ABSTRACT

This study is focused on Sethe's trauma as a victim of slavery portrayed in Toni Morrison's novel: *Beloved* (1987). This is a novel about the life of an ex-slave, Sethe, in continuing her life. During her life, she is influenced by her trauma of the past experience, as an impact of slavery.

The impact of slavery on Sethe can be seen when she kills one of her children in order to save her from being captured by the overseers. She does not want to return to the ranch to avoid being taken as a slave again. Intrinsic approach and psychological background are used in this research in order to find out about the incidents of Sethe's life which cause the trauma and impact of other miserable incidents. Meanwhile, these theories are also used as guidance to analyze the influence of her trauma to build her mind set. Her memory on slavery is structured well which sets on her mind in creating her perspective of defense.

The research is conducted to find the background Sethe's trauma which is obviously the impact of slavery. The impacts are divided into three criterions which are intrusion, hyper arousal, and avoidance. The trauma brings the influence of Sethe's trauma toward slavery in building her mind set.

"If the Greeks invented tragedy, the Romans the epistle, and the Renaissance the sonnet, our generation has invented a new literature, that of testimony."

o **Eli Weisel**