

**Depictions of the Shattered Human Lives in the  
World of Human Trafficking in *One Among Us* by  
Paige Dearth and *A Walk Across the Sun* by Corban  
Addison**

**Dissertation submitted to the Central University in partial  
fulfilment of the degree of**

**Master of Arts**

**In**

**English**

**By**

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Bathinda May 2018**

## Declaration

I declare that the dissertation entitled “Depictions of the Shattered Human Lives in the World of Human Trafficking in *One Among Us* by Paige Dearth and *A Walk Across the Sun* by Corban Addison” has been prepared by me under the guidance of Dr. Dinesh Babu P. Assistant Professor, Department of Languages and Literature, School of Languages Literature and Culture, Central University of Punjab. No part of this dissertation has formed the basis for the award of any degree or fellowship previously.

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## Certificate

I certify that Mr. Vinoy K. V. has prepared his dissertation entitled “Depictions of the Shattered Human Lives in the World of Human Trafficking in *One Among Us* by Paige Dearth and *A Walk Across the Sun* by Corban Addison” in partial fulfilment of the award of M.A. degree in English from the Central University of Punjab, under my guidance. He has carried out this work at the Department of Languages and Literature, School of Languages Literature and Culture, Central University of Punjab.

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## Abstract

Depictions of the Shattered Human Lives in the World of Human Trafficking in *One Among Us* by Paige Dearth and *A Walk Across the Sun* by Corban Addison

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The present study deals with the literary representation of the issues of human trafficking and its impact in the lives of human beings. *One Among Us* by Paige Dearth and *A Walk Across the Sun* by Corban Addison highlight the different aspects of human trafficking industry wherein sex trafficking become a common source for power, money and source of sexual gratification. Both the novels open before us the hidden realities of trafficking industry that seem to be thriving despite its diabolic nature. The study focuses on analysing the way in which various dimensions of trafficking industry is presented in the novel. It explores the traumatic conditions of the young victims of trafficking, and the destruction it causes in family and social structures. It also tries to analyse the exploitive web of trafficking industry that has an orientation towards sex, power, money and pleasure. By analysing the novels based in India and America, it tries to identify the universal nature of trafficking and the differences in the representations of it in both the novels. While analysing through the lenses of Freud's psychoanalysis theory, it gives the impression that both of these novels depict the space of trafficking world as a world of disoriented human mind where there is a struggle between the Id, Ego and Super Ego. Id, traffickers, seems to be thriving over

the restrictions of Ego and Super Ego that ultimately leads to the destruction of the whole system. Corban Addison and Paige Dearth expose the human trafficking world as a cancerous growth that can shake the foundations of a peaceful and civilized society.

By: Vinoy K.V.

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# Chapter 1

## Introduction

Human trafficking is one of the most compelling issues of the time and it turns out to be “[...] the globe’s fastest-growing crime”(Couch 2017). There is a popular notion that the slavery, which has created a widespread destruction in Africa and in other third world countries, has come to an end during 20th century, but the Global Slavery Index 2016 compiled by the Australia-based Walk Free Foundation estimates that more than 45 million people are still in slavery in 21st Century and human trafficking is the worst form of it (29). Human trafficking assumes the modern form of slavery that curbs the basic human rights of people, especially of women and children, across the globe. Human trafficking is an organized crime of capturing, buying and selling of human beings for the purpose of economic benefit and for sexual exploitation. Article 3 of United Nations’ “Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime” defines human trafficking as,

[...] the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation. Exploitation should include, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organ. (42)

As one analyses the recent incidents of human trafficking, it is found that there is a general tendency that the victims are either from poor economic background- who could not have any means to meet the daily livelihood or are the victims of any catastrophe or natural disaster that pulls the children and women to the public as destitutes and susceptible. Here many of them are being deceived into it while in search of getting a proper job or shelter. On the other hand, many such incidents reveal that there are many traffickers who execute this crime solely for the purpose

of satisfying their hunger for sex, and apart from finding pleasure in raping the victims repeatedly, they submit the victims before others for economic benefit.

Exploitation of human being is the prime motto of human trafficking. Press and other media, and various international agencies make continuous attempts to exterminate this evil from the society. For example, in January 2018, people across the world were evoked by an open protest of a Pakistani news anchor who hosted a news bulletin by keeping her child on her lap in protest of the rape and brutal murder of a seven-year-old minor girl in Pakistan. The incidents of trafficking, rape and murder are increasing day by day, and this issue becomes a great shame for the whole world.

India has the largest number of modern day slaves in the world. As per the Global Slavery Index 2016, in the offenders list India is one of the top four countries where bonded labour, human trafficking, forced marriages, prostitution increase day by day. According to Corban Addison, the writer of *A walk Across the Sun*, more than 1.2 Million children are enslaved by the sex trade in India and the torture they face is truly unthinkable (Addison 2011). Apart from that, the trafficked children are used for many exploitative purposes such as forced labour, child soldiers, removal of organs, forced begging, drug trade etc. An estimate made by the Department of Health and Human Services, USA and the U.S. Department of State says that “[...] around 600,000 to 800,000 people get baited by the traffickers and end up as victims of human trafficking by crossing international borders”(As qtd. by Ranjana 26). Generally, women and children face inhumane physical or sexual torture, mental abuse and economic exploitation in a severe manner because of their helpless and vulnerable conditions. Thus, the sex trafficking chains get “[...] momentum day by day. It also involves sex tourism which engulfs regions of south East Asia and countries like Japan, Nepal, Thailand, and Vietnam etc. These generally serve as destination countries where the trafficked women and girls are transported to and then further put into tyrannical jobs” (Huda as cited by Ranjana 31). Further, “[i]t is estimated that 80 per cent of sex workers nationwide, representing 16 million women, are victims of sex trafficking. Kidnapped or lured from their homes, they have been forced into sexual slavery through a combination of coercion, torture, starvation and rape” (Kara 7). Even in the recent study of UNODC(United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime), Global Report on Trafficking in Persons 2016 , states that

[...] no country is immune from trafficking in persons...More than 500 different trafficking flows were detected between 2012 and 2014. Countries in Western and Southern Europe detected victims of 137 different citizenships. Affluent areas – such as Western and Southern Europe, North America and the Middle East - detect victims from a large number of countries around the world. Trafficking victims from countries in Sub-Saharan Africa and East Asia are trafficked to a wide range of destinations.

(6)

Thus, it is evident that human trafficking has become a major epidemic across the globe that carves out universal peace and harmony. Here, the victims are deprived of their sense of freedom by constant threat of violence, infliction of psychological fear and torture, threat to family etc. So American President Donald Trump comments that human trafficking is the “modern form of the oldest and most barbaric type of exploitation” (The New York Times 19 Jan 2018). Many international agencies such as UNODC, ILO, The Emancipation Network, Anti-Slavery international, Free the Slaves, A 21Campaign, The Emancipation Network etc. work for combating human trafficking, but still it is prevailing in different forms. There needs to be a widespread activity to eradicate this social evil and it is necessary to have proper awareness of its various stages of growth and proliferation. Proper awareness is necessary for the prevention of this social evil. Till now a number of studies have been conducted on human trafficking, and the mainstream newspapers and magazines have published a number of articles to unravel the horrors of trafficking.

In this scenario, literature has its own significance. Literature has the ability to capture and reflect on different aspects of a society out of which a particular work evolves. Literature can expose and act as an eye opener to the evils and immoralities of a society with the purpose of correcting it. In this way, Literature has an important role in the development of the society by shaping its culture. For example, in the mid-19th century, this aspect of literature was clearly evident in the form of social problem novel in Great Britain “[...] which examined specific abuses and hardships which affected the working classes. These included many of the topics which were simultaneously being exposed by non-fictional writers on social issues, such as poor housing and sanitation; conditions in factories; child labour; the exploitation of seam- stresses; and the exhausting nature of agricultural

labour” (“Social problem novel” Encyclopaedia Britannica). Later the term also included the issues of poverty, exploitation and even prostitution. Here, the author usually builds his work on a harrowing social problem. In the 21st Century one can see the traces of this genre in the literature on human trafficking, since it exposes the horrors of human trafficking and sexual slavery, and the author expects the reader to take a stand against this issues. For example, the novels like *One Among Us* by Paige Dearth and *A Walk Across the Sun* by Corban Addison appeal to the readers by depicting the issue of human trafficking, and evoke the social conscience towards the evils of the society and thereby aims to eradicate it.

In the present study, I would like to explore a contemporary Indian and American novel such as *One Among Us* by Paige Dearth and *A Walk Across the Sun* by Corban Addison. These novels deal with the issues of child trafficking, which have huge psychological and emotional impact on human lives and become perilous when the trafficking assumes the form of child labour and sexual slavery. The selected novels deal with the various aspects of child trafficking through the haunting lives of children who are forcefully trafficked across national and international borders. The novels also throw light on the circumstances that lead to the increase of brothel houses and sexual crimes. This study seeks to analyze the representations of human trafficking by exploring the depictions of the tragic condition of its victims, the savage attitude of their traffickers and structure of the society in which this issue prevails. Both of these novels focus on mainly on the sex trafficking industry which is the worst evil form of human trafficking. Hence, while focusing on the sex trafficking both the writers give an overall view of the functioning of human trafficking that prevails one place to another. There lots of similarities in the novel and both of these novel as a whole covers most of the aspect of human trafficking industry, ranging from the impact of the victims to the exploitive web of trafficking. This study aims at highlighting the importance of literature in exposing the evil aspects of society and to analyze the way the writers approach towards the subject. Hence, the study will be focusing on the reality of human trafficking incidents and representation of it in the art there by to see the contribution of literature to the growth and progress of society.

Here, the writers are also become significant as they seem to be presenting their soul through the novels. Both of the novelists have direct or indirect connection to the incidents presented in the novels. Among them Paige Dearth has greater affinity towards the character presented in the novel. Paige Dearth was born and brought up in Plymouth Meeting, a small town in Western Philadelphia. Her family was very poor, not even able to give her good schooling. She was taken care of by his maternal uncle, who sexually assaults her when she was only seven years old. Being a victim of sexual abuse and torture, she tried to spent rest of her life yearning for a better life. She finds consolation through writing stories. She always write about controversial topics and difficult subjects. Her important works include *Believe Like a Child*, *When Smiles Fade*, *One Among Us*, *Born Master* etc. She has become the finalist in the National Indie Excellence Book Awards in the thriller genre. She usually writes about real life horrors and she wants to bring change through her writing. "Paige aims to inspire her readers to think about the lifelong ramifications of traumatic childhood experiences"(Jenkins). As the novel also deals with the traumatic experiences of trafficked children one can find a personal attachment to the novel.

The novel *One Among Us*, published in 2014, begins with the kidnapping of an eleven year old Maggie by a cruel man named Myles who owns a trafficking mafia in Pennsylvania. She is imprisoned with other children, both boys and girls, and experiences harsh and merciless treatment of his owners that includes all sort of sexual and mental abuses. Despite of all her difficult circumstances she tries to comfort herself by her loving relation with other children and her habit of reading books provided by one of her customer. Maggie's life turns into a nightmare when she witnesses the brutal raping and killing of boys and girls who were her intimate friends. Later she was taken to another area with a new owner Rock, who prompts her to lead a life of prostitution. She ultimately ends up in a red light area of Philadelphia but still retains a hope of returning back to her home. When she was forced to do prostitution her life was comforted by her friend juju and the loving face of Seth who was with her from the early captivity. But her life become more miserable with the death of Seth affected by HIV virus. After a decade of her slavery Maggie finds a helping hand from a rescuing agency and she risks everything to break free of the cruel world of human trafficking. Maggie, with the help of her new friend Colby, returns back to life and reunites with the family.

Thus, she becomes the one among the children who succeeds in challenging and fighting against the world of child trafficking. The novel becomes more relevant as it unfolds the various aspects of human trafficking such as the harsh treatment faced by boys and girls, emotional struggles of their parents, cruel circumstances that pushes people to the underworld of human trafficking.

Corban Addison's novel *A Walk Across the Sun*, published in 2011, is based in Indian context. He has written the novel after his experience in with the human trafficking world in the Mumbai brothel district. He has a passion towards ensuring justice and peace around the world. Corban Addison was born in Washington in 1979. He works as an attorney, a journalist, and a freelance writer. He always tried to stand for humanitarian causes. His interest in travelling to different countries provided him with stories of real life situations. His ways of narration also seemed to be influenced by his lawyer profession and he presents the novel with an element of passion in it. His popular novels include *A Walk Across the Sun*, *The Garden of Burning Sand*, *The Tears of Dark Water*, *A Harvest of Thorns* etc. and most of his works deal with "the most pressing human right issues" ("Author Biography"). He always tried to expose the wrongs of the world and at the same time to glorify the people who works tirelessly to fight for the cause of the victims of evil forces. Through the novel *A Walk Across the Sun* he wants the people to be aware about human trafficking and grave consequences. Here, he presents Thomas, an attorney of U.S., who works sacrificially for rescuing the trafficked victim Sita. As we go through it we get a universal picture of trafficking business that spread across the world.

The novel *A Walk Across the Sun*, published in 2011, deals with the life of Sita and Ahalya, teenage girls of Tamilnadu, who are left orphaned and homeless by the Tsunami disaster. As they struggle to reach the convent where they studied, they are abducted by human traffickers who sold them to a brothel shop in Mumbai. When Ahalya was robbed of her innocence and virginity, her sister Sita was trafficked into different countries and forced into child labour. Her unending optimism helps her to stand courageously even in the midst of horrible circumstances. The story progresses as an American lawyer officer, named Thomas, who comes to India to work in a social organization (CASE, Coalition Against Sexual Exploitation) that works for the trafficked children in Mumbai. The bracelet, "Rakhi", Ahalya ties in the hands of Thomas with a plea to find her sister,

prompts him to go in search for Sita in different countries. His devotion to the duty entrusted by Ahalya helps him to save Sita from the cruel hands of brothel owners. At last the story ends with the reunion of Ahalya and her sister Sita.

Both these novels subtly deal with the issues of child trafficking and sexual exploitation, and it explicates the psychological trauma of its victims and sexual passion of the exploiters. Both novels are written in the third person point of view where the writer hopes to educate the society of the danger lies hidden in the society. Both the novels deal with the disturbing instances of trafficking in which the captivity of the protagonists such as Maggie, Ahalya and Sita is described and the novels end with the death bell of trafficking world that shows the writers hope for a better and peaceful world without any human right violation or exploitation. Here the writers openly expresses every brutal and disgusting aspects of child trafficking world such as pornography, description of violent rape scene, murder, drug addiction, brothel life etc. that make these works powerful and disturbing.

Through this study I would like to look at the depictions in contemporary literature of social issues in general and human trafficking particular. It would be a comparative study by comparing and contrasting the depictions of human trafficking in *A Walk Across the Sun* and *One Among Us* with the purpose to explore the psychological and emotional struggles faced by of the young victims of human trafficking, the depth of the disruption caused by human trafficking in families and society and the inner realms of human trafficking world to look at the psychological conditions of the trafficking mafia.

The study primarily has three core chapters that will be focusing separately on each aspects of the human trafficking issue represented in the novel. First core chapter would cover the representations in the two novels of the psychological and emotional trauma faced by the young victims of human trafficking. The novels also gives space to look into the struggles of the family and distortion of social structure so the second chapter would primarily focus on the representations in the two novels of the impact of human trafficking in family and societal structure and the third core chapter would be an in- depth study of the representations in the two novels of the inner spheres of child trafficking and mafia world. The concluding chapter would include summary of the major findings, and the similarities and

differences between the two novels in terms of the representations of human trafficking discussed in the three previous chapters will be given.

In order to achieve this objectives or to explore the novels in a systematic manner various methodologies would be used. Human trafficking is a complex issue having various dimensions of impact which can be analyzed by comparing and contrasting the novels as it is written in the context of India and America, thereby it helps to understand the nature of this issue across different nations. Since it is a social issue, case studies of the victims and the newspaper magazine article of human trafficking would be connected with the primary texts for understanding the representations in a comprehensible manner.

The world of human trafficking is an inhumane space where the savage nature of human mind is revealed, and people find pleasure in exploiting others brutally. Theory of psychoanalysis, especially of Freud, would be consulted in studying the hidden realms of human trafficking. Psychoanalysis is the study of the human mind which aims to analyze the nature of human being by “investigating the interaction of conscious and unconscious elements in the mind” (Barry 92). Austrian Medical Practitioner, Sigmund Freud is considered as the father of psychoanalysis. Various ideas and theories formulated by Freud, were evolved over a period of time. He had developed this theory as a part of the therapeutic technique practiced by him. He was greatly influenced by another Psychologist Joseph Breuer. From him he developed an idea of talking and listening cure where the hysterical patients are made to speak their hidden past memories through various mean. They believed that if the patients are allowed to speak they will be cured of their past traumatic experiences. From the patients he had identified the decisive role of unconscious in the lives of human being. So, this theory helps us to understand the human behaviour by studying the unconscious realm of the mind. He said that “People are motivated by desires, fears, and conflicts of which they are unaware” (Nagarajan 217). Freud based his study on his analysis of a number of patients who had shown atypical character traits because of the repressed content in their unconscious minds that comes out in different form. He proposed his theories at a particular context where a rigorous form of sexuality was prevalent in Vienne where people tried to suppress their sexual urges and to pretend to be a civilized human being. So, at this particular juncture he conveyed the idea that human lives are controlled by unseen forces, even though one

pretends to be religious and moral one day his repressed content will express itself.

In his *Civilization and its Discontent* Freud proposes the idea that there exists an aggressive or pagan attitude in every human being within the façade of civilization. Even if it is a moral society, repressed content will turn to be destructive for the society. According to him, human being is primarily oriented towards two instinctual forces, they are Eros, life instinct to live or have sexuality etc., and Thanatos which is the death, aggressive or self destructive content. But in most of the humans Eros become a dominating content from the birth of the child. He considers sexuality as the prevailing force within all human being. He developed a psycho sexual stages where he finds different stages of a human child to adult life that centers around various erotogenic zones, such as oral, anus, phallic, genital etc. "Freud believed that each infant begins life in a state of polymorphous perversity, loving, eroticizing, wanting everything and everyone who interests it. A baby wants to put everything in its mouth, to make everything outside itself a part of itself and its immediate world" (Thurschwell 41). In different stages, he/she finds various erotogenic zones to satisfy his/her sexual drive. Slowly he undergoes a process of repression of his innate instincts to involve in the socialization process. He calls the first stage as being driven by pleasure principle and later by reality principle. It leads to the idea that human being throughout his life goes through various process of repression.

Repression is an important element in Freud's theory that he believes that a normal human being goes through the process of repression, which is the "forgetting or ignoring of unresolved conflicts, unadmitted desires, or traumatic past events, so that forced out of conscious awareness and into the realm of unconscious" (Barry 92). For some people, this repression may come out in the form of uncontrollable aggressive behaviour that ultimately leads towards ill health or mental disorder. He calls this stage as neurosis. So, he believes that for the first few years of life, whatever happens or the excessive instinctual drives in human mind, find its place in the unconscious. Throughout his life it finds various means to come out of it. Freud finds dreams and various defense mechanism as a means for the unconscious desire to come out. In his *Interpretation of Dreams* Freud calls dreams as "the royal road to the unconscious" and he says that "The interpretation of dreams is in fact the royal road to a knowledge of the unconscious; it is the

securest foundation of psychoanalysis and the field in which every worker must acquire his convictions and seek his training” (Freud as qtd. By Thurschwell 31). He tells that in dream real images are transformed into dream images. Dream becomes the symbolic fulfilment of the unconscious wishes. They always come in symbolic manner but direct entry of the conscious mind is not possible. Every thoughts and desires get censored by the conscious mind. He calls it as the dream work. Dream work includes the conversion of the latent content (repressed thoughts, excessive emotion, desires etc.) into manifest content (dream images with symbolic meaning). In association to it Freud explains the processes of condensation and displacement. Condensation is the mechanism through which repressed thoughts desires or fears presented in a condensed manner instead of presenting it in a direct way. Therefore, one image symbolize the other things. Displacement is the process through which one object being displayed for another and presented in an indirect manner. It is the method through which the mind substitutes a new object for other objects which consist of repressed contents.

He also identifies certain defense mechanisms, which are the process through which the unconscious elements reduce or ward off the unpleasant feelings, thoughts or desires of an individual. He mentions a number of defense mechanisms which includes slip of the tongue, day dreaming, sublimation, displacement, projection, compensation etc. Displacement is the mechanism “whereby the mind redirects emotion from a "dangerous" object to a "safe" object. In psychoanalytic theory, displacement is a defense mechanism that shifts sexual or aggressive impulses to a more acceptable, or less threatening, target that can serve as an emotional substitute” (“Displacement”). Sublimation is the

[...]refocusing of psychic energy (which Sigmund Freud believed was limited) away from negative outlets to more positive outlets. In Freud's theory, erotic energy, or libido, is only allowed limited expression due to repression, and much of the remainder of a given group's erotic energy is used to develop its culture and civilization. Sublimation, therefore, is the process of transforming libido into "socially useful" achievements, re-channeling drives which cannot find an outlet into acceptable forms of expression, such as art. (“Sublimation”)

Through the process of sublimation Freud trace the creation of poetry and social work. Here, sublimation acts as a positive force for human mind. Along with sublimation Freud mentions other form of mechanisms. Projection is the method through which one redirects his energy, normally negative ones, to another thing or person. Compensation is the method by which one covers deficiency by excelling in other.

While analyzing the structure of human mind Freud formulated structural model of psyche by dividing the human mind into three Id, Ego, and Super Ego. Id is the part of personality structure that resembles to the unconscious mind. It contains the instinctual drives which includes aggressiveness, sex, hunger etc. and immoral desires etc. It normally functions by the pleasure principle. All the repressed emotions and feelings are stored in this part of mind. Second part is the Ego which is the part of personality structure that functions by reality principle. It is the decision making component of human mind. It mediates between Id and Super Ego, also between internal person and external reality. Ego takes the responsibility to compromise or post pone the desires of Id to come out. The third part of human mind is the Super Ego, which is the “socially induced conscience” or which contains the moralities and values of society and families. So, it carries the moral part of personality structure. Super Ego functions by inducing guilt in Ego so that many of the unaccepted desires can be hidden beneath the unconscious itself. Here, Id becomes the biological content, Ego becomes the psychological content and Super Ego becomes the social content. For a normal human being all the three elements will be balanced by the Ego part. But if the balance gets distorted, the person may loss his control within himself that ultimately leads to hysteria, trauma, hallucination, delirium, paranoia, stress disorder etc. It also explains the anti-social behaviour such as sadism, masochism, sado masochism, BDSM activities of the individual. In his *Theory of Sexuality* Freud considers the individual character of the person who deviated from the normal sexual behaviour as pathological where he considers homosexuality, pedophilia (experiencing a sexual feeling towards children), scopophilia (deriving pleasures from watching others naked or any erotic objects) etc. as a part of pathological character. Later psychologist and theorist worked on his ideas and even criticized it because of his association of everything to the libido energy. Despite of it Freud’s theories and ideas have greater importance in the literary and psychological field.

After his theory, a new form of criticism also emerged where a particular text starts to be analysed on the basis of its unconscious content hidden beneath it. Therefore, the study would make use of the Freud's structural theory of mind, theory of sexuality and the concepts of sadism, perversion, Eros and Thanatos to study the barbaric behaviour of the pimps and traffickers. Freud's theory of dreams, hysteria and concept of post-traumatic stress disorder etc. would be applied onto the text in order to explore the psychological and emotional struggles faced by the victims. These theories and concepts would help to explore the novels further and to unravel the hidden aspects of human trafficking world.

## **Review of Literature**

Human trafficking is a vast area of study that needs to be analysed more on the basis of the results of the research studies conducted, Magazine and newspaper articles, case studies, non-fiction works and literary works.

Heather M Smith in his research paper Sex Trafficking: Trends, Challenges and the Limitations of International Law analyses the various efforts of international legal policies and anti-trafficking organizations in eliminating human trafficking. Here he studies the data of individuals who are either forcefully or voluntarily transported across borders, and finds that most of the victims, who are deceived and exploited, are from poor countries and are trafficked into relatively wealthier countries. He makes use of the graphs of the countries come under Tier 1, Tier2, Tier 3 list, basis of the sustained efforts to pass anti-trafficking laws and to support victims, in which most of the countries come under Tier 2 and Tier 3 list indicating the lethargy of the political system in defending the human trafficking. Apart from that lack of trafficking prosecution in almost all the countries, it reveals the fact that there remains greater challenges for human trafficking such as reluctance of government to collect the data, under-reporting of trafficking incidents, strong political hold of the sex trafficking mafias, and law forcing agencies patronizing the sex trafficking victims etc. The study also discusses the various anti-trafficking projects by UNESCO and IOM (International Organisation for Migration), but is restricted by the nature of transnational sex trafficking and the constant focus on the traffickers rather than the welfare of the victims. This leads the writer to conclude that "Despite this increased awareness, international law has yet to live up to its potential to curb trafficking because it has focused narrowly on punishing

traffickers rather than protecting victims and addressing the underlying economic causes. If efforts are to succeed, international law must address the causal factors and victims in human trafficking” (26).

In connection to this, the issue of the uncertainty of protecting the victims of child trafficking is discussed by Nikita Stewart in a The New York Times article “How do you care for sex trafficking victims if you can’t hold on to them” in which she reports the missing case of the child sex trafficking victims from the rehabilitation centres of United States for the emotionally troubled people of sex trafficking. The study reveals the fact that victims are finding themselves difficult to face the psychological trauma of previous experiences and they escape from the centre only to join back to the world of prostitution and exploitation. Now, they are found going back to the hands of their pimps and drug dealers. “The investigation offers a glimpse into an underworld in which exploitation is hard to document and prosecute. Victims often fear retribution or are wary of law enforcement and refuse to cooperate with investigations, according to lawyers and social workers” (30). This article clearly reveals the depth of the cruelty that the victims have endured during their captivity.

In another article, “Getting Tough on Sex Traffickers” published by The New York Times, dated 19 January 2018, Rod D Rosenstein discusses the hidden network of sex traffickers in America that works with the motto of “Kill, Rape, and Control” (The New York Times 23). He includes the study of the F.B.I that U.S State is infected with the presence of these mafias and “more than one million members of approximately 33,000 gangs prey upon American neighborhoods. The gangs have one thing in common: They commit violent crimes that terrorize our communities. And gangs increasingly rely on sex trafficking to support themselves” (The New York Times 23). They are plunging into the depth of barbarity for the satisfaction of their sexual urge and a culture is developed within that they are born to rob victims of their freedom. By referring to the passing of new international laws that can hinder the sudden growth of this mafias, the writer hopes for a better future where children can enjoy their freedom without the fear of this gangs.

The Links between Prostitution and Sex Trafficking: A Briefing Handbook by Monnica O’ Connor And Grainne Healy is an interesting book that covers almost all the aspects of human trafficking with particular emphasis on sex trafficking and

prostitution. The book discusses the fact that 80% of trafficking in the world is mainly for the purpose of sexual exploitation. The writers consider the demand for a supply of women, migration, racism, gender disparity, lack of economic security and poverty as the prime factors that lead to the crisis. It also describes the different routes into the sex trafficking industry and the tactics of pimps and traffickers. Here it becomes evident that there is a well-defined structure in trafficking industry in which the traffickers make use of the socio-economic, cultural and personal contexts in order to attract, and control the victims. Then, the pimps use various methods such as 'seasoning' to deprive the women of their sense of freedom and slowly prostitution becomes a part of their daily routine. Thus, the book discusses the prostitution as the greatest threat to society and considers the demand of men for woman, or the myth of male sexuality as the source of the sex trafficking. The writers establish the fact that prostitution is a violence against women and "Being prostituted in itself means being systematically sexually exploited and inevitably has devastating impacts on the physical and mental well being of women and girls"(14). The study also expects the legal system to be reorganised in such a way that prostitution becomes an illegal act in every country and to criminalize the acts of pimps and buyers.

India Today, dated 7 Nov 2017, features a cover story "Sex slaves: The stomach-churning story of stolen childhoods" where they investigate into the horrific trafficking of minor girls in India and provides with the story of a number of minor girls who have fallen into the trap of human trafficking. Even though they are from different states such as West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh and Chhattisgarh the victims belong to eighteen and they all have the similar story of deceiving by their own family members and the pimp, and prolonged sexual abuse. The incidents also point towards the dishonesty of legal officers towards the victims. It reported that victims from India are trafficked to eighteen foreign countries, but 90 percent of trafficking in India is internal and that the victims were overwhelmingly from India's lowest economic and social strata. It also discussed that even the virtual world including WhatsApp, Facebook, Internet sites become the source of their business activities. It also provides recent data issued by the Ministry of Women and Child Development that shows that India becomes the centre of sex trafficking, as there are 3 million sex workers in India; of whom 40 percent of workers are minors who came through the trafficking. Here the article

urges for a coherent anti-trafficking legislation and an urgent action by the general population in order to save India from all this disgrace.

In the case of fictional narratives, Donna M. Brickford analysed three novels such as Magdalen Nabb's *Vita Nuova*, Patricia McCormik's *Sold* and James Levine's *The Blue Notebook* to explicate the potential impact of sex trafficking narratives and its impact. In three of the novels societal attitude towards women and children as the commodities of sex market products is exposed. He begins his study by commenting that there is little attention has given to understand human trafficking in a global context. He analyses the novel as it has the power to present human trafficking as a serious sex crime and it clearly draws the physical and mental struggle faced by the minor girls during their captivity in the control of the pimp and "Gharwali." In *Vita Nuova* Brickford reiterates that effective law enforcement is the solution to the problem of sex trafficking. In *Sold* and *The Blue Notebook* various aspects of child trafficking such as poverty and systemic gender discrimination, fraud, deception, and familial complicity have been exposed. He identifies the feature of first person narrative as a means to give voice to the victims and the novels also give a space for the victims for asserting their identity. The protagonists, the minor girls, learn to respond to their condition and protest against the system in their own way thereby showing selfhood and personal integrity. Brickford finds that the novels perpetuate the "stereotypical notions of gendered helplessness" (130).

As has been seen from the articles, news reports, fictional or non-fictional works, the human trafficking is a serious and prevalent issue. It is a serious human rights violation with a wider dimension of impact in it. Most of the works mainly focus on the life of victims, traffickers, works of rescuing agencies, incidents on trafficking, statistical data of the child trafficking cases etc. However, very few novels deal with the issue of human trafficking. Therefore, I would like to take the novels that discuss the social evil of human trafficking and analyse the way it depicts the issue. Hence, in this study I would like to look at the psychological and emotional struggles faced by the victims, the the barbaric behaviour of the traffickers, its long lasting impact in the family structure and the society. These aspects are very important in comprehending the complex nature of human trafficking and its proliferation across the world. This research study seeks to unravel the inner

spheres of human trafficking world and its widespread destruction ranging from person to the society.

As we go through the various literatures it becomes evident that there is a need to expose the social issues so that it can create a general awareness among the people. This study is relevant because it deals with an important social issue- the complex structure of child trafficking and its impact on human life. It analyses the emotional and the psychological dilemma faced by the victims of trafficking. The selected novels are significant because they cover almost all the aspects of the issue of human trafficking in the modern world. The study also emphasises the importance of literature in the growth, progress and well-being of the society by exposing and giving awareness about the social evils.

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## Chapter 2

### **Fragmented Adolescence: Psychological and Emotional Trauma of the Young Victims of Human Trafficking in *A Walk Across the Sun and One Among Us***

Life has an orientation towards good and evil experiences that appear in different forms. Since human mind is so flexible it can be greatly influenced by the outside realities and experiences. Encountering a traumatic incident can have an irreparable impact in the life of human being. Normally a human life passes through various stages of development ranging from childhood to adulthood. Psychologist Erik Erikson in his theory of psycho social development suggests that “ all human beings pass through specific stages or phases of development ...Each stage of life is marked by a specific crisis or conflict between competing tendencies. Only if the individual negotiate each of these hurdles successfully can they continue to develop in a normal, healthy manner.” ( Baron et. al.289). He considers adolescent period as a crucial time since it is the bridge between childhood and adulthood. He also finds most adolescents as “ feeling quite happy and self-confident, not unhappy or distressed” (287). Experiences of a person during this period can determine his/her later development in life because “psychologically it is a period of transition, during which cognitive, physical, personality and social changes occur” ( Savieta 7). This is the period where a child grows mentally, physically, socially and emotionally resulting in mature mind and behavior. At this period, the traumatic experiences that a girl or boy encounters can have grave effect on his/her life which in turn can destroy the life.

Sigmund Freud in his Theory of psychosexual stages of development suggests that events in a childhood can have a great influences in one's adult life that can shape the personality of a person. Traumatic experiences of a person remain hidden in the unconscious part of the mind and it finds its expression in different manner which ultimately leads the destruction of his life itself. The victims of human trafficking entangle between reality and illusions where they are being trained to accept whatever they are facing as a part of the fate of life. They are being compelled to accustom the distorted reality that in turn distorts their life.

*One Among Us* and *A Walk Across the Sun* deal with the cancerous growth of human trafficking in the society and the destruction it causes in the lives of human being. The life of Sita and Ahalya in *A Walk Across the Sun* expose the untold suffering of trafficked victims since they are forced to undergo various evil paths of human trafficking ranging from sexual assault, prostitution, child labour, drug trade, pornography, debt bondage, illegal migration etc. Through Maggie Clarke in *One Among Us*, one comes across the unknown territories of human trafficking, and the untold miseries of its victims varying from children, teenagers and youngsters. Most of the trafficking victims in the novel are adolescent girls, through which the impacts of human trafficking can be exposed in a visible manner. Thus, the novels focus on the sex trafficking experiences and covers the destructive impact than of human trafficking in general. The novels throw light on the realistic aspect of the human trafficking as it is a dominant crime across the world. So Biswajit Ghosh reports that

Human trafficking in India can be classified into three groups: (a) for commercial sexual exploitation, (b) for exploitative labour, and (c) for other forms of exploitation like organ sale, begging, camel jockeying, etc. A cursory look into the available records and reports on trafficking show that the trafficked women and children are pressed into activities like prostitution in brothels, massage parlours or beer bars, pornography, dancing, petty crimes domestic help, agricultural labour, begging, camel jockeying, organ trade, drug trafficking and even trafficking. Women are bartered at prices that vary on the basis of physical beauty and virginity. In the sex industry some clients prefer girl children who are perceived to be unaffected by AIDS. Resultantly, there is a constant demand for girl children, sometimes as young as ten, in the sex industry. (719)

Both the novels together as a whole deal with most of these aspects of human trafficking mentioned above. The plot structures go in such a way that one complements the other so that together as a whole it exposes the hideous circumstances of the trafficking victims and the diabolical aspects associated with the traffickers.

Since the story of *One Among Us* is set in Pennsylvania, U.S., Paige Dearth unveils all the brutal and repulsive ways of the traffickers. Even though the

incidents of the novel may seem to be disgusting, it exhorts the reader to be critical about the need for fighting against the evil forces of the world that constantly being dominated and overruled. But the writer here takes a bold step to raise her voice against the evil forces that spread around the world in the form of trafficking mafia. This novel acquaints the reader of the physical and psychological struggles of the victims. On the other hand in *A Walk Across the Sun* Corban Addison describes the trafficking incidents of Sita and Ahalya, which is in Indian context, there by he gives special attention to place the human trafficking incidents in the midst of sacrificial and sacred relationship of ancient Hindu tradition. So, most of the characters are associated with the stories of Hindu mythologies. Here, Sita becomes the focus point through which he comments upon the widespread web of trafficking system that functions by separation and exploitation. Hence, *A Walk Across the Sun* one comes across the emotional and mental traumas of loss and sufferings of the victims of trafficking Both the writers place their novels in the background of sex trafficking, which is the most hideous form of human trafficking, through which a reader gets an overall view of human trafficking system that curtails human freedom and honour in a most barbaric manner. At the same time, Corban Addison structures the novel in a way that other aspects of the human trafficking such as drug trade, child labour, slavery etc. can be covered and highlighted.

The novel *A Walk Across the Sun* begins with the description of the blooming life of Sita and Ahalya with their family in the seashore of Tamilnadu. They were hoping for great things such as college, medicine of the law, a favorable marriage and successful family life. Her father think of them as strong girls who could be anything what they wanted to be with sky is the limit of her talents. The novel ends with the blissful reunion of Ahalya and Sita, Thomas and Priya who are become a guardian figure for both of them. Their traumatic incident is placed in between these valuable family relationships. But the novel *One Among Us* is presented in a direct manner emphasizing on the consequences of the trafficking industry. The writer allows the reader to go through the thought process of the sex trafficking victims which is deliberately presented from the beginning onwards. The novel begins abruptly by a shocking statement “Eleven-year-old Maggie threw up when the man behind the camera demanded that she remove her jeans... Then he ripped her jeans off with so much force that it felt as though a layer of her skin

came off with the denim... Maggie was sobbing; she was stricken with an overwhelming sensation she'd felt before, a feeling that she was going to die" (Dearth 1). The beginning part of the novel itself indicates the psychological and physical torture faced by a young victim of trafficking, who has lost the control of herself and her existence seems to be at a halt. On the other hand, it also depicts the unfathomable power exercised by the traffickers. Maggie ceased to have ownership over her body since the trafficker John William makes use of her body for the purpose of sexual labour and for porn films. His action of stripping her body clothes itself symbolizes the practices of the cartel. The victims are expected to leave off, their past realities of morality and accepted behavior, and to adjust to the new reality made by the trafficking system. She is expected to follow whatever instruction John William gives to her. Girls or boys, who fell into the trap of the traffickers, lose their honourable human self and become slaves destined to leave of their old self and to wear a new one.

To show the drastic changes that happen to the victims Paige Dearth gives a picture of Maggie's old life before she was kidnapped, where she is presented as a smart, enthusiastic and ambitious girl of eleven who dreams to have an independent and bright future enjoying with his parents, Rob and Lorraine Clarke. But the bright future of her life fades rapidly with the arrival of John William who had kidnapped her by keeping a snare for her. Now she is hopeless and fear stricken. Even though the novel has a positive ending, Paige Dearth continues the novel with the physical and mental sufferings of a character Emma that leads her to a strip dancer in *Double Visions*. Hence, the whole incident can be seen as a conscious effort to comment upon the evil circumstances of trafficking victims. So, journey into *One Among Us* is a journey into the physical and mental trauma of the trafficking victims and the depth of the darkness lingering around the trafficking world. Here, Maggie Clarke and the other characters struggle themselves to retain the good love relation between other characters or even with their own family members since the trafficking world carves out all the human values from a person and creates him as a lifeless and worthless creature. So, the characters go through severe identity crisis. All the painful experiences deprive them of their spirit within them creating a space that leads them to face traumatic life. This experience becomes a common point in *One Among Us* and *A Walk Across the*

*Sun*. Both the novels direct towards a common goal despite of being presented in a different context and different plot structure.

As we go through the novel *A Walk Across the Sun* the writer seems to uphold family relationships that can preserve the human lives from all hideous circumstances. Sita and Ahalya become the symbol of faithful love relations which is placed in the context of the destructive trafficking web. The violent onslaught of Tsunami intrudes in their happy and joyful family life, separating Sita and Ahalya from their parents and grandmother. Description of their blissful life is accompanied by the sudden tragic incident, pointing out that the life itself is a paradox and liable for grief and joy. As a result of Tsunami their life comes to a halt and both of them are strangled in the world of estrangement and loneliness. Witnessing the death scene of mother is presented in a heart rending manner.

The grotesque transfiguration of their beloved mother turned Sita to stone. She clasped her sister's hand so powerfully that Ahalya cried out and yanked it away. Ahalya fell on her knees weeping, but Sita just stared. After a long moment, her mouth fell slack and she began to sob. Burying her face in her hands, she trembled so violently that she appeared to be in seizure. (Addison 11)

This scene depicts the depth of emotional agony faced by the two children with the loss of family relations. Tsunami itself becomes a shadowing of the difficult circumstances that they need to pass through in the next stage of their life. Natural force separates them from their family members. No one is seen ready to help them, but one group of people tries to exploit the miserable circumstances of the children. Kanan, a lorry driver, at the pretext of taking them to Chennai near Sister Naomi's Convent, entrap them into trafficking web. Ahalya's feeling of claustrophobia (extreme fear of confined places) while boarding into the truck acts as a portent of their horrible circumstances. Then they are kept by Chacko and his wife, who arrange their next journey to Mumbai Brothel Street. Ahalya and Sita try to comfort one another, where "Ahalya wrapped her arms around her sister like a protective shield, trying desperately to ward off the unseen forces that had turned their world into a nightmare" (31). Next day onwards, Ahalya is seen waking up in horror and encircled by the thoughts of hopeless future. They seem to become pawns of the world, waiting to be exploited by many other people. From Chacko to

Prakash and to Amar they are carried from one hands to another till the journey ends in the dark rooms of Kamathipura in Mumbai. Here onwards they face identity crisis and loss their sense of self. Prakah before their journey, employs their routine words to the sisters that “ [...] do not think of approaching the police. The deputy commissioner is a friend of mine” (60). Amar instills a psychological fear that “if one of you disobeys, the other will be punished” (61). Vetri, a new agent takes them to Mumbai Badri junction where they are received by new groups of people. During their journey they started playing word game and try to busy themselves to ward off the fearsome thoughts. It can be seen in the perspective of Freud’s idea of Games and creative writing as a form of sublimation or releasing aggression and unpleasant memories through a constructive way. As we go through the novel Freud’s idea of repression finds its expression in the novel. Being a victim of natural disaster and human trafficking, Sita and Ahalya identifies certain means to repress their traumatic incidents. Their story also become the representation of natural disasters fueling human trafficking. Hence, it asserts the report of New York Times that

Children were one-third of the casualties of the tsunamis, and those who survived are suffering the worst effects of their aftermath. Untold thousands have been orphaned or separated from their families. Without protection or caregivers, they are at greatest risk for starvation and disease. They are also in danger from human traffickers, who have long operated in South Asia with near impunity, and who must have viewed the tsunamis as providing an opportunity to prey. Amazingly, these criminals seem to have been largely stymied by governments determined to prevent further tragedy. (“The Tsunamis and Child Trafficking”).

In that way, the novel is more than the fictional story of Ahalya and Sita, but the actual reproduction of thousands of young victims of trafficking who are doubly traumatized. Human trafficking entangles them as a human tsunami.

As the novel progresses, we come across the harsh realities of human trafficking world that ruins the life of many young minds. In the railway station brothel owner Suchir’s helper comes and does new transaction for the girls. They are referred as the “sealed packs” and tags a prize money of 60’000 rupees. Sita and Ahalya reduced to be the sealed products to be sold and exported. In all these journey,

they are constantly being threatened and subdued emotionally. Sita and Ahalya made to believe that they are in debt bondage, and they are supposed to do whatever their owners order to them. So, the young man says “If you rebel their will be consequences,” he hissed. “You are ours now. Suchir paid sixty thousand rupees for you. You will do what we say and you will repay your debt” (Addison 68). Thus, the horror of living in Kamathipura and the destined life to sleep with strangers make them grief stricken. They are asked to wear garlands and, Ahalya realizes that everything in the Kamathipura has different connotations. Relationship, love, care, emotion, work etc. have all together have new dimensions. So Ahalya says “A garland was a symbol of festivity and well wishing. This was a house of sin. How could this strange woman be asking to do the same?” (70). Their helper Sumeera asks them to accept the disciplines of God. So, she says “I once was like you., “she said. “I was taken from my home and brought her by strange men. Life in the *adda* is hard, but you must accept it. There is no use fighting your karma. Accept the discipline of God and perhaps you will be reborn in a better place”(70). As in the case with Maggie, we see the consciousness of Sita and Ahalya being ,psychologically and emotionally, controlled to accept the daily routines of the *adda*. “Each night, she lay awake, listening to the sounds drifting up from below. Her imagination turned her into an insomniac” (Addison 97). Sita and Ahalya are seen in a state of paralysis where they are not even able to control their body movement by themselves. Even the mind system is seen disengaged. Their fears and struggles create sleepless night for them and they turned into insomniac. It suggests the disorder of their mental system where the ego, the reality part of human mind, forces to succumbs to the instinctive desires of the Id in order to survive in the land.

They are also adorned like a marriage bride and bring before the customers. Brothel owner presents Ahalya before Shankar as if she is a mercantile product. So he says “I have something delectable for you tonight. Two girls-both sealed pack. This is the older one” (100). Suchir, the customer bargains for her ruthlessly and fixes 60,000 rupees since she is a new, untouched girl. By seeing this exchange, Ahalya falls in a zombie like state waiting to become a fallen angel. Her body lost its sensation and she is not able to think about the resistance since it meant pain which can only accentuate the misery of their existence. Even her memories filled with the thoughts of the “world of lies”, where cruel maggots are

waiting to taste the flesh of young girls. This thoughts dominated her and it overcomes her blissful thought of her father and mother. In that way, we see them in a state of psychological turmoil with distorted thought process. Shankar violates her and Sita is horrified at the voice of her sister's violation followed by her consistent weeping. She is then described using the image of "a bird with a shattered wing". For the perpetrators, money and pleasure are the mantra of the life, on the other hand the victims are used to the voice "The shame is natural. All feel it the first time. But you will survive. You will learn to accept it"(Addison 103). The worst form of trafficking can be in the form of brothel houses, where the brothel owners create an illusion of reality within the world of violation and corruption. In the Kamathipura, the victims are framed to accept whatever shame overrides their life. So, in the nights brothel owner's son Prasad takes Ahalya from the room suddenly to express his love for Ahalya. But for him love is lust, and raping and loving are seen to be similar feelings. At the same time, Corban Addison introduces a father and son, where the father wants to give Ahalya as a birthday gift, for sexual pleasure during his birthday night.

After a week in Suchir's brothel, their condition get deteriorated, where Ahalya suffers from physical and mental agony, and Sita is seem haunted bythe psychological fears. Even though Sita is spared from sexual assault, the condition of Ahalya intensified their pain and terror. She is no longer Ahalya but reduces to be a " besya" or prostitute. Her name becomes a reality in the sense that even though Ahalya was a model of feminine beauty, a chaste wife of a brahmin, she was presented as unfaithful because of Indra who seduces her. Similar to it, Ahalya also loses the identity of her pure life in the world of lusty men who enforce their will upon her. "Sitting on the toilet, she realized the brute fact of her existence. A besya could expect nothing more from life than air in her lungs, food and water in her stomach, a roof over her head, and affections of her kind. To survive in such a world she would have to severe her heart from her body" (Addison 106). Ahalya represents the world of trafficking where the victims lost their sense of self and control over their cognitive, physical, affective and psychological realms. They have no hope for the future, but to accept the realities of the new world. Life has no meaning in for her. A futile existence. No liberty, peace of mind and honour in their life. They lost the significance of their life. Her

identity becomes questionable since she is unable to defend herself. Trauma replaces their harmony of the mind as in the case of Maggie in *One Among Us*.

Similar incidents of violation presented in Maggie's life which is presented in a more complex manner. In the beginning, Maggie is seen imprisoned in an abandoned house with many other victims such as Four year old Seth, fifteen year old Max, thirteen year old Shana and seventeen year old Cali. They are trapped into the dark and damp walls of prison cell, where they have to expect nothing but cruel physical torture and exploitation. While knowing about the truth, Maggie gets being haunted by "suffocating fear", she starts listening to abusive and repulsive actions of the exploiters. Since Cali is the oldest one, she says "John William will come back tonight and take you upstairs have some pictures taken. Maggie, the pictures will make you feel very uncomfortable, but try to remember that if you don't listen, they'll hurt you" (22). But no words seem to prepare Maggie of the horrors she has to encounter. Later we see Maggie and others are being introduced before new clients. Maggie feels repulsed at the sight of what they are being asked to do before others. Here, they are presented as a mere a pawn and sexual objects to be used and sell for their economic purpose and sexual fantasies. Cali prevents Maggie from crying since in the world of trafficking, emotion has no place at all and they are trained to become emotionless creatures. They are destined to endure their nightmare with due obedience and willingness.

Physical control leads to mental and psychological constrains of the victims. John William brings more clients and makes the children stand naked before them for the purpose of entertaining the clients with their sexual actions. Here the writer comments that "[T]welve people—eight men and four women—entered the room. They stood and stared at the children, a few of them smiling as if they were looking at their Thanksgiving dinner" (Dearth 18). It was a period for Maggie to prepare her mind and accept whatever hideous circumstances she is undergoing. Even the atmosphere is full of darkness where the "bed looked ominous with black sheets and large, overstuffed, dreary grey pillows" (30), catering the tragedy of their condition. Apart from this suffering they are given special training to live in utter darkness for a whole week in order to make them submissive and defenceless. Maggie faces isolation, fear, humiliation, and physical punishment constantly. In that way, the beginning part of the novel itself provides an overall view of the horrors of trafficking where the victims are in the process of losing their

identity, sense of shame and honor. They are even forbidden to think of their families and instead, the traffickers assume the guardianship of the victims. It becomes evident that when a new character, Myles Cabello, is introduced, who is the owner of the trafficking mafia, he approaches Maggie as if he is the Daddy punishing her for her naughtiness, and he beats her before sexually assault her. Hence, "Maggie faded into a state of shock...Maggie lay motionless as the stranger took her virginity in a dirty, depressing room on the second floor of an abandoned prison"(33). After the horrible treatment, Maggie says "[...] a man did horrible things to me last night, I think that he did something really bad to my insides . He hurt me so much" ( Dearth 35). Thus each and every moment in her captivity led her into psychological and physical trauma. Fear, hallucinations, hysteria and depression becomes a part of their life. Both the novels seem to run parallel as the victims go through the difficult circumstances of the brothel or cartel life.

They are destined not only to suffer but also to see the sufferings of others. In Freud's term their journey demands from them, to leave aside the Ego, the reality part, and Super Ego part of human mind, and to surrender themselves to the Id or the immoral thoughts since they lost their sense of their own self and disoriented psychologically. Moreover, they are forced to adapt themselves to the instinctual desires and sexual cravings of their oppressors. As in the other novel they are also constantly referred as "human sex toy", "property", "delicious food" "a piece of meat" etc. So, we see the victims constantly undergoes through the process of shifting identities and forced to become a sexual or mercantile object.

Throughout the novel, Dearth Paige makes an attempt to shed into light the sufferings of the child trafficking young victims as if their human nature is taken apart by the molesters and they are forced to behave like sexual objects destined to please their clients. Their commanding words such as "I want you to be my little whore, and I'll be your master", "you got really a meat lover coming in Tonight", "Someday I'll tap that ass, girl. I'm working myself up to it... I'll get a piece of that" (31-32), etc. show how the traffickers make their language suits enough to train the mind of the victims to be tuned to the new evil atmosphere. In that way both the novels show how the identity of the children are being reconstructed. They all become a sexual objects in the hands of their violators. Every characters in these novels are forced to practice collective repression of tormenting experiences and

to accept new circumstances. The brothel life and the prison cell of Philadelphia demands it.

Violation, loss, sexual assault and trauma becomes a constant element in both these novels. In *Walk Across the Sun* Maggie becomes the common point through which all the other victims are connected and described. But in *A Walk Across the Sun* both Ahalya and Sita plays an important role. The first part of the novel *A Walk Across the Sun* depicts the distorted life of Ahalya, physically and psychologically wounded, as a result of being sexually exploited by number of people. Since Ahalya and Sita are so close to each other, pain on other is seen shared by both. Here, Ahalya tries to save Sita from falling into desperation. Ahalya like others follows the collective repression of the tormenting memories. The brothel life demands it. Apart from that, she tries to deliver Sita from falling into depression and despair, even though she is a victim of it, by telling stories “[...]from the past- stories of their parents and stories of ancient India written by the sages” (132). Story telling becomes their “[...] psychological strategies that are unconsciously used to protect the person from anxiety arising from unacceptable thoughts or feeling” (“Defense Mechanism”). Ahalya also recreates one of Jaya’s *kolam* designs in the floor using the morsels of rice of previous evening’s meal. In that way we see Ahalya trying to create best out of the situation, by developing her own defense mechanism of displacement. For both of them, even in the midst of the haunting memories life with their family seem to reappear again and again.

In the beginning Their religious knowledge, joyful relationship with the parents and the education they have acquired are seemed to be capable enough to overcome the struggles they are facing. But still the psychological wound of loosing their parents and the unending torture in their confinement carve out their physical and mental health continuously. As the novel progresses, Ahalya seem to be in a traumatic condition because of the continuous violation. She seems to be lost within herself. Here, Super Ego part of human mind has lost its significance in her life since there is no sense of morality or parental or societal value in this land. Id’s influences overcome the controlling power of Ego, and the victim has to admit herself as a part of the “besya” life. So, it is described that “Inside...she felt hollow. When she told Sita stories, her tone often fell flat, and she struggled to smile. She was listless when she drew Jaya’s *kolam* designs. She didn’t laugh

when Sita told one of their mother's jokes. She resembled one of the angels stained in glass at the convent school, her peace unbroken" ( Addison 137). It shows the gradual degradation of Ahalya by the weight of demands in the brothel house and she becomes the product in the supply.

Their helper Sumeera, teaches her to detach herself from all affections and accept her karma. Hence, we see Ahalya learns the art of detachment. She teaches herself that

[P]ain in her lower abdomen was part of her existence, like the walls around her and the flower beneath her feet. She could bewail her karma or she could see the pain as a sign that her life still had meaning. It was all a matter of mind" ( Addison (141)

Ahalya seem to be collapsed within herself. Her psyche itself disoriented since the "adda" life demands to succumb to the passions of the men without grumbling. Here, she faces, in psychoanalysis term, a chronic trauma, result of repeated traumatic experiences, as she is repeatedly assaulted and threatened by unknown people. In the brothel life, love or any other emotions have no place instead every feeling is directed towards sexual passion. Sex and money are the regular mantras of brothel life. But the victims faces physical and mental trauma, end in tragic situation irrecoverable.

These various aspects of traumatic incidents are more explicable in *One Among Us* since the reader gets the chance to go through psychic conflict of number of characters in a subtle manner. Each character of the novel is seen repeatedly tormented brutally in one way or another and it in turn creates great psychological terror in the minds of all the children. Maggie tries herself to defend her mind from falling into depression. So, she starts to acquire knowledge through the books provided by Dr. Barnes after each sexual encounter. It helps her to retrace her own consciousness while all the other victims are seem to be falling into the mental and psychological terror exerted by their traffickers. Hence, Shana becomes a symbol of lost identity and lost self-consciousness. As an after effect of Myles avoiding Shana and choosing Maggie makes her more vulnerable to sexual atrocity. "She was being trafficked to the cartel's most sicko clients. She got all of the clients who were into sadism and derived their sexual gratification from the pain and cruelty that they subjected her to. She became more reclusive, and

nothing the others tried to do to nurture her worked”(46). In the next chapter we see her trafficked into a sadistic person who infiltrates great pain on her and brutally raped and tortured her. Shana passes through developmental trauma, shock trauma and substance abuse. As a result she starts to retain foreshortened and diminished view of life. She stops trusting others. Hostile intentions start haunting her. Her personality gets disordered and she becomes aggressive. She becomes passive and lose interest in talking with one another, and become highly unstable personality. She becomes a heroin addict and finds happiness in drugs since it alleviates her painful circumstances.

On the other hand Maggie behaves matured manner since comes to treat her as a doctor and help her to survive. But despite all her help, Shana started hating Maggie and she shows all her anger towards her and she punches Maggie in the nose causing blood dripping from Maggie’s nose. Freud’s concept of displacement can be applied to the condition of Shana. She finds herself defenceless before the hideous circumstances of her life and her anger become directed towards Maggie as a defense mechanism instead of fighting against the powerful violators. Shana becomes a hard core addict. By causing greater psychological turmoil, John Williams’s makes his prey succumbed for his purpose. Maggie, also slowly losses her “sense of ownership”. She is constantly referred to as the “Dehumanizing thing”, part of a “sick game”, “a pawn”, “most expensive, delicious”, and she has lost within herself.

During the course of the novel, Cali’s story also revealed who had been kidnapped by a woman by playing a trick upon her and she had fallen into her trap. But Cali is presented as a mature girl who tries to give comfort and keep all of them together as a family. Hence, a new family is developed consisting of Seth, Cali, Maggie, Max and Shana. But Shana’s senseless behavior makes Maggie into trouble and later we see the barbaric treatment of Maggie by the traffickers for being a part of Sabrina’s mission that leads to her physical trauma. So, Maggie says

They brought me out to a barn in the middle of the night. First, they put chains on my hands and hung me by my wrists. After a long time, I couldn’t stand the pain anymore. I thought the chains were going to cut my hands off my arms. After a while, they hung me from my feet. They jabbed me with lit cigars. That’s where the burns are from...When I woke up, I wasn’t seen

in the barn anymore. I was in a small cage. I could barely move because it was so tiny. After that, every time they had to pee, they would do it into the cage I was in. They said I was their toilet. The last thing I remember is them throwing a whole bunch of snakes in the cage with me. I couldn't get them off me. I was freaking out. (83)

Hence, their cruelty starts haunting her like a nightmare. She seems to be lifeless and loses her consciousness. While they brought her back, she is seen naked and whole body is covered by bruises and red marks as if she is about to die. She lies paralyzed for many days without responding, filled with sadness and numbness. She starts to make animal like noises suggesting that she is facing from shock trauma that seems to be irretrievable. But Paige Dearth upholds the depth of love and bondage between Maggie and Seth, that has the power to redeem Maggie back to her consciousness. So, the next scene becomes emotional. "Seth, who had slept through all the commotion, called out "Aggie? I'm scared. I had a dream about a monster that was gonna eat me. Seth's voice broke through, and Maggie's mind began to swim back to the surface from the deep place it was hiding. "Seth', she whispered, I'm right here. It was only a dream" ( Dearth 81). In that way the writer portrays the greatness of love that surpasses any trauma or struggle. This aspect of the novel finds its varied forms throughout the novel. At the same time, dream of Seth has greater significance when it viewed through the lenses of Psychoanalysis where dream is presented as "an escape-hatch or safety valve through which repressed desires, fears, or memories seek an outlet into the conscious mind and so has to enter the dream in disguise" ( Barry 94). But here Seth's dream is not in a disguised manner instead it flows out without being censored by the conscious mind. His dream consist of a monster devouring him, points out that the mental balance and health of Seth is disturbed because of the constant exposure to the evil aspect of human life.

While she has recovered again, they have taken her back for featuring a film along with other children, and also ask them to do strip dance before their new clients. For the owners, money and satisfaction of their inner desires are the primary thing where there is no space for love, care and for concern. Thus, they have sent Max before the most brutal and sadistic person of their client, who finds pleasure at the spectacle of others suffering. He infiltrates great pain to him, but Max succumbs to the impulse of fighting back and he kills him, which ultimately leads to his cruel

punishment by John William causing him to bleed internally. Before his lifeless body, Maggie's imagination overflows. She takes him back to the story in the Adventures of Tom Sawyer fusing it with his life incident. Here the story becomes a medium, as sublimation technique of Freud, through which Maggie makes him feel happy and hopeful even in terrible pain. Maggie allows him to sleep peacefully to death. In that way death and pain of separation become a part of the life of the victims. Their journey again started with the owner's plan to sell them to other pimps. Hence, we see the painful separation of Maggie and Cali. Before they leave Cali strengthens her by saying that "you were the one among us that would make it out of here and find your way back" (Dearth 109). But their separation becomes more terrible than others because John William kills Cali by throwing her into the pool in front of Maggie. The death of her close friend pierced through her soul like a nightmare and it makes severe wound. Maggie again faces trauma as if nothing can help her out of it. The scene becomes pathetic and emotional. "The images of Cali's death haunted her, and she slipped into a state of shock. She stood looking up at John William. She had nothing left to say to him. The burden of loss and grief was so powerful that she went limp and slumped to the floor" (115). It suggests that she is suffering from emotional trauma that makes her lifeless before her violators. So, Maggie goes through all the realms traumatic experiences and through her Paige Dearth draws a picture of the destruction caused by the trafficking world in the life of the victims.

In both of the novels, along with the main plot, writers weave a subplot which becomes a bridge to the main plot and in turn it helps to comment upon the outside reality of human trafficking system. In *One Among Us* along with the life of Maggie one comes across the miserable conditions of Maggie's parents, Rob and Lorraine Clarke, who accompanies Detective Harker in his search for trafficking victims. Three of them have a common point of suffering which is the loss of their children due to child trafficking. Through Rob and Lorraine Clarke, one comes across the distorted conditions of trafficked victims after they are being rescued from the trafficking world. Thus, the novel brings Crista and others "who had been saturated in paranoia by their pimps". Freud suggests that paranoid patients have delusional disorder and they rebel against their inner monitor or external prohibition. As a result they fight against their ideal ego. It becomes a sign of mental disorder. All these victims are exposed to the hidden desires of the Id

and the Ego loses its control over the Id and thereby unconscious starts creating delusional reality. One way or other the victims are imbalanced. Crista's words and her addiction to cigarettes figures out the extent of traumatic condition all of them are going through. Her language itself has changed and she is no longer the old girl. She has been taken away from reality. She says

My parents said it was OK for me to talk to whoever I needed if it helps put this thing [cigarettes] behind me. It's a part of me now. You know, after a while, it doesn't seem so bad to be a whore. Guys used to pay a lot of money for me- not that those assholes ever let me keep any of it...May be you can give me advise on how to handle my parents. I mean, they think I'm the little girl I was before I disappeared. I ain't nothin' like that person. I had to leave her far behind if I wanted to live(262).

The next victim, Kelly feels always scared to live in dark light, in Psychoanalysis term Nyctophobia. It can increase the death instinct of a person than his or her life instinct. She seems scared out of mind. Her details of five years of torture and story of giving birth to a child suffocates Maggie's mother Lorraine and she collapses against her husband and cries. The scene becomes more pathetic with the next victim who had lost irrevocably, who had kidnapped for three years. Her mother says

The doctors have confirmed that Darla was sexually assaulted. She has several scars on her back, and when she walks, which isn't often, she has a limp. Before Darla was taken she was a straight- A student and a strong Athlete. She had a lot of friends. Darla was an outstanding swimmer, and her dream was to compete in the Olympics, she had real potential...Now I have a doctor who is a heroin addict. Our doctor told us that she will probably fight addiction her whole life. (Death 356).

Darla is seen in a high traumatic stage that takes her to delirium where she removes her clothes before others and wants to expose her bodies to everyone. At last we see, another victim Mara who finds her life a burden over the earth and she hates everyone in the world. " Mara saw no good way out of her misery, no escape from the demons that haunts her day and night. She often wished she'd never been born" ( 395). When Rob and Lorraine try to meet them the child acts

as if she is a cobra prepared to strike at anyone who got close to her. So, research scholar Zyeic D points out that

Trafficked children have two types of trauma as a result of severe, chronic abuse: developmental trauma and shock trauma. Due to the chronic nature of violence found in DMST, as well as any history of abuse the child might have, a youth's neurological system is disrupted and not allowed to return to a state of equilibrium. The child instead remains in a constant state of arousal. The result is dysregulation of the nervous system and a battery of physical and psychological effects (57).

But Clarkes' family starts loving them and she transforms as a smart and intelligent girl. In that way, Paige Dearth takes the novel deep into the psychological and emotional trauma placed on the life of trafficked victims.

In the same way, Corban Addison weaves the story of Sita and Ahalya with the life of Thomas Clarke, an attorney of Clayton group in Washington D.C., who faces a dilemmatic situation when his wife Priya leaves him after the death of their first child Mohini. Sudden witnessing of the kidnapping of an eleven-year old Abbey and the tormenting cry of her mother changes his attitude and perception towards life. His work with CASE (Coalition Against Sexual Exploitation) makes him passionate about rescuing trafficked victims. He ultimately reaches in rescuing Ahalya but by the time Sita has been carried by Navin for his new business. Here, we see the torrent of grief overwhelms Ahalya even though she is rescued and taken to the Ashram run by Catholic Nuns. Her pain was uncontrollable and it describes as "A shapeless terror gripped Ahalya's mind. She fell to her knees and began to rock back and forth. Tears streamed from her eyes and collected on her chin" (170). Sumeera has no words for her to comfort, instead she says "It is the way of Goliath". ( Addison 170). There is no one to complaint because the victims have nothing to expect rather than loss, pain, terror and constant troubles.

Both the novels take a momentary pause with the missing of Sita, and the journey of Maggie and Seth with Rock to Kensington Avenue. Again Seth is separated from her since Rock keeps him with his wife Thelma, and sends Maggie to live with prostitutes. Maggie separated from Seth and Cali, Sita separated from Ahalya with the common loss of family, point towards the rootlessness and hopelessness in the life of the victims. They are destined to live in the midst of past memories,

loss, despair, depression and terror. At this juncture, both the novels take a new turn where new dimensions trafficking world starts unfolding. The life of Sita in Suchir's hand and later her life in Paris, U.S. provides the reader with rich array of trafficking experiences. Through Sita, Corban Addison comments upon the various aspect of human trafficking including drug trade, child labour, pornography and sex slavery etc. Every incident, after she was separated from her sister, exposes the hidden dangers of human trafficking. Navin who has taken Ahalya, use her as a scapegoat for drug trade where one can see the danger of carrying thirty drug stuffed pellet in her stomach. She is also seen terror stricken with the loss of family and Ahalya. " She held herself tightly, clenching her teeth against the fear and sorrow, but this time the pressure was too great. She doubled over and began to sob. Her family was gone. Ahalya was gone. She was alone in a flat in Bombay with a strange man who dealt in drugs" (Addison 176). He makes her to swallow drug, heroine, pellets made of condoms and says "If a condom ruptures, the heroin will send your body into shock and you could die." (180). He trains her to carry it in stomach and to pretend as a pregnant wife of Navin. In that way, Navin succeeds in his aim of trading heroine and Sita to Paris. Then he handed her over to his uncle and aunty, to make use of her as a restaurant helper.

Sita accepts all her fate in silent grief and pain because she "understood that he owned her and could do anything he wanted to her" (178). Even though Ahalya is safe, Sita continues to suffer and face traumatic incidence repeatedly. All the incidents act as if it takes their humanity and identity. Sita undergoes struggle in the restaurant since it was exhausting work where she needs to mop the floor, kitchen and the restaurant, and clean the house. Apart from that, she receives hail of abuses and "barrage of insults", from the aunt of the house. "The woman was a cruel task master; nothing Sita did was right. She rubbed so hard on the upper surface of the stove that her fingers began to lose sensation. Her nails chipped on exposed edges, and the rags and scalding water burned her hands. By the time the restaurant opened at six that evening, she was bone-tired and famished" (202). She even forced to sleep in the floor during piercing cold. Restaurant life of Sita becomes a point towards the realities of child labour. Sita, being alone in an unknown land separated from the family forced to do hard work and receive punishment is beyond Sita's endurance. " For Sita, Paris was a dungeon of suffocation and toil" (230).

On the far end of the land Ahalya is seen struggling with the traumatic condition of the past and lost relationship with Sita. She is also tormented by the news that she is pregnant. A child in her womb that can continue to remind of her traumatic circumstances. Ahalya becomes the symbol of the suffering of the victims even in rehabilitation centre. She has lost her spirit and sense of time. Her past experiences continue to torment her. But the sisters arranged everything to reassure her that life was still worth living. They present her a lotus bud to plant in the pond. For her, the lotus plant becomes a symbol of her hope for Sita and reassurance of her spirit even though it has gone through murky land of Mumbai. As a result she binds a "rakhi", a bracelet, in Thomas' hand with a request to deliver Sita. "The bracelet means that the man is her brother. He is duty bound to act in her defense" (251). Ahalya struggles herself to live in the Ashram. Ashram stories of the victims reflects upon the psychological wounds infiltrated by their traumatic experiences which cannot recover them fully. For them rehabilitation centre is not a suitable place since they are accustomed to the horrible circumstances of life. That becomes their daily routine . Most of the victims are unable to come back to their real life. So Anita says "one girl tried to escape last week. The sisters caught her and brought her back. She was trafficked by her uncle from Haryana in the north. Her parents probably consented to it. For obvious reasons, we don't believe her home is safe...It's hard to explain that to her, though"(241). Hence, Corban Addison unravels the various aspect of the trafficking situation. The New York Times news paper reports a similar incidents in rehabilitation centre that informs that

Home to many young people who have been trafficked for sex, Hawthorne is supposed to help, heal them and head off their return to prostitution and exploitation. But the center, run by a nonprofit group and intended to be a relatively open facility, has seen girl after girl, most of them from New York City, go missing. Kids are not running away from the campus, they are running away from the trauma and abuse they have experienced, which we are encouraging them to face. (The New York Times 30)

It shows that each and every incident in the novel has some element of reality embedded in it. Through Sita one comes across the psychological and emotional trauma faced by the victims of human trafficking since she goes through different circumstances that opens before her the brutality of human trafficking across the

world. From the restaurant she is being assigned to clean the dresses and book shelves of Vasily and Dimitry, a Russian immigrants. Morning to evening she starts working in Vasily's house. But later she is allowed to enter in six rooms unlocked during the morning. In the room she sees lonely girls living as prisoners. Sita is asked to wash their dress. They are not allowed to go outside. In the night Dimitri takes them in his car. Sita realizes the mystery of the house that they are Dimitri's sex slaves locked in the room as if they are his purchased goods. They live like lifeless being, emotionless creature. They have passed through all sorts of trauma. Their night journey is described in detail. " She stood in the shadows and watched as Dimitri led Natalia, Ivanna, and the other girls to the white van. All of them were dressed provocatively in short skirts, high heels and revealing tops...Although it was still winter only Natalia wore a coat. None of them spoke or looked at the others" (Addison 291).

One day Sita hears the scream and fearful voice of the girl Natalia and Sita finds video camera and porn pictures in the room which makes her confirm that the girls are being used for making porn pictures and to introduce official porn website for accumulating money. The victims are denied basic needs of their life. They have no voice. They are trafficked from Ukraine and Russia at the pretext of providing jobs. On the other hand, Thomas tries to rescue Sita and he acquires knowledge about the incidents. So, he gets the idea about the Russian trafficking. "[...] former Soviet bloc haemorrhaging young women, many of whom were trafficked into the sex trade. The phenomenon was so thoroughly documented that the women were given a name- the Natashas. They were from Moldova, Ukraine, Belarus, Romania, Lithuania and Russia. To the customers, however, they are all Russians" ( 376). They have loss the identity, honour and become emotionless creature. So one of the victims says "I come for work. I apply at agency. Men take passport and bring here" (263). Now they are being exploited for Dimitry's economic benefits and pleasures. They are depraved of everything and they lack of basic needs such as psychological, safety, physical and emotional. Instead the perpetrators infiltrate their will upon them leading to different types of trauma such as anxiety disorder, stress, depression, personality disorder, sleeping disorder etc. Being a girl they are seen to be doubly traumatized. Bondage is one form of terror and at the same time it is accompanied by sexual assault. Which suggest that life

of the victims get disoriented and dislocated, affected by developmental trauma and Post traumatic disorder.

Sita felt disturbed by the sight of and she lives there in dreadful fear. Sita also is exhausted by the repeated exposure to extra ordinary stressful events. “Her sudden and inexplicable move from the restaurant to Vasily’s flat had left her disoriented, and the night traffic of Dimitri and the girls had turned that disorientation into fear” (322). She finds consolation in her dream which is filled with the images of Ahalya, Ambini and Naresh, and their blissful life in the seashore of Tamilnadu. It becomes a mechanism of day dreaming which the Ego forms to adjust the mental terror. But in contrast to it, one can see the effect of trauma as a result of the sexual assault on Ahalya since she sees dream which is full of nightmares and darkness. Dreams reflect her inner struggle and her broken life. Sita retains hope by the hanuman figure given by Shyam, Uncle’s son, and the ancient stories told by Ahalya.

Later, Sita’s attempt to escape also put her into more trouble that Dimitri decides to send her to another customer to America with the Uncle and aunt of Navin. Again she undergoes identity loss since she has to act as the daughter of Navin’s uncle and during U.S. airline checking. Her hopelessness starts haunting her continuously. So, she thinks “ She had left Asia for Europe, believing that someday she would find a way to return to her sister in Bombay. It was a dream but it didn’t seem like a fantasy. Now she was about to leave Europe for North America. The United states of India were on opposite sides of the globe. How would she ever find her way back across ten thousand miles?” (Addison 341). Her reflection of her experiences reveal that she is in utter despair since the distance between herself and Ahalya is seen expanding. But her memories of the past remain uncherished. For her “the past was all she had left”. From Vasily’s flat Sita falls into the hands of Igor, Alexi and Dietrich. Sita eventually loses the power to pray and “[...] her faith seemed incapable of bearing up the weight of her fear” (348). As a process of “seasoning” in trafficking world, Igor rapes other girls in front of her brutally. Every day she starts witnessing brutal rape scene and the difficulties of women struggling under its perpetrators. Corban Addison presents the condition through a powerful imagery. “ Sex seemed to ooze from the walls of the club and hover around her like a filthy cloud” (362). Even in the midst of such darkness she relies on her past memories as a source of comfort and consolation. But she gets

strangled between the sense of loss and the cruelty of Igor to other girls. For the girls it becomes a regular routine and they are slowly accustomed to the objectification process. Their Ego, part of mind, starts to accept it as the normal behavior, so that Id can show its desires uninterruptedly.

As we go through the life incidents of Sita, it reveals the universality of sex trafficking world. Sita witnesses similar events in different parts of the world. Life in Dietrich's house becomes more traumatic for her since she is destined to see the unheard wailings of girls writhing under Igor. Dietrich runs the house as if it is a sex club. Her consciousness forces her to go out of the system and to escape but she is caught in between and terribly threatened. Again she becomes a victim of the traumatic incidents that starts to take her memories of the past. Her body and mental system seems out of order and it is no longer brings past memories of family. She tried to get it but did not. "Her sister was gone. The past no longer existed. This was her karma" (372). In that way, Sita is placed in between the evil forces that exert all its dark forces on her. Her recovery becomes impossible. As in the case of Ahalya her mental balance, between Id, Ego, and Super Ego, get distorted. Even the death drive seem to be overcome her life that she feels death is the only possibility for her rescue. At this point Sita seems to be disoriented and psychological trauma starts working on her.

At the same time we see the gradual change of Ahalya as she gets proper care and love from the nuns and she is able to recollect her past life of joy instead of her traumatic circumstances. The lotus becomes a symbol of her bygone days and the sweet memories of Sita. In the lotus she sees Sita and tries to find happiness in it. " She recalled things in meticulous detail, focusing on faces and mannerisms until she could almost see the inhabitants of her memory alive again. She projected personalities into a future that should have been, picturing the lines of her mother's face in old age, imagining her father on her wedding day, envisioning Sita as a grown woman" (Addison 400). Lotus plant starts to buoy her spirit. So, she is ready to accept the baby in her womb even though it is from the brothel. Most of the characters in the novel faces one or another form of traumatic situations. We see them united for similar causes. Thomas goes in search for Sita because he wants to reconnect the relationship between Sita and Ahalya, and at the same time his marriage relationship also seems to be developing through this new relationship with Ahalya. Along with that the face of Abby and her mother

continue to force him for fight against the crime of trafficking. All the other victims of trafficking tries to love Sita and to support her as in the brothel worker Sumeera since she is also victim of the same circumstances. In one way many destinies come together especially of Sita , Ahalya, and Thomas.

In the last part of the novel, we see Alexi forcing Sita to pose for taking sexual pictures and Sita for the first time mentally and psychologically violated. She is taken by new group of people and she undergoes a truck journey with many sex trafficking victims fighting with each other since they lost their emotional control and express their anger towards one another. Sita is taken to Philadelphia “Four of them were pretty, but all of them looked unhealthy. Sita guessed that the youngest a frail looking child with pasty skin and stringy red hair- was thirteen and the oldest- was eighteen” ( Addison 416). Elsie a victim explains about her exploitation. “ In the past year, the trafficking network had taken her all over the eastern part of the country. She was never afforded a break, even when she was sick. And though the customers paid between \$40 and \$50 for her services, she never received any of the money”(419). They want to introduce her in the new porn Cite and to invite people for their pleasure. So they take their picture which has sexual look. “[...] she knew there was a reason for the pictures. There was a reason Dietrich had paid thirty thousand dollars for her. Everything in this godforsaken place had a purpose” (424).

The novel connects the destiny of Sita Ghai and the continuous attempt of Thomas to find her. Thomas learns that she becomes a part of the “ Kandyland”, a place where beautiful children are sold to perverts. With the help of American Justice department Thomas tries to trace Sita and to deliver her. His journey to Paris and America becomes a comment on the realities of trafficking world. Through Thomas, Corban Addison exposes the hidden web and dangers of trafficking mafia that assumes different form and makes money by practicing the human slavery. In the end part, the novel unravels the sexual crime that flourishes through internet sites, and a guy named Defoe, work with FBI. Defoe at last books Sita as a client in the new official web site. Sita becomes lifeless girl but they teaches her the art of impressing her clients. But, she seems to hyperventilate and haunted by hallucinations pointing that she is at the peak of breaking out. Even she thinks of suicidal death because of her tragic circumstances. Sita also faces developmental trauma and shock trauma. Even though she has gone through lots

of struggles before her allowing anyone to take her virginity, Thomas and American investigation agency rescues her and breaks all the trafficking business houses rescuing number of minor girls.

On the other hand Maggie's life in Kensington Avenue becomes a comment on the life of prostitutes, strip dancers, child drug dealers and the HIV patients. As the novel continues, destiny of Maggie and Seth fell into the hands of Rock, who has purchased her for 10,000 bucks and 500 bucks for Seth. Here, they have reduced as a mere "sex toy" to be purchased by those who likes them. Again this time, the presence of Seth delivers her out from all the depression and she finds happiness to be with him. The novel describes the life of Maggie as a prostitute in Kensington Avenue in Philadelphia and Seth becomes a scape goat for the whims and fancies of Rock's wife Thelma, a drug addict. Both of them have gone through a pool of separation and his future without Maggie was intolerable for him. Since their struggle continues in Rock's hand, both of them are become vulnerable to chronic stress disorder as they are exposed to danger repeatedly for a long time and with the symptoms such as depression, nightmares, panic attacks etc. During his separation with Maggie, Seth yells at Thelma, but he slowly finds separation as a part of their life. In her new place, Maggie is destined to pass through the same process of suffering as with John William. Armando, the pimp leader, is given the duty to wreck the girl and it is said that "wrecking a new girl was what pimps did to assimilate her into the world of prostitution" ( Dearth 122). Universal nature of the pimps and traffickers is given by Armando's approach towards Maggie where he sees her as a "feast he was about to devour". Later he puts her into a closed door in the floor and throws a number of snakes into it. Here, one can see the extension of which Maggie loss the sense of herself since her animalistic behavior comes out and she eats the snake after killing it. " It was like a game for him, and the more he tortured her, the more Maggie lost the sense of self. She was being reduced to an animal and a servant, which was all part of a wrecking period" (129). Her depression reaches up to a level that she becomes a child within herself and finds comfortable in singing Child rhymes. "She began to hum the tune of "Itsy Bitsy Spider". She didn't know why, but it made her feel better" (Dearth 133) and Freud terms this experience as "regression" which is the process of coping with stress "where one reverts to earlier, more childlike patterns of behavior to cope" (Sis Gold ). At last, after the torture in the cell for three weeks Maggie becomes vulnerable

for their purpose. She is asked to forget about her age and past memories, and act like an eighteen year old girl with Rock as her boyfriend. Life in the darkness snatches all the light from her. It is said that “Maggie was too distressed, and tired, to be relieved. She hoped that by “helping her” the man meant he would shoot her in the head” (134). Her life slowly adjusted to the daily routine of the whores in Kensington Avenue. Dearth presents Kensington Avenue as a waste land of exploiters, pimps, and women folk who have destined to woo the men passing through it. The clients are also referred to as “johns” since their identity never reveals. On the other hand, the women having sexual intercourse with them are assigned to the dark spaces. They ceased to have a proper identity and assumes a collective identity of prostitute.

Even though she has started her job as a Prostitute in the Kensington Avenue, her only solace becomes Seth, who lives in Rock’s house. In their separation they are bonded together as a family and Maggie lives as if for the purpose for seeing Seth and for him Maggie “[...] was the only peace of mind he knew” ( 177). But the struggles in Kensington Avenue becomes a part of her life. She is send out to the cold winter climate for refusing regular jobs. She is also being threatened. Maggie also lost herself by exposed constantly to coercion, sexual atrocity, and threatening, that exert a psychological fear on the victims. She no longer feels as the old eleven year child. After her friendship with Juju she opens herself about her hopeless situation of her reunion with the family. She says

[...] Rock and his guys know where my family lives. They told me they’d kill them if I ever try to contact them. Besides. I’m nothing like I was the last time they saw me. So much has changed, and I’ve done so many horrible things- they’d die if they knew everything I did.” (165)

She becomes hysterical when she sees the newspaper cuttings of her own missing news. Maggie can no longer identify herself with the eleven year old girl and also “two people who were once her parents, but now strangers” (Dearth 191). These words justifies the Psychological turmoil which the trafficking world can create in the minds of the victims. It can even control the thinking process of the victims so that they would never try to escape from it. So, trafficking world can be seen as a form of modern slavery where one groups of people tries to dominate and control the other, and make use of them for their own benefits. In prostitution

women's body becomes the prime source of their economic benefit. In this way, novel itself becomes realistic and the report of Kamonohashi project, Zero Trafficking Eliminating Sex Trafficking in India reports that .

Every year, thousands of girls and women are abducted, deceived, seduced, or sold for the purpose of Commercial Sexual Exploitation (CSE). They are forced to service hundreds if not thousands of men before being discarded. Trafficking in women and children violates basic human rights to life, liberty and the freedom to chart one's own life course, and instead subjects the victims to cruelty, torture, dangerous and degrading work, and inhumane living conditions.(8)

Even Maggie is forced to wear a façade of prostitute, leaving away all the sense of morality from her life. She seems degrading slowly. She becomes the most desired harlot in Kensington Avenue. Only the face of Seth brings her back to the past. So, Juju arranges their meeting in the road. Maggie meets her and finds that Seth also grows without any proper food, affection, or care. In this world Maggie is the only one who provides his emotional needs. Thelma acts as an evil character who projects her anger and disappointments on the boy. Hence, the novel describes his pathetic situation “[H]is blue eyes were devoid of life and swallowed up by dark circles, an indication that she was suffering. He was pale and bone thin. Maggie’s heart broke as she looked at him” (169).

Seth gets cruel treatment from Thelma, she fastens him near the railings with a chain around his ankles and separates him from other children as if he is a “family pet” and an animal. Seth faces isolation, physical torture, abuses and fatigue from lack of food or water. Thelma leaves him outside for three days that makes his skin blister and skin peel from his body. So, Paige Dearth says “ [B]ruises on the skin faded, but bruises on the heart and mind left scars that took a lot longer to heal” (Dearth 189). Thelma repeatedly calls him “stupid”, that creates an impression in the boy that he is dumb. Thus, sufferings are presented as a constant haunting presence in the life of the trafficking victims.

As the weeks passed, a new bond develops between Maggie, Seth, and Juju, and it makes them special. Juju says “we’re gonna be good friends. We’re gonna be like the Three Musketeers, all for one and one for all” (170). From here onwards, Paige Dearth entwines the story in such a way that their develops two forces, good and

evil forces, which are in conflict with each other. The world of human trafficking pervades in wickedness and perversion. On the other hand, Maggie slowly becomes connected to new groups of people that including Seth, Juju, Colby , Tony and Vincent encourages her for taking a stand against the thriving evil forces. Prior to that she is destined to undergo all the dimensions of sorrows and difficulties. Maggie becomes the mouth piece of the writer as she also was a victim of sexual abuse and decided to fight against this sexual violence. Through Maggie she exposes the psychological and mental suffering of a victim of sexual abuse and human trafficking.

Even though Maggie adapts herself to new atmosphere, new struggles started emerging. Her life is constantly haunted by the horrors of trafficking world. She no longer seems to be living in the present instead she becomes a product of her cruel fate after being trafficked. It leads one to the fact that a victim of trafficking is thrown out of her joyful memories of the past. Their emotion and thought process start tuned to the life after their captivity. Maggie's past tuned to begins with the time of her kidnapping. Hence she finds herself difficult to get into the car with a client. Maggie says "I get this intense fear that seizes my entire body...I think I have post-traumatic stress disorder" (196). So, the novel itself reveals the psychological impact of the traumatic incidents that associated with human trafficking. A Clinical Review on Post-traumatic stress disorder describes that

PTSD (Post Traumatic Stress Disorder) is a mental disorder that may develop after exposure to exceptionally threatening or horrifying events. Many people show remarkable resilience and capacity to recover following exposure to trauma. PTSD can occur after a single traumatic event or from prolonged exposure to trauma, such as sexual abuse in childhood...Patients with PTSD are at increased risk of experiencing poor physical health, including somatoform, cardiorespiratory, musculoskeletal, gastrointestinal, and immunological disorders. It is also associated with substantial psychiatric comorbidity, increased risk of suicide, and considerable economic burden (Bisson et al.1).

In Psychological and clinical Neuro Science it is a serious issue that needs to be treated and taken care of. Here, Maggie is not even permitted to express her emotions and fears. Rock and Armando punishes her for not going into cars with

the johns. Their punishment itself reveals the different dimensions of cruelty of the traffickers. First they beat her with the belt severely and “Maggie’s body felt as if she’d been stung by a millions of hornets... Maggie cried, not so much from the pain in her skin, but the pain in her broken heart” (Dearth 205). Then they give her psychological punishment by bringing Seth in front of her and beats him mercilessly. Then Armando keeps a knife near to his throat as if to kill him. All this scenes creates a psychological terror in Maggie. The next day they send a john near her and asks her to have sex with him in a closed car. Then she is forced to act against her fear and the inner conflict of her mind. Thus, she receives a punishments which causes emotional, psychological, and physical impacts on Maggie.

But the novelist continues the story in such a way that difficult circumstances of Maggie breaks her and at the same time moulds her fit enough to fight back. Here, she goes deep into the fear and struggle that gives her confident to face any problem boldly rather than escaping from it. After the incident Maggie feels herself powerful and hope takes root in her mind again. Dearth writes “She was no longer a naïve girl” (209). It emancipates her. Armando sees a new girl within her. He didn’t understand the depth of agony Maggie had suffered at the hands of the sex traffickers. Therefore, Armando could never grasp the strength of her will to emancipate herself from the physical and mental slavery that had been consuming her” (Dearth 209). People sees her as if she is a “woman on mission”. Hence, the novel takes a great turn with Maggie reaching at the pinnacle of pain and tribulations in the hands of sex traffickers, and she comes out from all haunting memories, determined to fight for her lost freedom. .. Maggie speaks through her own sufferings and struggles. Now she challenges it through her will power and self-realization. It describes that “Maggie was no longer afraid of the monsters who had been weighing her down; she was going on the greatest journey of her life. Destination: freedom” (211).

As the novel progresses Paige Dearth slowly introduces the element of hope in the world of hopelessness. It is not presented abruptly, but in a gradual and progressive manner to show that the issue she deals with has its evil roots deep into the societal structure, and it demands in-depth knowledge of the system and its functioning. The system functions by exploiting the victims and inhumane treatment where the subject becomes helpless and becomes a part of their

system. Fight and torture is a daily routine of the subjects. Even the victims themselves fight and kill each other, since they are trained to leave their emotions of love, care and mutual respect. So, in the next phase Juju is seen raped by Legacy's friends, one of the prostitutes of Kensington Avenue. They hurt her badly and it leads her mental and physical exhaustion. Juju takes months to come out of her physical and mental assault. While pains of Juju get reduced, Seth comes with a broken hand since Thelma has beaten him with baseball bat. Maggie takes all pain within herself and she tells stories to ease his pain. He becomes a broken child with no hope for future and in his childhood itself he has undergone all sorts of cruelties. His dream reduces to the level of basic human needs. Maggie thinks " [...] how simple it was for Seth to define happiness. Safety, love, and food were all he wanted. Not too much to ask. Most kids his age wanted things, but all he wanted was stability" (229).

Later Maggie's plan to save Seth, leaves her in trouble that she is forced to select another child from a trafficking group for Seth. Maggie also falls victim of the group as Rock leaves them to pay off new child's debt. Maggie again forced to submit herself for the fantasies of trafficking mafia. They brutally rapes her and she faces hideous sexual assault by the human animal. The writer presents this scene in a direct manner where all sorts of sexual atrocity is exposed in details. Maggie become "bloodied and bruised". After the period of torture Maggie yearns for the "bony fingers of death to take her away from her hell on earth" (249). Later Rock comes back to take back both of them. In this way, Paige Dearth comments on the interlinked groups of trafficking world where children and youngsters are send from one place to another. Later Instead of Seth, Joey is seen suffering under Thelma's custody, who breaks her hand and treat her cruelly even upto the point of death.

Maggie's life in the strip club also exposes new realm of life where girls are being forced to act for the sexual fantasies of the customers. Everywhere she becomes an object and her identity slowly diminishes from one point to the another. At last she is even destined to see the deteriorating body of Seth before her as he is diagnosed HIV last stage. As a foreshadowing of his death, Dearth Paige describes that "Seth walked towards her like a zombie with his arms spread to give her a big hug" (430). Even though Seth was the living force for Maggie, she witnesses his miserable death before her. Last moments of Seth seems to be filled with hallucinations, constant dreams, and physical degradation. In that way, Paige

Dearth exposes the dangerous condition in which the victims are placed. HIV is the common phenomena in the sex trafficking world. Demise of Seth pierces the heart of Maggie as she has witnessed all sorts of separation and cruelties. Maggie's confession to Juju explains the reality of her condition she says

None of us are really living. All we do is exist so that others can make their own lives better. I'm different than a slave. I do the unthinkable. I sell myself, my body, and not because I want to. It's not because I choose to do it. It's because I feel like I have no way out of this shit. ...So many things have happened. I could never face them. I'm too ashamed of the things that I 've done \_that I'm still doing. ( Dearth 378)

She also says that sexual love has become a part of her life and she lost the emotion to love in its right feeling. She lives in an atmosphere where there is no sense of belongings, no love, justice and concern. Maggie have seen all dimensions of monstrosities associated with the human trafficking. She had witnessed the murder of her good companions, separation of her dearest friends and family, and the pathetic condition of the girls and children suffering under the harrowing condition of trafficking system. Her language, behavior, attitude, character, and emotions have corrupted by the evilness of trafficking world. No trace of life can be seen. Hopelessness pervades everywhere. "There were so many unhappy people in Kensington\_\_many born into the hardness of poverty. Hopelessness and joblessness were the mantras in this town, and those two factors often brought out the worst in people" (Dearth 414). Trafficking world is a world of terror and sufferings, where one group of people enrich themselves by exploiting the others. Every one falls prey in the land seems to follow shadows of life. Therefore, Paige Dearth gives special attention to the victims of trafficking. They are seen to be changed drastically. Even it has an impact in the language of the victims slowly the victims start using the abusive languages as they are constantly exposed to it. In the case of Juju, Crista, Darla, Shana even in Seth one can trace the element of language changes. Their attitude towards life changes. Their behavioural or emotional pattern changes where most of the victims are seem to be aggressive and idle. In that way, by presenting a group of victims and their repeated sufferings Paige Dearth unravels the impact of trafficking on the cognitive, affective, psychomotor level of human mind. It affects whole of human system.

End part of both of the novel consisted of the rescuing operation of trafficked children especially of Sita by Thomas and Joey by Maggie. Maggie is seen reunited with her family but still she takes time to accustom to the new world on the other hand Sita again becomes one with Ahalya, and they happily accept Ahalya's new child. Even though the novel ends in a positive notes, Paige Dearth weaves the story in a structured manner where the victims of trafficking are children's and teenagers, which is the prime age of mental, emotional and psychological growth of a human child. By presenting children to face the horrors of trafficking Paige Dearth takes the reader to the deep impact in the minds of human life that may haunt the person and takes his identity where he or she ceased to become human being. Using a different structural pattern Corban Addison unveils various dimensions of human trafficking. Rather than giving focus on the physical sufferings of the victims, he gives special heed to expose the mental sufferings of Sita and Ahalya, as they are separated from each other and their devotion to each other ultimately brings them together. He also connects it with the ancient Hindu mythology where Thomas is presented as having the qualities of Hanuman and Rama, since he rescues Sita and keeps the promise to Sita. In the last she stands before Defoe to do whatever he wants as if she becomes a sexual doll for others. But he saves her at the cost of his life. Along with it we hear the story of many number of girls from different cities. And at last Thomas gives the rakhi in Ahalya's hand as a sign of responsibility and he hears the news of the murder of Abby, along with the news of eight missing girls.

Here, his friend Porter makes a sweeping statement that the story of trafficking goes on. It's never going to end. " Not in our lifetimes, I'm afraid". Even though the novel exposes all the terrible circumstances of the sex trafficking victims and horrors of human trafficking, Corban Addison ends the novel with a positive note., with the reunion of Sita and Ahalya, Priya and Thomas , upholding the value of human relations in the world of human exploitation.

Each and every incidents in *One Among Us* and *A Walk Across the Sun* draw a wider picture of the human trafficking system and its impact in the life of its young victims. Victims represented in the novels are adolescents which is a crucial period of developmental process of human life. In *One Among Us* Paige Dearth presents a number of characters and allows the readers to go through psychological tensions of each persons and it becomes evident that physical and psychological

growth of a person gets curtailed when he becomes a victim of human trafficking. *A Walk Across the Sun* gives the reader a wider picture of the trafficking world and the emotional struggle or imbalanced affective domain of the young victims of trafficking. Psychologically it is a transition period but the victims of trafficking ceased to grow since the traumatic condition they undergo prevents their cognitive, personality, social and psychological changes to occur. It ultimately leads to destruction of millions of young people. When it comes to a girl or a woman it causes larger psychological trauma than the boys, since they are more vulnerable for trafficking incidents because of the increasing economical profit from the global sex market. So, by dealing with the sex trafficking both the writers successful in unveiling the depth of destruction it can cause in the life of human minds. Thus, human trafficking is a social menace, destroys the blissful life of young victims, that needs to be prevented and uprooted.

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## Chapter 3

### **Miserable Parenthood: Impact of Human Trafficking in Family and Societal Structure**

Family is an important constituent of a society. A child learns values, moralities, language, beliefs and relationship from the family structure that helps a person to live in the society as a civilized being. Life of a human being greatly influenced by the family relationship and upbringing. Even the parents find their fulfillment through their children and their success in life. Children find pleasure to be with their guardians. Everyone is interrelated to each other. In the similar manner society also greatly depend upon the members of the particular community and their civilized behaviour. In the case of Freud's psychosocial development, a personality of a person is developed through his or her interaction with himself and outside world especially of family and society. It helps him to grow and to grow in a healthy manner. American Psychiatrist Harry Sullivan mentions that "all human infant is born into a relational milieu, where interpersonal relationships with others have great importance in once developmental process or personality structures"( Brandel 58). In psychology human development is primarily divided into childhood, adolescence , adulthood and old age. First stage is related the family structure and the second falls in social structure and the third falls in the social and family structure together where a person will have a social responsibilities at the same time family responsibilities. In that way one can see the importance of family and societal structure in the development of a person. Hence, disorder in the family or societal relationship may have great consequences in the civilization of a society.

Family and society plays an important role in *One Among Us* and *A Walk Across the Sun*. While dealing with the various tragic impacts of human trafficking in the lives of human being, the writers also place an important place for dealing with the external impact of human trafficking such as family and society, In Freud's term one part of human psyche , Super Ego is consisted of the societal norms and family values that restricts a person from indulging into the instinctual drives of human being. "The superego is the aspect of personality that holds all of our internalized moral standards and ideals that we acquire from both parents and society—our sense of right and wrong" (Cherry ). Human trafficking is an oppressive system of trafficking a person from his family or the society to unknown

land or places for the purpose of exploitation and economic benefits. Sudden removal of a person from a family creates greater impact in the lives of all other members of it. If the trafficked person is a child or adolescent girl or boy it will create a space within the family and it creates an imbalance within it. According to A. K Srivastava and Misra "Children occupy a central place in family as they maintain the continuity of family tree, provide psychological satisfaction, and will help the family economically" (as qtd. By Baron et. al 295). As it comes to society, child trafficking prevents society from getting benefit of the creative youths and young minds, which can contribute to the growth of the progress of society. In the case of sex trafficking , it becomes evident that sex trafficking victims either become a part of the drug mafia or the prostitution world that in turn become a menace to the civilization of the society. In overall view human trafficking creates irreparable impact in the family and societal structure.

Both novels subtly present the evil influence of trafficking in societal and family structure. The importance and value of family relationship is presented in the first chapter of the novel *A Walk Across the Sun*, which is based in India, where girl children are seen to be more attached to their parents. In the first part of the novel, Corban Addison colorfully presents the joyful family life of Ahalya and Sita, adolescent girls of seventeen and fifteen, with their Parents, Naresh and Ambini, Grandmother and their housekeeper Jaya. As the novel is based in the south part of India, relationship has given due importance which plays an important role throughout the novel. They are seen enjoying in their journey to the womanhood. Their parents have great dreams for them as it describes that "all Indian privileged to rise into the ranks of the upper middle class, their parents dreamed of sending them to University in England and firmly believed that a mastery of English was the likeliest ticket to Cambridge or Oxford" (Addison 5). As the novel progresses, it becomes evident that they have received ample knowledge of English, general awareness, moral teachings and stories of Hindu Mythologies, as it a part of Indian family custom. But cruel hands of fate separate them from the parents and they are exposed to the evilness of the world. From the day Kanan has taken them to Chacko and later to Mumbai brothels they are seem to be in the traumatic loss of their parents and their by Ahalya tries to assume the role of the mother to ward off the air of loss from Sita. During their struggle Ahalya holds her and " [...] promised Lakshmi on her father's grave that she would allow no harm to come near her. She

would be a mother to her. She would make the sacrifices necessary to ensure that Sita would find life on the other side of the horrors of this day” (26). Hence, one can see the family relationship is developed within themselves. She takes responsibility to care her sister. Crux of the novel lies in the strong bond between Sita and Ahalya that keeps both of them face boldly even in the midst great turmoils. It becomes clear that the disciplined life that they have received from the family, contributes to her super ego and to take right decisions as a conscious self. These value system holds them when they are destined to walk through the dark phases of life.

On the other hand, even though the novel *One Among Us* is based in Philadelphia, U.S., where family relationship has less priority than Indian culture, Paige Dearth give ample space for the psychic conflict of family members with the loss of their loving child. Here, Maggie is presented as the charming girl of eleven, who has her own dreams and she is a loving daughter for Rob and Lorraine Clarke. “ She was charming and charismatic, which made her easy to engage. As she got older, Maggie’ s love of reading accelerated her ability to be clever with words. She was parent’s pride and joy... They agreed that Maggie would be something very special when she grew up. Rob was confident that she would become a doctor and find the cure for cancer. She was a very special child” ( 21-22). Even though they have one younger son, Keith, they seem to be so close to Maggie and her wishes. Sudden missing of Maggie creates great tension and conflict within the family. So, the novel while dealing with the sufferings of Maggie Clarke it also exposes the sufferings of the parents and the imbalance of the family structure. By creating a smart and talented girl Maggie, Paige Dearth deal with the gravity of the situation with the loss of a child. It also exposes the disorder in the society where human trafficking prevails.

As we look into the structure of the novels in depicting family life, it becomes evident that both the writers weave the story in connection to the life of another character who whole heartedly stay with the miserable family to find their missing girl. In *One Among Us* Corban Addison links Clarke’s family with Detective Harker who shares similar pain of losing his child because of his carelessness for one minute. Lorraine Clarke goes beyond her normal mourning process and she is seen accusing herself since “[t]he tragedy had put an insufferable strain on the whole family” (Dearth 46). and she accuses herself for the loss of the child, “of

course, she was a complete failure, Lorraine told herself. If she had any motherly instinct at all, she would never have let her kid go off by herself in the mall” (48). She loses the interest in the world and continues to do self-accusation and she starts to detach herself from everything. Even she neglects her husband and the son. She loses interest to live in the world. She says “I can barely live with myself now” (60). This stage of mourning Freud in his “Mourning and Melancholia” terms this state of experience as pathological mourning or Melancholia associated with a lost object of love that was very dear to her. So he mentions that “The distinguishing mental features of melancholia are a profoundly painful dejection, cessation of interest in the outside world, loss of the capacity to love, inhibition of all activity, and a lowering of the self-regarding feelings to a degree that finds utterance in self-reproaches and self-revilings, and culminates in a delusional expectation of punishment.” (Freud 243). Even after three years of missing Lorraine is presented as to be in a traumatic and depressed condition. She sees hallucinations of the ghost of their missing daughter. The guilt of leaving her alone in the mall never stopped consuming her. Hence, we see the Clarke family faces imbalance within the house. Lorraine keeps herself to the thought of Maggie and Rob finds himself difficult to survive in the situation. “Other times after he had a few drinks and couldn’t hold back the unshakeable bereavement that had cast a dull pain around his heart, Rob would sit in the basement alone and cry, unable to escape the hopelessness and feeling hatred toward Lorraine” (Dearth 61). In that way the whole family is seen to be shattered at the loss of her child, which is clearly described in the beginning part of the novel itself. At one particular instance Rob says “I love you Lorraine, but inability to cope with the horrible loss is destroying our family”. “Rob was incapable of spending another year there with this spirit of his beloved daughter haunting him day in and day out” (126). Paige Dearth gives enough space to the thought process of the family and their depressed condition to show that family structure will be in ruin in this particular circumstances.

We see a parallel of the same situation which is presented in a different manner in *A Walk Across the Sun*. Corban Addison connects the life and mission of Thomas with the horrible circumstances of Sita and Ahalya. Thomas is presented to be greatly encouraged to work with CASE as an after effect of his witnessing of the kidnapping of Abby, an eleven-year-old girl from the park Rock Creek Park. She is

suddenly kidnapped by two people and her mother Davis loses the control of herself and approaches Thomas with a repeated wailing “Abby’s all I’ve got. I can’t lose her” (Addison 44). Thomas feels the situation as if he is destined to work for it. A cry of a missing lady changes his perception and attitudes towards life. The novel describes that “Thomas felt a stab of irritation. He glanced at the ambulance and saw the girl’s mother being treated for lacerations on her wrists. There was something about the incident that nagged at him. Something didn’t add up” (43). Throughout the novel, we see him haunted by the thought of Abby and it becomes a powerful feeling for him that forces him to act against the trafficking world. “The trade in human beings was a global tragedy, but like child labour and the AIDS epidemic it is irrelevant to his world. The incident in Fayetteville had changed that. Abby Davis had made it personal” (85). He also connects it with the death of her own child Mohini and the hollowness crept into his life after that. Thus we see the pain of loss is an inseparable element in the novel since the human trafficking incidents center around the pain of loss and the shattered human relationships.

At the same time, in Mumbai Sita and Ahalya are seen haunted by the loss of their family and the immoral life in the brothel life. As they prepare themselves to join together and to support one another as a family receives a terrible blow with the arrival of Navin who buys her and takes her before the raid happened. When Ahalya is rescued, she realizes that Sita is gone. She is overwhelmed by inexplicable fear and anguish. It is described in a painstaking manner. “A shapeless terror gripped Ahalya’s mind. She fell to her knees and began to rock back and forth. Tears streamed from her eyes and collected on her chin. She reached out of Sumnera’s Sari. “Where did she go?” she begged, sobbing, but the gharwali failed to respond. “How could you?” she cried. “Have you no soul?” (170). She even thinks of dying and since “In death, at least, she would not have suffered” (185). She also lost connection with the time and she is seen doubly traumatized. “Ahalya dozed fitfully, her sleep best by nightmares. The roar of the tsunami blended with the clickety-clack of the Chennai Express and the repulsive sounds of Shankar’s lust...Her only desire was to be united with Sita. Life had lost all other meaning” (186-187). At this moment onwards we see pain of loss in a family through Ahalya and the depressed state of Sita. Then Corban Addison connects the destiny of Ahalya with that of Thomas. While Thomas’ meeting with Ahalya he ensures her that he will help to find Sita. Ahalya ties rakhi in the hands of Sita. The

band in his hand enforce his responsibility of finding Sita. So, one can find number of parallels between both the novels. Pain of Lorraine Clarke is paralleled with Ahalya at the loss of Sita. Thomas and Detective Harker have similar responsibility bestowed on them. Their destiny is connected with the pain of loss of beloved one. They both have gone through the same circumstances and both are from U.S. In that way both the novels connects the trafficking incidents with the grief of the family members and the widening gap it creates in the family structures.

Dream plays an important role in the novel *A Walk Across the Sun* that shows the value of relationships, the intimacy with which they are bonded and the depressed state of the characters. When Sita is away in Paris her deep sleep after constant hard work is seen filled with the thought of Ahalya. “ She saw Ahalya dancing on the beach. She shook her head and focused on the bookcase across the room. Ahalya is not here, she thought. Stay Awake. Before long, however she drifted again. There was Ahalya, meeting her after class at St. Mary’s” (325). And in another scene Sita makes a vow to God that she would never forget her sister. “She would remember the person she was and the India they knew before the madness. The world could take their freedom; it could steal their innocence; it could destroy their family and sweep them in currents beyond their understanding But it could not deprive them of memory. Only time had that power, and Sita would resist it at all cost” (343). In her memory and dream Ahalya repeatedly coming, since she is the only one relationship in the world. The tsunami has taken her family members and trafficking world, which comes as the second tsunami to separate them, separated them into to parts of the world. Sita reaches at the pinnacle of grief. On the far end of the land Ahalya is also seen depressed within herself at the grief of separation. She loss herself and ceased to live in the present, and find pleasure to live in the past. Her imagination becomes the defend mechanism of the mind. “ she projected personalities into a future that should have been, picturing the lines of her mother’s face in old age, imagining her father on her wedding day, envisioning Sita as a grown woman. Her imagining went on and on, and she lost all sense of time. In fact, so often did Ahalya dissociate that the sisters at the Ashram had begun to scold her about it” (400). She also is seen to be in search of any object that would help to suppress the traumatic feelings. Here, she gets Lotus seeds and she tends it, and blooming of the lotus is

presented as the blooming of Sita's spirit. So, she thinks "There was life in the pot. The lotus would bloom. It had to bloom, because Sita's spirit was in it. Grow! She commanded. You are the reason I rise in the morning" (Addison 401). All these descriptions lead one to the fact that human trafficking creates a dark space within the people who are directly or indirectly affected by it. Corban Addison described it as the powerful evil force that thrives in the society destroying the basic structure of relationships.

Apart from describing the disintegration of family relationship, Paige Dearth also gives special attention to the family developed with the victims as Maggie is destined to meet and share the pains with many others. In the beginning of her confinement we see Maggie, Cali, Max, Seth are seen forming a family relationship within the, where Cali starts behaving like the mother of Seth. Their deep love relationships make them to feel better even in the midst of all sexual atrocities. Maggie tries to acquire knowledge through the medical books given by Dr. Barnes and tries to treat Shana and Max whenever they are in a critical stage after their struggles. They recreate good companionship within themselves. But the trafficking system functions through destroying relationships. In the world of trafficking human relationships have no place and it is a system that functions by separation and enforcing terror to every victim. As they start loving to each other cruel hands of separation devour one by one. Max was the first victim of cruel death. John Williams beats him brutally and Maggie realizes that his internal spleen is broken and bleeding started. She treats her as if his mother in the last moment and the last moment is described in detail to explain the real pain of separation. In the midst of tormenting pain Maggie says "He knew that we all loved him, he loved all of us too". "They were all hurting. Each of them had lost a brother. All they had was each other, and now, one of them was gone" (Dearth 100). Later Cali and Maggie are seen very close to each other as if they are inseparable. But last moment they realize that they are going to be sold separately. Before leaving Cali offers help to Maggie that whenever goes out she would help her to connect with the family. But John William overhears it and the consequence was terrible. They make Maggie witness the murder of Cali. They lock her in a cage and throw her into the water pool alive. Maggie witnesses the cruel hands of death swallowing Cali. "The images of Cali's death haunted her, and she slipped into the state of shock. She stood looking up at John William. She

had nothing left to say to him. The burden of loss and grief was so powerful that she went limp and slumped to the floor” (115).

Maggie realizes that it is a part of the slave life. Feeling of separation has to become a part of the collective conscience of the victims. They have to keep aside all their moral and emotional attachments. It can be seen till the end of the novels where we see Maggie tries to take care of Seth like a mother along with Juju. So “Maggie feels an obligation to Seth, and it was her intent to keep him safe, fed, and love, just as she had promised him” (264). One time Maggie says “Set even if your mom and dad were to find you, we’ll always be family” (288). Juju also says that they are three musketeers “All for one for all”. Maggie also witnesses the reunion of Seth with his parents Mr/s Frey as they identifies him with his identity marks in the hands. But Paige Dearth presents the reunion in a heart rending manner, since it is the time where Seth is affected by HIV virus in third stage. Mr. Frey opens his sorrow filled soul before Colby that

It’s very difficult to lose a child and never know what has become of him. On our best days, we imagine him living with a family that wanted a child and paid some thug to steal one for them. On our worst days, we imagine our child being a drug addict or lying in a shallow grave where no one will ever find him. Being the parent of a missing child makes you appreciate time. Every minute, from the moment the child is stolen, feels like an eternity. Nothing ever taste the same, looks the same, or sounds the same. All the little pleasures you enjoyed, even sex, become somewhat dulled and bland. (Dearth 445)

But before they could love him Death separates him from them. “It was an agonizing bereavement, and neither of them could believe that what had happened...losing him again forever was a terrible blow” ( Dearth 473). In that way Paige Dearth clearly exposes the trauma of family suffering even within the structure of Maggie’s life.

Both the novels are placed between the value of relationship as the space of human trafficking devoid of pure love and emotion, instead everything is replaced by pure evil. Sita and Ahalya seem to be passing through darkest hours of their life and nothing seems to be deliver them except their reunion. In the mean time, we see them sticking to the values of their family and society. Apart from Maggie and

other characters in *One Among Us*, Sita and Ahalya are seen to be fenced by a Super Ego that is consisted of their family values, norms and Indian moral behaviours. So even though they are placed in the midst of abusive and repulsive lifestyle they keep themselves defended all evil forces outside. Whenever she is surrounded by immoral behaviour or struggle some circumstances outside Sita is seen holding the hanuman close to her. Like the Lotus bud that makes the spirit of Ahalya alive we see Sita's spirit is enlivened by the her family values and teachings of religious practices. So in one instance Alexi drags a girl before her and she is raped before Sita. Sita witnesses it and comforts her. Suddenly her thought reaches to her mother. "How many times Ambini had sat at her bedside holding her hand when she was a little girl. It was a kindness she could pass along, even in the midst of such darkness" ( Addison 362). In another incident of Alexi's cruelty it is being described as "[T]he depth of her sorrow surprised her. She reached into her sari and rubbed Hanuman with her thumb. She tried to pray, tried to believe that the monkey (hanuman) wasn't just a piece of ceramic in her hand, that the real Hanuman was out there somewhere searching for her" ( Addison 348). Even Ahalya during their life in the brothels tells her of the stories of Ramayana, especially of Rama and Hanuman who delivers Sita from the hands of Ravana. At one instance Sita is escaped from sexual encounter, Ahalya says

Rama was watching over you, Little flower...He kept you from harm" " Not Rama" Sita corrected her, "Baba. He promised always to protect her" Sita closed her eyes and pictured her father's face ... gold flecked eyes full of wisdom and kindness... "You're right" Ahalya agreed, stroking her hair. "It was Baba. (143)

This scene clearly reveals the love and knowledge they receive from their families. In Freud's term these knowledge act as their Super Ego and helping the ego to remain not to fall in darkness. Thomas also feels obligated to find Sita since it also has connection to the failed marriage relationship with Priya. Even though he deviates from being faithful to Priya at last she realizes it and comes back with the qualities of Rama of Ramayana. Along with the reunion of Ahalya and Sita we also see the recreation of family life between Thomas and Priya. Thus, in a way family plays a very important role in the novel. Corban Addison upholds the value of family life and comments upon the immoral human relationship in the realm of trafficking. But at the same time we see the powers of human trafficking is so

powerful that it destroys the good family relationship as it is in the case of Sumeera, Bedia girls who are trafficked from family and Ukrainian girls imprisoned in the Petrovich's house etc. So he questions the corrupted life system of the trafficking mafia, that separates people from their families and from their honoured self. But Corban Addison gives lesser space to the trauma of family relationship instead it is presented in an indirect manner by exposing the importance and intimacy of human relationships within a family, that can stay people together even if they are separated for one or another cause. At the same time we see both Sita and Ahalya are seen disappointed and traumatized at certain moments where they lose the connection to the past. Even Sita loses the vision of her past and faith in prayer. Ahalya is seen disoriented by the guilt of losing her virginity in the brothel house showing that the trauma infiltrated by the world of sex trafficking can carve out the spirit of any life.

The element of family trauma is highlighted through the mission of Thomas and Clarke family. Their experience with the traumatic victims helps us to understand the struggles of family in losing a child and to nurture her back to her normal routine if she comes back. Clarke family gets disappointed with the news of her child is in the custody of sex trafficking people. Rob Clarke slowly adjusts to the rhythm of life but Lorraine finds to have a proper means to overcome her overwhelming sorrow. So we see each of the parents of missing children finds different means to escape from the depressing thoughts of the missing of their child. In Freud terms this experience as Sublimation where the "repressed material is promoted into something grander or is disguised manner" (Barry 92). He connects it with the libidinal energy or the unaccepted desires that comes out in a socially acceptable form. Henry Segal connects the Sublimation process related to depressive experiences where he explains "sublimation as an aspect of the depressive position and reparation, which involved a giving up of phantasy and was always accompanied by the mourning of a loss. Sublimation allowed the creation of a new object, which restored the lost object in unconscious phantasy and brought something new into the world" (As qtd by. Jones n.p.). So one can see the sublimation experience where an individual transfer the energy released from the traumatic experiences in a constructive way so that the intensity of it can be reduced. Here, Detective Harker goes through a terrible circumstances with the loss of their daughter, she was kidnapped by some one, he says "When they

discovered her body, my wife and I were relieved and devastated at the same time. We were relieved because she had been found and because she was no longer suffering. Yet we were devastated because the hope that we'd held onto for long was gone. It was hard to move away from that place of hope. ..It is the most unnatural and unsettling feeling anyone can imagine...it's enough to drive insane". "For some reason , Harker felt that if he could return Maggie to her parents, he could redeem himself for failing his own child" ( Dearth 48). So, Harker is seen emotionally invested in the issue as he wants to escape from the depression as the same time guilt induced by his super ego as his carelessness for few minutes leads to the tragedy.

At the same time we see Lorraine goes through terrible stress of listening to the stories of sex trafficking incidents. She says " I have gone to the brink of madness thinking about her with some maniac all by herself" (89). They find themselves difficult cope with the traumatic situation since it starts carving out the harmony of their family. So, they find ways to escape from this situation by becoming advocates for families of missing children. Lorraine finds comfort within herself through this process. So, she says " We're helping people to cope. In a weird way, I find comfort in helping other people. I wish there was more we could do" ( Dearth 255). Later we see both of them crying at the thought of her missing child since the wound remain in their mind. So, Paige Dearth describes it as "[t]he two of them shared an unimaginable pain that only parents of missing children could know. All of the false leads that had given them temporary relief and optimism had lead to dead ends . Then the cycle of grief and loss started all over again, as if it were the first day Maggie was gone" (Dearth 256). As they go through the mission of consoling the victims strange and miserable stories of the children makes her Lorraine realizes the actual struggles of sex trafficking victims and the struggles of their child as she is a victim of it. Every conversation with the children makes her emotionally disoriented. After her experience with Kelly " she cried for Kelly's lost youth and the baby that had been taken from her. Then she cried for Maggie, the child she'd lost and had yet to find. The regret in her heart was a constant pain, reminding her of the how she'd failed to protect her daughter"( 317). Hence Paige Dearth presents the idea that the trauma the victims face is multi-dimensional it creates equal effect in the minds of the family also. Then the novel exposes the sufferings of the families of missing children.

Next victim Darla's case becomes critical that their parents also seem to be lost within themselves as their child is seen to be a hard-core addict of heroine. It took them three weeks to figure out that the girl is Darla. The pathetic condition of their child made them traumatic. Here, the description of the house plays an important role. "As Lorraine followed Wendy through the house, she took in the vaulted ceilings, immaculate furnishings, and the sunlight that poured out through massive, floor to ceiling windows. The home was spectacular. Every detail and every piece of furniture harmonized. It was a home to be envied" (Dearth 355). They are seen to be having all the luxuries of life. Even though every thing within the house seems to be harmonized but the people living in the house lost their harmony. It becomes clear from Wendy's, mother of Darla, words "No one can really understand the hollowness when you have a child that's missing. It felt as if someone had reached inside of me and pulled everything out until I was nothing more than bones covered with skin. I couldn't eat, couldn't sleep. It became almost impossible to get out of bed in the morning... To be honest. Todd and I aren't coping at all. I think we expected to get back the child who was stolen from us. But that just isn't the case. Darla has been through so much...Before Darla was taken, she was a straight- A student and a strong athlete. She had a lot of friends. Darla was an outstanding swimmer, and her dream was to compete in the Olympics....Now we have a daughter who is a heroine addict" (356). We can see it as the confession of the mother of sex trafficking victim. Here, the writer uses an imagery of "dark angels soaring above the stone building" to show that in the life of that wealthy family Darla, evil started claiming their entire life. Their house, even though the child has returned, becomes a place of unending fear and sorrow. Their pain is never going to end. The child trafficking has made a wreck of havoc to their life. Every harmony of their life is shattered, no hope to come back to the previous state of existence.

Even the parents of Seth after the loss of their child at the age of four started to be horribly haunted by horrible visions. They started looking for her child everywhere and we see them finding a way to get out of the terrible pain they are undergoing. In the novel their work is described as "over the years, they'd helped many children and families with monetary donations or by creating organizations in several states to provide the shelter and resources necessary to recover from the trauma associated with the missing and exploited children" (Dearth 446). At last

they reach in Maggie's house to console her in her painful situation with a child having AIDS. Their meeting takes a new turn as the child living with Maggie turns out to be their missing son. But child trafficking made such a harm that even both parents and child find difficulty in identifying each other, since Seth was taken during his early ages of child hood. Their reunion is not become a happy reunion which is presented in a symbolic manner. Before they could talk openly to Seth, imposed fate of death takes him away. "It was the second time they were grieving the loss of their child. It was an agonizing bereavement, and neither of them could believe what had happened. They were so grateful to be able to see their son again. But losing him again forever was a terrible blow" (473). Therefore it becomes a symbolic reunion and separation that highlights that a family that faces human trafficking incident can be doubly traumatized. Hopelessness and despair prevail at the time of loss and the time of reunion. The child will be irrecoverably changed. So, even Maggie thinks that she is not the eleven year who had been trafficked and she has changed a lot. Her mental system itself gets controlled by the unknown forces of sex trafficking. Every year of her confinement take her away from her ideal self. In that way we see she even goes beyond the control of super ego and guilt factor. Paige Dearth gives special attention to the love relations of Maggie and Colby. Even if she finds her mother she denies to live with her family. She lives a life of her own, far from the regular constrains of the family and social rules. Maggie and Colby start living in one house and they exchange wild passions between one another as if they are experiencing real love for the first time. A new mental orientation happens in Maggie. In that way Paige Dearth clearly expresses the imbalance and disharmony of the family structures in the world of human trafficking.

Along with the family relationship, we see the destruction of the family and social values of a number of people. In *A Walk Across the Sun* Sita and Ahalya are seen as an ideal adolescent children living within the boundaries of the family and society. Human trafficking world exposes them all the evilness of the world. They loss their power to control or defend themselves. After the Tsunami incident, instead of showing kindness to the children, many people try to befool them for their own benefits. A place where human trafficking prevails is a place of corruption, injustice and exploitation. It is a place devoid of values of civilization instead all forms of dark unseen forces come into existence. They find themselves

entangled within it, but still tried to preserve their moral values. Brothel structure itself is a result of the sex trafficking where many women and children are being exploited and violated again and again until they are useless for the exploiters. While Sumeera garlanded her with jasmine and marigold, Ahalya detests within herself and calls the place as a “house of sin”. Sumeera’s words as “I was once like you. I was taken from my home and brought here by strange men” (Addison 70). This statement reflects the unending roots of evil practices prevailing in the society. Ahalya is violated again and again mercilessly. Sita is destined to listened to the wailing of her sister. Society itself is seem to be distorted with the arrival of human trafficking practices. So, Nigel McPhee of CASE, comments “Bombay’s full of bad guys-street thugs, traffickers, pimps, gangsters, drug dealers, brothel owners. Kamathipura is only the beginning...Scratch the surface and you get a disease” (129).

All the society seem to be hiding this aspect of their society and live behind the curtain of civilization. Even Thomas’ work with the CASE exposes the reader to the injustice prevailing in Mumbai society under the veil of trafficking business. We see even the police and judiciary system itself gets dominated by the practices it. Those who needs to guide the society to civilization through certain, in Freud’s term, “repressive mechanism”, gets influenced by the web of human trafficking and all the law system distorted. It shows that entire system of society itself is shattered with the practices of the human trafficking system. Thomas while studying the situation of legal procedures he comes to know that many victims, who are rescued have denied justice by the court itself. Jogeswari case is an example of it, even though police rescued five minor girls from the Jogeswari slums, case becomes a complete disaster. Pimps and brothel owners are not at all punished for their crime. Confessions of the minor girls are denied by the name of their language problem and failure to record the testimony of the victims. Thomas here realizes that the whole system is broken in the Bombay society. In Freud’s term Society’s ego is tuned to the whims and fancies of the unconscious and Super ego has lost its power to impose rules and values, there by it is devoid of guilt or shame. “Bombay is a den of thieves because people sat on their hands and let it become that way” (147).

Foucault's idea of power and knowledge explains the way the girls are being controlled and the whole system is in a process of acceptance or an illusion of reality. So Foucault says "Knowledge is linked to power, not only assumes the authority of "The truth" but has the power to make itself true. All knowledge, once applied in the real world, has effects, and in that sense at least 'becomes true.' Knowledge, once used to regulate the conduct of others, entails constraint, regulation and the disciplining of practice" ( as qtd. By Mason ). The power of the brothel and trafficking owners make them to create a system of practices that becomes a source of new knowledge. In that way prostitution and dance bars become a part of the society. Even the parents are ready to send their girls to it. The judicial system itself is controlled by the power of the brothel or bar owners. They control whole the city and even the economy itself is regulated by the them. So Nigel, director of CASE field operation, after seeing sex slavery in the bars, comments that

Most of them were born into it . They're Bedia girls. Women from their caste have been prostitutes for centuries... Their parents groom them for this. They bring them here when they're teenagers and put them on the bar line. ...It's the only thing they know...The customers don't care. A bar girl is a fantasy. The guys convince themselves that the girls are in love with them. They're not buying a prostitute. They're giving a gift to a girlfriend...Everything is an illusion in this place.( Addison 156)

Thus, we see the hollowness spread everywhere in the society and the power of trafficking world that can destroy the roots of civilization.

Description of Kensington Avenue in *One Among Us* also expresses this truth. When Maggie is taken to Kensington Avenue to live as a prostitute, the land is described in detail. Kensington Avenue is a world where smell of corruption spreads everywhere. The whole city is under the control of drug mafia. Paige Dearth gives special attention to describe the structure and functioning of the society. "The whole city seemed to be in a state of hopelessness. People came and went, and city just got older and more decrepit. The structures continued to stand, but only because they were made of brick and mortar. Paint peeled from the buildings; black grime from city living and neglect covered the red brick...It was as though hell had seeped up from the bowels of the earth and covered the city

like a wet wool blanket” ( Dearth 215). Paige Dearth presents Kensington Avenue as a waste land of exploiters, pimps, and women folk who have destined to woo the men passing through it. The clients are also referred to as “johns” since their identity never reveals. On the other hand, the women having sexual intercourse with them are assigned to the dark spaces of society. They ceased to have a proper identity and assumes a collective identity of prostitute. Maggie and Seth’s life receives terrible blow while living in this land. . Hopelessness pervades everywhere. “There were so many unhappy people in Kensington many born into the hardness of poverty. Hopelessness and joblessness were the mantras in this town, and those two factors often brought out the worst in people” (Dearth 414). There is no hope of escape those who entangled in it. It works as a cancerous disease that spreads from one place to another. So we see Rock goes to another sex trafficking racket to purchase a new girl with Maggie. Maggie’s experience with them is the most inhumane actions described in the novel where they enjoys all sorts of their sexual perversion on the body of Maggie. It clearly exposes the danger lies beneath the ramification of the sex trafficking issue.

Corban Addison takes this issue into global trafficking by directing the course of action through Sita being trafficked into Mumbai, Paris and U.S. and connects her with many other victims from Russia, Ukrain etc. suggesting that it is not region specific but is a global issue. Sita is taken to Paris where she is destined to work in the house of Petrovich family. During her work she sees a brothel like structure within the house. Six girls are locked into various rooms and they are allowed to come out with his permission, later we know that they are Ukranian girls. Later it reveals that they’ve been operating an escort service and a porn site using girls from Eastern Europe” ( Addison 357). Later Thomas realizes that it is a common and serious phenomena happened in Soviet Union where young women are trafficked into sex trade. Then the novel progresses through the trafficking of Sita into U.S. where she witnesses girls are loaded in a truck and sent to different parts for the use people are held in a truck and used for many porn sites. The girls are also seen loss their good qualities they started to show aggression among themselves to relieve themselves from the tormenting experiences. Most of the victims in the novel are presented as mere lifeless being incapable of showing their emotions or desires. All of them are ruined physically and psychologically by the traffickers. They dreams nothing but their peaceful death. When Sita is

rescued Thomas hears the news of many other secret brothel houses in Philadelphia and the helpless minor victims. In that way, we see both the novels are some way reaching to a conclusion of the cancerous growth of the trafficking system and the destruction it causes in the lives of the family and the society.

In the end of *A Walk Across the Sun* we listen to the story of the missing of three Mexican girls and the murder of Abby by trafficked people. Here, Thomas realizes the fact that the trafficking business is not going to end, instead it continues from one Abby to another, one Ahalya or Sita to another. So even in *One Among Us* Maggie sees Armando dragging a new girl to the upstairs. “Maggie’s thoughts shifted to when she’d arrived at the house. The days she’d spent in the vertical box in the closet. The humiliation and dehumanization that he had taken place to taken place to break her in. Her heart melted for the poor young girl. With big, brown, innocent eyes who was being dragged up the steps” (Dearth 438). Maggie also understands that this process never going to end, it will continue from one girl to another. It will continue to carve out the life of the families and also of the societies. Family value of care, love, protection, sharing gets destroyed in the face of trafficking. Societal values of morality, justice, truth, goodness reduce to ashes where the trafficking system prevails. It can causes destruction to every system associated with it. It becomes a menace to the civilization of the society. It produces prostitutes, drug addicts, thugs, traumatic people, imbalanced family and society. If we analyse it in the eyes of Freud’s Psychoanalysis theory, mental disorder happens when Ego is unable to mediate between Id and Super Ego. Here, the element of Super Ego, can be seen as the societal and family values, that losses its values in the world of trafficking where an imbalanced system starts functioning. Similarly here also we see the growth of trafficking groups can create an imbalance and disharmony in all the system of the society.

But the writers, through the characters such as Sita, Ahalya, Thomas, Colby and Maggie try to preserve an element of hope that if community as a whole comes together to fight against the injustice there is a chance of the uprooting of the entire system. So the titles of both the novels gives a positive connotation. The title *One Among Us* is taken from the words of Cali before her separation with Maggie. She says “Ever since I met you, I knew you were special. You’re stronger than the rest of us. ...I always knew that you were the one among us that would make it out of here and find your way back” (Dearth 109). The author, through Maggie, exhorts

us to be one among others to fight for this evil system. The title *Walk Across the Sun* refers to the poem written by Thomas when he finds Sita and returns back with a hope to join with Priya. He writes “We walk across the sun/ And our shadows fall Upon the dial of time/ In names spoken by the light /that gives us birth” (Addison 492). Here, the sun refers to his hope that he preserves within him that his relationship can be reconnected. In another way the writer tells us that all the characters in the novels were walking across the sun even though the path seems to be rocky and difficult. Even though the evil prevails the writers exhorts us to walk across the sun and to strive forward. Everyone is destined for great purposes and the hurdles need to be defended and surpassed.

Corban Addison and Paige Dearth in their novels try to highlight the widespread destruction caused by the trafficking industry in the various realms of life. Apart from the traumatic impact it causes on the individual, it also brings great damage in the family and the social structures. All the values and believes, associated in with generating a civilized society, are being destroyed by the evil roots trafficking mafia and their widespread activities. *One Among Us* and *A Walk Across the Sun* opens up to the world of human trafficking business and the needs to fight for the freedom of young lives. It urges the reader to act for the liberation off human lives and to prevent the roots of trafficking to grow further. It needs the devotion and the empathy of the people, and they need to be aware about the issues of trafficking instead of remain idle and fall into the collective repression or pretended amnesia towards this evil forces. It is a spreading disease that can affect the whole system of the society. So, the writers exhort for an urgent need to work against it.

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## Chapter 4

### **Exploitive Web of Human Trafficking: An In-depth Study of the Representations in the Two Novels of the Psychological Spheres of the Mafia World**

*One Among Us* and *A Walk Across the Sun* are two valuable sources of literary works that helps in deconstructing the various realms of human trafficking. They not only expose the long lasting impact it creates in the minds of the young victims and their families but also reveal the complex power structure lies beneath the web of trafficking. Human trafficking is a serious crime that involves the exploiters and the victims. It functions by gaining profits by exploiting the victims thereby violate the basic rights to life, liberty, peace of mind and security. Corban Addison and Paige Dearth present the novel in a third person point of view and proceed the story in a well-structured manner, so that all the aspects of the issue can be described in detail. So, they also give ample space for the reader to decipher the functioning and mental psyche of the exploiters. Since the novels are based primarily in U.S. and India. It provides us a wider view of trafficking world and the universal nature of it as it is spread across the world. Paige Dearth being a victim of sexual assault, one can see her language itself reveals her aversion towards the exploiters and she expressed everything in detail with so much of openness, and frankness. It links us to the idea of psychoanalytic criticism that

[...]literary texts, like dreams, express the secret unconscious desires and anxieties of the author, that a literary work is a manifestation of the author's own neuroses. One may psychoanalyze a particular character within a literary work, but it is usually assumed that all such characters are projections of the author's psyche.. The author's own childhood traumas, family life, sexual conflicts, fixations, and such will be traceable within the behavior of the characters in the literary work. ( "Psychoanalytic criticism" Delahoyde)

Hence, a writer's language of the writing speaks of the unconscious of the writer and, it also explains us to the different language and description pattern used by Paige Dearth in his writings. She uses various metaphors to describe the

barbarous behaviour of the exploiters. So, one can find the open expression of sexual assault and the wild passion of the perpetrators as a form of the work of unconscious to expressed the repressed content of her mind.

Paige Dearth deals with all the dimensions of the issue with special attention. On the other hand, Corban Addison does not focus more on the actions of exploiters but it gives us a clear picture of the mechanism with which they functions. Being a lawyer, he tries to expose the manipulations happening in the court and law system of various countries, which he even presents in contrast with the sacrificing work of the U.S., special enforcement agency. In the beginning Thomas itself being presented as a power oriented attorney who stands in favour of Wharton group, but later he is seen leaving behind all his desire to reach in the Federal bench and to work sacrificially for the human trafficking victims. In one way, Corban Addison presents the need to work against the exploitive system and hidden roots of the growth of trafficking people. Both of the novels as a whole, highlight the psyche of the exploiters and the means through which they thrive in their business world. One needs to know about the structure of the web through which trafficking world performs, these novels expose before us the element anti-social behaviour lies beneath the human trafficking system.

Most of the antagonists in the novels are presented to be a threat to the society as they exhibit certain patterns of behaviour that destroys the lives of many people and the moral foundations of society. Both of the novels are present them as having a sort of greater inclination towards sex, money, power, and pleasure. They show destructive emotion towards the victim. The orientation of the traffickers towards pleasure, erotic feelings, and aggression lead to the idea of unconscious proposed by Freud. While dealing with the human psyche, Sigmund Freud suggests that unconscious or the Id part of human mind which is “the area of instincts, dreams, desires and all that does not come to the fore in our consciousness...is the greatest threat to our identity as a rational humans” ( Nayar 65). Unconscious stores unpleasant, unacceptable emotions and the extreme thoughts of pain, anxiety, conflict etc. in a repressed manner. In his theory of the unconscious Freud associates the unconscious with pleasure principle, and proposes that two basic instinctual emotions, Eros (Love) and Thanatos (aggression). Unconscious being a part of the human psyche, it is being constantly controlled by the ego and super ego to be called as a normal human being. While

representing the traffickers in the novel, they are seen to be in lost within themselves and exceed the limitations of all instinctual pleasures. Pleasure for money, power and sex make them abnormal within themselves and away from the prescribed norms and values of the society. In other way, the antagonists in the novel presented as pathological characters who are unable to control themselves. So, human trafficking system becomes a practice of pervasive erotic pleasure, aggressive behaviour and expression of human barbaric culture since they find the exploitation of others as an effective means to express their unacceptable sexual desires, violent motives, selfish needs and irrational human wishes.

Both the novels focus on the sex trafficking business world since it is considered as the profitable industry of human trafficking through which all the elements of trafficking system is exposed in a detailed manner. Their work seems to be revolving around the mantras of money and sex, that makes the victims as a market products and the exploiters becomes the customers or buyers of the property exhibited to them. In *A Walk Across the Sun* Corban, Addison connects the trafficking world with the desire for money. It moves in a cycle of process from lower customers to the higher sellers. Kanan the lorry driver begins the business and the cycle goes on. He trafficks Ahalya and Sita to Chacko's house and he gets thousand rupees for his work. From Chacko's family they are sold to Amar by Prakash for twelve thousand rupees. Amar, then sells them to Suchir's brothel for sixty thousand rupees. From here we see the interconnected web of human trafficking that functions by supporting one another and by exploiting trafficked victims. Sita and Ahalya go through the process of the loss of identity as newer transactions have been made using them as mercantile products. In the brothel house Ahalya is being raped again and again, causing her psychological and physical illness, but on the other hand we see Suchir, who runs the brothel house, is becoming wealthy through Ahalya who is prized from fifteen thousand rupees to sixteen thousand rupees. While introducing them to Shankar, their regular customer, the brothel owner says "I have something delectable for you tonight. Two girls-both sealed pack. This is the older one" ( Addison 100). Then again we see Sumeera makes them to wear the finest sarees and jewelry, in order to introduce them before new customers. It is described that " The costumes had been an enticement to the buyer, allure for his money" (Addison 142). Then later we see the conversation for her transaction "I will give her to you for ten

thousand.” “ So expensive, my friend? How many times has she been with a man?”. “Only twice. She is very fresh”” (164). It reveals the mentality of the customers that they never consider the girls as humans instead they are reduced to be a human property destined to be sold. It reveals the dehumanizing aspects of the trafficking world. Sumeera justifies herself before Ahalya by saying that “It is the way of Golpitha”. He closes the first part with this phrase which has a significant meaning that nothing can be expected more from the brothel houses except to sell or to exhibit.

From Navin the process continues, suggesting the universal nature of the trafficking world. Navin uses Sita as a scapegoat for Navin’s international drug trade. He makes her to carry thirty heroine stuffed condom in her stomach and he threatens her that if a condom ruptures death is sure. When he reach there he gives her to the restaurant job for five thousand euros. Sita’s work in the petrovich’s house also reveals the economic and sexual exploitation of the Ukranian girls by the Petrovich family. Sita witnesses girls are being molested and used for porn pictures and also they are carried to other places in the night. There is no life in the face of the girls as she sees Dietrich leading them in procession at the night. “All of them were dresses in provocatively in short skirts, high heels, and revealing tops. Although it was still winter, only Natatlia wore a coat. None of them spoke or looked at each other”. In that way, the girls are presented as deteriorating day by day, but on the other hand Petrovich family leads a luxurious life at the cost of these girls. It can even see in U.S. where Sita is presented before others because of her beauty for high prices. So we see the life of exploiters revolves around the craving for money that makes them blind about anything in the world. Before money a trafficked person becomes a private mercantile property to be sold and benefited according to its market demand.

Similar scenes are presented in *One Among Us* also. Maggie is carried from one place to another since she is considered as beautiful and young. Brothel like structure in the abandoned place of John Myles and Kensington Avenue, the land of prostitution and corruption. Myles bring all sorts of perverted people before the children for making their canal desire satisfied. For that purpose he kidnaps Max and Seth also. So, we see homosexuals, sadistic people, sex addicts, porn film makers are all seen to be the customers of Myles. But Maggie, Seth, Cali, Shana and Max slowly losses their identity within themselves. They are constantly

threatened and assaulted for the purpose of the exploiters. The link of trafficking goes to Rock who is presented as the symbol of “money minded maggot” who is ready to kill anyone for getting himself prosper. With his money he starts controlling the whole land of Kensington Avenue , even the hospitals, schools, and he decides the daily chores of the society. He cuts the fingers of Juju when she misses her five hundred dollar one time. He leaves Maggie in another worst sex trafficking centre, in order to pay the money of the selected child Joey. Money is seen carved out his humanity from him and he is ready to do all sorts of immoral and corrupted practices for the purpose of accumulating money. Rock is being described as “ [F]or Rock, everything came down to money. All his decisions were based on how he could make the most money possible” ( Paige 268). So, when he sees Maggie dancing well, he takes her to a pole dancing club and tries to get benefit out of that. He exploits all her potentials and make use of her young beauty by sending her to different clients, and reduces her to be a prostitute. Maggie feels revulsion at the thought of his dehumanizing acts and her thoughts reflect it. She thinks “ Every day of your life is a free ride as long as we’re out selling ourselves while you sit in here on your big blubber ass. Sucking up everything you can get your hands on and treating us like a pack of numskulls, you big dick wad” ( Dearth 156). Thus, money is presented as a complex problem that acts as the gravitational force of the trafficking industry. They regulate their life and connect within themselves using money as a central source.

In one way or another we see the exploitive web of the trafficking web derives their power from their access to money. So, Along with the money we see the element of power associated with it. Money becomes a source of repressive mechanism since it controls the daily chores of the society and to assume sovereignty over the others. Money gives them the power to do whatever they wanted and to control the collective conscience of the society. Corban Addison presents the idea through the unfathomable power of Suchir, the owner of brothel house, and dance club owners. Their accumulation of wealth by exploiting the victims, help them to have power over the legal system of the state. By their wealth and power they create an illusion reality which is in align with the paths of immorality and corruption. So, Samantha Penderhook calls the whole system of law and order as “circus” and says “[T]he court system here is backlogged to the breaking point and full of idiosyncrasies” (Addison 127). The court procedures for

the Jogeswari case stands as a clear indication of the power of the brothel owners and the injustice that prevails in the society. Even though all evidences are against the brothel owners they escape from the punishment through their influence over the judicial system. So Samantha says “Even when the evidence is airtight, the perpetrator absconds or the victim refuses to testify or the lawyer pulls some stunt with the judge and delays the case so long that the file starts to grow mold” (147).

In another incident, Thomas and his friend go to bar club and they witness girls are being exploited as dance girls destined to seduce men for the economic profit of bar owners. Seeing them Nigel says “[P]laces like White Orchid are untouchable. The police take bribes from the club owners and say the girls are dancing because they want to.” (157). We see a number of instances of trafficking business men having hold over the police and the authorities which acts as a prime source for them to continue their work unhindered. So, the trafficked victims are placed in between the world of power and exploitation. In *One Among Us* Rock becomes the embodiment of money and power. He finds power through the suppression of others. He finds money as a means to have power over the city which is in reality controlled by him. So, his instant urge for power and authority, reveals through the cries of Maggie before Rock, to allow her to stay with Joey while she is in medical treatment. It is described that “Rock watched as she pleaded with him to let her stay. He enjoyed watching her break down and become desperate; it made him feel powerful. He thrived on the grief and anguish of others” (Dearth 351). With their influence they connect within themselves and lots of customers of varying positions comes to be a part of their market industry.

Since the trafficking industry works through exploitation, sex, power and money, the ideas of Freud and Marx fused together to analyse the various structures of the sex industry. Marx in his Communist Manifesto proposed a view that history of human beings is a “history of class conflicts”. According to him everything is based on the property or economy which determines the power of a particular group that in turn becomes a source for one group to dominate or exploit the other. Here, the trafficking mafias and the brothel owners become the exploiting community or in Marxist perspective they become the Bourgeoisie, who works through various means to control the life of the victims so that they will be vulnerable for their purposes. So, we see they use the methods such as debt bondage, psychological fear, cruel punishment, and separation for the smooth functioning of their

business. In Althusser's term it becomes "Repressive state apparatus" which he defines as a form of power that "functions by violence" or " a machinery of oppression, which enables the ruling class to ensure the domination over the working class" ( Althusser 231). In Freud's term they are used to suppress the identity of ego and super ego so that the victims will be forced to accept the norms of the system of exploiters. It finds a best expression in Maggie's life when she is being sold to Rock, Armando is given the duty to wreck the girl. He beats her terribly and rapes her. Put her into a vertical box in the underground for several weeks. He even puts snake into the box. So, it is described that "[T]he next three weeks were hell for Maggie. She was kept in the vertical box in the closet for most of the time. Armando threw mice and bugs into the box with her after she killed the snake. It was like a game for him, and the more he tortured her, the more Maggie lost her sense of self. She was being reduced to an animal and a servant, which was all part of the wrecking period." (Dearth 129). Paige Dearth gives ample space for the elements of exploitation by the traffickers.

In *A Walk Across the Sun* by Corban Addison explains the method of Igor to psychologically subdue Sita; he brings two blond girls before her and rapes her in front of her with the hope to teaching her a lesson. Impact of his action is described in detail. "Sita sealed her eyes and ears from the horror of it all. She wanted to bathe herself, to cleanse her soul of the stain of this place. Why was she here? What did they want from her? Was Igor trying to teach her a lesson by raping girls in front of girls" (Addison 350). Even in Suchir's brothel Ahalya is trained by Sumeera to accept the suffering as a part of their fate or karma and they have to accept it. They are also made to believe that it is the last destiny of their life and going out of this situation is impossible in their life time. Monnica O'Connor and Grainne Healy in their *A Link Between Prostitution and Sex Trafficking: A Briefing Hand book* refers to this process as Seasoning and reports that

Seasoning ' is a well-institutionalised mechanism of control, ensuring perfect obedience and enslavement. It subjects women to identification with and subordination to the brothel management or to pimps... The woman begins to live only for the present, realizing that she has no control over her economic, emotional, physical and sexual life. Trafficked women and children are first confronted by the immediate terror of kidnapping, deceit

and abuse. They try to make sense of what is happening and figure out a means of escape, but all the external points of reference for maintaining identities are cut off. They find they cannot escape. They are physically confined and concealed, and a strict vigil is maintained over their interactions and movements. (46)

So, it becomes evident that traffickers find different means to work their system. Here, the ideas of Carl Marx seem to best explain the situation as he deals with the human desire for money and power that can control the conscience of the whole community. Freud also develops an idea that human being seems to be driven by forces which is not from outside but from within us. It is the force of the unconscious desire that control the mind and actions of the human being. In one way, we see the sex trafficking industry as driven by the outside and inside forces that control the whole business transactions in the trafficking system.

Outside forces are the money and power which acts in different means. But inside forces comes from the unconscious part of human mind, which is the cauldron of unaccepted sexual behaviour, instinctual drives, unresolved conflicts, immoral desires, selfish needs etc. According to Freud, the unconscious is powerful enough to control the actions and behaviour of the individual. A normal individual will be controlled by the ego, regulating both Id's wishes and the urges of Super Ego. But, In the trafficking industry one can see everything goes in imbalanced manner, where the instinctual barbaric behaviour of the human being is seen to be in control over other things. As we see the victims as the ego part of the human being since they face the reality of the world with a developed super ego, family and social values. The exploiters extract all the identity of the victims and try to enforce their will upon their ego. So, in another way the traffickers train them to retrace the desires of unconscious to accept the illusion of reality created by them. Here, the victims destined to face the abnormal human behaviour or in Freud's term character perversion or pathological..

Anti-social behaviour of the character is best revealed through the description of the various traffickers in *One Among Us* where each of this character highlights the various behavioral distortions that can cause a great harm to the society. From the beginning onwards Paige Dearth seems to be highlighting what is diabolical in the trafficking world. On the other hand Corban Addison gives special

attention to the outer functioning system and mental conflicts of the victims. He gives focus to the place in which it occurs; as a result one can find the difference in description of trafficking experiences in various countries showing the levels of trafficking experiences spread from one place to another. So, in *One Among Us* one gets the chance to go deep into the realms of trafficking world, even the language itself reveals the disharmony of the whole system. All the characters who work to exploit people use special language which is itself diverted from normal use, and even the victims seem to be influenced by that language. She gives the writer a chance to analyse the map of language change in each character, showing that trafficking world has gone deep into the life of the victims irrecoverably.

Both of the novels in one way or another seem to agree with the idea of Freud that there is a pagan behaviour lies beneath in human being. According to him, human being has an orientation towards erotic sexual pleasure from the childhood onwards. It starts even when the breast feeding process begins by the child. Freud, in his model of Psycho sexual stages, divides various developmental realms of growth into psycho sexual stages giving the dominating role sexuality in human's life. He believes that during the growth ego and super ego develops that essentially controls the sexual energy into various means. But still certain people seem to be wanted to express their instinct behaviour erotic sexual pleasure and aggression through various means, which the exploiters consider human or sex trafficking world as the suitable platform to express their carnal desires.. As we analyse the trafficking world, it becomes evident that most of the characters involved in it seem to be oriented towards Eros and Thanatos in its extreme. We see in them an element of sexual perversion in one or in another way. Hence along with money and power sex becomes an important feature explicated in the novel. Power and money becomes an effective medium through which the perpetrators try to make the sex trafficking industry possible thereby try to express their innate carnal desires.

As a result in both the novel the element of love is replaced by wild sexual passion and rape. In *A Walk Across the Sun* Ahalya is brought into brothel structure which is the place where the sex and money seem to pollute the air of it. In that structure a girl is expected to accept her identity as a *besya* or prostitute. Ahalya is sent before many clients. Shankar enforces his sexual passion into

Ahalya and Sita feared by the “sounds of sister’s violation” (102). Later a strange event is presented that the next client was a middle aged and a boy. “It was the boy’s birthday Ahalya was his gift” (Addison 105). Sex in brothel house becomes a part of their culture. So, Prasad, Suchir’s son, comes and rapes Ahalya in the night silently. He comes very night and violates her. After the violation he tells her that he loves her and he never learns the element of love in his life, for him everything is sex. Nothing more than that. It is described that “Suchir had induced him into his manhood on his thirteenth birthday. The girl [Mansi] had been one of the malik’s youngest acquisition...He had come to her in the attic room many times. She had stayed in the adda until she was nineteen. That year she tested positive for some venereal disease ...When Sumeera gave Suchir the news, he put Mansi to the street...she had haunted the adda for weeks until Suchir had paid a police officer to put her in jail” (Addison 138). Mansi’s life reflects the perverted life of the brothel owners. For them, women reduced to become a sexual object, need to be used and exploited and throw out when she is not capable for satisfying their immoral desires. Then the case of Jogeswari where many minor girls are repeatedly exploited and the culprits are walk before the happily show the wreck in the whole system of law that encourages the brothel owners to continue their work unhindered.

Corban Addison by connecting Sita to Navin, Dietrich and Vasily, Alexi and Detrovich, he reflects the truth that the craving for sex and the sexual exploitation of the girls become a widespread disease. In India, Paris, Russia, U.S., everywhere girls are being exploited and made product of sexual pleasure. It is not only widespread but also it is interlinked, one is connected to another. Most of the girl victims represented in the novel become lifeless being, with a broken mind and wounded body, leading a meaningless life. Their body expects nothing but the merciless torture from their predators. So, while Thomas seeing his friend calling a dance girl for his night pleasure, he thinks it as “a falconer calling down his prize bird” (151). Relation between the predators and the prey is well described through Sita’s experience in, New York that

Igor barked another command. The girl shook her head. Igor grew impatient and threw her on the bed. When he unbuckled the belt, the girl began to cry...The girl’s suffering was too much...A few minutes later, Igor got up from the bed, breathing heavily. He pulled on his pants and left the room

without a word. Sita opened her eyes...She worried that Igor had knocked her unconscious, but then the girl began to stir. She sat up and rearranged her clothes, her face expressionless. Igor returned to her, and the girl followed him out of the room without looking in Sita's direction. (350)

This scene contains all the elements of sexual slavery practiced in different places. Girls are become slaves and the exploiters are the masters. With their power and money they made all the system favourable to them and the victims are imprisoned for long time or carried from one place to another to act according to their master. Their body becomes the source of pleasure and exploitation. They are become the owners of the "sealed pack" or the property, and the silent suffering of the girls become a source of the thriving existence of the exploiters.

In *One Among Us* sexual passion flows violently. Being a victim of sexual exploitation, Maggie is given voice by the writer. Her thought process and suffering after seeing and experiencing all sorts of sexual perversion her reflection shed us light to the horrible life cycle of exploiters and the victims. In the novel, Paige Dearth presents different levels of exploiters and their varying degree of sexual thirst. Shana becomes a victim of drug addict as she wants to escape from the terrible pains of her existence. Drug becomes a tactic of the exploiters to make their prey vulnerable and desirable for their purpose. Shana is seen ready to do anything for others. Shana performs pole dance before John Williams without any slight resistance.

Shana was blitzed out of her mind, which contributed to her sleazy performance. She was sitting on the floor, leaning against the pole, with her legs spread wide. One hand was in her panties, and she rubbed her own breast with the other...John William hormones raging through his gargantum, beast like body, walked over to Shana and undid his pants... Cali and Maggie had no choice but to stand on the side lines and watch him fulfil his sick lust for Shana. His movements were jerky as he side rammed himself between her legs. He gritted his twisted, yellow brown teeth and his fleshy eyelids fluttered...It was the most repulsive scene the two girls had ever witnessed." (Dearth 87)

This description clearly exposes the "sick lust" with which the traffickers approach a victim and the method through which they subdue the victims. This is seen

frequently throughout the novel and its dangerous form is presented when the girls like Crista who is addicted to smoking, Kelly who cries before Lorraine at the thought of giving birth for a baby and its murder, Darla who loses her conscience because of her addiction to heroine etc. The description of Darla becomes more fearful and tragic. "After a few seconds, Darla returned to her delirious state. She stood and began to remove the clothes off with others in the room. The nurse jumped to her feet before Darla could remove her panties... "Now I have a daughter who is a heroin addict. Our daughter told us that she will probably fight addiction her whole life" (356-358). It shows us the impact of drugs upon the life of the poor victims who have to struggle hard to come out of it. Their life becomes a regular routine that they lose the control of their conscience since the traffickers carved it out of their mind and tuned it for their new patterns of life.

Another element of sexual perversion of the traffickers are presented through the elements of exhibitionism and voyeurism which comes under the psychiatric classification of mental disorders. a common definition used by DSM-5 (diagnostic and statistical manual of mental disorders) is

Paraphiliac disorders...are voyeuristic disorder (spying on others in private activities), exhibitionistic disorder (exposing the genitals), frotteuristic disorder (touching or rubbing against a nonconsenting individual), sexual masochism disorder (undergoing humiliation, bondage, or suffering), sexual sadism disorder (inflicting humiliation, bondage, or suffering), pedophilic disorder (sexual focus on children), fetishistic disorder (using nonliving objects or having a highly specific focus on nongenital body parts), and transvestic disorder (engaging in sexually arousing cross-dressing... The term paraphilia denotes any intense and persistent sexual interest other than sexual interest in genital stimulation or preparatory fondling with phenotypically normal, physically mature, consenting human partners. (p.685)

Paige Dearth associates the traffickers with all these mental disorders that reflects the idea that most of the characters associated with the trafficking world are not showing human traits. They are deviance. In the beginning itself one can see the elements of voyeurism, exhibitionism and pedophilia of the traffickers. Most of the victims presented in the novels are early teenagers and John William is presented

to be finding pleasure in raping these children, and capturing them to keep them in prison so that he can dominate over them. His orientation towards wild sexual passion is given in the background of his childhood life. It describes

John William obsessed on the thought of being tied and confined. This fear had prompted anxiety attacks in John William since he was a child. Being tied to the chair under the stairs was far worse than the frequent beatings he received from his mother. I'm in control now, he reminded himself. (Dearth 58).

According to the psychology one of the reason behind paraphiliac or exhibitionistic character is the dysfunctional families or the child hood emotional abuse that may go deep into the unconscious and come out in the form of either depression or antisocial behaviour. Anti social behaviour is primarily associated with the male. Here, John William treats all the children brutally and wants to enjoy power over their life. He finds girl victim as the proper means to find himself feel powerful. It caters his sexual urges as well as the feeling of inferiority induced in him in the childhood. So Cali says "Look Maggie...All he wants is for you to be afraid of him. It makes him feel dominant...You need to make him think you're afraid of him." (16). He had been confined to the house and was an outcast in the family and schools. He grew in resentment of the parents and kids around him. He finds kidnapping people as the best way to escape from the feeling of depression. It feels him as an important figure for trafficked children's survival. In that way, John William's psychology works on and he even finds pleasure in capturing and exploiting others. "John William thrived on his supremacy over the defenceless kids, and the more psychological turmoil he caused, the greater his domination" (35). He even kills Max as he seems to be a threaten to their psychology of domination by killing one of their clients. John William beats him brutally that cause him to bleed internally. Myles the cartel owner makes use of his deviant behaviour in order to run the whole system. Myles also seen to be wanted to find control or authority over his subjects. Myles wants to have a master-slave relationship or authoritative parent relationship and he finds enjoyment in exhibitionistic character as he repeatedly teaches the victims to give him blow jobs. So, he tells to Maggie that " From now on. I want you to be my little whore, and I'll be your master. What that means is that I'm going to teach you to do different things that I like. In return, I 'll do things that make you feel good too"

(Dearth 29). Here, Myles becomes a symbol of human mind where the dangerous unconscious lying beneath our conscious mind. In the outer world he behaves as a civilized human being hiding under the pagan character lying beneath him. In the last part after the murder of the Myles Cabello, news paper describes him as “Myles was a man of honour. He always put his children and family first. He was a good man who never harmed anyone in his life” (533). It symbolically represents the conscious mind and unconscious mind where the hidden desires of human mind lies behind. In Myles case, he expressed through his sex trafficking business in the dark spaces. The exhibitionistic behaviour of the exploiting web of trafficking is indirectly presented through the victim Darla who exposes herself before Lorraine and Rob Clarke, and the nurse prevents her from doing it. She is suffering from exhibitionistic disorder as the world of trafficking made a culture within her that cannot be accepted by the society.

Voyeuristic pleasure of the clients are also exposed throughout story. Cali and Max are forced to show sexual actions before the clients and to entertain them through their actions. “Twelve people- eight men and four women-entered the room. They stood and stared at the children, a few of them smiling as if they were looking at their thanks giving dinner.” (18). They are here enacts sexual actions which for Maggie is the most repulsive thing in her life time. Here, the victims reduced become a mere play thing or a robots destined perform all the commands given by their masters. They have no options in their life. Even in the strip club at double visions Maggie and Emma are forced to do enchanting dances before the others and sexually attract them so that they would be entertained. Shiver teaches her the art of luring the men who come to see their lap dances. The element of dance club culture can also be seen in *A Walk Across the Sun* as Thomas finds his friend who is interested in enjoying the moments with the girls in the dance parlour. During the dance moments he reflects “[U]nlike the performers in an American strip club, these girls were fully clothed” (Addison 150). Even in the Dietrich and Petrovich’s house we see the elements of porn video featuring using the trafficked victims. Even Sita becomes a victim of it since she was asked to pose for different types of vulgar photos that has used as a form of enticing the others through Internet porn cite. Similar elements can be seen in Myles and Rock’s confinement where Maggie is asked to pose for various sexual pictures to develop porn pictures using them. These aspects of creating porn pictures

become a form of indirect voyeuristic pleasure which the Freud calls as Scopophilia. He explains it as “ one of the component instinct of sexuality which exist as drives quit independently of the erotogenic zones. At this point he associated Scopophilia with taking other people as object subjecting them to a controlling and curious gaze...At the extreme form, it can become fixated into a perversion...”. (as qtd. By Mulvey 60-61). Here, the female body becomes an erotogenic centre for “male gaze” and the traffickers try to find various means to make use of their body. It is not ends with Myles but it even continues with Rock, where he uses the picture of Maggie, beautifying her as a Victoria model, and asks her to pose in different angles that can arouse a sexual stirring in the minds of the viewer. He wants to send her picture to various porn film groups. But, her pole dance in the street changes his decision. It reveals the web of traffickers who have a collective orientation towards the body of the girls. Objectification of woman is a part of their structure.

Along with the sexual craving for the opposite sex, Paige Dearth also introduces Seth, and Max as victim of homosexual deviants, who finds pleasure in having sexual relationship with the same sex without consent, that may even leads to cruelty. Freud in his Three Essays On the Theory of Sexuality includes under the category of psychoneurotic, since there is a variation from the normal, and shows “all the aberrations...the unconscious mental life of all neurotics shows inverted impulses, fixation of their libido upon persons of their own sex” (1491). In one paragraph Dearth Paige reveals this hidden content of the exploiters which is being revealed by Maggie after the death of Seth. Maggie says

At first, they only took naked pictures of Seth. He was so little, and I guess , for some reason, the sick pricks who were paying have sex with us didn't want a four year old boy. ...almost two years later when Seth told me that a man put his pee pee into his butt...The men who owned us, made the men wear condoms with the girls...But it was different for boys. Max, the older boy who was with us, told Cali and me that they let those disgusting pigs do it without condoms.” ( Dearth 460)

With this description Maggie highlights the clear picture of the trafficking industry where girls and boys are possible to become a prey. Sexual pleasure blinds the eye of the people that they find pleasure in all sorts of sexual activities. Some time

it ends in inflicting greater pain upon the subjects or gets sexual gratification through committing great sexual torture. Freud analyses these characters and associates them with pathological characters. He explains them as

the most common and the most significant form of perversions-the desire to inflict pain upon the sexual subject...The sadism would correspond to an aggressive component of a sexual instinct which has become independent and exaggerated, and by displacement, has usurped the leading position.(Freud 1484)

Here, Freud defines the sadistic person as expressing the extreme form of his aggressive aspects of his sexuality. He analyses it as the desire to subjugate, or to control. Myles Cartel becomes a common source for all the clients who want to satisfy their desires, either to have sex or to inflict pain. So, we see a number of sadistic characters become clients of Myles' business. Max and Shana become the victims of them, which represents the different dimension of the sexual variations in the life of the exploiters. After Myles Cabello lost the interest in Shana with the arrival of Maggie. She is given to the most sicko clients who brutally rape her. They find the pleasure in torturing her. Here, Paige Dearth gives special attention to describe the pathological behaviour of the clients and its impact on Maggie. He symbolically uses a "Born to Raise Hell" tattooed on his forearm. In reality, he gives a hell-like experience to Shana.

He approached Shana, placed a dog collar around her neck., and dragged her around the room by the leash as she struggled to keep up with him and avoid choking to death. His treatment of her quickly deteriorated and that night, two floors above where the children sat quietly in their cells, Shana was brutally raped and tortured. Each time she yelled in pain., he picked up his pocket knife and cut his tongue. ( Dearth 36)

Another element of perversion, which is shown through the experiences of Max as he is given through the experience of Max with the "worst kind of predator" who had an "Insatiable appetite for the young boys". He is presented as the most perverse character since he has lost the ability to feel empathy or sympathy who "never viewed any of the children as human beings; they were merely a way to satisfy his sexual needs" ( Dearth 90). Marsh inflicts severe pain over his body and at last Max is seen to be ready to fight against the system and he kills him. It is

presented as a momentary success over the predators since the next day we see the cruel murder of Max. Killing is one means through which the trafficking world finds their domination over the subjects. The men subject become the source for exercising power and domination for the sadistic character but for women it gives painful psychological wound upon their mind. The most brutal violence is presented through the Maggie's horrible days under the custody of Sex trafficking world after Rock leaves her there. They tries to follow the practices of a BDSM (Bondage and Discipline, Dominance and Submission and Sadism and Masochism) which is described by LGBTQIA Resource Center Glossary as

BDSM refers to a wide spectrum of activities and forms of interpersonal relationships. While not always overtly sexual in nature, the activities and relationships within a BDSM context are almost always eroticized by the participants in some fashion. Many of these practices fall outside of commonly held social norms regarding sexuality and human relationships. ("BDSM")

For the exploiters, Maggie becomes their partner to find their pleasure by torturing her. Apart from other tortures one can identify the extension of pain infiltrated by the sex trafficking people. They uses all sorts of sex toys such as vibrator, nipple clamp, ball gag etc.,(these are the main bondage toys used by the BDSM activities) to ensure the complete surrender and the pains of Maggie.

After five hours of sexual assault, Maggie hoped she would die. But instead, the four men stopped, packed their bag of toys, and left her to tied to the bed., bloodied and bruised. Maggie's body was limp and broken...She yearned for the bony fingers of death to take her away from her hell on earth. ( Dearth 249)

Hence, we analyze the novel One Among Us Paige Dearth gives enough space for the dominating feeling of the traffickers and the imbalanced behaviour they show while treating the children. She presents them as if they have lost the normal human emotions and feeling, and dominated by the passions of sex, money and power. Paige Dearth gives focus on the sex trafficking mafias and their regular practices to subdue the life of the victims. Each and every characters among them are presented as having pathological characters since they lost the conscience to consider the value of human life. They are ready to do anything for the satisfaction

of their sexual pleasure. They maintain a view that their behaviour is the standard which the others have to accept it. They never realize the element of perversion associated with them. On the other hand in *A Walk Across the Sun* one can see the similar elements of perversion which is associated with the web of trafficking world but where Corban Addison gives more focus on the elements of interconnected web of trafficking which is spread across the world. Through Thomas we get acquainted with the unfathomable power of the traffickers who controls the various elements, such as judiciary system, of the society that ultimately leads to the imbalance and the ruin of the society. The growth of trafficking web is seen to be the at the cost of societal values and moral order, which ultimately leads to the destruction of a civilized society, where society itself become fall into brink of madness.

Both these novels expose various elements of the exploitive web of trafficking world. The writers have presented the functioning of the human trafficking as if the evil side of the human being gets exposed. It is the space where all the carnal desires, such as desire for sex by means of violent force , money by exploitation and power to subjugate, of human being get revealed. It is place where we see sex, power and money which are used in its extreme where the accumulation of wealth gives power and the power leads to the ramification of trafficking industry. Corban Addison and Paige Dearth give special focus to the sex trafficking world where all the elements of human perversion can be clearly seen. It in turn leads us the Freud's concept of Id or Unconscious which becomes a replica of the sex trafficking industry As it is the storage of all human innate desires or passions, that is suppressed from the birth of a human child, trafficking industry also seems to reflect extreme form of all immoral passions and desires . But here every exploiters associated with the sex trafficking industry seem to be deviated from the normal behaviour and presented as pathological characters who loss the control of themselves, and direct their force towards the society in a negative manner. If the unconscious or Id exerts greater control over the human mind than ego or super ego, then the system of human mind seems to be in out of control and that person ultimately becomes neurotics. Similarly sex trafficking industry becomes a place where the unconscious elements of human mind get revealed and seems to be in control over everything. It leads us to the fact that a sex trafficking industry itself become a replica of a imbalanced human behaviour where the Id exerts larger

control over the ego and the super ego. So, thriving of the trafficking industry becomes a threat to the society since it can create greater disorder in the society where it functions. It can shatter all the hopes for a civilized society by breaking moral aspects of human life and by destroying the life of human being.

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## Chapter 5

### Conclusion

Literature has an innate ability to represent the life that happens around society and to act as an eye opener to the evils and immoralities of it. An important aspect of dealing with every social problem lies in the exposure of the various dimensions and inherent structures of the particular problem. Literature on human trafficking can be analysed on the basis of the social problem novel as it tries to expose the inherent danger associated with the human trafficking world. Among these novels *One Among Us* and *A Walk Across the Sun* can be considered as one of the significant literature on human trafficking as it unravels the different dimensions of trafficking industry and allows the reader to go through the various hidden realities associated with it. The various features of the novel directs towards the destruction it causes in the lives of the human being, varying from shattered lives of the young victims, their family and the disorder it evokes in the society. Both the novels focus on the sex trafficking, through which they expose the horrors of the human trafficking in general. As we go through these novels, each and every characters, and incidents has significant importance in the overall structure of the novel. Here, the theories and ideas of Psychoanalysis especially of Freud help in unveiling the hidden content of the novel thereby contributing to the greatness of the novels.

While analyzing the novels, it becomes evident that human trafficking system as a whole presented as a place of hidden desires, unaccepted behavior, immoral actions, violent motives etc, revealed, the victims struggle to accept the harsh reality of life, and the destruction of the social and family values which in turn leads us to the idea that the novels represented it as if it is a human mind where Id, Ego, and the Super Ego struggles within themselves where Id seems to be in control of everything. The novels give special attention to the imbalance the trafficking world enforces upon individual and society in general. It gives main attention to the traumatic condition of the victims. Both the novels focus on the young victims of trafficking ranging from ten to eighteen years old, which is the prime time of a person and the experience during this period, can cause greater psychological damage. As the writer Paige Dearth is also a victim of sexual abuse

in child hood and the novel *One Among Us* presented in the context of America, she deliberately makes an attempt to keep everything in the context of sexual slavery where all the repulsive and horrifying aspects associated with it exposed in detail. So, we see the novel is kept in the midst of sexual assault and the barbaric behaviour of the characters. On the other hand *A Walk Across the Sun* being presented in the context of India, Corban Addison gives special attention to place the incidents in valuable human relationships, where he connects the plot with the love bond of Thomas and Priya, and Sita and Ahalya. So, *One Among Us* carries the reader to the physical and psychological trauma faced by the victims, and on the other hand *A Walk Across the Sun* highlights the emotional and mental trauma associated with the trafficking world. Corban Addison also focuses on the widespread structures of human trafficking that ranges from India to America. Paige Dearth gives special attention to the internal structures and mafias that functions in the trafficking industry. So, both the novels together as a whole gives as a wider picture of the trafficking world. Since both the novels focus on the female victims, it accentuate the horrors of trafficking incidents.

Apart from the certain incidents of boys as being assaulted, girls and women are presented to be exploited and damaged irrecoverably. Maggie and Sita become a victims who move in parallel. Dearth Paige and Corban Addison presents Maggie and Sita respectively as the spokesperson for the writers. Being a victim of sex trafficking we see the elements of various traumatic phases passes through this characters. They are reduced to be a mercantile or sex toys to be purchased and exploited by the traffickers. All of the victims seem to be losing their identity as they are asked to act according to the whims and fancies of the exploiters. Most of the characters in the novel loss their sense of self and become unable to assume the role of a sexual slave. The exploiters enforce their will upon the victims and we see hallucinations, fear, shock , paralysis, substance abuse etc. become a part of their life. From the beginning itself Maggie is told by the Cali to accept it as a part of the life. Even in Suchir's brothel Sumeera advices them to accept it as a part of their karma. So, Maggie, Cali, Shana in *One Among Us* and Sita , Ahalya , Natalia, Olga in *A Walk Across the Sun* go through an identity crisis as they are being exploited and objectified by the trafficking industry. The Ego of their life accustom to accept the reality of sexual slavery as a part of their life. Here, Ego losses its power to control the needs of Super Ego and the urges of Unconscious.

So, we see them as disoriented and imbalanced. It becomes a common process. Shana Maggie, Natalia, Ivana are seen to be haunted by Chronic and developmental disorder, at the same time Ahalya, Maggie, Darla are become a product of Post-traumatic stress disorder and shock trauma. It also presents the elements of Nyctophobia, drug addiction and induced exhibitionist character etc.

Their depth of pain is symbolized through various elements such as the story telling and *colam* designs of Ahalya as a form of sublimation, and displacement defense mechanism employed by Shana to alleviate their terrible circumstances. The dreams and memory also plays an important role in the novel as they are presented to reveal the psychological turmoil of Sita, Ahalya and Seth. These novels reveal the physical, psychological, cognitive, and emotional impact of the victims of trafficking. Maggie calls herself as a pawn in the sick game. Sita by seeing the sexual atrocity thinks of committing suicide as her past memories also seems to be in the lost track. Even the languages are also seems to be tuned to the colloquial abusive words of the characters in the novel.

Apart from sex trafficking Corban Addison links connects the story of Sita with the drug trade mafia, child labour, debt bondage, porn film industry where women and children become a regular victims. Maggie exposes the truth behind prostitution and sexual slavery as she is forced to go through it. Hopelessness and rootlessness become a central feature for all the victims. They are all seem to be fallen in collective repression of their past identities to acquaint with the present realities. For the girl children as Crista, Darla, Mara it creates an impact irrevocably. In *One Among Us* we also see the elements of death and separation as a part of the existence.

By connecting both the novels to the various trafficking agency especially of Detective Harker., U.S. anti trafficking agency, Thomas' connection with the CASE and later with the U.S. special agency the writers introduce an element of hope for the end of human trafficking world. The life of Maggie and Sita reveals the cruel fate encountered by the victims of trafficking and by presenting the rescued children such as Natalia, the victims of Jogeswari case , Darla, Mara, Crista etc. the novels ask the reader to ponder upon the irrecoverable traumatic conditions of the victims. So, it reveals the destruction it causes on the lives of the young victims of trafficking as they face the reality of exploitive and cruel nature of trafficking.

Apart from the victims of trafficking, both the novels opens before us the psychological and emotional trauma faced by the families and the disorder it creates in the society. Dearth Paige in her novel weaves the plot with the emotional and psychological turmoil undergoes by the families of the victims of trafficking. In *One Among Us* the elements of family is presented in a direct and indirect manner, by presenting the parents of Maggie struggle themselves to adjust with the reality. On the other hand in *A Walk Across the Sun* the elements of family is presented in an indirect manner where we see Sita and Ahalya as an orphan children, where they develops a parental relationship within themselves and the missing of Sita causes tragic impact in the lives of Ahalya. Corban Addison also links the story in the midst of a broken family relationship of Thomas and the agony of the mother of Abby that forces him to work against the trafficking industry that destroys human relationship. The novels reveal the degradation of Maggie's family with the loss of their daughter and the pain of separation it creates on Ahalya and Sita. Rob and Lorraine Clarke seem to be loss their sense of belongings and Lorraine loss her interest to continue with family affairs. Her traumatic circumstance is revealed through her self-accusation method which is an element of Melancholia which the Freud calls as a pathological character. The active involvement of Detective Harker also exposes us to the sense of loss and disoriented existence caused by the trafficking world. Maggie's close connection with Cali, Max and Set also reveals as the elements of separation and family trauma which is a constant companion of trafficking world. Here, their depth of pain and emotional struggle is presented through the sublimation process adopted by Detective Harker and Clarke's family. They start involve in the rescue process of the damaged children as trafficked victims. Their mission leads us to the untold suffering of the parents of the victims, who loss their meaning to live in the world with a destroyed child before them. It reveals the loss of a child, even though they are returned back will haunt the family like a ghost as seen in Lorraine and Mrs. Davis. They all utters the same word that everything turns them to be insane. The element of madness associated with the trafficking world even spreads to the family and society.

The destruction of social structures reveals through the novel *A Walk Across the Sun* where Sita and Ahalya are presented to be guided by the family and social values. But as the novel progresses the elements of social values and moralities

seem to be shattered by the force of human trafficking. Even the system of law and order get manipulated by the trafficking system. It is presented that wherever it thrives, trafficking industry causes greater harm and destruction to the society. It is even presented to the violation of Ahalya as a violation against the social and family norms. The whole system seems to be under the force of trafficking. Foucault's theory of knowledge and power relates to this idea that trafficking business men establishes a system which becomes a part of the knowledge system of the society. So, the traffickers seem to be controlling the whole system using their system of knowledge and power. In that way, when we see the family and social values as a part of the Super Ego, it becomes evident that the Id controls the power of Ego and their by nullifying the significance of Super Ego. So, we see the disoriented functioning of the Super Ego. It is even presented through Sita that she loses her connection with the past memories and religious hopes as she undergoes the horrors of human trafficking. Maggie also seems to be in a loss of her family morality as she is forced to accept the knowledge system proliferated by the trafficking world.

Corban Addison and Paige Dearth also give special attention to the exploitive web of human trafficking and the hidden realities behind its functioning. The novels present the realm of trafficking as if it is the unconscious part of the human mind which contains all sorts negative elements, immoral wishes, and violence associated with it. The novelists present them as distorted human lives who find themselves uncontrollable before the dark forces. They act as the carriers of evilness in the world of harmony. Being a victim of trafficking, Paige Dearth expresses all her aversion towards the exploiters through her unique language style. As an attorney of U.S., Corban Addison rather than focusing on the exploiters, he explains the mechanism with which the trafficking system functions. They are presented to be oriented towards the pleasure principle and attach themselves to power, sex and money. As they are oriented towards money, sex and power, the ideas of Marx and Freud idea can be connected to analyze the exploiters. They are seen controlled by outside and inside forces. Outside forces include power, domination and money, and inside forces include instinctual pleasures and sexuality. So, they are presented as exploiters of female body, through which they prospers in wealth and power. Their accumulation of wealth by exploiting the women subject provides them unfathomable power that they uses to

control the functioning of everything around them. The element of money and power is an important factor as most of the characters associated with the trafficking world seems to be controlled by the influences of money. So, Kanan trafficks Sita and Ahalya. Navin uses Sita for his economic benefits, Rock exploits Maggie and other prostitutes for satisfying their craving for money and power. With the power, we see Suchir and other brothel owners control the functioning of the judicial system. John William and Myles are also seen controlled by the instinct to show aggression and to find the power.

Along with the craving for power and money they are also dominated by sex. So, the elements of Eros and Thanatos are extreme, and dominant in the lives of the exploiters. Desire for money, power and sex make them blind to the moral aspect of human lives. They all run sex trafficking industry as it is the most profitable industry, and it give them power and money. They never consider girls or children as human being but for them, they are mere sexual toys. They function through exploitation and destruction. Extreme manifestations of power, sex and money points us to their character as pathological. While we analyse the exploiters we see them deviated from the normal behaviour. Even the characters such as John Williams, Marsh, Ivan, Evan, Conway and Damon etc. seem to be paraphilial characters and according a Freud , most of their actions and behaviour are a form of perversion from the normal. So, we see Sado Masochist characters infiltrate greater pain on Shana, BDSM activities on Maggie as she is trapped in the sex trafficking industry and the sado masochist character Marsh who is killed by Max. The elements of scopophilia, pedophilia, and Voyeurism also highlighted throughout both the novels. Here, Paige Dearth seems to be more open while representing them so her novel ends with the cruel death of John Williams and Myles thereby she expresses her anger towards the sex trafficking industries.

So, as we analyze each of the characters involved in the sex trafficking industry are seems to be deviant and having abnormal mental orientation. Their sick lust and the cruel torture of the exploiters reveals this fact. Even the porn film industry and the strip dance club viewers in the *A Walk Across the Sun* are seem to be dominated by Scopophilia. In one way or another every character presented to be pathological. Which in turn suggest the idea that the unconscious exerts it dominating influence over the characters.

So, as we analyze *A Walk Across the Sun* and *One Among Us* human trafficking industry is seen to be a cancerous growth in the society. As in the case of human mind, where Ego, Super Ego and Unconscious seem to be uncontrollable, human trafficking industry is presented as having grave impact on human lives in various dimension. It shatters the lives of young victims, and the families and societies. Since it is controlled by people who are disease filled both the writers exhort the readers to work towards the prevention of this spreading disease before it infects all the spheres of human life and society.

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