CHAPTER FIVE

CONCLUSION
CHAPTER V
CONCLUSION

5. 1. PRELIMINARIES

The researcher would like to bring this work to its conclusion by presenting a number of conclusions and observations regarding women characters of D. H. Lawrence’s great novels in English Literature, selected for study such as: *The Trespasser, Sons and Lovers, The Rainbow, Women in Love, The Lost Girl* and *Lady Chatterley’s Lover*. The researcher aims at summarizing the arguments and findings arrived at the preceding chapters, which is the theoretical framework of this study.

Focusing particularly upon novels we have tried to approach Lawrence as an artist, a novelist, an innovator and a critical writer influenced by psychoanalysis, and to treat his fiction as a coherent response to personal circumstances.

D. H. Lawrence is mainly characterized by the socio-psychological features of the human relationship prevalent in his novels. His adept use of woman characters in order to vivify the imbalanced nature of man-woman relationship is one of the dimensions of his characteristic identity. These features of his creative efforts for depicting the specific aspect of the social reality distinguishes him from the other malenovelists who deal with the gross reality of woman’s life with the diversity of subjects. Therefore, it makes the researcher think that the present novelists have their own socio-literary culture and vision of the patriarchal conditions of man-woman relationship, existing within the large sphere of the man novelists. D. H. Lawrence’s pioneering efforts to deal with the deplorable quality of woman’s life in the male dominating modern psychological novel set him
as milestones of a specific tradition of men novelists, which shows its commitment for women’s welfare through literary awareness in the society.

Based on the studies of the selected novels, done earlier, it could be argued that D. H. Lawrence has his unique features in terms of similarities and differences in his literary communication of the nature of man-woman relationship. He fully grasps the vast area of woman’s patriarchal relationship with man and its repercussions on woman’s life. However, it is found that in delineating the ultimate reality, his areas of interest are different. The male protagonist in the novel gains acute sensitivity in the course of time, it is caused mainly by the lack of parental love and male-dominating patriarchal circumstances in the family.

Through the study and analysis of selected novels the researcher reached some important truths about human experience, which are not necessarily at once obvious. The researcher observes that Lawrence proves to be himself in the novels and he is a writer of exceptional sensitiveness and that his portrayal of women we have seen is exceptionally original.

First, we realize that in each novel is inevitably a story about failing relationships rather than triumphant ones. Lawrence’s novels are in which man cannot achieve a new and fulfilling relationship with women. We also realize that man’s inability to establish a satisfactory relationship with a woman is directly related to the excessive attachment between them and it is why we conclude that man cannot cope with women except in their maternal aspect or as faceless objects of passion.

Secondly, the excessive attachment of man to women in the novels, appears to us as a reaction to Lawrence’s own love – Lawrence was very obedient to his women who were the stable centre of his life – it also appears as an
attempt to reclaim the masculine heritage women denied him and the selfhood they absorbed. He admits clearly in his foreword that the novel was largely inspired by, “the tragedy of thousands of young men whose lives, he found, were being ruined by the possessive love of their mothers”. Certainly, Lawrence did gain confidence from his mother, his moral sureness, his spiritual strength, but he was tired of maternal righteousness. He speaks of the need, “for men to die, to be born again with a different courage”.

5.2. MAIN FINDINGS

The main findings of the present research are as follows:

1) Women characters have an important role in the selected novels. They are an active character. They dominate the lives of other characters in the novels. For example, in *Sons and Lovers* an important role of women characters are Paul Morel’s mother and the two women he loves, Miriam Leivers and Clara Dawes. In *The Trespasser* Helena Verden and Beatrice, in *The Rainbow* Lydia Lensky, Anna Brangwen, Ursula Brangwen and Winifred Inger, in *Women in Love* Ursula Brangwen and Gudrun Brangwen, in *The Lost Girl* Alvina Houghton and in *Lady Chatterley’s Lover* Constance Chatterley. All of these women become projections of men’s fears and defects, mythicized figures and finally the object of men’s contempt.

2) Man influences the lives of all women characters in the novel. It brings about a great change in their lives. It interferes in their lives to increase the complications in their life. For instance, in *Sons and Lovers* Mrs. Morel is the innocent victim of her husband’s
uncomprehending coarseness, who needs her son’s love and tenderness, and whom young Paul cannot bear to disappoint by falling below her high expectations. Ursula in *The Rainbow* who is to undergo an initiation into her “other” self that will fundamentally change her outlook to life. In *The Lost Girl* Alvina Houghton is an independent woman, with great physical presence and energy, but also the inner resources to wrest control of her life and change it. Her aggressiveness, disliked and misunderstood by her surroundings, is an expression of the urge to feel and taste what life really is.

3) Women characters in the novels are not themselves responsible for their sorrow. For instance, Ursula’s adventures with Skrebensky, in *The Rainbow* however, end in disappointment. For a time, Ursula believes that she has become a blasphemous figure.

4) Major goals and situations thwart women characters’ every attempt to better their lives and create obstacles in their ways to achieve happiness. Their struggle to lead a happy and peaceful life proves futile. For example, like Lawrencian couples, Ursula and Birkin, in *Women in Love* and Mellors and Connie, in *Lady Chatterley’s Lover* who discover life’s holy mystery as they wanted to lead their lives in peace and happily.

5) Women characters are often forced to do the things, which they in normal circumstances would not prefer to do. In other words, they are forced to act against their wills. For example, in *Sons and Lovers* Mrs. Morel is young delicate woman captured by the vibrant animal magnetism of her dark earthy husband, to the unhappy wife, the
woman trapped in an environment hostile to her impulses and wishes, to the caring mother who also makes huge emotional demands on her sons, the constant sufferer and the relentless tormentor.

6) Sometimes women characters who tolerate the suffering without much grievances and resistance achieve happiness in their lives. They get an opportunity to start a new life. Their desires are also fulfilled by nature. For example, Lawrence shares and articulates, in *The Lost Girl* Alvina’s excitement, sufferings and conflicts, as she negotiates the new life promised by the new world she has moved in.

7) The woman character is always interested in relationships. For example, in *The Rainbow* Ursula’s process of self-discovery comes through her relationship with Anton Skrebensky.

8) The novels showcase the contemporary views about man-woman relationships. For example, in *Women in Love* Lawrence gives the relationship between Birkin and Ursula a religious dimension. But in *The Trespasser* Helena’s relationships with Siegmund no longer continue, she quickly finds another man to be in a relationship with.

9) Lawrence’s female characters exhibit mental and physical disabilities, through both stilted consciousness and impotency, to demonstrate disabled progress and masculinity. For example, like Connie in *Lady Chatterley’s Lover*, the women in *The Rainbow*, Ursula and Gudrun Brangwen.

10) This study examines the female characters from chosen novels in juxtaposition to the male characters, arguing that the novels showcase the capability of women to adapt to modernity. The
women embrace sexuality and perform their maternal role as a way to ensure the progression of society and the continuation of families and communities. For instance, in *The Rainbow* between Anna and Will, Lawrence explores their both sexual fulfillment and spiritual contentment.

11) The thesis focuses on the main female characters in Lawrence’s fictional works and tries to classify them into different categories of image. Concentrating on their fate and their own attitude and choice, it attempts a new study on Lawrence. Generally speaking, the female images in the thesis are victims, intellectuals and pilgrims. Firstly, women are victims in Lawrence’s works like in *The Trespasser* Helena Verden is the love mistress of Siegmund that he commits suicide after returning from their journey, *Sons and Lovers* Miriam Leivers and Clara Dawes, who were the reason to destroy Mrs. Morel’s life by her son Paul Morel.

12) Lawrence tries to show that there are some failures in domestic life such as Mrs. Morel, whose ending of life is not in proportion with what she devoted to the family during her life either, thus adding to the victimized circle. Women’s role in the patriarchal society is that of the housewife. For instance, in *Sons and Lovers*, all the three women related to the male protagonist are actually confined to the domestic work and service to men. Mrs. Morel seems like a chamberlain of her husband. Miriam falls into the waitress role in the sense of always preparing for the men’s needs in daily life. Clara is pitiable too because she falls from a radical feminist to a submissive lover. In *The Rainbow*, the female protagonists of the first two generations Lydia and Anna are described as playing no role but that of wife and mother in the family, living like babysitters. *The Lost
Girl also shows a girl’s being lost from a maternity nurse to a housewife.

5.3. SCOPE AND SUGGESTIONS FOR FURTHER RESEARCH

The present study mainly focuses on the role of woman in the selected novels. Any researcher who is interested in this area can study D. H. Lawrence’s characterization, the main themes of his novels, settings of his novels and his description of nature. The researcher can also study on how D. H. Lawrence portrayed his protagonists. As D. H. Lawrence’s works reflect the misogynistic ideas, comparisons and contrasts of woman characters, researcher can also analyse the influence of science and technology on the contemporary social life with reference to his novels. Thus, the researcher can find enough scope in this area for research.

The studies of women characters done under the present research work have been organized with a definite pattern of analysis by using the ideas, literary theory and textual data. The knowledge thus generated from this system of research has been taken for comparative study and conclusions have been drawn. This specific knowledge and method of literary studies can be amply used by the students and researchers of literature, in order to understand and evaluate other works of fiction in literature. The present research has strong pedagogical value in the teaching and research of literature.

Since the researcher has to maintain the framework of the present research, it was not possible to concentrate comprehensively on each aspect of the novels. In the progress of the study, it has been found that some of the areas need a systematic attempt of critical studies and research. They have still remained unexplored. The exact position of stream of consciousness
technique used by D. H. Lawrence in his novels is a significant area of research where one can study the various women characters followed by him. The overall imagery in the novels is also an independent area of research in which a researcher can think of the novelist’s vision of life in general.

5.4. PEDAGOGICAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE PRESENT RESEARCH

Pedagogical implications of the present study are as follows:
The present study will help the teachers and learners to understand D. H. Lawrence’s literary works to a great extent.
The study will also help to understand D. H. Lawrence’s philosophy of life.
It will help the teachers and learners to understand Lawrence’s views about man and woman.

In this research with our own students, we will find numerous benefits, including increased understanding of ourselves. A teacher’s instant response may be, “I already have too much to do. How is this research useful in the classroom?” Our response is that this research improves both teaching techniques and the interactions that occur in the classroom. Our educational system tends to limit initiative and responsibility and encourage conformity and control. Society, pupils, and teachers deserve better. Classroom gives teachers the opportunity to form hypotheses based on actual experiences related whatever is her/his topic. If we want to put a “spark” into teaching and create a dynamic and energetic environment, then classroom research may help.

In conclusion, this research will benefit both the teacher and the student. It enables teachers to be more aware of classroom interactions. When a
teacher becomes more aware, then chances are greater that improvements will take place. One of the improvements that usually occur is a better relationship with the students. As a researcher, we will learn first hand even more about our students and ourselves.