MAKERS OF YOUNGER GENERATION IN J.K. ROWLING’S HARRY POTTER NOVELS

PUNITHAVALLI S.¹ & KAYALVIZHI A.²

¹Ph.D., Scholar, Department of English, Salem Sowdeswari College, Salem- 10, Tamil Nadu, India. Email: spcareerdoc1979@gmail.com

²Assistant Professor, Department of English, Salem Sowdeswari College, Salem- 10, Tamil Nadu, India. Email: kayalsiva1979@gmail.com

Abstract

From the period of Vedas to at present many books comment the importance of younger generation. Youngster’s attitude is based on their surroundings. Weeding the bad attitude from youngsters is the greatest role of their makers. Then only we get good leaders. Our country is in the hands of younger generation. But molding them in good manner is the hands of parents, teachers and well-wishers etc. If we feed good thoughts to them definitely we will get good generation. Otherwise, they may me act as terrorist or doing some wrong activities. The impact of that they spoil themselves and the society. So it is the urgent study we should know about creating younger generation in a meaningful way with the help of J.K. Rowling’s Harry Potter novels.

Key Words: Horcruxes, Muggles, Mirror of Erised, Marauders Map, AvadaKedavra, Holistic Approach.

1. INTRODUCTION

From ancient to modern era, so many books conveyed the betterment of younger generation. Youngsters are the pillars of our society. If we nurture, good seeds to them, we will get sweet fruit. Otherwise, we will get bitter fruit only. Children’s future is based on their surroundings. Society molds them either good or bad. Here, society is included as, parents, teachers as well as well-wishers. They got prominent role to make a good generation. If the child will attain good relationship definitely it shines like a star. Otherwise it spoiled its own life and the whole society. So nurturing the young in a good manner is the only way to get good society. Many writers insist the importance of younger generation, from that J.K. Rowling is one among them. The present study
conveys how the good or bad generation emerged with the example of virtuous Harry Potter and the Evil Voldemort.

1.1 JOANNE ROWLING

Joanne Rowling better known by her pen name J.K. Rowling is a British author, film producer, television producer, screenwriter, and philanthropist. She was born in 31st July 1965, Yate, United Kingdom. Rowling is best known for the writing of Harry Potter fantasy series, which has won multiple awards and sold more than 500 million copies, becoming the best-selling book series in history. Harry Potter series has seven fantasy novels. They are, *Harry Potter and the Philosopher’s Stone*, *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets*, *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban*, *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire*, *Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix*, *Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince*, *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows*.

2. MAKERS OF EVIL VOLDEMORT (TOM RIDDLE)

In Harry Potter novels, Tom Riddle studied in Hogwarts School. Hogwarts is the magical school of witchcraft and wizardry. In Hogwarts School many students were learnt. Tom Riddle was one among them. Because of the cunning mother he molded himself as a cunning person. So he was interested in learning dark magic. In Hogwarts, one of the restricted parts of library also there. Tom Riddle found the spell book in that restricted area and he did according to the Black Magic. Then, he emerged as a Black Lord. Because of his mother, loose-talk teacher, cruel friends and evil well-wishers he spoiled his life. With the help of one of his faculty members, Professor Slughornhe learned the way of hiding his soul, through the way of Horcrux.

2.1 HORCRUXES:

Horcruxes are explained to Tom Riddle (Voldemort) by his teacher Slughorn as follows:

A Horcrux is the word used for an object in which a person has concealed part of their soul’. ‘Well, you split your soul, you see’, said Slughorn, and hide part of it in an object outside the body. Then, even if one’s body is attacked and destroyed, one cannot die, for part of the soul remains earthbound and undamaged. But, of course, existence in such a form... (Prince 413).

Voldemort splits his soul into seven parts and places them inside inanimate objects and his snake, Nagini. A part of Voldemort’s soul finds refuge inside Harry’s body. Hence his identity is incomplete. Because of the cunning mind he can do harm to the common
people of both muggle (non-Magical) and wizard (magical) world. His entry is identified by the destruction of many places. The Brockdale bridge one among them. It revealed through the voice of Fudge: “The Brockdale Bridge didn’t wear out. That wasn’t really a hurricane. Those murders were not the work of Muggle. Fudge took a great, deep breath and said, ‘Prime Minister, I am very sorry to have to tell you that he’s back, the wizard who had committed a thousand terrible crimes before his mysterious disappearance fifteen years earlier” (Prince 9).

Problem arose between parents is one of the tool for creation of evil generation. It could be seen through the voice of Tom Riddle: “He left her and returned to his Muggle parents before I was even born, Potter, and she died giving birth to me, leaving me to be raised in a Muggle orphanage... but I vowed to find him...I revenged myself upon him, that fool who gave me his name... Tom Riddle..”(Goblet 544). Evil thoughts, only creates some other evil followers. In *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire*, one of the disguised professors, Mad Eye Moody used one of the killing curses, ‘Avada Kedavra’ for killing spider. It shows his cruel mind. It happened because of the friendship of evil Voldemort. It clearly understood through the voice of Moody: “Avada Kedavra, the spider rolled over onto its back, unmarked, but unmistakably dead”(Goblet 181).

3. MAKERS OF VIRTUOUS HARRY POTTER

3.1 PARENTS

On the contrary James and Lily were studied the same Hogwarts School studied by Tom Riddle. They led their life in good manner. They fought against evil. Their virtuous lives created jealous to Tom Riddle (Lord Voldemort). So Lord Voldemort, killed both James and Lily. Their only son Harry Potter escaped from the evil action of Voldemort. Harry Potter got good friends, teachers and well-wishers. So he fought against the evil Voldemort. The fight arose between a child came from virtuous family and a child came from mischievous family. By the virtuous thoughts of James and Lily, Harry got the admit card of Wizard School, Hogwarts. It clearly revealed through the letter of Professor McGonagall: “We are pleased to inform you that you have a place at Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry. Please find enclosed list of all necessary books and equipment” (Stone 55). Harry is easily recognized by the lightning scar on his forehead. It could be seen through the works of Rowling: “This scar was the only hint of Harry’s very mysterious past, of the reason he had been left on the Dursley’s doorstep eleven years before” (Chamber 4). Harry is a symbol of goodness along with him other virtuous souls
like Dumbledore symbolized as justice, Hermione symbolized as restraint. Hermione helped to Harry’s joyful journey through removing the weeding of evil.

3.2 TEACHERS

By birth of good family, friends, teachers and well-wishers Harry Potter got success. Even though he was not a valiant person, he fought against evil Voldemort many times and won the battle. In *Harry Potter and the Philosopher’s Stone*, Harry Potter was attracted by the greatness of Dumbledore. In Hogwarts train, Harry Potter read the wrapper of chocolate: “ALBUS DUMBLEDORE, currently Headmaster of Hogwarts, considered by many the greatest wizard of modern times” (Stone 109). Albus Dumbledore is a powerful Headmaster of wizard school Hogwarts. There, Dumbledore creates a space for Harry to re-imagine his parents’ sacrifice for him. Harry knows that he was loved. And the love of well-wishers’ make him do the right things.

One of the Professors McGonagall’s parts in Harry’s life is noteworthy. She transfigures as a cat and waits eagerly for the entry of infant Harry in his aunt’s home at the very beginning of the series, *Harry Potter and the Philosopher’s Stone*. And when Harry enters Hogwarts School for the first time, the first teacher he sees there is Professor McGonagall. She takes the first year students to Great Hall and tells about the fame of the four houses. The houses are Gryffindor, Hufflepuff, Ravenclaw and Slytherin. Students are selected their House by Sorting Hat. Here, “the learner’s emotions, desires, personality and needs are taken into consideration” (Bose 26). It shows the importance of holistic approach. Holistic Approach is one of the humanistic approaches; here the learner is treated as a human being, teaching is done accordingly. Rowling cleverly exhibits this approach in this series. In Triwizard Tournament Harry Potter was selected by the Goblet of Fire. On seeing that, Professor McGonagall supports to Harry Potter, to exclude that competition. Because, the participation of Triwizard Tournament is a dangerous one. Here, the participants are having the age of seventeen years. But now, the Goblet of Fire chose the name of Harry Potter even though he is not seventeen. So McGonagall raise questions to her superior Albus Dumbledore. It shows her responsibility in making younger generation. “He could not have crossed the age line, said Professor McGonagall sharply. Dumbledore, you know perfectly well you did not make a mistake! said Professor McGonagall angrily” (Goblet 233).

Madam Hooch is a Hogwarts teacher who takes flying lessons for students. She is short and has grey hair and yellow eyes. She is strict as well as caring. As a good teacher, she trains the students to mount on the broomsticks for flying. She acts as a referee too in the Inter House Quidditch matches performs her duty in an unbiased manner. With the help of Hooch Harry Potter knew how to fly on broomsticks. Because of the good teachers
Harry Potter molded his mind in straight path. In Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince we should know the restricted place of library in Hogwarts. Through that, we understood the Virtuous thought of professors in Hogwarts. To make a good generation, the teachers put more effort comparing than others. In Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows, one of the professors Mad Eye Moody, try to save the virtuous Hero, Harry Potter from his evil doers. Here, Moody changed Harry Potter’s friends as Harry. Through that he wants to divert his enemies. It could be understood through the voice of Moody: “Right then, fake Potters line up over here, please’ said Moody. Ron, Hermione, Fred, George and Fleur lined up in front of Aunt Petunia’s gleaming sink” (Hallows 39).

3.3. MAGICAL INSTRUMENTS GIVEN BY WELL-WISHERS OF HARRY POTTER

Wizards and witches used broomstick as their vehicles for flying. Nimbus Two Thousand broomstick gave fame to Harry Potter to fly on the sky. One of the broomsticks Firebolt could be described as, “The Firebolt has an acceleration of 0-150 MILES AN HOUR IN TEN SECONDS and incorporates an UNBREAKABLE BRAKING CHARM. PRICE ON REQUEST”. (Azkaban 54). The next powerful weapon of Harry is the invisibility cloak. It gave to him as an inheritance by Dumbledore, the mastermind, whose direction Harry has to keep on walking in order to achieve his goal. Time shifts in the forms of the time turner, the pensive, the mirror of Erised are supported to Harry Potter. This scene gave boost up to Harry. Travel by port keys and floo powders are supported to his journey. Most of Harry’s dreams expressed the appearance of his parents, James and Lily. It gave more energy to Harry. Though Harry is blessed with enormous power and the responsibility of saving the wizard world, he is always guided by the well-wishers. It happened because of good society.

Harry Potter fought against evil in the form of seven deadly sins like, Bellatrix symbolized as Wrath, Mundungus symbolized as greed, Cornelius Fudge with sloth, Pansy Parkinson with pride, Rita Skeeter symbolized as lust, Voldemort was symbolized as envy and Goyle and Crabbe were symbolized as gluttony. They are the well-wishers of evil Voldemort. With the collaboration of friends and well-wishers, Harry striving to fought against evil. Harry symbolized as courage, faith, hope and charity. Harry inherits a fortune. He can buy, without a worry, pretty much anything he wants. Harry acquired the best broomsticks in the market, an invisibility cloak, and the Marauder’s Map by bless of doing good. In Harry Potter and Prisoner of Azkaban, the twin brothers of Ron Weasley, Fred and George gave a Marauders Map to Harry Potter. Because they understood the importance of Harry Potter for next generation. Marauders map is a magical map; it shows the Hogwarts School of witchcraft and wizardry, depicting the
location of everyone. The map even discloses by passwords: “It was a map showing every
detail of the Hogwarts castle and grounds” (Azkaban 203).

In *Harry Potter and the Philosopher’s Stone*, the mirror of Erised, also motivates
Harry Potter by showing his parent’s image. The specialty of the mirror of Erised is, it
reflects the longings of the viewer. Because of the true love only, Harry Potter could able
to see the image of his parents. It could be seen through the lines of, “It was a magnificent
mirror, as high as the ceiling, with an ornate gold frame, standing on two clawed feet.
There was an inscription carved around the top. Erisedstraehruotubecarfluoyr on wohsi”
(Stone 223).

In *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets*, Harry Potter was saved by his head
master’s phoenix, Fawkes. It came inside to the chamber and saved Harry in a right time
by attacking the Basilisk. It could see through the lines of: “Harry looked straight into its
face, and saw that its eyes, both its great bulbous yellow eyes, had been punctured by the
phoenix, blood was streaming to the floor and the snake was spitting in agony” (Chamber
336). Harry is often saved by the true love of his mother, it even identified by the speech
of Tom Riddle: “Your mother died to save you. Yes, that’s a powerful counter-charm. I
can see now- there is nothing special about you, after all” (Chamber 334). If we mold good
generation it provides good society. In *Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix*, Rowling
clearly proved the role of future generation with the character of Cho: “The Defence
Association? said Cho. ‘The DA (Defence Academy) for short, so nobody knows what
we’re talking about? Hermione pinned the piece of parchment with all of their signatures
on it on to the wall and wrote across the top in large letters: DUMBLEDORE’S ARMY”
(Phoenix 362-363).

4. CONCLUSION

Harry and Voldemort were orphans brought up in a hostile environment and socialized
through adversity before they arrived at Hogwarts. Harry is protected by his mother’s
extraordinary love, he inherits wealth, he is famous before he knows why, he is simply
given efficient broomsticks, the Invisibility Cloak and the Marauder’s Map, he enjoys
headmaster Dumbledore’s love, care and protection, and he is marked out by an
optimistic prophecy everything happened because of his mother’s love. Rowling has
creatively used this popular fictional belief and added a whole new dimension to it. When
good triumphs and evil is vanquished, children, who are naturally frightened by the
violence of evil, gained the knowledge of virtue. Penseive, the Dementors, Boggarts,
Patronus, Occlumency and dream visions gave disturbance to Harry but his continuing
bonds with his dead parents and parental figures are the strengthening concept for his
victory. In today’s world of broken families, disintegrated communities, distrust of fellow-
beings and egomania and the resultant antagonism, insensitiveness, violence and terrorism were affect the minds of young one. The present research clearly reveals if we cultivate good, we will get bright younger generation otherwise they spoiled themselves and the society.

SHORT FORM:

Stone: Harry Potter and the Philosopher’s Stone
Chamber: Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets
Azkaban: Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban
Goblet: Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire
Phoenix: Harry Potter and the Order of Phoenix
Prince: Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince
Hallows: Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows

REFERENCES:


**Author's Bionote**

**Punithavalli.S** is a Ph.D. Scholar in the department of English in Salem Sowdeswari College, Salem -10 as well as Assistant Professor & Head, Department of English in Siri PSG Arts and Science College for Women, Sankari, Salem Dt, Tamil Nadu, India. Her specialization area is British Literature. She has published 3 journals and presented 10 papers and participated 3 workshops. She has organized a State Level Seminar and a National Level Conference.

**Dr. Kayalvizi.A** is Assistant Professor of English in Salem Sowdeswari College, Salem -10. She has presented many papers in Seminar as well as Conferences and published journals.