

ABSTRACT

This study examines several point of criticism portrayed in *Jude the Obscure* on the conflicts of social classes in the Victorian period in the nineteenth century in England. Besides, this study describes the oppressions of the main character and his reaction against the oppression from the upper class. Using Marx's theory on social classes, this study finds that there is a large gap between the upper class (the bourgeoisie) and the lower class (the proletariat) who make the lower class suffer. Jude Fawley is the main character who dreams of studying at the university and becomes a famous clergyman. As the lower class, Jude cannot have his dreams come true. This is related to Marxist criticism that the lower classes have limited educational and career opportunities. The upper class do not care about the lower class. They are the barrier that prevents the lower class to gain a better life, knowledge, education, and occupation.

Keywords: *Bourgeoisie, Class, Marxism, Proletariat, Victorian period*