

CHAPTER THREE

CONCLUSION

Having discussed the inner and social conflicts in Arthur Miller's Focus, I would like to give the conclusion from what I have analyzed in chapter two. Both inner and social conflicts that are experienced by Lawrence Newman are caused by the glasses, these glasses give the strong impression for him to look like a Jew and he becomes the target of anti-Semitism.

There are four inner conflicts which I discuss in Chapter Two, his inner conflicts deal with his fear of becoming an object of persecution and he always tries to avoid things which are connected with Jews. The first inner conflict is when he begins to use the glasses for the first time which make him look like a Jew then he decides not to use the glasses in public. In his second inner conflict he falls in love with Gertrude but on the other side he does not like her behaviour, he does not want to become the object of persecution. The third inner conflict occurs when Newman wants to buy a newspaper from his Jew neighbour. He usually buys newspaper from his Jew neighbour but now that the situation is different, he

must try not to make any connection with the Jew because it might endanger his life. However, the inner conflicts which are experienced by Lawrence Newman are resolved not in accordance with his effort. The fourth inner conflict he finally admits that he is a Jew. I think everything that is done by Newman to protect his identity is useless as if the persecutions make him a Jew.

I also notice that in the social conflicts Lawrence Newman struggles to show his real identity and he takes a stand by refusing to escape because he is not a Jew. There are three social conflicts which I discuss; first social conflict between Newman and his boss, Mr. Gargan, he is resigning from his job because his boss treats him unfairly. The second social conflict between Newman and his wife, once they got to the hotel, the owner made an excuse that the hotel is full, he thought they are Jews, then his wife wants to find another hotel but Newman does not want to find another hotel. Here Newman does not want being insulted again. The third social conflict is about his residential right; his neighbours try to drive him out because they consider Newman as a Jew, but he refuses it by reporting to the police. Yet, it is not easy for him; as a result he is insulted and abused by the people around him.

The prejudice and hostility toward Jews previously had assumed such forms of social discrimination, here Jews are not seen as an individual but as a group it is proven by the hostility which is experienced by Newman. The host people in this novel only believe in what they see, they believe all the Jewish people are cruel, stingy, and bring disaster for their society. Therefore they treat Newman as if he is a disaster and they want Newman to leave their neighbourhood as soon as possible. Ironically Newman is not a Jew, his identity has been mistaken and he becomes the wrong target of anti-Semitism. These circumstances open his eyes; the racial

discrimination toward Jew is not fair. Not all Jewish people have bad behaviour; thus, it is ridiculous to treat Jew like that; they do not deserve to be treated like that.

I notice that Arthur Miller wants to show the racial discrimination from the different side by using Lawrence Newman who is not a Jew to suddenly become the target of anti-Semitism and also show a man's inhumanity to a man. If Newman is a Jew, he will not make a denial or confront it. However in this story, Newman is not a Jew so he is struggling to show his true identity. Miller also wants to make the reader imagine if the situations in this novel occur and experienced, he hopes the reader can be wise in every step of their life.

According to me this novel is a story about human beings. We can not judge someone only from their physical appearance and the important thing is we must have the conscience of a human being.