

ABSTRACT

The pressure of teens and the momentary release that sex provides is real. Sex does not resolve a stressful situation, of course, but it does supply a temporary escape. While life gets hectic, stressful, or painful, teens will likely seek each other out for the comfort and relief of a sexual encounter. Desire to escape stress through sex or alcohol, drugs are signs of immaturity. Immature sex relationship that is usually known as premarital sex which is portrayed in Jodi Picoult's *The Pact* becomes the main issue in this thesis. The analysis will be focused on the main character named Chris Harte about the tension and the emotion surrounding Emily's death and Chris' consequent and trial of his immature acts. This study is going to analyze the novel by using New Criticism theory. New criticism tells about focus on the text only by giving the interpretation and it deals with close reading. In order to examine the formal elements of the text, such as characterization, setting of time and place, point of view, plot, images, metaphors and symbols to interpret the text and find the theme. Beside to examine the formal elements of the text, new criticism is aimed to find the organic unity of the text and the analysis of this study is limited on conflicts, setting, and character.

Keywords: suicide pact, conflict, teenage suicide, immature sex relationship

CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION