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## SENSITIVE ASPECTS OF HUMAN LIFE IN SHOBHA DE'S NOVELS SOCIALITE EVENINGS AND SECOND THOUGHTS

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### ABSTRACT

*Literature is the talent of discovering something extraordinary about ordinary people and saying with ordinary words something extraordinary. Indian English literature is an honest enterprise to demonstrate the over rare gems of Indian writing in English. It represents a new form of Indian culture and explores the sensitive aspects of human life. Shobha De is one of the most eminent and popular novelist of contemporary Indian English fiction. She is a writer with multi – faceted personality. By giving prominent situation and prominence such issues of women writers. De has injected a new vision into her novels.*

*Many of her novels analyse the sensitive aspects of human life, it means to displaying a quick and fine appreciation of others feelings and their needs. The present article seeks to explore the thematic study of Shobha De's novels Socialite Evenings and Second Thoughts. Through this article the research scholar prefer to expose an appeal. Esteem other people's opinion. It might mean nothing to you but it could denote everything to them.*

### INTRODUCTION

Sensitive aspects of human life explores displaying a quick and subtle approval of others feelings and their needs. Though some individuals can get away with postponing their wishes at times, responsive people often feel the effects of discard sooner than most. A person who feels everything fully is more optimistic to fully take care of themselves.

The "human condition" is an important part of our understanding of literature. Literary critics often tag a piece of writing as literature - and not pound fiction - if it tries to portray this "human condition." Basically, the piece of the human situation is any thematic apprehension about human life, human civilization or how we live our lives. In other words, it's about the basic issues of human life.

Shobha De values human relationship like humanities. Woman may have their desire and needs which make them strong-minded and hence they try to search for greener pastures. De strongly believes that a woman has been gifted with only one life and they must live it to its fullest. De's views about marriage are very impartial in the sense that she has the great quality to write about men's feelings. Shobha De agrees that marriage is a settlement no doubt but woman should be aware of her economic independence and freedom to expose their thoughts and feelings before taking any decision regarding her marital status for a comfortable survival. There has to be a proper tuning between self and pressure in the society otherwise life will definitely be destroyed.

Shobha De's women characters are bold and try to redefine marriage in their own

terms. Most of the central characters in her novels are from middle class backgrounds who are elevated to the elite class either due to marriage like Karuna and Maya. All the women and men characters in her novels sensitively because they would like to state their feelings and needs. De explores the sensitive aspects of human life in various situation like childhood age, teenage, before marriage and after marriage and finally self realization.

### SOCIALITE EVENINGS

De's first novel *Socialite Evenings* is the reflection of middle – class people life and their feelings. Karuna and Anjali are the major characters as well as they faced sensitive aspects in their life. Karuna was a predicament child both at home and school. At home she refused to shrink before elders and at school she wore her sash hipster style. Her hunger to be in with the mod crowd increased as she grew up and she desperately longed to be in 'that charmed circle of rich girls who had everything'. Systematically superior way in which she was kept out by the smart set, diverted karuna's impotent rage into a discovery of books encouraged by her father.

Karuna's college friend Charlie was a disgraceful character who 'scored so many firsts of the non-academic kind' and was the first to discover boys and soul-kissing. Karuna's first modelling for newspaper and her father's rage on discovering the secret assignment as the *Terkosa Girl* was enough to earn her a tight slap. In Anjali's circle everyone was thrice married and split-up a commonplace. This explained Anjali's marital correlation with her husband Abbas Tyabji, which reminded Karuna of Aristotle Onassis, "With the same crude arrogance that money breeds". Anjali was treated like a baby and she enjoyed the feelings of indulgence; but the vital area of difference between Anjali the half-jain, half-Hindu girl and abe was the mussulman part. Anjali persistent to wear a bindi when she wore saris, and celebrated Diwali at home. This habit is Anjali's perceptive thought. Religion was of no effect to Tyabji.

Karuna finds marriage horrible and in her opinion, her marriage ends the day she was on a honeymoon with her husband. There is extremely no interaction between them. Karuna's husband doesn't even bother about Karuna at all. Even when Karuna was having an affair with Krish, her husband was completely rude about it. Her husband doesn't have any slightest idea about the expectations that Karuna has out of him. He expects Karuna to be a good home-maker, be obedient to him, listen to his mother and manage the house well. Karuna did not want to have a baby, and seeks abortion when she gets pregnant, and later learns that she cannot conceive any more. In the process of establishing her identity, she divorces her husband and takes up journalism as her career. Ranbir, her colleague, is interesting

enough to have fun but not to live with. Finally Karuna's devotion to his father shows her the path. She decides to look after her parents at last and moves in with them. **"Living with my parents had opened up a new dimension for me. I felt like a responsible, caring daughter for the first time. They needed me. And I needed them"**.

### SECOND THOUGHTS

"Second thoughts" is the masterpiece of Shobha De. Maya the central character of this novel, as per the denotation of her name used to trek in the world of fancy. But she fails to discriminate that thoughts never come true and unfortunately she is strained by the situation to accept her solitude as her companion. As truly depicted, Maya was spellbound by Bombay but was taken aback when she sensed that Bombay smelt of extreme anxiety and treachery. Since beginning Ranjan seems to be dominating her. Maya is a graduate in textile designing. When her mother motivates about her wish to pursue her career, Ranjan rejects it. Ranjan announces that he is earning well and the responsibility of woman is only to look after the house.

Once Maya asks him for doing a job, Ranjan bursts: **"In our families, the only sort of work ladies do is social work. Our relations criticize us if you abruptly take up a job"** (29). It is one of the example of sensitive aspect in Maya's life.

Maya reacts wrathfully that she has no one besides to talk in the house, Ranjan suggests to her that there is television, music and tidiness the house in charge to pass the time. This unreceptive thoughts of husband becomes insupportable to a wife particularly in country like India. Ranjan yet doesn't give any autonomy to Maya to like her existence in her individual ways. Once when she says that she wants to attend a few stoneware classes as she has much relaxation, Ranjan replies: "Housewives don't have extra time-there so much to be done roughly the home. Take Ma's example, she is hectic round the clock" (ST 139). Rajan keeps on reminding Maya about her duties as a wife and married woman. Ranjan is scarcely aware of Maya's existence in his home. Ranjan never discusses anything with Maya. Ranjan never allows her to participate in resolution making route. When Maya insists to participate in these affairs, Rajan just refuses declaring that wife must look after the husband as he returns home; Ranjan engraves for a little amity in the house. Everyone has a feelings and wishes so others should give response for that feeling, here Ranjan neglects Maya's feelings.

Ranjan is too much enthusiastic to his mother and in return Maya also adores him. Ranjan takes his wife merely as an alternative of his mother. Maya feels that it is barely in charge to convince his mother Ranjan married Maya. Ranjan used to converse each and every thing with his mother instead of Maya. Ranjan rebuffs to split

even the single aspect of his life with her. Maya worries whether Ranjan assumes her, his enemy, or doesn't have enough hope in her. Once Maya confronts to request him and Ranjan answers devoid of captivating his eyes off the television monitor: "Of course I believe you but my mother is my mother, I have known her longer than you. These things take time" (ST 205). Both Ranjan and Maya live like unfamiliar persons. Ranjan and Maya are in the bond which satisfies neither of them.

## CONCLUSION

In the present paper, an effort is made to probe into the sensitive aspects of human life in that concern novels of Shobha De. Sensitive aspects is the significant part of human beings. De explores the theme in her novels exactly. From this article the research scholar prefer to explore the importance of human beings feelings and their needs.

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