from them for ages until the turn of the twenty-first century.

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