

ABSTRACT

This study attempts to discuss issues raised in the drama *The Dance and the Railroad* written by David Henry Hwang. The drama portrays identity issue, particularly Chinese-American identity. The two characters in the drama are China Men, Lone and Ma, who work as transcontinental railroad workers in the United States of America. As diaspora people who move from their homeland to the new land with different culture, they have different ways in determining their identity. In analyzing the issues the writer uses a qualitative method by elaborating dialogues, events, acts and conflicts in the drama and applies the theory which is suitable to the discussion. Identity is not easy to determine, but in this study the writer uses the theory of identity, suggested by Kwame Anthony Appiah and Henry Louis Gates, Jr., that determine identity into two: those are genealogical origin and geographical origin. Genealogical origin has close relations with genotype whereas geographical origin has close relations with diaspora which makes people feel of being caught between cultures. Therefore, Lone and Ma have different opinions in determining their identity because of the different of their society backgrounds in their home land, and the duration of their living in America.

INTRODUCTION

CHAPTER I