

CHAPTER THREE

CONCLUSION

Having analyzed the social conflicts in Arthur Miller's *All My Sons*, I would like to draw some conclusions. The conflicts presented in the play are caused by one source, Joe's past deed. It affects the other characters' life and creates more conflicts among one another. They are mostly between Joe and his wife and son, Chris, and between Chris and George.

The first social conflict occurs between Chris Keller and George Deever. George claims that Chris's father, Joe, is responsible for the plane crash that has caused twenty-one pilots to die and for the imprisonment of George's father, Steve. However, Chris argues that his father is neither responsible for nor involved in the plane crash. The conflict ends unsolved because their argument cannot be continued as George leaves the house when his cab comes to pick him up.

The second conflict occurs between Chris and his mother, Kate. Chris comes with a proposal to marry Larry's former fiancée, Ann Deever. Larry is Chris's younger brother. Chris insists to marry Ann because he believes that his brother has already died in the plane crash. However, Kate herself does not even permit him to marry Ann because she believes that Larry is alive somewhere. The conflict remains unsolved because each of them insists on their opinions.

The third conflict occurs between Joe and his son, Chris. On the one hand, Chris wants his father to admit his crime about the plane crash and be responsible for it. On the other hand, Joe claims that he is not involved in it and denies that he is the one who causes the plane crash. The conflict is solved as Joe at last admits that he commits the crime.

The fourth conflict occurs between Joe and his wife, Kate. Kate wants Joe to ask for Chris's forgiveness and be responsible for his past deed that gives impacts on others' life. However, Joe argues that he does not have to do so. He says that his responsibility is to feed his family, so indirectly he wants to say that he does not want to be responsible for the case. The conflict ends unsolved because their argument cannot be continued due to Ann's coming.

The last conflict occurs between Joe and Chris. On the one hand, Joe claims that his having confessed his wrong-doing means showing his responsibility. On the other hand, Chris wants more than just a confession. He wants his father to be responsible by being imprisoned. The conflict is solved when Joe later commits suicide as he cannot bear the consequences.

After having analyzed the social conflicts, I conclude that the conflicts presented in the play are interconnected for the root of the conflicts comes from Joe Keller. All conflicts above happen because of Joe's past deed that put some people to death. It affects others' life and creates conflicts between them.

In presenting the conflicts, Miller makes use of his character, Joe, who makes a wrong decision of sending a defected plane, in order to keep his company running. As a result, the plane crashes and kills the pilots. It also puts Joe's innocent friend, Steve, to prison. It can be seen that one may sacrifice other's life to keep their own business survive. He cares about nothing but how to keep earning money

from the business. He will do anything to keep the company of their own grow bigger in any way. However, Joe's action leads his life into troubles and affects his family's correlation. The solution he can take to redeem his wrong-doing and the conflicts related to him is to commit suicide.

Having read the play, I am of the opinion that Arthur Miller has succeeded in conveying his purpose. The conflicts has shown the reader that Joe is a responsible husband and father. He tries hard to earn money for his family. However, he takes a wrong action when he lets a defected plane fly anyway. Moreover, he does not tell the truth about it, and blames others to save his family's life. Other people get the consequences while Joe seems to be free from any of them. However, one cannot keep his bad deed forever; the truth will come sooner or later. In Joe's case, George, Steve's son, brings the case up again, and Joe cannot bear the consequences and commits suicide. Therefore, I could conclude that Miller wants to convey that one's decision, which is considered right and beneficial to one party, might not be a good one for another party. A wise decision should be one that is good for all parties.