

POLLUTION BY POLITICS

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Abstract

Politics can have remarkable impacts on different aspects of society therefore in a totalitarian society, even love is under control. Love has been the main theme for several literary works in which the characters sacrifice themselves to be with their loved ones. Love which is a strong feeling of devotion is influenced by the power of totalitarian society in Nineteen eighty-four by George Orwell in 1949. In a totalitarian society, ordinary people have no privacy and power and are completely controlled by the government. In this novel, love is in hands of politics and any passionate feeling between two genders is considered illegal. Orwell brilliantly shows how the parties in a totalitarian society are capable of using love as a control device over people. It is no longer clear whether the feeling is pure love or it is a way of showing hatred against the government. Orwell establishes four ministries in his novel: ministry of truth, ministry of plenty, ministry of peace and ministry of love. He forecasted love condition in a totalitarian society by saying that the ministry of love is a frightening one; there are no windows in it at all. The protagonist as Winston had never been inside the Ministry of Love, nor within half a kilometer of it. It is a place impossible to enter except on official business, and then only by penetrating through a maze of barbed wire entanglements, steel doors, and hidden machine-gun nests. Even the streets leading up to its outer barriers are roamed by gorilla-faced guards in black uniforms, armed with jointed truncheons and once Winston enters this ministry, he faces the aftermath of his illegal action. Being threatened and tortured several times, finally, he devotes his love for his safety and no longer has feelings for his beloved. As the result, love is polluted by politics.

Keywords: love, politics, totalitarian society, George Orwell, Nineteen eighty-four.