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ABSTRACT

This thesis aims to analyze classism in John Cheever's selected short stories (*The Housebreaker of Shaddy Hill, Reunion, and The Swimmer*). In Victorian era, people in America struggle their life and look for the glory, wealth, and pride. They consider that the *bourgeoisie* is the highest class among all classes in the society. In the twentieth century, John Cheever known as the writer who put the theme of American values in his literary works. His short stories contain the mistreatment of bourgeoisie toward the subordinates. Classism as one of the ideology that criticized by Marxism brings the idea of American order classification which is known in the society as the class structure. They are upper class, middle class, and lower class. In these short stories, the main character's classified as upper and middle class. This thesis will provide the portrayal and criticize the classism in John Cheever's short stories during twentieth century.

Keywords : bourgeoisie, class structure, classism, Marxism