Various Sexual Anxieties In Look Banck In Anger Along With Its Angry Young Man Attitude By John Osborne

Miss Mantu Pandit, P.G. Student (N.S.O.U)
Dr. Ramen Goswami, English Department, Magadh University

Abstract: The study's goal is to depict the post-World War II position of the European man. It also depicts man's hopelessness and fear of the future. John Osborne, the playwright, associated with the protagonist, Jimmy Porter, who was looking for a career that was relevant to his field of study but couldn't find it. The papers include an introduction that explains the writer's life, the play's primary topics, the characters, and the language of the play, which represents the characters' types, socioeconomic levels, and thoughts. Finally, there's the conclusion, which summarises the findings.

Keywords: live, patience, anger, hate, kitchen.

Introduction: John James Osborne was born in London, England, on December 12th, 1929. He was a writer and film producer from the United Kingdom. Look Back in Anger, his play, ushered in a new era in British drama. It was first staged in 1956. He was introduced to the theatre by a group of young actors. Later in life, he worked as an actor and a manager for numerous organisations. His debut play, "The Devil Inside Him," was written in 1950 with Stella Linden, his first love. His debut performance as a London actor was in 1956, the same year that the English theatre company premiered his play "Look Back in Anger." The hero of the play was "Jimmy Porter," the son of a labourer.

Title of the play: Jimmy Porter is enraged because he has felt useless since he was ten years old, when he witnessed his father die in the Spanish civil war while fighting for democracy. The play's title references to the characters' attitudes about their lives in general, and Jimmy's in particular, where there is a sense that life is passing them by, that they are maturing without things improving. Jimmy operates a small shop with Cliff Lewis, his business partner, and he was dissatisfied with his existing position since he felt he deserved more.

Sex is related with social structure: Jimmy might be seen as a kind of postwar generation befuddled by the Hungarian revolution, dissatisfied with Britain's so-called imperialist response to Suez, and determined to opposing the bomb and nuclear weapons. Jimmy Porter is frequently cited as an example of an enraged individual. He is enraged by the political and social establishment. He believes that societal and political structures are impeding his ability to achieve his goals. His rage is directed at his friends, particularly his wife, Alison. His wife leaves him because of his rage. Because of realism, the generation at the time suffered greatly. Many opponents claimed that the realism genre had become monotonous and unimaginative, which is why they accused Osborne of praising the dominance of capitalism.
Setting of the play along with angry attitude: Look back in Anger is a drama in which Osborne portrays his feelings of rage and fury about postwar Britain's dreary surroundings. Porter hopes to use higher education to overcome his lower-class background. He is educated as a result of his socioeconomic roots, yet education does not provide him with the results he desires. Despite his degree, he worked in a variety of jobs that were unrelated to his level of education. He worked as a journalist, a salesman, a janitor, and ran a candy stand. These occupations were unrelated to his degree. "Inability to meet the anticipation is a frustration," says Berkowitz. The drama is set in the Porters’ one-room flat, which is a quite big attic room. The furnishings are basic and vintage: a double bed and a dressing table.

Concept of Angry Young Man: The concept of "Angry Young Man" was first discovered in the play Look Back in Anger. This was a comprehensive depiction of the postwar generation and working-class males who held political and social beliefs. That is to say, they refused to admit to their social and class alienation. Jimmy Porter is an enraged guy who believes that his social and political systems have prevented him from achieving his goals, and as a result, he turns his rage onto his wife, Alison, and his friends.

Drama in the Kitchen Sink:
This phrase is used to describe plays that rely on realism. George Bernard Shaw, a British playwright, was the first to introduce this type of play. The lives of the British upper class were captured in this genre, which portrayed the everyday drama of ruling class British society.

Childhood is lost:
The issue of loss has an impact on Jimmy and Alison’s characters. Jimmy’s father died when he was ten years old. He had been suffering since childhood and was obliged to cope with males. Alison was robbed of her childhood. By marrying Jimmy, she was forced to grow up quickly. Her youth was squandered due to her husband’s rage.

The British culture of sloth:
Jimmy was enraged, and he compared his existence to the world’s slothfulness. Jimmy does not consider the planet to be dead. His rage is an attempt to jolt the people around him out of their slumber.

The British Empire’s Rise and Fall:
This is exemplified by the two characters Colonel Redfern and Alison’s father, both of whom long for British imperialism. The Colonel served in India for many years, a symbol of British imperial supremacy during the Edwardian period.

View on Masculinity:
In his plays, Art Osborne’s views on masculinity were sexist. As a result, critics charged the author with celebrating young men’s rage and violence toward women, as well as homosexuality. He wants Alison’s mother to die. He believed that civilization had devolved into feminism.

The play’s language:
The play’s language is a genuine one. The most of the time, Jimmy yells and swears. When he speaks, he opens his mouth. Cliff Welsh is a well-known Irish accented actor. His speech is comprehensible. Every character has the ability to express how he or she feels or thinks. Osborne appears to speak in daily terms. The author intends for the bluntness of the piece to startle the viewer. It should be emphasised that Look Back in Anger is thought to be a reaction to the affected drawing-room comedies of writers such as Terence Rattigan, Noel Coward, and others, because these writers wrote about opulent bourgeois or elements of the upper-middle class who were happy in suburbs. The author employs dramatic monologue to allow his characters to convey their emotions and thoughts. He speaks in a way that is appropriate for the situation in the play. The language is one that is realistic. The audience comprehends each event and has no problem hearing or seeing the characters on stage. Everything about Britain at the period is revealed by the characters. Osborne’s language reflects their socioeconomic and educational status. Helena’s demeanour is prim and correct, as is her speech. Colonel Redfern is quiet and introspective, while Alison is socially upper-class.
Various kinds of anger: These studies looked at John Osborne's themes of wrath, namely in his 1956 play "Look Back in Anger." It demonstrates that there are two types of anger: emotional and the manifestation of such emotions. The psychoanalytic philosophy of Sigmund Freud has been used to the display of rage. People express their rage or behaviour in order to protect themselves. Because of the people's insensibility, Jimmy Porter, the play's protagonist, is irritated and outraged.

Jimmy’s play was a response to the generation that grew up during World War II. Osborne identified with Jimmy because he was enraged by the same thing that Jimmy was enraged by. The writer has given up hope for the future. Jimmy has the same sentiments. Because both the playwright and the character expect things to become worse, optimism was evident throughout the play. Everything is destroyed as a result of the conflict, and conditions are deteriorating. The drama illustrates the discrimination that exists between British society and capitalism’s rule. Jimmy Porter is estranged from his wife Alison, who left him after she became pregnant. She is unable to live quietly with her spouse, who is from a different social class.

Method of the research: This research study uses a qualitative approach, based on an examination of Osborne's character Jimmy Porter in "Look Back in Anger." The researcher read the text of "Look Back in Anger" in depth in order to achieve the study's objectives and gather conclusions, and he analysed why and how Jimmy Porter was experiencing identity crisis. To come up with a sound analysis and reasonable conclusion, the researcher focused on the psychological study of Porter's personality. The purpose of this study is to examine Osborne's character Jimmy Porter's identity struggle in "Look Back in Anger" from the perspective of a modernist psychoanalytical approach.

Erikson used the phrase “identity crisis” in psychology to describe a person who is unable to establish ego identity (p. 210). Erikson’s psychosocial theory of human development, unlike many other developmental theorists of his time, encompasses the full lifespan, including adulthood. The term “crisis” was coined by Erikson to characterise a series of internal conflicts that are tied to developmental phases. According to Erikson’s theory, a person’s personal identity and future development are determined by how they overcome a crisis. The crisis of closeness against solitude, which occurs between late adolescence and early adulthood. The battle to resolve the reciprocal nature of intimacy, i.e., to achieve a mutual balance between giving and receiving love and support, is symbolised by this crisis. As a result, teenagers must figure out how to form and keep close friendships outside of the home, as well as how to achieve reciprocity in sexual relationships. According to the above-mentioned symptoms and effects, Jimmy Porter is a character who is experiencing an identity crisis, according to the research.

Sexual anxiety: Jimmy Porter, in Osborne's "Look Back in Anger," is part of a generation that has been robbed of their brilliant past, has a bland and uncertain present, and is about to confront an aimless future. As a result, an aloof, aimless, goalless, confused, and hopeless generation was produced. The main issue at the time was identity crisis. Porter became a "angry young man" as a result of his irritation and boredom. Jimmy Porter's rage against society, class and sex tensions, and even his contempt for religion are all evident throughout the play. Alison expresses her desire to attend church with Helena before leaving Porter. When Jimmy learns that she is heading to church, he asks, "Where are you going?" Porter responds.

He yearns for the companionship of someone with whom he can share his thoughts and sentiments about society and religion, which have caused him dissatisfaction, disillusionment, and nihilism. He has only hardships and pains in his hunt for identity and existence. Despite the fact that his mother and his wife’s relatives are “Pretty Posh,” Jimmy despises the upper class. Jimmy Porter claims that society’s class and status systems have rendered his existence and identity meaningless. Cliff appeals to him since he (Cliff) refers to himself as a “ordinary man.” “You have never heard so many well-bred common places coming from beneath the same bowler hat,” he says about Jimmy Porter to Nigel, Alison’s brother.

“He has no idea where he is or where he’s going,” she continues. He’ll never amount to anything and he’ll never do anything.” He was frustrated because he was born in a culture that was completely static and unjust.
He is unable to find a means or someone to convey his grief. He was so engrossed in his memories that he lost track of his own existence and identity in the present. When his father died, he was ten years old. His father’s death had a significant impact on his personality. He says this to Alison when he is unaware that she is pregnant.

“If only anything… something happened to you when you awoke from your beauty slumber! If you were to have a child, it would die.” His contempt for the upper crust is demonstrated when he refers to Mrs. Red Fern as “an overfreed, overprivileged, old Bitch.” “You are hurt because everything has changed, Jimmy is hurt because everything has remained the same,” Alison told his father. “Something is awry someplace,” says the narrator. Isn’t that so? He is always claiming his right to exist, dignity, and individuality. He stated, “Let us imagine we are human beings who are genuinely living.” He’s like someone trying to find a way out of a circle.

Jimmy’s uncertainty grew as he struggled to find his identity. We discover him in the midst of a class and sex dispute. Cliff and Jimmy, two of the four main protagonists, are from the working class, while Alison and Helena are from the upper class. Jimmy Porter experienced an identity crisis as a result of the social and sexual struggle. “They embody predatory, selfish, uneducated, and insensitive society,” he said of his wife Alison, her mother, and Helena, demonstrating his contempt. Because of Alison’s higher position, Jimmy Porter feels unmanly, and he also struggles to elicit warm sexual feelings in his wife. Jimmy’s nervousness and identity struggle is exacerbated by the absence of a father figure. He has a “stream of consciousness” moment.

Conclusion: The psychological study of Jimmy Porter’s character demonstrates that Jimmy Porter, the primary character in "Look Back in Anger" by "Osborne," was a dissatisfied, disillusioned, and hopeless "angry young man" of the "lost generation." In a society that was entirely antagonistic to his point of view, he was trying to find his identity and existence. In a negative manner, he criticizes conventional qualities. He is enraged and alienated from society, religion, and his loved ones as a result of his futile search for identity.

Literature review: "Look Back in Anger" was not perfect, but it was full of thrill and vitality, according to critics from the New Stateman and Nation. He stated that it is an address to you if you are young, and that it will also assist you in comprehending childhood feelings. "Look Back in Anger," according to Judie Dench and Maureen Paton of the Daily Express on June 8, 1989, is an excellent attempt to portray husband-wife relationships in a different way. "Good plays take on new meaning throughout time." The 8th of June, 1989, was Micheal Billington's birthday. More than a communal game, it is an expression of personal benefit.

References: