

FEMINISM AND AWARENESS OF WOMEN IN KATE CHOPIN'S THE AWAKENING AND ZORA NEALE HURSTON'S THEIR EYES WERE WATCHING GOD.

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Abstract : This article deals with Feminism and Awareness of Women, evoked in the novels of Kate Chopin *The Awakening*, American writer of the 19th century and *Their Eyes Were Watching God* by Zora Neale Hurston, African American woman of the 20th century. In these novels, the authors use the theory of the feminism to explain the concept of feminism from women's point of view. This research is based on the feminist approach. She focuses on study of novel. Feminism wants society to change its ideas on patriarchy and accept women as being valuable part of society. Janie Crawford and Edna Pontellier are the protagonists in these two novels. *The Awakening novel*, explains that Edna Pontellier left her husband because of this repeated absence from home. So, in *Their Eyes Were Watching God*, Janie Crawford killed her husband against his oppressions. We can say that "marriage does not make love". In both novels, the women are dependent on the man who is the head of the household. So, men see themselves as superior to women. Women are not totally free to do what they want or say what they think publicly. There is an inequality between men and women that must be banished. While this still happens today, it is much more so in the 19th and 20th centuries.

Keywords: feminism ideology, women awareness, feminist approach, gender inequality.

Résumé : Cet article traite du féminisme et de la prise de conscience des femmes, évoqués dans les romans *The Awakening*, de Kate Chopin, écrivain américain du 19^e siècle et *Their Eyes Were Watching God*, de Zora Neale Hurston, femme afro-américaine du 20^e siècle. Dans ces romans les auteurs utilisent la théorie du féminisme pour expliquer le concept de féminisme en mettant en exergue le point de vue des femmes. Cette recherche est basée sur l'approche féministe. Elle se concentre sur l'étude romanesque. Le féminisme veut que la société change ses idées sur le patriarcat et accepte les femmes comme une partie valable de la société. Janie Crawford et Edna Pontellier sont les protagonistes dans ces deux romans. Le

roman *The Awakening* explique que Edna Pontellier a quitté son mari à cause de son absence répétitive au foyer. Alors dans *Their Eyes Were Watching God*, Janie Crawford a tué son mari pour se protéger contre les oppressions de ce dernier. On peut dire que « le mariage ne fait pas l'amour ». Dans les deux romans, la femme est dépendante de l'homme qui est le chef du ménage. Ainsi, l'homme se voit supérieur à la femme. La femme n'est pas totalement libre pour faire ce qu'elle veut ou dire ce qu'elle pense publiquement. Il y a une inégalité entre l'homme et la femme qui doit être bannie. Bien que cela se produise encore aujourd'hui, c'était encore bien plus aux 19^e et 20^e siècles.

Mots-clés : idéologie du féminisme, approche féministe, inégalité homme-femme.

Introduction: *The Awakening* is a novel written by Kate Chopin. Chopin began writing the novel in 1897 and published by Herbert S. Stone and company in Chicago on April 22, 1899. It is today acclaimed as an essential book of American. Kate Chopin's originally titled is *A Solitary Soul*. Set in Grand Isle and New Orleans in the late 19th century Louisiana when the revolution and feminist movements are beginning to emerge, but are still majorly overshadowed by prevail attitudes at the time. As portrayed in the novel, Grand Isle is a popular vacation destination for upper class Louisiana society throughout the 1880s because of its beautiful setting in the Gulf of Mexico. *The Awakening* novel begins at Grand Isle where Léonce Pontellier and his young wife Edna Pontellier and her two children spend the summer month. Léonce Pontellier is often away on business at the local Hotel Klein, and he visits Carondelet Street in New Orleans. *The Awakening* is, one of the 19th century outstanding stories written about the affairs of women in the patriarchal society at that time. However, *Their Eyes Were Watching God* is a novel written by Zora Neale Hurston (an America writer), publish in New York on September 18, 1937, long after the heyday of the Harlem renaissance it is considered as a classic feminist novel and is Zora Neale Hurston's best-known work. Zora Neale Hurston novel entitled *Their Eyes Were Watching God*, who is only analyzing the protagonist, Janie Crawford.

As well, Hurston's writing *Their Eyes Were Watching God* it is controversial because it did not fit easily into stereotypes of black stories. She is criticized withing the black community for taking finds from whites her writing; she wrote about themes also black to appeal to many white. This study assumes that American women's rebellion against men's oppressions is the weapon they use in their continuous battle for social equality. The protagonist, Edna

Pontellier, gets enlightened of both her class conscience and her as well. *Their Eyes Were Watching God* involve the protagonist Janie's search for unconditional, true, and fulfilling love. She experiences different kinds of love throughout her life.

Janie Crawford and Edna Pontellier gains their own independence and personal freedom, who makes them a true heroine in their novels. And both protagonists are daring enough their own autonomy. The main issue of this novel is about gender inequality. As far as, gender inequality refers to the unequal valuing of the roles of women and men. Gender is a social position; the set of social arrangements that are built around normative sex categories. Or gender third person singular personal, possessive, intensive, and reflexive pronouns and possessive adjectives change form depending on gender whether the antecedent is masculine (he, him, his, himself), feminine (she, her, hers, herself), or neuter (it, its, itself). Edna Pontellier and Janie Crawford suffered the effect of gender inequality, such as effect on physical problem, psychological problem, impact on woman's family and dependent and impact on social. The aim of this research paper is that we want to show out women's capacity to be herself in a given society, that is the only path to her socio-economic and political freedom. this study is based on the assumption that American women's rebellion against men's oppression is the weapon they use in their continuous battle for social equality. This study sheds light on Kate Chopin's *The Awakening* and Zora Neale Hurston's *Their Eyes Were Watching God*. The main points for discussion led us on Edna's reaction regarding her social exploitation. Edna Pontellier fights against the societal and natural structures of motherhood that force her to be defined by her title as a wife of Léonce Pontellier and mother of Raoul and Etienne Léonce Pontellier, instead of being her own, self-defined individual. And the center message in the Kate Chopin story is the idea of independence. The story is written during a time when women are largely viewed as property first a father's property, then her husband's. In *The Awakening*, Edna Pontellier finds her independence through her sexual awakening. The probability of her fate as a male-defined creature brings her to a state as male-defined creature brings her to a state of despair, and she frees herself the only way she can, through suicide. However, *Their Eyes Were Watching God* novel, the protagonist Janie Crawford with her three successive husbands. Tea Cake Woods tries to shoot the protagonist Janie Crawford, and she kills Tea Cake Woods in self-defense. Otherwise, the two female characters in the two novels under study focus on women's right to abandon sexual relations with their husbands. From that point of view, we identify that the image or identity

of women in America has been constructed negatively. In the two novels, we assert that women's identity in term of gender inequality is regenerate positively. That is our main idea of research. However, to shape and give meaning to this existence, man must understand not only his society, history and the self but, equally seek appropriate ways to contribute to women right in the society. For our purpose, Kate Chopin and Zora Neale Hurston demonstrate that it is in the meditating on and in the forging of one's destiny that the essence of one's life is discovered; a discovery that frustrates but ironically will offer them eternal peace.

To achieve this article, we need to use the feminist approach, a set of systems or methods that treat women's experiences as legitimate empirical and theoretical resource, that promote social science for women think public sociology, but for a specific half of the public, and that take into account the researcher as much as the over subject matter. We need also to use the sociological approach since it is a social problem and our topic deal with a social problem. This approach will help us to situate the novel under study within their sociological contexts to better analyses them. Feminist approach in the field of literature is known as feminist literary criticism. Feminist itself comes from the word femme who mean woman. Feminist in literary works tries to describe and explain women's experiences in a literary work, one example is a novel. As far as, novel is an extended work of fiction. Like the short story, a novel is essentially the product of a writer's imagination. The most obvious difference between a novel and a short story is length. Because the novel is considerably longer, a novelist can develop a wider range of character and a more Complex plot.

This specifically concerns the demand for equal rights and freedom for women in society. Kate Chopin novel, *The Awakening* and Zora Neale Hurston novel, *Their Eyes Were Watching God* illustrates the various types of oppression that the Victorian women experience and ways in who they can also be worthwhile individuals with meaningful contributions to the society. Feminist is a study that focuses on the analysis of gender inequality. The focus of this evaluation is because it is seen from the amount of unfair treated between men and women. This review of literature shows that a goal to achieve gender equality both in the cultural, political, economic, personal and social. Feminist believe that women can get equal rights against men. Feminist is the studies that denounce the problem of differences between women and men socially, political and economically, as well as to show the extent of patriarchy.

This article uses feminist approach to explore how the patriarchal society is unfair to women in the novel of Kate Chopin's *The Awakening*, thereby maintain Edna's and Janie's move for freedom. Feminist points to the various movements and struggles that the aim is to help women secure equal and fair position in society on the bases of social, economic political, or personal concerns.

Edna and Janie Social Awareness

In Chopin's writing *The Awakening* is issued around the protagonist Edna Pontellier, and the events throughout her married life. Chopin's did not have the intention to show how different Edna is compare to her society of real mother woman, but instead shows the way Edna becomes self-aware and discovers more meaning to her life. Chopin's made it prominent to make more women aware of their own lives and want them to do more with their lives than Edna. This goes on as late as Edna cannot take it anymore when she becomes a dissatisfied wife to her Pontellier, an unsuitable mother to her children, as well as an unideal woman in the society. Edna Pontellier realizes that the capitalist ideology is suppressing her and forcing her to remain in the relationship that is not satisfying her wants as a woman and as a wife. She decides to take a step of confidence to rise above the impact of divorce and exploitation that the capitalist society have given her. She realizes the great potential in herself and starts exploring her identity, her sexuality, personal awareness, control, and makes herself a free human being in the society.

In this case, Chopin's lets her character, Edna Pontellier, to isolate and break the existing stereotype from the structure of the classist society to become independence and create her identity as a worthwhile person for her future. However, no such future is possible within the conditions of her reality. In Edna's childhood she cannot act out her own nor do thing that are out of the ordinary for the female of her time in 19th century, according to the narrator she has all her life long been accustomed to harbor thoughts and emotions to herself, she can marginally voice an opinion even to Léonce Pontellier. As she moves out of her house from Léonce Pontellier, she begins to feel these little bits of freedom, every step who she took toward relieve herself from obligations added to her strength and expansion as an individual. She began to look with her own eye; to see and to apprehend the deeper undercurrents of life. Edna, began to look with her own eyes this give the readers a sense that ever since she is married to Léonce Pontellier, she can have to abide by his rules and not get the chance to

express any of her own opinions to him. Her marriage to Léonce Pontellier felt more of a responsibility than a passionate desire of the love for someone.

This gives meaning in Edna's Awakening by showing that she is able to see that she can do more with her life, who eases Edna to take action. This pushes Edna to discover more of herself and do herself and do things for herself. It is understandable that she can come off as selfish, but it shows that her past is shape her into someone better in 1899, I always feel so sorry for woman who do not like to walk; They miss so much so many rare little glimpses of life; and we women learn so little of life on the whole. She shows that before she can act upon her selves, she did not many glimpses of life. This quote emphasizes that Edna Pontellier has been able to discover more about herself. It has a sense of Awakening for Edna Pontellier women are not to walk alone, because they have the potential of get robbed or snatched off the Streets. Edna Pontellier is aware she is not the perfection typical mother woman, so she begins to sympathize for the women who have not tries things out of their own comfort Zones.

In Edna's pigeon house, Robert Lebrun and Edna are together, Edna pronounces to Robert that she is no longer one of Léonce's possession, I am no longer one of Léonce Pontellier's possessions to dispose of or not. I give myself where I choose. This exposes that Edna Pontellier and Léonce Pontellier did both have a full-love romantic relationship, they both wished for, according to the narrator, He thought it very discouraging that his wife, who is the sole object of his existence, evinced so little interest in things who concerned him, and valued so little his conversation Léonce Pontellier is very observant of Edna and when it states, sole object of his existence expresses Edna as an object, connect to how he sees her as property.

In a way, the protagonist Edna Pontellier just an abundance, but valuable piece of property, she is reason he does things. Edna is able to show the readers and herself that she wants more out of her life and does not want to be with Léonce Pontellier, and to just fulfill his views on reputation. She states, "I give myself where I Choose", this tells the readers that Edna is aware of her own self value and she can make her own choices without coming back. awakening is not just an awakening for her whole life, but it is also for her own sexual awakening. To Edna Pontellier, Robert Lebrun is the true love of her, not Léonce Pontellier nor Alcee Arobin, there is no human being who she wanted near her except Robert, Edna is genuinely selfish for love. Her awakening gave her a path way to discover her love for Robert, this is a bid factor in what Edna thought she is miss out on her whole life. Without Robert, Edna felt like a lost

cause. Edna might have done many actions for herself with these actions for herself, but Edna is able to carry herself with this action very critical.

No other acquaintance in her life knew herself. Chopin's writing makes these imagery connections with birds to women. To her peers, Edna is can be seen as a hard headed bird, but to herself she is everything she wanted to be. The only thing she cannot truly obtain is her romantic life with Robert Lebrun. Edna awakening is able to set herself free, spent is press upon and dominate her. There are possible chances Edna's can have done things differently, but she believes it is her fate. Chopin's writing is able to express that Edna Pontellier is self-aware, by Edna becoming confuse and think she cannot do more when discover meaning in her life, by take her one decision of her life, Edna knew that she did not want to give up her own life, to a life such restrained, controlling powers. And the character of Janie in *Their Eyes Were Watching God*, in Zora Neale Hurston, Janie Crawford is the protagonist she helps women to deal with their own problems by deal with hers. She deals with personal relationships as well as searches for self-awareness. In Hurston's writing *Their Eyes Were Watching God*, Janie Crawford is more than a protagonist; however, she is a woman who has overcome the restrictions placed on her life. As a young woman, Janie has no complaints about her in society and fit in as most young people to do.

With this belief in mind, Janie agrees to marry Logan Kellicks, a man she does not love. Janie still does not love Logan; in fact, she likes him less now that she has gotten to know him and what life on his farm is like. Learning the lesson that marriage does not guarantee love changes Janie and affects her to move forward. To successfully navigate these changes, characters must gain awareness of their environments and gain the power to effectively take action. Thus, Janie most successfully adjusts to different environments because she develops self-awareness, attains power, and initiates action; she takes action more efficiently than young, and she is more self-aware of her circumstances than the Hunger Artist.

In *Their Eyes Were Watching God*, Janie gains awareness through her first two marriages and gains power through her third marriage. she is able to take action successfully and achieve independence through shooting Tea Cake. Tea Cake is Janie's third husband and true love. Janie's life can be divided into four main stages that correspond, not only to the men she related associated with but also with her growing awareness about her identity as a black woman and her decision to break with what is expected of her. Her childhood, her marriage

with Tea Cake all be essential to understand her evolution and to distance herself from the tragic destiny she is expected to suffer.

Definition of Identity

Identity is an individual or society's awareness, who is, declares that I am different with you and we are different with them. Equally, the identities that individuals adopt in order to define themselves are produced, at least in part, from the cultural and social context in who we find ourselves and from who we draw certain assumptions about human nature, individuality, and the self.

The Right to Vote for Women

During this time, women gained the right to vote. Even before, Mary Wollstonecraft have authored *A Vindication of the Rights of Women* (1792). She urged women to stand up for their rights and not allow their male dominated society to define what it means to be a woman. Women themselves must take the lead and articulate who they are, and what role they can and will play in society. Most importantly, they must reject the patriarchal assumptions that women are inferior to men. Feminism in general is a word that is used to describe political, cultural and economic movements. It aims at establish more rights and legal protection for women. It does not have a single essential definition as the British author and critic Rebecca West remarks: I only know that other people call me a feminist whenever I express sentiments that differentiate me from a doormat or prostitute. Also, each writer establishes his or her own independent definition according to his or her experience. For example, in Estelle Freedman's view, the emphasis is on the intellectual background: "feminism is a social movement that tried to achieve political equality between women and men, with the understanding that gender always intersects with other social hierarchies" (Freedman, 2004: P 24). Depending on her situation and political standpoint, Barbara affirms that feminism is the political theory and practice to free all women. Anything less than this is not feminism, but merely female self-aggrandizement. Smith is a feminist, who played a significant role in building and sustaining Black Feminism in the United States, who is an organization emphasizing the intersectionality of racial, gender, heterosexist, and class oppression in the lives of blacks and other women of color. In literary criticism, feminism focuses on woman's position in literature, both as writer and character, subject and object, perceiver and perceived. In politics, feminism refers to the approach who aims at having equal rights with men in all the fields of life. In order to achieve a cohesive and comprehensive

definition of feminism and its manifestations, we have to explore its different aspects, such as the geographical and the historical ones.

Feminism began as a political thought when Olympe de Gouges (1748-1793) wrote the declaration of the rights of women and the female citizen in 1791, who demanded equal rights for women based on The Rights of man and Citizen is that is published, during the French Revolution. Similar thinking has risen in the United States of America in 1848, in England in 1878, in Russia in 1848, and in China in 1911. Feminist is the person who believes in the social political, and economic equality of the sexes. Feminist aims to terminate all forms of male domination. Feminist research focuses on gender inequality and tries to establish gender equality in the world. The conservative feminist philosopher, writer, and composer; Jean - Jacques Rousseau (1712-1778), have argued that men and women are by nature not merely different in kind but different in natural rank. Feminism is an umbrella term for a number of cultural phenomena, it tries to acquire freedom for women to work, and male independent economically, and psychological. Definition of feminism appears as the protest to the system of society who has created a false idea about women since a long time ago. It is known that women's status and position in the society are very low. Feminist movement that aims to define, establish and defend equal political, legal economic, culture and social right for women, include equal opportunities for women in education and employment. Our focus is on equality with men, not supremacy over them. This is something we must emphasize in our work as some persons in our environment will interpret man hate female supremacists when we use term feminist and feminism.

The Movement of American Feminism

The movement of American feminism began in the twentieth century. This movement aims to move the position of women forward through some ways in order to achieve legal, economic, political, social rights. It maintains that women and men are, and have been, treated differently by society, and that women have frequently and systematically been unable to participate fully in all the available social arenas and social institutions says that feminism can be explained as follows: A movement seeking the re-organization of the world upon a basis of gender inequality in all human relations; a movement who can reject every differentiation between individuals upon the grounds of gender, that can abolish all gender privileges and burdens, and can strive to set up the recognition of the common humanity of women and men as the foundation of law and custom. In Hurston's writing *Their Eyes Were Watching God*,

the feminism movement gain a better understanding of gender inequality, political and sexual. Feminist movement, wants to change the social stratum.

Basic of Feminism

Feminism is based mainly on equality rights for women's and seeks to assist them in finding an equal standing in their communities. Finally, the movement of feminism rises into the third wave, as known as "the rebirth of feminism" who gives a new formulation to bring a new concept of life for women.

All the feminism's basic slogan is creation of a just society, the protection of freedom and liberty, the creation of a class-less society, and the creation of a gender-neutral society respectively. At that time, the American society became aware of women's right and abilities after the Second World War. Feminism is a consciousness-raising movement to get people to understand that gender is an organizing principle of life. The underlying belief is that women and men should be accorded equal opportunities and respect. It also emphasizes the unsuitability and scarcity of dominant ideologies, as well as the spiritual, social, intellectual, financial, ethnic, and gender inequality of women and men. It also aims to liberate women from what appears to be an endless cycle of sexual and biological colonization. Feminism requests gender inequality and self-expression and thus is a protest against male superiority and subordination of women. African American women descent see that the feminist movement is primarily interested in the small minority that have formed the movement.

Include the presence of black women and also other women of color. The quest for female identity and gender inequalities in Hurston's *Their Eyes Were Watching God*. Black female is contributions to the movement are never recognized, and their endeavors went unnoticed. However, Chopin's focus in her novel on a female character who is searching for own identity and this does not mean that it is a feminist critique. Edna in this story goes through several awakenings. In her journey to find her identity, she faces many challenges and she cannot move beyond social rooms.

Her former mindset was autopilot. Under Léonce's control she never considered her action or even why she obeys him. She has no feel whatever because she is unthinking and detached from her existence. Since she never considered herself submissive, she does not think of her awakening in terms of a revolt against the patriarchy. Rather, Edna is incredulous that she has ever lacked a mindset that did desire self-autonomy. For example, after Léonce commands her

to go inside. She wondered if her husband has ever spoken to her like that before, and if she submitted to his command. Of course, she has; she remembered she have. But she cannot realize why or how she can have yielded, feelings as she then did.

Father proof of her new mindset is that upon reflection, she thinks that her earlier attempt to destroy her wed ring is futile expedient. She no longer accepts a regulated life style and is not afraid to step out of boundary. One-night Léonce Pontellier wakes her up for no sustainable reason, this incident contributes to a feel of depression that starts to overwhelm Edna, after she find that Léonce Pontellier awake her for nothing, she goes outside on the porch and cries and indescribable oppression filled her whole being” emotions are under control he left with a sense of powerlessness.

Feminism in the Chopin’s writing *The Awakening*, feminism is a major aspect of the novel.

According to dictionary. Reference.Com the word feminism means, the doctrine advocating social, political, and all other rights of women equal to those of men. In Chopin’s writing *The Awakening* takes place during the late eighteen hundred to early nineteen hundred, in New Orleans. Chopin’s writing is about Edna Pontellier and her family on a summer vacation. Edna, who is a wife and mother, is inferior to her husband, Lèonce Pontellier, and must live by her husband’s desires. While on vacation Edna becomes close friends with Adele Ratignolle, who helps Edna discover she must bear wakened. though it is uncommon during the 1800’s some women did not want to assume the traditional role of a typical Victorian woman. Such is the case in Chopin’s writing *The Awakening*; she introduces us to Edna’s journey of self-discovery and sex thanks to the help people she meets along the way. Chopin’s decides to end the story with Edna’s suicide in an attempt to convey a sense of liberation from her repressed life, but is the reason behind her suicide. In Chopin’s writing the story is very clear that there is no love in Edna Pontellier and Lèonce Pontellier marriage. At the beginning of the story when Léonce Pontellier came house from Klein’s hotel he is annoyed that Edna cannot listen to him while she tried to sleep. He then told her that one of the children have a fever, and because of his reprimand, and Edna went in to see the children. She soon came back and sat on the edge of the bed, leaning her head down on the pillow. She began to cry a little, and wiped her eyes on the sleeve of her peignoir. “Edna slowly realized that her marriage meant nothing, and wanted something more” (Chopin, 1899: P 13). The following passages talk about radical feminism. Is a perspective within feminism that calls for a radical re-ordering of society in who male supremacy is eliminated in all social and economic

contexts, while recognizing that women's experiences are also affected by other social divisions such as in race, class, and sexual orientation.

The ideology and movement emerged in the 1960s. Radical feminists view society as fundamentally a patriarchy in who men dominate and oppress women. Radical feminists seek to abolish the patriarchy as one front in a struggle to liberate everyone from an unjust society by challenge exist social norms and institutions. This struggle includes oppressing the sexual objectification of women, raise public awareness about such issues as rape and violence against women, challenge concept of gender roles, and challenge what radical feminist see as a racialized and gendered capitalism that characterized the United States of America and many other countries. Radical feminism is the radical evolution and extreme development of liberal feminists inside the 20th century. It opposes patriarchal oppression and female maltreatment, and tries to prevent male-dominated society. It focuses on power of men and patriarchy.

Radical Feminism

This feminism that emerged from these discussions stood first and foremost for the liberation of women, as women, from the oppression of men in their own lives, as well as men in power. Radical feminism claimed that a totalizing ideology and social formation patriarchy government or rule fathers dominated women in the interests of men. Early in the radical feminism movement, some radical feminists theorized that other kinds of hierarchy grew out of and are modeled on male supremacy and so, are in effect, specialized forms of male supremacy. Therefore, the fight against male domination took priority because the liberation of women can mean the liberation of all. This view is contested, particularly by intersectional feminism and black feminism. Critics argue that this ideology accept the notion that identities are singular and disparate, rather than multiple and intersecting. For example, understanding women's oppression as disparate assumes that men, in creating and maintaining these systems, are acting purely as men, in accordance with peculiarly male characteristics or specifically male supremacist objectives. Radical feminism is a philosophy emphasizing the patriarchal roots of inequality between men and women, or more specifically, the social domination of female by male. Radical feminism views patriarchy as dividing societal rights, privileges, and power primarily along the lines of sex, and as a result, oppressing women and privileging men.

The title of the novel *The Awakening* refers to the protagonist Edna Pontellier, this means that Edna has the new way of looking at things around her, and the society in who she lives. The protagonist Edna Pontellier is twenty-eight -years old, married to Léonce Pontellier who is forty-years old, as wealthy New Orleans businessman, and they had two children Raoul and Etienne. Edna's husband Léonce Pontellier spent all his time doing business, although he loves Edna and his sons, he spent little time with them because he is often away on business or with his friends." It is eleven o'clock that night when Léonce Pontellier returned from Klein's hotel. He is in excellent humeur, in high spirit, and very talkative" (Chopin,1899: P 9). Léonce Pontellier unaware of his wife's unhappiness, because he does not satisfy Edna's need in sexual satisfaction and Freedom. In the company of Edna's boyfriend Robert Lebrun, she discovers the realities and becomes aware of her position in life when going to take bath in the sea, Edna Pontellier learns how to swim on the beach.

This proves that the Protagonist Edna gets out of the social norm in order to discover her new way of living, and her own identity. Finally, of the story the protagonist Edna Pontellier rebels against the conventional expectations and she discovers an identity different from her role as a wife and mother. During 19th century, society have made great progress in many aspects; however, women are similar to the property belonging to men. The author focuses on this idea in *The Awakening* and portrays female's social status, marital life, and autonomy. "The protagonist Edna Pontellier grows from a traditional housewife, who is lack of self-awareness" (Chopin, 1899: p 37). Edna Pontellier feels the freedom of the sea. The author reflects the theme of identity. As far as, the sea in Chopin's writing *The Awakening*, symbolizes freedom and escape of the protagonist, Edna Pontellier. Robert, who teaches Edna Pontellier how to swim, encourages her to seek for her own individuality and burst the restraint from the patriarchal society. In the sea, the protagonist Edna Pontellier feels powerful because she is able to control the work of her own body and her soul. She becomes dauntless because she swims alone stands alone. She acquires freedom and power in the sea while other mother women cannot catch up with her. to an independent new woman who focuses on self-identity. Her awakening turns from spirit to reality. However, In Hurston's writing *Their Eyes Were Watching Gog*, the protagonist, Janie Crawford is a woman who develops, her identity throughout the story by using the knowledge and experience she obtains from her tree marriages. Janie's marriages to Logan Killicks, marriage Jody Starks, and Tea Cake are the most crucial elements in her development as a woman. After each relationship is over, her

attitude undergoes a metamorphosis, directing her towards her eventual independence. In Hurston's writing *Their Eyes Were Watching God*, symbolize meaning is the pear tree. Janie, through youth and lack of empowerment, is misled believe other people's definitions of love and marriage. Identity is an individual or society's awareness, who is, declares that I am different with you and we are different with them. Equally, the identities that individuals adopt in order to define themselves are produced, at least in part, from the cultural and social context in who we find ourselves and from who we draw certain assumptions about human nature, individuality, and the self.

Janie's view of love and marriage occurred at the age of sixteen in her Nanny 's back yard. In Hurston's writing *Their Eyes Were Watching God* Janie lies beneath the pear tree when, the inaudible voice of it all came to her. She sees a dust bearing bee sink into the sanctum of a bloom; the thousand sister-calyxes arch to meet the love embrace and the ecstatic shiver of the from root to tiniest branch creaming in every blossom and frothing with delight. So, "this is a marriage She have been summoned to behold a revelation" (Hurston, 1937: 11). However, Chopin's writing portrayed Edna Pontellier as an autonomous, self-independence and ambitious being who desires a life that is free from restriction, limitations imposed on her by the family and the society. She struggles to discover her identity as an independent being; she tries to discover herself as a free human being. She wants to live freely. The family duties and traditional beliefs are not as important as her personal life. She wants to be a free individual who can enjoy his liberty.

Conclusion

In one word, the main topic of *The Awakening* and *Their Eyes Were Watching God* is feminism, because these two writers are the American woman, and the novel is written to denounce the injustice in the 19th century and 20th century American society. We have said that, these two protagonists Edna Pontellier and Janie Crawford is a traditional woman. In the story, these writers use feminist characters to show how women are living in the society, and to support the idea of feminism. So, today we talk about the feminism and awareness of women for a reason that is very simple, women need to be considered as human beings who can do anything that men can do in the society. In *Their Eyes Were Watching God*, by Zora Neale Hurston's author show the evolution of feminism, feminism is the movement that aims to gain a better understanding of gender inequality, political and sexual. As an African American woman who has faced gender inequality, she has developed strategies for survival.

She chooses to persevere despite the torture becoming increasing harsh. The protagonist Janie Crawford is persecuted in a variety of ways, both alone with Jody and with the community. She is frequently controlled by Jody unable to make independent decisions. Essentially, whatever she desires is contingent upon her husband's approval. To facilitate the best understanding of this research paper by those who never read the stories, we have presented the novels in term the patriarchy; women consideration, feminism and awareness of women in both 19th and 20th century. We have also stated that women of that century live in a patriarchal society.

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