NORMA HELMER'S EFFORTS TO MAINTAIN HER INDIVIDUAL PERSONALITY IN HENDRICK IBSEN'S A DOLL'S HOUSE

A THESIS
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ABSTRACT


Studying literature, the students will learn ways of life and value, because literature is the principle element of its culture. It contains the record of the people’s values, thoughts, problems and conflicts, in short, their whole way of life. Related to the study under report, the literary from to be discussed here is play.

Henrick Ibsen’s play: “A Doll’s House” is chosen with consideration that Henrick Ibsen is regarded as a Father of Modern Drama. He was the first important playwright to realize in practice the profound possibilities of dramatic realism. And also the writer is interested in Henrick Ibsen’s story because he was one of the first to argue for women’s rights.

Guided by the following research question: “How does Noema Helmer (Nora) maintain her individual personality?”, this study has attempted to describe Norma Helmer’s characters and efforts to maintain her individual personality.

The study uses Little’s points of analyzing character that includes finding the major character’s basic qualities that cover physical and mental qualities, the relationship of Norma Helmer with other characters, such as the relationship between Norma Helmer with Torvald, Dr. Rank, Mrs. Linde, Krogstad, and her three children, and how Norma Helmer maintains her individual personality. From this analysis, the writer can find Norma Helmer’s effort to maintain her individual personality.

The result of the analysis show that the major character lives in the dissatisfaction of the unfulfillment of her psychological needs such as the need to be accepted, free, appreciated, and loved for eight years. Norma Helmer loses the sense of belonging, because she feels she is nothing for Torvald (her husband). All these feeling lead her to the top of her dissatisfaction. At her home she cannot be herself and she cannot express her real feelings, thoughts and makes her own decisions. Living in such situation, Norma Helmer feels as if she were not a person, but she feels that she is Torvald’s doll. Therefore her home is not "a home" for her, but it is "A Doll’s House".

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