Name:

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Course:

Date:

The Frankenstein Application Essay

**Introduction**

*Frankenstein* novel is a literary work that was written by Mary Shelley. Its main focus is on human condition or what human beings encounter in their daily course. In this work, we will try to bridge Frankenstein's work to the real-life considerations that will help us critically analyze today's discovery just as it has been written by Mary Shelley. In this essay we will look at how Shelley has brought forward the theme of feminism, we will try to analyze her perception of women as well.

**Feminism**

Shelley has a terrible argument on the value of maternity and how important women are in the family and the society. Women in Shelly's novel are seen to serve the traditional roles, which means that they have to serve as men's instruments that are used to fulfill men’s desires (either for love or revenge).

**The Male Maternity**

This is one of the most prominent feminism examples in *Frankenstein*. It is seen in the creation of the monster which was a male. When Victor Frankenstein subverts the law of nature, he uses science to bring about the power of life. By doing so he goes against the laws of motherhood, he removes the mother completely. Also, he makes this scene unnatural and grotesque, making it so hard for the owner to love it.

Shelley echos Mary Wollstonecraft's warning on a blind devolution to science and to the era that was primarily led by males. All in all, it prioritizes male over the female. It gave Frankenstein the insolent boldness to think that he can exclude women using science.

**The Monster and His Bride**

After the creation of the monster, it makes a request to its creator for a companion. Since the creature was made, everyone rejected it including the townspeople who eventually drove him into the forest. As a result, the creature was lonely and wanted to be loved. Due to the rejection it became angry and bitter. It blackmailed Victor and made him create a mate for it. It also said that it would run away into the jungle with the mate.

All of the people assumed that the spouse must have loved and accepted the creature automatically. The monster denied the mate, and expected that its spouse would live for him. Therefore, Shelly relates this to the patriarchal systems whereby a woman is defined solely by a man in the society. (Smith 275)

**Instrument of Revenge (Elizabeth Lavenza)**

Elizabeth Lavenza is Victor's fiancée; she is a good example that represents how women are treated in *Frankenstein*. Victor's hopes are placed on Elizabeth; she is his dream for the future comfort, companion, and future mother of his children. Elizabeth is a smart and kind lady, her wisdom guides Victor and corrects him when it is needed. This fact shows that women are more valuable than just an instrument that pleases men. On this event, the monsters used Elizabeth as a revenge tool meant for Victor to feel the pain of being alone. The monster killed Elizabeth on her wedding night and fulfilled the threat he had given to Victor: "Women function not in their own right but rather as signals of and conduits for men's relations with other men”.

Mary Shelley brings out the women's characters in this book as passive one. It is seen by the various women who have been featured in this book. Elizabeth’s importance is overshadowed by the character of Victor. She waits patiently but helpless for her husband to return, and in the process she is killed by the monster (Shelley 54). Another woman is Caroline. She dies in the process of taking care of her adopted daughter because she is selfless. Also, the invention of the mate for the monster by Victor is aborted because of fears that the female might become stronger than the male and might not be controlled. All these instances shown brings out an argument that Shelley renders her female characters passive and subjected to ill-treatments. It brings out the character of Victor and his monster as obsessive and destructive ones.

Although the book was written a long time ago, it still applies to today's life. Women are seen as submissive beings that are supposed to follow the men's rules. The monster demanded a female mate. On the other hand, it wanted the mate to feel its void. In the end, Victor destroyed the mate because he thought he might not be able to control them both.

**Conclusion**

Mary Shelley in *Frankenstein* has brought out the theme of feminism very strongly. In the examples discussed above, we see that women are viewed as being the instruments to provide pleasure to men. According to the patriarchal systems, a woman is attached to his man meaning that a woman is not significant in the society. In the novel, it is illustrated when Elizabeth dies, and nothing emphasizes on her death. However, when Henry dies, Frankenstein feels pity because his long-time friend is dead. Therefore, women are seen as passive and not so important to the society as men are.