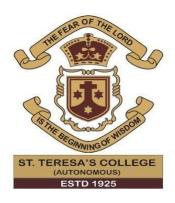
INTERSECTIONALFEMINISM IN BERNARDINE EVARSTO'S GIRL WOMEN OTHER



ProjectsubmittedtoSt. Teresa'sCollege(Autonomous)inpartialfulfillmentof therequirementforthedegreeofBACHELOROFARTSinEnglishLanguage and Literature

By ADHEENA SS

RegisterNo.AB20ENG041

III B.A. English Literature

St.Teresa'sCollege(Autonomous)

Ernakulam

Cochin-682011

Kerala

Supervisor

Elizabeth Maria

DepartmentofEnglish

St.Teresa'sCollege(Autonomous)

Ernakulam

Kerala

March2023

DECLARATION

I hereby declare that this project entitled "Intersectional Feminism in BernadineEvaristo's *GirlWomenOther*" is the record of bonafidework done by me under the guidance and supervision of Ms. Elizabeth Maria Assistant Professor, Department of English.

AdheenaSS

Register Number: AB20ENG041

III B.A. English Language and Literature

Ernakulam StTeresa'sCollege(Autonomous)

March 2023 Ernakulam

CERTIFICATE

Iherebydeclarethatthisprojectentitled"IntersectionalFeminismin
BernardineEvaristo's *GirlWomenOther*" by Adheen assisare cord of
bonafide work carried out by her under my supervision and guidance.

Ms.Elizabeth Maria

DepartmentofEnglish

Ernakulam StTeresa'sCollege(Autonomous)

March 2023 Ernakulam

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Adheena ss

An Abstract of the Project entitled Intersectional Feminism in Bernardine Evaristo's Girl Women Other

 $\mathbf{B}\mathbf{y}$

Adheena ss

BA English Language and Literature St Teresa's College (Autonomous) Ernakulam

Register Number: AB20ENG041 (2020-23)

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Supervising Teacher: Ms. Elizabeth Maria

The project aims at analyzing the novel Girl Women Other by Bernardine Evaristo through the lenses of intersectional feminism .The term intersectional feminism describes the interconnected nature of different forms of oppression, such as racism, sexism and classism and its impact on people based on their intersecting identities. Intersectionals have become the predominant way of conceptualizing the relation between the system of oppression which makes multiple identities and our social hierarchies of power and privilege. The main aim is to clarify the origin of intersectionality and how the contributions of youngsters help in creating their opportunity to build better, stronger and equal societies

Introduction

Intersectional feminism is an analytical framework for understanding how this aspect of an individual's social and political identities combine together to make a difference in discrimination and privilege on the bases of some factors likesex, class, race, religion, physical appearance, etc. Legal scholar Kimberle Crenshaw coined the term Intersectionality in 1989 also as a black feminist she believesthatsexismandracismarebonded together and callsthatintersectionalityanditindicatesthatidentity being black and being female should be considered in our society. so intersectional feminism is a different kind ofthing. The women in our society mainly face different kinds of discrimination and they undergo a kind of isolated situation in public and private circles of our society. They may be common in one thing but different in another and become sectionalized for example understanding the way ofmultipleformsofinequalityandcreating a restriction on what we know by criticizingoroverthinkingabout this all as per the social justice law of structure is intersectionality.

In black feminism, the African -American girls in the field of education were more suspended than white girls it may probably be a race or gender problem this both becamestereotype issues out of class or between teachers and students and the administration so here is the result that provides equal education opportunities for them this is not only in this case also in the sectionofdisability,transgender,upperorlowerclass,blackor

white, LGBTQ, etc. "A prison forseeingthewayinwhichvarious forms of inequality often operate together and exacerbate each other" by Kimberle Crenshaw it's not an easy thing there is a race problem here, gender problem here, and class or LGBTQproblem there, people are disadvantaged by various sources of oppression their race, gender, class, identity, sexual orientation, and other identity markers.

The main objective of this project is to put forward the intersectionality of the life of black women and the oppression of women captured in roles of gender in thenovel *Girl Women Other* by Bernadine Evaristo. This study takes the theory of intersectional feminism by Valdecir Nascimento and Toni Morrison and also observes how Evaristo's novel represent the basis of racism, discrimination, and gender equality of women in Britain the experience can be addressed in the main stream because intersectionality has a long history in feminist movements.

The first chapter of women tale in *GirlWomenOther* and the contributions of intersectional feminist theories mainlyfocused ontheconceptsof intersectional feminism asperthenovel *Girl Women Other* and analyzed the novel briefly and applied theories of Valdecir Nascimento and Toni Morrison how the women in contemporary literature and concluding with gender discrimination and racism in Britain and their experience. In the second chapter, the theme and moral of the novel is discussed. It also discusses the writing style and intersectional feminism from

the view of the author by analyzing BernardineEvaristo as thefirst black woman before and after winning the Booker prize. The conclusion part of the project discusses the role of youngstersthat we callthemoderngenerationofwomen. They played amajorrole in society actions against oppression, race, gender, and class discrimination. The project may explore the experience, at rocities committed against women and others finally accepting their identity with pride. Most of the marginalization hold on our society because persecution and discrimination against women and minority ones. Here the project takes an intersectional approach to recognize and encourage the people belonging to the minority community to have pride about their gender or sexual or ethnic identity.

Chapter 1

WomenTalesinGirlWomenOther

Bernardine Evaristo the author of the novel. she mainly focuses on the Intersectional theories in the novel Girl Women Other and also a whole contribution of theories we can see according to her because she "wants to put presence into absence" (Evaristo 3). Intersectional theory is an essential weapon. It's a school of thought that we use in a method to combine the system of oppression and to make the conditions that create inequality possible. It also invites our own positions. On the political perspective, adapting an intersectional perspective is a queries of the initial part to appreciate this complexity in a given context by rethinking intersectionality into the struggle ofthe methods that we use to integrate the inherent link between gender, race and social class. Evaristo is known for her experiment in literary form isher talents writing across, gender includes novel, poetry, short fiction, eassy, vercification, radio , drama etc . The origin of intersectional theory by Kimberle Crenshaw, who provides legal analysis of cases of discrimination against black women and its means addressing the oppression ofAfrican American women under anti-discrimination and anti-racisttheoryofpolicy.InsuchawayEvaristoexplains intersectionality as manifest in black feminist writings.

Intersection theory is a way of understanding social inequalities basedonrace, gender, class, and sexuality that emphasizes their

According to these issues the novel *Girl Women Other* by
Bernardine Evaristo represent an analysis of Gender role
discrimination and also theproblems that the black women in
Britain facing the oppression in many fields of society and in
their own real life .The novel is a semi-autobiographical that to
promote the black British women weren't visible in literature for
them writer of the novel that gives an account of female struggles,
conflicts and desires and allshades of women in the novel the
including characters of the book are in several
generations of blackwomen. Each chapter focuses on a different
character, with their own unique story and perspective.

One of the central themes of the novel is the experience of being a woman in a society that is still largely patriarchal.

Many of the female characters face discrimination, sexism and violence, and the novel explores the different ways in which they cope with and resist these challenges.

For example, Amma, a lesbian playwright, faces numerousobstaclesinhercareerduetohergenderandsexuality, butsherefusestocompromiseherartisticvisionandcontinuesto create challenging and provocative work. Bummi, a Nigerian immigrant, faces racism and cultural barriers in her attempts to establish a successful medical practice, but she persists through hard work and determination. Other female characters in the novel struggle with issues such as motherhood, sexuality, and

identity. These stories highlight the complexity and diversity of women's experiences, and the ways in which they navigate societal expectations and norms.

Overall, Girl Woman Other offers a powerful and intersectional feminist perspective on the experiences of women in contemporary Britain, and underscores the ongoing need for social and political change to address the intersecting forms of oppression and inequality that women face .They are interlinked throughidentity, social and family backgrounds, love, failure and success because commonly they are singleparents and they are presented as striving for their lives mostly the female characters involved in homosexual relationships. Amma is a daughter who strugglestoachieveheraimofopeningatheaterthenfinallyshe succeeds in it. Carole is also a single parent just like Amma also La Tisha but she has three children to lookafter. She has a grocery shop from there, she needs her children. Bummi is a homosexual being she had an affair with a same sex who was withheremployeethisisbecauseherselfsavingfrominsultsand she works on a cleaning business. Dominiquealso has homosexual relationship with Nazinga once despite loving her because of her chauvinistic attitude. Shirley is a school teacher. Penelope is a woman she married many times but she is not satisfied with her marriage. Megan was suffering identity issues. She fell in love with a drug mafia and she tried to solve the problem with the internet. Yazz is the daughter of Amma. She

was a quiet youngwomanandaveryambitiousonewhoworks as a journalist. winsome is amember in the women's book club. She was an immigrant from anothercountry. Grace Hattie's mother and Joseph Rydendale's wife. Hattie was the daughter of Grace and she was pregnant at the age of fourteen and she had a girl childnamed Barbara this is a brief of the novel and by all this concepts these accounts in novel Intersectional Feminism theory is divided into two different ways one is Intersectional feminismassectionaldiscriminationandsocialmedia'sinfluence on intersectionality.

In the basis of intersectional feminism as sectional discriminationinnovelithighlightsaboutYazzandCourtney,

I'm black, Courts, which makes me more oppressed than anyone who isn't, except Waris who is the most oppressed of all of them (although don't tell her that)...growing up in a trailer park with ajunkie single m other and a jailbird father? Is a severely disabled person more privileged than a Syrian asylum-seeker who's been tortured? Roxane argues that we have to find a new discoursefordiscussinginequality.(Evaristo65-66)

Thissectionbringstheintolighttheprivilegetheconcept race and religion crisis of a Muslim girl According to the intersectional Feminism theory the intersectional move draws in black women from an attitude of critical analysis of categories,

discourses and hierarchies, with the aim of identifying all of the factors that contribute to generating identities, diverse social positions and specific discriminations. If women' have long been honored as too abstract in order to be useful for analysis, religion has infrequently been included in the litany of qualifiers (race, class, culture, race/nation, fornication) by which 'women' become an ever more marked and discerned order. As friend of Yazz who call themselves unfuckerwithables (Evaristo 66)because hattingof different lifestyle backgroundsthe author Evaristo saying throughthese characters are in the fact that privilege is a circumstantial border that the Muslim girl wearing hijab is one who suffering as animmigrant but she never wantany sympathy and she is not a victim and she is notfighting to be a victim because it's very difficult to relate a Islam with terrorism ifshe related definitely she beingunemployed and she under the pressure of isolated asimmigrant or she go back to family or she may commit suicide. Through this authorconveying as one side she isfemale but as in society her identity a Muslim in thatbases privilege that kind of sectionalizing in intersectional feminism. And the discrimination of skin color, religion, financial backgroundandcommonlywomenconsideredasjoblessthis concept isall about the black women and immigrants.

Evaristo explores the novel as an influence of youth.

Theywereusingsocialmediaasamediumforsharingeverything. It
plays a major role in our society for example life vlogs, article

publishing,promotingtalentsthroughmediathisalsoindicatesthe independence and freedom of women life. In the novel the author expresses a feminist's side view and also through the age's technology hasn't been changed it becomes one's own part of life throughout this how younger generation and old generations difference we can see especially life between Amma and Yazz." Peoplehavetoshareeverythingtheydothesedays,frommeals,to nights out, to selfies of themselves half naked in a mirror. The bordersbetweenpublicandprivatearedissolving".(Evaristo82)

Intersectional Feminism theory as class and identity in thenovel. Identity is a fact of being who or what a person or a thing is, of his or her personal priority and giving importance for personality development and make overing is like that oneand dressing ,ways of walking, talkingand all are ones personality and theirphysical appearance is also in the novel itexplains in a manner. For example, herfriend Courtney is a Caucasian but here Evaristo taking cultural appropriation, it's actually a members of amajority community adopt cultural elements of minoritygroupsinanddisrespectfulhereinthenovelthecultural elements that going to a exotic manner of fashion because in novel those who experiencethat oppression is able to do it temporarily as blackamericansthey face discrimination of other cultures so that alienatesculture beingappropriated and another thing is fashion and trends are theimpacts of the societyso it's something self-expression and autonomy at a period and place so

its one'sown interest in clothing, footwear, lifestyle, makeup, body structure etc and it also relates personal identity and the changes of fashion in ages in the novelthrough characters dominance, exchange, transculturation are mostly commonly see in novel.

Women who miraculously spend their working day wearing bondage-tightskirts and vertiginous, destabilizingheelswhichmaketheirfeetlookboundthe erogenous zones of crushed muscles and cramped bones, encased inupmarket strippers' heels and if she has to cripple herself to signal her education, talent, intellect, skills and leadership potential then so beit. (Evaristo 89-90)

The activist Valdecir Nascimento, fought for equal rights for black women in Brazil. She said black women are part of the feminist movement, the black movement. Neither white feminists nor black men use intersecting lenses to create historical context aroundissuesthroughnarrativesofexternalviolenceandsystemic discrimination of profound inequality and disadvantage . These inequalities also include poverty, caste systems, racism, sexism, dying people, equal opportunities across generations. A curious and often overlooked aspect of the modern romance genre, and understanding its full scope and impact, we explore many ways novelsdealwithsuchprogressivediversity. Despitethefact, these novels are not taken seriously because they contain love, sex,

emotional intelligence, and happy endings Girl Women Other also in the final part a great reunion of all the characters in the noveland interactions and meeting is also ending with happiness. Here the identity crisis throughout the process of difference leads oppression and exclusion of factors like social environment. Bythis they weren't taking all aspects radical feminism refers to the women need only equality and as feminism they are noteliminatingthemalesupremacy. According to Toni Morrison, they like to talk about intersectional feminism in contemporaryliterature beginning with the African American movement, current literature focuses on the themes of African American culture, racism and equality, and the role of African Americans in society. The writings often reflect the current struggles of African American people in 20 th century. The influence of current literature over the decade. Although british english literature is one of the main branches of english literature it raises the women writersfortimeinconsumingprocessbutbritishliteraturedoesnot even have longer because of the race issues which further take a longer for acceptance of black women writers. So that is one of the reasons Evarstio being the first ever black lady author receives the Booker prize for the first time in history. The novel *Girl Women* Other is realistic in many ways. Each chapter has different characters and each chapter is basically like a short story. In this book, the characters lives are expressed through their thoughts, feelings, beliefs, issues, traumas and problems. Every characterin

the whole journey of the novel is more enriching and has something self- referential within their stories. so girl, women, other is a beautiful narrative can tell in a line that like a spun into a spider's web of iner-connectivity. The stories will make one to rethinkanearlierheldnotionaboutwomen,race,gender,sexuality, relationships, motherhood, sisterhood and femininity.

boutwomen, race, gender, sexuality, relationships, motherhood, sisterhood and femininity.

Chapter 2

IntersectionalFeminisminGirlWomenOther

The novel has a piece of feminist literature, along with the style of narration is handled with the subject of intersectionality to point to the changing of social dynamics. The main characters of the novel Amma and her daughter Yazz initially view race and gender as the only aspects that they find out as a privilegeinsociety. Throughinter connection of people with different races, social and family backgrounds, she holds the complexity of intersectionality. Therefore, social privilege is the best way to fix within a circumstance and during a particular situation. For example, her friend Courtney, is a caucasian but she isnot socially privileged because she comes from a lower-middle class familywhich needs the provocations. The narration focuses on expanding the spectrum ofthetalksofsurroundingsofinequalityandintersectionaltheory. Thesettingof the book is universal because it deals with the problems faced by women and has been written in the context of the problems which women encounter on a daily basis. There are twelve characters in the book and each character narrates one chapter in the book to give an account of their problems. All the femalecharacters narrate their stories from their own point of view. Girl Woman Other is a big, busy novel with a large root system. The characters begin to arrive (Amma, Yazz, Dominique, Carole, Bummi and LaTisha) and keep arriving (Shirley, Winsome, Penelope, Megan/Morgan, Hattie and Grace). Everyone is provided with a nametag. There is no specific supporter in the story. All the charactersarethecentralfiguresoftheirownlivesandtheirproblemsareplaying

theroleofanenemywhiletheyareinsociety. The title of the novel foreshadows that it consists of females and their narratives. It demonstrates that there would benomalecharactersmentioningotherpostcolonialaspectsandsufferings. There is no specific protagonistin the story. All characters are the protagonist of their ownlivesandtheircircumstancesandsocietyhereasantagonists. Thecharacter Amma can be considered as a protagonist in the novel because all the characters are linked with her in some way. The main conflict in the novel is between the womenandtheiridentities, desires and goals. All the women characters are trying to achieve their own goals by looking after their families. Morgan who suffers from conflict of identity and Penelope who undergoes the quarrel of parentage. She did not know about her mother for years and the dispute was resolved through a DNA test. The author explains in the novel that all humans are interlinked and as humanity human's sufferings are universal. Each person is living their life and everyone passes through difficulties achieving his/her goals. The setting of the novel is universal because it deals with the challenges faced bywomenand it has been written in contextofthe issues which women encounteron a daily basis. The author also highlights the day to day problems facedbythewomenandwereillustratedinnovelasAfricanAmericans, racismis one of the main factor they encounter entailed by prejudice against blacks struggles of life, homosexual relationships, single parenting, marriage, breakup, child raising, career struggles of women, slave trade, abandonment theater, teaching, festival and arts. Evaristo's view on feminism was born from discussions she had many times with friends. She says, feminism is one of the

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mostimportantsocialissuesthatwefaceintheworldtoday, sothefeelingisthat it's great that it's come up for a fourth wave and it's great that young women are blazing their own trails as feminists. The challenges that faced when she was nominated for Booker Prize for her work on race, gender was compensated by communicatingtoObamathroughherworkcouldjustimaginehimsittinginbed in his jim-jams with my book and felt so excited that communicated with Obama though my work,' the author says of finding position in the former US president's list of his top books of 2019. Here racialism is a false doctrine, but racialism is a presupposition of other doctrines that have been called racism, so it is worth discussing. Extrinsic racismisthebelief that racialessence sentail certain morally relevantqualitiesgoesbeyondracialism.Shedescribesintersectionalityasraising a problem for practitioners of identity politics, because it proves that having an identity doesn't, by itself, authorize you to speak on behalf of everyone of that identity. The problem, however, is that most practitioners take only half of her message.

Writing style in the novel *Girl Women Other* is actually a hybrid form that falls somewhere between prose and poetry. Evaristo's Lines are long, like Walt Whitman's or Allen Ginsberg's, and there are no periods at the ends of them. There is a corruption to her tone that gives this novel its buoyancy which meansacheerfuloroptimisticattitudeonthenovel. Evaristo's humorhelpsittoa large extent. This polyphonic novel, packed with interlinking stories, one of the main characters is similar in some ways to other main characters. The title of the novel *Girl Women Other* poses the question who are others? According to

Edmund Hussers' philosophy of phenomenology. Through the stories of twelve women are seen the other where the people belong to the rest in our society as different communities or marginalized by their differences. If a woman is under femininity who was stigmatized and socially excluded. It makes how the characters show in novel as oppressed and stigmatized are manifests through gender, class, race, sex etc here girl and women revels as different lifestyle and they are common but the other was considered as different in the basis of gender, skin color, class, sex what it creates the environment perceive them through a preliminary of difference. From the preface of the novel itself Evaristo written the different dedication sets of tone for the "sisters & the sistas & the sistahs & the sistren & the women & the womxn & the wimmin & the womyn & our brethren & our bredrin & our brothers & our bruvs & our men & our mandem & the LGBTQI+" (Evaristo 2) members of the human family by arranged in sections. This dedication will give a new way of experience to the readers to connect a reach inside the novel, and also others to feel an opposite way. For example, Afew, likesquirrels on a two-lane blacktop, will lose all composure. so here Evaristo giving reason for readers that she want stick the readers around her work so that it become Bechdel test which is a measure of the representation of women in film and other fiction, so intersectional feminism is a gift for appraising the lives of her characters with comfort and manners while gently pick some of their affected. The book is realistic in many ways. Each chapter has different characters and each chapter is basically like a short story. In this book, the characters lives are expressed through their thoughts, feelings, beliefs, issues,

traumas and problems. Every character in the whole journey of the novel is more enriching and has something self- referential within their stories. Evaristo also raised her voice that neglected one from otherwise normal communities and then openups worlds that are overlapping with each other and also tried to reduce womenopportunities in the patriarchalworld. In this world they were oppressed because of their difference. Throughout the novel, Bernardine Evaristo portrays a diverse range of characters who face different forms of oppression and marginalization based on their intersecting identities. For example, many of the female characters in the novel are also black, queer, immigrant, or working-class, and they face discrimination and marginalization based on all of these identities.

Conclusion

Overall, our society is under the pressure of suffering as well as facing discrimination and racism in various life situations. In professional fields too, the African black community and women are those people facing these issues in our society. Feminism is one of the theories that has highlighted it in this modern world. Intersectional feminism in the novel *Girl Women Other* describes traumas faced by black women in the UK and other foreign countries. The novel is a perfect portrait of modern Britain and modern society at large. Some of the populationsupports feminism, some goes on rejecting feminism and others facing feminism talk about feminism and relate them and the contribution of young people is also of much importance in society.

In the novel Evaristo puts forward two of the characters, the younger generationandshehasamodernperspectiveinthenovel. Sheisclosewith social media and has represented younger perspectives. Feminism improves on and challenges peace studies by proposing expanded definitions of peace that suggest continuity between different forms of violence. It highlights the diverse roles women, and other marginalized groups play in times of violence and conflicts to bring peace processes, complicating our understanding. And the other non-binary character Grace is another young character in the novel who also gives a youngperspectiveonaverydifferentissuethatitfeelssocietyisnotinterested in their thoughts and they are all alone and they are not accepted by society. Also, Amma and her other friends the characters were of older perspectives. This shows the change of people's perspectives with time as a proof in the novel.

The way of discrimination and other issues changed but the racism and freedom for women still in temporary condition any time any way it can be changedbutonlytheinfluenceoftheyoungesthavebroughtthesechangesinour society from many challenges and protests. In my point of view, in the novel every chapter starts with symbols and those symbols indicating each character's personality in a one symbol for example related to their behavior, job and appearance. In novelthe way Evaristo's writing style them from being till end no any punctuation is not used like nonstopable way going and that make readers a good experience in reading in simple way but at the same time it's too difficult to find or can't analysis in a complex manner it's in complicating narration this novelisactuallyabouttheEvaristo'sexperienceandtheblackwomentheAfrican

Americans and in novel each characters are really pointing to break the boundaries of racism and gender discrimination and they taking the opportunities maximum in their lives and fighting for achieving their goals by their own power.

Each female character is independent and also not at all dependent because maybe the situation and crisis they were going through or their experience they experienced make them like that gender is one of the biggest lies of our civilization so we can be thought of as a person with knowledge not just opinions. The project introduces the theory of intersectional feminism in the view of the analytical framework for understanding how these aspects of an individual's social and political identities that combine to create different modes of discrimination and privilege in the contemporary world. The main objective of this project is to put forward the intersectionality of the life of black womens And

the oppression of women captured in roles of genders in the Bernardine Evaristo's novel *Girl Women Other*. This study takes the theory of intersectional feminism developed by Valdecir Nascimento and Toni Morrison who created an ideology of Kimberle Crenshaw. It will discover how Bernardine Evaristo's novel presents the basis of racism, discrimination and gender equalities of women in Britain.

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