ABSTRACT

This study examines how classism is portrayed and the interaction between the upper and lower classes in Oscar Wilde’s fairy tales, which were written during the Victorian period in the nineteenth century. The fairy tales chosen are those compiled in Oscar Wilde’s first and second volume of his fairy tales books that have the most vivid criticism toward the typical nineteenth century attitudes. Using Marx’s theory on Classism, this study finds that there is some subordination done by the upper class people (the bourgeoisie) toward people from the lower class (the proletarian). The subordination, as it is written in the fairy tales, mainly caused by a big gap between the two classes. Therefore, classism is dominant in the society depicted in Oscar Wilde’s selected works and it is suggested in the works discussed. Throughout this study, it is proven that fairy tale is a good tool to deliver important moral values to the readers, especially for children and the young reader.