Bond has analysed and discussed the nature of violence in our contemporary society. He has aimed at drawing our attention to the fact that violence stems from man's aspiration for absolute power and that power and violence are inseparable. As Bond's aim is to show that power and violence are political in nature, he does not open the play in a drawing-room, or a garden or a hall but in the execution yard.

In fact Bond has always insisted that the main purpose of art is to establish connections between the works of art, the individual and society. He writes -

"Art isn't about itself ... A writer has to tell the truth about his society. He doesn't explore his own soul or ego, he explores his relationship of everybody."

As the author himself lives in the twentieth century, he looks at the modern problems of the world. Perhaps the increasing barbarism of modern civilization will force people to look more closely at the nature of man and society, and then society might be reformed. But it is unlikely the reformation of society will be an easy task.

Bond looks at violence as a burning problem. In his plays he has chosen certain conditions which cause violence in various ways. It

1. The Observer, 18th July, 1976.
is also noticeable that in different conditions violence manifests itself differently. Sometimes it is only in the form of a threat or fear, frustration or negligence, disappointment or neutrality. As in his play Bingo the calm and cold attitude of Shakespeare towards his family is a kind of cold violence. Generally, it may not be considered as violence, but in Bond's opinion it is also a kind of violence which makes other people suffer.

The cold indifferent attitude to the pain and suffering of others is to some extent deliberate and therefore it can be said to be violent.

When this mental agony increases, human beings begin to act violently. It is apparent in their actions also and gradually it takes the form of physical violence to the level of brutality, as it is seen in the play Saved. On one hand we consider it 'Violence in Action' but on the other hand it is the violence towards humanity. The murder of the innocent baby not only shows the murder of a little baby but it is the murder of innocence itself.

The killings, shootings, murders and blindings all are the forms of violence.

Some conditions in the family cause violence among family members and blood-relations. Bond opines that negligence and irresponsibility are also a kind of violence, because these things create a condition, an atmosphere which forces the family members to react violently. It may be the problem of a family like in Early Morning or in Lear or in The Pope's Wedding.
So far society is concerned we find a number of conditions and problems which break the relationship of an individual with society. It results in hideous violence, as in the play *The Bundle, The Sea* and *The Narrow Road to the Deep North*. Bond always shows the attitude of society which causes violence in different conditions of different persons. In the play *A. A. America* the problem of racial prejudice is also the problem caused by society and social differences.

The Art can not be separated from society. Therefore, the common trends in society effect the form of art. The structure of society confirms the spirit of the age.

Violence as depicted in Bond's plays compels us to think over the nature of violence. People's behaviour changes with the change of power. Bond comments -

"The simple fact is that if you behave violently, you create an atmosphere of violence, which generates more violence. If you create a violent revolution, you always get a reaction ... Lenin thinks for example that he can use violence for specific ends. He does not understand that he will produce Stalin, and indeed must produce a Stalin." ¹

The conditions which pollute our morality are also responsible for violent human acts. As in the play *The Fool* the relationship of Clare with Mary or the conditionally developed relation of Len and Mary in *Saved*. Bond considers that the conditions which force upon us to act violently are crated by the lack of fellow feeling.

The acts which stem from our cruel and immoral thought are categorized as 'Moral Violence'.

In politics the lust for power and after gaining it its use creates conditions which give birth to violence. Therefore, Bond has discussed the 'autocracy', 'anarchism', 'monopoly', and capitalism as the policies and ways which force the man in power to be violent. These conditions are well presented in the plays like The Bundle, We Come to the River and The Worlds. This kind of violence is called 'Political Violence'.

In all his plays Bond shows that the effect of violence is always the same. Therefore, all his characters usually become mad or insane. What does it indicate? The insanity of a character shows that violence compels him/her to act irrationally. Violence, it may be of any kind, makes a man frustrated, puzzled and leaves him in a critical situation like madness or insanity. Lear goes mad because of the violent attitude of his own daughters. In Bingo Shakespeare is morose because of the negligence and hatred in the family. In The Sea Hatch is treated as a mad man. In The Fool John Clare is mad. In the play Early Morning Arthur reaches the stage of insanity because of violence in family.

In Bond's opinion all the six forms of violence may occur together. The only rational way to respond to violence is to change the conditions that give rise to it. It would be better if everyone understood the nature and source of violence.
Since the germs of violence get entry into the child when it is not given proper love and sympathy and is denied the opportunity of its healthy growth and later on in its maturity it is denied its basic human rights by the class-structure of society, our first one most important task is to reform our society where every individual will have the opportunity for healthy growth and development of personality.