

The Concept of Soft Misogyny in Ihsan Abdel Quddous's Novel "*The Black Glasses*"



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Abstract

Misogyny is a belief or attitude rooted in deep social, cultural, and historical biases against women. Across history, it has been sustained through various forms of discrimination, violence, and subjugation, influencing not only social life but also cultural production, literature, and even legal and economic structures. As a form of inequality, misogyny requires careful analysis to clarify its social and cultural dimensions. Given the novel's capacity to reflect social realities, fiction provides a suitable context for examining misogyny and its effects on attitudes and behaviors. One work particularly apt for such an inquiry is Ihsan Abdel Quddous's *The Black Glasses*, which is set in traditional Egyptian society and offers a nuanced portrayal of women's status and the ways characters and society perceive women. This study aims to analyze the effects of misogyny on culture, society, and human relations, and to elucidate the formation of related attitudes and behaviors. Using a descriptive-analytical method, the authors examine the selected novel to identify and analyze manifestations of soft misogyny. The findings indicate that Abdel Quddous employs elements of soft misogyny to depict behaviors harmful to women and, by creating psychological and social tensions, presents a realistic portrait of women's situation in Egyptian society—women subjected to male dominance and constrained by cultural and social limitations.

Keywords: Novel; Ihsan Abdel Quddous; Woman; Misogyny; *The Black Glasses*.

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