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**Charles Dickens's Devotion to the Abused Child**  
*Oliver Twist*

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**Before the Jury**

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## **Dedication (1)**

Every successful work needs self efforts as well as guidance of elders, especially from those who are very close to our hearts; I humbly dedicate my dissertation to my beloved Father, Mother and my whole Family for their affection, love and endless support which enable me to strive for my dreams.

I dedicate this work as I give special Thanks to my best friend "Hayet Saidane" and my eldest sister "Sonia" for being there for me throughout the entire study journey. Both of you have been my best cheerleaders.

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## Abstract

As the most essential representative of the English critical realism, Charles Dickens's novel *Oliver Twist* reflects the complex and deteriorating social issues of the nineteenth century Britain like poverty, child labor, misery, and so on; also, it exposes the author's devotional spirit which defends the poor and the lower class oppressed children. The present study aims to analyze the novel *Oliver Twist* according to Marxist theory and to reveal the defects of the stratification system in the Victorian society and clarify the author's style and diction. Besides, the study is designed to discuss the reflection of Charles Dickens's life, particularly his childhood that was a solid motive, on his fictional works. Finally, our research seeks to show the author's sympathy and compassion to the poor and abused children for the hope of deepening our understanding of the significant theme of the novel "Oliver Twist".

**Keywords:** Marxism, formalism, biographical criticism, Social Class, class stratification, Devotion, Sympathy, Charles Dickens, *Oliver Twist*, the abused children.

## الملخص

تعتبر هذه الرواية من أهم الأعمال النقدية للواقع الإنجليزي، حيث تعكس رواية أوليفر تويست للكاتب تشارلز ديكنز أهم القضايا الاجتماعية المعقدة والمتدهورة في بريطانيا خلال القرن التاسع عشر مثل الفقر واستغلال الأطفال والمعاناة وما إلى ذلك، كما أن الرواية تظهر روح الكاتب التعاطفية التي تدافع عن الفقراء والأطفال المظلومين من الطبقة السفلى، إن هذه الدراسة تهدف إلى تحليل الرواية وفق النظرية الماركسية والشكلية لتظهر عيوب نظام الطبقة في المجتمع الفيكتوري، وتبين أسلوب وخطاب الكاتب التعاطفي، إلى جانب هذا فإن هذا البحث أيضا إنعكاس لحياة الكاتب تشارلز ديكنز وبالأخص طفولته التي كانت دافعا قويا لأعماله الخيالية، وأخيرا فإن بحثنا يسعى إلى إظهار شفقة الكاتب وتعاطفه مع الأطفال المستغلين والفقراء على أمل تعميق مفهومنا لهذا الموضوع المهم .

**الكلمات المفتاحية:** نقد السيرة الذاتية، الطبقة الاجتماعية، نظام الطبقة، الحب،

الشفقة، تشارلز ديكنز، أوليفر تويست، الأطفال المستغلين.

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## General Introduction

The Victorian era is defined as the reign of Queen Victoria starting from 1837 to 1901. (reference) This period was known as the time of peace and prosperity which leads to refining self-confidence and promoting enormous change and vast, domestic and foreign power growth in England. The Industrial Revolution started by the early of the 19th century that caused major technological, socioeconomic, agricultural and cultural changes, resulting the replacement of an economy based on manual labor to be dominated by machine.

However, not all historians agreed that the industrial period was a prosperous time for the Victorians. The English society had been transformed into further dimensions and divided the social class wide apart which gave rise to stark contradictions and conflicts between these classes. Also, the industrial period was for the interest of the rich which increased their wealth while the poor became more destitute. Hoagland argued that the industrial revolution remains many impacts as high unemployment and criminal actions at that time (203).

The history of Great Britain witnessed child labor over years; in the mid of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, crime, poverty, and child labor were particular results of the progressing England; children were the most suffering and marginalized group because they were unwanted by their families, church, and the state. As the industrial period started, a mass of humanity flooded into cities and towns without the promise of stable homes or shelters. Consequently, a tremendous number of children ran into streets of London, they struggled as best as they could for survival, and most of them were vulnerable to verbal and physical violence; they had no education so they were unable to differentiate between what is wrong or right, they usually stole to feed themselves. Unfortunately, they had never heard kind words except for various curses and vulgar language, the time was called “Child-Lost.”

Moreover, a strong relationship between the Victorian society and its literary products in both fictional and non-fictional works was apparent because of the rise of social awareness. Laura Berry reported that the 19th century was the time of child-category for new social debate as well as the responsibility towards them. Among those children, the most severely exposed group was orphans, who were the main subject of severe discrimination; also, there was no official apparatus to take care of them except the workhouse where they were exposed to dreadful living conditions (qtd.inPool 213). Therefore, Victorian writers were motivated to write about child protection with social reform where the dominant orphan character in fiction can be visible. Peter declares: "One can hardly open a novel by Dickens, the Brontë sisters, or George Eliot without stumbling out over at least one orphan"(Peters 1).

Charles Dickens is one of the authors of the Victorian writers. He wrote his second novel *Oliver Twist* to introduce to his readers what was it like to live in the nineteenth century London and to draw their attention to the deprivation of the lower class in the English society. Dickens is more successful than his predecessors in exposing the ills of industrial society within a class division, poverty, corruption, and child labor. *Oliver Twist* is a story about a Victorian child abused by his cruel society; Dickens's novel reflects and portrays a miserable childhood illustrated by several orphan characters. Also, Dickens's readers are often emotionally engaged not only because of his distinct ability in criticizing the evils of the Victorian social system, yet the reason is the profound feeling of devotion that he had for the abused children, especially orphans.

The selection of Charles Dickens is substantially based on our interest in his novel *Oliver Twist* which typically reflects the author's miserable childhood that helps him to hold tremendous love and compassion to his abused children characters, who lived prolonged poverty and anguish, and who spent childhood struggling to feed themselves. Dickens presented in his novel *Oliver Twist* how prosperity of the industrial London came at the

expense of the life of the poor children; therefore, it encouraged the writer to raise his voice against the corrupted social system as well as to deeply sympathize with the abused child.

### **Motivation**

Life was not the same for all children in Victorian times, the child's life depended on the social system. Accordingly, our motives beyond selecting "Charles Dickens's devotion to the abused child" is because: firstly, Charles Dickens had a profound love to the child-category as a result of his miserable childhood experience. Secondly, the novel *Oliver Twist* is a story which defends the rights of the child; besides, it is a rich novel that contains numerous emotion such as: love, grief, happiness, sympathy...and satire that all stimulate us as readers to experience different feelings in each chapter; also and most importantly make us tear up with the horrible Victorian situation that the child had faced, and in hope of reforming for the suffering children all over the world.

### **The purpose of the study**

The objective of the study is to show Charles Dickens's devotion towards the abused child character in his novel *Oliver Twist* according to his significant style that is mostly inspired by his childhood experience. Additionally, the study aims to introduce a real picture of the English society during the 19th century and how it exploited and abused children especially orphans as a result of the unjust social system and its class division.

### **Problematic**

The Victorian era had passed through new and huge progress in all fields such as economics, politics, but most importantly was in social life; where it seemed to have a supersensitive class division that reformed the English society. However, Victorian society is characterized by its inhumane social system against the poor class particularly the poor orphaned children; accordingly, the abused child was the main subject in many Victorian literary works during that time. Therefore, we intend to use Marxisim, Formalism and

biographical criticism to analyse the collected data in our thesis since the author's life played great role in his fictional works, especially his childhood. Also, we use Stylistic Analysis, because Dickens's particular language has revealed his profound feelings of love and compassion to the poor; therefore, to expose certain devotional situations that reflect Charles Dickens's humanity spirit and his profound love to the poor orphaned children who were oppressed by the evil social system.

### **Research Questions**

Our thesis intends to answer the following questions:

1. What are the historical and social issues the novel *Oliver Twist* has exposed?
2. What does inspire Charles Dickens to write about the abused child character; and how it becomes a significant characteristic that reflects his style of writing?
3. To what extent is Charles Dickens sympathetic to express his profound devotion towards the poor, orphaned, abused-child character?

### **Methodology**

According to the applied source materials in our study, and as a primary source is the novel *Oliver Twist* by Charles Dickens; also, we aim to use other relevant sources like books, articles, essays...websites which all serve our interest to conduct the present research. We contemplate to utilize sociological concepts based on Marxist theory to analyze certain social aspects such as social class which the novel *Oliver Twist* has exposed; also, to show how much cruelty and injustice the English social system was applying on the poor people, and it was the ultimate reason for Dickens to rise his critique spirit against the authority. Besides, we purpose to use the critical method as "Biographical Criticism" to examine Charles Dickens's life to point out to what extent the life of Dickens is reflected in his writings. Eventually, we

used stylistic analysis based on Formalism to elicit Charles Dickens's devotion to the abused child during the 19th century in the novel; however, Dickens is very unique at using the language and also he has a singular ability to expose the language aesthetic that its usage aims to effect upon readers.

### **Structure of Dissertation**

The present study is divided into three chapters, the first chapter deals with the historical, social, and economic context of the novel *Oliver Twist*. It defines the Marxist theory and some related terms used in analyzing the novel to show the system of social class during the Victorian period. The second chapter represents a critical review about *Oliver Twist* and examines the life of Charles Dickens to illuminate that Dickens's childhood was the essential part of his life that is reflected in his literary works as the basic theme to write about the deprivation of children characters. Dickens had a miserable experience during his childhood, he shared the same pain as well as the mistreatment of his society as those wretched Victorian children; consequently, it was the main cause that Dickens had had huge cherished emotions of sympathy and love to the abused children at that time. This love was the central theme in most Dickens novels and their protagonists. Finally, the third chapter is dedicated to elicit Charles Dickens devotion to the abused child in the novel *Oliver Twist* based on stylistic study according to Formalism which we attempt to represent Dickens's distinct use of words which are filled with love and compassion towards the abused child characters.

## **Chapter One: The Historical and Social Contexts**

### **Introduction**

Great Britain has known several eras and among all the historical periods that England had passed through, the Victorian era is considered one of the most important period that changed the history of Britain and the world; through this chapter we try to present those essential events that effects the Victorians and the whole society.

#### **1.1 The Victorian Era**

The term "Victorian" was first used in 1851 (Asa 66), the Victorian era was the period of Queen Victoria 's reign, it was the second-longest reign of the British monarch after the Elizabeth monarch. Queen Victoria ruled Britain over 60 years, from 20 June 1837 until her death on 22 January 1901, the Victorian era plays an important role in the history of Great Britain. According to E. Burns, England from 1827, until 1901 was so powerful and strong and it reached the height of its power (154), England witnessed a lot of changes at all levels economy, policy.....etc. And the nineteenth century was a watershed in Britain's history and Great Britain became a world imperial power.

The periods that precede the Victorian was not famous and great as the Victorian age, the Victorian era has known remarkable shifts, it was a period of rapid growth in urban scale and population (Williams 239) and the number of population was about 2 million in London and then the number of population increased to become about 6 million; also, Britain became the most powerful country in the world (Carter and McRae 271) because of the inventions in manufacturing and economy and the developed railways that related between the big towns and the steam-powered vessels used for trade. However, many events and problems ended the Victorian age like the Crimean War (1854-6), the Indian Mutiny of 1857 and the death of Prince Albert, the husband of Queen Victoria, in 1861. As a result, many

protestants opposed and rejected the monarchy because they claimed that Queen Victoria can not rule Britain anymore "The monarchy experienced a republican crisis in the 1870s, the queen having become unpopular through her seclusion after the death of her husband in 1861" (Williams 104).

The Victorian era witnessed several successive and rapid events that change the society, especially in terms of economics, politics and religion; some of those events contributed to its development and progress and some other events caused many problems and struggles that reflected the bad image of development and industry on society.

According to that, Burgers Wilson said that :

The Victorian age thus had a large number of problems to face. In many ways, it was an age of progress of railway-building, steamships reforms of all kinds but it was also an age of doubt. There was too much poverty, too much injustice, too much ugliness and too little certainty about faith or morals thus it became also an age of crusaders and reforms and theorist (80).

Moreover, England was the homeland and the birthplace of the industrial revolution and then it became a top nation due to the development in trade and industry. As a result, for this revolution, the Victorians and England as a country had known a great change in their daily life because of the development brought about by the industrial revolution; it was a great revolution that gave the Britons a newly developed life and created a new technological world that facilitates the life circumstances of the Victorians, also the developed inventions in different fields that debuted in England such as the Liverpool and Manchester Railway which opened in 1830 to be the first public railroad line in the world.

### **1.1.1 Social Life during The Victorian Age**

The Victorian era was a period of extreme social inequality where the English society was divided into three classes; the nobility, upper class, composed of Aristocrats,

nobles, Dukes and other wealthy families, they were having a better living condition. The middle class was spreading and expanding in society, and the lower class was mostly called the working-class which includes the destitute people.

The Victorian period was very prosperous for the two first classes, "it made up about fifteen per cent of the population in 1837 and perhaps 25 per cent in 1901" (Mitchell 19). The middle class was highly regarded as a group of merchants, bankers, doctors, shopkeepers, businessman, manufacturers ...etc. The working class was the weakest and the poorest class in the society; these three classes had political, economic and social differences. Especially between the upper class and the lower class, the upper class was the superior and the ruling class because it has power, authority and dominance among the other two classes. Consequently, throughout Victoria's reign, Victorian society witnessed dangerous and serious conditions. Within this regard, Sharpe and Handerseson reported that "the sixty-three years of Victoria's reign were marked by momentous and intimidating social changes" (451).

As a result of the industrial revolution, the upper class was getting more rich and wealthy, they were investing their wealth in factories and agriculture while the working class was living in extreme poverty. Several reforms have been taken by the British political system to give broad categories and classes of British society their electoral and political digested rights by the aristocracy. These reforms were undertaken by the parliament to avert any kind of political rebellion; the major goal of those three reform Bills was to extend the franchise, the first Reform Bill 1832 was a response to many years of people criticizing the electoral system as unfair, the act resulted in the right to vote to all males having a property, it raised the number of individuals to vote, increasing the measure of the electorate by 50-80 per cent and admitting a total of one out of six adult males to vote. The working class also have the right to vote by the second act of the Reform Bill 1867 and the third reform act of 1884-85 extended the vote to agricultural workers.

### 1.1.2 The Victorian Literature

The Victorian literature is the literature written in England during the reign of Queen Victoria from 1837 -1901; The literature of this era was preceded by romanticism and was followed by modernism and realism. The nineteenth century is often regarded as a high point in European literature and Victorian literature, including the works of Emily and Charlotte Brontë, Charles Dickens, George Eliot, Thomas Hardy and Oscar Wilde. However, the novel becomes the leading form of the English literature "the novel as a form became hugely popular and it was the novelists rather than the poets who became the literary representatives of the age" (Carter and McRae 244).

The novels had dominated the literary marketplace in form three volumes because it reflected the great social changes of this period, it was famous for the middle class and especially for the educated class; it received widespread attention and it was very popular. Most writers often represented social reality through describing and delivering messages about social problems; besides, adventure tales, science fiction, detective fiction and fantasy. However, the novel and its events convey the issues and the suffering of the Victorian society "novels were valued for being a fictitious meditation on and the meditation of reality" (Brantlinger and B.Thesing 388).

Charles Dickens exemplifies and expresses the Victorian problems better than any other writer "the richness of the picture, drawing as it does from all aspects of Victorian life, provides a seemingly endless resource for understanding issues of class, gender, race and nationality in Victorian England and for examining the fitful processes through which change is affected or stalled"( Brantlinger and B.Thesing 396). His novels were a variety of vivid characters and plot complications; he was known by his famous novels such as *Oliver Twist*, *David Copperfield* and *Hard times* which shows the negative aspects of social class on the

Victorian society and the inequality between people in rights and the miserable life of the poor families and the child labour.

## **1.2 The Industrial Revolution**

The industrial revolution began about 1780 in Britain, it is defined as "a wave of gadgets that swept Britain" (Mokyr 17). It is also defined as "a revolution in men's access to the means of life, in control of their ecological environment, in their capacity to escape from the tyranny and niggardliness of nature [...]it opened the road of men to complete mastery of their physical environment, without the inescapable need to exploit each other "(Mokyr 5).

The term industrial revolution was first used by the English economic historian Arnold Toynbee to describe the economic evolution in Britain(Mokyr 6). The term is taken to mean a set of changes that occurred in Britain between about 1760 and 1830 that irreversibly altered Britain's economy and society"(Mokyr 6).

Great Britain was the homeland of the industrial revolution when it appears for the first time in the 18th century then it spread to Europe and the other countries of the world. The industrial revolution was a result of the agriculture revolution and then the agriculture revolution paved the way for the industrial revolution the British economy during the Victorian age reached its climax and Britain became a leading industrial power; therefore, Britain has mastered and managed all industries from the easiest to the most difficult; "by 1830 Britain had become a leader in a variety of industries, from papermaking to engineering to chemicals" (Mokyr 30).

Moreover, the industrial revolution does not include the development of industries and how the way goods and services were produced but it affected also the society, the families, the position of women, children, the work nature and the attitude the British society think. Those changes altered the society and the way of life of the British people to a newly advanced, industrial and technological life. Therefore, Britain became the richest country in

the world, this great evolution affected the whole world and transformed the history of humanity for the better.

### **1.2.1 Causes of The Industrial Revolution**

The success, supremacy and prosperity that Britain achieved through the industrial revolution was not so easy, it was continuous efforts to reach its goals to become a global economic power. The industrial revolution occurs in Britain rather than other countries because there were several supporting factors that helped the development of the industrial revolution to stand as the Great Britain the top nation. Firstly, the essential factor is the strategic geographic location that reflects its position in the global economic "England is built upon an underground mountain of coal. Its exploitation was the motor-force in the revolution in production that created modern industrial society"(Levine 97).

Secondly, Britain possesses a major mineral wealth represented in iron and coal that had benefited from this wealth; those resources enable it to exploit in the economic sphere and export it to all nations of the world "coal and iron were traded commodities"(Mokyr 34). Britain was also using coal to provide cheap fuel; the most remarkable inventors, with their technological creativity, had used those natural resources to invent the first machine in British history which is the steam engine by Thomas Newcomen in 1710 to pump water from coal mines; and water to provide an adequate energy base for a mechanized industry.

In addition, Britain was an island provided it with the access to a cheap form of transportation (coastal shipping); the naturally navigable rivers and the canals helped Britain to expand its trade and the steamships that led to increase the mobility between the countries of the world (L.C.A Knowles 9). Furthermore, is the abolition of restrictions " the abolition of restrictions on personal freedom comprised in the sweeping away of serfdom and all the mediaeval and feudal limitations on free movement"(L.C.A Knowles 9). The personal

freedom that spread in Britain, Europe and all the world and due to the French revolution's ideas in 1789 "liberté, égalité et justice". The Britons were so influenced by these ideas of the because the main purpose was to liberalize the countries and the societies around the world from the restrictions; the British people were among the first to apply those ideas and the French revolution was one of the most important reasons that helped the emergence of the industrial revolution" (Knowles 5). In the same way, the British government supported the principle of "laissez-faire" and promoted its people for the economic freedom to support them to develop the industry and the economy of their country.

Another reason is the emergence of capitalism in Britain and how the British people were influenced by the ideas of the capitalists "she had a ready command of capital" (L.C.A Knowles 15). The spread of capitalism declined the feudal economic system and the rule of the aristocracy over the others; capitalism has had a positive impact on the British industrial revolution because it has given the property right and the private ownership of the means of production; therefore, the British people became able to owning the agriculture lands, factories and other forms of wealth; hence, the capitalists were able to change the rule and get out of the ordinary in the issue of wealth possession that was before belonged to the state and the aristocracy.

### **1.2.2 Child Labor during The industrial Revolution**

As a result of the industrial revolution which facilitated the human life; as it had left a positive impact on the society, it also had left negative effect; in particular towards the children to be severely laboured. Then, the term child labour had emerged; it is defined as work that deprives children of their childhood, their potential and dignity and they are highly exposed to harmful physical and mental break-downs. The children were the most damaged category in society. They were deprived to be educated, obliged to work in factories of textile mills, farms and other hard labour. They were mostly in demand in work because they were

regarded as cheap labourers, they could be easily replaced if an accident happened because many of them were in orphanage buildings. However, Their families did not object because children were as a support to their families even if it was for just a penny (Humphries 3). Children were often bullied and had to work for long hours for low pay, the working condition was terrible; if a child was late one minute to work he/she would be whipped, if a child got tired of work also he/she would be punished to death or easily be thrown in the rivers.

Due to the increased reports of children injuries and even to be killed the Factory Act in 1883 took a positive action that the children under 10-12 years old are unable to go to work.

### **1.3 The Literary Background**

#### **1.3.1 Formalism**

Formalism is a school of literary criticism and literary theory that aims to analyze and interpret the inveterate features of a text, it was known as the theory of art for art's sake which indicates that literature is an autonomous product. Formalism has some similarities and shared some characteristics with the western new criticism, it is one of the most influential approaches of literary analysis in the twentieth century that rejected the importance of a text's historical, biographical, and cultural context; however, the formalistic method evaluates literary works through paying attention to the language, style, diction and rhetorical devices, in this context Cain said: "formalism asserts that the text stands on its own as a complete entity, apart from the writer who produced it"(60). Formalism based on the close reading of the text that provides the readers with a way to understand and enjoy work for its own inherent value as a piece of literary art (Dobie 33). The formalists were deeply influenced by the French linguist Fernard de Saussure that literature is a systematic set of linguistic and structural elements that can be analyzed (Dobie 33). Therefore, literature is regarded as a self-

enclosed system and should be analysed according to its form rather than the content; formalists tend to separate literary language from everyday language. They argued that literary language is completely different that deviates from the expected to show how the author's language has its power to manipulate; thus, the literary works strange and unfamiliar. They tend to analyze the text by looking inside it, examines the elements of the text to clarify how they came together to create an aesthetic work that is mostly focused on the structure, images, patterns, diction, locution, unity, form.

### **1.3.2 Biographical Criticism**

Biographical criticism is a form of a literary criticism that aims to show the relationship between an author's life and his/her literary products. Simuel Johnson in his *Lives of the Poets*, argued that the biographical criticism is a critical method which sees a literary work chiefly, if not exclusively as a reflection of its author's lifetimes (81). However, biographical critics argue that there are three essential advantages for using biographical evidence for literary interpretation. Firstly, readers understand literary works better since the facts about authors' experiences can help readers decide how to interpret those words; readers can better appreciate a literary work for knowing the writer's struggles or difficulties in creating it, and; readers can better assess writers' preoccupations by studying the ways they modify and adjust their actual experience in their literary works. Hence, throughout the 20th-century, Biographical criticism remained an important mode of literary inquiry particularly in Charles Dickens, F. Scott Fitzgerald, John Steinbeck, Walt Whitman and William Shakespeare.

### **1.3.3 Marxism as a literary criticism**

Marxism is a theory that is applied to literary analysis as an approach to Marxist critics as George Lukas and a Hungarian critic who brought the Reflectionism theory and claim that

the text is a reflection of a society that has produced (Dobie 92). It relies on the close reading of the literary works; writers and the authors were using Marxist interpretations and evaluation of society in their work. They assume that writing their works with the application of Marxist's principles could solve social problems and conflicts. However, some Marxism critics realize that literature and art can be a tool for the working class to change the system (Dobie 93), through delivering in their literary works about the social class conflict and transmitting the economic, political and social huge differences between the suffering of the lower working class and the rich upper class; in this scope, Terry Eagleton suggests that analyzing the relation between the different class of society is an important fact where classes stand with the mode of production (Eagleton 80).

Such Marxist critics do not focus on the literary text from an aesthetic perspective but they see them as a product of socioeconomic aspects of a particular culture (Eagleton 83). The Marxist critic will depict the inequality of social class and the defects of the stratification system in the literary piece. Besides, Marxists assume that every expression of a literary work is a full image of a writer personality and reflection of his social life and the environment he lives in; they also emphasize that a writer can not isolate him from his social or environment, because even if he would, his writings will exposure his identity and belonging. According to Karl Marx, the philosophers and intellectuals could express and explain the world by their creativity (Dobie 94), because they are the ones who represent their society and defend their rights through their writings. Most Victorian writers adopt the Marxism literary theory in their works to expose the differences between the proletariat and the bourgeoisie and how social inequality affected the lower working class; consequently, the class system was harmful and noisome to the marginalized- lower class of the society and make them poorer then they are.

## 1.4 Social Class in Society

The concept of social class was primarily introduced by Plato in his *magnum opus The Republic* (Parsons72). Oxford dictionary describes it as a division of a social and economic status based society. However, sociologists believe that the word "Social Class" often shortened to "Class" is referring to a population's horizontal stratification, either it is used as an omnibus word to define distinctions based on: education, employment, occupation, rank, group identity and family history (Henry228).

### 1.4.1 Social Class and Marxism

The theories of social class were first established during the 17-19th century by French historians and sociologists, such as Foucault (McCarthy and Logue 145-160), their research centred on the relationship between classes and is considered to be antagonistic; where society is divided into two groups; rich and poor, working-class and elite, owners and anti-owners. Such ideas were finally presented by Karl Marx and Max Weber in the 1848 publications of *Marx and Engels's Communist Manifesto* (Lenski 196), and Weber's *Economy and Society*, in 1922. As a result of the industrial revolution's influence and historical economic development (Nisbet 44).

Firstly, according to Marx and Engels, a particular society can be divided depending on its mode of production (capital, materials, factories), which creates an essential class system: where one class owns and dominates power as well as directs the process of producing; whereas the other class is exploited labourers and servants (ibid 168-169), for instance in feudalism: there are feudal lord and serf, also in capitalism: there are bourgeois and proletariat whose represent class conflict and inevitably generate political doctrine based on inequality. Thus Marx's structure of society is polarised (Burris 83) and consisted of the proletariat and the bourgeoisie (idem); where the interaction between classes cause a sense of

awareness over the individual's belonging to a certain class beside their role in the producing process (Rosenberg 22-27).

Moreover, Marx sectioned the history of human into periods to introduce " the modes of production": feudalism (slavery period), capitalism (commodity production) and socialism (working class); also, he argued that the mode of production is the centre cause that determines the economic-political system within a society (Marx 274-445). In addition to him, the contradictions between classes naturally act like the motor-engine that motives a revolutionary ideology to be expanded so the world had to change (Hobsbawm 5). On the other hand, weber in his contribution to Marx's work, focused more on the advanced inequalities which lie on the market (Wright 10). He declares:

We may speak of a "class" when (1) a number of people have in common a specific causal component of their life chances, insofar as (2) this component is represented exclusively by economic interests in the possession of goods and opportunities for income, and (3) is represented under the conditions of the commodity or labor markets. This is "classsituation". It is the most elemental economic fact that the way in which the disposition over material property is distributed among a plurality of people, meeting competitively in the market for the purpose of exchange, in itself creates specific life chances....But always this is the generic connotation of the concept of class: that the kind of chance in the market is the decisive moment which presents a common condition for the individual's fate. Class situation is, in this sense, ultimately market situation (927-28).

Weber's theory of social class is multidimensional that class relations cut off with other principles of association: notably status and party (Weber302-307). i.e the emphasis on social status and political power are dimensions that operate the class independently. He

defined the term party as political power\_the ability of significant strata can influence the society (Hurst, 184); but status is the individual's belonging to a particular stratum (ibid), he claimed that these components of inequality are separated but connected sources of power that could affect society differently; also they are essential as wealth but completely distinct (Weber 302-307). According to Weber, social class is a structured ranking of people who perpetuate unequal economic rewards and power in society. For example, in modern societies, high paid-managers do not possess power or prestige since they belong to the bottom in the hierarchy, but still, they are paid higher salaries than university lecturers who are members of prestigious professions.

In addition, to Weber's ideas, he stated the use of the term "socioeconomic status" within the field sociology in order to design a complex classification based on several dimensions of social inequality ( Leberatos et al. 87-121). He also debated that, people who have similar class will certainly get the same life chances as well can have public benefit, where these chances are higher for those who own property (ibid). Moreover, individuals who have high skills are in demand in the labour market, though they do not own property, so a respectable income will be earned.

To conclude, Marx's and Weber's theory of social class, precisely class inequality may be viewed that it contains fundamental differences; however, Marx's theory captured the class antagonism due to capitalist economy during the 19th century. Conversely, Weber's theory analyzed a highly developed capitalism in the 20-21th century. Therefore, Marxist theory on social class try to reveal the features of the capitalist system based on varying stages of its development:" Marxism attempts to reveal the ways in which our socioeconomic system is the ultimate source of our experience"(Tyson277).

### 1.4.2 Layers of Social Class

The majority of people remained in the countryside nearly to the Victorian period, but by 1850, half of them migrated to settle in cities. i.e. This was about 8.9-17.9 million in 1801-1851 to 1881 (Schubert2003). As a result, various classes developed, and the notable class that arose was the middle class. However, the classes are social groups that differentiate themselves through strength, income, living and working conditions, employment, culture, religion (Cody 2002). Families have also been divided into various classes: aristocracy, middle and upper class and lower class (Help Me123). Consequently, social stratification is classified into three classes: elite, middle class, and working class.

**Elite class:** is defined as the highest on hierarchy level, it consisted of the Gentry and Aristocracy Level like Landlords who own a great deal of wealth to give them a comfortable life. The elite class refers to landed gentry and aristocrats who came from hiring lands to labourers as their income. Such lands are subdivided into farms that had long been leased (Mitchell). Typically the inheritance of lands had been passed on to the eldest son in the family while the younger children are expected to select as military officers, colonial administration, or clergymen. Many in this class also have names such as Duke, Marquess, and Baron.

**Middle class:**Due to schooling in public schools and colleges, this class rose from 15 per cent to 25 percent in 1901 (Mitchell). This usually includes people with the highest social rank, i.e. marine, military officers, clergymen, as well as people with high standing in government institutions, university and influential school professors. As a result, this emerging class has been involved in trade and industry, they are described as outstanding in their professions and intellectuals active in the political system. For instance, those successful group of the middle class are Rothchild industrialists and as talented authors like Charles

Dickens. Meanwhile, the rest of the middle class has been called "the upper-middle class". Due to the industrial revolution, those people were wealthy enough to send their children to prestigious schools, and their daughters marry the landlords so they could move to the upper class. Consequently, the industrial revolution, made London become the centre of the world business and finance, that led a group of people to be increased enormously who were dominated in business, they were called "White Collar" or the black coated; the bourgeoisie people were moving to the upper class to have supremacy because of the capitalist economic system and the value of the property. Hence, the emergence of the middle class was the fundamental cause which made Great Britain great (Wahrman 1995).

**The Working Class:** The working class, though, is isolated from political power because it is in dispute with the aristocracy. It consists of a varied division of labour, they are skilled labour, semi-skilled and unskilled labour. This working-class began to establish labour unions and associations after the advent of socialism; therefore a new social forum had arisen. Moreover, the workforce was working in different jobs: farm labourers, farmers, domestic servants, and factory employees; whereas for semi-skilled and unskilled work in mining, farming, building, transport. All these workers, most of them young, were barely able to earn enough to survive, so they typically end up in poverty, illness and even death. By writing *Oliver Twist*, Dickens shows his perception of the oppressed and provides them with a voice that illustrates the contradictions and weaknesses of governments and the criminal system in its methods of misdealing with the poor (Gale 6). Accordingly, Dawson sees Charles Dickens as "the spokesperson of the masses: he wrote for them and lived by their praise; he was known by the common people and delighted in their friendship with them." (8). Dawson then goes even further in defining Dickens as "the author of a popular novel." (15)

## Conclusion

Literature is a product of ideological conditions of the time and place in which it was written, whether or not the author intended it so. Usually, a work of literature either reinforces its ideology or invites the reader to criticize it. Marxist theory helps the readers to pose important social questions; also makes them aware of the social context in which texts, readers and authors are created. Typically, social class theory shows the social structure that allocates power and how literature represents the power struggles between classes.

Dickens's *Oliver Twist* is clearly a piece of writing which includes Marxist ideals that opens the eyes of readers to the antagonistic relation of both upper class (the elite) and the lower class (the working class). Also how hard for the lower class to survive; since they live in horrible conditions (poverty, disease, crime), Dickens gives a detailed picture of the cruel treatment towards this class.

## Chapter Two: Oliver Twist's Critical Review

### Introduction

Biographical analysis notes that understanding the life of the author allows readers to appreciate his/her literary work more fully. Typically reading a writer's biography ultimately illuminates how much the author's life affects what he explicitly and indirectly creates.

Charles Dickens's novel *Oliver Twist* is a profound reflection of the complex social reality of his time and shows the human heart of the writer especially towards the lower class. Due to the powerful imagination of Dickens, which is linked to his youth, and influenced his adulthood and his moral outlook as well. The background-life of Charles Dickens has played a major part in his fictional world, which is mostly a reflection of his miserable childhood. The present chapter will examine the most sentimental and beloved novel to Dickens's heart; also, how the author's childhood experience inspired him to write about the deprived children as well as to support them.

### 2.1 Dickens Biography

Chesterton writes "Charles Dickens is one of the most beloved English novelists to the hearts of people, perhaps he is the greatest one. He was an open flame of an innate genius that sands a light which wasn't known in the sea, and the earth has never known another"(10).

Also, he said : "He [Dickens] was the voice in England of this humane intoxication and expansion, this encouraging of anybody to be anything"(23). Dickens lived a miserable childhood in the hands of a poor family. He was a writer and a social critic, whose writings were characterized as devotional and sympathetic, in which he portrayed the lives of simple and poor people, especially the children.

Charles John Huffam Dickens was born on February 7, 1812, in Portsmouth, on the southern coast of England, He was numbered eighth in the family; of his father, John Dickens,

who was a marine writer, and of his mother, Elizabeth Barrow, who had hardly tried to be a teacher but failed. The family of Dickens remained poor; despite their tremendous efforts. The first transfer was in 1816 to Chatham Kent then in 1822 to the slums of Camden Town London; where their financial condition got worse. His father was sent to prison for debt in 1824; consequently, when he was just 12 years old, Charles was forced to leave school to work in a boot-blackening factory to support his family. His father, luckily, received a family inheritance which helped to pay off his debt and give Charles a chance to return to school.

Again Charles left school in 1827 to work as an office boy, which would enrich his future career as a writer. Next, he started working in London's law courts; then, in two popular newspapers. In 1833, under the name Pseudonym Boz, Dickens started writing sketches to various magazines and newspapers; however, his pieces were written in his first book, "Sketches by Boz" until 1833. His success resulted in the marriage of Catherine Hogarth, who had given him ten children prior to their separation in 1858. Dickens went through hard times, where he lost both his father and his daughter; he also had an accident during his 1865 trip but continued his journey in 1870. Dickens had a stroke on June 9th which caused his death at Gat's Hill Place in his England country home at the age of 58. The Scottish writer Thomas Carlyle described his death as " an event worldwide, a unique of talents suddenly extinct"(28).

In an ideal world, Charles Dickens left fifteen novels; besides short stories, essays, articles, and novels. His second novel, after his first book sketches, was Oliver Twist which is a reflection of his miserable childhood; additionally, he wrote A Tale of Two Cities, Great Expectation, David Copperfield, A Christmas Carol. His novel began to express a darkened worldview in Bleak House, in 1852-1853; also in Hard Times (1854) and Little Dorrit. When Dickens was young, he understood that the world is full of injustice, because he gave up his

childhood and was forsaken, mistreated by the adults who were supposed to take care of him. These feelings would later become a recurring theme in his writing.

## **2.2 Introduction the novel Oliver Twist**

### **2.2.1 Plot Summary**

In a fascinating style and with a distinctive literary context, the story of "*Oliver Twist*", filled with real images that made the reader follow their events with eagerness and passion. It tells a story of a little boy named Oliver Twist who lived as a victim of his cruel society, his poor luck put him into the hands of a gang of criminals to exploit him for their evil purposes, this young boy must be rescued and battled with new faces to live with dignity.

Oliver was born in England, at a workhouse. His mother, whose name nobody knows, is found on the street and dies just after the birth of Oliver. He spends the first nine years of his life in a poorly managed home for young children and is then moved to an adult workhouse where he serves with his companions day and night for three small meals a day, keeping them alive with pain, hunger, and insults. At night, Oliver is selected to ask for more food, but he is brutally beaten in front of everyone for his defiance, then imprisoned, the next day a banner is hanged on the door promising a five-pound reward for whoever takes Oliver from the workhouse. Fortunately, he fled the next dawn. He walks in the direction of London. He is so weak when near that he can not move on unexpectedly meeting another boy called the Artful Dodger. The Dodger tells Oliver that he can offer him a room, for no rent, where a gentleman will give him a place to sleep and eat. Oliver follows and the Dodger takes him to a London apartment where he encounters the bad man Fagin and Oliver is given a place to stay. He soon discovers that Fagin's boys are all pickpockets and robbers, Oliver is sent on a robbery mission along with two other boys after a few days of preparation. Once he sees them stealing an old gentleman's handkerchief, he runs off in terror, but he's caught. Mr Brownlow, the man whose handkerchief was stolen, takes the feverish Oliver to his home to take care of

him. Oliver is very happy with Mr Brownlow, but Fagin and his thieves are afraid to discover their hiding place. So one day, when Mr Brownlow requests Oliver to return some books to the bookseller for him, Nancy spots Oliver then she takes him back to Fagin. He is forced again to participate in a robbery of a house in which he enters a small window to open the main door to make the gang easily steal the house; in fact, the operation failed. Oliver realized that the robbery had failed, he was shot and falls unconscious. He was taken to the house they tried to steal instead of taking him to the police, because they extended to him a hand of sympathy and tenderness for what they saw in his misery and weakness on his face and body, and this mercy extended for three months until Oliver became a very attached and very liked member of the family. Finally, and here in this compassionate house, he discovers the truth about his mother and that he has an older brother than his father named Monks and that his brother is nothing but that criminal who belongs to the gang of Jews who wagged that gang that committed crimes and murder and recently fell into the hands of justice to obtain its punishment (Bloom).

### **2.2.2 Themes**

*Oliver Twist* is a sentimental novel which depicts the underworld of industrial London. The theme of the novel introduces the conflict between good and bad; also it represents a realistic picture of the criminal victorian world that is full of misery, horror, and poverty. Dickens's novel introduces a vivid image of the orphan and abused child in the 19th century; where he has a profound love and respect towards those poor people. The most remarkable themes in the novel are:

#### **Poverty**

In the novel, Dickens portrays the economic dilemma in the form of too much misery at the harsh place of work. Until the new poor law was drawn up in 1834, children from poor families were required to work in workhouses. Dickens description of workhouses:

It was a very dirty place. The rooms up stairs had great high woodenchimney-pieces and large doors, with paneled walls and cornicesto theceilings.... Spiders had built their webs in the angles of the wallsandceilings; and sometimes, when Oliver walked softly into a room,themice would scamper across the floor, and run back terrified to their holes(Dickens 128).

This passage helps to demonstrate that the Poor Laws dehumanize the vulnerable by making them rather than treat them in a closed cycle of deprivation. The workhouse gives no useful skills to Oliver and others, so it feeds them so little that many only get sick and die. Dickens often shows the burden of handling the poor in-country "Bumble" acts "un-Christianly" as he was mercilessly treating them and stopping them from having meaningful lives.

### **Orphanage**

*Oliver Twist* is the story of an orphan child. He is the hero of the novel who's born in a dark workhouse about seventy-five miles north of London from an unknown mother who died just after giving birth to Oliver. His father is unknown too. When Oliver was escaping to London he met the old woman who feeds him. Dickens says:

"She took pity upon the poor orphan; and gave him what little ,she could afford - and more -with such kind and gentle works,and such tears of sympathy and compassion, that they sankdeeper into Oliver's soul, than all the sufferings he had everundergone" (46).Dickens draws the readers' attention to the issue facing an orphan that involves the parish's cruelty mistreatment; he also stresses the need for empathy and compassion for children in particular.

## **Misery**

The theme of misery covers all the issues that Dickens introduces in his novel; where it begins with the struggling of the poor people in a harsh world for their survival. For instance, the working-class children in workhouses, they were been fed so little that caused them diseases and even death. However, most of them are unknown identities that being treated severely; hence, Dickens exposes the criminal world which causes the paupers a lot of suffering that lead them to leave their humanity and principals so they commit crimes in London's streets. Most importantly the author was unfortunate the way the human being treated animal-like.

## **Sympathy**

Dickens's devotion to the orphan character took a great part in his style of writing. In *Oliver Twist*, he points the fact that everyone enters the world in the same way: "he might have been the child of a nobleman or a beggar; it would have been hard for the haughtiest stranger to have fixed his station in society"(120). Where he motivates the readers to sympathize with the abused character; also another image of sympathy is where Oliver met the compassionate family of the Maylie's as well he met the gentle old man, Mr. Brownlow, at the robbery; these moments are full of care towards the orphan Oliver. Typically, the theme of devotion is the base of our study which will be explained in more details in the third chapter of the research.

### **2.2.3 Characters**

Charles Dickens usually uses significant characters that seem to be discordant; some are ideal but the others are not. These characters create a vivid image of the cruel society that

has been living in; also make the reader feels as if he is one of these vivid realistic characters.

The novel's characters are:

### **Oliver Twist**

Is the novel's protagonist, a nine years old orphan, who is born in a workhouse; where he was treated cruelly and with grossness. Oliver is an innocent, careful child who has a strong ability to transfer his true emotions.

### **Fagin**

A professional crime career with a cold heart, he takes homeless boys and teaches them to pickpocket for him. a man of many dimensions: leader, vagrant, but rarely commits the crime himself.

### **Artful Dodger**

Fagin's right-hand boy, he is very energetic and intelligent, his true name is Jack Dawkins who takes airs and manners of a man, he finds Oliver and leads him to Fagin's place in London.

### **Nancy**

Is an abused career thief and former child pickpocket for Fagin, a young prostitute, and Sikes's lover. She tries to save Oliver from the two villains: Fagin and Bill Sikes. She is been described as a noble character, that has a sense of moral decency.

### **Bill Sikes**

A violent burglar and a thief, Nancy's brutal lover, in cohorts with Fagin, the most evil man who strikes fear into man's souls. He committed most of the crimes in the novel, eventually kills Nancy.

### **Rose Maylie**

An orphan, taken in by Mrs. Maylie who is represented as her niece. Rose is the novel's model virtue, she creates a good relationship with Oliver before it is revealed that they are related.

### **Mr. Brownlow**

A very respectable-looking elderly gentleman, he is described as a compassionate man with common sense, he helps Oliver a lot before he discovers being his grandfather.

### **Mr. & Mrs. Bumble**

Mr Bumble, is a self-appointed beadle serves the operations in the workhouse where Oliver lives his childhood; despite he preaches Christianity, he behaves compassionless towards the paupers under his care. Mrs. Bumble, is Mr. Corney's widow before and Mr. Bumble's wife later works as matron in the workhouse.

### **Charley Bates**

The eldest boy in Fagin's gang, a close friend to Dodger, often laughs.

### **Anges Fleming**

Oliver's mother has died just after giving birth to Oliver.

### **Mr. Louseberne**

The doctor of Mrs. Maylie's family, he tends to Oliver after shooting.

### **Noah Claypole**

Works for the undertaker, he is enjoying abusing Oliver, later follows Fagin's gang.

**Mr. Sowerberry & Mrs. Sowerberry**

An undertaker likes Oliver, but can not stands up in his wife's hatred for Oliver. Mrs. Sowerberry is his wife.

***Mr. Gimwig***

An old friend of Mr. Brownlow who has a strong taste of contradiction.

***Taby Cracki***

Bill Sikes's partner of crime.

***Mr. Giles***

Works as butler and steward to Mrs. Maylie.

***Harry Maylie***

Mrs. Maylie's son, he does his best efforts to marry Rose Maylie.

***Mrs. Bedwin***

Mr. Brownlow's housekeeper, kind as a mother, she takes care of Oliver.

***Edward Leedford***

Oliver's half-brother who is called Monks, offers to pay Fagin to corrupt Oliver; so he can have his inheritance.

**2.3 Style of writing**

However, all writers have a particular selection of using language to reach the effect they wish; according to Seymour Chatman" style is a product of individual choices and pattern of choices among linguistic possibilities"(30). Dickens is very popular of his singular style of writing that is mused by many reasons; as well he liked to use the Gothic Romance in

his writing that it is known for the 18th-century style, Alert noticed " when we read Dickens...we are reading all sorts of things at the same time-plot, character, moral dilemma, historical predicament, and so forth-but we can see all these in their complexity only if we attend to the illuminating play of style"(45). Additionally, Dickens's works were based on the issues in the victorian era that promote him to give a vivid picture of the disastrous life in the early 19th century, where its contemporary society was full of cruelty and injustice. Also, Dickens used style variations in his characters' speech as tenor or dialect, effectively means of expressions that are illustrated by moral and social values, irony and humour, approaching satire (Geniené 65).

Moreover, Dickens had unpleasant childhood, he was forced to leave school and go to work in young age, this experience was the source of knowledge and sympathy towards the working class people; besides, he also had a particular power of observation that is been applied to describe London in the 19th century where readers experience their senses of sight, sound, and smell of the old city, Peter Ackroyd, in Dickens's biography, he writes " if a late-twentieth-century person were suddenly to find himself in tavern or house of the period, he would be literally sick with the smells, sick with the food, sick with all atmosphere around him". (50)

Usually, Dickens's works are based on realism; since he was interested in examining people and society, through his novel he introduces a detailed analysis of real situation reflected by the industrial revolution and the struggle for democracy in English society; as well his novels were full of devotion and love to his wretched characters. in *Oliver Twist* Dickens shows a deep awareness of social problems of that time, a world of hunger dominated by exploitative people who treat the poor horribly, the world is been described through the orphan Oliver's eyes; despite the bad conditions he lived but still a symbol of love and hope to his oppressors.

## Conclusion

Historical Biographical Criticism is something that is not only contributed to the life and mind of the author but also to the understanding of a literary work. As a result of exploring the social, cultural and intellectual background that created it; that inevitably involves the identity and the world of the writer. As these appear to reflect the period he lived in. According to the novel *Oliver Twist* which shows the social life in the story that was about extreme poverty, that is introduced by describing the differences among England's high, middle and lower classes. Also, it represented how much Dickens's childhood reflects on his writing to create a very inspiring story that excites the readers' affection towards the poor, especially children who have been orphaned and deprived of having a decent life.

## **Chapter three:the Analysis of Charled Dickens Devotion to the Abused Children inOliver Twist.**

### **Introduction**

Usually, writers use language distinctively to express their attitudes and emotions so their readers can experience that as well. Dickens lived a tragic life which caused him has a strong sense of sympathy to the poor children of the lower class. Oliver Twist is a compassionate story about the abused child where the author reveals his benevolence spirit and devotion towards poor children. On that basis, Dickens used emotion expressions that contain: adjectives, nouns, verbs and sentences relate to the lexical level which all used effectively to draw a vivid picture of the author's devotion for his oppressed child character as well as analysing the novel through the sociological theory Marxism to present the author's negative attitudes of the social background and circumstances where Oliver was born. The present chapter is devoted to the thematic analysis of the selected fictional work of Charles Dickens "*Oliver Twist*". The author's sympathy is been typically ramified into three levels: linguistic devotion, social devotion, and personal devotion are been implied for the abused orphaned child characters which they are: Oliver, Nancy, and The Poor Dick.

### **3.1Devotion to Oliver Twist**

At the beginning of his life:

Foremost, Oliver is the central character of the story who is introduced as the orphaned parish child, he is thrown by life in a city full of criminals and corrupted people. He is also described as an item of morality. The value of sympathy is used quiet obviously at the very opening of the novel; where Dickens accords a special place for "Mother" in someone's life because the little boy Oliver has been deprived of his mother's love, neglected and abused for years of his life. Dickens says painfully:

"the pale face of a young female was raised feebly from the pillow; and a faint voice imperfectly articulated the words, "Let me see the child, and die."(Oliver Twist,1842,4)

"The surgeon deposited it in her arms. She imprinted her cold white lips passionately on its forehead, passed her hands over her face, gazed wildly round,shuddered, fell back—and died. They chafed her breast, hands, and temples; butthe blood had frozen for ever. They talked of hope and comfort. They had been strangers too long." (6).

The previous passage from the first chapter is filled with sorrow and affection for the wretched mother, Agnes Fleming, who is risking her life to give birth to her beloved son Oliver, it also depicts the belonging of the mother's heart, who is writhing of pain and reek of death, wishes only one and last time to see her child before she dies. On the other hand, Dickens uses negative expressions to describe the harsh society that Oliver will grow up within; where the author shows his poor character as a victim of the exploitative social system, and Oliver as an example of the weak group especially the children who were always bullied and neglected. Despite this, he is also expressing his sympathy by portraying the little Oliver as positive energy is been transmitting to the underworld. the passage from chapter two says:

for the next eight or ten months, Oliver was the victim of a systematic course of treachery and deception—he was brought up by hand. The hungry and destitute situation of the infant orphan was duly reported by the workhouse authorities to the parish authorities. The parish authorities inquired with dignity of the workhouse authorities, whether there was no female then domiciled in "the house" who was in a situation to impart to Oliver Twist the consolation and nourishment of which he stood in need. The workhouse authorities replied with humility that there was not. Upon this, the parish authorities magnanimously and humanely resolved, that Oliver should

be “farmed,” or, in other words, that he should be despatched to a branch-workhouse some three miles off, where twenty or thirty other juvenile offenders against the poor-laws rolled about the floor allday, without the inconvenience of too much food or too much clothing, under the parental superintendence of an elderly female who received the culprits at and for the consideration of sevenpence-halfpenny per small head per week. Sevenpence-halfpenny’s worth per week is a good round diet for a child; a greatdeal may be got for sevenpence-halfpenny—quite enough to overload its stomach, and make it uncomfortable. (8).

The author draws the reader's attention to the suffering that an orphaned outcast could face frequently; as a result of the Victorian social system which made money from other people's misery; consequently, caused poverty, misery, diseases, orphaned children..... and death. Dickens sorrowfully portraying the scenes of how much misery and horrible condition the poor people are being through, and if the little boys could survive the life of workhouses then they could be sent to worse places as a chimney sweep. Factory work and life in overcrowded dirty cities are sharply reduced life expectancy. Nevertheless, the author devotion to his dear orphan Oliver has not been expressed only with the previous passages, but the whole novel does, from the moment Oliver is been ushered into a filthy corrupted world that is full of sorrow and trouble to the end where he finally could be in a beautiful place with kind-hearted people. Dickens shows a few of what could the poor boy face and how harshly and animal-like being treated for so little money; he states melancholy:

He waited at the bottom of a steep hill till a stage-coach came up, and then begged of the outside passengers; but there were very few who took any notice of him, and even those, told him to wait till they got to the top of the hill, and then let them see how far he could run for a halfpenny. Poor Oliver tried to keep up with the coach a little way, but was unable to do it, by reason of his fatigue and sore feet. When the outsiders saw

this, they put their halfpence back into their pockets again, declaring that he was an idle young dog, and didn't deserve anything; and the coach rattled away, and left only a cloud of dust behind.(60).

### **2.3.1 Oliver in Mr. Brownlow's House**

Dickens depicts his sympathetic pictures in the novel to Oliver, yet each of these pictures attacks inevitably the heartless social system that is basically about the exploitation of a child, particularly those who belong to the working class; despite Dickens sympathies to this class but he also intends to distinguish between who deserve his pity. Because he shows that a part of the working class is evil too; as an example of the Jew and his company who live on stealing and by disfiguring the innocence and purity of children to train them as a street pickpocket. As the story unfolded, and despite the great suffering of the poor boy Oliver, the author wants to express his infinite love to his resisted character, by offering some of the help of passing from adversity to some temporary bliss that makes him (Oliver) forget the bitterness of the past days. The value of empathy was illustrated by when Mr. Brownlow helps Oliver after the trial of the burglar incident.

“He has been hurt already,” said the old gentleman in conclusion. “And I fear,” he added, with great energy, looking towards the bar,—“I really fear that he is very ill.”(84).

“Take care of him, officer,” said the old gentleman, raising his hands instinctively; “he'll fall down.”(85)

“Poor boy, poor boy!” said Mr. Brownlow, bending over him. “Call a coach, somebody, pray,—directly!”(86)

The present passage which is quoted from chapter eleven shows that though the old gentleman is a victim of the robbery he has a kind-hearted that pitied with Oliver when he is brought to the magistrate, Mr. Brownlow was concerned about the looking ill Oliver, then the

good man Mr. Brownlow takes Oliver to his house to take good care after him which is presented in the subtitle of chapter twelve "IN WHICH OLIVER IS TAKEN BETTER CARE OF THAN HE EVER WAS BEFORE. WITH SOME PARTICULARS CONCERNING A CERTAIN PICTURE.". In this chapter the author expressed his love and devotion to Oliver by revealing a very compassionate character who is described as "motherly old lady", she is named Mrs. Bedwin the very kind affectionate nurse and like a real mother to Oliver. Dickens describes the scene of the old lady taking care of Oliver:

He uttered these words in a feeble voice, being very faint and weak; but they were overheard at once, for the curtain at the bed's head was hastily drawn back, and a motherly old lady, very neatly and precisely dressed, rose as she undrew it, from an arm-chair close by, in which she had been sitting at needle-work. "Hush, my dear," said the old lady softly. "You must be very quiet, or you will be ill again, and you have been very bad,—as bad as bad could be, pretty nigh. Lie down again—there's a dear." With these words the old lady very gently placed Oliver's head upon the pillow, and, smoothing back his hair from his forehead, looked so kindly and lovingly in his face, that he could not help placing his little withered hand upon hers, and drawing it round his neck. "Save us!" said the old lady, with tears in her eyes, "what a grateful little dear it is. Pretty creature! what would his mother feel if she had sat by him as I have, and could see him now!" (88-89).

The quoted passage demonstrates tremendous emotions of love whom the outcast orphan is desperately in need, Dickens's description of Mrs. Bedwin's notice, he used many words filled with tenderness as "my dear...softly...kindly and loving" which all are serving a very merciful and clement scene of an orphaned child, who is deprived of mother's love, is being treated kindly for the first time in his entire life; not only this but also when the old lady has pitied Oliver the moment he speaks of his dead mother, whom he has never seen only

dreaming of her pretty face; however, Oliver pitied himself by saying “But if she knew I was ill, she must have pitied me even there” , the old lady has wiped him due to the anguish he passed through. The author showed his positive attitude to Oliver as the life become so prosper and generous to him in the warm hands of kind people he is surrounded by, where the dark days have turned off and twisted to good once between the new caring company; this could somehow relief the reader's memory of the boy whom yesterday was enveloped in old Calico robes now wearing a very proper and clean suite. Dickens declares:

They were happy days those of Oliver’s recovery. Everything was so quiet, and neat, and orderly: everybody so kind and gentle, that after the noise and turbulence in the midst of which he had always lived, it seemed like heaven itself. He was no sooner strong enough to put his clothes on properly, than Mr. Brownlow caused a complete new suit, and a new cap, and a new pair of shoes, to be provided for him. As Oliver was told that he might do what he liked with the old clothes, he gave them to a servant who had been very kind to him, and asked her to sell them to a Jew, and keep the money for herself. This she very readily did; and, as Oliver looked out of the parlour window, and saw the Jew roll them up in his bag and walk away, he felt quite delighted to think that they were safely gone, and that there was now no possible danger of his ever being able to wear them again. They were sad rags, to tell the truth; and Oliver had never had a new suit before. (107).

Oliver Twist is not only a story about the sufferance of the children, as they face escort brutal and sarcastic treatment by the corrupted social system that force the poor to be dragged into worse life condition and torture; it is a story about the author emotional involvement that construe its theme effectively. When the novel almost reached its end and Oliver comes back to Mr. Brownlow, where he (Oliver) already belongs in the place full of love and careness that is the most thing his heart longs to. Dickens expressed his positive feeling that is held by his

humanity spirit more than using a negative attitude (grief) that shows his critique spirit to the society. Nevertheless, the author has experienced misfortunes in his childhood which is inevitably the reason to hold huge love and devotion to the poor weak children; which as any Victorian writer, Dickens had hoped to the future to bring more happiness and love and kindness to those who have buried while they are still alive. As an example of that, the author has concluded his book by the dream of each helpless orphan that to be found and raised and treated kindly by good people, as the justice has finally found its way to Oliver's, he is been adopted as a grandson by Mr. Brownlow and lives happily ever after near to his dear aunt Rose. Dickens announces, with great joy:

How Mr. Brownlow went on from day to day, filling the mind of his adopted child with stories of knowledge, and becoming attached to him more and more as his nature developed itself, and showed the thriving seeds of all he could wish him to become—how he traced in him new traits of his early friend, that awakened in his own bosom old remembrances, melancholy and yet sweet and soothing—how the two orphans tried by adversity remembered its lessons in mercy to others, and mutual love, and fervent thanks to Him who had protected and preserved them—these are all matters which need not to be told; for I have said that they were truly happy, and without strong affection, and humanity of heart, and gratitude to that Being whose code is mercy, and whose great attribute is benevolence to all things that breathe, true happiness can never be attained. (641).

### **2.3.2 Oliver in Mrs. Maylie's house**

Moreover, the thrilling events of the novel, which are held in the second volume, take us through another adventure where there is so much love and affection to surround the little boy Oliver in Mrs. Maylie's house. Oliver is forced to be pickpocket as his companions,

he is taken to Maylie's house to rob with Bill Sikes and Toby Crackit, but when the plan failed they left the child wounded at a ditch nearly to the Maylie's door. Dickens shows Oliver as a victim of his society and by the hands of vicious people; the time he reached the house he was barely conscious because of the shot he received. Oliver's face has so much to tell, is so celestial and pure, that brings the characters such as Rose, Mrs. Maylie, Harry, and the doctor to tear upon seeing him. His face reveals to the compassionate Victorian child who has suffered injustice, mistreatment, and hatred.

“Poor fellow! oh! treat him kindly, Giles, if it is only for my sake!”(191)

“What can this mean?” exclaimed the elder lady. “This poor child can never have been the pupil of robbers!”( 196)

But, can you—oh, sir! can you, really believe that this delicate boy has been the voluntary associate of the worst outcasts of society?” said Rose, anxiously. “But even if he has been wicked,” pursued Rose, “think how young he is; think that he may never have known a mother’s love, or even the comfort of a home, and that ill-usage and blows, or the want of bread, may have driven him to herd with the men who have forced him to guilt. Aunt, dear aunt, for mercy’s sake, think of this before you let them drag this sick child to a prison, which in any case must be the grave of all his chances of amendment. Oh! as you love me, and know that I have never felt the want of parents in your goodness and affection, but that I might have done so, and might have been equally helpless and unprotected with this poor child, have pity upon him before it is too late.” “My dear love!” said the elder lady, as she folded the weeping girl to her bosom, “do you think I would harm a hair of his head?

(336-337).

This passage from chapter twenty-nine is referred to the argument between Rose and the old lady and the doctor about whether Oliver is innocent or a thief, but the young lady utters insistently the words "driven" and "forced" only to cite numerous reasons to request the old lady to not harm Oliver and Mrs. Maylie agreed willingly. Also, many words used frequently as "kind-hearted" and "good" to reflect the doctor Mr. Louseberne's inner emotions and tendency to his poor patient Oliver. The author intended to show Oliver as a victim of his rotten society by criticizing it as well as expressing his sympathies to the weak group particularly the children. Additionally, for chapter thirty-one, apparently its subtitle "OF THE HAPPY LIFE OLIVER BEGAN TO LEAD WITH HIS KIND FRIENDS.". The author illustrates the whole chapter as his devotion to little Oliver; an enormous amount of words and phrases are employed, as "sweet ladies...love...gentle kindness....quite a place...pleasures...beauties of spring...kind...goodness and compassion...diffusing peace and happiness.. brightening with pleasure...kind faces", to indicate the loving family atmosphere that is full of calm serenity and overjoys that the orphaned child could finally be in; opposite to the many nights out in the open, dying of hunger and covered with exclusion. As a remedy to the poor child's soul, Dickens joyfully expresses:

It was a happy time. The days were peaceful and serene, and the nights; brought with them no fear or care; no anguishing in a wretched prison, or associating with wretched men: nothing but pleasant and happy thoughts. Every morning he went to a white-headed old gentleman, who lived near the little church, who taught him to read better, and to write, and spoke so kindly, and took such pains, that Oliver could never try enough to please him. Then he would walk with Mrs. Maylie and Rose, and hear them talk of books, or perhaps sit near them, in some shady place, and listen whilst the young lady read, which he could have done till it grew too dark to see the letters. Then he had his own lesson for the next day to prepare, and at this he would work

hard, in a little room which looked into the garden, till evening came slowly on, when the ladies would walk out again, and he with them; listening with such pleasure to all they said, and so happy if they wanted a flower that he could climb to reach, or had forgotten anything he could run to fetch, that he could never be quick enough about it. When it became quite dark, and they returned home, the young lady would sit down to the piano, and play some melancholy air, or sing, in a low and gentle voice, some old song which it pleased her aunt to hear. There would be no candles at such times as these, and Oliver would sit by one of the windows, listening to the sweet music, while tears of tranquil joy stole down his face.(370).

Dickens's novel was to not written only to be read but as well as to bring change to English society hopefully in the future. He poured all the harsh criticism to the social system as he poured all his devotion and lamentations to those who he carried love and good aspiration which had been held in the pages of *Oliver Twist*. In rare sight scene, which reflects the social devotion that is demonstrated by the social life in the Maylie's house, and in their special occasions "when Sunday came" as the days of holy ritual, Dickens portrays the family environment where they all blend together with their servants in the house of worship, allied and sang as well as prayed. This explicitly announces there to be no social differences or boundaries between the rich and the poor, the upper class and the lower class, together they practicing the worship and seeking joy and peace. Thus, it could be concluded that the author confirms that devotion and tolerance are among the most senses and morals which could lead to the act of sharing humanity, love, and compassion; besides, social differences and persecution could be eradicated. Dickens depicts cheerfully:

And when Sunday came, how differently the day was spent from any manner in which he had ever spent it yet! and how happily, too; like all the other days in that most happy time! There was the little church, in the morning, with the green leaves

fluttering at the windows, the birds singing without, and the sweet smelling air stealing in at the low porch, and filling the homely building with its fragrance. The poor people were so neat and clean, and knelt so reverently in prayer, that it seemed a pleasure, not a tedious duty, their assembling there together; and though the singing might be rude, it was real, and sounded more musical (to Oliver's ears at least) than any he had ever heard in church before. Then there were the walks as usual, and many calls at the clean houses of the labouring men; and at night, Oliver read a chapter or two from the Bible, which he had been studying all the week, and in the performance of which duty he felt more proud and pleased than if he had been the clergyman himself.

(370-371)

Moreover, another picture of social devotion is materialized by the Maylie's family; in chapter forty-nine, the author emphasizes that it was improperly for a wealthy young man to marry a woman who is less than his status. Some considered it a very "downright" scandal, for Harry Maylie who has struggled most between his social position and his intense inner emotions for Rose. However, Rose is presented as an adopted orphan by Mrs. Maylie the mother of Harry, Dickens points out that there no impenetrable barriers than the power of love which led the rich young man Harry to change his socially position so he could be able at social balance to marry with the orphaned woman Rose. Therefore, the auhtor used unfamiliar incidents in his story at his time only to show that: firstly, there are things in life more worthy and valuable than wealth and money, they are moral senses and humanity spirits which defines our human nature; secondly, only he is expressing devotion and love to the miserable marginalized group that has no chance to live happily. Dickens writes with a sarcastic tone for his society which forces the lovers to be apart, and triumphantly to what he longs for the two characters to be married.

It means but this—that when I left you last, I left you with the firm determination to level all fancied barriers between yourself and me; resolved that if my world could not be yours, I would make yours mine; that no pride of birth should curl the lip at you, for I would turn from it. This I have done. Those who have shrunk from me because of this, have shrunk from you, and proved you so far right. Such power and patronage—such relatives of influence and rank—assailed upon me then, look coldly now; but there are smiling fields and waving trees in England's richest county, and by one village church—mine, Rose, my own—there stands a rustic dwelling which you can make me prouder of than all the hopes I have renounced, measured a thousandfold. This is my rank and station now, and here I lay it down.(362)

## **1.2 Devotion to Nancy character**

### **2.3.3 The linguistic devotion towards Nancy**

The Victorian patriarchy society had to reject "Fallen Women" (prostitutes). Notwithstanding, Victorian women's place was financially dependant and socially submissive to men so they meant to be in houses, but the refusal of that would lead them to be abundant from being a part of the respected society and its standard norms. Dickens had great sympathy for the Fallen Women as portrayed them as victims of that patriarchy society, this was by introducing the female character Nancy. Dickens portrays Nancy as one of the most complicated characters of the novel who can play two roles, the good character who can not harm or mistreat, a virtuous woman spirit who seeks to help the others and rescue them from the misfortune; on the other side, the bad character that is evil who works as a young prostitute in London's street; therefore, the question to be set is whether or not a bad environment can irrevocably poison a character's soul.

The girl's life had been squandered in the streets, and among the most noisome of the stews and dens of London, but there was something of the woman's original nature left in her still; and when she heard a light step approaching the door opposite to that by which she had entered, and thought of the wide contrast which the small room would in another moment contain, she felt burdened with the sense of her own deep shame, and shrunk as though she could scarcely bear the presence of her with whom she had sought this interview (272).

But struggling with these better feelings was pride,—the vice of the lowest and most debased creatures no less than of the high and self-assured. The miserable companion of thieves and ruffians, the fallen outcast of low haunts, the associate of the scourings of the jails and hulks, living within the shadow of the gallows itself,—even this degraded being felt too proud to betray one feeble gleam of the womanly feeling which she thought a weakness, but which alone connected her with that humanity, of which her wasting life had obliterated all outward traces when a very child. (272-273).

Through reading the novel, Dickens depicts Nancy as an orphan child who grew up in Fagin's home with many abused children that Fagin exploited them to work as thieves in London streets. Nancy is prostitute and before she worked as a thief for Fagin since she was twelve years old, she was the important character who turns the course of events in the whole novel. She is described as a brass which reflects her strength for rescuing the poor Oliver life; she aids him to escape from the gang, she sacrifices her life to save Oliver from the world of crime. Dickens displays the good moral standards that made her refuse the injustice of society that the little child inflicted by the members of the gang; the similar miserable conditions that Nancy has experienced since her infancy, will inevitably be upon him if she

does not spare his life. Dickens sympathizes with the Vulnerable Nancy whose life was lost in the dirty and grimy streets of London and who lost her own innocence in an early age.

Dickens describes Nancy as the "unhappy creature" to express his empathy towards her; through the description, is too obvious of the dirty town, the evil members of the gang and the criminals who surrounded her.

### **The social devotion to Nancy**

Dickens's devotion is also illustrated by the assistance of an upper character to a lower class character, where the first is Rose and the second is Nancy; as a result of social devotion. Rose has shown a great concern to the wretched Nancy that she(Rose) offers her help so she(Nancy) could finally leave her underworld for a better life and it's never too late for the right decision and restart again. Rose speaks resolutely: "do not turn a deaf ear to the entreaties of one of your own sex; the first—the first, I do believe, who ever appealed to you in the voice of pity and compassion. Do hear my words, and let me save you yet for better things."(276).

Dickens portrays Rose as the pure, sensitive, innocent and sympathetic lady, she is admirable and virtuous character among the several wicked and vicious characters in the whole novel, she shows her compassion towards the downtrodden characters and the orphaned children and she pitied them because she was also an orphan girl adopted by Mrs. Maylie, she always feels sorrows for the other's suffering and seeks to help them.

The kind tone of this answer, the sweet voice, the gentle manner, the absence of any accent of haughtiness or displeasure, took the girl completely by surprise, and she burst into tears. 'Oh, lady, lady!' she said, clasping her hands passionately before her face, 'if there was more like you, there would be fewer like me,--there would--there would!' 'Sit down,' said Rose, earnestly. 'If you are in poverty or affliction I shall be

truly glad to relieve you if I can,--I shall indeed. Sit down."Let me stand, lady,' said the girl, still weeping, 'and do not speak to me so kindly till you know me better. It is growing late. Is--is--that door shut?(272).

Dickens illustrates the social devotion towards Nancy in Rose's aid. The poor girl Nancy who never knew the love of a mother or a sister or family to which she longs; with the lack of identity, all she knows that she was found in the hands of gangsters and surrounded by criminals. Through the first meeting between the two women, Rose shows kindness to the vulnerable Nancy whose facial features claim apparent misery, tell about her permanent suffering and she is burdened with worries. Rose's good moral standards have always made her willing to assist the others and get them out from their hardships. Dickens portrays different characters among them the evil characters who represent thieves, criminals, and child abusers who have been exploited in unlawful acts; he also depicts such feminist characters like Rose who sympathizes with the persecuted members of society. Thus Nancy resembles Rose to the angels because of her benevolence, philanthropy, and compassion.

### **2.3.4 Personal devotion of Nancy**

In chapter forty, Dickens represents one of the most sentimental conversations between Rose and Nancy, Rose who lives with a rich family and obtains their love, care, and tenderness; and Nancy who is a poor, who spent a miserable life since she was young. self-pity was the strongest feeling that she senses when she utters those touching and heart-breaking words to Rose, her psyche was shattered and devastated by the dirty world around her. She loathes criminality, poverty and ordeal life that she lived, but she had no alternatives, she envies Rose's how she is surrounded by good friends and admirers and having a tender family; she pities herself remembering beautiful dreams which she saw them true Rose's life. She possess no roof to save her head only Fagin's house, she has no family to protect her,

no friends to resort to them in her sadness or happiness but only the company of gangs. Even in her sickness she suffers alone in hospital; self-pity came from the despondency. At this juncture, Dickens sympathises with by delivering the message on her lips that only poverty forces the innocent-good people to live in this miserable situation. The aid of Rose has warmed the poor female's heart and simultaneously turned her sorrowful for the wrong path she took through her entire life, it really made her pity herself:

When ladies as young, and good, and beautiful as you are,' replied the girl steadily, 'give away your hearts, love will carry you all lengths--even such as you, who have home, friends, other admirers, everything, to fill them. When such as I, who have no certain roof but the coffinlid, and no friend in sickness or death but the hospital nurse, set our rotten hearts on any man, and let him fill the place that has been a blank through all our wretched lives, who can hope to cure us? Pity us, lady--pity us for having only one feeling of the woman left, and for having that turned, by a heavy judgment, from a comfort and a pride, into a new means of violence and suffering.(276).

Unfortunately, a Fallen Woman can't move back into the respectable Victorian society after she refuses her established place in the sexual hierarchy; even if it is unintentionally but only the circumstances had led to. Nancy is a victim of the society and cruel people surround her; Dickens's sympathy towards the oppressed and exploited young girl, from her childhood since then, emphasizes that is very hard for a fallen woman who belongs to the lowest class in Victorian society to survive or even to have a few hopes to rebuild a new life. The author ended the life of his miserable woman by noble act and valuable sacrifice, which he denotes that nobility is not always defined by social inheritance or by birth to those who belong to the higher social class; rather than, the nobility is something required most by morality manners and our goodness and helpfully aid toward the mankind as whole.

### 1.3 Devotion to Dick's Character

#### 2.3.5 The linguistic Devotion to Dick

Among children, the most severely exposed group was orphans, who were often the subject of severe discrimination. Though there was no official apparatus to take care of them except for the workhouse, they were frequently neglected and exposed to dreadful living conditions. However, the evil Victorian society that pretends to serve the poor houses, but it seems to be reversed. The New Poor Law Amendment Act emerged in 1834, by Queen Elizabeth I, to support the poor people, instead of a tremendous amount of orphans who had increased and apprenticed to a trade "Oukam". In special buildings "Workhouse" the outcast orphans were offered to live and work under merciless supervision. The workhouse was a symbol of evil, misery, lack of care, and insufficient food; as a result of the criminal world in London, where children usually face prolonged starvation, physical punishment, and humiliation. This was typically illustrated by the scene when Oliver asks for more food, he was punished and seen to be hanged, *Oliver Twist* is particularly a story of the exploitation of child. As Oliver's flashback about his friend "Poor Dick", he is named so to detect the fault of society as well as to reveal the author's devotion to the abused child. Dickens mournfully writes:

Oliver stopped, and peeped into the garden. A child was weeding one of the little beds; as he stopped, he raised his pale face and disclosed the features of one of his former companions. Oliver felt glad to see him, before he went; for, though younger than himself, he had been his little friend and playmate. They had been beaten, and starved, and shut up together, many and many a time(45).

This passage from chapter seven, shows Dickens's devotion to the orphaned children and he was trying to raise a sense of compassion for readers. However, Dickens's language

was sympathetic through the use of lexis, he uses the adjective "pale" to describe the dull face of Dick, and this adjective was a significance about Dick's physical condition, he announces :

" The child was pale and thin; his cheeks were sunken, and his eyes large and bright. The scanty parish dress, the livery of his misery, hung loosely upon his feeble body; and his young limbs had wasted away like those of an old man."(112).

Dickens's compassion reached the climax when he describes the little Dick, he chooses those adjectives to symbolize the poverty and misery that the child was living; also, he describes how Dick and Oliver were raised and lived as close friends, and how they bear various ways of deprivation of their most basic rights. Dickens used the word "starved" to depicts the ill-treatment and oppression in the workhouse. Children were incredibly poor, they were considered as a commodity if are not worthy to the workhouse so they could be moved to another cheap parish or worse, being subjected to severe torture and die. Dickens pitied his Dick, as he despises the inhuman poor law; it was considered a great offense to show kindness towards the paupers especially children. Dickens emphasizes that the certain reason for the criminal social world was basically by the exploitative laws which are been applied by unjust officials. Dickens grieves when the beadle went to London to move some paupers into other miserable cheap parish or to take them to death. The author bitterly described the following passage, from chapter seventeen:

The opposition coach contracts for these two, and takes them cheap," said Mr. Bumble. "They are both in a very low state, and we find it would come two pound cheaper to move 'em than to bury 'em,—that is, if we can throw 'em upon another parish, which I think we shall be able to do, if they don't die upon the road to spite us. Ha! ha! ha!(192).

### **2.3.6 Personal devotion of Dick**

In addition, Dick as any abused child in the novel, has dreams of a beautiful place where there is no beating, hunger, or sickness...only better life. Dick believes that he will be free and happy only after his death. Dickens felt more grief towards those miserable children, he expresses with a very heavy heart the poor Dick pities himself as well as he pities his friend Oliver :

I should like," said the child, "to leave my dear love to poor Oliver Twist, and to let him know how often I have sat by myself and cried to think of his wandering about in the dark nights with nobody to help him; and I should like to tell him," said the child, pressing his small hands together, and speaking with great fervour, "that I was glad to die when I was very young; for, perhaps, if I lived to be a man, and grew old, my little sister, who is in heaven, might forget me, or be unlike me; and it would be so much happier if we were both children there together.(112-113)

likewise, In this passage from chapter seven, Dick realizes that he is at the death's door, he was not afraid from death because he was already prepared himself for the inevitable end and like all his peers around the world, he dreamed about a lot, but he could not achieve even a little; he despairs and lost hope of life on earth despite his young age, so he wishes to have a happy life in the heaven with angels. Dick's desires depicts the bliss that the little child craves to live after his death which he was deprived of this enables readers to deduce the nature of the daily life in the workhouse, the scale of suffering, tragedy experienced by children every day that makes them hate the workhouse for being marginalized all the time.

### **2.3.7 Social Devotion to Dick**

Actually, from the beginning of the novel, Charles Dickens displays the relationship between the two boys who lived at the workhouse their childhood as miserable companions. The feelings of love and tenderness towards each other were mutual and; yet Oliver had never forgotten his dear companion after he met new good people. Hence, Dickens exposes great sympathy and deep love to his weak and wretched orphans and indicates that not only he who held these emotions of sympathy to his abused characters but also his characters do towards each other especially those who have experienced the same dreadful conditions; as the feelings that drive Nancy to rescue Oliver from being corrupted, as similar as the feelings that made Oliver long to "Poor Dick" and insistently to visit him, he requests hopefully the young lady to show her love and care to Dick as she did to Oliver, she agreed with "happy tears", Oliver speaks compassionately:

Oh Dick, Dick, my dear old friend, if could only see you now! "You will see him soon," replied Rose, gently taking his folded hands between her own.

'You shall tell him how happy you are, and how rich you have grown, and that in all your happiness you have none so great as the coming back to make him happy too.'

'Yes, yes,' said Oliver, 'and we'll--we'll take him away from here, and have him clothed and taught, and send him to some quiet country place where he may grow strong and well,--shall we?Rose nodded "yes," for the boy was smiling through such happy tears that she could not speak. "You will be kind and good to him, for you are to every one," said Oliver. "It will make you cry, I know, to hear what he can tell; but never mind, never mind, it will be all over, and you will smile again, I know that too—to think how changed he is; you did the same with me. He said 'God bless you' to me when I ran away," cried the boy with a burst of affectionate emotion; "and I will say 'God bless you' now, and show him how I love him for it! (354).

In a scene filled with compassion, Dickens depicts Oliver's yearning to his old friend Dick through the conversation he has with Rose; however, it is been several years since he left the workhouse and starts another new life although he never forgets his dear friend as he plans to take him away from the workhouse, save him from the agony he is been though., Dickens portrays to his readers a scene of social devotion when Oliver shows his passion towards Dick, Dickens demonstrates Oliver's compassion saying "we'll take him away from here and have him clothed and taught...he may grow strong and well"(354). He intends to take care of his health, clothes, and education and he desires but Oliver's compassionate plans for Dick have come too late. Unfortunately, to what the little boy Oliver has dreamed happily and to his cherish aspiration come to disappoint him by the sudden unexpected dreadful news that is his dear friend Dick died. Oliver receives his painful loss with much grief and sorrow than any bad other thing occurred to him; he sorrowfully utters these words:

“Oliver, my child,” said Mrs. Maylie, “where have you been, and why do you look so sad? There are tears stealing down your face at this moment. What is the matter?”It is a world of disappointment—often to the hopes we most cherish, and hopes that do our nature the greatest honour. Poor Dick was dead! ”(363).

## **Conclusion**

To conclude, the Victorian time was not a pleasant time for most of the Victorians. Charles Dickens uses his life as a reflection example to convey a message in reversed of *Oliver Twist*; Oliver was not only the one who was treated unjustly by his society or he is being deprived of his mother's love and family surrounding. Dickens composed the book to true and horrific facts; as two faces to a single coin, he sarcastically criticized the social system and raised his voice against the cruel authority, and he gives all devotion to those who have been abused characters by the harsh system. During analyzing the three volumes of the

novel *Oliver Twist*, and whether it is vaged sympathy or is direct expressions of it; we believe that the author's great devotion to the abused child is been held by those miserable characters' ending. Its explicit presence is where Dickens gracefully achieved his oppressed character's wishes so their anguish could finally be ended. However, these cherished wishes are illustrated by: for Oliver's, he dreamed of a warm world that is filled with family's love and compassionate faces surround him; for Nancy's, the "young guileless girl" and "miserable woman" who finds it is too late for a new life after she has been wronged since infancy, she exhausted all her youth struggling her shameful past; she wishes her life ends by the hand's of whom she loves. For Dick's, the poor child wishes only of heavens and kind faces surround him and his sister. Charles Dickens seals his novel with all his affordable emotions of serenity, blessing, and love to the surviving, item of morality, the orphan hero Oliver."I would fain linger yet with a few of those among whom I have so longmoved, and share their happiness by endeavoring to depict it.....I would fain recall them every one.".(40)

## The General Conclusion

Oliver Twist novel is a novel by Charles Dickens published serially from 1837 to 1837. It is one of the greatest works of the Victorian literature which summarized the social issues and problems in many aspects of life; Charles Dickens is both a great novelist and an influential social critic of the Victorian era, he had been lauded for providing a stark portrait of the Victorian-era underclass, helping to bring about social change.

Through his novels, Charles Dickens exposes the changes and the problems consequenced by the industrial revolution such as child labour, class division, prostitution...so on. The changes were mainly within areas such as technology, economics and politics, there was also a remarkable shift in values and morality; however, the good morals in the Victorian society almost disappeared, the upper class were having a luxurious life while the working class were suffering from child labour and starvation; also children were the most affected group in society and Dickens declares that the children are the victims of social injustice.

Dickens stands as the first English novelist to give children a frequent and central role in his stories, he believes that children are innocent from the evil human misdeeds and they can not be corruptible or criminals. Dickens's sympathy towards the abused children was obvious and distinct from his style and diction; he reveals the harshness and the suffering that a child can be exposed to that was by representing the mistreatment of the evil characters. Dickens also describes the miserable life of the orphaned children who lived in the workhouse and were treated badly; where he shows his philanthropy to the orphans who lacking family and love from any sort, he also depicts the sinister characters who destroy the childhood innocence by corrupting and entering them to the world of criminality.

Dickens's disappointment came from his childhood sadness when his father arrested and sent to the prison for his failure to pay the debt, Most of Charles Dickens

characters are parentless and orphaned thus his compassion to the poor and orphan children came from personal experience and those orphan characters of the novel reflect Dickens own early suffering and hardship.

Using these combinations of theories; the Marxism, formalism and biographical criticism to analyze the novel reveal the bitter truth reflected by the social differences and the class system in the Victorian society and the damage it left behind, also illuminate the author's devotion and compassion to the children that was intelligible through his style and diction and finally exposure and interpret the author biography and his sad childhood.

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