



Free Essay Samples **Critical Analysis Of “The Grape Of Wrath”**

Introduction

The Grapes of Wrath is a novel and a movie written in 1939 by Jon Steinbeck who was born in 1902. The writer's intention was to reuse his readers against those in who were responsible for the poverty of the people of American in the early 1930s. It tells us of the story of one of the migrant farmers from the family of Joad from Oklahoma to California. Despite being a great story which even won the Academy Award winning movies in 1940, it had received a lot of criticism and even called communist propaganda and banned from use in many schools because of its vulgar language (Dr.Zavari, 2006). In a nutshell, the story talks of how the center of finance of United States of America crushed in 1929 due to poor governance of President Hoover then which lasted in 1933. As a result of this depression, it led to unemployment of six million people, a collapse of much business, closure of banks and other financial institutions. It also resulted into much homeless and lived in camps. It also the time the writer tells of that the farmers were hit by critical drought, in the wake of this thousands of people left and headed to California where people heard that it was a golden state for jobs, fruits, and green land. Joad family also leaves Oklahoma for California since they have been tenant farmers for many years

Social Philosophy

Steinbeck presents social philosophy in the “The Grapes of Wrath” in a complex and contradictory manner. The primary social theory by Jim Casy that was acted by Ma Joad and later realized by Tom Joad is one that is depicted as the so-called little people in the community who try to come together against the wealthy (Steinbeck, 2006). The social philosophy in these movies maintains that survival for disadvantaged individuals in the society requires coming together to get strength for unity and action.

The Structure of the Grapes of Wrath

The Grapes of Wrath uses different interesting techniques to pass its messages to its readers and listeners. It uses short sketches and narratives or some informative discussions that shows the how the condition at that time was, and activities people were doing which creates the mood to its viewers while watching the film. The techniques depicted in chapter three where the story of a land turtle that was crossing the highway. It shows how the turtle struggles up the embankments to cross the road avoiding the dead. In the following chapter, Tom Joad is seen picking up the turtle, but the turtle tries to escape several times as he tries to catch and it hits until the enemy pass it until he gives up. The film viewer sympathizes with the turtle for its persistent creature.

The fore-shadow of Tom Joads family in which the audience of the film sympathizes with the turtle shifts, the Joads family will not give up. In the end, the turtle is not happy neither is the family of Joad, but both survives despite all the encounters.

Another interesting technique in the “The Grapes of Wrath” that Steinbeck uses is seen in chapter seven of his novel and as in the movies (In Bloom, 2009). At this point, the car salesman is seen selling his old second car to the migrants. In this scene, he uses short descriptive phrases without predicting the thoughts of the car seller. Steinbeck uses this short descriptive phrases to bring to the attention of his viewers on the urgency of the car seller to sell his old broken car on the other the urgent need of migrants to by the car to take them to California. Instance, Steinbeck quickly gives the introduction of the used car lot with only a few short words.

Conclusion

Steinbeck understood the idea of the dream of America and wrote about it in a simple style and understandable language. For this, it earned him a lot of prizes including the Nobel Prize for literature in 1962 and the Pulitzer Prize in 1940. Up to

date Steinbeck in his famous movies “The Grapes of Wrath” is greatly remembered due to real stories and challenges that people faced. The Grapes of Wrath has become one of the most famous movies in America owing to its achievement. The film continues to be influential in the modern society.

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1. Dr.Zavari. (2006). Critical analysis of The Grapes of Wrath by John Steinbeck.
 2. In Bloom, H. (2009). John Steinbeck's The grapes of wrath. New York: Chelsea.
 3. Steinbeck, J. (2006). *The grapes of wrath*. Penguin.