

**Exploring Social Classes Impacts to Romantic Relationship in *Normal People* by Sally Rooney:**

**A Marxist Analysis**

***A Thesis***

***Submitted for Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements***

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## Abstract

This thesis examines the impacts of social classes on romantic relationships in the novel *Normal People* by Sally Rooney using Marxist criticism. Using a Marxist perspective, this thesis used the concept of Classism by Lois Tyson and the theory of the Working Class by Raymond Williams to discussing the social classes. Both of the theories above are used to analyse how class differences impact the characters as individuals and in romantic relationships. Through the research, the finding reveals that social class do impact the relationship between the main characters in *Normal People*, Connell and Marianne, which creates barriers in their relationship despite them being in love with each other. Other than that, social classes also impact the experience of the main characters as individuals, whilst Connell comes from the working class, and Marianne comes from the upper class.

**Keywords:** Normal People, Social Class, Classism, Working-class Theory, Romantic Relationship

## Abstrak

Skripsi ini menganalisis dampak kelas sosial terhadap hubungan romantis pada novel *Normal People* karya Sally Rooney dengan menggunakan kritik Marxis. Dengan menggunakan perspektif dari Marxis, skripsi ini menggunakan konsep Klasisme oleh Lois Tyson dan teori Kelas Pekerja dari Raymond Williams. Kedua teori diatas digunakan untuk menganalisis bagaimana perbedaan kelas memberikan dampak kepada karakter-karakter didalam novel, baik secara individual maupun dalam hubungan romantis. Penelitian ini menganalisis novel *Normal People* menggunakan penelitian kepustakaan. Hasil penelitian ini menunjukkan kelas sosial memang memberi dampak pada hubungan kedua karakter utama di *Normal People*, Connell dan Marianne, yang mana menciptakan hambatan dalam hubungan mereka meskipun saling mencintai sekalipun. Selain itu, kelas sosial juga memberikan dampak kepada pengalaman dari karakter utama sebagai individu, dimana Connell berasal dari kelas pekerja, dan Marianne berasal dari kelas atas.

**Kata Kunci:** Normal People, Kelas Sosial, Klasisme, Teori Kelas Pekerja, Hubungan Romantis