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The Representation of Violence against Women in the Novels “The Infatuations” by Javier Marias and “On Foot” by Belgheis Soleimani

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Abstract

In this paper, the rage and violence against women have been studied in two different cultures (Western-Iranian) in an analytic-comparative manner, which explicitly depicts how this rage and violence strengthens the patriarchal foundations and sacrifices or even eliminates women. After investigating the theories connected with the feminist criticism and specifically its most significant component i.e. violence against women, the present research analyzes the examples of typical and thematic violence in the two novels of “The Infatuations” by *Javier Marias* and “On Foot” by *Belgheis Soleimani*, so that it can unveil the violence against women in these two novels. The analyses show that notwithstanding the different beliefs in the two communities, violence against women is far identical but only different in their type of imposition.

Keywords: *Violence against women, infatuation novel, pedestrian novel, contemporary Persian novel.*

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Extended Abstract

1. Introduction

In this article, after stating the theoretical foundations of the research, the examination of specific and general violence, as well as type and subject violence that is a subset of feminist criticism, is discussed, then the representation of violence against women in two novels. In fact, the novels "The Infatuations" by Javier Marias and "On Foot" by Belqees Soleiman are mentioned, which analytically-comparatively shows that in the societies mentioned in the novels there is violence against women in various ways and many of these violences are made up of false beliefs, which the society has imposed on the individual.

2. Literature Review

In this section, the different meanings of violence have been examined first, and then the analysis of its types and feminism and violence against women have been mentioned

- 2.1. *The meaning of violence*
- 2.2. *Feminism and violence*
- 2.3. *Types of violence against women.*

3. Methodology

The research method in this article is analytical-comparative based on the theory of feminist literary criticism and the review of theories of this criticism. The component of violence against women is one of the key and main issues of feminists and their movement; The fight against women's violence has been going on since the 1970s. In this article, the authors have examined two novels with two different languages and cultures, as well as the difference between two different social classes, which shows that violence against women does not belong to a specific class or to a specific culture and country, and this violence shows itself in different ways in all societies.

Results

The results of the research showed that the dimensions of violence against women in the novel "Infatuations" and the novel "Walking" despite the horrific violence such as murder that was observed in both novels; One is to obtain and the other is to destroy obvious violence against women. The main actions of the main female characters in both novels include: silence, submission, crying, sense of inferiority, mental

expressions, etc.; which the patriarchal system of the society they live in has imposed on them.

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