

The Representation of J. D. Salinger's Views on Changes in American Society in the 1940s in The Catcher in the Rye

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Abstract : The objectives of this study aim to analyze both the protagonist in The Catcher in the Rye in terms of ideological concepts and narrative techniques which influence the construction of the representation and the relationship between the representation and J. D. Salinger's views on changes in American society in the 1940s. This area of study might concern two theories: namely, a theory of representation and narratology. In addition, this research is intended to answer the following three questions. Firstly, how is the production of meaning through language in The Catcher in the Rye constructed? Secondly, what are J. D. Salinger's views on changes in American society in the 1940s? Lastly, how is the relationship between the representation and J. D. Salinger's views? The findings showed that the protagonist's views, J. D. Salinger's views, and changes in American society in the 1940s are obviously interrelated. The production of meaning which is the representation of the protagonist's views was constructed of narrative techniques. J. D. Salinger's views on changes in American society in the 1940s were the same antisocial perspectives as Holden Caulfield's which are phoniness, alienation and meltdown.

Keywords : representation, construction of the representation, systems of representation, phoniness, alienation, meltdown

Conference Title : ICICC 2014 : International Conference on Identity, Culture and Communication

Conference Location : London, United Kingdom

Conference Dates : May 26-27, 2014