

## CHAPTER THREE

### CONCLUSION

After having read the novel and analyzed the social conflicts in Mary McGarry Morris's *A Dangerous Woman*, I can see that society often misjudges someone because one acts differently due to one's disabilities.

In the novel, the major character, Martha is described as someone who has difficulty to socialize with her surrounding because she suffers from Asperger Syndrome. Instead of socializing with them, she in fact is involved in conflicts which make her the victim in the end.

The source of the conflicts is actually Martha's reactions towards something. She has different ways in expressing her feelings that sometimes cannot be understood by the society. It is shown in the first conflict with her boss. Martha's action when she tells the truth makes her boss upset, while she only tries to do what she thinks is right by being honest. However, her action is not acceptable and she becomes the victim when she gets the layoff notice.

In another conflict that happened in a party that is held by her friend's sister, Martha cannot control her emotions and becomes angry instead of

communicating what she wants to say properly. This behaviour cannot be understood by people around Martha and it makes her unable to be friends with them. They cannot accept her attitude with the result that she is no longer invited to any party or social meetings because they do not want Martha to spoil the fun. It is a disadvantage for Martha and again she becomes the victim due to people's opinion about her.

Different case happens when Martha thinks that she finally has a best friend. She cares so much that she does not know it becomes an obsession which makes her lose her only friend. When she tries to do her best as a friend, her intention is seen as a disturbance.

Martha also gets into a conflict with her aunt because she cannot control her emotion. Her fear of being yelled at by her aunt makes her action uncontrollable when a little girl accidentally breaks one of the porcelains in her aunt's house. She does not know that her action makes her aunt lose an employee and makes her even mad at Martha.

Basically, all of the conflicts happen because the society do not understand why Martha acts or does everything differently. They do not know that her Asperger Syndrome makes her unable to control her emotion, her obsession, or even unable to find the right moment to reveal the truth. All the conflicts that happen between Martha and the people around her are resolved with Martha as the victim because every one does not understand her being an Asperger.

In the novel, the author presents every conflict in a clear and systematic way which makes the readers realize why Martha is involved in those conflicts with the society because of her being an Asperger. The author also describes

Martha's reactions and lets the readers know what is on her mind that is not known by the characters in the novel. Due to their ignorance towards Martha's being an Asperger, they misunderstand Martha's reactions and misjudge her because of her actions. As the result, Martha becomes the victim. From the conflicts that I have analyzed, I can conclude that the theme of the novel is "People with mental disabilities are often misunderstood, misjudged by the society and thus, become the victim of the society".

I think that the theme is universal. It can happen to anyone in our neighbourhood or around the world. When we see someone that is different from us, we sometimes misjudge them because we do not understand the reason behind it. Martha, the major character in the novel, suffers from Asperger Syndrome, but actually there are many more of other mental disabilities that we do not know about.

In the novel, it is shown how people think and react towards the action of someone with a mental disability like Martha. They do not like to be around her as they do not understand why she acts so differently. Moreover, they misjudge her so that she becomes the victim of their actions. From reading the novel, I learn that we had better find out and try to understand why people with mental disabilities are different from us, instead of judging and avoiding them. We have to be aware of the fact that their having mental disabilities is not their choice.