

**T.C.
İSTANBUL YENİ YÜZYIL UNIVERSITY
INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE
PROGRAMME**



**THE AMERICAN DREAM AND THE MISCONCEPTION OF LOVE: A
PARALLELED STUDY OF THE GREAT GATSBY AND MAGGIE: A GIRL OF THE
STREETS**

MA THESIS

**ABDULLAH ABDULHAQ HUSSEIN ALAABED
18131306043**

İSTANBUL, OCTOBER 2021

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İSTANBUL YENİ YÜZYIL ÜNİVERSİTESİ
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In this project, I prepared my manuscript in accordance with the thesis writing rules of the Institute of Social Sciences at Istanbul Yeni Yüzyıl University and I hereby declare that;

- I have obtained the data, information and documents provided within the thesis within the framework of academic and ethical rules,
- I have submitted all information, documents, evaluations and results in accordance with the requirements of scientific ethics and moral rules,
- I have cited all works that I have used in the project by appropriately referring to my sources,
- I have not made any changes to the data used,
- The work I present here is original, and if found otherwise, I declare that I accept all loss of rights that may occur.

19/ 10 / 2021

ABDULLAH ALAABED

PREFACE

The process of writing my master's thesis was a new experiment, as much as it was hard it was gratifying and beneficial. I could never have done this thesis without the help of my family and their role in this process. I am infinitely grateful for my mother. The words shall not be enough to describe her role and effort as she supported and encouraged me in every step of a way that she illuminated for me by her advice and reading my drafts as well. Dear Mother, your role is so valuable in this thesis, and I shall be grateful forever and beyond. Also, my uncle and my aunt who are always telling me that I should do my best; I should never stop, you have a unique touch on this way and me getting there.

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ABDULLAH ALAABED

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ÖZET

AMERİKAN RÜYASI VE AŞK YANLIŞ ANLAMI: *THE GREAT GATSBY* VE *MAGGIE: A GIRL OF THE STREETS*

Amerikan rüya, edebi eserlerde sıkça tartışılan düşüncelerden biridir, bu da karakterlerin oluşumu ve gelişimi üzerinde büyük etkisinin sebebiyle, Amerikan Rüya , aşkın yanlış anlaşılmasıyla üst sınıra ulaştı, Bu araştırma, bu kavramı kapitalistler tarafından yaratılan ve geliştirilen bir ideoloji olarak incelemektedir, ilave olarak bu araştırma Amerikan Rüyası'nın sadece bireylerin kaderine yansımalarını değil, özellikle romanda ortaya çıkan aşk yanılsaması ile kaçınılmaz bağlantı üzerinden topluma yansımalarını da yansıtmaktadır,edebi eserlerin Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby* and Stephen Crane's *Maggie: A Girl of The Streets* bu da Marxist görüşünü kullanarak gerçekleştirilmektedir.

Bu araştırmaya ek olarak Fitzgerald'ın *Gatsby*'si ve Crane'in *Maggie*'si üzerine Marksist bir karşılaştırmalı bir çalışma sağlamaya çalışır, Ayrıca, ikinci bölüm hem Fitzgerald'ın *Gatsby*'sindeki hem de Crane'in *Maggie*'sindeki Marksist ilkelerini açıklar, ve bu çalışma sosyal ve ekonomik konuların gelişimini *The Great Gatsby* ve *Maggie: A Girl of The streets* arasındaki farkı inceleyerek göstermektedir, ayrıca bu çalışma İki romandaki olayları Marksist ilkeleri ve edebiyat arasındaki ilişkiyi izah ederek analiz eder, üçüncü bölüm, her romanın olay, ortam ve özelliklerinin Crane ve Fitzgerald tarafından iki edebi eserde yaygın olarak uygulanan temaları ve sembolleri adamakıllı göstermektedir.

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Anahtar Kelimeler: *Gatsby*, *Maggie*, Marksizm, Sosyal çatışma, Amerikan Rüyası, Aşk Yanılgısı.

ABSTRACT

THE AMERICAN DREAM AND THE MISCONCEPTION OF LOVE: A PARALLELED STUDY OF *THE GREAT GATSBY* VE *MAGGIE: A GIRL OF THE STREETS*

American Dream is one of the notions that has been frequently discussed in literary works due to its inevitable impacts especially on the formation and development of characters. The American Dream culminated in the misconception of love. This paper explores this concept as an ideology that was created and developed by the capitalists. Furthermore, the study reflects the repercussions of American Dream not only on the individuals' fate, but on society notably through its inevitable linkage with love misconception that this study unveils in Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby* and Stephen Crane's *Maggie: A Girl of The Streets* via Marxist lenses.

Besides, this inquiry attempts to provide a Marxist comparative study of the Fitzgerald's *Gatsby* and Crane's *Maggie*. Also, the second chapter demonstrates Marxism's fundamentals in both Fitzgerald's *Gatsby* and Crane's *Maggie*. Besides, this study depicts the development of the social and economic issues. It explores these aspects by shedding the light on the differences between *The Great Gatsby* and *Maggie: A Girl of The streets*. Moreover, it analyzes the events of both novels through clarifying the relationship between Marxism and literature. Additionally, the third chapter illustrates how the events, environment and features of each novel were depicted by Crane and Fitzgerald by means of the themes and symbols widely applied in the two literary works.

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Keywords: *Gatsby, Maggie, Marxism, Social conflict, The American Dream, The Love Misconception.*

INTRODUCTION

The current study investigates *The Great Gatsby* and *Maggie: A Girl of the Streets* from Marxist viewpoint. As a matter of fact, the Marxist literary theory explores not only the economic and social conditions, but ideology and its apparatus. With that being said, the first part of this inquiry will review Marxism and its relationship with literature as well as how this theory developed along with the elements that played a role in its development. The two novels portrayed The American Dream ideology and the misconception of love. These two elements can be abundantly found in these novels. On the other hand, the second part of this research will study the effect of The American Dream on society through the historical circumstances and the cultural background by reviewing the events of both novels.

Also, the exacerbating economic aftermath on society displays the reason for the creation of American Dream ideology. Furthermore, the third section will review the thematic and symbolic effects in Crane's *Maggie* and Fitzgerald's *Gatsby*. These impacts reflect the undeniable role of economy in society alongside the effect of The American Dream and love misconception. Describing The American Dream in Fitzgerald's *Gatsby* "The American Dream had little to do with Providence divine and a great deal to do with feelings" (Berman, 1994, p.50). It shows the relationship between love misconception and The American Dream. Moreover, capturing the living circumstances. Hence its effect on society, especially on the moral standards and values.

Crane and Fitzgerald image the conditions of each novel's production era through the Marxist lens which covers social conflict, base, superstructure and ideology. This study explores the characters according to their social class and the characteristics they have. The two novels' characters were simply taking pleasure of their lives and virtually doing nothing. In fact, their only privilege was their inherited

fortune and affluence. Initially, Gatsby, the protagonist, was struggling to promote his social class via rubbing shoulders with the people of high society.

Crane's central character, *Maggie*, represents the life in the poor neighborhoods and how the Irish refugees lived in the slum dogs of New York City. Moreover, *Maggie* demonstrates the authorial message that Crane and Fitzgerald want to represent through their literary works. Besides, it mirrored issues of the American society, hence, the social structure of it throughout the characters' behaviors embodied through symbols and themes. These people in the novel, are described and introduced by Crane as inferior life examples based on their uncivilized behaviors, lifestyle, low level of education and ignorance. These people have been represented in the characters of Maggie's father and mother and her brother, Jimmie.

In *The Great Gatsby*, the era is different and colorful; plus, lifestyle was different and fast, the best definition of that period is "The 1920s in America was known for its jazz music, large amounts of money, extravagant clothing, expensive cars, and great parties" (Snyder, 2012, p.5). Characters undergo various changes as well. They were more into golf matches and throwing parties. Moreover, showing the luxurious life they were living, they were so proud of their family names even though their fortune was inherited. These people accumulated their wealth for which they did not lift a finger and it was all due to the chaotic industrial situation that brought about a tremendous amount of money for them. Indeed, this study explores the development of these issues, which are mostly social and economic, so to speak.

Nevertheless, they will be proud and disrespect the people who belong to families who are not as rich or noble as they are. Besides, the characters are meant to show a unique way of living and behaving from the earlier eras, which was before World War I and the crash of Wall Street. The traditions and moral standards of the roaring twenties were depicted throughout the novel's characters. Gatsby's character description is "his goal appears never to be more than success, material success" (Rohrkemper, 1985, P. 157). Jay was a compelling example of the new money because he was not of rich blood and honorable background. Jay becomes rich by depending on himself; Gatsby's character is different from the other characters in the novel.

Nevertheless, he tries to be an elegant person; in line with this, Fitzgerald expressed that,

About Gatsby! No, I haven't. I said I'd been making a small investigation of his past, and you found he was an Oxford man," Said Jordan helpfully, An Oxford man!" He was incredulous. "Like hell he is! He wears a pink suit.
(Fitzgerald, 1925, pp.130-132).

The author, through the narrator, represents the truth about Gatsby and his past. He did not study in Oxford; otherwise, he will not wear a pink suit. This point aims to show that well education is not only studying but also behaving and dressing according to the man's social class. It shows the social gap between the social classes and the difference between the working-class and the dominant one through the treatment that the working class faced.

The seed of American Dream had been planted in the mind of the people who immigrated to the USA such as the Irish refugees depicted by Crane as lethargic and intoxicated who can barely meet even their daily needs due to extreme poverty they were going through. According to Crane, they were ignorant and uncultured people. The slums and its poor conditions were, the slums in its best definition are "American slums functioned in the popular imagination as uncanny reflections transforming the slum into a symptom of global capitalism" (Kaiser, 2011, p.49). This unsafe environment will present distinct types of people represented by the novel's characters. Moreover, it shows the common idea about the slums and the people who lives in it, as it was the place that symbolizes prostitution and the rest of the social evils.

This environmental effect is shown through its role in shaping the society's way of living, such as its effect on Jimmie, the bully brother of Maggie. At the same time, Maggie becomes a girl of the streets after losing chances for a respectful way of living. Besides, her parents who represent the Irish people of these skid rows and immoral standards, lived to signify the seed of a new, ignorant and dangerous generation. Their misery began by having many children more than they could afford; hence, they could not take care of these children or provide a good life and future for them.

In the novel, the author divulges these conditions when he asserts,

Eventually they entered. Into a dark region where, from a careening building, a dozen gruesome doorways gave up, loads of babies to the street and the gutter. A wind of early autumn raised a yellow dust from cobbles and swirled it against a hundred windows. Long streamers of garments fluttered from fire-escapes. In all unhandy places, there were buckets, brooms, rags and bottles. (Crane, 1893, pp.2-1)

Crane describes the conditions of the Irish people who lived there and the problems that kept them under these poor conditions. One of these problems is that they keep having children while they cannot provide them with their living purposes and needs. Furthermore, these people do not have enough money to educate their children. Hence, these people could not leave these neighborhoods, which keep them in these low living conditions. Gatsby was a working-class boy who came from Dakota. Jay was a low-class boy; he was also not well-educated. He grows rich through working in bootlegging and criminal activities. Gatsby was different from the other characters of the novel. The protagonist of Fitzgerald's novel is humble and self-made since he got the best out of the deteriorating Post-war conditions.

Jay started to show his abilities and power by his big mansion, Rolls Royce and unique colorful cars. Consequently, he depicts himself as a Nouveau Riche, who represent the new money. Moreover, he tries to prove himself as a swanky person just like the rest of the high-class society characters in this novel. Besides, he claimed to be well-educated and that he comes from an aristocratic background. He even changes his name to Jay Gatsby to be equated with the other characters like Tom, Daisy and Jordan who belonged to the upper-class society. What is more, these people treat the working-class people indecently and unfairly. They did not accept the intruders in their social class since they were not noble nor were they of rich blood or old money.

The mentality of these people has been depicted by the character of Tom Buchanan, Daisy's husband, in the novel; Daisy is the woman whom Gatsby had an affair with. This time and age encompass the roaring twenties, the jazz music and different colors. It is a period of moving away from the traditions and neglecting moral standards. Influenced by the post-war conditions, Gatsby believed that all the chances were available for him to join and climb up the ladder of social class and be one of them and also have reunion with Daisy. The concept of American Dream is multifaceted; the protagonists think of it through different perspectives and opinions as it is represented by the most things they want and dream about.

Furthermore, The American dream ideology is about how they think and relate to the social and economic hierarchy. In the two novels, it is introduced by the protagonists who want to achieve social ascendancy via obtaining wealth like Gatsby or Maggie that emphasizes the economic situation. The dreams of these main characters are shaped by the economic system and the domination of the bourgeoisie. Maggie is the only character in this novel who wanted to change her life to be in a better social class she deserved; this is something that no one else among the novel's characters thought about; neither her family nor the other characters in this novel. This reveals a sedentary lifestyle these people were living on a daily basis, and they did not intend to change that either.

Maggie is the one who wanted to have a safe life, family and higher social class; hence, the author mirrors her to her environment and the society she lived in after she met Pete. "Maggie has met her golden boy and imagined the possibility of a different life" (Crane, 1893, pp. 5-8). The author here describes the protagonist's perspective on how she sees her life and work environment. Maggie was working in a cuff shop, but after meeting Pete, the man whom Maggie considered as the one who will fulfil her dreams and provide her with a better life, she naively realized that this man is the answer for all her prayers.

On the other hand, in *The Great Gatsby*, the protagonist, Jay, is the only one who had a dream and was highly determined to make it come true. The roaring twenties was considered a new era; it was fast and different from the old times. The other characters in *The Great Gatsby* plan to attend parties or golf matches and no one thought to achieve anything. An absolutely purposeless lethargic life! These characters were living their lives doing what they wanted, attending epic parties like the ones that Jay threw; meanwhile, they were busy having fun and celebrating; nonetheless, Gatsby is watching Daisy from the bay of his palace and planning to her heart. The effect of American dream is depicted throughout the characters' actions, manners, and the decisions they make like the ones taken by the protagonists of the novel, through their ways towards the goal.

The American dream is cultivated by the proletariat, especially the young people; furthermore, the author mentioned the difference between Gatsby and the

other characters in terms of the attitudes and actions. The writer clarified it through the narrator's eye. To further, Fitzgerald remarked that

He stretched out his arms toward the dark water in a curious way, and, far as I was from him, I could have sworn he was trembling. Involuntarily I glanced seaward and distinguished nothing except a single green light, minute and far away, that might have been the end of a dock. (Fitzgerald, 1925, p.16)

The author here depicted Gatsby's character and his vision throughout the narrator's point of view. He described Jay and how eager he was to materialize his dream depicting the way he looked at the green light.

Furthermore, he uniquely stretches his arms in a move, which shows that he wanted to capture something. The narrator mentioned that Gatsby was comfortable here alone on the bay. He did not disturb or was bothered by anyone; he was focusing on his dream. Moreover, it shows Gatsby's spectacular vision as he was shaking once Nick described him when he was looking toward the green light at the end of Daisy's Bay, which gives the impression of how he was eager to fulfil his American dream that Daisy represented for Gatsby.

The study will discuss the effect of The American Dream and the misconception of love as a social issue. Moreover, it will into the relationship between these two elements affected both novels' events through the character's choices and decisions. The research will investigate the reasons of these two concepts. All these will be investigated via Marxist approach through the social conflicts and economic effects on society. Crane and Fitzgerald described the social issues by imaging their effects on the protagonists of the two novels.

This inquiry also examines closely the protagonists' perspective on American Dream according to their social classes, the forms and figures of the love misconception. How they dreamt about it, what steps they took to achieve it, what was the fate they faced, and if they achieved their dreams or not. The study scrutinizes the love misconception, its various types and repercussions on the characters and their desires. Furthermore, the research will review the purpose behind the domination of the bourgeoisie on economy and the superstructure's role in supporting the base's ideologies and its devices. Additionally, how they introduce it to American society by considering the era variation and the circumstances of each period.

These elements depicted the social gaps, issues and their development in the American social structure along with the development of ideology and its devices. As a result, the study clarifies that The American Dream is unattainable since the fundamentals of it are not existing, which are the social equality and the hard work benefits in achieving The American Dream. To explain, *The Great Gatsby* and *Maggie: A Girl of the Streets* are materials for certain kinds of study. This research underlines several aspects of these two novels which will be meticulously analyzed as the argument goes further. The first study is an essay from Heather Doiron which was published in 2016 and titled *The Great Gatsby: An Analysis of the novel's public reception*. According to its commercial records, this study highlights the people's reaction toward the novel in the year of its first publication, which was considered unsuccessful.

The study analyzes this matter through a letter from Edith Wharton to F. Scott Fitzgerald by defining that the American society's reception to the novel shows the reality of the working class and the circumstances they lived in and describing it through the novel events specially the social setting and their living conditions. These issues were related to the war trauma that the people faced such as the white supremacy in the novel which, in turn, represented racism in this novel. This novel explores America's subjects and the widespread issues they were grappling with such as the bootlegging, white supremacy alongside post war trauma.

Furthermore, the rejection of this novel in America, according to the researcher, is a rejection of the truth. The letter of Wharton reveals that she is not interested in what is concealed between the lines. On the other hand, Greg Phelps, in his essay, *Fiction and Politics: The progressive impulse in Stephen Crane's Maggie: A Girl of the Streets*, published in 1988, elaborates on the social problems that were overshadowed by the economic conditions, which discloses the economic system's role in shaping and influencing the society. This effect was portrayed in Crane's *Maggie* as he captures the living conditions of the Irish immigrants who worked for low wages and lived in the slums in poor circumstances.

In her thesis, published in 2012, titled *The Aspects of Naturalism in Stephen Crane's Maggie: A Girl of the Streets*, Yusiana Reginanita looks into naturalism in the novel and its types. Moreover, she represented the power of these circumstances

to control the people. Consequently, they will have no free will in what they want to do or how they live. It displays the strength of these external factors of life confirming the naturalist elements in Crane's novel. The researcher will analyze how the author made his point by showing the relationship between the human being and the living conditions surrounding him, hence, how it shapes their character.

Ian Surakarata, in his study, *Structural Analysis of F. Fitzgerald's The Great Gatsby*, which was published in 2018, talks about the structure of the novel *Great Gatsby*. This research aims to find the affinity between the setting and the characterization in this novel. Moreover, it explores the relationship between the plot and setting. The researcher draws attention to the elements that built the text as a literary work, such as characters, symbols and plot. Furthermore, its structures show the unity of the text, the bound and the combination of these elements that were chosen and made by Fitzgerald. The researcher focused on the protagonist's character, Gatsby, starting from his roots, motivation, the family he belonged to, his childhood, the way he got familiar with Daisy and the stages he went through till he achieved his fortune. Furthermore, the social environment, deteriorating morality and the living circumstances of New York in 1925.

The third aspect deals with the atmosphere, the parties, the climate and economic situation along with the reunion of the lover and beloved, Daisy and Gatsby. Particularly, the spatial setting and the plot were other elements that the researcher was seeking. Furthermore, their effect supports this novel's structural form. To illustrate, Longxing Wei, in his study, *Syntactic Markedness as a stylistic feature in The Great Gatsby*, which was published in 2018, put forth the linguistic choices of Fitzgerald in *The Great Gatsby* reflecting the intention of the author. The researcher highlights five passages from his perspective carrying the most important message. As he mentioned in this study, these passages syntactically vary from the other ones, which were meant to maintain the storyline forward. Furthermore, it investigated the syntactic and stylistic features as well as the thematic roles throughout the novel especially the five passages that the researcher referred to. Also, the inquiry discusses American Dream and its relationship with the notion of money, namely Old money vs. New money, to be exact.

In her quest, *The suffering of the lower class* that was published in 2013, Oumelkheir Mahma argues on Crane's *Maggie: A Girl of The Streets*. The researcher mirrors the conditions of the 18th century and how hard it was to live during that era. The writer in this research will attempt to discover the living conditions of the eighteenth century and American social structure through the Marxist literary theory and apparatuses. The study attempts to explore both the sociological and historical contexts. The idea that was highlighted by the researcher was the struggle of morals and social rules as well as the environmental influences.

In another study made by Kim Vahnenbruck titled *The Environment of Maggie in Crane's Maggie: A Girl of the Streets* that was published in 2011, the researcher would try to show the effect of the environment and how it was reflected on the protagonist by analyzing that from the events and characters of the novel. The role of elements such as church and theatre in the formation of the novel's events which in turn illustrates the influence of environment on the lives of the people, who lived there, especially Maggie's. The research will explore the inevitable impacts of the external environment surrounding the people who lived during the eighteenth century in New York slums and how it was depicted by the author in his novel throughout its events. Dona Alicia and Dina Angraina published in their 2015 published work entitled *The Effect of Poverty on Women Slums Dwellers in New York*, examined Stephen Crane's *Maggie: A Girl of the Streets*. This study discusses the influence of poverty as a social issue and how it was reflected through Crane's novel.

The inquiry also explores Crane's *Maggie*, a sociological novel, from the perspective of the poverty reflection and the conditions of the slum on the people as well as its consequences on women in that era in the late eighteenth century. In this study, the poverty effect will be analyzed by four elements: the first one is the women's desire to marry a rich man and live a better life than the one in the slum. The second element will be the relationship between the family members and how it was affected by poverty and the life conditions in the slum.

The third one is the low wage, which prevents women from education; hence, they will be workers who could live from hand to mouth. Lastly, prostitution and its relationship to rampant poverty among them. A study made by Martin Scofield

entitled *Theatricality, Melodrama, and Irony in Stephen Crane's Short Fiction*, was published in the year 2011 which discussed Crane's writing style through his literary works. This study discussed the author's writing style through the good and evil in the novel and how he represented it.

These studies focus on limited aspects in each novel whether Fitzgerald's *Gatsby* or Crane's *Maggie*. clearly the researchers of the previous studies shed light on the characters, the social or economic situations mainly. In another term, none of the previous studies combined *The Great Gatsby* and *Maggie: A Girl of the streets*. This study shows The American Dream impact on society through the misconception of love role that images the social corruption. Hence, this study explores the socioeconomic issues and its development through a Marxist lens that none of the previous mentioned studies covered.

The study reviews Marxism and its development also its apparatuses and explores how these apparatuses were represented in each novel between the lines, which cannot be found in the previous studies. The study reviews the characters mindset and their behavior also the historical circumstances and cultural background of each era. Alongside, the thematic and symbolic role in showing each novel features and depicting it, this study covers these parts that is missing in the previous ones.

To conclude the importance of this study is to prove that The American Dream is no more than an ideology that was created by the capitalists in order to increase their fortune. This ideology and the role of superstructure in developing it alongside the social conflict and the economic system in shaping the society are the fundamentals of Marxism. The American Dream ideology affected the society, and its effect is represented through the life events of either *Maggie* or *Gatsby*. The careers of both were an attempt to achieve it and it shows the social corruption.

To further, the most significant element that The American Dream divulged is the misconception of love and its role in depicting the social situation. The love misconception role as it is shown in this study was to capture the moral standards and values of each period that these novels were published at. Additionally, the study explores how these social problems developed due to the development of the American Dream ideology. The study indeed shows the relationship between

Marxism and literature also the apparatuses of Marxism. Therefore, Marxism is the dominant theory in this study that is shown through analysing the events of Crane's *Maggie* and Fitzgerald's *Gatsby* through a Marxist lens.

To enumerate, the present study indicates how Marxist apparatus is developed from the era of Crane's *Maggie* till Fitzgerald's *Gatsby* in order to increase the economic benefit of the capitalists. This development and its repercussions are shown by beautifying and sugar coating the picture of The American Dream and reinforce the equality illusion whether it was social equality or chances one. Moreover, it was shown in the immigration movement in each novel. the study denies the existence of The American Dream through its purposes, also it clarifies its role in creating the different social issues like love misconception.

FIRST CHAPTER

1. MARXISM AS A LITERARY THEORY

Karl Marx founded Marxism and it was represented during the Industrial Revolution. According to this theory, the social conflict arises owing to the social inequality. Capitalism is the reverse of Marxism. In Marxist terms, Capitalism is the private ownership of businesses like factories and the industry. The bourgeoisie owns the industrial business which mushroomed widely during the industrial revolution due to the wide spread of the factories and industrial business.

This conflict is between the two parts of society, according to Marx. These parts were the dominant class that he referred to as the bourgeoisies and the working class or the repressed one, which he referred to as the proletariats. This ideology is built upon the exploitation which the bourgeoisie implemented on the repressed class of the society by manipulating them as low-wage workers for most of the factories and industrial business owners did to achieve the high profit of their business. Hence, they often used children and women as low-paid labourers.

On the other hand, the dominant class exploited men for the hard dangerous labour with low wages. In actuality, the existence of capitalism was concerned with the feudal system. It forces the farmers to leave the lands they had been working on by their landowners' decisions; thus, they immigrated to the cities to work in factories for low wages. This manipulation formed the meaning of social inequality as the capitalist's wealth will be augmented. On the other hand, the working class will get poorer, and the affluent will grow richer. In contrast, Marxism chants the slogan of equality.

Capitalism was promoted due to certain historical events such as the immigration movement that America witnessed. A case in point is the immigration of Irish people to America or the immigration of the people from America's countryside to the cities, especially during the industrial revolution. Immigration plays a key a role in promoting capitalism. The capitalists use immigrants to benefit

by using them as low-wage workers in their private ownership business. This exploitation increased the bourgeoisie's fortune and kept these migrants in poor living conditions.

Therefore, Marxism's base is the economic setting that shapes the social situation and produces the superstructure. The superstructure holds the meaning of cultural activities and philosophy. Furthermore, Marxism explores the social conflict due to the social situation, which results from the economic situation and the bourgeoisie's domination on the economic system. These aspects reflect the capitalist ideology and its repercussions. Hence, Marxism deals with historical circumstances, the economic and social conditions as well as superstructure in a particular period.

Consequently, through reviewing the historical circumstances in *The Great Gatsby* and *Maggie: A Girl of the Streets*, both Fitzgerald and Crane display the rampant social conflict and inequality that had been imposed by capitalism. The social conflict was between the dominant class and the repressed class. Each of these two literary works was written in different social political periods and under diverse economic circumstances. Both novels are related to historical events such as immigration and the wars, whether the WWI in Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby* or the civil war in Crane's *Maggie*. Both aspects caused economic instability and shaped the social setting. Besides, it produced the superstructure and capitalist concept of the American Dream due to the authority of the dominant class.

Marxism grapples with various levels of change. Marxist thinkers and critics make these changes for the purpose of burgeoning society economically. Besides, superstructure includes cultural activities, intellectual orientations and ideology that symbolize the hegemony of dominant class trying to set moral standards and values. These aspects signify the principles of Marxism, also part of the historical conditions in a Marxist's perspective. These aspects are portrayed in *The Great Gatsby*, *Maggie: A Girl of the Streets*, through the economic system's effect in shaping the social situation and creating the superstructure.

The economic system determines the superstructure and social situation. The economic situation is under the control of the dominant class. The development of Marxism was represented by the stages it went through, especially the studies that were carried out to shed light on the base's ideology, alongside the effect of the economic system on the superstructure. The ideology's role was mentioned in the statement of "The text, rather, is a certain production of ideology" (Eagleton, 1976, p.171). The literary text and the cultural activities in common are the method that the dominant class used to widespread the ideas they want in the society, which was conveyed by certain literary works that supports the base's ideology.

The ideology's role is also discussed in *The Communist Manifesto*, which was created by Marx and Engels in 1848. This pamphlet depicts the social conflict starting from the feudal system down to the 19th century, besides the social struggle, which demonstrates the inequality of the society. Moreover, it indicates the effect of the capitalist ideology in shaping the social conditions through the financial situation. Hence, the superstructure supports the base's ideology. The base's ideology has ideological devices, such as isolation, lack of education. These devices maintain the exploitation of the bourgeois to the working class. These features show the economic system's role in shaping the social milieu and producing the superstructure.

The development of Marxism is related to the studies that were carried out about Marxism such as the ones that scrutinize the relationship between superstructure and base. One of these studies is the inquiry conducted by Newton; its first edition was published in (1988). Newton, in this study, illustrates the relationship between the base and superstructure of Marxism. Moreover, the role of the economic system in shaping the superstructure is the philosophy and cultural activities of a particular society. Hence, it also reveals that the Marxists perspective demands that literature must be related to and perceived from a historical and social point of view.

Newton, in this book, states, "There is a straightforward deterministic relation between base and superstructure" (Newton, 1997, p.158). Here, the Marxist's point of view comes into play that the base of Marxism is the economic system. It

determines the superstructure, which is the philosophy and cultural activities. that was discussed also by Kendrick, as he describes literature as “is an ideological term, all the more so because it pretends not to be” (Kendrick, 1983, p. 3). He shows the role of ideology in producing the superstructure. Therefore, it shows the relationship between Marxism and literature. From Marxist lens, a literary text must be understood through historical background and social reality. Also, it illustrates Marx’s belief that the base produces the superstructure. Hence, the societal ideologies are also determined by the economic system.

Consequently, determining the ideology by the base means that the superstructure supports the base’s principles. Ideology refers to the moral standards, values and beliefs in a particular society. The main function of ideology is to hide the true conditions of the society in a certain period the way The American Dream did. The American Dream ideology pictured the American society as a utopia. Hence, it gives equal chances to all the social classes. Furthermore, it gives a false fact about American society. Bourgeoisies made this ideology to increase their fortune.

The literature results from society’s moral standards and values due to particular historical circumstances produced as literary works. Hence, the literature resembled specific societies’ moral standards and values through the condition which these people lived. The most crucial and effective factor is the financial system under the control of the dominant class of society. The dominant class shaped the social situation and its moral standards by controlling the economic system. The bourgeoisies did that by creating an ideology that affects society.

This point was referred to in *The Ideology of the Aesthetic* “the eighteenth-century bourgeoisie assembled around a table over their claret to dream up the concept of the aesthetic” (Eagleton, 1991, p. 4). The bourgeoisie used the working class. That affected the social situation through the ideology of the base, which is reinforced by the superstructure. The superstructure and base’s ideological relationship display the effect of it on society and its formation. Marx discussed that issue in his world-shattering work, *A Critique of the German Ideology According to Marx*. This book was written in 1846 but firstly published in 1932. According to

Marx, the Marxist critics should deal with the literature and literary education, even the criticism as the production of the economic system.

It is the result of economic situation and the circumstances that the economic system brings about. Marx stated, “The production of ideas, of conceptions, of consciousness, is at first directly interwoven with the material activity” (Marx, 1932, p.9). Marx illustrates the undeniable role of economic system in producing the superstructure and shaping the social situation in a specific society. He shows that the superstructure, primarily the cultural activates advocating the base ideology. The bourgeoisie determines these ideologies for their benefit. Hence, against social equality that shows the perspective of the Marxists thinkers about the literature. The literature from a Marxist’s point of view is a form of ideology. Bourgeoisies use cultural activates and philosophy to shed light on their ideologies, like The American Dream ideology among the immigrants in Fitzgerald’s *Gatsby* and Crane’s *Maggie*.

Marxism’s development is reflected through critics’ studies, such as the study made by Leitch in 2001, named *The Norton Anthology of Theory and Criticism*. In this book, Leitch presents the Marxist’s opinion about the ideology. The ideology’s purpose is to hide the social conflict such as The American Dream ideology. Moreover, the relationship between the superstructure and the base, as Leitch delineates, is “the reality of class struggle from our perception and consciousness; and insofar as working-class people unconsciously absorb bourgeois values, they are unwitting carriers of false consciousness” (Leitch, 2001, p.762). According to the book’s author, these ideologies were made by the dominant class of society to control the individuals and the social situation. Leitch mentioned that the working-class attempted and admired the bourgeoisie’s attitude and living standards, mainly their values.

Through this study, Leitch shows that the purpose of the dominant ideas is to conceal the social reality of a specific society with the purpose of exploiting the proletariat. Also, Jameson had a key role in developing Marxism he believes that Marxism can contain all the forms of ideas however different it was mentioning that Jameson stated “Marxism can subsume and incorporate within itself all other forms

of thought” (Jameson, 1971, p.159). These studies reinforced the Marxist’s perspective of the ideology’s role decided by the base and supported by the superstructure. Marx believes that the ideologies and concepts in literary works are related to the economic system and controlled by it.

What is more, the social situation is an influential element to identify these ideologies. Marx believed that the critiques must analyze the meaning behind a specific text in a literary work, representing the meaning of that text and what the author wants the reader to understand by his text through studies like the one Leitch made. The Marxists showed the development of Marxism, and its purpose also illustrated Marx’s concept, which is the importance of the economic base and its effect on the superstructure and the social situation.

1.1 Analytical Review on the Development of Marxism

Over time, Marxism altered and developed through the different types of studies conducted to shed the light on the base, superstructure, ideology, cultural background and historical circumstances. This development reinforced the link between Marxism and literature which was determined by the founders of Marxism, Marx, and Engels. Furthermore, Marx underlines the effect of the economic system on the superstructure that consist of the cultural activities like the literary works. Marx believes that the critiques should focus on and examine the meaning behind a specific text in a particular literary work. The Marxist thinkers through their studies created the development of Marxism.

One of these names was S.S. Prawer (1978); his book *Karl Marx and World Literature*, in this book, the author shows the perspective of Marx (1848), in his book the *Communist Manifesto*. The book discusses ideology the dominant social class creates; Prawer refers to that through the term of literature as he suggested that “the body of technical books, pamphlets, etc, that treat a given subject, and the writers who produce it” (Prawer, 1978, p.140). Therefore, the ideology in a Marxist

perspective is hidden between the lines of certain literary works, the subjects and the body of the texts of particular literary works that hold the ideology.

Undoubtedly, this ideology is determined by the capitalists. Prawer displays the importance of a specific literary text and the meaning that divulges the aim of the literary work and the ideology behind it. Prawer here shows the importance of superstructure and the role of it in reflecting a specific ideology. Moreover, the drive behind producing a certain literary text and its ideology reveal how the superstructure through a particular literary work supports the ideology of the base. He shows the prominence of analyzing the meaning behind the literary text to understand the writer's purpose in producing a particular literary text.

Marx reflects the process of developing Marxism, as *the communist Manifesto* discusses many aspects that were affected by the ideology of the dominant class; it also refers to the fact that literature is turned to serve the purposes and desires of the dominant class. They express their ideologies in the literature through literary works that show the Marxist's perspective about the relationship between the superstructure and the base. Consequently, Marx postulates that "the bourgeoisie has converted the physician, the lawyer, the priest, the poet, the man of science, into its paid wage laborers" (Marx, 1848, p.142). The author here discussed the effect of the ideologies the dominant class created in the literature. These ideologies-controlled society and changed the social situation to serve their benefits. For Marx, the literature is affected by the economy. Hence, the social conditions were influenced by the financial situation.

This aspect is reflected in literature. Furthermore, the development in Marxism was portrayed in unveiling the difference between the literary works. The difference is between the literary works that support the dominant class ideologies and those who are against these ideologies. According to Marx, to identify the difference between them, the critiques should analyze the meaning behind the literary text. The effect on literature was determined through the ideologies the dominant class generated.

According to Marx, the social situation reflected in literature is the set of ideas the ruling class craves the people to believe and that how it will serve their benefits. The Marxist thinkers developed this theory by shedding light on its fundamentals, specifically, the base and the superstructure that supports the ideologies of the base to reinforce Marxism and develop it. Consequently, it shows that Marxism is mainly related to the historical background and a particular society's nature. Several studies played a key role in Marxism's development. These studies were made by many critiques such as Althusser, Jameson and Eagleton.

These critiques mainly focus on the concept of ideology and its aftermath as proposed by Marxism. One of these studies was made by Mulhern. In his research, he mirrors that Marxism is related to historical events. The Marxist literary criticism is not stable, which shows that it can be applied to a different era and related to historical events as this theory's primary purpose is to reveal the ideology behind a specific literary work. In his study, Mulhern stated that "contemporary Marxist literary criticism is not a stable entity or even a phase in the history of a settled lineage" (Mulhern, 1992, p.2). Marxism according to Mulhern is not related to a specific era and its condition in a matter of fact it can be applied on the literary works that are produced in different periods. Hence, the difference of time between Crane's *Maggie* and Fitzgerald's *Gatsby* unveils an important point, which is the development of the socioeconomic problems.

Althusser is one of the thinkers who conducted studies on Marxism. His tenets were scrutinised by Leitch who phrases that "Althusser's interventions changed the face of Western Marxist theory, shattering the pieties of Stalinist dogmatism and the newer Marxist humanism" (Leitch, 2001, p.1476). Leitch believes that Althusser's studies changed Marxism. Althusser's role was influential and notable, especially in picturing a Western interpretation of Marxism. Leitch believes that Althusser, through his studies, changed Marxism's face and advanced it to be more effective.

Althusser indicates that Marxism had scientific aspects that can be more flexible and effective on humanity. In his book, *For Marx*, Althusser, underscored

that “in particular its investigation of how societal structures determine lived experience” (Althusser, 1996, p.1476). Althusser’s perspective that Marxism investigates the social structure. Moreover, it determines the human being’s living conditions besides claiming that this part of Marxism is scientific due to its base and superstructure since the superstructure supports its base’s ideologies. Marxism investigates the socioeconomic problems in a certain period despite the time difference.

In this study, Althusser discusses that art is made by science and ideology. He believes that the ideology is an image representing the individuals and their connection with the actual conditions. Moreover, the historical background figures out the people’s lives in a particular period, which creates art. Althusser had another compelling study that affected Marxism. This study is *Ideology and Ideological State Apparatuses*. In this study, Althusser discussed how controlling the social system could shape the human, and this control is made through the effect of the base ideology that the bourgeoisie creates. Althusser shows that human beings are affected by the dominant ideas in society.

These ideas are the dominant ideology of a minority. Through a Marxist perspective, it is needed to know and identify the meaning behind the literary text so that the critics can figure out its ideology and purpose. Althusser believes that ideologies produce literary works. The purpose of these ideologies is to present a false concept about a specific society. Althusser believes that these ideologies are made to show the reader that he is the person who is expected to understand it and believe in it, whether directly or indirectly. This theory says that literature is a product of the dominant ideology. Althusser regards this ideology as either through the media or the sources of literature that are controlled by the dominant class of society.

Althusser believes that these ideologies exist in every literary work because the dominant class of society controls the literature and the literary products. The literature is a product of ideologies of the dominant class, as he believes. Althusser reinforced Marxism in literature and shaped it, as he focused on Marx’s perspective, which shows the importance of ideology and its role in literature. Through this perspective, Althusser made his theories and studies, such as the relationship

between ideology and literature, which accounts for the fact that literature is a product of ideologies made by the dominant forces.

The study and theory of Althusser attracted the attention of the critics like Newton. Newton discussed Althusser's studies and theories on Marxism and its relationship with literature. Althusser's studies strengthened the relationship between literature and Marxism. The reinforcement embodied through bolstering the bond between the economic situation and superstructure due to his perspective of this bond's role in determining the social structure made Marxism more productive and developed. Newton discussed the role of Althusser's studies in Marxism.

Newton enumerates that by stating, "Althusser's work created mental space for critics who were sympathetic to the political aims of Marxism" (Newton, 1997, p.159). Newton defined here the effect of Althusser's role in developing Marxism. Alongside, the relationship of it to the literature accounts for this effect in its reflection among the critics. Althusser's role illustrates the importance of ideology in addition to showing that the literary works reveal these ideologies to the reader. The literary works, which are not affected by the socioeconomic situation, demonstrate the readers the ideologies that the dominant social class desires to instil into society, which reveals that the superstructure supports the bourgeoisie's ideologies, Jameson also made considerable contribution to the development of Marxism.

Jameson is an American critic who shed light on the cultural background and the difference of cultures on a broad scale. Jameson's role in Marxism development proved the relationship between Marxism and the philosophical as well as literary works in the different cultures to which these literary works belong. These literary works were showing the difference from Western Marxism, according to him. The superstructure is not determined totally by the economic situation and its base in Jameson's perspective. Due to Marxism's development through the ages, some critics believe that the best way to analyse a particular literary work is by employing the terms found in this literary work.

Jameson's standpoint is that the literary works should be analysed according to their cultural background. Reviewing the cultural background and the economic situation discovers the meaning and the ideology behind a particular literary work. Analysing the cultural background and economic situation suggests the interrelation between the cultural background and the economic base. Consequently, revealing the ideology and meaning of a particular literary work. Jameson's perspective is that the historical literary terms are essential to understand literary work and its ideology.

The role of Jameson is also embodied in perusing and employing Marxism with the other literary theories, mostly the contemporary ones, especially the theories which study and analyse the historical background of a specific literary work. Jameson believes it can be accurate to show the ideology of a specific literary work than focusing on the economic base or the social situation. He believes that literary works should be studied and reviewed through cultural background. Consequently, it can show the economic base accurately than the ideology and the meaning of this literary work. Jameson's role is illustrated through analysing the different cultural backgrounds of literary works and the theories used alongside Marxism.

Like Jameson, Althusser, Newton and Eagleton are the critics who left an incredible impact on developing this theory through their studies be it articles or books. These studies were like Eagleton's study made in 1976 titled *The Marxism and Literary Criticism* and Ben Brewster's *Contradiction and Over Determination*. This study was conducted in 1996, and Mulhern, his study was made in 1992 and named by *Contemporary Marxist Literary*. Through these studies, Marxism developed, especially the theories that focused on the ideology and its aftermaths.

1.2 Marxism in *Maggie: A Girl of The Streets*

Marxism in this novel is characterized through several sets; the main ones are the economic and social situations alongside the superstructure. Depicting the economic situation, the author showed the life in the slums of New York City. The living conditions mirrored the economic system aftereffects. Furthermore, implementing this theory occurs through these elements. The economic conditions are the ones that determine several aspects according to the historical background of the age that this novel was written about in 1893. Crane depicted the circumstances of that time reflecting life after the civil war in America and the immigration movement.

The historical circumstances are drawn through the social and economic conditions such as wars and immigration, as Crane depicted in his novel. The author showed the Irish people's immigration to the United States, specifically to New York City. The writer imaged these immigrant's living circumstances; they lived in poor conditions in the slums. These places were crowded and known for crime and prostitution. The writer also showed how these Irish immigrants were isolated and prevented from decent work opportunities.

The people lived through these poignant conditions in the slums where they suffered from impoverished living conditions. These situations were determined by the dominant class, who control the economic conditions that affect the social setting. On the other hand, this novel depicted the dominant class control over the economy giving them the ability to increase their wealth by using the working class such as the Irish immigrants as low-wage workers. Hence, they isolated them in such deprived living conditions. This isolation is the outcome of ideological and economic domination over the masses.

In this novel, the author has particularly taken into consideration the social class conflict as a central Marxist notion. As the author portrayed in his masterpiece, the Irish people immigrated to the United States to fulfil their dreams in the hope of having better job opportunities. In contrast, they encountered inequality of social structure; hence, disparity in jobs opportunities. They faced the dominant class rule, which controlled the overall economic structure. The dominant class owns the industrial business and power. The bourgeoisie shown in the novel is

the class who deliberately kept the immigrants under poor living conditions to benefit from them.

The dominant class exploits these people to work under agonising circumstances, such as in factories for a low wage, by keeping them purposefully in terrible living conditions to suffer. The social class difference was characterized by the protagonist's desire to be in a better and higher social class. Moreover, Maggie wants to be in a relationship with a man who has a better income than the people she knows and sees in the place she lives. That man, in her perspective, was Pete, who worked as a bartender. Pete in her perspective could be the one who is able to fulfil her dreams. This belief was also embodied in her idea that her work in the cotton factory will not help her make her dreams come true; in her opinion, this type of work is a waste of her beauty.

The difference between the social classes is also embodied in the effect of the poor life setting. As the author portrayed, Bowery city was known for crime and prostitution. These people sought a better financial lifestyle no matter what, either by prostitution, or any other criminal activity. Prostitution was a common work among the women in these slums concerning their limited skills on account of the poverty. Poverty held them back from getting a decent education, as a result, better job prospects. The bourgeoisie's domination eclipsed these living circumstances, the social structure culminating in social injustice.

This ideology is represented through its effect in controlling and forming the life of ordinary people. Crane shows that effect through imaging the people who belong to another social class like Maggie. The American Dream ideology and its apparatuses effect on the people, which was portrayed in this novel, show its purpose. As Marx stated, this theory should be applied by analysing the ideology behind a particular literary text to clarify the Marxist literary approach, one of those principles is the ideology and its inevitable role. The base creates the ideology, moreover, creates its ideological apparatus.

The effect of the bourgeoisie's ideology on the society is imaged by Crane, as Pizer elucidates in his study: "that was less concerned with dramatizing a

deterministic philosophy than in assailing those who apply a middle-class morality to victims of amoral, uncontrollable forces in man and society” (Pizer, 1993, p.131). Pizer here interprets through his perspective the mindset of Crane. In his masterpiece, the primary purpose is to expose the fact that the ideology of the dominant class controls society. They utilize the values and standards so as to instil the other social classes. Pizer stated the existence and role of ideology in this novel, one of Marxism’s factors.

Pizer shows the social structure, which is one of the pillars of Marxism. The social structure is determined by the base that refers to the economic situation as Marx puts. The social situation is an influential element in portraying social issues determined by the dominant class to control the other social classes. In addition, it shows the ideology’s effect and the role of it on society by shaping the social situation. Marxism emphasizes the superstructure alongside the base and its ideologies. Moreover, the superstructure is produced by the base and its ideologies to shape the social situations. The role of the base and its ideology were imaged by Crane that shows the Marxist literary approach.

The study of Pizer (1993) imaged Marxist literary criticism. Also, Walcutt states a specific statement shows and analyses the social situation that is, “they constitute a social insanity” (Walcutt, 1966, p.69). Having comprehended this statement, the researcher depicted the social situation and its role. The researcher elucidates the social relationships between the people and social conflict as well as the tension between the social classes and the social issues like diseases, the misery of people, crimes and the prostitution. These issues are related directly to the social situation. Furthermore, it is related to the financial situation that was ruled by the dominant class.

These historical circumstances shape the Marxist literary theory in this novel. These principles shape the Marxism model in this novel through the events and historical conditions, which illustrates that Marxism depends on actual historical events. The ideology is the most effective principle in this literary work. Focusing on the ideology interprets the purpose behind it. The ideology is characterized through the stages and experiments the characters went through, such as Maggie,

the protagonist. Analysing the literary work also shows the purpose of creating such ideology, which was to support the industrial revolution and increase the fortune of the dominant class.

The importance and role of ideology is characterized in this novel by imaging the living conditions of the slums and the social situation. Moreover, the economic situation is related directly to the ideology, and it is the main reason for its creation. Discussing the ideology's importance, Althusser in 1971 wrote an essay named *Ideology and Ideological State Apparatuses*. In this essay, the writer shows the importance of ideology and its repercussions on the ordinary people through its mechanism and how it controls their lives to determine the conditions in which they live. He developed his theory about ideological apparatuses.

Althusser also hints at the ideological apparatuses. The ideological apparatuses are presented in Crane's *Maggie*. The question is, how is the effect of ideological apparatus reflected in Crane's masterpiece? The effect of ideological apparatuses was shown through the events of this literary work, most importantly, the unfortunate living conditions these characters lived through. The desire Maggie had to achieve her dreams and the lack of education were reasons for the character's victimization. Whether men or women, the characters did not have a decent education because of the poor circumstances they lived in inflicted on them and generated by the dominant class.

The lack of education is an influential factor that reflects the ideology's causes and effects. It was also one of its apparatuses through its consequences on society and shaping the social situation. It created the character's misery, whether they were prostitutes like Maggie or the violence and crimes that are the inseparable features of the slum dog neighbourhoods. With respect to the education and the lack of it, Durkheim remarks, "the shaping of an inner self, which guides the individual all along with his/her life" (Durkheim, 1969, p.38). The researcher shows the effect of education in shaping people, their personalities and the social situations surrounding them. The social situation was massively affected by the lack of education which prevented the Irish people from having decent work resulting in their destitution.

In actuality, the lack of education is one of the ideological devices. This ideological tool reflects the Marxist approach in this literary work. The poverty of education proves the bourgeoisie's targets. The economic situation laid the foundation for the lack of education. The role of this ideological device is revealed through its effect on the characters of this novel. Besides, it proved the bourgeoisie's purposes in exploiting the Irish immigrants and preventing them from decent living conditions.

The protagonist's struggle to have a better life leads her to attempt to change her social class confirming the Marxist principles. People strived to free themselves from exploitation, social injustice and social conflicts they permanently suffered from such as the vicissitudes the Irish people faced in the slums as well as the low wage. The dominant class ideology remains notable by employing low-paid work force. Hence, the bourgeois extends their fortune and develops the industrial business and revelation. The bourgeoisie want the ordinary class to believe in this ideology and attempt to make The American Dream come true.

Marxism discusses the living conditions and the historical circumstances of a specific society in a particular era. Hence, this study attempts to show that Marxism is a scientific theory that studies human societies. Marxism depends on the facts, not on an imaginary world or beyond the future; it discusses actual historical circumstances and happenings. In his study, Barry refers to that as he stated,

it tries to explain things without assuming the existence of a world, or of forces, beyond the natural world around us, and the society we live in; it looks for concrete, scientific, logical explanations of the world of observable fact. (Barry, 1995, p.156)

In his study, Barry puts forth the Marxist theory to show an actual event that occurred in a particular era. The social construct shows the reality of the society that is meant to be studied through Marxism in a specific literary work.

The social structure is exemplified in Crane *Maggie: A Girl of the Streets*, showing the anxiety of the immigrants on account of being isolated. The life setting imaged the historical circumstances not an imaginary world that did not happen. Hence, this theory depends on the facts representing it as a scientific theory that

studies human societies. The ideological mechanisms in Crane's *Maggie*, besides Marxism's base and superstructure demonstrate Marxism as a scientific theory as it depends on historical events not imaginary ones.

1.3 *THE Great Gatsby* Through Marxist Lens

The Great Gatsby images the social conflict through its seasons as shown between social classes. Fitzgerald displays this conflict between the characters of the novel, especially Gatsby and Tom. Each of these characters exemplify a particular social class and is defined by the class they represent. To further, the term "new money" represents Gatsby as he was the character who belongs to the working class of the society and grew rich later. He gained his fortune recently; hence, he is opposed to Tom Buchanan. The latter is defined by the term "old money," which means he belongs to the dominant class which inherited their fortune and the names of their families by blood.

The conflict was that Tom does not accept Gatsby to be equal with him and to be of the same social class. On the other hand, Gatsby was eager to be one of the members of the bourgeoisies. His desire is embodied through his claims that he belongs to a noble family and that he is a highly civilized and refined person. Moreover, he denies his true origins that he belongs to the working class of the society. The question here is, "how were these claims a clue for the social conflict? The claims prove the social class gaps in American society culminating in disparity and injustice.

Gatsby would not deny his origins or claim that he belongs to noble origins if the social structure was equal. The protagonist refutes his true origins in order to blend with the bourgeoisies. The social conflict was represented through the gap between the social classes, such as the Americans who immigrated to New York City from the country sides of America. These immigrants were rejected and could not achieve the dreams they believed they could, specifically, The American Dream, which is embodied in fortune or social class. These immigrants are neglected and isolated by the dominant class.

The dominant class isolates the immigrants, abuses them for the low-paid works and keeps them intentionally under poor living conditions. The historical circumstances are portrayed by the economic situation, which shaped lifestyle after World War I. The economic situation was embodied in the crash of Wall Street. Hence, the need was for the low-wage labour force. The financial conditions were the reason for the birth of The American Dream by the dominant class to exploit the working class. Furthermore, the bourgeoisie maintains their fortune and increases it under America's deteriorating economic situation after the war.

The writer epitomizes the historical circumstances in addition to the social and economic conditions of society. On the other hand, it shows the second part of the industrial revolution. The second part of the industrial revolution started at the end of the 19th century. It exposes the dominant class who held and controlled the industrial business. Hence, they controlled the whole economy, which allowed them to shape society the way they wished. Shaping the social situation serves their benefit, such as providing Bourgeoisies with low-wage workers. Besides, it keeps their social class higher than the other classes along with dominating them.

The Great Gatsby explores the life set in America after WWI, which Fitzgerald pictures from disparate aspects. These dimensions are formed due to the economic situation. Fitzgerald mirrors how it shaped the social conditions by referring to racial and ethical issues. The social situation is expressed through the behaviours of this masterpiece's characters and the purpose of their behaviours, like the way the dominant class exploited the other social classes. This exploitation in all its forms suggests the importance of the economic situation through its role in shaping the society. Hence, the dominant class fortune will increase by abusing the ordinary people as low-wage workers. These situations reflected the Marxist approach, especially through the social conflict.

Fitzgerald's *Gatsby* depicts the devastating financial situation in the year 1925. Economic conditions show the impact of WWI and the circumstances of America at that time that reveals the time setting. Primarily through the economic conditions, the financial situation witnessed a new level embodied through the ban on drinking alcohol. Alcohol banning created a new kind of business. This business was bootlegging that was also illegal due to the government's decisions at that time.

The financial condition formed a particular social situation. Moreover, the effect of economic conditions on society was embodied through social issues as inequality, racial dogmatism, religious radicalism, etc.

Discussing the purpose of Fitzgerald, Cowley, in his study argues that “tried to find the visible act that revealed the moral quality inherent in a certain moment of time. He was haunted by time as if he wrote in a room full of clocks and calendars” (Cowley, 1970, p.7). The writer here defines the awareness of this novel’s author, Fitzgerald. The awareness of Fitzgerald about the time setting illustrates the accurateness of him. Fitzgerald chose that time to represent the events he stated in the novel. Fitzgerald’s accuracy and awareness in this novel are illustrated through imaging the life set and the time set. It supports the Marxist’s perspective that Marxism depends on actual historical events, not imaginary ones.

The social evils such as greed and immorality have been illustrated by Fitzgerald in his novel. Posnock discussed that in his study, “the novel is a criticism of American worship of success, the destructive effect of money, love becomes a commodity, as do women, who are perceived as mere projections of class and wealth” (Posnock, 1984, p.212). Posnock explains the financial situation’s effect on the social situation, especially through the base’s ideology and the ideological mechanism. Fitzgerald underscored the significance of economic system on society.

This novel portrays money and its power besides its effect on society. This conflict shows the economic system’s effect on society. The novel’s historical circumstances and time of its production gave the impression of the Marxism approach to the critics. Moreover, to focus on the ideology behind this literary work as Posnock argued that “the novel’s concern with the power of money upon human relations and reveals that Fitzgerald’s vision of capitalist social reality possesses a more profound intellectual coherence than previously recognized” (Posnock, 1984, p.201). The critic here argued the novel aspects and the effect of the financial situation on society. Capitalism was one of the aspects Posnock explores in his study. Capitalism shows bourgeois domination over the other social groups since it resembled the private ownership of the business. Posnock also discussed the purpose of this domination and exploitation of the working class by the bourgeois.

Fitzgerald demonstrates the historical circumstances the people lived through. The dominant class of the society determines these circumstances. Hence, Posnock unveiled the purpose of the dominant class on the economic system, besides its effects on the social one. This impact was primarily due to the notion of The American Dream. Posnock discusses in his study the ideology of the dominant class. This ideology is presented to the individuals, especially the ordinary people, as commodities, not as human beings who have their point of view and opinion with the right of choice.

This ideology reflects the desire of the dominant class and their attempts to control the society and reshape its infrastructure. Posnock, in his study, explores the outcomes of financial power in forming society through its ideologies. The ideology's implementation in this novel is presented through its paraphernalia such as the lack of education embodied in Gatsby's false claims of being educated alongside the isolation and poverty. The base's ideology serves the bourgeois benefit. Hence, it shows the financial power over society.

The American Dream ideology is related to the economic system and is determined by the bourgeois. Moreover, it was embodied in this literary work through the living circumstances the people lived in at that time. The American Dream is the ideology of the base in a Marxist lens. This ideology supports the industrial revolution and is to the advantage of the dominant class. Fussell stated, "Fitzgerald begins by exposing the corruption of that dream in industrial America; he ends by discovering that the pursuit is universally seductive and perpetually damned the Fitzgerald hero is destroyed by the materials" (Fussell, 1963, p.44). Fussell, in his study, illustrates The American Dream in Fitzgerald's *Gatsby*. Hence, Fussell interprets the relationship between The American Dream and the industrial revolution in his study. Fussell also discusses how Fitzgerald has imaged The American Dream and its downfall.

Fussell believes that through this literary work, Fitzgerald unveiled the truth behind The American Dream and the corruption it causes in the American society such as crime, immoral acts and other unethical issues. On the other hand, Cantebery discussed the theory of Leisure class. In this theory of Veblen, Cantebery

reviewed the similarities of the social class as depicted in Fitzgerald's masterpiece. The social situation was displayed in Veblen's theory and portrayed in Fitzgerald's *Gatsby*.

According to Canterbury, "the parallels between Fitzgerald's depiction of class, especially in *The Great Gatsby*, and Veblen's sharpest satire *The Theory of the Leisure Class* may have been too close for comfort, providing a motive for distancing himself from Veblen" (Canterbury, 1999, p.303). Canterbury, in his study, shed light on the social situation, and it was represented in Fitzgerald's *Gatsby* and Veblen's theory. This study illustrates the social structure through the differences between its classes. Also, it shows the gap in the American social structure, therefore, it denies the false concept of the social equality that is one of The American Dream fundamentals.

The leisure class that is discussed in Veblen's theory defines the dominant class. The leisure class exemplified the dominant class in Fitzgerald's *Gatsby*. The bourgeoisie class was the one that exploited the ordinary people or the other classes in society for their own benefit like the working class. In other term, the repressed class was controlled and exploited by the leisure class as Veblen defined them. The working class was used for economic development or the industrial revolution. Through this study, Canterbury interprets the role of the social conditions and their formation.

Marxist principles in Fitzgerald's *Gatsby* are portrayed by the author, who shaped the fundamentals of Marxism. These principles are the basis of Marxism, which is the economic situation alongside the base ideology embodied in The American Dream. Besides, the superstructure endorses the base's ideology. The financial aspect was essential in showing the dominant class ideology due to these people's circumstances. Fitzgerald uncovered the culture of the American people through their attitude. Moreover, this attitude displays their corruption as well either the dominant class or the working class. The ideology and the cultural background portrayed by Fitzgerald represented Marxist principles.

In conclusion, the development of Marxism is related to the studies that critics carried out. Especially the studies that shed light on the role of the economic, which is the base of Marxism and its ideology as well as the superstructure. From a Marxist perspective, these features symbolize Marxist fundamentals, such as the social conflict and the economic system's effect on society. According to Marx, the critic and the reader should analyse this ideology by analysing the literary text which unveils the purpose behind its ideology. Marx refers to the ideology by claiming that the dominant class creates it in a particular age through certain historical conditions as portrayed in that era's literary work.

The social and economic situations are pertinent to the wars and immigration movements. These reasons are developed and created by the dominant class. Hence, Marxism argues and reviews these conditions, such as the social circumstances and economic situation, which will be the reason for the political purposes. The literary critics made the Marxism development primarily by focusing on the superstructure or the cultural background of a specific society as it was in the case of Fitzgerald's *Gatsby* and Crane's *Maggie*.

A Marxist critic would remark that the economic situation produces superstructure like cultural activities. The economic system produces the ideology, its hidden purposes and its ideological apparatus, such as the social isolation and its consequences. The ideology's existence is related to the cultural background as the desire of the protagonists to achieve their American Dream without being concerned about the moral standards and values. It shows the effect of the American Dream ideology and its existence due to their cultural background determined by their living conditions.

Whether Crane's *Maggie* or Fitzgerald's *Gatsby*, these two novels stand for the Marxist's approach through its principles. These principles symbolize the fundamentals of Marxism, for instance, the ideology of the base and the ideological system in both literary works. The lack of education and the isolation the repressed class faced as portrayed in *The Great Gatsby* and *Maggie: A Girl of the Streets* is a proper example. The analysis of these literary works sun earths the hidden meaning of them, hence, unveils the ideology through the sets, whether life or time set. Crane

and Fitzgerald portrayed the ideology of the dominant class through economic situation aftereffects on society. The purpose was to increase their fortune and for the benefit of the industrial revolution.

The ideology is related to the conditions of a specific literary work's production era, like the WWI when *The Great Gatsby* was written. While in *Maggie: A Girl of the Streets*, it portrays the life after the civil war in America. These masterpieces depicted the effect of historical events like the wars and immigration movements and its effect on society. The immigration movements in each literary work were different. The difference is related to the specialties of each age of these literary work's production conditions. *The Great Gatsby* focused more on the immigration of the working class from the country sides of America to the cities such as New York. Simultaneously, Crane's masterpiece imaged the North European immigrants to America, especially the Irish people to New York City.

The American dream ideology is embodied through aspiring working-class people about social ascendancy or wealth obtaining; besides, it was built upon the false fact of equality in American society and work opportunities. This ideology was created by the dominant people, which provided them with low wage workers. Hence, it is the ideology of the base which symbolizes the economic system through a Marxist lens. These ideologies are considered as the base ideologies since it helped the bourgeoisies to increase their fortune.

The Marxist analysis through these novels illustrates the relationship between Marxism and literature, especially through the superstructure's role in supporting the ideology. What is more, the difference between Crane's *Maggie* and Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby* depicts the enhancement of the issues and the base's ideologies, such as the role of the feudal system that was embodied in *The Great Gatsby* through the immigration of the farmers to the city. Hence, it supports the capitalist's ideologies to obtain the benefits of making these farmers as low-wage workers in the bourgeoisie's industrial business.

SECOND CHAPTER

2. A Marxist Analysis of Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby* and Crane's *Maggie: A Girl of the Streets*

Analyzing the historical events reveals the Marxist approach in Fitzgerald's *Gatsby* and Crane's *Maggie*. The historical events such as the wars and the immigration movements affected the society. These historical events gave the bourgeoisie's the possibility of controlling the economic system, the economic system was not stable due to the wars such as the civil wars and World War I. Al-Keshwan discussed this immigration by stating "people began to move from the towns to the cities searching for a better life" (Al-Keshwan, 2016, p.1). The American people left their farms behind at the expense of finding more decent and favourable job opportunities and life conditions. They were the ones who left no stone unturned to chase their dreams in the large cities such as New York City.

The disappointment they faced alongside the difficulties they went through is also underlined by Keller: "they came to be equated with social status and culture, and thus became the key to a better life" (Keller, 1995, p.57). The researcher shows the economic effect on society and its shape. This study illustrated the reason behind the immigration outgrowth. These people longed for improving their living conditions to achieve their dreams and make a fortune besides changing their social class, to be in a better social class.

Fitzgerald depicts the immigrant's desires throughout the character of Gatsby, the protagonist. He is from Dakota with a humble background coming from a working-class family. Having been excessively overshadowed by American Dream, Gatsby had a dream about wealth and social class simply to gain the heart of the woman he loved. Hence, he depicted the working -class young generation and what they dreamt about.

The writer of *The Great Gatsby* portrays the greed and accumulating fortune as the new era's purpose and as one of The American Dream reasons for existing. In

line with this, Cowley claimed that “he was dealing not only with an intimate truth but also with what seemed to him the central truth of his American age” (Cowley, 1970, p.12). Fortune obtains desire, and social ascendancy had a role in revealing the reason and definition of The American Dream forms. also, by being with a blonde woman that was referred to by Grace stating that “pure and beautiful, a trophy wife or girlfriend signifying economic, social, and spiritual success” (Grace, 2000, p.41). This shows the corruption of The American Dream. This form is to flourish financially and enhance the self-investment by being with blonde woman. The American Dream is represented as an ideology in this literary work for it affected the social structure of society, the American social formation was not equal.

Consequently, it generates the possibility for the American Dream to reform the structure of society through the hopes and desires of the working class of society. Lawrence argued that “The American Dream is about self-reliance, self-respect, neighbourly cooperation and a vision of a better and richer life, not for a privileged class, but all” (Lawrence, 2012, P.16). That means The American Dream’s historical significance can be the element that explains American society’s form and infrastructure. The economic conditions that determine The American Dream’s existence alongside social issues expose American social structure inequality.

Fitzgerald describes the corruption and the phony nature of the American Dream via hinting at the desires of each social class. In order to achieve their dreams, the working - class of the society attempts to do whatever it takes even through illegal acts. As a matter of fact, the bourgeoisie persisted in augmenting their fortune, even if the working-class got damaged simply for their own business profits. The writer represents the disillusionment of the people who immigrated to New York to achieve their dreams.

The story’s events occur in Long Island, New York City. As the author portrays it, the city is divided into two parts, The East Egg and The West Egg. Gatsby lived in the West Egg while Daisy, and her husband Tom, lived in the East Egg. The protagonist attempts to draw Daisy’s attention; therefore, he throws

extravagant parties and does everything in his power to achieve his intentions. Gatsby desired to reunite with Daisy with the help of Daisy's cousin, who lived in the same part of Gatsby's mansion in the city. Nick Carraway, the cousin of Daisy, becomes Gatsby's friend.

In contrast, *Maggie: A Girl of the Streets* is a literary work written in 1893 by the American author Stephen Crane. In this novel, the author portrayed the life setting at the time of the industrial revolution. This was best captured by McMichael stating that "persistent illusions of people and the disparity between their buoyant expectations and their doom" (McMichael, 2004, p.611). This depicted the Irish people's immigration and life circumstances in the United States of America. The Irish people believed that the United States is the place that can give them a chance to live the life they desire after the suffering of them in Ireland. Immigration from the north of Europe to the United States outgrowth, the suffering of Irish immigrants continued they gathered and lived in Bowery city. On the other hand, the American economy was not stable. Hence, the labourers who came to this city worked at a low wage.

They suffer from poverty, sickness and the social rejection. Industrial business owners, such as factory owners, always look for cheap labourers. The low wage labourers are women and the children of the slums, who served and worked in these factories for low salaries. Thus, there was a common impression that there is always a chance in the United States and the cities like New York for the working class to achieve their dreams. The American Dream benefit was for the upper-class people as they increased their fortune by having low wage workers. People such as the North European immigrants pursued The American Dream though even at the cost of living under repulsive and poignant circumstances.

Reef argues that "in America, there is always a job" (Reef, 2007, pp.21-23). That means there is always an opportunity for the people to achieve what they want if they come and work in America. That caused a suffering, especially for the labourers similar to the Irish people and their circumstances. The benefit was for the upper class, since they had low salary workers; furthermore, their wealth was increasing supersonically. Crane depicted that through this literary work in which

Maggie is the protagonist. She is an Irish girl who lived in the slums of New York City who finally met her downfall as a victim of pursuing so-called American Dream, to be exact.

The parents of Maggie neglect their children; the protagonist grew up in poor economic conditions with her brothers Jimmie and Tommie. Hence, when she grew up, she worked in a cotton factory. Maggie wanted to survive from the life of the slums by having relationship with Pete whom she considered as her dream man to fulfil her dreams. Pete exploited her and left her because of her misconception; then, she became a prostitute to survive. The slums and dark Bowery region, which were the places of the Irish people who immigrated to the United States, were crowded residences. The people who lived there were uneducated also uncultured; it was replete with diseases, crimes and prostitution.

The girls in the slums worked in the streets since their early age. Alternatively, they will be working in cotton factories for low wages, such as Crane's protagonist, Maggie. Bastiaens claimed that: "a general profile of the New York City prostitute: she was young, foreign born, unmarried, had borne a child, came from a poor working-class family, and had experienced economic" (Bastiaens, 2007, p.7). The reason for prostitution was to have a better income and a more decent life. The American Dream was behind the continuous prostitution growth in New York and Bowery region, where the North European immigrants normally gathered. Also, it was the reason of the crime outgrowth in the slums as it was known by the illegal activities.

The American Dream's primary purpose is to gain wealth or class ascendancy no matter what, which is the desire to be in a better social class. Material wealth is how to earn a fortune and survive from the poor economic conditions with no concern about moral values and ethical standards. Consequently, The American Dream definition is the individual success in the social ladder along with the material wealth. Concurrence to The American Dream, the main idea is achieving the wishes and dreams, regardless of the origins and obstacles. The American society desired to believe this concept; that is, success is related to individual efforts, not the social background.

This notion of individual efforts is denied in Fitzgerald's masterpiece *The Great Gatsby*, as the protagonist embodies the story of ascendancy from poverty to prosperity. Gatsby attempted to achieve his dreams through a dishonest career, which refuted the belief of the individual effort and its success in achieving The American Dream. Faust stated, "The American Dream theory in a manner of speaking applies, then, but as something corrupted, as in the life and business of Jay Gatsby" (Faust, 2008, p.91). The social background effect was notable; it was not unremarkable as The American Dream concept got constructed through social conditions and economic issues. Displaying Daisy's rejection, the author showed that Gatsby could not gain her heart since he was not from the same social class.

Gatsby is rebuffed because of his inferior social background which held him back from being a member of high social class. In the two novels, protagonist's dreams depicted the desire for social ascendancy and material wealth. Both books showed the notion of love misconception and American Dream through the main characters' relationships and their purposes beyond these relationships. Hence, it proves that American Dream is the reason of love misconception as a moral issue. Furthermore, both factors reflected the same essentials of American Dream and love misconception. Hence, it shows the economic system effect on society as the social corruption characterized through love misconception.

2.1 The Misconception of Love in *The Great Gatsby* and *Maggie: A Girl of the Streets*

The protagonist, Maggie, follows her dream blindly, believing in her lover and his fake feelings. While Gatsby was watching his plan giving him good results, he soon got what he wanted. Things for both of them were mysterious, but there was no way back. They deemed they will achieve the life they dreamt about and fulfill their wishes. Furthermore, the new era's traditions created a generation of poor young and uncultured dreamers. This was argued by Pelzer discussing Fitzgerald's *Gatsby* "a projection of Gatsby's consciousness, of his desire to make real a dream

of success” (Pelzer, 2000, p.21). Gatsby resembled these uncultured dreamers and their desire in achieving their dreams. The young generation of the twenties represented by Fitzgerald through Gatsby’s character, were eager to achieve their dreams. Hence, they considered the organized crimes and illegal activities as a chance to change their living conditions just like Gatsby did.

Therefore, in the best possible conditions, which these people may face, their fate will never change what they will meet at the end of their path. Either they were like Maggie or Gatsby, their future will be one. The method might be different, the events also can be changed, but the result will always be different from what they chased and wanted. The love misconception will be related to The American Dream, as reflected through these two novels’ characters.

The love misconception roles in *The Great Gatsby* and *Maggie: A Girl of the Streets*, are portrayed through different types and forms. The question is what are the types of love misconception and what is their role? Conditional love is a type of love misconception. The protagonists mirrored it through their desires; for instance, as for Maggie, she saw Pete as a chance of redemption, the person who can take her out of the poor conditions she was living through. This is an example of love misconception alongside The American Dream.

Like Pete’s feelings toward Maggie, Daisy prefers to spend time with Gatsby to benefit from being with him. Just like Pete, Daisy did neither take Jay’s plan seriously nor his desires. Since social class talked first, instead of Gatsby, she preferred to maintain her husband’s last name and stick to her noble background husband, the man with a well-known family name. Despite that, Jay considered her something else, a woman with a different social class having matchless privileges that was mentioned by Kuehl “the king ‘s daughter, the golden girl” (Kuehl, 1958, p.269). Gatsby believed that Daisy is the key to be a member of the bourgeois even physically as she was portrayed to resemble the American beauty. Consequently, the conditional love, depicted by the two authors, starts with the protagonists’ moral standards. Gatsby wanted and had an affair with Daisy ignoring that she had a husband.

Maggie leaves her family to be with her lover to have a better life without being concerned about the consequences. Hence, the moral issue is one of the essentials that created the possibility for love misconception. In the masterpiece of *Maggie: A Girl of the Streets*, the author depicted the people's moral issues and the Irish immigrant's habits, such as their cruelty and drunkenness; whereas, in *The Great Gatsby*, the author depicted the people and their new traditions that determined the life setting at that era.

These traditions are making or attending parties, just like the people who take part in the protagonist's parties, regardless of whether they knew him well or not. Moreover, it was the era of jazz music and new circumstances, such as the crash of Wall Streets. Hence, in these two works of literature, one of the mutual points is a generation of young people, women, and men who believe in The American Dream. Moreover, they can believe in love misconception and its types following their mentalities. The misconception of love has been depicted by Fitzgerald and Crane in several ways, like the relationship between the family members in *Maggie: A Girl of the Streets* that portrayed the life conditions under such circumstances determined by the economic situation.

The parents of the protagonist, through their actions, exemplify irresponsibility as they are drinking liquors most of the time. Moreover, they neglected their children, their duties and responsibilities toward the children: Maggie, Tommy and Jimmie. The parent's irresponsibility reflected and affected the protagonist, and her brothers; the mother and father's lack of care overshadowed their children, especially Maggie; the impact of it was creating the same feature of the parents in these children, which is recklessness and negligence; they did not care about their decisions, nor did they know its consequences. The situation of the family is related to the poor living conditions.

This situation is illustrated by Loum in: "being born of poor parents, children can neither escape poverty nor the objective situations which have generated it, or its impacts" (Loum, 2018, p.5). The character's attitudes, mentalities, such as Maggie and Jimmie, were predictable because of their childhood and family state, which was not stable. Even throughout the protagonist's behavior, when she was with Pete and spent her time with him, Mary, instead of advising Maggie, called her

daughter a whore. The family relationship in this masterpiece represented one of the love misconception forms, which are irresponsibility and the weak bond of the family. Crane portrayed the feelings of the characters through this masterwork, which depicted the existence of love misconception. Pete's feelings towards Maggie were neither honest nor real; consequently, he did not love her.

In contrast, Pete is getting the benefit of considering him as the only man she can love. On the other hand, the protagonist decided to leave her family's apartment since she considered leaving them as the first step toward success to reach her unfulfilled dreams. Maggie went to Pete as a man whom she trusted more than anybody else; nonetheless, he did not take care of her and left her instead; thus, the only place she had was the streets. That represents the selfish behavior of Pete, who chose to be with another woman. In this novel, the author described love misconception roles and types through the characters and their feelings.

The love misconception and its types which are depicted in *The Great Gatsby* by the author describe various kinds of love misconception, such as conditional love. In this masterpiece, Gatsby wanted Daisy since he considers her as the person that he needs to fulfill his dream. Therefore, he wanted to be with her while she did not have a dream. Daisy wanted to spend time and enjoy with Jay, and she did not take his plan seriously; just like Pete exploited Maggie, Daisy abused Gatsby. Throughout their feeling, Pete and Daisy portray selfishness; they both thought about themselves only; even though Fitzgerald's *Gatsby* and Crane's *Maggie* were written at different times, the love misconception features are mutual.

These novels' protagonists sacrifice for the wrong persons, Gatsby for Daisy, and Maggie for Pete. The love misconception features are notable throughout the character's behavior, like Pete's behavior toward Maggie and Daisy to Jay as they got what they were looking for; in addition to that, they abused the protagonists' feelings and dreams. Moreover, Maggie was left behind selfishly to survive in abnormal conditions of the slums that was defined by Guth as "just as back alleys, crowded tenements, and lack of play areas defined the slum of the late nineteenth century" (Guth, 1996, p.18). These tenements are where the low-class bows; it resembled Maggie was left alone there in the slums streets where she had no idea

what to do. Maggie did not have the adequate skills for a decent job to make the ends meet or pull a roof over her head. On the other hand, in Crane's masterpiece, selfishness is represented through Pete's behavior.

He is drinking liquors and going to parties all the time as well as wasting all his money profligately with the women in these parties. He even begged a woman named Nellie to love him just like how Maggie begged him to love her. The immorality is notable throughout the characters of these two novels, especially the protagonists. The immorality role was one factor that created the love misconception's existence. It illustrates the condition of society at that period and its circumstances.

Another form of immorality in *Gatsby* is Tom Buchanan's affair, Daisy's husband, since he had a secret relationship with Myrtle, who was married to Wilson, a mechanic. Hence, she belonged to the working-class of society; furthermore, she lived in poor conditions. Myrtle considered Tom as the person who could give her the privileges she sought. Tom belonged to a different social class, which describes the social structure issue as one of the essentials that created love misconceptions.

Materialistic love is one of love misconception forms. Fitzgerald underscored the Daisy's physical perception of love when he remarked: "They are such beautiful shirts, she sobbed, her voice muffled in the thick folds. It makes me sad because I've never seen such - such beautiful shirts before" (Fitzgerald, 1925, pp.118-119). The author here represented this type of love misconception by Daisy and her perspective. She admired Gatsby's shirt and described it; despite crying, she noticed his shirt's quality, depicting Daisy's superficial mentality. Daisy cared about the material objects: car, and house, Jay's shirt and things of the like. The love misconception is illustrated materialistically between these two characters. In other words, materialistic love shown in Daisy's mentality is one of the symbols of love misconception in this novel. Indeed, she considers material objects as the source of prosperity and delight.

The disloyalty is one of the love images that the author represents throughout this novel's events. The characters expressed different kinds of infidelity forms and figures, such as Tom Buchanan, by saying that:

He nodded sagely, and what is more, I love Daisy too. Once in a while I go off on a spree and make a fool of myself, but I always come back, and in my heart, I love her all the time. (Fitzgerald, 1925, pp.251-252)

Tom thinks that there is nothing wrong with having such affairs as long as he loves Daisy. Consequently, he was also demonstrated as one of the cases of betrayal figures, which in turn is a love misconception. Moreover, it shows the social corruption, these characters behaviours and mentalities reflected the social situation in that period.

The writer depicts Tom's character and mentality, as a person who believes one can be married and love his wife, and at the same time they can have a secret affair. On the other hand, Tom's mentality was shown through accepting to stay with Daisy after having an affair with Gatsby. The love in *The Great Gatsby* and its existence was optional like the characters displayed throughout their feelings and beliefs. Daisy's character mirrored the disloyalty in the form of her affair with Gatsby. Her character expressed another type of love misconception: the optional love, which is love by choice. The sign of this kind of love was Daisy's choice when she had an affair with Jay, and then she reunited with her husband.

On the other hand, Crane shows materialistic love throughout the mentality of Maggie. Maggie admired and got lured by the material objects like the clothes and the appearance of Pete alongside the places he took her to such as bars, movies and theatres. Maggie also venerated the people she saw there and considered them as an example of the upper class. Maggie also admired Pete's career as a bartender and believed that it is better than the job she had in the cuff shop. The author stated that "Maggie observed Pete" (Crane, 1893, pp.5-8). The writer described Maggie's feelings toward Pete by delineating that she thinks Pete is a totally different person. Pete represents the person by whom Maggie is able to change her life circumstances and he can fulfil her dreams. What is more, the materialistic love was remarkable throughout the description of Maggie's look toward Pete and how she saw him.

Through its types in these two novels, love misconception exemplifies the social corruption due to the effect of the economic situation on it. Moreover, it shows the relationship between love misconception and American Dream. The relationship between these two aspects that shows the economic effect on society by creating such a social issue like the love misconception, the love misconception and The American Dream share the same purposes and goals, which are either social ascendancy or wealth obtaining.

2.2 The Pursuit of American Dream in *The Great Gatsby* and *Maggie: A Girl of the Streets*

The American Dream is the ideology the dominant class determined. This ideology's influence through the events of these two literary works is notable. The concept of American Dream had been described by the desire of the young generation, who considered the United States as the right place to achieve their dreams. A case in point is in *Maggie: A Girl of the Streets*, where the protagonist, dreamt of living in different and more decent conditions, which were far better than the life she lived with her mother and brother. Maggie lived in one of the poorest neighborhoods of New York City, slum dog neighborhood drowned in destitution, bootlicking, prostitution and any sort of social evils. These slums were the place where the Irish refugees lived; these people came to the United States to have a chance for better life.

As the writer describes them in his literary work, they are intoxicated most of the time proving how they behave and live. The living conditions were drastically low since most of them were irresponsible workers in low-paid jobs. This sense of recklessness is notable in the mother and father of the protagonist's attitudes. In her perspective and concurrence to her standards, Maggie considered Pete as the person who could help her fulfil her American Dream. She was disgusted even with her workplace which was a cuff shop. Little by little, Maggie started to see that this place of her work was a waste of her time and beauty.

Maggie thought that her beauty is an exclusive feature, which can help her make her dreams come true. The writer depicted the protagonist's American Dream, especially after she met Pete. Therefore, when she started to go with him to the music halls and the theatres, her desire to leave her mother, brother and her home got stronger. That proves the desire of Maggie and one of The American Dream promised illusions which is better living conditions. Hence, it shows how the author depicted it through the protagonist's stages.

Considering Maggie's tendencies, the American Dream is notable through her wishes. Like the other girls in the cuff shop and her neighborhood where she lived in, Maggie's skills were not sufficient for a decent salary. Consequently, she left the apartment and the cuff shop. Then, she went to Pete to be with him since she believed that he would assist her to have the life she craved to have. Pete rejected Maggie, however, which ruined her and made her lose her last chance of having a respectable and better life. The importance of home was captured by Steinbeck stating that "A home was a place where women and children could be reasonably safe" (Steinbeck, 1974, pp.61-62). Thus, it shows the role of losing the apartment that was safe for her and kept her away from the neighborhood she lived in and the people who lived in.

The writer explains the essentials which paved the way for the emergence of American Dream. The question is, "what are these principles and fundamentals and how were they depicted throughout these novel seasons? The protagonist of this novel was Maggie in which the essentials had been depicted throughout her living conditions. The author described the neighborhood she lived in and the people who lived around her in this place alongside the low-down living conditions, which represented the poor economic situation.

In *Maggie: A Girl of the Streets*, Crane accounts for the economic effects throughout Maggie's wishes, which were affected by the deteriorating circumstances of her life, "in the hero's erratic march from poverty in the first act, to wealth and triumph in the final one, in which he forgives all the enemies that he has left" (Crane, 1893, pp.8-24). The author described Maggie's dream, her American Dream, through her desire to live the same life of these fictional tales, which she watched and heard in the theatres. Crane captured that in relation to the

heroic attitude, such as Pete's attitude in the fight of Maggie's brother Jimmie. This attitude for Maggie is equal to the noble behaviors of the fairy tales about the heroes who saves the poor people from their suffering.

The other principle is irresponsibility, which is one of the immorality forms. The question is, what was the role of these two elements in the reflection of The American Dream in Crane's *Maggie*? In actuality, Crane here described the irresponsibility by the parents' behaviour as expressed throughout the various parts of the two masterpieces; for example, they were drunk most of the time and neglected their children and their crucial needs which were immensely lacking. A case in point is the lack of education reflected throughout the protagonist's limited abilities to have a decent job. The process of American Dream imaged by the author in this masterpiece developed from the wish and aspiration to the hope, then to the belief of obtaining it.

For the most part, Maggie wanted to have the chance to leave her family's ramshackle apartment. This hope flourished after she saw Pete, as she desperately needed someone to help her achieve her dream. Throughout the novel's opening season, Pete characterizes a heroic attitude, which was saving Jimmie from a street fight; therefore, Maggie considered him as he is the God-given chance to transform her life. Hughes stated that "dwells in an absurd universe and defines himself through his choices and realizes that only he can provide his own escape from the enveloping nothingness around him" (Hughes, 1970, p.191). This shows the effect of the surrounding society on the individuals and the surrounding environment. The desire and the attempt to achieve her dream reflected through her plan to have a relationship with Pete. Maggie was affected by the irresponsibility and ethical issue which depicted the social condition.

Maggie did not even have the right to have a free will to decide on her fate. Based on this, society was one of the main essentials, which affected the protagonist's decisions. Maggie admired Pete's appearance and lifestyle since she considered them forms of the prosperity. The structure of American Dream *Maggie: A Girl of the Streets*, was created by a certain set of principles such as economic conditions, moral values and social issues.

These essentials like the social structure, the moral standards and the poor economic conditions sculpt the possibility of the American Dream's emergence in this masterpiece. The suffering economic conditions affected life and the conceptions of Maggie and her standards and vision, which suggests the question of how did it affect Maggie's life? Also, how was it related to her choice and belief in The American Dream? The poor circumstances created one main idea for Maggie, which was surviving. That led to her wish to leave the apartment and the shanty towns life. She was living in underprivileged conditions; even the people she knew also suffered from poverty.

Referring to Maggie, Pete is different in her opinion; besides, the impact of poverty fueled Maggie's worry that she is not good enough for him. Since she belongs to the Bowery region and her life was not like his life, which aroused her curiosity to establish relationship with Pete. Maggie used to go out with Pete not knowing the fact that he was exploiting her and did not love her whatsoever. This depicted her limited vision, along with the poverty in setting up low standards, limited choices and chances. On the other hand, her family, brother and mother represented the duality of moral standards.

Maggie's brother, Jimmie, has the same kind of relationship with Pete even though Jimmie is against his sister's relationship with Pete. In contrast, the mother's attitudes and habits depicts another form of moral issues since she was a raging alcoholic. The social structure is one of The American Dream principles, characterized by Maggie's desire to leave her horrendous neighborhood behind. Maggie's choice of Pete was because she wanted to change her social class, which is one of the social structure issues. Maggie wanted to have the privileges that the high-class people were of. She thinks that Pete is the person who could give her the possibility to fulfill her American Dream. In another term, aims justify means that means Maggie's choice for being with Pete in a relationship is for achieving her dream. Hence, it shows the bond of The American Dream and love misconception.

The idea of The American Dream in Crane's masterpiece is created due to the poverty and societal issues. The lack of moral values and manners are the fundamentals, which sculpted this ideology in *Maggie: A Girl of the Streets*. The desire of obtaining wealth and social ascendancy was a reason for moral issues,

such as the prostitution that its existence was for achieving The American Dream in whatever possible way. The prostitution and its role were shown by Maggie who wanted to achieve her dream through this immoral way. Crane showed the falsity concept of equality between American society's social classes.

The American social class equality contradicts through Maggie's attempts to change her social class by rubbing shoulders with Pete to join the upper class. The rejection she faced due to her efforts to join the upper class made her believe that she is not good enough for Pete. Maggie's opinion about her family apartment, her work, even her clothes was proving to her the idea that she is not enough for Pete. The equality of chances denied by the treatment the Irish people had, as they lived in the slums with their low salaries. Referring to these novels' events, this led to the falsity of the concept of American Dream.

The Great Gatsby mirrors the American Dream ideology and its repercussions based on the new era's state of affairs after World War I and Wall Street's crash, as the author described through the chance that Gatsby, the protagonist, had and took. Gatsby gained his new fortune through illegal works, such as bootlegging and organized crimes; his wealth gave him the ability and the notion of achieving his dream, but he could not achieve the social ascendancy. The writer described The American Dream ideology through immorality that exemplified the protagonist's work and moral standards. Gatsby's structure of American Dream was upon the impression of equality in the social ladder since he believed that he deserves to have the life of the upper class of the society. The life that in Gatsby's opinion he can achieve via being with Daisy, this belief of him shows the reason of his desire to be with Daisy. Moreover, it shows the relationship between the American Dream and the misconception of love.

Concurrence to this literary work and the period it was written, the American Dream purpose is to gain wealth and the social class preeminence. These aspects are the false concepts of The American Dream ideology. According to this concept, the question is whether it is possible to achieve the American Dream without being fixated about the social class or the person's roots. Gatsby's failure to blend with the upper class was because of his poorer social background and that he had made his fortune later by working. Put it another way, he was not rich by blood or from

birth. For this reason, he was rejected as he was intrinsically a member of the working class. In a nutshell, the protagonist's rejection by the people was not because of his past illegal activities, rather, it originated in lower social class and lack of moral standards.

The protagonist's claims and efforts aim to catch up with Daisy's social class. The rejection of the high-class society to Gatsby and his claims were the clue that denies the concept of equality in American society. Equality was one of the main principles of American Dream and its common concepts. Gatsby's American Dream and his unique perseverance were his privileged circumstances to reach this dream. These attempts were illustrated through the parties he threw in his mansion to draw Daisy's attention.

Additionally, for Gatsby, Daisy resembles the manifestation of American Dream; his attempts to win Daisy's heart as well as his profound yearning to be with her. To put it simply, the individual effort is one of the common concepts about The American Dream, which paradoxically was denied by the people since Jay gained his wealth by illegally. Therefore, through the protagonist's unlawful career, this impression about achieving The American Dream through the individual effort was refused alongside the repudiation of social equality and equal opportunities. Gatsby could not be with Daisy or achieve his American Dream because of the social class differences between them rather than the moral standards.

2.3 The Inevitable Impact of Historical Circumstances on *The Great Gatsby* and *Maggie: A Girl of the Streets*

The Great Gatsby and *Maggie: A Girl of the Streets* are of many differences and similarities. The first factor is the difference in the era they were written. These two literary works were written at different times reflecting various kinds of issues, be it social, economic, familial or political. In Crane's masterpiece, he represented the problems of the Irish refugees, who came later to New York. Besides, he scrutinized

the tough economic conditions they lived through laying the foundation for the creation of The American Dream.

Throughout *The Great Gatsby*, Fitzgerald describes the life after World War I, the economic conditions due to the crash of Wall Street in this period. The writer defined the new era after the war as it was the age of prosperity. In the age of jazz music, the main factor in similarities was the societal issue. Fitzgerald's *Gatsby* and Crane's *Maggie* described the social issues, which were mutual despite time differences. These issues were resembled by the social structure issues in *The Great Gatsby*. The social background's importance is reflected through the difficulties he faced in his attempt to change his social class.

As in the past before war, the protagonist had a humble social background, which was why he could not win Daisy's heart. After the war, he grew rich; nevertheless, he could not match up with the new social class or be with Daisy because of his inferior social background. In Crane's masterpiece, particularly social issues were represented more effectively. It depicted the Irish refugees living a life that meant to be separated from the people who belonged to different social classes. Hence, through these two literary works, the social and economic situations can be tangibly perceived mirroring inevitable Marxist principles.

The American Dream in Fitzgerald's *Gatsby* refers to the social issues along with the American social structure. The immorality in this novel was one of the features that portrayed The American Dream also the misconception of love. The writer created the characters of this novel to carry different perspectives and tools to image The American Dream. Immorality is one of these tools that imaged the effect of the American dream. Tom Buchanan was one of the characters that represented immorality throughout the novel's events. He belongs to upper social class; this character's immorality trait was by having an affair with Myrtle.

Moreover, because of his social class and background, Tom does not have a dream either let alone an American Dream to fulfill. While Myrtle does have a dream and attempts to accomplish her American Dream by being in a relationship with Tom to have upper-class privileges. Daisy and Tom are from the same social

class of society. The writer depicted them as characters who did not thrive The American Dream. Immorality is depicted through the affairs between Daisy and Tom who manifest it both in their attitudes, decisions and behaviors as they believe in keeping their marriage after their affairs, a sign of their own made moral standards.

Tom exploits Myrtle for she is hooked on achieving her dream by being with him. On the other hand, Gatsby and Daisy's iniquitous relationship uncovers Gatsby's American Dream just like her husband, Tom's relationship with Myrtle. The characters that had a dream in this masterpiece were Myrtle and Gatsby. Myrtle is another image of Crane's protagonist, Maggie. Myrtle and Maggie believed that they could materialize their American Dream by using their physical attraction and natural beauty. That led to the denial of The American Dream concept, which suggests that anyone can achieve his dream in America by diligence and tenacity.

Unlike their resemblances, Maggie and Myrtle come from two diverse literary works and belong to different epochs as the authors of these works of literature portrayed. The similarity between them was that these ladies chose an immoral way to achieve what they wished. The similarity between them is that Maggie and Myrtle were not wealthy but cherished a dream of being with men of high society and status as Pete and Tom Buchanan though they were not either as such. The three of them reflected link between the American Dream and the misconception of love since their dreams could not be accomplished without an immoral affair which culminated in the downfall of the protagonists.

On the other hand, Pete in *Maggie* parallels Tom in *Gatsby* as Pete exploited Maggie's emotions and interests in The American Dream and her attempts to fulfill it. These two novels' protagonists pictured The American Dream's existence through their behaviors and mindsets. Gatsby and Maggie both wanted to change their social class in pursuit of a better life and promising future. Nonetheless, the degree of the events occurred and ups and downs the two characters experienced were different. These variations reflected through the stages these characters went through, the life circumstances they were of and the age differences they had.

Maggie and Gatsby's social background and mentality are similar since both characters' dreams were related to another person but at different levels. As for Maggie, it was the possibility to achieve her American Dream that was being with Pete while Gatsby's dream was to be with Daisy who was the meaning of American Dream and the chance of being a member of the upper-class people for Gatsby. From another perspective, Gatsby's American Dream was to get the acceptance of the upper class. In comparison, Maggie's dream was to have the life she desired to be accepted and be a member of the upper class besides changing her social class. The authors demonstrated the role of the social structure in shaping The American Dream ideology.

The tools the protagonists utilize in their attempts to achieve their dream were different. Gatsby used his wealth and privileges to materialize his dreams such as social gatherings and celebrations to draw Daisy's attention. Maggie's gismos, however, were limited; she had only her appearance to be with Pete to fulfil her dream. The immorality represented through the protagonist's attitudes in these two novels' events revealed that moral values and standards are unnecessary in reference to their behaviors alongside the other characters in Fitzgerald's *Gatsby* and Crane's *Maggie* as depicted throughout the events of these two masterpieces.

The protagonists do whatever possible to achieve their dreams. For instance, Gatsby ran illegal businesses and made dangerous deals so that he could afford his wealthy lifestyle for the sake of making his dream come true that was to have Daisy with him. The immorality, according to Maggie, took another form referring to the decision she made by leaving her house and family to go with Pete. Maggie was so naive that she thought her physical beauty is gorgeous enough to bring her a more prosperous and well-to-do life and future though she was not cognizant of its depraved repercussions. The protagonists' American Dream and aspirations were related to fundamentals that created The American Dream existence.

Considering this concept from a different angle, free will is one of the mutual elements in these two literary works. Moreover, what was the reason for its existence? Both protagonists reflected the lack of self-rule throughout the events of these two novels. The variation of these two novels' events represented the main

reason for free will as a result of the social effects. In Fitzgerald's *Gatsby*, he was attempting to be one of the upper-class people. The appearance and the habits of the protagonist were impacted by the society that besieged him. The claims of him, like the background he made to himself, the name he gave to himself, were the signs of the scarcity of autonomy in him.

Based on *Crane's Maggie* events, Maggie does not have the self-determination to choose her life; she was also controlled by society and the surrounding circumstances. The mother and brother of the protagonist were opposed to her relationship with Pete; their neighbor claimed that she heard Maggie begging Pete to love her which shows how desperate she was. The neighbor thought that there was a sexual relationship between Maggie and Pete. These signs indicated the lack of free will alongside the social and moral issues that characterize the behavior of her family's neighbor. The claim of Johnson's neighbor eclipsed the fate of Maggie, proving the social effect on the protagonist's destiny and denying the free will as well.

The influence of the society has been reflected on the decisions of Maggie towards The American Dream. Maggie could not choose or decide about her life that was mentioned by McIntyre stating that "Maggie could not be held responsible for her decisions or her actions" (McIntyre, 2000, p.41). In fact, it was the society that dominated her fate and victimized her by its rules. The impact of society can be concretely observed between the lines of the novel particularly in Maggie's admiration of Pete. Besides, she believed that Pete is self-confident, and the right person who can also help her achieve her dream, which was another confirmation of lack of free will. The protagonist did not have the power to choose her fate because of the social effect.

There are multiple indications of immorality in these two masterpieces, one of which is the social ethical issue. Fitzgerald portrayed the behavior of the people who surrounded the protagonist. *Gatsby* sought the acceptance of the so-called higher class to be one of them; he believed that he could get their privileges too. These people mirrored the moral standards of the upper class especially at that time. They demonstrated these standards by attending the parties *Gatsby* threw in his

palace while the guests paid no attention to their host, Gatsby, which in turn accentuates one of the immorality forms.

Immorality is one of the American Dream and love misconception fundamentals in *Maggie: A Girl of the Streets*. It was one of the rampant social issues; social class was one reason that sculpted the immorality in this literary work. The social class variation and the economic conditions were the main reasons to create and account for immorality. The writer portrayed the Irish immigrants' living circumstances as they were working at low wages because they were not of a decent education. The upper social classes rejected to accept the people of the slums like they did with Maggie.

The immoral behavior of the upper social classes accompanied by the concept of American social structure sheds light on the consequences throughout the events of the novel. Like Maggie and her family, these people were isolated from being in contact with the other social classes. People showed different images and descriptions of ethical issues and moral standards. Compared to Gatsby, Maggie's circumstances were different both socially and ethically. The difference of era between these two masterpieces signals the notion of The American Dream development throughout each novel.

In *Maggie: A Girl of the Streets*, the events portray the Irish immigrants' lives. They resembled the working class of society, their life circumstances and the difficulties they encountered as well as social and moral issues. The main factor in this work of literature, as Crane portrayed, was the bond between immigration and The American Dream. This created the question of what is the relationship between immigration and The American Dream? The connection is the dreams of these people who immigrated to The United States, especially to New York. They considered it a golden chance to make their dreams come true such as the Irish people who moved to America. Therefore, The American Dream widespread ideology was related to the dreams of these immigrants. In another term it was represented as a chance for them to achieve what they want. Hence, the capitalist's wealth increased as they had a low-wage workers who were these immigrants.

To sum up, reviewing *The Great Gatsby* and *Maggie: A Girl of the Streets* clarifies the link between the types of love misconception and the American Dream. Furthermore, these types and essentials sculpted and created the forms of love misconception in these two outstanding works of literature. As for the types, the love misconception is divided into conditional love and the materialistic love. Conditional love is the type of love misconception that is built upon satiating desires and personal benefits. Materialistic love, however, is the admiration of the appearance or career, such as the Daisy's veneration of Gatsby's shirt. On the other hand, the admiration of Maggie for Pete's appearance refers to the material love.

The features that indicate each type and form of love misconception are reflected throughout these two novels' characters and their attitudes such as the selfish attitude of Pete toward Maggie and Daisy toward Gatsby. Moreover, the approach of the protagonist, which is dedicating to the people like Daisy and Pete, who abused them, is one of the proofs of love misconception. In Gatsby's sacrifice for Daisy and Maggie's sacrifice for Pete, both characters sacrificed for the wrong people. The essentials that created the possibility of love misconception existence were either economic or social.

In Crane's novel, the immorality and the social structure depict the poor economic conditions of the Irish people who lived in the slums of New York City. The Irish immigrants wished to achieve their dream through the plan of love misconception as the protagonist Maggie did. Fitzgerald depicted the post-war conditions and life after the crash of Wall Street. Besides, the circumstances of the new era that created the chance for the people like Gatsby to gain fortune and attempt to achieve their dreams the way Gatsby did. The relationship between Gatsby and Daisy was the extreme tendency of the protagonist to be a member of the upper-class society by hook or by crook; that is to say, The American Dream. On the other hand, Maggie wanted to be in a social class that is safe and stable for her.

Consequently, social class is one of the reasons for the presence of love misconception along with the economic conditions. The other fundamental issue of love misconception is immorality as the two protagonists expressed this feature

throughout their relationships and decisions such as Maggie's decision in leaving her family apartment and Gatsby's illegal career in Fitzgerald. The American Dream principles have been transparently depicted in these two novels. These were also the central beliefs of love misconception and its various forms, such as irresponsibility besides economic conditions as another principle that is mutual between The American Dream and love misconception.

The social structure and moral standards are principles of the American Dream as well; its effect was notable on Crane's protagonist *Maggie* and Fitzgerald's *Gatsby*. The American Dream ideology was built upon the beliefs of Americans in equal chances portrayed by the protagonists' attempts to change their social class and has the privileges they desired which of course all failed to be materialized. These two literary works put forward different issues for each age. The mutual points were social structure and moral standards. Besides, the economic conditions and principles linked the relationship between the American Dream and love misconception leading to comparing these two masterpieces through the characters and events illustrating the American Dream's consequences alongside the misconception of love.

The American Dream and the love misconception are related to each other and were created by mutual fundamentals and principles including immorality, social structure and variation of economic conditions. The love misconception eclipsed not only the social situation, but also the moral aspects. The social and the economic conditions depicted by Crane and Fitzgerald are interwoven with each novel's era and the cultural background. These circumstances revealed the reason for the existence of this ideology alongside the cultural background. Fitzgerald's *Gatsby* and Crane's *Maggie* portrayed the fundamentals of Marxism, so to speak.

THIRD CHAPTER

3. A Review of the Themes in *The Great Gatsby* and *Maggie: A Girl of the Streets*

In his novel, *Maggie: A Girl of the streets*, Crane describes the circumstances of the 18th century through the novel's diverse themes. The question is, how were these circumstances portrayed throughout the themes of this literary work? The first theme is morality which is represented via social elements. The theme of morality showed the moral standards and the lack of it in the eighteenth century. The lack of moral standards was a common feature of the people who immigrated to the United States and lived in the slums.

According to Brace, "it has often seemed to me one of the darkest arrangements of this singular world that a female child of the poor should be permitted to start on its immoral career" (Brace, 1894, p.66). Through this study, the researcher illustrates the living condition's effect on society, as it determines their lifestyle and moral standards. Apart from that, it shows the role of economic system in formulating the society, such as the jobs of the women such as prostitution or exploiting the children whether they were males or females to work in factories like cotton factories, which was regarded as something immoral.

Brace believes the girls like Maggie did not have the chance; since they were born under such conditions, their actions and mentality were shaped by their surroundings. Therefore, they were victims of their life and fate. The effect of their conditions is more significant than their capacity or even mentality, which means they are not responsible; it is a social issue more than an individual issue. These conditions created the morality theme and the moral standards issue. Furthermore, it proves the effectiveness of the living circumstances in the protagonist's life. This theme in itself reflected the social situation, which is one of the Marxist principles.

The morality theme in this novel refers to the question of what is the difference between Maggie's character and the other characters of this novel? The

people who lived in the slums were massively eclipsed by the outcome of their living circumstances. This external undefeatable power Maggie faced is the same that the other females in the slums faced. La France stated that, "And she cannot be determined by her external environment simply because the novel's structure places her and her slum environment in exactly the same position relative to the other characters" (La France, 1972, p.40). This means the external power and circumstances overshadowed the other female characters in the novel as much as Maggie. The difference is that Maggie's was mentality affected by her house torturing internal situation and her fragmented family members. The external power and the life of the slums also drastically impacted the other women too.

At the end of this quotation, a critical point can be noticed: the family's moral standards and the out-of-control external power that influence the protagonist's destiny. The external power role was referred to by Chang as he stated, "systems of communication, bodies of images, protocols of usage, situations, and behavior" (Chang, 2008, p. 118). These aspects are affecting the individuals and their standards, these aspects are shaped by the economic system. Consequently, it showed that immorality is more of a social problem than an individual one. Besides, that is how this theme imaged the social situation since it was shaped by economic system, the spotlight of Marxism.

Alongside the social situation, the theme of morality shows the economic situation effect in portraying the moral standards of the Irish people, such as the slums they lived in. thus, it proves the inevitable function of financial system in articulating and setting the standards of society. On the other hand, Pete's existence and role created one of manifestations of the moral corruption that led to the downfall of Maggie as well. The difference and the reason that she did not morally survive is her internal living unbeatable circumstances.

Pete, through the opening season of this novel, represents a heroic attitude in front of Maggie. The valiant act is when Pete saved Jimmie from the fight he had with the other boys in the slums. Maggie believes that Pete could be the person who can save her from the agonizing living conditions of the slums. The idealistic picture of Pete in Maggie's eyes was someone of genuine romance, audacity, charisma, affluence and loyalty; however, that went up all in smoke. The romance theme was

related to the protagonist's past suffering life and the unavoidable external forces. Furthermore, it generated the love misconception, which was a social problem because of economic ups and downs. On the other hand, there are internally suffering issues such as her terribly disjointed family and her disastrous relationship with her brother and mother.

In line with this, Pizer is of the opinion that,

for though her world does not affect her moral nature, it does contribute to her downfall by blurring her vision. Her primary drive-in life is to escape her mud puddle prison, and she is drawn to Pete because his strength and elegance, her mistaken conception of Pete results from her enclosed world, a world which has given her romantic illusions. (Pizer, 1993, p.191)

The appearance of Pete and his attitude were one of love misconception depictions; it displayed the effect of morality theme in forming society. The last line of this quotation refers to the romantic attitude and the role of love misconception as an illusion stemming from excruciating and unbearable social circumstances.

This is captured by Parker he mentioned that "Maggie wants so desperately to escape from, and which leads her down the road to destruction" (Parker, 1985, p.27). The main desire for Maggie's main obsession was to get rid of the slums dog neighborhood. On the other hand, Pete had affected her morally so much so that she felt her totally dependent and hooked on him. All these social and moral issues acted like circles of a chain glued together shaping her shaking moral standards and loser mentality. Also, it leads down to her road of destruction showing the external power effect and the internal one.

The theme of violence and brutality is another theme in Crane's *Maggie* portrayed by the external and internal circumstances. Nevertheless, the question is, how has this theme been represented? And what were the events that depicted it? The violence theme is depicted through the poor living conditions, which caused carnage combined with ignorance and diseases. This portrayed the disgusting and unbearable life setting, especially the constant violence, rape, prostitution. Bertrand discussed this issue stating that "Is it not time to take a long look at ourselves, at the way we live and the way we think, and to face the fact that the violence in our streets" (Bertrand, 1991, p.273). The violence issue is one of the issues that related to the underprivileged living circumstances like the slums. This issue was discussed by Crane wanted to mirror the brutality and growing viciousness of Bowery region.

Referring to the violence in that day and age, the slums resembled the outgrowth of these kind of social issues to be exact.

Here the crook or the fence, looking for allies, found them more readily than did the missionary, and the lodging houses became nurseries of crime, it was calculated in 1890 that nine thousand homeless young men lodged nightly along Park Row and the Bowery. (Bloom, 2005, pp.16-17).

Jimmie and the other boys' fight was not an ordinary children's fight; it was almost bloodshed, picturing the lowdown and uncultured life conditions in the Bowery town. The low salary prevented the families from educating their children. The children like Jimmie would be in the streets rather than at school where their peers were.

Thus, they are exposed to nothing but violence, crime, racial victimization and all other sorts of social evils. The role of the parents also depicts the internal circumstances. Since parents were so destitute, they failed to educate their children in order not to be as the street boys fighting in the neighbourhood. Furthermore, it shows the effect of the internal and external circumstances in creating the theme of violence. This theme virtually and directly accounted for the influence and significance of society-economy dichotomy, so to speak.

Fitzgerald's *Gatsby* describes the new era's living conditions. There are two questions here though: what were these themes? And how did the author portray them? In keeping with this novel's events and characters, especially the protagonist, these themes are remarkable through individual attitudes, such as the morality theme. According to the protagonist's behaviour, the morality theme is notable as it deals with bootlegging and gambling, which is one of the organized crime forms. Boyer discussed the relationship between law and the lack of morality as he stated that "forbade the wrong. Law and morality were related" (Boyer, 1989, p.334). The theme of morality was reflected through illegal works and attitudes; the people in the 1920s did not care about the moral standards. These people intended to achieve their desires and wishes such as wealth, pleasure, welfare and so on. On the other hand, they did not care about facing the consequences of violating the law.

The people in *Gatsby* do not care about the moral standards whatsoever, just as portrayed through the events of the novel. The moral standards were affected by the new era's conditions such as jazz music, Koenig stated that "Jazz may be

analysed as a combination of nervousness, lawlessness, primitive and savage animalism, and lasciviousness” (Koenig, 2002, P.169). The researcher shows that this music resembled the life of that period due to the new circumstances. These conditions created the possibility of the moral lack since most people wanted to achieve their dreams through any work whether legally or illegally. Jazz music was one of the common apparatuses that shaped this age’s mentality.

In agreement with that, Lehman highlights, “love affairs, new dances, new jazz music, and new fashions” (Lehman, 1925, p.6). The Jazz music was one of the aspects that showed that period traditions and lifestyle since it was invented and flourished in that era. As for this genre of music, jazz music is a definition of that period. It is a piece of music derived from the moral standards and the attitudes of these people. This music describes the people manners, these manners and moral standards like obtaining fortune through criminal activities.

Tom’s character illustrates his violent attitude when he attacks Myrtle physically, which is a clue for the theme of violence. Then, he indirectly and immediately informs Wilson that Gatsby killed his wife. Besides, the accident that led to Myrtle’s death conveys the impression of violence and irresponsibility. These examples clearly substantiate the theme of violence in the novel. The death of Myrtle was narrated by Nick, he claimed that: “her left breast was swinging loose like a flap, and there was no need to listen for the heart beneath” (Fitzgerald, 1925.p.131). The situation was described in a horrific way that shows the violence pictured by the author. The violence occurs in this novel by Tom mostly, even Daisy expressed this theme. In fact, the death of Myrtle was because of Daisy, she was the one who was driving Gatsby’s car. This theme was represented by George Wilson, Myrtle’s husband.

Afterwards, Tom convinces George that Gatsby is the one who is responsible for Myrtle’s death. All these reveal the fact that how fragmented, broken, vicious, imprudent and unfair the characters were towards one another. The characters of this novel showed expressed different types of violent forms; they expressed it through their behaviours mostly. The author imaged it through the violence theme; this theme was as well related to twenties conditions. Gatsby depicted the theme of violence throughout his illegal career.

As Bizzell puts, “his business exploits all contain an element of dangerous illegality or outright violence” (Bizzell, 1991, p.116). Violence was a social issue as well, which shows the primitive way of living. The violence theme was drawn through different occasions and situations. These occasions, such as the attitudes of Tom, he violently treated Myrtle when she says his wife’s name. These events shaped violence and its theme as it was represented; it was one of the common societal issues. Also, it showed that the social issues developed to be more dangerous due to the economic effect, which shaped the people’s moral standards. Since they can work in illegal careers, it will not be difficult to harm each other as long as they are not seen or faced any consequences.

3.1 A Review of the Thematic Effect on *The Great Gatsby*

One of the most prominent themes in this novel is racism which primarily springs from social problems in the twenties. The author portrayed this theme when Tom Buchanan says: “Nowadays people begin by sneering at family life and family institutions, and next they’ll throw everything overboard and have intermarriage between black and white” (Fitzgerald, 1925, p.137). The character of Tom represents the theme of racism. He divulges Gatsby’s relationship with Daisy, his wife. Additionally, Tom’s racist mentality showed itself once he compares Gatsby to other lower races. Tom saw Gatsby as a person who was not any different from African American people. Since Tom believes African Americans are not equal to Anglo Saxon Americans, another manifestation of racism comes into play.

The presence of racism is related to the differences depicted through several signs imaged through the novel’s events such as African Americans’ presence. The first one was represented at the beginning of this novel. In the scene about Gatsby and Nick, they were on the bridge going for lunch and beside them on the bridge, there was a car with African American passengers. The writer portrayed Nick’s reaction as he was laughing; Nick was surprised that the African Americans could cross the boundaries of society and seek equality with the Anglo Saxons.

Nick shows that he is pleased and delighted to see society’s rearrangement based upon equality. It can be understood that the narrator gratified to see how the

society has abided by the equality of races, opportunities and genders. The racial treatment the African Americans faced was discussed by Thompson stated that “that within white supremacist discourse figures the black man as a sexual menace” (Thompson, 2004, p.70). This portrays the mistreatment the African Americans faced due to the white supremacy. Thompson showed the social inequality and indeed the African Americans suffering because of the racism.

The theme of racism occurs again when the African-American man witnessed the accident. The author represented that man as one of the witnesses after Michaels’s testimony to the policeman that the accident was not exactly what the police had heard. Since Michaels did not know the colour of the car, he claimed that its colour was light green. Hence, Fitzgerald represents the African American man as "a pale well-dressed Negro stepped near; it was a yellow car" (Fitzgerald, 1925, pp. 139-140). The African American man’s character remains nameless that proves the inferior role of the African Americans, who were mostly overlooked by the society. Fitzgerald represented the presence of African Americans as something positive and efficient. Nevertheless, society ignored the African American man’s testimony due to the rampant racial prejudice existing in the society when the novel was published.

The theme of racism is also represented through Tom Buchanan’s attitude toward that man who remains nameless. The African American’s role in society was plainly overlooked on account of the racism and isolating the other social classes which has been well depicted in the attitude of Tom as a representative of the dominant class mentality, which is built upon false concepts such as Tom’s claims that the capitalists produced everything that makes a civilization.

This matter is discussed by Hays once he asserts “their poverty stems from a lack of culture, a lack of awareness” (Hays, 1998, p.281). Hays claims that they have lack in awareness and culture also they do not know themselves even and their own value. To put it differently, the racism in Fitzgerald’s *Gatsby* was portrayed through the ideology of white racial supremacy. Having noticed that, Louis discussed this by stating that “A story of entrepreneurial corruption, accented by the language of nativism” (Louis, 1994, p.52). The white supremacy and their authority set up certain types of racism. The question is, what are these types? The first form is race that is to

say; the white is the dominant race. The dominant white class maintained that there should be no equality between the races in society so as not to lose their privileges.

The second form of racism that Fitzgerald represents is the nativity. It is the white race nativity besides the social class nativity. The nativity was characterized when Tom Buchanan describes Gatsby as someone who is no different from the African Americans. Tom considered Gatsby as someone who belongs to lower roots and is no effective member of society the way African Americans were. As a whole, these cases suggest the superior ideology and the inherent authority of the white Anglo Saxons to remain the dominant race.

Tom's character discloses these forms of racism and the attempts of supremacy since he represents society's wealthy class. He believes that people like Gatsby cannot be equal or a member of his social class owing to their past inferior social background. On the other hand, the African Americans also in his eye cannot be equal with Tom, Daisy, or other higher social classes nor must be allowed to live in society as a typical member the way he does. As can be seen, the notion of racism flows through the language and manners of Tom as a prevailing theme. The author of *The Great Gatsby* portrayed another major theme in this novel: Alcoholism. This theme's thematic effect was reflected through the characters' attitude, such as the protagonist Gatsby.

The theme of alcoholism is related to several reasons and affected by them as the author underscores. The question is, "what are these reasons? These reasons were embodied through the age of the twenties and its standards especially the moral standards. Fitzgerald in his novel, *This Side of paradise*, described the new generation of twenties and the differences between them and the previous generations. Fitzgerald held that "a new generation grown up to find all Gods dead, all wars fought, all faiths in man shaken" (Fitzgerald, 1920, p.265). The new generation of the twenties, according to Fitzgerald, had new standards and beliefs; it was different from the old generation's values and standards. Fitzgerald in the last quotation described the new generation, as they believed that happiness is related to material objects, and it is all about obtaining wealth.

Hence, it makes them enthusiastic about following their dreams and achieving what they wished at any cost and in any possible way. The way of

Fitzgerald in capturing these aspects were mentioned by Matterson as he referred to that “Fitzgerald also satirizes the ideals of success in American society” (Matterson, 1990, p.65). Their beliefs and dreams made them ignore the old moral standards. Moreover, this generation turned back to the taboos observed by the old generations which were considered the backbone of American society. Having altered the value system and social criteria, this young generation chased the illegal works such as organized crimes to materialize their dreams.

Back then, it was a common belief that affluence and fortune could be found in illegal jobs such as bootlegging, gambling, trafficking and other illicit businesses which Gatsby perfectly carried out and organized. During that period, people did arduous tasks to gain wealth and achieve their desires to be prosperous. As a matter of fact, the accumulation of wealth was the new generation’s desire verifying the substantial influence of the economic system on the social situation. Therefore, the theme of alcoholism as an unlawful business comes into play. Another central theme that was depicted in Gatsby was isolation and alienation. This theme is related mainly to the theme of racism.

In addition, it images the ideological mechanism since it is one of the dominant class apparatuses used to exploit the immigrants. These immigrants were mostly farmers in that period, the twenties. They immigrated to the cities like New York to make their dreams come true, but they were isolated socially. This seclusion was imaged through the events of this literary work. The Nuevo rich including the protagonist, who gained their wealth recently by hard work, lived in the West Egg, not in the East Egg where people like Tom and Daisy who were born rich lived. Once again, the theme of segregation reveals itself. Furthermore, it shows that Gatsby was wealthy, but he was isolated in the same manner as Myrtle and her husband were.

Myrtle and Tom lived in the same part of the city as Gatsby did because they had humble roots rather than rich blood. Gatsby’s fortune was not enough to put him in the same class as Tom and Daisy seemingly were; the class that he wanted to achieve by being with Daisy that was referred to by Bloom “On the most banal level, *The Great Gatsby* documents the truism that money cannot buy you love” (Bloom, 2006, p.127). Bloom clarifies that money cannot buy the happiness or love that was

showing through the rejection of Daisy to Gatsby. Hence, money was not enough to buy to Gatsby the social class he wanted; he could not achieve his dream of a better social class due to Daisy's rejection; money was not enough to buy Gatsby's dream.

The relationship between the American Dream and isolation can be illustrated to a considerable degree here specially once the protagonist and Myrtle equally and rather similarly attempt to fulfil their American Dream so as to be on the same side as Tom and Daisy were, indeed. Therefore, the isolation was one of The American Dream's apparatuses; moreover, it was one of the major themes related to the racism. Gatsby and Myrtle belonged to the same race and roots which is the working class. However, the common point between Gatsby and Myrtle was that both attempted to achieve the same lifestyle of the bourgeoisie no matter how.

This type of racism is called nativism, which was shown through the terms of the "old money" and "new money" to draw the line between the characters in terms of financial and cultural originality as well as blood. Tom represented the old money, and Gatsby symbolized the new money. The role of isolation and permanently being rejected by the aristocrats and noble class acted as a driving force to be part of the dominant class, which is a manifestation of the ideological apparatuses proposed by Marxism. This literary work also had symbolic devices that affected shaping the events of the novel in addition to imaging the social and economic situations. These symbols reflected the ideology of American Dream and the other aspects in this novel. Besides, these symbols had a role in organizing the themes of the novel.

The symbols such as the eyes of Doctor T.J Eckleburg look a lot like the eyes that watch the actions of the characters. This is a religious symbol as it refers to the eyes of God. It is also interesting to know that Doctor T.J Eckleburg watched these characters, and he knew what they hid. This character was sitting in Gatsby's library, knowing that the protagonist does not know anything about these books in his library. In his study, Mohammadi interpreted the role of Doctor T.J Eckleburg's eyes as a symbol of religion: "the eyes of DR. T.J Eckleburg act like the eyes of God who watches the worst behaviour of the characters" (Mohammadi, 2020, pp.1-2). Mohammadi clarifies how the eyes of DR.T. J Eckleburg resembled the eyes of watchful God. Moreover, he illustrated the symbol of religion in this novel through

its role in perpetually watching these characters sins or guilt. This shows the role of this symbol in imaging the characters mentality, especially their moral standards and values also the religious one.

Fitzgerald's *Gatsby* is composed of various symbols some of which mostly deal with the colours namely green, yellow that played a crucial role in shaping the social and economic situation. As for the green, it should be cited that this colour is of two aspects. The first one is the ideology of American Dream embodied in the social class ascendancy that Gatsby intended to achieve. Secondly, it was symbol of the new money owned by Gatsby representing a self-made man who recently gained his fortune.

The symbolic devices are referred to also by Beuka as he mentions that "The Gatsby mansion and all that comes with it are mere symbolic devices" (Beuka, 2011, p.131). Gatsby's mansion and its features are symbols like also the yellow unique car of Gatsby. Alongside the green colour, there was the yellow colour symbolized the old money owned by Tom. These colours have a role in imaging the specialization between the social classes. Thus, it denies the concept of equality between the classes; for these reasons it, denies that a man despite his social background can achieve The American Dream.

3.2 A Review of Thematic Effects on *Maggie: A Girl of the Streets*

The major themes have been represented through their impacts on the development of characters and events. Mostly, these themes are related to and shaped by the novel's time of production; that is the circumstances of the late nineteenth century when an outgrowth of immigration was witnessed. The immigration movement was one of the underlying qualities of this era. In 1860, around fifteen million lived in the cities such as New York. On the other hand, at the beginning of the nineteenth century, the population grew to be thirty million in the cities such as New York that was truly an outgrowth of immigration.

The people who immigrated to the United States of America were mostly from the North of Europe like Ireland where Maggie had come from. The other type of immigrants was the farmers in the countryside of America who immigrated to the

cities like New York in vast numbers (twenty-six million) who also settled down in the slums. One can imagine what a melting pot New York City had turned into. The theme of racism is represented through the unequal treatment they confronted in the cities such as Bowery region.

Crane, in his novel, pictures the genuine and true suffering living conditions of Irish people in the slums. In that era, these immigrants lived in crowded wooden buildings which did not even look like a house. This led to the spread of many kinds of diseases and deaths. As a matter of fact, the immigrants' purpose was to change their life, but they faced racism, instead. Crane, in this novel, portrayed the theme of racism by focusing on the Irish immigrants and their living circumstances imposed on them by society. They were deliberately kept in needy and inferior conditions simply because they were immigrants.

This makes their American Dream fade away and their wishes do not come true despite what they thought about the United States earlier. The Irish people lived in crowded buildings and unhygienic conditions. Additionally, most of them were ill or feeble because of the impoverished circumstances of their lives. It goes without saying; the force of society prevented them from having access to their medical treatment right, which was expensive and unaffordable due to their poor economic conditions. The economic conditions were one of the reasons that shaped the concept of racism in this novel. The question is, "what was the role of the economic system in shaping the racism theme?"

As for the answer, it should be underscored that the role of economy is reflected by the reasons that caused those poor conditions, which Crane shows in this novel. The primary reasons were job opportunities and the salaries given to the Irish people. What is more, the Irish people encountered serious difficulties finding jobs to run their families. These people were mostly given physically demanding jobs with very low salaries. Furthermore, it kept them in those poor residential areas that were created by the society surrounding them. On the other hand, the Irish women had to work in the cuff shops or cotton factories for very little amount of money.

The immoral treatment of society is another form of racism in that time. The Irish community as well as other foreign immigrants jointly faced a kind of social isolation in the cities they immigrated to, such as New York City. The Irish people

were regarded as the root causes of economic problems from the perspective of the people who lived in America. This sense of animosity was to such an extent that Newspapers wrote: “No Irish Need Apply.” Also, it shows xenophobia together with appalling prejudice of the job owners against those desperate immigrants.

The Irish people in Crane’s *Maggie* face racism in several types. The most effective one is preventing them or excluding them from the job opportunities. Hence, it describes the racist mentality of American business owners towards them. The bourgeoisie believed that the Irish people are the reason for their economic recession. Their racist sensations were to such a degree that Foster restates as: “No Irish Permitted in this Establishment” (Foster, 2009, p.16). That statement shows racism as one of the difficulties the Irish people endured. Plus, it is one of the main reasons that prevented them from suitable and appropriate living conditions. Needless to say, that they were even hindered from the jobs in places that offered them a decent salary. The alienation and seclusion Irish people endured in the American society was incredibly unbearable.

They could not be homogenized with the other members of society owing to their suffering economic situation, race and worsening life circumstances. Furthermore, it was related to the jobs they work at, such as the hard physical jobs for men with low salary. Also, women were working in the cotton factories like men but in lieu of low salary. As a result, they had to live in poor conditions in Bowery town which prevented them from a decent life, proper education and the effective health care.

Alienation and industrialization are the difficulties the Irish people encountered in the novel. However, the question is, “what is the role of industrialization in shaping the theme of racism in Crane’s *Maggie*? The industrialization designated the job of Maggie and the other Irish girls who worked in the cuff shop. The women worked along with the children in the cuff shops as low paid laborers. The reason for their low salary was their inability to do the hard physical work; thus, the cotton factories employed them for a low salary. The theme of racism is also prevalent through the Crane’s *Maggie*.

Initially, it should be mentioned that the Irish people were always exposed to racial discrimination on permanent basis to the point that they were even sometimes

called “Apes”. Besides, the Irish community was considered immoral as they added fuel to the fire of social evils and crimes. The poor economic conditions caused this lack of moral standards due to the racist treatment they were constantly subjected to. The immigrants lived in ramshackle buildings, which were the slums of New York preparing the grounds for the emergence of a generation grown up in dangerous conditions and low life circumstances.

In his novel *Maggie: A Girl of the Streets*, Crane captures the elements of racism through its various forms namely isolation and alienation. The Irish people came across isolation and alienation together with social disparity referring to the widespread social bigotry with which they were grappling. The effect of the themes on Crane’s novel is also embodied in another central feature namely violence. The theme of violence was portrayed in Crane’s novel through the events, opinions and characters.

Alongside Maggie’s mother and father and some other characters of this novel, Pete’s behavior and perspective depict the theme of violence and deformity in his personality. What is more, the theme of violence was pertinent to varied reasons such as the poor economic conditions and the living circumstances of the slums. In a nutshell, these aspects shaped the moral standards of the people who lived there. Violence was a social issue just like prostitution, which was an inseparable part of life in Bowery town. These immoral issues specifically prostitution grew bigger at that time and in places like the slums of New York. The question though is what was the influence of prostitution outgrowth on the violence in Crane’s *Maggie*? This question and a number of other questions will be meticulously answered as the argument goes further.

In actuality, the 19th century witnessed several social abnormalities due to the economic recession in the late 18th century. The economic difficulties affected the epoch back then, besides the outgrowth of immigration in the cities like New York particularly in Manhattan. Prostitution outgrowth was associated with the outgrowth of the violence in its diverse forms, such as the raping of young teenage girls of 12 or 13. The effect of the social evils paved the way for the creation of prostitution and a great amount of other unethical issues. Plus, violence as another indispensable theme

is the product of poor economic conditions and the extension of prostitution well portrayed in Crane's *Maggie*.

Prostitution was one of the ways for the immigrants to earn money and meet their financial needs. They were not educated and were tremendously affected by the surrounding conditions such as the economic poverty, which led to corruption, crimes and prostitution. The immigrant girls either worked in the cotton factories or in the streets as Crane transparently imaged them. Furthermore, these circumstances were blended with the theme of violence, immorality and alcoholism. These themes reflected an image of Marxist approach through the ideologies such as the American Dream and passion for financial prosperity.

The symbolic effects in this literary work deal with the characters' names such as *Maggie*, the protagonist's name. Put it more clearly, *Maggie* is related to the name of Mary Magdalene. This name has been mentioned in the Bible connoting religious symbols. On the other hand, there is the name of the mother *Mary* that refers to Virgin Mary. These two characters' names are religiously symbolic and reflected the symbolic effect in this literary work. In addition, they shaped the conditions these characters lived through as it affected their fates specifically her daughter, *Maggie* who resembled her mother both physically and morally.

That is depicted by Crane as in: "Hi, there, Mary. I beg your pardon! Brace up, old girl" (Crane, 1893, p.71). This draws a picture of aggravating social and economic settings of the Irish people. Apart from this, the name of *Maggie's* mother referred to Virgin Mary. The name shows that she is blameless and that historical and social circumstances determined the shameful destiny of her daughter. The name *Maggie* refers to her innocence, and girl who has not committed any sin or crime. *Maggie* is innocent and a victim of her surrounding circumstances. The author of this literary work delineated the meaning of the names and their symbolic effects through these characters' names primarily.

Another symbol in this novel is the red color. This color is reflected in the novel as a symbol of violence, and sex and pain. In agreement with this, Crane stated that "Her red face was a picture of agony" (Crane, 1893, p.51). It can also be inferred that the red color hints at the exacerbating social and economic situations resulting in the public anger and dissatisfaction. The red color refers to these aspects, which were

common in that period in the slums where the Irish people were located. Also, these aspects were considered to be social issues, such as exploiting girls for sexual desires because of their limited skills for decent work or abusing females and violently treating them.

The golden color symbolizes the American Dream for Maggie through the relationship between her and Pete as Crane stated that “The golden glitter” (Crane, 1893, p.28). These colors imaged the historical circumstances besides the disappointing social environment. The author paints in words these aspects and the troubles of the Irish people through the red color as the beginning of the upcoming disastrous days and gold color as the unique chance given to Maggie to think twice about Pete which of course she fails to do so and meets her downfall at the end. Through these colors, Crane captured the existence of The American Dream and its reason by distinguishing between the red color and the golden color.

3.3 A Comparative Analysis of the Themes in *The Great Gatsby* And *Maggie: A Girl of the Streets*

There are several major themes and symbols that represent the thematic effects in Fitzgerald’s *Gatsby* and Crane’s *Maggie*. These two novels had joint themes that depicted the development of the issues according to the era difference. The effect of the historical circumstances is notable in these novels. Nonetheless, the question is, “what are the mutual themes?” The mutual themes are desire to do illegal or unlawful acts, irresponsibility as well as the pursuit of American dream, to be exact.

Although Fitzgerald’s *Gatsby* and Crane’s *Maggie* signify mutuality between the themes, they were written in different eras. Furthermore, it proves the development of wide variety of issues. The era’s circumstances were mutual such as the economic conditions that were related to the situation after the American civil war. The economic situation rapidly expanded; consequently, there was an urgent need for the laborers and the low-wage laborers were massively employed from among the immigrants. It is also necessary to point out that the economic conditions were affected by the economic crash of 1873.

Accordingly, the dominant class of society controls the economic system that is the main reason for the suffering of these immigrants. The author depicted these issues through the themes of the novel, such as social evils namely alcoholism. This theme was reflected through the characters and the events of this novel and *The Great Gatsby*. Alcoholism was deeply interwoven with violence. To illustrate, Maggie's parents were drinking and fighting almost all the time. Fitzgerald depicted it as a criminal attitude; hence, it shows the direct relationship between violence and alcoholism, in a manner of speaking.

Hypocrisy is one of the rampant social issues and an unpleasant behavior in the society back then. Comparing the two novels and analyzing the theme of hypocrisy, it can be realized that almost all the main characters in both novels are deeply concerned with this behavioral evil; for instance, Gatsby, Tom, Daisy, Nick Carraway, the narrator and Pete in Crane's *Maggie*, in one way or another signify duplicity and dishonesty. To further, in *The Great Gatsby*, Nick's hypocritical attitude was discussed by Boyle as he stated that: "providing 'thoroughly reliable guidance, the narrator is shallow, confused, hypocritical, and immoral" (Boyle, 1969, p.22). The character of the narrator expresses hypocrisy as he is confused regarding his desires on several occasions. For example, when he saw the white chauffeur driving a limousine and the passengers are American Africans, in that situation.

In the words of Nick, "anything can happen now that we've slid over this bridge anything at all Even Gatsby could happen" (Fitzgerald, 1925.p.69). This occasion shows the mentality of the narrator. He believes that it is not rational or accepted in society where the white Anglo Saxon should be the dominant race. Contrary to his belief in racial superiority, he claims and attempts to show that he is an open-minded character compared to the other characters of the same social class such as Tom. Nonetheless, this is another instance of hypocrisy and deceit that is notable in the attitude of the narrator.

The theme of hypocrisy in Crane's *Maggie: A Girl of the Streets* takes another form according to the era the novel was written at and its circumstances in shaping such social issues. The hypocrisy embodied in the characters was an inseparable trait of characters such as Pete, Jimmie, Mr. Johnson and Mrs. Johnson, the parents of the protagonist, and her brother Jimmie. The novel's opening season

was Jimmie's fight; that scene portrayed the first sign of hypocrisy. Mr. Johnson, through that scene, reflected the existence of hypocrisy as the author depicted it more tangibly.

The writer images this theme by saying: "Here, you Jim, git up, now, while I belt yer life out, you damned disorderly brat" (Crane, 1893.p.5). This quotation clarifies the theme of the hypocrisy. Mr. Johnson shows that he is against the behavior of his son, Jimmie, and the fight he had in the street. Meanwhile, he threatens his son that he will beat him, representing the contrast between his claims and the behavior as a sign of the hypocrisy theme. He prevents his son from such a violent attitude by treating him in the same manner as he has been treated by his own father.

The character of Pete is one of the main characters the author emphasized in his novel. He mirrors several double standards and contradictory traits one of which was hypocrisy. The theme of hierocracy was conveyed through his views. It started with Pete's saving Jimmie (Maggie's brother) from the fight portraying a heroic attitude that he virtually lacks but utilizes it simply for approaching Maggie and abusing her. Another attitude of Pete was narrated by Crane in this novel as he stated that "An'body treats me right, I allus trea's zem right!" (Crane, 1893, p.56). Pete's claims and boasting about treating people kindly, especially women are absolutely in opposition to how he treated Maggie. Indeed, Pete treated her in an unkind manner by exploiting her, which denies his claims. The theme of religion was one of the mutual and significant themes in *The Great Gatsby* and *Maggie: A Girl of The Streets*.

This theme is portrayed by the two authors, also was affected by the time difference as shown in each novel. In Fitzgerald's *Gatsby*, the theme of religion was depicted through its role. The question is, "what is the role and effect of religion in this novel anyway"? The role embodied in the author's description of God as a "Watcher" (Fitzgerald, 1925, p.167), which in turn implies a sense of being under the judgment or control of an omnipotent and punishing creator, as a matter of fact. The waning color of God in *Gatsby* is a clue for the loss of the religious belief, especially for Tom, Gatsby, and Daisy. There was no effect of the religious conceptions on their decisions, nor on their behaviors throughout the novel's events.

The characters' beliefs are pictured through their attitudes. Hence, the religious beliefs were missing or unidentified, for it was related to their moral standards. They cared about not being seen, but they did not care about being guilty. These characters' beliefs were related to their materialistic abilities and their power to materialize their desires. Furthermore, their beliefs were shaped through corruption and aspiration, which culminated in the formation of godless characters as was represented in their behaviors. Unlike the other characters that mirrored religiosity and not being committed to ethical standards and values, George Wilson was a believer.

George is faithful to Myrtle besides his attitude that accounts for a more robust set of morals and devout mindset. George does not appear to be a drinker, nor does he attend the parties such as the ones Gatsby makes, unlike the other characters who do. Wilson did not express any attitude that was built upon the physical or sensual desires either. He appreciates honesty, which is one of the most missing traits in the other characters, like in Daisy, Gatsby, Tom and the narrator, Nick.

The theme of religion in the novel *Maggie: A Girl of the Streets* is embodied in several forms related to the social and family circumstances as well as living conditions of the nineteenth-century American society, especially the immigrant's living conditions- the people who lived in Bowery region, the slums of New York City. The circumstances shaped their beliefs and moral standards, as portrayed by the author. The theme of religion is depicted in the church's role in the novel. The church supported and fed the Irish Catholic immigrants. Additionally, it encouraged them to make more children while they did not have a stable income source. The church symbol and its role referred to the fact that religion keeps people in poor conditions and can delude them. They could not afford meeting their basic living needs nor did they have a decent education to elevate them financially. Thus, they were doomed to be suffering in the slums.

They did no religious practice; they got drunk most of the time and committed violent acts against the religious teachings. Furthermore, there seemed to be a loss of religious faith among the various characters in *Gatsby*. Religion took form from the characters' attitudes, such as the behavior of Maggie's mother when she saw her daughter as a "sinner" and realized her sexual relationship with Pete.

Hence, it shows the double standards mentality of the characters as it was reflected in their behaviors like Marry the mother of Maggie. Marry rejects her daughter's behavior and overlooks her own behaviors and even her son's Jimmie behaviors.

This statement of "sinner" also confirms the religious belief about the rejection of physical relationship out of marriage. The physical relationship was regarded as one of the taboos even for a person like Marry, Maggie's mother. Marry expresses unreligious attitudes, whether through violence or drinking liquor. The religious theme was built upon the double standards of the characters. These characters revealed specific types of taboos and rejected the other types of them. Moreover, the religion theme was shaped as a social issue embodied in the characters' behavior and was related to ignorance as an influential factor. The lack of religious standards was also embodied through the symbols as both authors portrayed.

Fitzgerald in *The Great Gatsby* portrays this matter as a theme and developed it through the symbols such as the eyes of DR. T.J Eckleburg. This character was watching the behaviors of the characters, especially the main characters since they were careful not to be seen, but they will not be concerned if they are guilty. Hence, it shows the lack of religious faith as one of the social concerns in that era. The old billboard of the eyes symbolized DR. T. J Eckleburg's eyes, which watched whatever the characters do. Moreover, the Valley of Ashes was one of the religious symbols as well. The Valley of Ashes was one of this island parts resembling in its role the difference between the two parts of the island. In another term it symbolizes the difference between paradise and hell.

While in Crane's *Maggie*, the symbols also play a significant role in creating the religious metaphors. The names of the characters were one of these symbols. To illustrate, the name of the protagonist's mother, Mary, resembled the name of Virgin Mary in the New Testament. Hence, it symbolizes that Mary has no sin and is blameless, while the name of Maggie resembled Mary Magdalene. The protagonist's name is another name from the Bible. This name refers to the innocence of the protagonist and that how the society overshadowed and determined her fate.

These symbols, alongside the color symbols are of a pivotal role in *Maggie* and *Gatsby*. Moreover, there are mutual symbols such as the golden color in both

novels. In addition to symbols, there are mutual themes, such as the theme of violence, religion and alcoholism. The theme of isolation was embodied in the death of the protagonists together with its role in showing the social isolation the working class suffered from, which was determined by the dominant class. Hence, isolation as a theme was imaged through the death of each novel's protagonist, whether it was *Gatsby* and *Maggie*. To sum up, these themes and symbols played an essential role in portraying each literary work's social and economic situation despite the difference in the era between them.

Briefly, the thematic and symbolic effects are embodied in shaping the economic and social situation. Moreover, it portrays the American Dream as the ideology the dominant class used to control the economic situation alongside the misconception of love as a social issue. These two factors were related to the historical circumstances the people lived in. These two novels were written in different eras that produced numerous concerns and conditions. Crane and Fitzgerald portrayed these circumstances through the symbols and themes imaging each novel's historical circumstances.

The difference of time and the mutuality between the major themes and symbols clarify the thematic and symbolic effect in each literary work. Hence, it proved the development of each period's circumstances as well as the expansion of the ideological devices such as the isolation. The significant themes in each novel were mutual both in *Gatsby* and *Maggie* despite their different influences. The central element was the economic condition as the main reason that shaped each era's features represented by the authors through the themes and symbols.

The characters represent the thematic and symbolic impact through the events that conveyed the socioeconomic impression that majority of these novel themes and symbols imaged. Most of them were social issues built upon the economic conditions either the economic conditions in *Gatsby* or the Wall Street condition or in Crane's *Maggie*, which demonstrated the poor economic conditions affected by the civil war in Crane's *Maggie* and the World War I in Fitzgerald's *Gatsby*. So, the symbol's role was equal to the role of the themes as it also imaged social matters.

Furthermore, it displays the difference of time role in showing the development of the ideology and its apparatuses. The Themes and symbols show the

American Dream ideology's effect on society through its devices mainly social isolation. In Crane's *Maggie*, the immigrants were living in the slums separated from the dominant class, while in Fitzgerald's *Gatsby*, it was developed to be hidden. Both social classes in *Gatsby* lived on the same island, which was divided into two parts East Egg and West Egg. The purpose was to reinforce the notion of American Dream via social equality, one of this ideology's false concepts. This ideology is related to the love misconception that is a social issue.

Hence, it mirrors the lack of moral standards and values affected by the American Dream ideology, either social ascendancy or accumulation of wealth. The American Dream and love misconception were depicted in the novel *Maggie: A Girl of the Streets* through the themes and symbols. Consequently, it shaped the socioeconomic situation that created the desire of the protagonist to achieve her dream. Maggie's dream was to change her social class. This dream leads to the downfall of the protagonists depicting the end of chasing The American Dream.

Therefore, it proves the effectiveness of the themes and symbols in depicting the socioeconomic situation through the events of this literary work. The theme of morality was represented as one of the social issues alongside the alcoholism theme as an evil habit plus the effect of symbols such as religion and violence. The influence of each novel theme portrayed the relationship between the social and economic situation. It illustrated that the themes showed the American Dream created by the industrial business owners to accumulate their wealth by having low wage laborers.

Simultaneously, the misconception of love is to achieve the American Dream, which shows the economic system effect on society. On the other hand, the symbols such as the names of the characters in Crane's *Maggie* imaged the religious aspect and its lack as it was a social issue. In Fitzgerald's *Gatsby*, it was more developed as the characters cared about not being seen but to be guilty. Hence, it shows the development of the socioeconomic issues. This development of the social issues specifically is shown through the symbol of Dr. T. J. Eckleburg's eyes, which refer to the God's eyes watching the characters' sins and guilts. Therefore, the symbols and themes depict the development of the socioeconomic issues in these periods of each novel.

CONCLUSION AND RESULTS

The study consists of a review of Marxism in its first part as it is the dominant theory in this study, it was created due to the industrial revolution, which is the conflict between the dominant class and the working class. This conflict happens due to the economic conditions and its effects on society. Hence, it produces social inequality that in itself culminates in social conflict. Furthermore, the domination of the bourgeoisie over the industrial business creates this social inequality. The domination of the bourgeoisie over the industrial business is known by the capitalism. Capitalism is the reverse of Marxism which was illustrated in the first part of this study.

Capitalism is the private ownership of business like the industrial business. Hence, the capitalists will grow richer while the repressed class who will be used as low wage laborers in the bourgeoisie's factories will be poorer. On the other hand, Marxism chants the slogan of social equality. According to Marx and his proponents, the industrial business should be common for all the members of society not by a group of people in order to achieve the social justice and parity. The capitalist's ideology in a Marxist's term is the reason of the social conflict. This ideology is to increase the dominant class fortune by exploiting the working class for the benefit of bourgeoisie.

Capitalism has a lot to do with the feudal system as it forced the farmers to leave their lands they had worked on for centuries and immigrate to the cities to work as low wage laborers in the factories. The capitalism and its ideology were developed due to specific historical events such as the immigration; the progress of capitalism was represented in this study through the difference of the immigration movements according to each novel's era whether in Fitzgerald's *Gatsby* or Crane's *Maggie*. As shown in Crane's *Maggie*, it was the exploitation of the Irish immigrants, while in *The Great Gatsby* it disclosed the exploitation of the farmers.

This exploitation and the purpose behind it shows the bond between the capitalism and the feudal system through the feudal system role in reinforcing the capitalism and the capitalist ideology. On the other hand, Marxism was built upon equality and the purpose of sharing the industrial business and not to be owned by a specific class of society. Marxism was developed also through several studies in order to clarify the reasons of the social conflict and Marxism's relationship to the literature. The studies that developed Marxism are the ones, which focus on the economic system. As the economic system is the base of Marxism, it creates the ideology as well. The role of ideology is shaping the society through the superstructure, which conveys the ideologies to the society.

To illuminate, the superstructure deals with the cultural activities; hence, it supports the base and its ideologies. Therefore, Marx and the Marxist thinkers believe that these aspects are principles of Marxism. In a rather easy language, the society and its form are due to the economic system and the determination of the bourgeoisie over economy. Furthermore, they determine the living conditions of the people like the working class through the effect of economic system on society. The effect of the economic system on society was illustrated in different studies.

Hence, it develops Marxism through the base and its ideology as Marx postulates, "it is not the consciousness of men that determines their being, but, on the contrary, their social being that determines their consciousness" (Marx, 1970, p.37). Karl Marx here discussed the effect of economic system on society also the social effect on the individuals and their fates. The effect of economic system happens through several stages such as the ideology and its apparatuses. The capitalist's ideology and its apparatuses were developed over the time and the historical events such as the social isolation. The ideology is related to the apparatuses of it, such as The American Dream in Crane's *Maggie* and Fitzgerald's *Gatsby* and the social isolation that was developed due to the difference of time.

The second part sheds light on the historical background of these two literary works in conjunction with how the authors of *The Great Gatsby* and *Maggie: A Girl of the streets* imaged it also, the relationship between these circumstances and Marxism. The writers of these novels portrayed historical circumstances such as the economic system. On the other hand, the ideologies, which are the dominant ideas,

were mostly conveyed through the superstructure. The dominant social class determined these aspects. Hence, the dominant class shaped American society's moral standards and values through ideology and economic situation.

This effect is embodied through the love misconception and its role through the types of love misconception. The relationship between The American Dream and the misconception of love was illustrated by the characters of these two literary works. The existence of love misconception clarified the corruption of the moral standards and values of American society. The main characters depicted the love misconception purposes whether it was a social ascendancy like Gatsby did or for both reasons, which were social ascendancy and wealth increscent as Maggie did.

Thus, they attempt to achieve it through the misconception of love. As a result, the purpose of this love misconception was to accomplish The American Dream that was embodied either in wealth accumulation or social ascendancy. The misconception of love holds an authorial message that was showing the social corruption. The American Dream ideology was built upon the illusion of social justice. Henceforth, social justice creates the possibility of achieving individual success without considering the origin or the social background of the people; the man could achieve his dreams through arduous work only. This concept was denied throughout the stages the protagonists went through. In these literary works, both were seeking social ascendancy proving the injustice of American society

On the other hand, denying the hard work to achieve the American Dream is proved by the Careers of both protagonists whether in Fitzgerald's *Gatsby* and Crane's *Maggie*. They illustrated the moral corruption and the lack of values since both attempted to achieve their dreams via immoral and illegal activities whether by Gatsby, who was working in bootlegging or by Maggie, who attempted to achieve it through prostitution. The role of love misconception mirrored the social situation. Furthermore, it showed the morals and values affected by The American Dream and the desire to achieve it.

Consequently, the love misconception is related to the American Dream through its role. It shows the impact of The American Dream on society that is one of the Marxist fundamentals alongside the economic situation. The love misconception reflected the moral standards and values that were affected by the American Dream.

The protagonists of these two literary works used it as one of the paths to achieve their American Dream. Therefore, the love misconception and its types were pertinent to the American Dream together with its existence and presence. Through the role of the base and ideology, the Marxist approach was clarified in these two novels. Crane and Fitzgerald showed the dominant class purpose in applying this ideology, especially due to the historical events of each one of these novels 'eras of production.

The period of these novels' production images the civil war in Crane's *Maggie* and the World War I in Fitzgerald's *Gatsby*. Alongside these events, there was industrial revolution which the writers also imaged; the major purpose of dominant class was to control the economic situation that affected the society. They imaged the instability of the economic situation. One of the clues about the purpose of the dominant class was that the bourgeoisie characters in each novel were not attempting to achieve The American Dream, such as Tom and Daisy in *The Great Gatsby* and Pete in *Maggie*.

In Crane's novel, he displays the reason for Maggie's desire behind her relationship with Pete that was being in a better social class; so, showing the social class differences. Also, the social class difference was shown through Pete's character features such as his clothes as Crane's showed him well-dressed alongside the role of the places where he took Maggie to, such as the theatres, music halls, and bars. Consequently, she considered him as a member of the upper class. The dominant class determined and controlled the social situation through the economic system and the ideology of The American Dream built upon the false fact of social justice. Furthermore, through this ideology, they wanted to have low wage workers that will have a role in the increase of the dominant class fortune.

The superstructure's role is to support the base's ideology. The base of Marxism is the economic system. The ideologies such as The American Dream were determined by the dominant class. Hence, the superstructure of Marxism is related to the ideology as these ideologies were conveyed through cultural activities. The American Dream affected the moral standards and values too. It created social issues such as immorality and irresponsibility. Therefore, the ideology was determined by Marxism and by the dominant class for economic benefits.

The Marxist approach is portrayed through these two literary works' events whether it was the social or the economic situation alongside the ideology of the American Dream and its existence. Both novels expressed mutuality in certain aspects, such as the social and economic issues. Also, the relationship between the American Dream and love misconception was illustrated. As through this study, the love misconception is related to the American Dream through the purposes of the characters; therefore, it shows economic effect on society. That was imaged through the attitude of the protagonists as Maggie looks for the social ascendancy and fortune augmenting. On the other hand, Gatsby wanted social ascendancy, which denies social justice in American society.

This illustrates the untrue fact that the American Dream was built upon the equality of chances and social classes, which was denied by the protagonists' attempts to be in a more decent social class, whether it was Maggie or Gatsby. Hence, it denied equality of chances also social equality. This denial was approved through their attempts to realize their American Dream through immoral and illegal works. Since they believed it would be the way to fulfill their Dreams. That substantiates the inequality of the American social structure. Moreover, one of these study points clarifies the relationship between the love misconception and The American Dream.

Maggie and Gatsby want to be in a better social class. Hence, they believed they could achieve that by being with a person from the upper class. Whether it was Pete, whom Maggie believed could be the person with whom she can achieve the social ascendancy by being with him. Or Gatsby, who believed that Daisy is the right person to accomplish his purpose. Therefore, the love misconception is related to The American Dream by the chain of purposes and reasons of existence such as the social situation in which the misconception of love was one of its depictions through these two literary works' events.

The dominant class determines the American Dream ideology; the authors showed that through immigration and its purpose. There were immigration movements of the Irish people in Crane's *Maggie*, while in Fitzgerald's *Gatsby*; the immigration was from the countryside to the cities like New York. The dominant class used them to augment their fortune. These immigrants could not blend in with

society; they were isolated. Hence, social structure was not equal. Gatsby was rejected due to his social background, and Maggie was one of the Irish people who was held back from a decent education and career. This clarifies the ideology and the base of Marxism through the historical background of Crane's *Maggie* and Fitzgerald's *Gatsby*.

The purpose of American Dream is also clarified through a crucial point, which the current study shed light on it. In both masterpieces, the protagonists were imaged to belong to a humble social background and were affected and attracted to The American Dream. It was shown through the love misconception depicting the social situation or through their illegal and immoral careers that imaged the catastrophic economic and social circumstances. The American Dream's purpose was to control the economic system for the benefit of the dominant class.

The isolation is represented in both novels in Fitzgerald's *Gatsby* as the city was divided into two parts: the East Egg and the West Egg. Each part is different from the other the difference was related to the social class and historical background. The West Egg is where Gatsby was living. And the East Egg where Tom and Daisy lived. The isolation was also shown through the terms "old money" and "new money" embodied in Gatsby. On the other hand, Tom exemplified the old money who inherited his fortune from his family signifying rich blood. In contrast, Gatsby was a new self-made person who had made his fortune recently. Therefore, it shows the isolation the working class and the immigrants faced in this novel.

In Crane's *Maggie*, the Irish people live in the slums of New York City; they were isolated from the other social classes. This isolation sculpted specific issues such as prostitution also crime, and lack of education, these two literary imaged social injustices. Furthermore, the purpose of the dominant class behind the ideology of The American Dream was to control the economic situation, also support the industrial revolution. Consequently, it affected the social situation through these immigrants 'anguish and suffering. The bourgeoisies used them as low wage workers to benefit from increasing wealth, once more substantiating the Marxist approach.

The authors of these two literary works reflect the economic effect on society through each novel's events alongside The American Dream ideology and its inevitable consequences in consort with the relationship between The American

Dream and the love misconception in Fitzgerald's *Gatsby* and Crane's *Maggie*. They imaged these aspects through the themes, and as well they did through the symbols. These literary devices portrayed Marxism's base, which is the economic situation, and The American Dream ideology's effect on the values and moral standards. The social situation has been shown through the role of love misconception and its types.

These themes are represented by Crane such as the theme of morality in his masterpiece. This theme imaged the social issues of the 18th century in the United States of America. Those were created by the isolation and immigration movement. These aspects altered and shaped their moral standards and values. They lived in underprivileged circumstances in the slums of New York City. The theme of morality was reflected through the attitude and behaviors of the main character in this novel, and as it was notable, it was affected by the economic situation.

On the other hand, it shows the relationship between the economic and social situations imaged through each novel in addition to their relationship with the ideology embodied in The American Dream. What is more, their effects on the moral standards and values have been reflected by the existence of the love misconception. Crane showed that by the protagonists' desire to achieve The American Dream at the expense of her ignoring the moral standards and values. Consequently, through the attitudes and beliefs of the characters, Crane represented the theme of morality. The morality theme reflected their beliefs and behaviors. It also existed in Fitzgerald's *Gatsby* due to the socioeconomic issues reflected through the character's mindsets.

The theme of morality is depicted in both literary works, whether Fitzgerald's *Gatsby* or Crane's *Maggie*. The theme captured the social situation. It captured the moral norms and values through characters' attitudes and behaviours all the way through the events of each novel. Also, show the economic situation and how it was affected society. Hence, it shaped the Marxist approach. Besides, the theme of morality and romance captured the social situation through the role of love misconception. This theme reflected American society's moral standards and values in these two literary works' eras of production.

Also, the theme of violence has been represented in both novels accounting for the poignant social circumstances generated by the horrendous economic system. That clarifies the link between these two aspects, just like the connection between

these factors and the ideology. As a matter of fact, the ideology and its devices were embodied in these novels. It affected the social situation, especially through the moral standards and values. The themes of violence and brutality was related to the economic situation and was affected by it whether in *The Great Gatsby* after the crash of Wall Street and World War I or Crane's *Maggie* after the civil war, as well as the immigration movements in these novels.

Additionally, the themes of morality, violence, romance and alcoholism are prevalent in these literary works demonstrating the social problems particularly racism. In Fitzgerald's *Gatsby*, the racism theme was divided into two forms: race and nativity. While in *Maggie*, the form of it was the nativity, which is the apartheid social class and background. These themes captured the social issues at each one of these two novel's eras. On the other hand, there were significant and mutual themes and symbols that showed the development of social issues such as the theme of violence, religion and alcoholism.

These themes represent the thematic effect through the mutuality and difference between them due to each novel's historical circumstances such as the racism in different forms in Crane's *Maggie* and Fitzgerald's *Gatsby*. The theme of morality alongside the theme of romance reveals the social conditions at each period. While the major themes are mutual such as religion, alcoholism, the violence and hypocrisy which captured the development of social issues. On the other hand, the symbols showed the same aspects that themes captured such as the names which symbolized the religion and the loss of it along with the colors, which were effective in their role in capturing the historical circumstances.

The symbolic effect has a role whether in *The Great Gatsby* or *Maggie: A Girl of the Streets*. It images the social and economic conditions. It seized the moral standards and values even the ideology; a proper case in point is the green color of the light in the bay of Daisy's house in *The Great Gatsby*. It represented The American Dream and the protagonist's purpose to attain it by achieving Daisy, which for Gatsby meant the social ascendancy. This color reflected the American Dream and the social situation that was also overshadowed by this ideology.

In Fitzgerald's *Gatsby*, the green color represents the new money. This term was held by the protagonist, who was a new self-made person to show the difference

between the social classes. On the contrary, the golden color resembled the old money people such as Tom, who inherited their fortune from their rich blood family. As can be seen, the colors represented the social and economic status. The social situation was related to the specialization that embodied in the old money people and the new money ones and their role in society. At the same time, the economic situation also embodied in the new money term and green color symbol presence due to Gatsby's new fortune obtained as it defines the dollar's color, which is the new money.

The golden one is the old money people and their purpose of controlling the economic situation through the new economic conditions by using the immigrants as low wage laborers. While in Crane's *Maggie*, the colors had another role, such as the red color that imaged the violence and sexual aspects. Hence, it showed the social situation also the golden color that represented The American Dream for Maggie by being with Pete. The religious symbols had a role in both masterpieces, such as DR.T.J. Eckleburg in Fitzgerald's *Gatsby* or the names of the characters in Crane's *Maggie*.

These two masterpieces are of major themes and symbols such as love misconception along with social and economic conditions that imaged the American Dream. One of the notable points in these two masterpieces was reflecting the Marxist approach by referring to the economic problems as well as the rising social issues. Also, it showed the ideology's development and its mechanism, such as the isolation and its expansion through the theme of racism. The symbolic and thematic effect represented the purpose of the capitalist ideology controlling the economic system.

Alcoholism is one of the major themes depicted in both masterpieces, which imaged the social evils and disastrous economic situation. The difference is that this theme in Fitzgerald's *Gatsby* has more to do with the economic situation. It was one reason for the protagonist's recent fortune, while in *Maggie*, it was a social issue related to poverty; alongside it, the hypocorism theme as a social issue portrayed the suffering social situation in both novels. Additionally, the theme of religion was a depiction of the social situation and economy as well. While the golden color was a major symbol, the symbol of religion was equally significant. These symbols and

themes reflected the progress of the state of affairs whether socially or economically confirming the Marxist approach.

The various symbols of religion are remarkable throughout these novels. The names of the characters in Crane's *Maggie* depicted the social situation and characters' dominant mentality. While in Fitzgerald's *Gatsby*, the effect grew more significant due to the social situation in this novel era of production since the author represented it through the eyes of DR.T.J. Eckleburg. How it watches the characters' behavior shows the most notable feature in that society: the lack of manners through the difference of the religious symbols.

The difference of the religious symbols signifies the social situation as in Fitzgerald's *Gatsby*, the characters ignored the religious aspect and cared about not being seen. On the contrary, in Crane's *Maggie*, the society was affected by the conditions of life such as poverty which created the lack of religious standards while the major symbols, such as the colors, were imaging mutual aspects, reflecting the development of these issues, whether it was a social or economic one such as the golden color that showed The American Dream in *Maggie*, while in *Gatsby*, it symbolized one of the specialization forms between the social classes and the difference between the working class and the dominant class, which is the new and old money, even Gatsby's car which is yellow referred to his desire to achieve his dream and join the old money social class.

Alongside the red color in *Maggie*, it symbolizes sexuality and violence as well. The mutuality was due to their role in showing the ideology's development which affects society through the superstructure. The mutual point is that these themes symbolized mostly the social issues of each time despite its different forms. The combination of the events, symbols and themes showed each epoch's conditions, the role of ideology, its devices and the development of these aspects due to the economic effects on society. Therefore, it mirrors the social conflict that is one of the controversial issues in Marxism resulting in the relationship between Marxism and literature through this study, so to speak.

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