



**Perceptions Of Marriage And Human Relationships
In Jane Austen's Novels *Pride And Prejudice* And
*Emma***

ELJVIRA KICA

**A thesis submitted for the degree of
Doctor of Languages, Cultures and Communications**

June 2018

Table of Contents:

1. INTRODUCTION.....	3
1.1. MARRIED AND UNMARRIED WOMEN IN BRITISH SOCIETY.....	7
2. PART I.....	27
2.1.MARRIED AND UNMARRIED IN <i>PRIDE AND PREJUDICE</i>	27
2.1.1. UNMARRIED IN <i>PRIDE AND PREJUDICE</i>	27
2.1.2. CHARLOTTE LUCAS AND MR. COLLINS.....	31
2.1.3. LYDIA BENNET AND GEORGE WICKHAM.....	39
2.1.4. JANE BENNET AND CHARLES BINGLEY.....	45
2.1.5. ELIZABETH BENNET AND FITZWILLIAM DARCY.....	53
2.2.MARRIED IN <i>PRIDE AND PREJUDICE</i>	73
2.2.1. MR. AND MRS. BENNET.....	73
2.2.2. MR. AND MRS. GARDINER.....	81
3. PART II.....	84
3.1.MARRIED AND UNMARRIED IN <i>EMMA</i>	84
3.1.1. UNMARRIED IN <i>EMMA</i>	84
3.1.2. JANE FAIRFAX AND FRANK CHURCHILL.....	85
3.1.3. EMMA WOODHOUSE AND GEORGE KNIGHTLEY.....	101
3.1.4. HARRIET SMITH AND ROBERT MARTIN.....	116
3.1.5. PHILIP ELTON AND AUGUSTA HAWKINS.....	124
3.2.MARRIED COUPLES IN <i>EMMA</i>	130
3.2.1. MR. WESTON AND MRS. WESTON.....	130
3.2.2. JOHN KNIGHTLEY AND ISABELLA KNIGHTLY.....	135
4. CONCLUSION.....	138
5. BIBLIOGRAPHY.....	150

1. INTRODUCTION

The period of the seventeenth and the eighteenth century is a period of many changes, involving changes in marriage and relationships amongst people in Britain. Moreover, this is a period when many female writers were involved in writing and were accepted and respected as members of the world of literature. These writers include Aphra Behn, Fanny Burney, Elizabeth Carter, Mlle. Clairon, Hannah More, Sarah Pennington, Sarah Scott, Mary Wollstonecraft, Jane Austen, etc.

Jane Austen is a writer who wrote and analyzed in details marriages and human relationships during the period of the seventeenth and eighteenth century. “Austen wrote about the problems and pressures of ...courtship and marriage. Action and adventure are limited to walk in a rainstorm or a ride in an open carriage without a chaperone; powerful feelings and desires are expressed indirectly, if at all; conversation is a high art, flavored with ironic wit and the discussion of weather...the physical and social landscape within her work is restricted, but the field of themes, emotions and even desires she explores there is deep and broad” (The Complete Guide to Teaching Jane Austen, 2010).

Jane Austen’s books are written in a way that make us as readers to deepen our minds in a world of gossiping and marriage concerns, we enter in a world where there are single rich men in every part of the place, who are in search of a wife. Her novels have a happy ending based on the fact that love is above all, and the fact that people should not get married only because of the economical conditions, a fact which was very difficult to be accepted by the time Jane Austen lived. “Austen’s books have endless sly wit and cynicism, also unusual for her time. She was one of the first women to deliver humor and intelligence to subject matter previously thought frivolous and sub- intellectual ”(Harman, 2009).

The great influence that Austen's books had and still have in society have made many other authors to analyze and write about her novels, her messages, the irony used through the characters and the fascinating description of the events. Based on this, Harman states that:

She has affected our sense of humor historically and nationally, defining these incredibly English arts of understatement, irony, a beautifully caustic compassion (2009).

Harman says that even though Austen "didn't openly sympathize with radical contemporaries such as Mary Wollstonecraft, the British writer and advocate of women's rights...she was still one of the first authors to suggest that women should marry for love, and not increased social standing or money. She gave her female characters the right to be happy too- a right we now take for granted, but certainly was not given in Regency England" (Harman, 2009).

Jane Austen's novels are very widely read for the fact that she writes in a way which does not discriminate neither women nor men, but the wealth and property belonging to these people. "She has always been widely read by men and been praised for her rationality. This was also her approach to the political and class system of the time, which was rigid and very biased towards men- using her romantic novels as a mouthpiece for social commentary" (Harman, 2009).

The fact that Austen's writings had and still have a great influence in society, was a great inspiration to go into more details and analyze her characters, relationships and conditions in which people lived during the period that Jane Austen lived and wrote herself. Since Jane Austen's novels are numerous, all of which have great and strong messages revealed, *Pride and Prejudice* and *Emma* are the two novels which will be the focus of this book. The authenticity used in these novels shows clearly how life was during the period of the seventeenth and eighteenth century, the choice of the partner, focusing mainly in wealth and property, the

discrimination of females and their absence in important and decisive events, are all parts of Austen's novels which make these novels readable and adorable for everyone. The real life situations used in Austen's novels are described perfectly enough to reflect the life of that period.

In her novels, Jane Austen focuses in marriages based on economical conditions, considering marriage as a business in which most of the families of the eighteenth century were involved. Most of her characters are preoccupied about the harsh reality of the marriage market, most of the marriages take place in a situation where parents decide what is good or bad for young girls or boys, and most of the marriages take place within a young age, especially for girls. Even though, Jane Austen's characters were permitted to see each other in dancing halls, most of the times they were not allowed to be on their own. Moreover, men were the only people who were allowed to propose, whereas girls had only the right of refusal if they did not like the person. Jane Austen describes that after marriage, a woman could not divorce her husband, and the husband could only divorce in extreme situations, such as a sexual scandal. All these issues are described in details by the characters of Jane Austen, both in *Pride and Prejudice* and *Emma*. Jane Austen makes a great reflection to the authentic situation based on the period of the eighteenth century focusing mainly on the fact that money is the main attraction people have. This can even be seen from the character of Frank in *Emma*, who becomes attracted to Emma mostly for the sake of economical conditions. Jane Austen describes Frank's and Jane's (two characters in *Emma*) relationship as inappropriate conveying the message that people should not be married for money but for love. Moreover, knowing all the details of Emma, all her faults, all her bad sides and good sides, Mr. Knightly fell in love with Emma. He loved her intelligence, her appearance and everything else that belonged to Emma. This was a message conveyed by Jane Austen, which reflects that not only women should please men, but men should persuade

women that they are truly in love with them. The concrete situation of the eighteenth century was reflected in Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*. Since the five sisters, who were main characters of the novel, did not possess any valuable property or were rich, their only way was a marriage with someone who was of a great wealth. This was a common fact happening during the eighteenth century, and most of women being in Bennet sisters' situation were in hunt of a rich husband. The main efforts of Mrs. Bennet to persuade her daughters to get married and find a husband who is rich since the girls had the right of veto, were finalized by the marriages of her daughters. Elizabeth was the character whom Jane Austen has taken to describe the unsatisfactory conditions of women to get married without love and feelings. The girls get married successfully after a great struggle of their mother to find an appropriate match for her daughters. The only relationship according to Mrs. Bennet which was considered negative was that of Lydia and Mr. Wickham because Lydia married him without asking her parents. We can also see relationships of poor girls marrying just to have a home, such as the case of Charlotte Lucas. On the other hand, Austen gives detailed description of the relationships amongst married couples, men domination, and the lack of equality in education between couples. All these situations were closely related to the real situation that was happening in the period of the eighteenth century, the period when Jane Austen lived and wrote herself. The dissatisfying situation, in which most of the families were involved, made Jane Austen to write and express her dissatisfaction with the hope to convey the message that feelings should lead people not money. For this reason, this book will deal with the ways how Jane Austen describes the conditions of unmarried and married women in *Emma* and *Pride and Prejudice*, and their choice of a partner; how Jane Austen compares the married and unmarried couples in her novel with the real situation of the eighteenth century in British society; how Jane Austen describes the people

who find a match for their children, friends or relatives; the message that Jane Austen conveys through her novels and the reason why Jane Austen's novels have a great impact in the society.

Since Jane Austen expressed the real situation of the eighteenth century through her characters in her novels, there were many other authors who wrote about the situation of the eighteenth century in British society, including human relationships and marriages of that period. In order to see how was the real life situation of the eighteenth century, and how Jane Austen based her novels on this situation, this book will give a short introductory description of how Kirstin Olsen, Mary Wollstonecraft and some other authors describe the life of the eighteenth century. This will be a great way to have a more clear vision on how authentic Jane Austen was while writing her novels, and the way how she struggled to describe her opinion that love should dominate above all.

1.1 MARRIED AND UNMARRIED WOMEN IN BRITISH SOCIETY

The period of the seventeenth and eighteenth century was a complex period based on the choice of the partner or the relationships with the married partner. Most of the unmarried girls grew up with the idea of finding a rich husband; as a result, it was considered one of the most difficult tasks one could ever take. On the other hand, marriages were very formal, focusing mainly in having children, women doing housework and having very limited rights. "The idea of the superiority of men and their ownership of women is eloquently and terribly supported by a glance at English laws involving women. They were ignorant of politics and such important worldly manners. In addition to financial pressures, the severe restrictions, laws and customs of eighteenth and nineteenth century England placed on women made them look to marriage as a means of stability and made women even more dependent on men. Middle class women in the

eighteenth and nineteenth centuries were not expected to think of themselves as members of the nation of individuals. It is found that society has generally favored one sex over the other. And due to its favored position, this one sex was able to excel in public life, that is, science, philosophy, religion and politics, which in turn justified its presence to begin with” (Hazarika, 2015). Kirstin Olsen in her book *Daily Life in the Eighteenth Century- England* and Lawrence Stone in her book *The Family, Sex and Marriage in England 1500-1800* give a detailed description of how marriages functioned, the reasons for marriage, feelings amongst couples and the duties that everyone had to accomplish.

The period of the seventeenth and eighteenth century was a period where people were extremely focused in getting married to a rich husband. “Marriage was for centuries one of the most common mechanisms for the transfer and redistribution of property and capital, inevitably second to direct inheritance in the male line, but leaving purchase and sale a very poor third” (Stone, 1979). Marriages of this period involved arrangements between families, and most of the couples were chosen based on the same society level. Moreover, parents’ word was the most decisive one based on the choice of the partner. Olsen describes this issue by stating that “...people of property were married by arrangement. It was common for families to decide on a union, haggle over the financial ramifications of the marriage, and then present it to the prospective bride and groom, who were given the opportunity to meet...Fathers offered, along with their daughters, a sum of money called a dowry to help the couple get started in life” (Olsen,1999).

Even though the decision was made by the parents, daughters were given the right to give a final decision. But, “a woman, indeed, can’t properly be said to choose; all that is allowed her, is to refuse or accept what is offered” (Smith; Carroll, 2000). Since these girls were given the right to

make the final decision, there existed different institutions where daughters could go with their mothers and meet the opposite sex. “These were now well- established institutions where the elite young of both sexes from all over the country could freely meet and mingle” (Stone, 1979).

What could be seen from these girls was only their facial expression, since it showed more than what could be expressed. Women could only encourage the decision of the parents but they could not make their own choice. As Johnes says “we look upon a woman’s eyes to be the interpreters of her heart, and we often gather more encouragement from a pleasing glance, than from the softest words. The language of eyes is very significant” (Johnes, 2006).

Since most of the unmarried women had the right to meet and see the partner, by the end of the eighteenth century people began to live in a more tolerant atmosphere; as a result, the proportion of recorded daughters who reached the age of fifty and never married rose from ten percent in the sixteenth century to fifteen percent in the early seventeenth century and to nearly twenty-five in the late eighteenth century. Wilkes explained that “...she who lives to be an old maid, against her will is unfortunate, and therefore not without reason peevish...in these kingdoms it is a kind of imputed scandal” (Johnes, 2006). As this crisis developed, some neglected daughters became desperate and grabbed at the first man who came along. Women with lower income had to cope with much worse conditions. Their only hope was a good marriage in order to have a better future. Hill states:

What poor woman is ever taught that she should have higher design than to get her a husband? Heaven will fall in of course, as if she makes but an obedient and dutiful wife, she cannot miss of it. A husband indeed is thought by both sexes so very valuable, that scarce a man who can keep himself clean and make a bow, but

thinks he is good enough to pretend to any woman; no matter for the difference of birth or fortune, a husband is such a wonder-working name as to make an equality, or something more, whatever is obtained (2013).

Moreover, men began to postpone their age of marriage because most of them got focused in education. They were sent to universities to get proper education. This case was related only with men since most of the females could not attend universities and get educated. “Before they could marry they needed to accumulate, by individual effort in some profession or occupation, sufficient income and capital to enable them to maintain the gentlemanly style of life in which they had been brought up” (Stone, 1979).

Because of the lack of education and professions, most of the young women stayed at home doing housework or getting involved in art. This led them to having a more passive role; as a result, they could be controlled more easily, and their marriages ensured their economic security. Since daughters were in a very weak situation, for whom parents decided on the choice of the partner, their future laid in marriage. The main aim of parents was to marry their daughters in upper classes, and this made them to hunt men for their daughters. Since Stone’s book *The Family, Sex and Marriage in England 1500-1800*, involves writings from different unmarried women experiences, one of the letters involved in the book is the letter of a imaginary girl writing:

My pappa and mamma have been trying for the last three years to match me, and have for that purpose carried me from our country seat to London, from London to Brighton, from Brighton to Bath, and from Bath to Cheltenham, where I now

am, backwards and forwards, till the family carriage is almost worn out, and one of the horses is become blind, and another lame, without my having more than a nibble, for I have never yet been able to hook my fish. I begin to be afraid that there is something wrong in their manner of baiting for a husband or in mine of lying in the line to catch him (Stone, 1979).

Marriage usually took place only when the courting couple could afford to set up house on their own, “so the average age of marriage was relatively late, about twenty- five to twenty-seven. Some people never succeeded at all; ten to twenty percent of the population never married. Even among the wealthy, there was an early dispersal of children, with boys being sent to boarding schools. The boys then went to a university, perhaps, or to travel abroad, while the girls were married off as soon as possible” (Olsen, 1999).

Since boys were allowed to go to school, there, boys became “gluttons and slovens, and instead of cultivating domestic affections, very early rush into the liberalism which destroys the constitution before it is formed; hardening the heart as it weakens the understanding. In these schools these children’s thoughts are fixed with eager anticipating hopes, for, at least, to speak with moderation, half of the time, and when they arrive they are sent in total dissipation and beastly indulgence. When they are brought up at home, though they may pursue a plan of study in a more orderly manner than can be adopted when near a fourth part of the year is actually spent in idleness, and as much more in regret and anticipation; yet they there acquire too high an opinion of their own importance, from being allowed to tyrannize over servants, and from the anxiety expressed by most mothers, on the score of manners, who, eager to teach the accomplishments of a gentleman, stifle, in their birth, the virtues of a man. Thus brought into

company when they ought to be seriously employed, and treated like men when they are still boys, they become vain and effeminate” (Wollstonecraft, 2013).

Even though, families of the eighteenth century consisted of many children, including males and females, the main aim of most families was for the male to inherit the wealth and properties. The only thing girls could inherit from their parents was the dowry which they took when they got married. “The three objectives of family planning were the continuity of the male line, the preservation intact of the inherited property, and the acquisition through marriage of further property or useful political alliances. The first could only be ensured by the procreation of the largest possible number of children in the hope that at least one male child would leave to marriageable age, the second could only be assured by restricting the claims of the children on the patrimony through primogeniture. This meant excluding younger sons and daughters from the bulk of inheritance, which delayed their marriage. The third could best be achieved by marrying daughters into wealthy and influential families” (Stone, 1979).

Since the eldest sons inherited the property and the family estate left by their fathers, and since their marriage influenced the future of the family, they were particularly under parental pressure. Based on this, Fletcher mentions, “The aristocratic family was certainly based upon long founded traditions, and rested fundamentally upon the custom and law of primogeniture whereby the family property- essentially the landed state- was kept intact, and perpetuated in the family by passing to the eldest son” (*The Family and Marriage in Britain*, 1973). “Hollingshead, in upper classes background was stressed more heavily when it came to the crucial question of whom a member may or may not marry, for marriage was the institution that determined membership in the family group what led to the parental control of the marriage choices of its young men” (Nordskog, 1956).

The inherited estate by the males in the family gave nothing to unmarried girls but dependence on their brothers. Wollstonecraft gives a detailed statement to this issue:

Girls who have been thus weakly educated, are often cruelly left by their parents without any provision; and of course, are dependent on, not only the reason, but the bounty of their brothers. These brothers are, to view the fairest side of the question, good sort of men, and give as a favor, what children of the same parents had an equal right to. In this equivocal humiliating situation, a docile female may remain some time, with tolerable degree of comfort. But, when brother marries, a probable circumstance, from being considered as the mistress of the family, she is viewed with averted looks as an intruder, an unnecessary burden on the benevolence of the master of the house, and his new partner (Wollstonecraft, 2013).

This structure of inheritance gave fathers another option to get rid from their daughters. Since virginity was valued by the Catholic Church, most of the virgin girls were sent to the church. Being aware of the situation, many girls found the religious life a satisfying alternative career to an arranged marriage. But this situation did not last too long, since the rules changed and these girls were obliged to leave the church and their only option was to get married. “The marriage market was flooded with girls who had hitherto been consigned to nunneries, but who now had to be married off, at considerable cost, to their social equals...despite a heavy and growing drain on the family resources, more than ninety- five percent of all surviving daughters eventually married”(Stone, 1979).

In this period when parent-child tensions over control of marriage were raising, feelings began to be one of the worst issues for parents. Since unmarried women started to oppose their parents based on their feelings of love towards the opposite sex, clandestine marriages became a scandal for most of the families. This happened for the fact that parents were focused on wealth and property, and falling in love with a poor man, was a disaster for these families. For these parents, “if an innocent girl became a prey to love, she is degraded forever, though her mind was not polluted by the arts which married women, under the convenient cloke of marriage, practice; nor has she violated any duty- but the duty of respecting herself” (Wollstonecraft, 2013). All these events brought a huge debate; as a result, it was brought a new law which stated that “only the church wedding, not the verbal spouses, was legally binding, so that a prior oral contract was no longer a cause for the annulment of a later marriage in church; all church marriages had to be entered in the parish register and signed by both parties...no marriage of persons under twenty-one was valid without the consent of parents or guardians; enforcement of the law was transferred from the feeble control of the church courts to the secular courts” (Stone, 1979).

“The main obstacles to the solution of the problem consisted of social snobbery, which caused that girls of genteel upbringing could not work in most occupations; inadequate education for women; and the lack of professions for women. Only at the very end of the eighteenth century, another occupation opened for well- educated unmarried women from decent homes. They could become governesses in wealthy households to young children under seven. Governesses suffered from both economic hardship and social stigma. They were usually badly paid, sometimes from twelve to thirty pounds a year, although those who knew French and had the right graces and connections might earn up to one hundred pounds a year. Their work lasted seven days a week

from seven a. m to seven p. m and they were regarded as something more than servants and not treated as equals by the families where they lived and their visitors (Stone, 1979).

Lacking the education, girls were taught to behave as women from a very early age. They were taught to get focused only on their physical appearance, living them with a low level of development. Not being able to express their opinion, they were left with binding mind and find comfort within themselves. “Born into a class fluid and ill- defined, which bordered on the people by its labor and on the aristocracy by its ease, the young girl was trained both for the duties of domestic life and for the pleasures of society. She was given an education half popular, half worldly, which brought everything within her reach and left nothing below her dignity, making her the living image of her class, facing two ways and endeavoring to link the duties of the lower to the privileges of the higher” (Goncourt; Goncourt, 2013). These girls never had the chance to show what they knew, and their opinion was underestimated, worse, they were never given a chance to talk about different situations, but to find the suitable husband and spend time in front of the mirror trying to look beautiful in order to satisfy the opposite sex. As Wollstonecraft states:

...girls...are only educated to please, to manage their persons, and regulate their exterior behavior; and their minds are corrupted, at a very early age, by the wordily and pious cautions they receive to guard them against immodesty. I speak of past times. The very confessions which mere children were obliged to make, and the questions asked by the holy men, I assert these facts on good authority, were sufficient to impress a sexual character; and the education of society was a school of coquetry and art. At the age of ten or eleven...girls began to coquet, and talked unreprieved, of establishing themselves in the world by marriage...they

were treated like women, almost from their birth, and compliments were listened instead of instruction. These, weak-ending the mind, Nature was supposed to have acted like a step-mother, when she formed this after-thought of creation (Wollstonecraft, 2013)

The birth of a girl in the eighteenth century was no welcome event for her family. “The house held no holiday at her coming; her parents knew no rapture or triumph; she was a blessing accepted as a disappointment. For in a world...ruled by law, she was not the answer to their prayers and their hopes; she was not the heir destined to prolong the name, the fortunes, and the honors of the family; no, the newcomer was merely a girl, and as such, before the cradle that contained nothing but a woman’s future, the father stood unmoved and the mother grieved like a Queen who had looked for a Dauphin” (Goncourt; Goncourt, 2013).

Since the period of the eighteenth century was a period focused mainly on female discrimination, most of the authors who gave detailed analysis of this situation were females, but this period involved male writers who wrote about the same situation, too. Goncourt and Goncourt as mentioned previously, gave detailed analysis of this worrying situation about girls, focusing only on their appearance, by stating that parents “prefer their little ones prettified in the taste of the day, a taste which imposes on them, as soon as they walk, a corset of whalebone, a ceremonial costume, and gives them a master to move by, another to dance to...to make the child play the lady-that in a word, is the whole aim of the education of the eighteenth century. It is a system which frowns on all levity, on every natural impulse, on childhood itself: it stunts the character as it thwarts the body. It spurs the child unsparingly beyond her years...” (2013).

The patriarchal system existing during that period gave power to the head of the family; as a result, fathers could control the marriages of their children because fathers could provide to their daughters the necessary portions. This worrying situation is expressed by male writers of that period, too. What Goncourt and Goncourt state about this is:

Unquestionably the old order, like the law of Nature, was solely concerned with the preservation of the family and the continuation of the race; unquestionably in its indifference to the individual, it authorized great abuses and grave injustices against the rights and even the persons of women. There were, undoubtedly cases of oppression, instances of sacrifice. Young girls intended by Nature for any life but that of the veil, girls whose every instinct led them away from the cloister by an obdurate family, an unfeeling mother, and lived their lives there, mourning a vanished dream...we find daughters resisting the categorical commands of their parents and vindicating their refusal to take the veil by a victory (2013).

All these things made fathers arrange the marriages of their daughters, rather than daughters by themselves. "Marriage involved an exchange of the cash by the father of the bride for the settlement of property by the father of the groom for the maintenance of the couple and a pension for the widow" (Stone, 1979). Most of the families during this period had patriarchal leadership, women had very limited rights and the man was the only person who could give or take decisions. "The principle of patriarchy- the leadership of the class was very strong, although tempered by the influence of the grand family council" (Stone, 1979).

Even though married couples had separate duties and women worked as hard as men, men's job was more appreciated and less paid. "Men tended to earn most of the income and women to do

most or all of the housework but plenty of women earned money and did tasks similar to men's. On farms men did the hardest physical tasks...while women, helped by daughters or domestic servants cooked, washed, taught young children, gardened, sewed...women might help in the fields at harvest time or do factory work, though their wages for these jobs tended to be about half to two- thirds of men's" (Olsen, 1999).

Women of this period were created to be considered as innocent beings and always being treated as children. They were considered as weak beings dependent on their husband to whom they were obliged to find protection, money, comfort and everything else. The equality of both sexes was very limited, as Johnes states:

There is great discretion required, to keep love alive after marriage; and the conversation of a married couple, cannot be agreeable for years together, without an earnest endeavor to please on both sides. If the love of a wife be tempered with a tolerable share of good sense, she will be sure never to have any private views of her own; nor do anything of consequence, which her husband may possibly dislike, without consulting him ...The duties of a wife to her husband ...can be no less than love, fidelity, and obedience to all his lawful desires ... (Johnes, 2006).

The period of the seventeenth and eighteenth century was considered a period when women were discriminated and they were not paid any attention even in their most difficult times, childbirth. "For married women, childbirth was a very dangerous experience, for midwives were ignorant and ill- trained, and often horribly botched the job, while the lack of the hygienic precautions meant that puerperal fever was a frequent sequel" (Stone, 1979). The lack of the conditions and the careless situation lead to a high rate of deaths, "because of this high mortality from

childbirth...in three out of four cases of all first marriages among the squirarchy that were broken by death within ten years, the cause was the death of the wife” (Stone, 1979).

The discrimination of married woman was in a high level, they were given only minimal rights and when it came to voting or other formal events, they were refused and left aside. “Women were forbidden to enter the Parliament, the bar, institutionalized medicine, the Anglican clergy and the magistracy. That left them not with occupations but with hobbies: music, drawing, needlework and artistic or social patronage. Perhaps the only significant field newly open to women was that of arts. Moreover, women were not able to vote, hold property while married, go to university, earn equal wages for equal work, enter the professions or be protected by a law from marital beatings and rape” (Olsen, 1999). Most of the times women were considered more as servants in the house, being obliged to accomplish all the duties a family needed. “Her life was divided: one half being devoted to the acquirement of all the arts and graces of her sex, the other to the manual labor, the chores, the drudgery of a servant, a peculiar contrast, which made her pass daily and often several times a day from the role of an accomplished lady to that of a Cinderella” (Goncourt; Goncourt, 2013).

Analyzing the situation of the eighteenth century, Wollstonecraft expresses her unfairness towards men, describing them as beings who believe that they rule the world:

Men, they further observe, submit everywhere to oppression, when they have only to lift up their heads to throw off the yoke; yet instead of asserting their birthright, they quickly lick the dust, and say, let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die.

Women, I argue from analogy, are degraded by the same propensity to enjoy the

present moment; and, at last, despise the freedom which they have not sufficient virtue to struggle to attain (Wollstonecraft, 2013).

Niemeyer is another male writer who expresses his opinion about the discrimination of women in the eighteenth century by focusing mainly on the fact that the continuous prejudice towards women made by men has changed the women's psychological mind, and has made them feel weak human beings. He states that "the masculine prejudice is the major target: man's opinion of the fair sex is due to nothing more than mere custom, and the male chauvinist viewpoint has neither a logical nor a scientific leg to stand on...the essence of the most masculine arguments is that things should stay the way they have always been...Women are born with the same capacity for talent and creativity as men. Given the natural environment and heredity seem equal, only education and the process of socialization can be pinpointed as the variable factors but must be nurtured and cultivated...If women are still designated as "the weaker sex" it is only because men have inconsiderately, and even brutally, kept them from doing anything to develop their minds. Rather, men have practically forced them to preoccupy themselves with trivia, such as fashionable clothing and trinkets" (1983).

The relationship of married women with their husbands was very formal, and respect towards wives was not considered as an important issue. Most of the husbands opposed and punished their wives if they interrupted a discussion or interfered in an argumentative debate. The punishment was of different kinds including "a ducking in the local pond, a sentence to wear a humiliating headdress called scold's bridle or a public parade in front of her house" (Olsen, 1999). The position of women during this period was dictated by the patriarchal nature of family relationships. The country laws were strongly biased

favoring males. These married women had no financial rights independent on their husbands. Moreover, men were allowed to beat their wives, which was a very common practice. Wollstonecraft points out that the lack of education and professional occupation for women in the eighteenth century, “makes women to be dutiful wives and eventually mothers, a source of pleasure for their husbands only” (Wollstonecraft, 2013).

These women, preoccupied only in embroidery and needlework were not considered as respectable companions to their husbands. For this Wollstonecraft declares that “A man of sense can only love such a woman on account of her sex, and respect her, because she is a trusty servant. He lets her, to preserve his own peace, scold the servants, and go to the church in clothes made of the very best materials... Besides, how many women of this description pass their days; or at least, their evenings, discontentedly? Their husbands acknowledge that they are good managers, and chaste wives; but leave home to seek for more agreeable, may I be allowed to use a significant French word, piquant society; and the patient drudge, who fulfils her task, like a blind horse in a mill, is defrauded of her just reward; for the wages due to her are the caresses of her husband; and women ... do not very patiently bear this privation of a natural right...Pleasure is the business of woman’s life, according to the present modification of society, and while it continues to be so, little can be expected from such weak beings. Inheriting, in a lineal descent from the first fair defect in nature, the sovereignty of beauty, they have, to maintain their power, resigned the natural rights, which the exercise of reason might have procured them, and chosen rather to be short-lived queens than labor to obtain the sober pleasures that arise from equality” (Wollstonecraft, 2013).

Most of the males were involved in forced sexual relationships with the poor servants who provided sexual favors to their male employers, so that becoming a maidservant was not

necessarily a path of virtue. “As professional men, they could earn enough to live fairly comfortably...while as always sexual satisfaction of a sort could be obtained from the large number of prostitutes- although not without serious risk of disease- or else from a complaint serving- maid or housekeeper or semi- permanent mistress” (Stone, 1979).

Poverty and the absence of opposing words obliged many poor women to enter the path of prostitution. Mary Wollstonecraft gives an explanation to this issue stating that:

A woman who has lost her honor, imagines that she cannot fall lower, and as for recovering her former station, it is impossible; no exertion can wash this stain away. Losing thus every spur, and having no other means of support, prostitution becomes her only refuge, and the character is quickly depraved by circumstances over which the poor wretch has little power, unless she possesses an uncommon portion of sense and loftiness of spirit (Wollstonecraft, 2013).

Because of the absence of medical conditions and the spread of different diseases, the death rate of one of the partners was very high. In most of the married couples, one of the partners died before their children had grown up. This resulted in several marriages of the living partner, especially for men who remarried several times. For women remarriage was not a good alternative because during the period of the eighteenth century “marriage could be more like a jail sentence than a loving companionship, and rich women were often allowed a sum of money, called a jointure, in widowhood. Widows also enjoyed more legal freedom than married women. But for most women, who earned far less than men for the same work, widowhood meant instant poverty” (Olsen, 1999).

Soon after marriage, the main aim was having children. This was done because the house needed an inheritor; moreover, the husband could not be considered as the head of the house without having children. Those who suffered more were women who were always under pressure to have children. Infertile women were seen as women with social defect and women punished by God. As soon as a couple had a child, they accomplished the formal rituals of christening the baby. This was done as a sign to let others know that the family has completed their purpose. “The act of giving birth also had a great value, and it took place in much less privacy than today” (Drabek; Chovanec, 2003)

The way how life was constructed during the period of the eighteenth century influenced not only the relationship with the partner but also the feelings with the children. Since mothers were married lacking love towards their husbands, since they did not have an independent mind, since they were always discriminated and were allowed more to act than talk, all these underestimating factors influenced the children. The disrespect of husbands for their wives and the versatile discrimination made women to lack feelings not only for their husbands but for their children, too. They took care of the children without expressing any special love towards them; they married them and wanted to get rid of the girls as soon as possible without showing any regret. Wollstonecraft mentions this situation in her book by stating:

Woman, however, a slave in every situation to prejudice, seldom exerts enlightened maternal affection; for she either neglects her children, or spoils them by improper indulgence. Besides, the affection of some women for their children is, as I have before termed it, frequently very brutish: for it eradicates every spark of humanity...as the care for children in their infancy is one of the grand duties annexed to the female character by nature, this duty would afford many forcible

arguments for strengthening the female understanding, if it were properly considered...to be a good mother- a woman must have sense, and that independence of mind which few women possess who are taught to depend on their husbands. Meek wives are, in general, foolish mothers; wanting their children to love them best and take their part, in secret, against the father, who is held up as a scare-crow (Wollstonecraft, 2013)

Married couples whose marriage was not functioning, could not get divorced. Divorce or the termination of marriage was not recognized. "A substitute option was declaring the marriage invalid (i.e. stating that the bond had never been a proper marriage); to do this, it had to be proved that the marriage was defective in some way. The most common reasons were the infancy of the couple at the time of the espousals; permanent impotence or frigidity or the discovery that the couples were in fact relatives. Declaring the marriage invalid gave both partners an opportunity to remarry; however, the wife lost all inheritance rights and the children were proclaimed illegitimate. Another alternative of escape from an unhappy marriage was a legal separation 'from bed and table'. This procedure was possible in cases of proven adultery or extreme cruelty. Contrary to the previous option, the separation did not affect the wife's inheritance rights or the legal status of the children. However, the disadvantage was that the marriage bond remained undivided and the separated partners could not marry again" (Brabcova, p.24).

Many of the above mentioned statements about the female discrimination were opposed by some other writers, who tried to give another reflection to women's duties and education in the eighteenth century. In one part of his book *Emile*, Jean- Jacques Rousseau gives statements which oppose the already mentioned statements by other writers. What he states is that "It being

once demonstrated that man and woman are not, nor ought to be, constituted alike in temperament and character, it follows of course that they should not be educated in the same manner. In pursuing the directions of nature, they ought indeed to act in concert, but they should not be engaged in the same employments: the end of their pursuits should be the same, but the means they should take to accomplish them, and of consequence their tastes and inclinations, should be different” (2006).

Based on the education of women and their dependence on men, Rousseau states that:

Woman and man were made for each other; but their mutual dependence is not the same. The men depend on the women only on account of their desires; the women on the men both on account of their desires and their necessities: we could subsist better without them than they without us...For this reason; the education of the women should be always relative to the men. To please, to be useful to us, to make us love and esteem them, to educate us when young, and take care of us when grown up, to advise, to console us, to render our lives easy and agreeable: these are the duties of women at all times, and what they should be taught in their infancy (2006).

According to Rousseau, girls have limited capacity to understand things, because their interest lies only in their appearance rather than on other things. “Girls are from their earliest infancy fond of dress. Not content with being pretty, they are desirous of being thought so; we see, by all their little airs, that this thought engages their attention; and they are hardly capable of understanding what is said to them, before they are to be governed by talking to them of what people will think of their behavior” (2006).

To conclude, even though there were made some minor changes by the end of the eighteenth century regarding the level of tolerance based on the choice of the partner by the parents, again things did not change much. Women still continued to be discriminated and men were the head of the family. Moreover, children were raised with the idea to find a rich husband and men considered themselves as the most important leaders from whom a whole family was dependent. They were even allowed to involve the female servant in sexual relations. Boys were raised with the idea to discriminate the females and to humiliate them in cases they opposed to their arguments; whereas, girls were raised with the idea to find a rich husband, to concentrate on their appearance and to get involved in a needle work. Even though, this period involved writers who worried about the situation of female discrimination, such as Olsen, Stone or Wollstonecraft, and writers who thought that the females deserved the discrimination during the period of the eighteenth century, such as Rousseau, the main focus of the book will be on Jane Austen, as a writer who was strongly against the real situation of the eighteenth century. Living in this period, Jane Austen wrote about the dissatisfaction of the women of that time. She could not accept the fact that females were in a poor living condition; as a result, she expressed this authentic situation through her characters. Moreover, she achieved to explicit through her characters that feelings should be considered above all and that love makes a family happier and healthier. The following chapters of this book will have the focus of all these issues discussed by Jane Austen in her novels *Pride and Prejudice* and *Emma*.

2. PART I

2.1. MARRIED AND UNMARRIED IN *PRIDE AND PREJUDICE*

2.1.1 UNMARRIED IN *PRIDE AND PREJUDICE*

Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice* is a novel which tells the story of Elizabeth Bennet, the main character of the story and her family in the period of the eighteenth- nineteenth century. The main content of the novel is understood from the very first sentence of the novel "It is a truth universally acknowledged that a single man in possession of a good fortune must be in want of a wife" (Austen, 1995). The Bennets had five daughters, Jane, Elizabeth, Mary, Kitty and Lydia and since these sisters did not possess any valuable property, their only way was a marriage with someone of a great property. The main efforts of Mrs. Bennet to persuade her daughters to get married and find husbands were finalized by the marriages of her three daughters. Three of her daughters went through different complicated situations, and they finally got married either for love, affection or economical conditions. In her novel, Jane Austen involved different kinds of marriages, such as matched marriages, romantic love marriages and also elopement of lovers. Since most of the marriages of the eighteenth century were decided by the parents and "women were expected to behave modest, submissive, and, most important: incapable of independent thought" (Strohmeier, 2013), Austen in her novel *Pride and Prejudice* involved different characters belonging to different ranks and facing different ways of marriage adventures. "Austen's work *Pride and Prejudice* is a novel that unites the main possibilities of finding happiness through marriage" (Strohmeier, 2013). Not being satisfied with the current situation of marriages happening in the eighteenth century, Austen does not directly express this

dissatisfaction but “she makes use of declarations and behavior of her women characters to assert it” (Dobosiova, 2006).

Since most of the novel goes around the marriage of Bennet sisters in order to find the most suitable person to marry, two out of three sisters do not achieve to get married. Since Kitty and Mary are the middle sisters of the Bennet family, they are less respected and thus more isolated in their own world. Before moving to a detailed analysis on the struggle of marriages and the situations in which the three sisters and their neighbor Charlotte go through until they get married, there will be given only a short description of these two sisters, Kitty and Mary.

Kitty was a character who most of the times was influenced by her younger sister Lydia, and a person who was not involved in family discussions or problems. Throughout the book, the readers face situations when Kitty leaves Lydia (the youngest sister) to be her voice and talk about Kitty’s opinions. The time when Lydia leaves the place to get married, “the luckless Kitty continued in the parlor repining at her fate in terms as unreasonable as her accent was peevish” (Austen, 1995). Most of the Kitty’s life was dedicated to balls and had a personality that never opposed to the others’ judgments. Even when her father stated that “she is the silliest girl in the country, Catherine was disconcerted and made no answer” (Austen, 1995). The time when Lydia escaped with Wickham (which will be discussed into details), Kitty is shown as a mean girl, obeying her parents’ rules by stating that “I am not going to run away, Papa, if I should ever go to Brighton, I will behave better than Lydia” (Austen, 1995). The fact that Kitty and Mary were the middle daughters, and the desire of the parents to have sons, made the parents not respect these daughters. This is seen when Mr. Bennet states that “if any young man come for my Mary and Kitty, send them in, for I am quite at my leisure” (Austen, 1995). The dependence of Kitty

towards Lydia, and her undervaluing situation in the family, describe Kitty as being a person in need of continuous guidance.

On the other hand, Mary, as the middle daughter of the Bennet family, is described as one of the plainest girls in the family:

Mary...being the only plain one in the family, worked hard for knowledge and accomplishments...she had neither genius nor taste; and though vanity had given her application, it had given her likewise a pedantic air and conceited manner, which would have injured a higher degree of excellence that she had reached (Austen, 1995).

Mary is described as a person who spent all of her time reading books, and her knowledge about books was not so much valued during the period of the eighteenth century. During this period, a girl would be accomplished only if she had the ability to sing and play an instrument. The problem with Mary's character was that even though, she had general knowledge gained while reading books, she could not show this knowledge and every time she got involved in a conversation, she was embarrassed.

Analyzing Mary's personality, many writers describe her as not belonging to the same society as the other girls of that period. Compared to the other girls, who were focused on finding husbands, Mary was an exception. Her world was isolated within reading and her interests for marriage stood out of the idea for marriage. Morrison states "she is 'accomplished' through books...but for everyone around her, being accomplished is the only way in order to catch a husband" (2009). She is described as "someone who has spent too much time inside her own head and not nearly enough time in the company of good society" (Morrison, 2009)

Mary and Kitty, as being the middle girls in the family, having less ability to talk with other people, being less socialized, made other characters in the novel consider them as not fully accomplished girls. As Bingley mentions “young ladies can have patience to be so very accomplished as they all are...they all paint tables, cover screens, and net purses”(Austen, 1995). Whereas based on Darcy’s opinion, in order for a woman to be accomplished she “must have a thorough knowledge of music, singing, drawing, dancing, and the modern languages, to deserve the word; and besides all this, she must possess a certain something in her air and manner of walking, the tone of her voice, her address and expressions, or the word will be but half-deserved” (Austen, 1995).

Based on the fact that these two sisters were the middle sisters, they were not paid so much attention, as Scott states that “the first two daughters were treated as valued children and while Mary, who was supposed to be a son, is a constant disappointment and that is why she spends her time reading” (Morrison, 2009). Mary’s world was so isolated because she rarely had any conversation with any of the family members, so she had self-expression problems. Mary always strived “to get attention from her father and that is the reason to why she spends all of her time reading...Mary often takes refuge in books since she has no one else to turn to...Mary is in constant need to get father’s attention”(Morrison, 2009). As a minor character in the novel, Mary strives to fit in the society and her opinion about marriage is far more detached from her sisters’ opinion. In the novel, Mary represents a woman who trusts herself more than relying to men, as other women believe it to be as the only means for a happy future.

Based on the fact that Kitty and Mary are minor characters in the novel, and since they were not focused in marriage, the other three sisters went through different situations until they finally got married. Because the aim of this book is to analyze the situations in which these three sisters

went through, to find their match and also to analyze the relationships of the already married couples, the main focus and the more detailed analyses will be based on Elizabeth Bennet and her relationship with Fitzwilliam Darcy, Jane Bennet and her relationship with Charles Bingley, Lydia Bennet and her relationship with George Wickham and Charlotte Lucas and her relationship with Mr. Collins, all first as unmarried people who later achieve to get married either for love, attraction or economical interest.

2.1.2 Charlotte Lucas and Mr. Collins

The relationship of Charlotte and Collins represents a relationship typical for the period of the eighteenth century. Their relationship is not based on love, but on finding a partner to spend their life. Charlotte's relationship is "a mirror of reality" (Kalil, 2011) of the eighteenth century. Charlotte, Elizabeth's best friend, was at the age of twenty- seven, and she was not lucky enough to be beautiful. Since most of the girls of the eighteenth century attended balls to find husbands, trying to show their physical beauty, Charlotte knew that she would not be evaluated by her intelligence. As girls of that period were undervalued whenever they showed any smart opinion, Charlotte had given up the idea that her intelligence would help her find a husband. Moreover, Austen shows that during the period of the eighteenth century, girls with low economical conditions, and being more than twenty- five years old, would find it very difficult to get married. Men were considered to be above women, and since women lacked education, they were supposed to depend on their husbands. During the eighteenth century men believed that women were weaker both physically and emotionally, so they naturally had to depend on men. "The married women became a 'feme covert' and performed all of her actions under the 'wing, protection, and cover' of her husband" (Anolik, 2016). Based on these issues, Charlotte's main aim was to marry someone. "In her mind, people should marry knowing very little about a

person, and base the entire decision on convenience and security” (Berry, 2014). “The insecurity of a single woman and the money-minded society (were) the dominant considerations which (had) formed her attitudes towards marriage...” (Haque, 2013). In spite of this, Charlotte was a very reliable and supportive person; meantime, not romantic and “unimaginative” (Kalil, 2011). “At the first ball she (did) not chase two eligible bachelors, Mr. Bingley and Mr. Darcy though they were centerpieces to all marriageable women. It indicates that despite being weak in her position she never tries to chase them or any rich bachelor as she is not flirt like her contemporaries” (Haque, 2013). On the other hand, Mr. Collins, “was a tall, heavy- looking young man of five-and-twenty” (Austen, 1995). Being in a critical age, Charlotte wished nothing but to find someone to spend her life. Shortly after Elizabeth’s refusal to Mr. Collins’ proposal, he proposed to Charlotte, who accepted him immediately, by believing that “happiness in marriage is entirely a matter of chance” (Austen, 1995). Since Collins would inherit the Bennet’s propriety after Mr. Bennet’s death, Charlotte believed that he would be an appropriate choice for her to create a family with. Since in the eighteenth century England women were taught that “...it was a sign of weakness to hope too much...” (Cecil, 1935), Charlotte did not have higher expectations and this is why she decided to accept the proposal of Mr. Collins, as she was “unimportant in her circle of acquaintances except him” (Haque, 2013). “Mr. Collins was not a sensible man, and the deficiency of nature had been but little assisted by education or society; the greatest part of his life having been spent under the guidance of an illiterate and miserly father; and though he belonged to one of the universities, he had merely kept the necessary terms, without forming at it any useful acquaintance. The subjection in which his father had brought him up had given him originally great humility of manner; but it was now a good deal counteracted by the self-conceit of a weak head, living in retirement, and the consequential

feelings of early and unexpected prosperity. A fortunate chance had recommended him Lady Catherine de Bourgh when the living of Hunsford was vacant; and the respect which he felt for her high rank, and his veneration for her and his patroness, mingling with a very good opinion of himself, of his authority as a clergyman, and his right as a rector, made him altogether a mixture of pride and obsequiousness, self-importance and humility” (Austen, 1995). Based on this statement, Austen shows the impact of family’s influence on educating their children. Since Collins was taught to marry without any special feeling towards the partner, his only aim was to find a wife and create a family. On the other hand, through Charlotte it is shown the dependent situation of the uneducated women of the eighteenth century. As women lacked education, they could not work, so they had to get married and secure a house. Following the miserable tradition of not being allowed to inherit from their father’s property, girls were obliged to get married. It is obvious that Austen describes the true sacrifices that girls of the eighteenth century made in order to have a house. She shows that most of the women of that period chose security over happiness. “Women...in Austen are confined to domestic space...They have restricted their life within the houses and take the role of the housewives...” (Dodiya, 2006). Collins believed that the upper-class people were superior, had better behavior and were more elegant. He admired Lady Catherine; even though, she acted arrogantly to many people. He considered her superior and believed that she was an extraordinary woman. Whatever Lady Catherine told him, he considered it to be correct. Taking from what Lady Catherine had taught Mr. Collins, Collins considered himself superior to other people, especially the Bennet sisters. For example, when Elizabeth asked him not to introduce himself with Darcy at the ball, he said that “she has a limited understanding of things and that she does not know what is appropriate behavior” (Austen, 1995). Moreover, in a conversation with Elizabeth, he openly showed himself as being

superior by saying: “Pardon me for neglecting to profit by your advice, which on every other subject shall be my constant guide, though in case before us I consider myself more fitted by education and habitual study to decide what is right than a young lady like yourself” (Austen, 1995). This is a great reflection of how much influenced people of the eighteenth century were by those who were rich. Being rich enough, Lady Catherine, considered herself as being smart and always advised other people. She considered herself superior for the fact that she possessed money and had the respect of other people. Lady Catherine is a great reflection of the ways how people of the eighteenth century judged other people, without taking into account the true education and the true intelligence. Lady Catherine, whose expressions Austen describes as being very simple and not valuable, was considered and respected by many people, especially Mr. Collins. Being present in his life for a long time, Lady Catherine was the example of perfection in the eyes of Mr. Collins only because she was rich and showed authority. Austen reflects the consequences of being educated by a woman such as Lady Catherine through Mr. Collins. He was taught not to love but live and consider himself superior. He chose to marry without love and chose a partner only because he had to get married and create a family, only because he was grown enough to have a wife. Taking into account that Collins was not romantic, and wanted a wife for home, Charlotte accepted his proposal, by giving this explanation to Elizabeth: “I see what are you feeling...You must be surprised, very much surprised – so lately as Mr. Collins was wishing to marry you. But when you have had time to think it over, I hope you will be satisfied with what I have done. I am not romantic, you know; I never was. I ask only a comfortable home; and considering Mr. Collins’ character, connection, and situation in life, I am convinced that my chance of happiness with him is as fair as most people can boast on entering the marriage state” (Austen, 1995). Charlotte was satisfied by Collins’s proposal for

marriage. “She had gained her point, and had time to consider it...Mr. Collins, to be sure, was neither sensible nor agreeable; his society was irksome, and his attachment to her must be imaginary. But still he would be her husband. Without thinking highly either of men or matrimony, marriage had always been her object; it was the only provision for well- educated young women of a small fortune, and however uncertain of giving happiness, must be their pleasantest preservative from want. This preservative she had now obtained; and at the age of twenty- seven, without having ever been handsome, she felt all the good luck of it” (Austen, 1995). Charlotte’s decision to marry Collins shows “her unshaken resolution as well as her pitiable condition...Her announcement gives us the idea of her helplessness, as she cannot complain about her sufferings for desire and social reality are at odds” (Haque, 2013).

Being in poor economical conditions, Charlotte’s family was very pleased to have their daughter married to a reliable person, as Mr. Collins. Charlotte’s marriage was approved by her parents. “The match (was) welcomed because it provided security for Charlotte while also freeing her from the looming title of ‘old maid’” (Ross, 2003). Their approval showed “the demeaning conditions of the middle class marriageable girls who lack fortune as well as good looks” (Danielova, 2009). “Sir William and Lady Lucas were speedily applied to for their consent; and it was bestowed with a most joyful alacrity. Mr. Collins’s present circumstances made it a most eligible match for their daughter, to whom they could give little fortune; and his prospects of future wealth were exceedingly fair. Lady Lucas began directly to calculate, with more interest than the matter had ever excited before, how many years longer Mr. Bennet was likely to live...” (Austen, 1995). With this quote Austen represents the willingness of poor families to have their daughters married as soon as there came a chance for their daughter, without analyzing things into details or without being aware of what kind of person their daughter would spend her whole

life. Since girls of the eighteenth century had the right of veto, they could accept or refuse their proposal. As Collins proposed Charlotte, she accepted his proposal, and Charlotte's family agreed immediately and was released to see their daughter married and having the Bennet's propriety inherited. Even though, her family was pleased for Charlotte to have found a husband, Elizabeth was not happy for her friend because she knew that they were not marrying for love. Since Elizabeth's concept for a happy marriage was based on true love, she could not see this in the relationship with Collins and Charlotte. Brian Southam says about Elizabeth's opinion as follows:

Perhaps the principled and high- minded Elizabeth Bennet, who was so angry and upset that poor Charlotte Lucas should marry Mr. Collins for the sake of a home, is deep down a victim to the same temptation, even if it comes in a more insidiously acceptable disguise... (1976).

In a discussion with her sister Jane, Elizabeth gave her opinion about this marriage, doubting that they would be happy afterwards, but Jane replied to Elizabeth by expressing: "My dear Lizzy, do not give way to such feelings as these. They will ruin your happiness. You do not make allowance enough for difference of situation and temper. Consider Mr. Collins's respectability, and Charlotte's steady, prudent character. Remember that she is one of a large family that as to fortune, it is a most eligible match; and be ready to believe, for everybody's sake, that she may feel something like regard and esteem for our cousin" (Austen, 1995).

Although Charlotte respected her friend, Elizabeth so much, and she knew that Elizabeth was not happy enough for Charlotte to accept Collins's proposal, immediately after Elizabeth's refusal, again Charlotte was in need of financial security because she did not have enough materialistic

conditions to be supported; as a result, her father did not have good relationships with the landed gentry. “So, in her solitude she suffers and she does not want to prolong her sufferings as she is compelled to observe her painful situation” (Haque, 2013). Based on the visit that Elizabeth had at Collins’s and Charlotte’s house after their marriage, she found that they were placed good, and they felt happy with each other. During her visit, she saw that her friend had “an excellent understanding- though (she was) not certain that (she considered) Mr. Collins as the wisest thing she ever did. She (seemed) perfectly happy, however, and in a prudential light it (was) certainly a very good match for her” (Austen, 1995). On the other hand, Mr. Collins found his marriage agreeable by emphasizing to Elizabeth that he and Charlotte had “but one mind and one way of thinking. There (was) in everything a most remarkable resemblance of character and ideas between (them). (They seemed) to have been designed for each other” (Austen, 1995). Charlotte is an example where the author tries to describe a typical girl of the eighteenth century who had to accept the fact that marriage consisted of respect and having a home. Even though, she knew that Collins was not her perfect match, seeing that he had high self- esteem, again she was happy that she was not a burden for her parents anymore. Since families of that period wanted to marry as many daughters as possible, Charlotte had no other choice but to accept the Collins’s proposal.

Through Charlotte Lucas, Austen reflects the conditions of poor unmarried girls at the time when she lived, and the fact that these girls had no other options. Charlotte reflects the woman in her society, who had no other profession and considered marriage as the only means of having a stable life. Her marriage was loveless marriage and Charlotte was aware of it, but she was happy to have “made a satisfactory adjustment to her conjugal life” (Haque, 2013).

Even though, Charlotte knew that she and Collins did not marry for love, again she knew that he could offer her a comfortable income. "...Charlotte marries Collins knowing full well that he 'was neither sensible nor agreeable'. She has also judged his 'character, connections, and situation in life' and thus has some grounds for being 'convinced that (her) chance of happiness with him, is as fair' as could be expected" (Lambdin; Lambdin, 2000). Through this marriage Austen proves to the readers "the consequences of placing practicality before romance which was not uncommon in the eighteenth century England" (Haque, 2013). For Charlotte and Collins "marriage is a market place where they must strive to make the best bargain they can in order to conserve or improve their status of life...through her marriage she achieves what she wants- financial stability, status and independence in becoming a mistress of her own house...her marriage is not ideal but she is able to escape social pressure and humiliation as well as social isolation" (Haque, 2013). "...the fact that Charlotte has weighed her own options and chosen marriage as her 'pleasantest preservative from want' suggests at least a degree of taste; although Mr. Collins is no prize, still...Charlotte has sufficient cultural competence to make distinctions among 'preservatives from want' "(Lambdin; Lambdin, 2000). Since in the eighteenth century this kind of marriage was accepted, Charlotte "proves that she is not an exception in her pecuniary society where men value a woman's looks before examining her character" (Haque, 2013). "Upon reflecting on her marriage, Charlotte claims that it is in general satisfactory, providing a clear indication of the lack of true love in her marriage to Mr. Collins. Through the pairing, the author is able to comment on the lack of romance and passion found in the economically based marriages like that of Mr. and Mrs. Collins" (Berry, 2014).

2.1.3 Lydia Bennet and George Wickham

The relationship of Lydia Bennet and George Wickham is a relationship based on naivety and a forced marriage. Their character is described as a total contradiction, and her way of acting with her elopement brought a lot of debate in the house. As a girl of sixteen, Lydia was too much involved in gossiping, and her main aim in life was finding a husband. She was “a stout...with a fine complexion and good- humored countenance; a favorite with her mother, whose affection had brought her into public at an early age. She had high animal spirits, and a sort of natural self-consequence, which the attention of the officers, to whom her uncle’s good manners, and her own easy manners recommended her, had increased into assurance” (Austen, 1995). Here Austen shows clearly that girls during the period of the eighteenth century were allowed to show off in public at a very early age with the intention to find an appropriate match. Lydia’s attendance in balls began at a very early age, even earlier than she was supposed to, before she had really developed her own behavior and before she had learned how to refuse different men. The struggle of mothers to marry their daughters, most of the times passed all the limits and they did not think about the consequences. Through Lydia, Austen shows a typical girl who was taught to behave as an adult from a very early age only for the sake of finding a husband. Lydia was always involved and always enjoyed conversations related to men and flirting. In a conversation with Elizabeth, when Elizabeth returned from her uncle’s house, Lydia said to her: “...let us hear what has happened to you all since you went away. Have you seen any pleasant men? Have you had any flirting? I was in great hopes that one of you would have got a husband before you came back....Jane will be quite an old maid soon, I declare. She is almost three-and-twenty! Lord, how ashamed I should be of not being married before three-and-twenty!” (Austen, 1995). Since Lydia was taught to be out of her society, focusing only on flirting, Austen shows that the indulgence

of mothers during the eighteenth century had a great impact in their girls, especially at an early age when they were not fully developed. Austen's use of irony in these statements shows clearly that Lydia's brain was filled with marriage opinion, and she belonged to the group of girls who could not imagine themselves unmarried. They could not even think of the fact that they might stay single when they are twenty or older. The easy-minded Lydia is a symbol of the early entrance in adultery when girls were not given the right to enjoy their age, but jump directly to a very delicate period of finding a husband. Lydia was a person focused only on her own desires, and she was not afraid to express them. Moreover, Lydia believed that whatever she said was right and whenever other people contradicted, were wrong. Based on her character, Elizabeth doubted too much on her little sister. Even when she decided to go at her uncle's house, Elizabeth tried to persuade her father not to leave Lydia go. "She represented to him all the improprieties of Lydia's general behavior, the little advantage she could derive from the friendship of such a woman as Mrs. Forster, and the probability of her being yet more imprudent with such a companion at Brighton, where the temptations must be greater than at home" (Austen, 1995). On the other hand, Wickham is described as an immature and a selfish person. He is seen as a person who was not afraid to complete his love interest immediately. "Wickham is presented as a cad, with, in the end, few forgiving qualities" (Cardell, 2012). Hazel Jones describes Wickham by saying:

Given George Wickham's sexual proclivities, we can guess what he might get up to on his visits there without his wife (2009).

Moreover, Moore describes his behavior, saying that he has "the 'primitive' or 'infantile' drives, 'amoral' traits, and a 'superiority' complex that covers a real sense of vulnerability, weakness and superiority" (1990).

When Lydia went to Brighton, being attracted by the physical appearance of Wickham, and being a naïve girl, eloped with Wickham without thinking the consequences. Her main interest relied only in the excitement of being in a relationship with someone attractive. She did not think about the fact that Wickham had no intentions to marry her. What Wickham wanted from her was just a temporary affair, which would not last long. Based on his willingness to elope with Miss King, this elopement was nothing new to Wickham. As Elizabeth knew about his past, she said: “His attentions to Miss King were now the consequence of views solely and hatefully mercenary; and the mediocrity of her fortune proved no longer the moderation of his wishes, but his eagerness to grasp anything” (Austen, 1995). The author makes us clear that men of the eighteenth century had more rights than women, and they were allowed to take many dirty actions without analyzing the consequences. They could even misuse other girls, flirt with them, have sexual relations, and leave them without any doubt. Through Wickham, Austen shows those types of men who like to have many girlfriends, and not care about the bad consequences he might bring to her or her family by not marrying her. But all these things were not of a concern for Lydia. She did not even think about the fact that Wickham had a lot of debts to pay; she acted upon her emotions and her wish to have the status of a married woman. Having a lot of debts to pay, Wickham had the least intention to marry Lydia, and the people who knew him, were all familiar to this fact. As Wickham was so focused in money, Elizabeth doubted that he could marry Lydia, as she was not rich. Based on Lydia’s elopement, Elizabeth said: “Wickham will never marry a woman without some money. He cannot afford it. And what claims has Lydia- what attraction has she beyond youth, health, and good humor that could make him, for her sake, forego every chance of benefiting himself by marrying well?” (Austen, 1995). Money was the main aim of the eighteenth century in Britain, and almost everyone struggled to find a rich

partner who could secure a good and rich future. Since Lydia could not offer anything to Wickham, for the fact that she had nothing to offer but the characteristics of a passive girl, who possessed only physical beauty and good humor, it was obvious that Wickham would not marry such a girl. With this statement, Austen reflects the sad conditions of the eighteenth century, which period involved a gender inequality where men were allowed to act in many situations and women not because they would suffer the consequences, and also the negative sides of having young girls grow up faster than they were supposed to.

Lydia's and Wickham's elopement was a great shock for her family, and not marrying Wickham, would be an immense shame both for Lydia and her family. The Bennets were terrified and could not accept the elopement, and their only wish was nothing but their marriage. As Mrs. Bennet says to her brother:

Oh! My dear brother... 'that is exactly what I could most wish for. And now do, when you get to town, find them out, wherever they might be; and if they are not married already, make them marry' (Austen, 1995).

The gender inequality and the fact that girls who had previous affairs would never find husbands, was something that Austen really found as a great issue to involve in her novel *Pride and Prejudice*. As girls were grown prematurely, their mind and their thinking was still not developed in a level of analyzing things in depth. The fact that Lydia was a young girl, not enough developed in her way of thinking, brought the situation of her elopement. As eloping was one of the most shameful things that could happen to one family, and something which would keep a girl single forever, the only choice was marriage. Here Austen expresses her revolt

towards young innocent girls who were completely brainwashed by the poor mentality of that time.

Elizabeth, who knew Wickham better than anyone else and knew what he had done to Darcy, was in a great shock, too. She stated that Lydia “had better have stayed home...’perhaps she meant well, but, under such a misfortune as this, one cannot see too little of one’s neighbors. Assistance is impossible; condolence insufferable. Let them triumph over us at a distance, and be satisfied” (Austen, 1995). Living in such a period, when girls were condemned to stay single forever if they were involved in an action of elopement, their only escape was marrying to the same person. Since Wickham was forced to marry Lydia, the Bennet family was happy enough to see their daughter married with him; even though, they were sure he did not love her. Sacrificing the girls’ future and marrying them in an early age, was something Austen could not endure. This is why she reflected this disappointment through Lydia, who was the victim of both family influences on her behavior, the consequences of men domination and the sad reality of the types of marriages happening at that time.

The fact that Darcy paid Wickham’s debts obliged Wickham to marry Lydia. His debts were paid only with this condition, so he had no other choice but to accept Darcy’s offer. Even though, his wish was to marry someone rich, his plans did not go the way he wanted, because his marriage to Lydia was influenced by external circumstances. Even though, he wanted a brief affair based on sex, his end was tragic. He was ‘a constant seducer, and has been known to seek pleasure of the flesh instead of commitment” (Candell, 2012). His “affection for Lydia was just what Elizabeth had expected to find it; not equal to Lydia’s for him. She had scarcely needed her present observation to be satisfied, from the reason of things, that their elopement had been brought on by strength of her love, rather than by his; and she would have wondered why, without violently

caring for her, he chose to elope with her at all, had she not felt certain that his flight was rendered necessary by distress of circumstances; and if that were the case, he was not the young man to resist an opportunity of having a companion...Lydia was exceedingly fond of him. He was her dear Wickham on every occasion; no one was to be put in competition with him..." (Austen, 1995). As Lydia was not mature enough to understand others' feelings and to develop her own feelings, she was isolated in her own world thinking that she was really in love and that she had the same love in return. As Austen represents most of the men in the novel not expressing too much love towards girls, but being attracted only on their physical appearance or money, Wickham is the best example she takes to describe that kind of man. Through the marriage of Lydia and Wickham, Austen presents a marriage with many contradictory characteristics, and shows that such relationships do not function. Moreover, she shows that being in love and having no love in return is not the key for a happy marriage. "While the marriage appears to be blissful, and the flirtatious Lydia seems happy and giddy with the match, Austen makes it clear that this marriage does not have the ideal level of love that should exist between a husband and a wife" (Berry, 2014).

Lydia's naivety was so obvious, as she never understood the real reasons for her marriage. The marriage with Wickham was an accomplishment of her wishes, for the fact that now she considered herself a real married woman. In her mind there existed only the opinion of having married a handsome husband, and she took her chance to teach her sisters act the same way. In a conversation with her mother, she said:

Well, mamma," said she, when they were all returned to the breakfast room, "and what do you think of my husband? Is not he a charming man? I am sure my sisters must all envy me. I only hope they may have half my good luck. They must go to

Brighton. That is the place to get husbands. What a pity it is, mamma, we did not all go” (Austen, 1995).

The Bennets knew that Lydia and Wickham would not be happy together, but not being ready to face the shame she brought to her family, they were forced to accept it. As Elizabeth comments:

And for this we are to be thankful. That they should marry, small as is their chance of happiness, and wretched as is this character, we are forced to rejoice (Austen, 1995).

Through the marriage of Lydia and Wickham, Austen represents a marriage which is seen as unhappy, it “gains neither Lydia nor Mr. Wickham emotionally in the long run, and also the reputation of the Bennet family is stained” (Asker, 2012). By marrying Wickham, Lydia “has condemned herself to a life of misery as there will never be enough money to cover the cost of the lifestyle they both desire” (Smith, 2014). As Odmark argues: “Wickham’s forced marriage to Lydia may satisfy social convention and over joy Mrs. Bennet but the moral issue is not easily done away with” (1983).

2.1.4 Jane Bennet and Charles Bingley

The relationship of Jane and Bingley starts from the very first time when they meet each other in the ball. Jane achieves to find her ideal man immediately since their first meeting, but different circumstances keep them separated until almost the end of the novel. Being the favorite child of her mother, the relationship of Jane with Bingley was influenced by her mother, too. Taking into account the fact that Bingley was a person of a good fortune and a charming man, Jane’s family

thought that he could be a great match for their daughter. “Mr. Bingley inherited property to the amount of nearly a hundred thousand pounds from his father, who had intended to purchase an estate, but did not live to do it. Mr. Bingley intended it likewise, and sometimes made choice of his county; ...he was provided with good house and the liberty of a manor” (Austen, 1995).

From the very first time that Jane met Bingley at the balls and had the chance to dance with him twice, she found him to be “quite young, wonderfully handsome, extremely agreeable, and to crown the whole, he meant to be at the next assembly with a large party. Nothing could be more delightful!” (Austen, 1995). In the novel Mr. Bingley is described as a “gentlemanlike, lively and unreserved” (Austen, 1995), and his requirements to be satisfied are not that high. We can see this from the very first time that he entered the ball, and when he saw all the girls there, he said to Mr. Darcy:

Upon my honor, I never met with so many pleasant girls in my life as I have this evening; and there are several of them you see uncommonly pretty (Austen, 1995).

“Bingley had never met with more pleasant people or prettier girls in his life; everybody had been most kind and attentive to him; there had been no formality, no stiffness; he had soon felt acquainted with all the room; and, as to Miss Bennet, he could not receive an angel more beautiful”(Austen, 1995). With this statement we find Bingley to be a very tolerable man, not wishing for too much. “Bingley has great natural modesty; with a stronger dependence on judgment...he is a modest man, careful and slightly shy” (Cardell, 2012). He proved “to be personable and polite to the local folk, making him instantly well- liked” (Gale, Cengage Learning). On the other hand, Jane seemed to have a very similar character to Bingley’s. She was

found to be very tolerable and good hearted person, being admired by many people around. This is stated by Elizabeth, too when she says:

All loveliness and goodness as she is! - Her understanding excellent, her mind improved, and her manner captivating (Austen, 1995).

Jane's good character can also be seen at the time when the Gardiners come to visit the Bennets and when the children ran immediately toward Jane. "The children, two girls of six and eight years old, and two younger boys, were to be left under the particular care of their cousin Jane, who was the general favorite, and whose steady sense and sweetness of temper exactly adapted her for attending to them in every way- teaching them, playing with them, and loving them" (Austen, 1995). From the very beginning, Jane and Bingley are described as tolerable characters and they do not change until the end. Jane was a person who did not like problems and did not show her feelings so freely. She did not express her feelings for Bingley either, which situation left Bingley confused. Even Charlotte, Elizabeth's friend gave remark about Jane by stating that:

...it is sometimes a disadvantage to be so very guarded. If a woman conceals her affection with the same skill from the object of it, she may lose the opportunity of fixing him...a woman had better show more affection than she feels" (Austen, 1995).

Even though Jane was attracted by Bingley, Mrs. Bennet was she who wanted by any means Jane to get married to Bingley. Even when Jane decided to go and visit Bingley and his sisters, she sent Jane without carriage, so she could get sick from the rain and could stay there for a longer time. This would be a great opportunity to know each other and get closer with Bingley. Mrs. Bennet insisted by saying to Jane:

Oh, my dear, you had better go on horseback, because it seems likely to rain; and then you must stay all night...Jane was therefore obliged to go on horseback, and her mother attended her at the door with many cheerful prognostics of a bad day. Her hopes were answered; Jane had not been gone long before it rained hard. Her sisters were uneasy for her, but her mother was delighted” (Austen, 1995).

The meetings of Bingley and Jane in different balls and her stay at Bingley’s house made her feel about Bingley, and fall in love with him. “The mutual attraction between Jane and Bingley begins to creep into visibility very early, but then external obstacles intervene, and the engagement takes place only near the end “(Halperin, 1975). Bingley, who lived with his sisters, began to feel the same way, but the influence that other people had in his life caused many problems and made this relationship very complicated. There had entered Darcy and Bingley’s sisters who made this relationship complicated. Because Darcy, a close friend to Bingley, had thought that Jane was not in love with Bingley, and on the other hand Bingley’s sisters had tried to find another match for him, they persuaded Bingley to leave the place. Even though, his sisters pretended to like her at the beginning, again Mrs. Bennet’s “vulgarity, her younger sister’s wild, loose manners, and their lower economic position among the landed gentry” (Gale, Cengage Learning, 2015) made them change their opinion. In a conversation of Jane with Elizabeth, they discussed about the influence that Bingley’s sister had in their relationship:

“I cannot believe it. Why should they try to influence him? They can only wish his happiness; and if he is attached to me, no other woman can secure it.”

“Your first position is false. They may wish many things besides his happiness; they may wish his increase of wealth and consequence; they may wish him to marry a girl who has all the importance of money, great connections, and pride.”

“Beyond a doubt, they DO wish him to choose Miss Darcy,” replied Jane.
(Austen, 1995)

Since Jane and Elizabeth had close relationships and discussed their personal problems together, based on the situation which was caused by the influence of Bingley’s sisters, Elizabeth advised Jane to think good before taking any farther step:

“But, my dear sister, can I be happy, even supposing the best, in accepting a man whose sisters and friends are all wishing him to marry elsewhere?”

“You must decide for yourself,” said Elizabeth; “and if, upon mature deliberation, you find that the misery of disobliging his two sisters is more that equivalent to his happiness of being his wife, I advise you by all means to refuse him” (Austen, 1995).

Based on these facts, we see that Bingley was influenced by the people surrounding him, and the persuasion of his friend Darcy and his sisters make him leave the place. “To convince him, therefore, that he had deceived himself was not very difficult point” (Cardell, 2012). “ ...Jane and Bingley, as a couple , share the same difficulty in making choices, apart from the choice of each other, and even that choice, particularly on Bingley’s side, shows a certain pliability”

(Barfoot, 1982). Darcy accused Bingley for being dependent on chance when he tells him: “if, as you were mounting your horse, a friend were to say, ‘Bingley, you had better stay until next week’, you would probably do it, you would probably not go-and, at another word, might stay a month” (Austen, 1995). The influence of others in the relationship of Jane and Bingley is discussed by Kaye- Smith, too, stating that:

A misunderstanding between lovers kept apart by officious and jealous friends, who misrepresent motives and suppress information...Bingley is not only weak-willed but also weak-witted, or he would never have so implicitly believed Darcy’s statement on a subject of which he could have known nothing (1943).

Bingley’s escape was a great shock for Jane, she expressed herself to be devastated, as Mrs. Bennet stated after Bingley left the place:

Oh well! It is just as he chooses. Nobody wants him to come. Though I shall always say he used my daughter extremely ill; and if I was her, I would not have put up with it. Well, my comfort is, I am sure Jane will die of a broken heart; and then he will be sorry for what was done” (Austen, 1995).

The letter that Jane received from Bingley’s sister stating that Bingley left the place and that he might get married to Miss Darcy, made her feel hopeless. Being aware of the situation in which Jane was, and seeing the conditions which Jane was facing, her father considered her “too willing to please and believes that she lacks the character to deal with life difficulties” (Gale, Cengage Learning, 2015). Her father always told her that “you are...so complying, that nothing will ever be resolved on; so easy, that every servant will cheat you and so generous, that you will always exceed your income” (Austen, 1995). The influence that Darcy and Bingley’s sisters had

on the relationship with Jane and Bingley was a reason for Elizabeth to refuse Darcy's proposal for the first time, which will be discussed later on. After Darcy's explanation about what had happened, emphasizing that he had told Bingley that Jane did not seem to be in love with Bingley, and after understanding that Bingley's sisters had created such circumstances to persuade Bingley leave the place, Bingley returned and was immediately invited to dine at Bennets' house. The frequent meetings of Jane and Bingley, made Darcy repent of what he had thought because he had "narrowly observed Jane during the two visits which he had lately made there; and he was convinced that of Jane's affection" (Austen, 1995). Even though Jane had promised herself that she will never look the same way at Bingley, her feelings were stronger than her opinion. The dinner, and the chance of being alone, gave Bingley the opportunity to propose Jane. "Jane and Bingley only get together...when Bingley is assured that Jane truly cares for him and is not 'indifferent'. He also learns to accept her 'low connections' and reconciles the two opposing social classes to which each belongs" (Hathaway, p.27). Jane's face at the moment of proposal was described by Elizabeth when "she perceived her sister and Bingley standing together over the hearth, as if engaged in earnest conversation; and had this led to no suspicion, the faces of both, as they hastily turned round and moved away from each other, would have told it all. Their situation was awkward enough; but HER's she thought was still worse. Not a syllable was uttered by either...Jane could have no reserves from Elizabeth, where confidence would give pleasure; and instantly embracing her, acknowledged, with liveliest emotions, that she was the happiest creature in the world...Elizabeth's congratulations were given with a sincerity, a warmth, a delight, which words could not poorly express. Every sentence of kindness was a fresh source of happiness to Jane" (Austen, 1995). Talking freely with Elizabeth, Jane could not wait but express her feelings to Elizabeth about her engagement:

I am certainly the most fortunate creature that ever existed! Oh! Lizzy, why I am thus singled from my family, and blessed above them all! If I could but see you happy! If there WERE but such another man for you!” (Austen, 1995).

The complicated relationship of Jane and Bingley had a happy ending, but their tolerant character and their easy way of persuasion, made them suffer until things were really explained. In the novel, Jane and Bingley are described as static characters because they do not change throughout the novel. Knowing that Bingley’s sister was the main reason that Jane and Bingley were separated for a long time, again she found Caroline to be amiable. “Caroline is incapable of willfully deceiving anyone, and all that I can hope in this case is that she is deceived herself” (Austen, 1995). Jane Bennet’s “forgiving spirit is, in fact, a neurotic inability to blame anyone, and her recourse to theories of conspiracy, when trying to find excuses for Miss Bingley’s part in separating her from Mr. Bingley, is not so much good as simple- minded” (Beer, 1974). There is seen only a slight change on Jane, when she does not think about people the same way anymore. When she receives Caroline’s final letter, stating that she is happy for Bingley’s and Jane’s engagement, Jane was “not deceived by it” (Cardell, 2012).

With the relationship of Jane and Bingley, Jane Austen’s theme of marriage becomes more positive. Their relationship “is based on genuine love, understanding and a similarity of feelings and perspectives on the world” (Kalil, 2011). The marriage of Jane and Bingley is the first socially accepted marriage in the novel. Their “marriage is the automatic union of two gentle, amiable, modest, similar souls” (Halperin, 1975). Through Jane, Austen gives “a strong message of women and their lack of power, as well as keen observations on the role of marriage as a

reflection of the sociological implications of society they lived in”(Di Mauro, 2012). The marriage of Jane and Bingley shows that; even though, there is an interest of wealth, again this relationship is mainly based on prior affection and creates appropriate unit of personalities of both Jane and Bingley.

2.1.5 Elizabeth Bennet and Fitzwilliam Darcy

The relationship of Darcy and Elizabeth, which is one of the most important relationships in the novel, involves a relationship not based on love from the first sight. Their relationship passes through different obstacles until it ends up with a marriage based on true love. As Taavo states, before their final admission for true love, they both “develop as individuals. Along the road they meet with preconceptions and appearances and other thought- provoking behavior, which compels them to ransack their own selves- something that in, due course, will be what brings them closer together” (2008). The very first time when Darcy appeared at the ball hall, he left the impression that he felt very proud. He did not even accept to dance with the girls around because he thought himself superior to the people surrounding him. “The gentlemen pronounced (Mr. Darcy) to be a fine figure of a man, the ladies declared he was much handsomer than Mr. Bingley, and he was looked at with great admiration for about half the evening, till his manners gave a disgust which turned the tide of his popularity; for he was discovered to be proud; to be above his company, and above being pleased; and not all his large estate in Derbyshire could then save him from being a most forbidding, disagreeable countenance, and being unworthy to be compared with his friend” (Austen, 1995). Compared to Bingley, who was attracted by Jane immediately, and told Darcy to dance with one of the girls, Darcy said:

You know I detest it, unless I am particularly acquainted with my partner. At such an assembly as this it would be insupportable. Your sisters are engaged, and there is not another woman in the room whom it would not be a punishment to me to stand up with (Austen, 1995).

Whereas, when Bingley suggested him to dance with Elizabeth, who was not dancing, Darcy replied:

She is tolerant, but not handsome enough to tempt ME; I am in no humor at present to give consequence to young ladies who are sighted by other men (Austen, 1995).

At the ball “Darcy had seen a collection of people in whom there was little beauty and no fashion, for none of whom he had felt the smallest interest, and from none received either attention or pleasure” (Austen, 1995). Based on these ways of his behavior it is seen that “Darcy exhibits all the good and bad qualities of the ideal English aristocrat- snobbish and arrogant, he is also completely honest and sure of himself...While Darcy’s sense of social superiority offends people, it also promotes some of his better traits” (Kalil, 2011).

On the other hand, Elizabeth was seen as an “unfailing attractive character...a beauty...expressive eyes, but what everybody notices about her is her spirited wit and her good sense...her self- assurance comes from a keen critical mind and is expressed through her quick-witted dialogue” (Kalil, 2011). Kaye- Smith says, “Elizabeth, with her saucy wit, with that faint but so comfortable touch of vulgarity which she alone of all the heroines is allowed to possess, with her warm heart, her stout spirit, her loyalty, her gaiety, her sense...one of the most endearing characters...” (1943). Elizabeth was seen as a character not being too much interested

in events and dancing, especially getting involved in dancing with someone whom she did not know enough. She even made prejudices about other people accepting to dance immediately. She prejudiced her sister Jane when she accepted to dance and was attracted to Bingley by saying that Jane "...cannot even be certain of the degree of her own regard nor of its reasonableness. She has known him only a fortnight. She danced four dances with him at Meryton; she saw him one morning at his own house, and has since dined with him in company four times. This is not quite enough to make her understand his character" (Austen, 1995). Elizabeth showed the same stubbornness as Darcy by not wishing to dance with unknown men, and even refusing the dances. When Darcy is persuaded by Sir William to ask Elizabeth dance, Elizabeth refused him and said that she had not "the least intention of dancing". "Mr. Darcy, with grave propriety, requested to be allowed the honor of her hand, but in vain. Elizabeth was not determined; nor did Sir William at all shake her purpose by his attempt at persuasion" (Austen, 1995).

The time when Elizabeth refused Darcy's proposal to dance, Darcy's opinion began to change immediately. "Mr. Darcy had at first scarcely allowed her to be pretty; he had looked at her without admiration at the ball; and when they next met, he looked at her only to criticize. But no sooner had he made clear to himself and his friends that she hardly had a good feature in her face, than he began to find it was rendered uncommonly intelligent by the beautiful expression of her dark eyes...Though he had detected with a critical eye more than one failure of perfect symmetry in her form, he was forced to acknowledge her figure to be light and pleasing...of this she was perfectly unaware; to her he was only the man who made himself agreeable nowhere, and who had not thought her handsome enough to dance with" (Austen, 1995).

The superiority of higher class women, made them see the lower class women differently. Having the intentions to win Darcy's love and affection, Miss Bingley wanted to show off her

elegance by offending other women, especially Elizabeth. She judged and offended Elizabeth by considering her as having too much pride and not paying attention to her physical appearance. According to Miss Bingley, Elizabeth's "manners were pronounced to be very bad indeed, a mixture of pride and impertinence; she had no conversation, no style, no beauty...She really looked almost wild...Her hair, so untidy, so blowsy...and her petticoat...six inches deep in mud, I am absolutely certain; and the gown which had been let down to hide it not doing its office" (Austen, 1995).

Elizabeth's character as a proud person, has been shown many times in the novel, her impulsive character did not leave other people judge her. This was even considered as the only mistake of Elizabeth, as Kalil states:

In spite of her mistake in misjudging...and her more blamable fault of sticking stubbornly to that judgment until forced to see her error, Elizabeth is usually right about people...Her confidence in her own discernment- a combination of both pride and prejudice- is what leads her into the worst errors (2011).

When Mr. Bingley asked Elizabeth whether she preferred reading cards and when Bingley's sister judged her by expressing that Elizabeth "despises cards...she is a great reader and has no pleasure in anything else" (Austen, 1995), Elizabeth immediately reacted because she could not stand the fact someone to talk against her. Elizabeth said "I deserve neither such praise nor such censure...I am not a great reader, and I have pleasure in anything else" (Austen, 1995).

In spite of the fact that Elizabeth and Darcy belonged to different economical classes, again they both carried a pride which made them to be similar with each other. Their stubbornness and their direct confrontation with people made them get more affected to each other. Even though,

Darcy's first impression to Elizabeth was not such pleasant, again during his frequent family visits, he began to see Elizabeth differently. Elizabeth and Darcy's relationship began with Darcy's feelings first, because he was the first who felt about Elizabeth. When Darcy went on a family visit at Bennet's house, "Elizabeth could not help observing, as she turned over some music- books that lay on the instrument, how frequently Mr. Darcy's eyes were fixed on her. She hardly knew how to suppose that she could be an object of admiration to so great a man; and yet that he should look at her because he disliked her, was still more strange. She could only imagine, however, at last that she drew his notice because there was something more wrong and reprehensible, according to his ideas of right, than in any person present. The supposition did not pain her. She liked him too little to care for his approbation" (Austen, 1995).

Fate sent Elizabeth to visit her sister Jane in Netherfield, which was a great chance for her to meet Darcy. Not only the family visits, but also her stay in Netherfield made their meetings more frequent; as a result, this gave them a great chance to get closer to each other. "To Mr. Darcy it was welcome intelligence- Elizabeth had been at Netherfield long enough. She attracted him more than he liked...He wisely resolved to be particularly careful that no sign of admiration should now escape him, nothing that could elevate her with the hope of influencing his felicity; sensible that if such an idea had been suggested, his behavior during the last day may have material weight in confirming or crushing it" (Austen, 1995). Being a self convinced person and having the right of veto, Elizabeth refused everything and everyone that she thought was not appropriate for her. Elizabeth was "not representative of a typical woman of her time, because of her rejection of the contemporary image of the accomplished woman...she (did) not allow herself to marry unless it (would) increase her chance of happiness, despite jeopardizing her chance at a secure home...she really (was) a mistress over herself. She (did) not let herself be

convinced that she should be any less respectable merely because of her faulty list of accomplishments or lower social status” (Taavo, 2008). Even when her cousin, Collins, proposed her, she refused him immediately. Her ideals for a happy marriage were based on true love and feelings, and since she was a person who did not love Collins and was sure that Collins felt nothing for her, she refused his proposal without any doubt. Elizabeth, as the heroine of the novel, is seen as an “arch” (Beer, 1974) character, which means, she says “no, when (she) means ‘no’ and ‘yes’ when (she) means ‘yes’ (Beer, 1974). In the occasion with Mr. Collins, she refused him by saying: “I do assure you that I am not one of those young ladies...who are too daring as to risk their happiness on the chance of being asked a second time. I am perfectly serious in my refusal. You could not make me happy, and I am convinced that I am the last woman in the world who would make you so...You must give me leave to judge for myself, and pay me the compliment of believing what I say. I wish you very happy and very rich, and by refusing you hand, do all in my power to prevent your being otherwise...I thank you again and again for the honor...My feelings in every respect forbid it...speaking the truth from my heart” (Austen,1995). With the Collin’s refusal, Elizabeth shows a woman who does not want to marry if there is no mutual love and affection. She found Collins’s “behavior unnatural and not particularly appealing” (Taavo, 2008).

Elizabeth shows herself being stubborn in a conversation with Darcy by saying:” There is a stubbornness about me that never can bear to be frightened at the will of others. My courage always rises at every attempt to intimidate me” (Austen, 1995). On the other hand, Darcy’s feelings had changed completely about Elizabeth which made him react without his own will. Not accepting to get married far from Longbourn, Elizabeth received a response from Darcy which expressed an indirect sign that he had fallen in love with Elizabeth. “Mr. Darcy drew his

chair a little towards her, and said, “You cannot have a right to such very strong local attachment. You cannot have been always at Longbourn” (Austen, 1995). Darcy’s behavior towards Elizabeth made people doubt on his feelings, even Charlotte doubted that he felt about Elizabeth by saying to her: “My dear Eliza, he must be in love with you, or he would never have called us in this familiar way” (Austen, 1995). The way how Darcy began to feel for Elizabeth changed him as a person. He began to understand that his pride and stubbornness were not welcomed in her mind, so he changed in order to win her love. He wanted to spend his time with Elizabeth and used all his chance to get closer to her.” ...why Mr. Darcy came so often to the Parsonage, it was more difficult to understand. It could not be for society, as he frequently sat there ten minutes together without opening his lips; and when he did speak, it seemed the effect of necessity rather than of choice- a sacrifice to propriety, not a pleasure to himself...Colonel Fitzwilliam’s occasionally laughing at his stupidity, proved that he was generally different, which her own knowledge of him could not have told her; and as she would liked to have believed this change the effect of love, and the object of that love her friend Eliza...”(Austen,1995).

The time when Elizabeth had began to get closer to Darcy, was followed by a new complication of their relationship. It was the time when Elizabeth had a conversation with Mr. Wickham. It was a conversation which changed completely Elizabeth’s opinion about Darcy. The conversation, in which Wickham had mentioned to Elizabeth that Darcy had tried to take his wealth and that Darcy had persuaded Bingley to leave the place and not marry Jane, was a great shock for Elizabeth. Now, she hated Darcy by all her means and could not imagine the fact that he might be her husband one day. She was very sure that Darcy was the worst person alive and did not want any possible meeting with him. Shut in her room “she could think without

interruption of all that she had heard. It was not to be supposed that any other people could be meant than those with whom she was connected. There could not exist in the world two men over whom Mr. Darcy could have such boundless influence...his pride and caprice were the cause, of all that Jane had suffered, and still continued to suffer. He had ruined for a while every hope of happiness for the most affectionate, generous heart in the world; and no one could say how lasting an evil he might have inflicted” (Austen, 1995). When Charlotte, her friend, told Elizabeth that Darcy had eyes on her, she immediately reacted: “Heaven forbid! That would be the greatest misfortune of all! To find a man agreeable whom one is determined to hate! Do not wish me such an evil!” (Austen, 1995). At the time when Elizabeth’s opinion about Darcy had changed, and the time when she was completely furious with him was the time when Darcy decided to propose Elizabeth by saying: “In vain I have struggled. It will not do. My feelings will not be repressed. You must allow me to tell you how ardently I admire and love you” (Austen, 1995). Being influenced by Wickham’s words and without asking for any explanation, Elizabeth refused Darcy’s proposal. “By trusting entirely her own observations (pride) and her own initial assessments of people (prejudice), Elizabeth threatens her future happiness with Darcy” (Jenkins, Gale Cengage Learning). Moreover, the reason for her refusal was because when Darcy proposed her, he did not “regard her feelings when asking her hand. Instead, he (spoke) of how her social inferiority (had) made him try to suppress his feelings for her, but that he now (was) forced to acknowledge the fact that he (could not) manage to do so” (Taavo, 2008). Darcy’s proposal was not considered as very mature, for the fact, that Darcy did not think about Elizabeth’s feelings, he did not take into account the fact that Elizabeth might not feel the same way. Moreover, he spoke badly for Elizabeth’s family relations, which made her feel “angry and insulted” (Austen, 1995). Elizabeth refused Darcy by judging him and blaming him:

I have every reason in the world to think ill of you. No motive can excuse the unjust and ungenerous part you acted there. You dare not, you cannot deny, that you have been the principal, if not the only means of dividing them from each other- of exposing one to the censure of the world for caprice and instability, and the other to its decision for disappointed hopes, and involving them both in mystery of the acutest kind (Austen,1995).

Their conversation lead to a fight since Elizabeth accused him for everything. Without leaving him to talk, she said:

From the very beginning- from the first moment, I may almost say- of my acquaintance with you, your manners, impressing me with the fullest belief of your arrogance, your conceit, and your selfish disdain of the feelings of others, were such as to form the groundwork of disapprobation on which succeeding events have built so immovable a dislike; and I had not known you a month before I felt that you were the last man in the world whom I would ever be prevailed on to marry (Austen, 1995).

When Elizabeth “flatly (turned) down his marriage proposal and (told) him that it was ungentlemanly, Darcy is startled into realizing just how arrogant and assuming he (had) been” (Kalil, 2011). Since both Darcy and Elizabeth, are considered as proud and prejudiced people, Lambdin and Lambdin give an opinion about their wit by stating that:

Elizabeth’s wit (is) ‘so seductive’ of the novel’s predominating conservatism...Elizabeth’s wit is fore grounded in the novel, but that background ‘patterns of power’, which gradually render her ‘completely helpless’, become

visible in the form of Darcy's judgment; furthermore, 'diametrically opposed reader responses (are) produced by the text 'through the contest of wit and judgment...it is the easily led Bingley who has 'the highest opinion' of Darcy's judgment, that it is Darcy's 'own judgment alone' that determines to detach Bingley from Jane, and that Darcy's judgment in the matter was 'probably' influenced by his desire to ally Bingley with his own family (Lambdin; Lambdin, 2000).

Elizabeth's prejudiced mind left Darcy speechless, but the letter received by Darcy destroyed her completely. Being a reserved man, Darcy left Elizabeth without saying any word, and wrote her only when he felt he was ready for an explanation, as he discovered that Elizabeth was given wrong information by Wickham:

My sister, who is more than ten years my junior, was left to the guard ship of my mother's nephew, Colonel Fitzwilliam, and myself. About a year ago, she was taken from school, and an establishment formed for her in London; and last summer she went with the lady who presided over it, to Ramsgate; and thither also went Mr. Wickham, undoubtedly by design; for their proved to have been a prior acquaintance between himself and Mrs. Young, in whose character we were most unhappily deceived; and by her convenience and aid, he so far recommended himself to Georgiana, whose affectionate heart retained a strong impression of his kindness to her as a child, that she was persuaded to believe herself in love, and to consent to an elopement. She was then but fifteen, which must be her excuse, and after stating her imprudence, I am happy to add, that I owed the knowledge of it to herself (Austen, 1995).

Moreover, Darcy gave a farther explanation regarding Jane's relationship and Wickham's debts. Darcy's explanation made Elizabeth change her opinion, and she accused herself for misjudging other people. As Jenkins states:

Above all, there is her prejudice against Darcy, and though their first encounter was markedly unfortunate, she built on it every dislike it could be made to bear; her eager condemnation of him and her no less eager remorse when she found that she had mistaken, are equally lovable (Gale Cengage Learning).

Elizabeth was sorry for the pain that she had caused to Darcy, and blamed herself by saying:

How despicably I have acted!'I, who have prided myself on my discernment! I, who have valued myself on my abilities! Who have often disdained the generous candor of my sister, and gratified my vanity in useless or blamable mistrust! How humiliating is this discovery! Yes, how just a humiliation! Had I been in love, I could not have been wretchedly blind! But vanity, not love, has been my folly. Pleased with the preference of one, and offended by the neglect of the other, on the very beginning of our acquaintance, I have courted prepossession and ignorance, and driven reason away, where either was concerned. Till this moment I never knew myself' (Austen, 1995).

Now, that Darcy had given explanation and Elizabeth had understood that her prejudice had made things complicated, made Darcy to be held higher in esteem. After all this situation, when Darcy helped Elizabeth's sister Lydia get married to Wickham by bribing him and forcing him to marry Lydia after the elopement in order to help the Bennets restore their honor, Elizabeth saw Darcy in a more positive light and this made her fall in love with him. Being mad of the

situation, Darcy did not want to give himself up. He kept his pride and wanted Elizabeth to understand that she had made a mistake by misjudging him. On the other hand, influenced by the good words of the housekeeper for Darcy, when she said, “I have never known a cross word from him in my life, and I have known him ever since he was four years old...If I were to go through the world, I could not meet with a better (master). But I have always observed, that they who are good- natured when children, are good- natured when they grow up; and he was always the sweetest- tempered, most generous- hearted boy in the world” (Austen, 1995), and by the opinion of her uncle about Darcy when he said, “He is perfectly well behaved, polite, and unassuming...I was never more surprised than by his behavior to us. It was more than civil; it was really attentive; and there was no necessity for such attention...” (Austen, 1995), made Elizabeth fall deeply in love with Darcy. Mrs. Gardiner, with whom Elizabeth was so closely related, gave a positive opinion for Darcy, based on what she had seen and the way she had known Darcy, by saying: “...if I take this opportunity of saying (what I was never bold enough to say before) how much I like him. His behavior to us has, in every respect, been as pleasing as when we were in Derbyshire. His understanding and opinions all please me; he wants nothing but a little more liveliness, and that, if he marries prudently, his wife may teach him” (Austen, 1995).

Now, that Elizabeth had had a fight with Darcy, and that Darcy had explained everything to her about what had happened, both of them had changed. The love for each other had made them different people. “He who, she had been persuaded, would avoid her as his greatest enemy, seemed, on this accidental meeting, most eager to preserve the acquaintance and without any indelicate display of regard, or any peculiarity of manner, where their two selves only were concerned, was soliciting the good opinion of her friends, and bent on making her known to his

sister. Such a change in a man of so much pride exciting not only astonishment but gratitude- for to love, ardent love, it must be attributed; and as such its impression on her was of a sort to be encouraged, as by no means unpleasing, though it could not be exactly defined. She respected, she esteemed, she was grateful to him, she felt a real interest in his welfare; and she only wanted to know how far she wished that welfare to depend upon herself, and how far it would be for the happiness of both that she should employ the power, which her fancy told her she still possessed, of bringing on her the renewal of his addresses” (Austen, 1995). Elizabeth underwent a change and Spacks reads her ‘development as a ‘paradigm of adolescent potential fulfilled’. Elizabeth discovers ‘the positive advantages of maturity over childishness; even in a society whose rigidities offer protection to the continued immaturity characteristic of most of its members” (Spacks, 1975). Darcy, who was once affected only by women of higher classes and who had never talked against ladies belonging to high social classes, now had changed, too. This was seen in a conversation with Miss Bingley, who being jealous of Elizabeth, tried to say the worst for her, but the reaction she received from Darcy was unexpected. Darcy openly expressed the love and affection for Elizabeth by stating to Miss Bingley: “...it is many months since I have considered her as one of the handsomest women of my acquaintance” (Austen, 1995). On the other hand, Elizabeth “began to comprehend that (Darcy) was exactly the man, who, in disposition and talents, would most suit her. His understanding and temper... would have answered all her wishes. It was an union that must have been to the advantage of both; by her ease and liveliness, his mind might have been softened, his manners improved; and from his judgment, information, and knowledge of the world, she must have received benefit of greater importance” (Austen, 1995). The contradictions received by Miss de Bourgh and her aim to persuade Elizabeth not to marry Darcy, made Elizabeth even more stubborn and made her not to

give up the love for Darcy. When trying to persuade Elizabeth not to marry Darcy, Miss de Bourgh hoped to achieve her own aim, but facing a person like Elizabeth did not seem to function. After every attempt and Lady Catherine's offensive words towards Elizabeth and her family, Elizabeth left her speechless by saying: "I am only resolved to act in that manner, which will, in my own opinion, constitute my happiness, without reference to you, or to any person so wholly unconnected with me" (Austen,1995). With this Elizabeth let Lady Catherine know that what matters for Elizabeth is her own happiness, and if the marriage with Darcy made her happy she would not refuse it.

The second proposal of Darcy could not end up differently but with the acceptance of Elizabeth. "The happiness which this reply produced was such as he had probably never felt before; and he expressed himself on the occasion as sensibly and as warmly as a man violently in love can be supposed to do. Had Elizabeth been able to encounter his eye, she might have seen how well the expression of heartfelt delight, diffused over his face, became him; but, though she could not look, she could listen, and he told her of feelings, which, in proving of what importance she was to him, made his affection every moment more valuable" (Austen,1995). After all these events, Darcy was "willing to marry into a family with three silly daughters, an embarrassing mother, and Wickham as a brother-in-law...he (became) more easygoing about other people's faults because he (was) now aware of his own" (Kalil, 2011). Moreover, Bailey adds:

Mr. Darcy is the biggest fish that swims in any of Jane Austen's waters and, silly or not, we are enchanted that he should fall into the basket of our dear Elizabeth, the most delightful of all Jane Austen's young women!...Darcy stands out among the men of all the novels as the one most difficult to win and most worth winning. Beside him all the others have simple, obvious, merely amiable characters; they

are good fellows, likely to make good husbands, but nothing more. Darcy took some conquering...victory of love and pride...Darcy seems to be the very last man in the entire world who could accept the position of Mrs. Bennet's son-in-law. Yet, he does accept it, proposes to Elizabeth actually from his proud aunt's house... (1931).

On the other hand, Elizabeth knew that she loved Darcy, and she was sure about her feelings. She had fallen in love with him because she knew that love had changed both of them, she believed in the power of their feelings and that feelings made them different people. Her love had deepened, and Elizabeth had "become a more understanding, generous, and emotionally stable person. Darcy (had) reached outside his world to offer help and assistance, and (had) been rewarded for it" (Dobosiova, 2006). Since Elizabeth was her father's favorite child, she had closer relationships with him. They both "demonstrate the classic middle-class technique...of making oneself look classier than the rest of the middle class. Mr. Bennet does so by making witty remarks at the expense of his wife and younger daughters, Elizabeth by having the wit to stylize the vulgarity' of her mother and sisters and thereby captivate Darcy and marry up" (Lambdin; Lambdin, 2000). When her father advised her to think good before making her final decision to accept Darcy's proposal, she replied to her father: "I do, I do like him...'I love him. Indeed he has no improper pride. He is perfectly amiable" (Austen, 1995). "Elizabeth, still more affected, was earnest and solemn in her reply; and at length, by repeated assurances that Mr. Darcy was really the object of her choice, by explaining the gradual change which her estimation of him had undergone, relating her absolute certainty that his affection was not the work of a day, but had stood the test of many months suspense, and enumerating with energy all his good

qualities, she did conquer her father's incredulity, and reconcile him to the match" (Austen, 1995).

Through Elizabeth, Austen characterizes a self-confident girl and a girl facing different circumstances to achieve her goals. Based on Elizabeth's character, as natural and stubborn, Austen represents the adequate girl, who is willing to acquire her accomplishments. Through Elizabeth, Austen represents a woman, not typical for her period. She is represented as a person, who does not make choices based on security but based on love and affection. She has the courage to refuse her mother's pressure to marry for money and not for love. Focusing on the unhappy marriage of her parents and on the happy marriage of her uncle's marriage, Elizabeth judged marriage differently. "For Austen's readers, Elizabeth represents an ideal view of the world..." (Kalil, 2011). What Darcy learns through all the events in the novel is that "many of one's choices are in fact prejudices and that even love is a kind of prejudice that can pre-empt one's rational choice, so that one finds oneself proposing to a girl despite her family. Similarly, (Elizabeth) herself learns that she can love and want to marry a man despite the initial response she provoked in him and enjoyed provoking and despite the fact that even at the end of the novel he has not yet learned 'to be laughed at'" (Barefoot, 1982). Through Elizabeth, Austen reflects the "generally advocated comportment of her own time" (Taavo, 2008).

Jenkins states:

Elizabeth is the soul of *Pride and Prejudice*, who reveals in her own person the very little qualities that she spots so easily in her sisters and their suitors...She is quick to recognize most people's principal characteristics...Glorious as she is,

and beloved of her creator, she is kept thoroughly in her place (Gale Cengage Learning).

Elizabeth's liveliness is one of the qualities that wins Darcy to her. She is capable of both complex ideas and impressions, and has a stubborn inflexibility of pre-ordained conclusions...She is a heroine who possesses high moral standards, has strong convictions, and an engrained intuition...What wins Darcy over to her is her basic sincerity, her honesty in approaching reality, and her ability to speak her mind (Blanchard, 2015).

In her novel, Austen describes the relationship of Darcy and Elizabeth as more difficult relationship. She describes it as a "complex affair: both parties are sharp, critical, strong-minded, and given to firm stands upon initial grounds that need modification...they have to work through a barrier- ground of unfavorable judgments, misunderstandings, and self-justifications" (Halperin, 1975). "...the relationship between Elizabeth and Darcy is a love based on intelligence and a spirited nature" (Smith, 2014). Through the marriage of Darcy and Elizabeth, Austen conveys a message that love prevails everything; it even changes people and makes them understand and learn from their own mistakes. Love is the one which makes people feel happier in their relationship. Austen presents a relationship not typical for the couples of the eighteenth century, with the intention to show to the world that relationships based on love are strong enough to make people better ones and change them for good. Austen gives emphasis to the feelings, without leaving out the interest for money. In most of her perfect relationships we see that couples fall in love but they are rich and possess all the wealth needed to secure a better

future. This shows that Austen had the idea of a perfect couple by having love and wealth together.

During the period of the eighteenth century, most of the men had a fixed idea, to be gentlemen and to consider themselves superior to girls and other lower economical classes. In this period being a gentleman meant more than just being a rich person. As soon as someone became rich, it was important for a person to be considered as gentleman by possessing features which people could not buy, such as being wise, being generous and being loyal. As Darcy possessed high propriety, he had the idea of showing pride fixed in his mind. At the beginning of the novel we see that kind of Darcy who possessed only money but not that kind of character of being loyal and generous. He considered the society of Meryton as being very vulgar with whom he could not stand up with. On the other hand, Darcy's behavior towards his family and his tenants was different. He showed another part of him which was not that rude and a good side of his gentleman behavior. Austen describes Darcy as being too concerned about his family, taking care about his sister and behaving politely towards his tenants. Through this situation Austen showed that Darcy possessed a gentlemanlike behavior, but he had not shown it in front of other people. In public Darcy is described as being too much proud, not wishing to talk to other people of lower social classes and not wishing to get into discussion with every girl that came along. This was exactly that part of Darcy that Elizabeth did not like and achieved to change in him. After Elizabeth's first refusal, she made him understand that his behavior was not exactly that of a gentleman, and all this made her refuse him. Not taking into account Elizabeth's feelings, Darcy's direct proposal made Elizabeth refuse him. Elizabeth's direct way of referring people, made Darcy understand that he had not behaved like a gentleman. Through this situation Austen showed that men of the eighteenth century felt very proud of themselves, believing that there

proposal towards a girl would never turn down. Moreover, Austen showed that Elizabeth's refusal was exactly the right thing every girl should have done if that proposal was not based on mutual love and affection.

Elizabeth's refusal and her direct explanation to her refusal was a shock for Darcy, and this really mattered to him because he gave a very long explanation by writing her long letters, trying to show that he is not such a bad man as Elizabeth thought. When Elizabeth explains her reasons for her refusal, emphasizing that he was not a gentleman, Darcy remains silent, admitting that he had not behaved the way he should. Moreover, he admits that his parents had taught him to be an open-minded person and social, which he understood that had not shown enough of his socialism in front of the public. Darcy manages "to see the 'beautiful' behind the 'tolerable' but when Elizabeth looks at him 'archly, and turned away' he (was) not 'injured' but (started) 'thinking of her with some complacency'. He (learned) to contrast the life of 'eat, drink, and play cards' to that of 'talking, dancing, visiting and reading'"(Ashfaq, 91). All the Elizabeth's critics make Darcy understand his mistakes and change his way of thinking and judging other people. Darcy learned that he should always behave as a real gentleman, not just when he likes or with whom he wants. "Darcy (had) to surpass all class differences, relax the hard and fast observance of manners if he (was) to open his heart before Elizabeth. It (was) the discourse of emotions that she (understood) well. Only then he (could) achieve domestic felicity" (Ashfaq, p.89). Darcy "(was) forced to argue with himself whether he (was) 'all politeness' or (needed) to behave 'in a more gentlemanlike manner'. Darcy's views go through a gradual transformation about the same person in question. It begins from 'tolerable' to a 'pretty woman' and time comes when he sees her as 'one of the handsomest woman' of his 'acquaintance'. All these reactions reflect the views of different social standards that go through a change with interaction" (Ashfaq, p.91)

On the other hand, Elizabeth, who most of the times let her opinions be superior to her judgments, became more mature and developed a higher understanding towards herself and other people. “Elizabeth (managed) to free herself from the snares of the hard and fast rules of propriety and decorum that chained female freedom and (followed) her ideas. She (had) to rid herself of ‘undeveloped domestic ideology’ to attain her recognition as an individual...Interestingly one cannot fail to realize that both Elizabeth and Darcy (had) a justified pride in themselves to some extent. Their egos match: both must make each other realize their weakness: they educate each other” (Ashfaq, 88). Austen described Elizabeth as being very intelligent, but she made very quick prejudices in understanding other people. The situation when she made very quick judgments about Darcy, considering him as the worst person alive only because she thought that he had made fun of her, and the situation when she was too quick to believe Wickham’s words without having any concrete proof, describe Elizabeth as being a person who prejudiced very quickly. Only after Darcy’s long explanation, Elizabeth learned that she had to see beyond her prejudices. She understood that her wrong judgments about Darcy and Wickham had mislead her in understanding Darcy’s and Wickham’s true nature and character. The other thing that Austen defines about Elizabeth is her direct way of referring other people without any hesitation. Through the novel Elizabeth learned that she had to be more mature and not pass the limit of the ways of referring other people. Elizabeth learned that not all rich people had the character of Lady Catherine. By the end of the novel, Elizabeth is seen as a more mature woman, who admits that her behavior was not exactly the way it should have been. Elizabeth learns to be more self-aware and more mature in understanding things around her world, and develops more as an individual. Elizabeth became “matured, chastened, cultivated, to whom fidelity (had) brought only greater depth and sweetness instead of bitterness and pain”

(Ashfaq, p.89). Through Elizabeth, Austen shows that being too much self- confident and opposing to other's opinions without analyzing things better can lead to many misunderstandings which might make people repent in the future. "The marriage of Darcy and Elizabeth is a union of two points of view about life as reflected in the places they live. They carry in their personalities peculiar tints of their environment" (Waldron, 1999).

2.2. MARRIED IN *PRIDE AND PREJUDICE*

Two of the main couples that Jane Austen represents in her novel *Pride and Prejudice* and that are examples of completely different lifestyles and relationships, are the marriages of Mr. and Mrs. Bennet, and Mr. and Mrs. Gardiner.

2.2.1. *Mr. and Mrs. Bennet*

The relationship of Mr. and Mrs. Bennet is described as an unhappy marriage. Based on Mrs. Bennet, Austen says about her: "she was a woman of mean understanding, little information, and uncertain temper" (Austen, 1995). "Silly, emotional, and irrational, Mrs. Bennet's behavior does more to harm her daughters' chances at finding husbands than it does help" (Kalil, 2011).

In the novel, Mrs. Bennet is seen as a vulgar person, whose main aim was to have her daughters married. From the very opening of the novel, we see Mrs. Bennet being interested in Bingley when he arrives at Longbourn. When she understood of his coming, she said to her husband:

Oh! Single, my dear, to be sure! A single man of large fortune; four or five thousand a year. What a fine thing for our girls! (Austen, 1995).

Moreover, she adds that:

If (she could) but see one of (her) daughters happily settled... and all of the others equally well married, (she should) have nothing to wish for (Austen, 1995).

Mrs. Bennet was a gossip and an uneducated woman, who was unwilling to understand her husband's irony, and who was willing to sacrifice her daughters' health only for the sake of their marriage. When Jane wanted to go and visit Bingley, Jane was obliged by her mother to go without carriage, so she could get wet from the rain. Mrs. Bennet's aim was for Jane to get sick and stay at Bingley's house longer. Moreover, when Jane got sick from the rain, "Mrs. Bennet would have been very miserable, but being satisfied on seeing her that her illness was not alarming, she had no wish of her recovering immediately, as her restoration to health would probably remove her from Netherfield" (Austen, 1995). To achieve her aim, Mrs. Bennet made differences in loving her daughters. When she talked to Bingley, she said to him for Jane:

I am sure...if it was not for such good friends I do not know what would become of her, for she is very ill indeed, and suffers a vast deal, though with the greatest patience in the world, which is always the way with her, for she has, without exception, the sweetest temper I have ever met with. I often tell my other girls they are nothing to her (Austen, 1995).

Mrs. Bennet's selfishness and her wish to get her daughters married was seen when her daughters returned from Bingley's house. "They were not welcomed home very cordially by their mother. Mrs. Bennet wondered at their coming, and thought them very wrong to give so

much trouble, and was sure Jane would have caught cold again” (Austen, 1995). In the situation when Elizabeth refused Collins’ proposal, Mrs. Bennet was very surprised and wanted by any means to persuade Elizabeth to marry him, by saying that she “(would) never see her again. An unhappy alternative (was) before (her). From this day (she) must be a stranger to one of (her) parents. (her) mother (would) never see (her) again if (she did) not marry Mr. Collins, and she (would) never see (her) again if she did” (Austen, 1995).

Mrs. Bennet continued to persuade Elizabeth to marry Mr. Collins by saying:

But I tell you, Miss Lizzy- if you take it into your head to go on refusing every offer of marriage in this way, you will never get a husband at all- and I am sure I do not know who is to maintain you when your father is dead. I shall not be able to keep you- and so I warn you. I have done with you from this very day. I told you in the library, you know, that I should never speak to you again, and you will find me as good as my word (Austen, 1995).

Mrs. Bennet was an envious person and hated everyone that got married before her daughters. When Charlotte accepted her proposal for marriage with Collins, Mrs. Bennet’s attitude changed completely. “Mrs. Bennet was really in a most pitiable state. The very mention of anything concerning the match threw her into an agony of ill- humor, and wherever she went she was sure of hearing it talked of. The sight of Miss Lucas was odious to her. As her successor in that house, she regarded her with jealous abhorrence. Whenever Charlotte came to see them, she concluded her to be anticipating the hour of possession; and whenever she spoke in a low voice to Mr. Collins, was convinced that they were talking of the Longbourn estate...” (Austen, 1995). Since the only aim of Mrs. Bennet was to see her daughters married, she wanted them to enjoy

every given chance to visit another place or to dance in a ball. When Lydia wanted to go at her uncle's house, Mrs. Bennet "was diffuse in her good wishes for the felicity of her daughter, and impressive in her injunctions that she should not miss the opportunity of enjoying herself as much as possible- advice which there was every reason to believe would be well attended to..."(Austen, 1995). Mrs. Bennet repented for her allowance only after Lydia eloped with Wickham, but again after Lydia's elopement, her only hope was for them to get married. While everyone in the house was shocked for Lydia's elopement, Mrs. Bennet thought for the clothes she would send Lydia for her marriage. When Mrs. Bennet's brother went to meet Lydia, Mrs. Bennet said to him:

Oh! My dear brother...that is exactly what I could most wish for. And now do, when you get to town, find them out, wherever they may be; and if they are not married already, make them marry. And as for wedding clothes, do not let them wait for that, but tell Lydia she shall have as much money as she chooses to buy them, after they are married (Austen, 1995).

Mrs. Bennet could not express her happiness after the forced marriage of Wickham and Lydia. She could "hardly contain herself. As soon as Jane had read Mr. Gardiner's hope of Lydia's being soon married, her joy burst forth, and every following sentence added to its exuberance" (Austen, 1995). Moreover, when Darcy proposed to Elizabeth for the second time, and when Elizabeth accepted his proposal, Mrs. Bennet's reaction was:

Good gracious! Lord bless me! Only think! Mr. Darcy! Who would have thought it! And is it really true? Oh! My sweetest Lizzy! How rich and how great you will be! What pin- money, what jewels, what carriages you will have! Jane's is

nothing to it- nothing at all. I am so pleased- so happy. Such a charming man! - so handsome! So tall!- oh, my dear Lizzy! Pray apologize for my having disliked him so much before. I hope he will overlook it. Dear, dear Lizzy. A house in town! Everything that is charming! Three daughters married! Ten thousand a year! Oh, Lord! What will become of me? I shall go distracted (Austen, 1995).

On the other hand, Mr. Bennet is described as the head of the family, but he held a position which was abused. Based on the traditional customs, he was asked for things at home and Mrs. Bennet was the manager. Their duties were done separately, and Mr. Bennet spent most of his time reading rather than staying and talking to his wife. Mr. Bennet did not seem happy with his marriage, and this was expressed when he said to his daughter Elizabeth: “My child, let me not have the grief of seeing you unable to respect our partner in life” (Austen, 1995). Mrs. Bennet saw marriage as something not based on love, and her only concern was to get her daughters married, without taking into account feelings and love. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Bennet is described as “tedious and lifeless” (Taavo, 2008). Mr. Bennet “captivated by youth and beauty, and that appearance of good humor which youth and beauty generally give, had married a woman whose weak understanding and illiberal mind had very early in their marriage put an end to all real affection for her. Respect, esteem, and confidence had vanished for ever; and all his views of domestic happiness were overthrown...Mr. Bennet...was fond of the country and of books; and from these tastes had arisen his principal enjoyments. To his wife he was very little otherwise indebted, than man would in general wish to owe to his wife; but where other powers of entertainment are wanting, the true philosopher will derive benefit from such as are given” (Austen, 1995). Having become “lazy and cynical, disappointed in his marriage” (Deidre Le

Faye, 2002), Mr. Bennet's opinion about marriage had changed, and he chose not to advise his daughters to marry for money. When Elizabeth wanted to marry Darcy, Mr. Bennet said to her:

He is rich, to be sure, and you may have more fine clothes and fine carriages...But will they make you happy? (Austen, 1995).

Mr. Bennet could not find peace with the way his wife looked after her children and this made him ignore his family. "His disappointment in his wife's illiberal mind drove him apart from his family and thus love and affection were not present in their marriage" (Chalupova, 2012). "Mr. Bennet knew that he was not a good parent, but he did not care enough to try to change" (Odeh, 2011). When Elizabeth warned him not to leave Lydia go to her uncle's house, based on her naïve character, he did not react but confirmed her visit. Only when Lydia eloped, he repented for not having taken good care for her. He felt so shocked. "He could not speak a word for full ten minutes" (Austen, 1995). "Mr. Bennet treats his wife with contempt and Mrs. Bennet seems so consumed with marrying off her daughters that she has little time for anything else- including fostering a healthy marriage" (Hathaway, p.23).

Mr. Bennet was so fed up of his wife, so, most of the times he undervalued her and talked to her with cruel words:

"...you have no compassion on my poor nerves"

"You mistake me, my dear. I have a high respect for your nerves. They are my old friends. I have heard you mention them with consideration these twenty years at least" (Austen, 1995).

“Mrs. Bennet’s disillusion had been parallel with his- as he discovered her beauty insufficient compensation for her weak mind, she had found the entail on his estate likely to cancel out the estate itself” (Hathaway, p.27).

Mr. and Mrs. Bennet’s marriage is a marriage based on tolerance and respect but not on love and affection, which are the roots for an appropriate marriage. Their marriage represents a marriage typical for the eighteenth century. Although, their marriage might not seem successful, it was considered successful for that period because it was based on money rather than love. Austen describes Mr. and Mrs. Bennet not as a close couple. “Mr. Bennet delights in teasing Mrs. Bennet, who rises to the blot even after twenty-three years of marriage...this relationship illustrates the consequences of an unequal marriage. Mr. Bennet, an intelligent man, has married a stupid, vulgar woman whom he does not respect, and they cannot be happy together” (Marzec, 2014). Through the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Bennet, Austen shows a marriage in which the couple is unable to communicate or show sensitivity towards each other. “The unfortunate union has stunted the personal development of both Mr. and Mrs. Bennet, and it also has broader ramifications” (Gregory, 2011). The unequal marriage resulted on Mr. Bennet being in a total isolation, and Mrs. Bennet as “a completely disorganized woman. They are, in fact, diametrically opposed in their natural dispositions. Mr. Bennet is sharp and witty, whereas Mrs. Bennet is vulgar and indiscreet. Together they constitute a very ill- matched couple due to the lack of emotional compatibility and intellectual understanding between them” (Austen, 1995). Austen describes both Mr. and Mrs. Bennet as married to wrong partners. Their relationship lasted only for the sake of the tradition during the period of the eighteenth century, when divorce was a big issue to be discussed and difficult to be mentioned. Mr. Bennet did not do anything to advise his wife and improve her mistakes, educate her or teach her to become less vulgar. Instead, he

laughed at her stupidity, making her a woman of fun in front of other people. Mr. Bennet is seen as a disappointed person in his marriage. Since Mrs. Bennet was beautiful as a young girl, Mr. Bennet did not analyze her ignorance and stupidity, and suffered the consequences afterwards. Even after more than twenty years of marriage, they both felt the lack of each other's companion. Most of their time was spent separately, one preoccupied with finding husbands for her daughters and the other spending time in the library. While Mr. and Mrs. Bennet "were originally married based on society expectations, the couple (continued) to live miserably because they (were) both unable to understand the personality of the other... The unsuccessful foundational marriage of the Bennet family (had) a major effect on the lives of the Bennet daughters" (Berry, 2014).

The independence of Mr. and Mrs. Bennet, their lack of each other's companionship and the absence of each other's desire to be close to each other, are the issues which make this marriage unhappy. Austen uses the irony to show that these marriages are very formal and do not possess feelings towards each others. The lack of the desire to spend the time with your lifetime partner and the lack of the willingness to show to the world and yourself that your partner is someone who should be respected are all things which show that these kinds of marriages would not be followed because they destroy the partner and the family. In contrast to this example of an unhappy marriage, Austen gives another example of a happy marriage to show to the world that this kind of marriage makes life better and is focused on respect, love and understanding. Austen takes the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Gardiner to show that their marriage is an example of a happy marriage, which will be discussed in the following paragraph.

2.2.2. Mr. and Mrs. Gardiner

Mr. and Mrs. Gardiner's marriage reflects a different type of marriage compared to Mr. and Mrs. Bennet's marriage, for the fact that it was based on love, affection and respect. In contrast to Mrs. Bennet, her brother Mr. Gardiner was a "sensible, gentlemanlike man, greatly superior to his sister, as well by nature as education" (Austen, 1995). On the other hand, Mr. Gardiner was married to a woman who was "both estimable and a great favorite of her nieces" (Thaler, 2009). Mrs. Gardiner is described as an "amiable, intelligent, elegant woman" (Austen, 1995). Compared to Mrs. Bennet and her sister Mrs. Philips, who always tried to persuade Bennets' sisters to marry someone rich, Mrs. Gardiner, based on her happy marriage full of love and affection, advised "Elizabeth on the imprudence of a relationship with Wickham" (Austen, 1995). She did not like getting involved in gossiping and never advised her nieces to find a husband without love and affection. Elizabeth, who had closer relationships with Mrs. Gardiner, found her to be very understanding and talked freely without hesitation. The time when Elizabeth went with Gardiners in Derbyshire, she was so happy because she knew that she would find enjoyment, "suitableness as companions, a suitableness which comprehended health and temper to bear inconveniences- cheerfulness to enhance pleasure- and affection and intelligence, which might supply it among themselves if there were disappointments abroad" (Austen, 1995). "Mr. Gardiner fought his way up in society through his work and his marriage to a sensible and intelligent woman. And his efforts serve to suggest that he strives to become not only a gentleman- tradesman, but also a gentleman" (Thaler, 2009). Through Mr. and Mrs. Gardiner, Austen tries to show a model for a happy marriage and a helper for younger generation. Even Mrs. Bennet understood his superior abilities, and she relied on him in every difficult situation. Whenever he helped Bennet's family, she said to him:

Oh brother, how kind you are! I know you will contrive it all (Austen, 1995).

The Gardiner's marriage is an example of a marriage based on love and influenced those who really relied on their marriage. Relying on Gardiner's marriage and considering their marriage appropriate, Elizabeth followed their example by marrying for love. Mrs. Gardiner always gave her nieces good advice and Mr. Gardiner gave money on their account, and together they presented to their nieces an example of a happy marriage.

Through Mr. and Mrs. Gardiner's marriage, Austen reflects a happy marriage and conveys a message that the younger generation should marry for love and choose a partner based on mutual affection. In contrast to Mr. and Mrs. Bennet's marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Gardiner's marriage represents the harmony that people can achieve through a mutual respect. "Mr. Gardiner is responsible, intelligent, rational and magnanimous. Mrs. Gardiner is...elegant, principled, discreet and intuitive" (Pearson South Africa, 2009). In contrast to Mrs. Bennet, Mrs. Gardiner "never rudely undermines her husband's authority. They have rational conversations, and value each other's opinion in different situations" (Berry, 2014). In a discussion about Mr. Darcy, they both came to an agreement that Darcy was not that proud person that people talked about. They both agreed to help Lydia after her elopement, and knew how to analyze things by talking to each other and coming to the best idea and solution of a problem. Austen describes Mr. and Mrs. Gardiner as being a successful couple, "working well together and growing in their love for each other" (Berry, 2014). Through the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Gardiner, Austen shows that having a common language, sharing ideas and opinions and coming to the best idea to solve a problem makes a marriage more successful, and happier which influences greatly our successors and the relationship within the family.

In her novel Austen conveys the message that mutual respect is the key to a happy marriage. Marriages based on romance, as was the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Bennet and also the marriage of Lydia and Wickham, are considered marriages based on temporary passion. These kinds of marriages turned out to be unhappy because they were not based on a true love, and none of the partners really knew each other's values before getting married. Austen gives the message that everyone should get married with open eyes, and should be prepared to deal with all the obstacles that life can bring in every situation. Moreover, she conveys the message that people living in that period would have to learn how to deal not only with the partner in life but also with the people surrounding their world. Through these different couples that Austen depicts, she considers more functional and happy the couples that possess both love and wealth. For Austen, these couples are complete because they have respect and love towards each other but they also have the weapon that secures their future, money.

3. PART II

3.1. MARRIED AND UNMARRIED IN *EMMA*

3.1.1. UNMARRIED IN *EMMA*

Emma is another novel written by Jane Austen, where the main character of the story is the rich, unmarried woman Emma. Emma lived in Highbury with her father Mr. Woodhouse and her governess Miss Taylor until Miss Taylor got married. As in most of other novels, in *Emma*, Austen focuses and explores the lives of women during the period of the eighteenth century, especially marriage, which was the main issue of women during that period. “In *Emma* the author places the different characters in a contained setting, where the protagonist struggles with her emotions, morality and fate” (Paris, 1978). In the novel Austen involves different characters, including characters that belonged to upper classes and lower classes and their struggle to achieve where they wanted. The fact that Emma had all the wealth that every woman wished for, she believed that she did not need to marry. The story flowed in a way that Emma understood her mistakes and changed her opinion about marriage by marrying Mr. Knightley. On the other hand, other couples were involved in difficult situations, struggled to find the appropriate partner and achieve to marry either for love, affection or money. Since the main aim of this study is to analyze the situations and the relationships of the unmarried characters who ended up married by the end of the novel, and also the relationships of the already married couples of the novel, the main analysis will be based on Emma Woodhouse and her relationship with Mr. George Knightley, Jane Fairfax and her relationship with Frank Churchill, Harriet Smith and her relationship with Robert Martin, Augusta Hawkins and her relationship with Philip Elton, and also the relationships of the already married couples Anne Taylor Weston and Mr. Weston, and the relationship of Isabella Woodhouse and John Knightley.

3.1.2. Jane Fairfax and Frank Churchill

In the novel Austen represents Jane Fairfax as a young, twenty- one year old girl, whose parents died when she was just a small child. “Jane Fairfax was an orphan, the only child of Mrs. Bates’s youngest daughter. By birth she belonged to Highbury: and when at three years old, on losing her mother, she became the property, the charge, the consolation, the fondling of her grandmother and aunt, there had seemed every probability of her being fixed there; of her being taught only what very limited means could command, and growing up with no advantages of connexion or improvement, to be engrafted on what nature had given her in a pleasing person, good understanding, and warm- hearted, well- meaning relations” (Austen, 2000)

The fact that Jane had no siblings, made her tie her relationships with the Campbells, relatives of her family. Jane “had fallen into good hands, known nothing but kindness from the Campbells, and been given an excellent education. Living constantly with right- minded and well- informed people, her heart and understanding had received every advantage of discipline and culture...Her disposition and abilities were equally worthy of all that friendship could do; and at eighteen or nineteen she was, as far as such an early age can be qualified for the care of children, fully competent to the office of instruction herself; but she was too much beloved to be parted with. Neither father nor mother could promote, and the daughter could not endure it. The evil day was put off. It was easy to decide that she was still too young; and Jane remained with them, sharing, as another daughter, in all the rational pleasures of an elegant society, and a judicious mixture of home and amusement, with only the drawback of the future, the sobering suggestions of her own good understanding to remind her that all this might soon be over” (Austen, 2000). Even though,

Jane went through a difficult childhood, again the Campbells tried to educate her and sent her to musical instrument lessons. Jane could play instruments; even though, in her grandmother's house she did not possess many of them. Jane proved her intelligence in a dinner organized by Emma. She had the chance to play the instrument, and many people realized the excellent way she played it. Even Emma's father liked her intelligence by saying to Mr. Knightley and Emma:

A very pleasant evening," he began, as soon as Mr. Woodhouse had been talked into what was necessary, told that he understood, and the papers swept away;- "particularly pleasant. You and Miss Fairfax gave us some very good music. I do not know a more luxurious state, sir, than sitting at one's ease to be entertained a whole evening by two such young women; sometimes with music and sometimes with conversation. I am sure Miss Fairfax must have found the evening pleasant, Emma. You left nothing undone. I was glad you made her play so much, for having no instrument at her grandmother's; it must have been a real indulgence (Austen, 2000).

Jane's intelligence and beauty were recognized by many people, and Mr. Knightley (who will be discussed later on), praised her very much, "...and Miss Jane Fairfax is a very pretty sort of young lady, a very pretty and a very well- behaved young lady indeed...Jane Fairfax has feeling...I do not accuse her of want of feeling. Her sensibilities, I suspect, are strong- and her temper excellent in its power of forbearance, patience, self- control" (Austen, 2000). Moreover, Mr. Elton had a great opinion for Jane, and he did not hesitate to praise Jane for what she was:

Jane Fairfax is absolutely charming...I quite rave about Jane Fairfax. - A sweet, interesting creature. So mild and ladylike- and with such talents! - I assure you I

think she has very extraordinary talents. I do not scruple to say that she plays extremely well. I know enough of music to speak decidedly on that point. Oh! She is absolutely charming! ...We must bring her forward. Such talent as hers must not be suffered to remain unknown...Oh! I assure you, Jane Fairfax is a very delightful character, and interests me more than I can express (Austen, 2000).

Even though, Jane Fairfax was admired by most of the people around Highbury, and most of them praised her talent and her beauty, the only person who did not like Jane was Emma. From the very first time Emma met Jane, she tried to reject her. When her friend, Harriet asked Emma for the very first time whether she had heard and knew Jane, Emma replied to Harriet by saying:

Oh! Yes; we are always forced to be acquainted whenever she comes to Highbury. By the bye, that is almost enough to put one out of conceit with a niece. Heaven forbid! At least, that I should ever bore people half so much about all the Knightleys together, as she does about Jane Fairfax. One is sick of the very name of Jane Fairfax. Every letter from her is read forty times over; her compliments to all friends go round and round again; and if she does but send her aunt the pattern of a stomacher, or knit a pair of garters for her grandmother, one hears of nothing else for a month. I wish Jane Fairfax very well; but she tires me to death (Austen, 2000).

The reason why Emma did not like Jane was because Jane was a respected girl. Even though, Emma had a very high position in society based on her high economical class, again she had realized that Jane possessed qualities that, unfortunately, Emma did not have. As Mr. Knightley was very direct in expressing his opinions, he openly mentioned to Emma why she did not like

Jane. “Mr. Knightley had once told her it was because she saw in her the really accomplished young woman, which she wanted to be thought herself; and though the accusation had been eagerly refuted at the time, there were moments of self- examination in which her conscience could not quite acquit her. But “she could never get acquainted with her: she did not know how it was, but there was such coldness and reserve- such apparent indifference whether she pleased or not- and then, her aunt was such an eternal talker! - were to be so intimate- because their ages were the same, everybody had supposed they must be so fond of each other.” These were her reasons- she had no better” (Austen, 2000).

Emma’s opinion for Jane changed only when Emma understood who Jane really was, what difficulties Jane had gone through and all her struggles she had had in her whole life. “When she took in her history, indeed, her situation, as well as her beauty; when she considered what all this elegance was destined to, what she was going to sink from, how she was going to live, it seemed impossible to feel anything but compassion and respect...” (Austen, 2000).

Jane’s story touched Emma’s feelings and when Jane was once sick, Emma went to visit her. She felt sorry for her, “she wanted to be of use to her; wanted to show a value for her society, and testify respect and consideration...Her (Jane’s) health seemed for the moment completely deranged- appetite quite gone- and though there were no absolutely alarming symptoms, nothing touching the pulmonary complaint, which was the standing apprehension of the family, Mr. Perry was uneasy about her...Emma listened with the warmest concern; grieved for her more and more, and looked around eager to discover some way of being useful. To take her- be it only an hour or two- from her aunt, to give her change of air and scene, and quiet rational conversation, even for an hour or two, might do her good...”(Austen, 2000).

Based on the fact that Jane was an orphan, her only hope was either to find a job as a governess or to get married, in order to survive. The fact that during the period of the eighteenth century the only job that an educated woman could have was that of a governess did not leave many options to Jane. Even though, Jane knew that being a governess was not an ideal job, again she had to accept it since she did not have other alternative. “The plan was that she should be brought up for educating others; the very few hundred pounds that she inherited from her father making independence impossible” (Austen, 2000). Jane knew that being a governess would help her gain economical stability. As Jane states in a conversation with her aunt: “Governess- trade, I assure you, was all that I had in view; widely different, certainly, as to the guilt of those who carry it on; but as the greater misery of the victims, I do not know where it lies” (Austen, 2000). Dobosiova states: “...as good as she is clever and as clever as she is beautiful. But it is also true that Jane Fairfax is an unprovided woman with no prospects in life beyond those of earning her living as governess at Mrs. Smallridge’s and passing her hardened holidays with Miss. Bates” (Dobosiova, 2006). Otherwise, if Jane did not choose to work as a governess, her only choice was to get married. Even though, Jane did not consider marriage as her main alternative, again she had the idea of getting married in her mind. The time when Jane had given up the idea of finding a husband due to her economical conditions, and accepting the fact that she had to work as a governess, was the time when in town appeared Frank Churchill, with whom Jane got engaged secretly. After the death of Frank Churchill’s mother, Frank “was given up to care and the wealth of the Churchills (the family of Frank’s aunt), and he had only his own comfort to seek, and his own situation to improve as he could” (Austen, 2000). Frank was a person known to be nice and friendly and most of the people liked him, except George Knightley. There were many cases when Mr. Knightley judged Frank for taking wrong actions. The night when Frank’s

father, Mr. Weston, organized a dinner party, and when Frank excused himself for missing the dinner because his aunt was sick, Mr. Knightley judged him by saying:

I am not supposing him at all an unnatural creature, in suspecting that he may have learnt to be above his connexions, and to care very little for anything but his own pleasure, from living with those who have always set him the example of it. It is a great deal more natural than one could wish, that a young man, brought up by those who are proud, luxurious, and selfish, should be proud, luxurious, and selfish too. If Frank Churchill had wanted to see his father, he would have contrived it between September and January. A man at his age- what is he? - Three or four-and-twenty-cannot be without the means of doing as much as that. It is impossible...It is Frank Churchill's duty to pay this attention to his father. He knows it to be so, by his promises and messages; but if he wished to do it, it might be done. A man who felt rightly would say at once, simply and resolutely, to Mrs. Churchill- 'Every sacrifice of mere pleasure you will always find me ready to make to your convenience; but I must go and see my father immediately. I know he would be hurt by my failing in such a mark of respect to him on the present occasion...' (Austen, 2000).

Even though, Mr. Knightley had many doubts regarding the actions and the character of Frank Churchill, again the visits of Frank in the house of his father made him like Mrs. Weston very much and create a very close relationship with her. Regarding this issue, he was so lovely with her and considered her to be a great person. When Frank came to Hinton for the first time, Mrs. Weston was so excited to meet Frank. "The Frank Churchill so long talked of, so high in interest, was actually before her- he was presented to her, and she did not think too much had been said in

her praise; he was a very good looking young man; height, air, address, all were unexceptionable, and his countenance had a great deal of the spirit and liveliness of his father's; he looked quick and sensible. She felt immediately that she should like him; and there was a well-bred ease of manner, and a readiness to talk, which convinced her that he came intending to be acquainted with her, and that acquainted they soon must be" (Austen, 2000).

After some days spent together with Mrs. Weston, "Mrs. Weston was very ready to say how attentive and pleasant a companion he made himself- how much she saw to like in his disposition altogether. He appeared to have a very open temper- certainly a very cheerful and lively one; she could observe nothing wrong in his notions, a great deal decidedly right; he spoke of his uncle with warm regard, was fond of talking to him- said he would be the best man in the world if he were left to himself; and though there was no being attached to the aunt, he acknowledged her kindness with gratitude, and seemed to mean always to speak of her with respect"(Austen, 2000).

Based on the already mentioned character of Frank and the other features which will be mentioned afterwards, Kaye- Smith describes Frank to be "a sympathetic study of a charming playboy, spoilt, as much by the repressions of his upbringing as by its indulgences" (Kaye-Smith, 1945).

Even though, Frank visited Highbury for the very first time, again people knew him very well. The fact that people in that place had talked a lot and had mentioned Frank constantly, made them know him even without seeing him. "Mr. Frank Churchill was on the boasts of Highbury, and a lively curiosity to see him prevailed, though the compliment was so little returned that he had never been there in his life" (Austen, 2000). By this Austen is trying to emphasize the fact that during the period of the eighteenth century gossiping was very common and people knew

each other very well without necessarily having to give information directly. Gossiping is seen in many situations in the novel. The case when Mr. Weston (Frank's father) talks to Emma about Frank, gives us a very clear reflection on the features that Frank possesses:

"...you must not be expecting such a very fine young man; you have only had my account you know; I dare say he is really nothing extraordinary; - though his own sparkling eyes at the moment were speaking a very difficult conviction" (Austen, 2000).

The time when Frank came to Highbury, things changed drastically. Emma (who will be discussed later on) liked Frank very much and thought of him to be a perfect match for her. "He perfectly agreed with her, and after walking together so long, and thinking so much alike, Emma felt herself so well acquainted with him, that she could hardly believe it to be only their second meeting. He was not exactly what she had expected; less of the man of the world in some of his notions, less of the spoiled child of fortune, therefore better than she had expected. His ideas seemed more moderate- his feelings warmer" (Austen, 2000).

Frank's frequent visits at the Westons made Emma meet Frank very often and fall in love with him. Based on the fact that Emma liked Frank, she thought that Frank would be the adequate person for her. The truth was that Emma did not know Frank too much, only from what she had heard from the Westons and from those meetings she had had the chance to see him and talk to him. "Now it happened that, in spite of Emma's resolution of never marrying, there was something in the name, in the idea, of Mr. Frank Churchill, which always interested her. She had frequently thought- especially since his father's marriage with Miss Taylor- that if she were to marry, he was the very person to suit her age, character and condition. He seemed by this condition between the families, quite belong to her" (Austen, 2000).

The truth behind this entire scene was that Frank kept a secret, which Frank did not want to be revealed by any means. Frank inherited a great fortune from his aunt, which fortune gave to Frank a pride; meantime, a great limitation to his own wishes and feelings. Being aware of the fact that Frank had inherited a great fortune, he wanted to let other people know about the fortune he possessed. His gestures were actions which many people found interesting but Mr. Knightley, who found his actions very doubtful. The time when Frank went to get a haircut in the city, and when he travelled a long way, gave the impression that Frank had very high self-esteem. “He came back, had his hair cut, and laughed at himself with a very good grace, but without seeming really at all ashamed of what he had done. He had no reason to wish his hair longer, to conceal any confusion of face; no reason to wish the money unspent, to improve his spirits. He was quite as undaunted and as lively as ever ...” (Austen, 2000).

Austen describes the relationship of Jane and Frank as a very complex relationship. In fact, their relationship began from the very first beginning of the novel, but it was revealed only by the end of the novel. Jane and Frank met together at the time when Mr. and Mrs. Weston got married, and their mutual affection ended in a secret engagement. Based on the fact that Jane was an orphan and could not inherit anything, her only choice in life was either to work as a governess or to find a husband to marry. She found Frank to be rich and attractive, and she fell in love with him. The fact that Frank’s aunt would not accept Frank to marry a penniless orphan, did not allow Frank to reveal his engagement to Jane. Moreover, Frank’s interests to inherit the Churchill’s property, to maintain harmony in his Escombe world and to secure his fortune, stopped him from revealing his secret engagement. Keeping her engagement secret, made Jane feel so bad. Most of the times, Austen describes Jane as being sick and sad in the novel, which gives us the idea that there was something wrong with Jane. Jane felt “miserable, having to lie

and deceive everyone, being pushed by not knowing ‘the blessing of one tranquil hour’ since her engagement” (Zemankova, 2011).

Maintaining a rich status, Frank used the situation in the way he wanted to. The fact that Emma liked Frank made Frank use this situation and flirt with Emma, believing that in this way his secret would not be revealed. On the other hand, Jane appeared to be very cold and passive with the situation happening in Highbury. “...Jane’s silence (made) her a powerful character who (demurred) society withholding information about herself...” (Waldron, 2001). To avoid the situation of revealing the engagement, Frank behaved irresponsibly in his attentions to Jane by flirting with Emma. Emma, thinking that Frank loved her, got involved in a situation in which both Jane and Emma became Frank’s victims. Gilbert and Gubar define Jane’s story as the story of a “passive and quiet girl, humiliated by her lover” (Gilbert; Gubar, 2000).

The only person who began to suspect about the relationship of Jane and Frank was George Knightley. He began to doubt on the ways how Frank saw Jane, and how they reacted when they were together. “Mr. Knightley began to suspect him of some inclination to trifle with Jane Fairfax. He could not understand it; but there were symptoms of intelligence between them- he thought so at least- symptoms of admiration on his side, which, having once observed, he could not persuade himself to think entirely void of meaning...They were entering the hall. Mr. Knightley’s eyes had preceded Miss Bates’s in a glance at Jane. From Frank Churchill’s face, where he thought he saw confusion suppressed or laughed away, he had involuntarily turned to hers; but she was indeed behind, and too busy with her shawl, Mr. Weston had walked in. The two other gentlemen waited at the door to let her pass. Mr. Knightley suspected in Frank Churchill the determination of catching her eye- he seemed watching her intently- in vain,

however, if it were so- Jane passed between them into the hall, and looked at neither” (Austen, 2000).

The immature behavior that Frank had towards Jane made Jane to feel tormented. The way how Frank flirted with Emma in front of other people made Jane feel very upset. Being in this situation, Jane gave her opinion about marriage, in a conversation with the Elton by stating:

I was only going to observe, that though such unfortunate circumstances do sometimes occur both to men and women, I cannot imagine them to be very frequent. A hasty and imprudent attachment may arise- but there is generally time to recover from it afterwards. I should be understood to mean, that it can be only weak, irresolute characters, (whose happiness must be always at the mercy of chance,) who will suffer an unfortunate acquaintance to be an inconvenience, an oppression forever” (Austin, 2000).

The picnic organized at Box Hill created a big disharmony amongst people. Frank flirting with Emma provoked other people, including Miss Bates and Jane. They began to make fun of Jane and her ways of perceiving marriage. They even provoked Miss Bates for Jane and the appropriate partner that Jane should find. This entire situation raised tensions, and Jane, feeling humiliated and disappointed, wrote to Frank to break up the engagement. “While Jane Fairfax may believe she has secured the highest bidder on the marriage market in Frank Churchill, her hopes are dashed when he flirts with another woman” (Hall, 2007). By this time, Frank left the place to see his aunt, who was sick, without replying to Jane’s letter. Frank’s aunt died and this was the moment when Frank revealed the truth about his engagement. The engagement of Frank and Jane was seen as a great surprise for many people. When Frank and Jane came home to the

Westons, “Mr. Weston appeared at a little distance from the window, evidently on the watch. His wife gave him a look which invited him in; and, while he was coming around, added, ‘Now, dearest Emma, let me entreat you to say and look everything that may set his heart at ease, and incline him to be satisfied with the match. Let us make the best of it- and, indeed, almost everything may be fairly said in her favor. It is not a connexion to gratify; but if Mr. Churchill, does not feel that, why should we? And it may be a very fortunate circumstance for him, for Frank, I mean, that he should have attached himself to a girl of such steadiness of character and good judgment as I have always given her credit for- and still am disposed to give her credit for, in spite of this one great deviation from the strict rule of right....A glance between him and his wife, convinced him that all was as right as this speech proclaimed; and its happy effect on his spirits was immediate. His air and voice recovered their usual briskness: he shook her heartily and gratefully by the hand, and entered on the subject in a manner to prove, that he now only wanted time and persuasion to think the engagement no very bad thing” (Austen, 2000).

After Emma became aware of the very false actions that Frank had taken in order to keep his engagement a secret, she felt sorry for Jane. She mentioned this to Mr. Knightley by saying:

He will soon be gone. They will soon be in Yorkshire. I am sorry for her. She deserves a better fate (Austen, 2000).

Whereas, Mr. Knightley, who had never had a good opinion for Frank, said:

He is a disgrace to the name of man.- And is he to be rewarded with that sweet young woman?- Jane, Jane, you will be a miserable creature...He is a most fortunate man!...So early in life- at three- and – twenty-a period when, if a man chooses a wife, he generally chooses ill. At three-and-twenty to have drawn such

a prize! What years of felicity that man, in all human calculation, has before him!- Assured of the love of such a woman- the disinterested love, for Jane Fairfax's character vouches for her disinterestedness; everything in his favor,- equality of situation- I mean, as far as regards society, and all the habits and manners that are important; equality in every point but one- and that one, since the purity of her heart is not to be doubted, such as must increase his felicity, for it will be his to bestow the only advantages he wants.- A man would always wish to give a woman a better home than the one he takes her from; and he who can do it, where there is no doubt of regard, must, I think, be the happiest of mortals.- Frank Churchill is, indeed, the favorite of fortune. Everything turns out for his good. - He meets with a young woman at a watering place, gains her affection, cannot even weary her by negligent treatment- and had he and all his family sought round the world for a perfect wife for him, they could not have found her superior. - His aunt is in the way. - His aunt dies. - he has only to speak.-His friends are eager to promote his happiness.- He had used everybody ill- and they are all delighted to forgive him.- He is a fortunate man indeed (Austen, 2000).

Hall states about the marriage of Frank and Jane that “marriage to Frank Churchill is only a good because it is better than the alternative-paid servitude as a governess” (Hall, 2007). “Frank Churchill has the hallmarks of a comic villain in the way he creates disruption...he is menace to order. His main ‘villainy’ is in his deception. He ‘seems to be a lot of things- the thoughtful gentleman, one who is open, intelligent, considerate and accomplished, and though he has good qualities, he is also a deceiver...He has a dark edge. He keeps his engagement secret to maintain his inheritance and he willfully causes Jane embarrassment and pain” (AQA).

In her book *Reader, I Married Him*, Beer expresses her anger towards Frank by saying:

Throughout the book he seems to be punishing Jane Fairfax for having stopped to a secret engagement with him though he coerced her into it with treats of going mad. His account of their final quarrel acknowledges with almost indecent honesty his wish to hurt her (Beer, 1974).

In spite of all his faults, his immature way of thinking and his ill behavior which caused Jane many sufferings, again Frank felt love for Jane. After Frank revealed his engagement with Jane, he expressed his affection for Jane to Emma by saying:

Did you ever see such a skin? - Such smoothness! Such delicacy! - and yet without being actually fair.- One cannot call her fair. It is a most uncommon complexion, with her dark eyelashes and hair- a most distinguishing complexion! So, peculiarly the lady in it. - Just color enough for beauty...She is a complete angel. Look at her. Is not she an angel in every gesture? Observe the turn on her throat. Observe her eyes, as she is looking up at my father.- You will be glad to hear (inclining his head, and whispering seriously) that my uncle means to give her all my aunt's jewels. They are to be new set. I am resolved to have some in an ornament for the head. Will not it be beautiful in her dark hair? (Austen, 2000).

During the period of the eighteenth century marriages between upper and lower classes happened only when “the floundering aristocracy was enriched through their union with a wealthy merchant- class family, thereby making it incredibly difficult for a member of the lower or middle class without wealth or social standing to marry into a family with both” (Campbell, 2012). Regarding this fact, the marriage of Jane and Frank represents a marriage which is not

very realistic for that period. Austen tries to show that these kinds of marriages should exist for the fact that money should not be considered as the only means for marriage. As long as there is love, everything is possible. Even though, the relationship of Jane and Frank knocks the boundaries of matching two people of different social and economical classes, again this relationship goes through many obstacles. In the relationship of Jane and Frank, Austen depicts a character which never appears directly but who plays a great role in the relationship, Mrs. Churchill. “Her ill humor regularly prevents Frank from visiting his father, she uses her illnesses to manipulate those around her...it is only after her death- which is considered ‘a clearer of ill- fame’ by those who ‘disliked (her for) at least twenty- five years” (Austen, 2000). Only after her death, Frank and Jane could announce their engagement. “The presence of an eccentric character combined with the influence of all of Austen’s other upwardly- mobile marriages emphasizes the progressivity of Jane’s marriage to Frank and subsequently emphasizes her increase in power and autonomy as a newly- made member of the wealthy upper class” (Campbell, 2012).

Based on the actions that Frank took and his behavior throughout the novel, Hall says:

Frank Churchill could hardly be considered among Austen’s exemplary heroes. Frank is clearly the aggressor; Jane is passive and reserved. Frank teases her with the gift of piano...He taunts Jane by flirting with Emma. He is unwilling to relinquish his potential fortune for the woman he loves, but he is also unwilling to give her up even as the strain of their secret relationship is a clear burden on her health and reputation. He is self- indulgent, narcissistic, and an outright liar (Hall, 2017).

Many scholars have commented on the relationship and marriage of Jane and Frank in the novel. “The majority of literary critics recognize unequal marriage of Frank and Jane as unconvincing but for Austen it could be a kind of revolt against the order established in society of her time and by their marriage she is inclined to present the relationships in the eighteenth century and which tendencies should be altered. The primary and proper motive for marriage should be love, not just for security on wealth” (Dobosiova, 2006). “Austen shows that Frank Churchill is not a good choice for a woman who can choose...choosing such a man is really the last resort for a woman who has few choices- and that this lack of choice is a social problem” (Hall, 2017).

“Through Jane Fairfax’s story-her life- defining choice between selling herself in the marriage market or the governess trade- Austen subtly exposes the grim reality of life for many women who were handsome, clever, but not rich...By considering the focus of Jane Fairfax’s education and the grim financial as well as a psychosocial reality of her future life as a governess, contrasted with her ultimate choice to marry a man who acts contrary to social norms and treats her with disrespect, Austen exposes the limitations faced by a poor woman with genteel upbringing. Austen shows us that women’s choices are grim: they must be sold in one market or the other” (Hall, 2017). Based on the marriage of Frank and Jane, Zemankova states:

Although, Jane marries man she loves and at the same time improves her social position, she will always be painfully aware of her insincerity, which troubles her. She however, had no other choice in starched and intolerant society of that time (Zemankova, 2011).

The marriage of Frank and Jane is a clear reflection of the women’s position during the eighteenth century. This relationship shows clearly that educated, clever girls were not valued

and respected in a level they deserved. Throughout the novel we see that Austen describes Jane as being a very clever girl. The fact that she was not rich, did not give her the chance to be valued and gain the respect of the people belonging to the high economical and social class. Even though, Frank was less logical and possessed features which made him very immature, again, the fact that he was rich allowed him to play with Jane's feelings without receiving any opposing reaction back. Being in a weak position, did not allow Jane to have many alternatives but suffer in silence until Frank gave the green light to announce his engagement. Austen gives the message that people should marry for love and exchange mutual respect, regardless the economical position. Money should not be considered as the main source for making someone clever, respectful, and desirable person. Money cannot buy people's way of thinking. Education and intelligence make a person clever enough to live life by striving to earn money and value that money as a part of your hard work and successful result.

3.1.3 *Emma Woodhouse and George Knightley*

Emma is the main character of the novel. She was a girl whose mother had died, and lived with her father, Mr. Woodhouse. Austen describes Emma to be "handsome, clever, and rich, with a comfortable home and happy disposition, seemed to unite some of the best blessings of existence; and had lived nearly twenty- one years in the world with very little to distress or vex her. Based on her physical appearance, we can imagine her beauty by focusing on Mr. Weston's description: "Such an eye! - the true hazel eye- and so brilliant regular features, open countenance, with a complexion !Oh! What a bloom of full health, and such a pretty height and

size; such a firm and upright figure. There is health, not merely in her bloom, but in her air, her head, her glance” (Austen, 2000).

The way how Austen describes Emma, shows clearly that Emma possessed everything a man would ask in a woman. Since Emma’s sister, Isabella was married, Emma possessed all her father’s wealth and for this reason all the people of Highbury considered Emma a very privileged woman. This fact made Emma to be an independent woman, and she did not have interest in finding someone to get married. “The real evils, indeed, of Emma’s situation were the power of having rather too much her own way, and a disposition to think a little too well of herself; these were the disadvantages with threatened alloy to her many enjoyments. The danger, however, was at present so unperceived; that they did not by any means rank as misfortunes with her” (Austen, 2000).

Even though, it was not very common for women of the eighteenth century to stay single, without taking into account the wealth that these women possessed, again Emma showed no interest to marry. She even expressed this to her friend, Harriet, by stating:

I have none of the usual inducements of women to marry...Fortune I do not want; employment I do not want; consequence I do not want. I believe few married women are half as much mistress of their husband’s house as I am on Hartfield; and never, never could I expect to be so truly beloved and important; so always first and always right in any man’s eyes as I am in my father’s (Austen, 2000).

Regarding the high economical position that Emma belonged to, Butler states that “Austen situates Emma in a superior social position in order to allow her the freedom to ‘act out willful errors for which she must take entire moral responsibility” (Butler, 1975). Emma’s close

relationship with her father is another reason why she did not want to marry. The fact that Mr. Woodhouse's wife died, he detested the fact that Emma would marry one day. He always referred to his older daughter Isabella as "poor Isabella" because she was married. According to Mr. Woodhouse marriages are "silly things and break up one's family circle grievously" (Austen, 2000). This entire situation made it difficult for Emma to think about marriage, and gave her a reason to escape from that idea. She could not bear to see her father in sorrow. "A 'fixed determination never to quit her father' (was) one of the reasons Emma (gave) herself for her decision 'never to marry', and the manner in which she (discharged) her duty to her father (might) indeed be set against evidence of her irresponsibility. On the other hand, Mr. Woodhouse (might) be regarded as her main defense against the intrusion of those invading realities which would threaten to upset her imaginative control of herself and the world that she (hoped) to shape and change from the stronghold of Hartfield. ..Emma (had) inherited her own ambition to exert authority and the mantle of her patronage over the life styles and marital expectations of her friends from her father, with his persistent attempts to control the diet and habits of everyone who (was) allowed to come within his reach" (Barfoot, 1982). "Emma was always delighted to see her father look comfortable" (Austen, 2000). She was always "considerate of him, willing, if put to the test, to stay by his side forever. This (was) probably the noblest action anyone (could) perform and (demonstrated) Emma's genuine kindness and commendable personal virtues. She very much (represented) the moral values and sense of duty of her class, for instance by visiting the poor; it (was) only through her boredom and lack of occupation that she (turned) her imagination and fantasy to matchmaking- something that (was) beyond her control and actually morally wrong" (Gerebring, 2012). For this reason, Emma was "seldom from home. And thoroughly rooted in the life and community of Highbury...she (could not) be separated from her

home or sent on her travels so that fate (could) be confronted. The novel stresses that the journeys she (took were) short and not very adventurous. Box Hill (was) the furthest she went and that outing with the bad tempers and even worst feelings that it (produced was) nearly disastrous. Emma (had) to wait for fate to come to her, if it (was) to come at all..." (Barfoot, 1982). Being aware of the fact that Emma did not want to marry, she got herself involved in matchmaking. Matchmaking became a part of Emma's life which afterwards proved that it lead Emma to many mistakes. When Emma began matching other people, first with Mr. and Mrs. Weston, she felt a sense of pride for what she had done. She expressed her pride to her dad by saying:

And you have forgotten one matter of joy to me...and a very considerable one- that I made the match myself. I made the match, you know, four years ago; and to have it take place, and be proved in the right, when so many people said Mr. Weston would never marry again, may comfort me for anything...I promise you to make none for myself, papa; but I must, indeed, for other people. It is the greatest amusement in the world! And after such success, you know! - Everybody said that Mr. Weston would never marry again (Austen, 2000).

Emma gets involved in matchmaking because she "seems unable to make satisfying and intelligent use of leisure" (Tamm, 1979). Whereas Lambdin & Lambdin consider Emma to be a naïve person based on the fact that she gets involved in matchmaking, by saying "Emma is a naïve about both herself and the outside world; she must learn her own limitations and resist the temptation to remake her world within her imagination" (2000). This was the only thing that Emma had to entertain and satisfy herself. Emma's matchmaking became more obvious when she wanted to match her friend Harriet with Mr. Philip Elton. The true situation was that Harriet

was in love with Robert Martin and was ready to accept his proposal, until Emma came her way to interrupt this relationship. Emma persuaded Harriet not to accept Martin's proposal for the fact that he was not rich. Here, Emma showed her immature character by paying attention only to rich people and offending less developed families. Emma could not realize that Harriet, a poor girl, did not have the chance to marry a prosperous person. As Arnold Kettle mentions: "Emma sees human relationships in terms of class snobbery and property qualifications" (Kettle, 2016). From here we can understand that Emma liked to be admired and to enjoy the opportunities that her class had given her to make plans for other people. The only person who opposed to Emma's actions was George Knightley. Mr. Knightley was an old friend of Emma's family, and the brother-in-law of Isabella, Emma's sister. As George was much older than Emma, he knew Emma's character and personality, and he did not like the fact that Emma took some actions which he supposed to be very wrong. "Mr. Knightley, in fact, was one of the few people who could see faults in Emma Woodhouse, and the only one who ever told her of them: and though this was not particularly agreeable to Emma herself, she knew it would be so much less so to her father, that she would not have him really suspect such a circumstance as her not being thought perfect by everybody" (Austen, 2000). Mr. Knightley opposed Emma from the very first time when Emma decided to match Miss Taylor and Mr. Weston. He hated the fact that Emma felt proud for matching other people. When she matched Mr. Weston and Miss Taylor, Mr. Knightley said to Emma: "I do not understand what you mean by 'success'...Success supposes endeavor. Your time has been properly and delicately spent, if you have been endeavoring for the last four years to bring about this marriage. A worthy employment for a young lady's mind! But if, which I rather imagine, your making the match, as you call it, means only your planning it, you're saying to yourself one idle day, 'I think it would be a very good thing for Miss Taylor

if Mr. Weston were to marry her,' and saying it again to yourself every now and then afterwards, why do you talk of success? Where is your merit? What are you proud of? You made a lucky guess; and that is all that can be said" (Austen, 2000).

Since Emma's friend, Harriet was interested in marrying Martin, a gentle but not a rich person, Harriet refuses Martin's proposal under the influence of Emma. Emma did not want to accept the fact that Martin was a nice person. Emma's focus was mainly on rich people, believing that they were the only valuable people to be considered as lifetime partners. The only person who was able to tell Emma that Martin was a great person, was Mr. Knightley. He said about Martin that "he always speaks to the purpose; open, straight forward, and very well judging" (Austen, 2000).

Through all these facts Austen shows that Mr. Knightley has always guided Emma throughout her lifetime and has tried to teach her valuable lessons. As Odmark states, "being a father- figure and a friend, Mr. Knightley has had a very good relationship with Emma to an accurate assessment of the situation" (Odmark, 1981). In the conversations of George Knightley and Emma, always comes to the question of who is right and who is wrong. Austen describes Emma as having high- self esteem and as being blinded "by her own view of herself as unable to make mistakes" (Austen, 2000). On the other hand, Austen describes George as a completely different person compared to Emma. George always has the tendency to criticize Emma for her match-making actions: "You are more likely to have done harm to yourself, than good to them, by interference" (Austen, 2000). George Knightley is a "steadfast character and lets little upset him. In this sense, he proves to be a touchstone of moral concern- vanity never gets the better of him. His class is therefore equaled by his personal virtues" (Gerebring, 2012). Based on Emma's continuous mistakes, Christopher Gillie "places the blame for Emma's persistent faults on her inability to behave responsibly within her social position. Emma is 'wrong not because she is

superficial, stupid, or heartless, but because her social position gives her a false perspective both of personal values and of her own nature’“(Lambdin; Lambdin, 2000).

Emma opened her eyes and understood her mistakes only after Mr. Elton proposed to her. Emma’s aim to match Harriet with Philip Elton went completely wrong for the fact that Elton proposed Emma in spite of Harriet. Emma strongly believed that Elton will propose Harriet, and she was sure that her match-making plans never went wrong. When Elton proposed Emma, Emma felt a big disappointment for everything she had done to Harriet. Emma had persuaded Harriet not to accept Martin’s proposal, assuring her that Elton will propose Harriet, so she could get married to a respected person known as the clergyman of the place. After this event, Emma repented for her actions, by saying:

If I had not persuaded Harriet into liking the man, I could have borne any thing.

He might have doubled his presumption to me- but poor Harriet!

How she could have been so deceived! - He protested that he had never thought seriously of Harriet- never! She looked back as well as she could; but it was all confusion. She had taken up the idea, she supposed, and made everything bend to it. His manners, however, must have been unmarked, wavering, dubious, or she could not have been so misled” (Austen, 2000)

In the novel both, Mr. Knightley and Emma “try to affect and influence another person. Emma tries to influence Harriet in her choices , manners and the ways of thinking, and Mr. Knightley always tells Emma his honest opinion regarding everything that Emma does, which means that he tries to transfer his own values onto her” (Gerebring, 2012). “Mr. Knightley tries to convey his opinions openly, while Emma does it in hiding, using other words, clues and further

manipulative means in order for her protégée to subconsciously arrive at the same conclusion as herself. While Mr. Knightley is morally right, Emma is obviously wrong” (Ryle, 1968).

After all, Emma’s mistakes make her get a more precise image of herself and make her understand her own mistakes. Emma felt upset with the mistakes she had done and found it really difficult to console herself. She said to Mr. Knightley:

“I do own myself to have been completely mistaken in Mr. Elton. There is littleness about him which you discovered, and which I did not: and I was fully convinced of his being in love with Harriet. It was through a series of strange blunders” (Austen, 2000)

The failure to match Harriet with Elton gave Emma a lesson, but she could not give up completely believing that Mr. Knightley’s advices were not adequate. The worst action that she took was when she decided to match herself with Frank Churchill. She believed that this time her opinions would be for real. Even though, Emma had learned from her own mistakes, again she had “still not learnt enough about the possibility of personal virtues overriding class, about helping others and about interfering in the lives of other people. She (had) still not discovered that feelings such as love must always take their natural course” (Gard, 1992).

Not knowing that Frank was already engaged to Jane, Emma began flirting with Frank with the idea that Frank was in love with her. Because of the fact that Frank inherited his aunt’s wealth, he was secretly engaged to poor Jane in order to hide his engagement. Not wishing to reveal his engagement, Frank behaved immaturely towards Jane by flirting with Emma. Even though, Knightley had his doubts about the relationship of Frank and Jane, again Emma did not wish to hear his opinions and advices. Emma was completely sure that Frank loved her until the night of the Box Hill when everything was revealed related to Frank’s secret engagement.

Emma's matchmaking mistakes lead to the understanding about the naivety of women in general, and their incapable role to manage things that they believed were in their hands. Since men were educated and could manage different businesses, inheritances or other investments, women of the eighteenth century were supposed to manage their families, their housework and also their everyday task, matchmaking. What we can see from Emma's mistakes and failure to match her friend or even herself with Frank, she proves herself incompetent to be a manager of the relationships. Through this mistake Emma shows an embarrassing social mistake. She shows that she fails at one of the main tasks of women, perceived by that time. Her failure to match other people represents a gender failure as well. This means that women of the eighteenth century were not capable to accomplish their duties of that time, failing in their tasks and creating a mass in society by harming other people. Even though Emma was seen as a rich, independent person, again her mistakes and failures make us understand Austen's revolt towards women themselves.

After the night of Box Hill, where Emma did not miss her offenses towards poor people, Knightley stopped Emma and criticized her about the wrong actions. Mr. Knightley's critics immediately affected Emma's way of thinking. "Never she had felt so agitated, mortified, grieved, at any circumstance in her life. She felt it at her heart. How could she have been so brutal, so cruel...How could she have exposed herself to such ill opinion in any one she valued! And how suffer him to leave her without saying one word of gratitude, of concurrence, of common kindness" (Austen, 2000). "Through her mismanaged education and peculiar defects of her character and temperament, she (Emma) (was) guilty of all the failings that Mr. Knightley and her later critics have perceived and discussed. Nevertheless part of the attraction of Emma for Mr. Knightley and others lies in the unpredictability that her failure to subject her 'fancy to the understanding' has produced. Following Knightley later critics have discussed Emma as a

case- history which demonstrates the dangers of the imagination and the evil of designs prompted by her failure to find a sufficiently satisfying and constructive outlet for a lively, ill-educated mind. Yet what is ignored too often are Emma's real strengths. She may be designing....priding herself on the management of other people's concerns, interfering with choices of others, which is more likely to have done harm 'to herself 'than good to them', as Mr Knightley chides her, but she is also innocent. Her vanity and pride may be gratified by what she takes to be her success in match-making, but her main motive does not seem to be one of self-gratification...she is not aware of herself, but, curiously, she does seem to be unself-regarding"(Barfoot, 1982).

George Knightley changed Emma's way of perceiving things. Emma began to be more careful and to show more respect towards other people. "She spoke as she felt, with earnest regret and solicitude- sincerely wishing that the circumstances which she collected from Miss Bates to be now actually determined on, might be as much for Miss Fairfax's advantage and comfort as possible" (Austen, 2000). Moreover, Emma began to change her opinion about Jane and began to like the idea of Harriet marrying Martin. She understood that Martin was the best choice for Harriet and felt happy for both of them. Finally, Emma began to understand that George Knightley was a very nice person, and his advices changed her for good. She even confessed to Harriet her opinion about Mr. Knightley, "I know no man more likely than Mr. Knightley to do the sort of thing- to do anything really good- natured, useful, considerate, or benevolent. He is not a gallant man, but he is a very humane one; and this, considering Jane Fairfax's ill- health, would appear a case of humanity to him;- and for an act of unostentatious kindness, there is nobody whom I would fix on more than on Mr. Knightley" (Austen, 2000). Moreover, when Mrs. Weston said to Emma that Mr. Knightley should find a wife to marry, Emma's own

intuition said that he did not need to marry: “But Mr. Knightley does not want to marry. I am sure he has not the least idea of it. Do not put it into his head. Why should he marry? - He is as happy as possible by himself; with his farm, and his sheep, and his library, and the entire parish to manage; and he is extremely fond of his brother’s children. He has no occasion to marry, either to fill up his time or his heart” (Austen, 2000). Based on this issue, Mark Schorer states that “the social values of class and economics that Emma initially espouses are opposed to the moral values she must learn. Once she learns to reevaluate her attitudes toward class, economics and material articles, she is able to become the moral character that deserves the novel’s happy ending” (Lambdin; Lambdin, 2000)

This was the time when Emma understood that she had true feelings for George Knightley; she understood that the only woman who should marry George is no one but herself. “This (was) the moment of anagnorisis: the arrow is an arrow of enlightenment as well as of love; what is intended for her as her real fate, however long suspected by the reader, and (was) revealed to the heroine herself in a flash of insight. Although the word ‘fate’ itself is not used, for Emma to recognize ‘that Mr. Knightley must marry no one but herself’ is indeed to stare destiny in the face. However, both words, ‘fate’ and ‘destiny’ (were) reserved for the climax of Emma’s thinking that follows this revelation” (Barfoot, 1982). “How long...she saw that there never had been a time when she did not consider Mr. Knightley as infinitely the superior, or when his regard for her had not been infinitely the most dear” (Austen, 2000). For Mr. Knightley, Emma “was his object...Everything declared it; his own attentions, his father’s hints, his mother-in-law’s guarded silence; it was all in unison; words, conduct, discretion, and indiscretion...Till now that she was threatened with its loss, Emma had never known how much of her happiness depended on being first with Mr. Knightley, first in interest and affection.- Satisfied that it was

so, and feeling it her due, she had enjoyed it without reflection; and only in the dread of being supplanted, found how inexpressibly important it had been.- Long, very long, she felt she had been first; for, having no female connexions of his own, there had been only Isabella whose claims could be compared with hers, and she had always known exactly how far he loved and esteemed Isabella. She had herself been first with him for many years past. She had not deserved it; she had often been negligent or perverse, slighting his advice, or even willfully opposing him, insensible of half his merits, and quarreling with him because he would not acknowledge her false and insolent estimate of her own- but still, from family attachment and habit, and thorough excellence of mind, he had loved her, and watched over her from a girl, with an endeavor to improve her, and an anxiety for her doing right, which no other creature had at all shared. In spite of all her faults, she knew she was dear to him; might she not say very dear?" (Austen, 2000).

Emma's mistakes and George's continuous advises made Emma believe that George would never like to marry her. "She had no hope, nothing to deserve the name of hope, that he could have that sort of affection for herself which was now in question; but there was a hope (at times a slight one, at times much stronger...Wish it she must, for his sake- be the consequence nothing to herself, but his remaining single all his life. Could she be secure of that, indeed, of his never marrying at all, she believed she should be perfectly satisfied" (Austen, 2000). Emma's feelings for Knightley grew stronger each day, his presence made her feel very emotional, and his words made her speechless. When Mr. Knightley came to talk to her, his words made her very emotional:

I cannot make speeches, Emma:" he soon assumed; and in a tone of such sincere, decided, intelligible tenderness as was tolerably convincing.-"If I loved you less, I

might be able to talk about it more. But you know what I am.- You hear nothing but truth from me.- I have blamed you, and lectured you, and you have borne it as no other woman in England would have borne it.- Bear with the truths I would tell you now, dearest Emma, as well as you have borne with them. The manner, perhaps, may have as little to recommend them. God knows, I have been a very indifferent lover. - But you understand me. - Yes, you see, you understand my feelings- and will return them if you can. At present, I ask only to hear, once to hear your voice...This one half- hour had given to each the same precious certainty of being beloved, had cleared from each the same degree of ignorance, jealousy, or distrust.- On his side, there had been a long- standing jealousy, old as the arrival, or even the expectation, of Frank Churchill.- He had been in love with Emma, and jealous of Frank Churchill, from about the same period, one sentiment having probably enlightened him as to the other. It was his jealousy of Frank Churchill that had taken him from the country...What totally different feelings did Emma take back into the house from what she had brought out! - She had then been only daring to hope for a little respite of suffering;-she was now in an exquisite flutter of happiness, and such happiness moreover she believed must still be greater when the flutter should have passed away (Austen, 2000).

The marriage of Emma and George is a marriage based on feelings from the very beginning of the novel. George had loved Emma from when she was a young girl. “The marriage between Mr. Knightley and Emma speaks for continuity (a concept, like that of Englishness, associated with Mr. Knightley throughout) rather than change. To emphasize this, Austen shows the occasion in which they reach an understanding preceded by a conscious reprise of the very

beginning of the novel” (Johnson; Tuite, 2011). Based on the analysis that Stafford made regarding the marriage of Emma and George, he states:

If we look at the values that have been realized in this marriage and compare them with those realized in this conventional marriage plots, we see that Jane Austen means what she says: this will be a happy marriage because there is simply nothing left to make it anything less than perfectly happy. It fulfills every value embodied in the world of the book- with the possible exception that Emma may never learn to apply herself as she ought to her reading and her piano!” (Stafford, 2007).

Many scholars agree with the idea that; even though, Emma’s and George’s complex relationship ended in a marriage, again they are biased on George’s side, believing that Emma did not deserve George. “...there is no question that she (did not) ‘deserve’ him, though how small or great a gap exists between them depends on whether the reader tolerates or deplores Emma’s youthful sins of snobbery, ‘imaginism’, and misplaced self- confidence. But whatever her peccadilloes, Emma’s magnificently marriageable young woman: ‘handsome, clever, rich’, improved by a year’s experiences of distress and vexation, generous, solid in her basic principles if capricious in her pronouncements, unremittingly healthy” (Graham, 2016). Stafford on the other hand says that Emma’s “marriage to an intelligent, amiable, good, and attractive man is the best thing that can happen to this heroine, and the readers who do not experience it as such are, I am convinced, far from knowing what Jane Austen is about” (Stafford, 2007).

“...the Emma- Knightley marriage seems far from ideal. The relationship is not based mature love on the part of either member. Emma is drawn to Knightley by the needs and anxieties which arise when her pride is broken. She has been a spoiled child; now she is chastened and compliant one who seeks safety through submission to a wise authority. Knightley will keep her wayward impulses under control, but he will not help her to grow. He is himself a perfectionist, who, unlike Emma, succeeds in living up to his own standards” (Paris, 2013)

“Emma grows up throughout the novel more and more to have a self-understanding about herself that is shown to yield maturity. It is only when she reaches this state of being self- aware, and of course part of this self- awareness is the realization that she loves George Knightley...Thus the novel has much to say about the process by which we mature, self- knowledge and how these two concepts are linked to marriage” (Stovel, 2009)

For Lambdin& Lambdin “the ending of Emma symbolizes her redemption from self- delusion. In order for Emma’s education to be complete; she must learn that both love and the world at large are defined not by what she concocts within her own fancy but by external realities that she must acknowledge. Emma learns the lessons necessary for her to reform through exposure to characters and situations that make clear specific truths about the real world and love. Mr. Elton teaches her about the economic considerations of marriage and Mrs. Elton teaches her what a marriage founded on those concerns yields” (Lambdin& Lambdin, 2000).

Since Austen describes Emma as being an independent woman, possessing all the wealth and respect in Highbury, Lambdin& Lambdin express their opinion about Emma’s character and her marriage with George by saying:

“Emma is Jane Austen’s exploration of what a eighteenth-century woman’s life would be like if she had the powers and privileges of a man. But independence is a difficult thing for a young person, and although Emma exhibits the ‘confidence and presumption usually reserved for Austen’s male characters’, her inexperience causes her to make ‘the serious business of marriage too lightly’. There is significant turmoil within each of the courtships that makes possible the novel’s concluding marriages (Harriet’s, Jane’s and Emma’s), but eventually we come to see that each of the marriages is an appropriate union of personalities. Emma’s union is the most satisfying because it links two ultimately good characters whose personality traits lend support to each other: Emma brings out Mr. Knightley’s subdued passion, and he helps her refine her good sense. Their union is all the more appealing because, unlike some of the marriages that were necessitated by economic demands, Emma’s fate was not inevitable” (2000). Austen takes Emma’s and George’s marriage as a perfect and ideal relationship, based on true feelings but deep inside we see that she has not left out the idea of money. They were both rich and possessed everything that was required to secure a better future. Austen lived in a period where money was considered as one of the most important things in life; as a result, she describes this relationship as the most appropriate relationship for the fact that it is based on the combination of love and wealth, which make it more ideal.

3.1.4. *Harriet Smith and Robert Martin*

Harriet was first introduced in the novel as “a girl of seventeen... (She) was the natural daughter of somebody. Somebody had placed her, several years back, at Mrs. Goddard’s school, and somebody had lately raised her from the condition of scholar to that of parlor- boarder...She had

no visible friends but what had been acquired at Highbury, and was now just returned from a long visit in the country to some young ladies who had been at school there with her. She was a very pretty girl, and her beauty happened to be of a sort which Emma particularly admired. She was short, plump, and fair, with a fine bloom, blue eyes, light hair, regular features, and a look of great sweetness, and, before the end of the evening, Emma was much pleased with her manners as her person, and quite determined to continue the acquaintance” (Austen, 2000).

Austen continues to describe Harriet by saying that she “was not clever, but she had a sweet, docile, grateful disposition, was totally free from conceit, and only desiring to be guided by any one she looked up to. Her early attachment to herself was very amiable; and her inclination for good company, and power of appreciating what was elegant and clever, shewed that there was no want of taste, though strength of understanding must not be expected” (Austen, 2000).

Since Emma had matched Miss Taylor with Mrs. Weston, her new job became the naïve, young Harriet. Emma “was not struck by anything remarkably clever in Miss Smith’s conversation, but she found her altogether very engaging- not inconveniently shy, not unwilling to talk- and yet so far from pushing, shewing so proper and becoming a deference, seeming so pleasantly grateful for being admitted to Hartfield, and so artlessly impressed by the appearance of everything in so superior a style to what she had been used to, that she must have good sense, and deserve encouragement...those soft blue eyes, and all those natural graces, should not be wasted on the inferior society of Highbury and its connexions” (Austen, 2000). Emma’s main point in life was to judge and change Harriet’s life, “she would notice (Harriet); she would improve her; she would detach her from her bad acquaintance, and introduce her into good society; she would form her opinions and her manners” (Austen, 2000).

Being simple and naïve, Harriet fell into Emma's judgments, whose main point was to control Harriet's life, change her lifestyle, involve her into a higher social rank and a more luxurious situation without taking into account Harriet's feelings and her spiritual conditions. Since Emma had the feeling of superiority compared to other people, she was determined to make Harriet achieve her level. Emma's words made Harriet change her opinion towards Robert Martin, a farmer who loved and cared about Harriet. Being aware of the fact that Harriet loved Martin, Emma used every resource and persuasive words to convince Harriet not to marry Robert Martin. In a conversation with Harriet, Emma gave her opinion about Martin by saying:

"Oh! ...not handsome- not at all handsome. I thought him very plain at first, but I do not think him so plain now. One does not, you know, after a time" (Austen, 2000).

Even though Harriet tried to persuade Emma that Martin was a good person who could earn money in the future and could work hard to have a comfortable life, again Emma opposed her and tried to convince her that she was wrong, by saying:

Well, and that is as early as most men can afford to marry, who are not born to an independence. Mr. Martin, I imagine, has his fortune entirely to make- cannot be at all beforehand with the world. Whatever money he might come into when his father died, whatever his share of the family property, it is, I dare say, all afloat, all employed in his stock, and so forth; and though, with diligence and good luck, he may be rich in time, it is next to impossible that he should have realized anything yet...He is very plain, undoubtedly- remarkably plain: - but that is nothing compared with his entire want of gentility. I had no right to expect much, and I did not expect much; but I had no idea that he could be so very clownish, so

totally without air. I had imagined him, I confess, a degree or two nearer gentility
(Austen, 2000).

Emma's high social rank made Harriet believe that everything that Emma said and did was right, so without taking into account her own feelings towards Martin and relaying on Emma's words, Harriet refused Martin's proposal. To make things even more persuasive, Emma said to Harriet about Martin's proposal letter: "I think one of his sisters must have helped him, because the letter is too well written" (Austen, 2000). With these words Emma undervalues Martin and her manipulation does not give Harriet any other choice but to refuse Martin's proposal. Regarding this situation, Eugene Goodheart describes Emma as being "too egotistical to realize why she is degrading Robert Martin. Emma's snobbery prevents her from appreciating (Martin's) virtues. Her intervention delays what turns out to be the right outcome, a marriage between Robert Martin and Harriet" (Goodheart, 2008)

Emma's interference in Harriet's life became more evident when Emma not only persuaded Harriet to refuse Martin but also when she began to find a match for Harriet. "Mr. Elton was the very person fixed on by Emma for driving the young farmer out of Harriet's head. She thought it would be an excellent match, and only too palpably desirable, natural, and probable for her to have much merit in planning it" (Austen, 2000). Thinking about Elton and Harriet, Emma thought to herself:

This man is almost too gallant to be in love...I should say so, but that I suppose there may be a hundred different ways of being in love. He is an excellent young man, and will suit Harriet exactly; it will be an 'Exactly so', as he says himself; but he does sigh and languish, and study for compliments rather more than I could

endure as a principal. I come in for a pretty good share as a second. But it is his gratitude on Harriet's account" (Austen, 2000).

Believing that her ideas were right, Emma began her actions to organize the match of Harriet with Elton without even trying to discuss this issue with Harriet. Emma had a complete control over Harriet, and she was the perfect example in Harriet's eyes, so Harriet thought that whatever Emma said was correct and the right action to be taken. Whenever Emma spoke, Harriet praised her by saying: "How nicely you talk; I love to hear you. You understand everything" (Austen, 2000).

Emma believed that she had things in her hands, until things really got out of control. As Emma was trying to match Elton with Harriet, Elton was planning to propose Emma in spite of Harriet. During the frequent meetings of Emma with Elton, Elton had emphasized the idea that he wanted to propose someone. This was why Emma was almost sure that he would propose to Harriet by saying: "You are his object- and you will soon receive the completest proof of it...I congratulate you, my dear Harriet, with all my heart. This is an attachment which a woman may feel pride in creating. This is a connection which offers nothing but good" (Austen, 2000).

Emma's plans failed when Elton came and proposed to her. "Emma truly (believed) that she (was) assisting Harriet, but she (did) not fully understand the extent of her actions. That being said, Emma (was) very proud of herself and, basking in the glow of her own success, she (failed) to recognize the reality of the situation she (had) created" (Mackay, 2013).

Goodheart argues that "Emma is willful, manipulative, an arranger or rather a misarranger of other people's lives" (Goodheart, 2008). Mr. Knightley was also a witness of Emma's manipulations to control Harriet. He also mentioned to Emma that she had been the person to

have persuaded Harriet to refuse Martin: “Nonsense! A man does not imagine any such thing. But what is the meaning of this? Harriet Smith refuses Robert Martin? Madness, if it is so; but I hope you are mistaken...You saw her answer! - You wrote her answer too. Emma, this is your doing. You persuaded her to refuse him” (Austen, 2000).

Considering Elton as the adequate partner for Harriet, things change drastically when the situation shifts towards Emma. “Emma (was) truly shocked to discover Mr. Elton’s affections (were) directed elsewhere” (Austen, 2000). When Emma explained to Elton that she had always thought that Harriet was his affection, and that she had expected Elton’s proposal for Harriet, Elton stated, “ Miss Smith!- I never thought of Miss Smith in this whole course of my existence, never paid her any attentions, but as your friend” (Austen, 2000). This situation made a huge turn for both Emma and Harriet. Emma understood that she was wrong, whereas Harriet understood that her true feelings were for Martin. Even though Harriet tried so hard to be someone that she was not, again she understood that she should marry with someone who belonged to the same social and economical class. She expressed her feelings towards Martin in another discussion with Emma:

I found he was coming up towards me too- slowly you know, and as if he did not quite know what to do; and so he came and spoke, and I answered- and I stood for a minute, feeling dreadfully, you know, one can’t tell how; and then I took courage, and said it did not rain, and I must go; and so off I set; and I had not got three yards from the door, when he came after me, only to say, if I was going to Hartfield, he thought I had much better for round my Mr. Cole’s stables...Oh! Miss Woodhouse, I would rather done anything than have it happen: and yet, you

know there was a sort of satisfaction in seeing him behave so pleasantly and so kindly” (Austen, 2000).

Being aware of the entire situation, accepting her mistakes and feeling guilty for what she had done, Emma advised Harriet to follow her own feelings and follow her heart by making her own decisions:

It is very natural, it is natural, and it is honorable. - Yes, honorable, I think, to choose so well and so gratefully.- But that will be a fortunate preference is more than I can promise. I do not advise you to give way to it, Harriet. I do not by any means engage for its being returned. Consider what you are about. Perhaps it will be the wisest in you to check your feelings while you can: at any rate do not let them carry you far, unless you are persuaded of his liking you. Be observant of him. Let his behavior be the guide of your sensations. I give you this caution now, because I shall never speak again on the subject. I am determined against all interference” (Austen, 2000).

Harriet’s and Martin’s relationship ended up in a wedding, after a very complicated situation they went through. “ No objection was raised on the father’s side; the young man was treated liberally; it was all as it should be; and as Emma became acquainted with Robert Martin, who was now introduced at Hartfield, she fully acknowledged in him all the appearance of sense and worth which could bid fairest for her little friend. She had no doubt of Harriet’s happiness with any good- tempered man; but with him, and in the home he offered, there would be the hope for more, of security, stability, and improvement. She would be placed in the midst of those who loved her, and who had better sense than herself; retired enough for safety, and occupied enough

for cheerfulness. She would be never led into temptation, nor left for it to find her out. She would be respectable and happy; and Emma admitted her to be the luckiest creature in the world, to have created so steady and preserving an affection in such a man;-or, if not quite the luckiest, to yield only to herself” (Austen, 2000).

Based on the ways how marriages of the eighteenth century functioned, Austen used Martin’s and Harriet’s marriage to show the most realistic type of marriage where Harriet got married within the same social and economical rank, and she did not gain or lose any power. “Harriet’s marriage embodies...the theory of cruel optimism because she becomes attached to the idea that she can marry someone like Elton..., while the reality of her situation dictates that Mr. Martin, a farmer, is her only prospect. Moreover, as long as she believes in the ideology of upward mobility through marriage, Harriet eliminates her realistic marriage opportunities, thereby making it more likely that she will end up an old maid, dependent upon her anonymous, absent father until his death, at which point she would be financially orphaned. Her attachment, therefore, can only be described as cruel in its unattainability and harmfulness” (Campbell, 2012).

Based on the ways how marriages functioned during the period of the eighteenth century and the reality in which most of the women lived, Campbell emphasizes his opinion about the marriage of Emma and Harriet by saying:

“...Harriet’s marriage is not nearly as problematic as Emma’s: while Emma loses her personal power by marrying Knightley, Harriet only fails to gain power. However, in comparing Harriet’s marriage to Mr. Martin to what she could have had..., Austen emphasizes that a mere stability of power (while preferable to a loss) is not enough. The cruel optimism of Harriet’s situation speaks

to the pain and hardships that women had to endure as second- class citizens of Georgian England, and the benefits afforded by marriage are not sufficient to offset that injustice...Austen...recognized some of the flaws in the Georgian marriage system, a system that controlled even a woman's ability to develop her own limited agency. Through Harriet's marriage plot she observes and critiques these flaws" (Campbell, 2012).

The marriage of Harriet and Martin represents a marriage based on the social reality. Austen puts her characters in different situations and confronts them with many obstacles in order to match them with different social rank, but again most of the relationships ended up within the same social class. Austen emphasizes the importance of being equal, where she gives priority to happiness. Harriet went through many situations wishing to marry with someone not based on love. As a result, Austen concluded these marriages to be inadequate. Harriet found her happiness with Martin and felt a sense of equality. Scheuerman states about this that:

Austen (documented) the social reality that marriage is a matter of class ties and that favor largely is bestowed by the relatively higher class person. This (was) what all the byplay with Harriet and Mr. Martin (was) about...Austen (made) fun of class lines and class snobbery, but she (arranged) her matches so that they (conformed) to those lines" (Scheuermann, 2015).

3.1.5. Philip Elton and Augusta Hawkins

From the very first time that we encounter Philip Elton, we find him to be "very pretty young man, to be sure, and a very good young man..." (Austen, 2000). Mr. Elton was a clergyman, and even though he was not very rich, again he was a very respected for the fact that he had a high

position in the country. Elton was “a prototypical social construct, the radiating center of community interest, until his eligibility is forfeited and he deconstructs into a village vicar” (Wye, 1992). Elton had the respect of all the people around, and Emma thought of him to be a great match for her friend, Harriet. When Emma told Mr. Knightley about her intentions to match Harriet with Elton, Mr. Knightley did not fully agree with this for the fact that he knew that Elton wanted to marry someone who was rich. He said to Emma that “Elton is a very good sort of man, and a very respectable vicar of Highbury, but not at all likely to make an imprudent match. He knows the value of a good income as well as anybody. Elton may talk sentimentally, but he will act rationally. He is as well acquainted with his own claims, as you can be with Harriet’s. He knows that he is a very handsome young man and a great favorite wherever he goes; and from his general way of talking in unreserved moments, when there are only men present, I am convinced that he does not mean to throw himself away. I have heard him speak with great animation of a large family of young ladies that his sisters are intimate with, who have all twenty thousand pounds apiece” (Austen, 2000). Moreover, Elton’s reputation and the name he possessed made him believe that he deserved someone rich. After Elton’s proposal to Emma and after her refusal, Elton’s character began to change. “Very gradually his real character or rather another side of his character emerges: he is rather too well aware of his own worth in the marriage market; and during the wonderful comedy of his courtship of Emma (or Harriet) with the hilarious incidents of the charade and the portrait, this ‘good humored, cheerful, obliging and gentle’ man begins to emerge as tiresome” (Seymour, 1993). Emma’s refusal influences Elton to revenge by proposing directly to a rich woman called Augusta. “Mr. Elton returned, a very happy man. He had gone away rejected and mortified- disappointed in a very sanguine hope, after a series of what appeared to him strong encouragement; and not only losing the right lady, but

finding himself debased to the level of a very wrong one. He had gone away deeply offended- he came back engaged to another- and to another as superior, of course, to the first, as under such circumstances what is gained always is to what is lost. He came back gay and self- satisfied, eager and busy, caring nothing for Miss Woodhouse, and defying Miss Smith” (Austen, 2000). Elton’s intentions to marry someone rich were fulfilled, and he was proud to show this in every aspect. “He had caught both substance and shadow- both fortune and affection, and was just the happy man he ought to be; talking only of himself and his own concerns- expecting to be congratulated- ready to be laughed at- and, with cordial, fearless smiles, now addressing all the young ladies of the place, to whom, a few weeks ago, he would have been more cautiously gallant...The charming Augusta Hawkins, in addition to all the usual advantages of perfect beauty and merit, was in possession of an independent fortune, of so many thousand as would always be called ten; a point of some dignity, as well as some convenience...”(Austen, 2000).

The quick engagement of Philip Elton and Augusta ended up in a very quick wedding where many people took place. Since Emma was present at the wedding, she judged the couple and the ceremony. “She did not really like her (Augusta). She would not be in a hurry to find fault, but she suspected that there was no elegance; - ease, but not elegance.- She was almost sure that for a young woman, a stranger, a bride, there was too much ease. Her person was rather good; her faces not unpretty; but neither feature, nor air, nor voice, nor manner, were elegant” (Austen, 2000). In a conversation with Harriet, Emma’s main opinion for Elton marrying Augusta was that he was married mainly for money: “Oh! no- there is nothing to surprise one at all.- A pretty fortune; and she came in his way” (Austen, 2000).

Emma’s judgment after her visit at Mrs. Elton’s house was very negatively expressed. Being aware of the fact that Augusta possessed a very high fortune, she wanted to attract other people

by showing off her wealth. Emma said that “Mrs. Elton was a vain woman, extremely well satisfied with herself, and thinking much of her own importance; that she meant to shine and be very superior, but with manners which had been formed in a bad school, pert and familiar; that all her notions were drawn from one set of people, and one style of living; that if not foolish she was ignorant, and that her society would certainly do Mr. Elton no good” (Austen, 2000).

Augusta was “moneyed but (lacked) breeding and (possessed) moderately good manners, at best. She (was) a boasting, domineering, pretentious woman who (liked) to be the centre of attention, in constant competition with Emma for social standing...”(Austen, 2000). Based on the way how Emma described Augusta, we can see that if we take both characters of Emma and Augusta, we will see that there are many similarities between the two ladies. We can see that they are both worried about their physical appearance and show a great concern to the social status. They both possess high self- esteem and tend to undervalue other people. Even though Augusta wanted to believe that she belonged to a genteel society, again she wanted to place herself in a group that was more superior. Compared to Augusta, in this position Emma was more advanced and this was why she was able to judge Augusta. What was evident in the novel was that Augusta undervalued her husband’s achievements and the place where he used to live: “I honestly said as much to Mr. E when he was speaking of my future home, and expressing his fears lest the retirement of it should be disagreeable; and the inferiority of the house too- knowing what I had been accustomed to- of course he was not wholly without apprehension. When he was speaking of it in that way, I honestly said that the world I could give up- parties, balls, plays- for I had no fear of retirement. Blessed with so many resources within myself, the world was not necessary to me. I could do very well without it. To those who had no resources it was a different thing; but

my resources made me quite independent....I had been accustomed to every luxury at Maple Grove..."(Austen, 2000).

Unlike Mrs. Elton, Emma was aware of her family's social rank. Even though, she had high self-esteem, again she changed by understanding the critics and suggestions of her friends and Mr. Knightley's. This issue made Emma have a bad opinion for Augusta, considering her as an "insufferable woman! ...worse than (she) had supposed. Absolutely insufferable!" (Austen, 2000). "In one respect Mrs. Elton grew even worse than she had appeared first. Her feelings altered towards Emma.- Offended, probably by the little encouragement which her proposals of intimacy met with, she drew back in her turn and gradually became much more cold and distant; and though the effect was agreeable, the ill-will which produced it was necessarily increasing Emma's dislike. Her manners, too- Mr. Elton's, were unpleasant towards Harriet. They were sneering and negligent..."(Austen, 2000). Based on her reactions and her words, Mrs. Elton showed herself to be very insecure about her life, talking mainly about her wealth and her brother-in-law. Moreover, Mrs. Elton's main duty was to offend and undervalue the different background of other people. She wanted to be special and showed a great interest in wearing expensive clothes. She commented everything she saw in a party and disliked most of other women: "Selina's choice-handsome, I think, but I do not know whether it is not over-trimmed; I have the greatest dislike to the idea of being over-trimmed- quite a horror of finery. I must put on a few ornaments now, because it is expected of me. A bride, you know, must appear like a bride, but my natural taste is all for simplicity..." (Austen, 2000). Mrs. Elton wanted the attention of everyone; she wanted to be the center of attention and wanted everyone to talk about her. Augusta was "evidently wanting to be complimented herself- and it was 'How do you like

my gown?- How do you like my trimming?- How was Wright done my hair?’- with many other relative questions, all answered with patient politeness” (Austen, 2000).

Based on all the facts and the relationship of Augusta and Elton, we realize that Augusta’s and Elton’s marriage is mainly based on money and reputation. The fact that Augusta possessed a high fortune inherited by her father, Mr. Elton married her without having any special feeling for her and without knowing her enough to consider her a lifetime partner. On the other hand, Augusta married Elton only because he was the vicar of Highbury. This was a great chance for her to show what she possessed and believed that money and her marriage with Elton would adjust her in a high social rank. This marriage was considered to be typical for the period of the eighteenth century, where feelings were not the primary issue. During the period of the eighteenth century “clergymen were often the younger sons of nobility or young men of good but poor families...the only way for younger sons to get money was often to marry rich women- which is exactly what Mr. Elton does” (Spacks, 2012).

Through the marriage of Augusta and Elton, Austen tries to show that happiness cannot be achieved without love and respect. The fact that Elton fades away in the novel and the fact that his wife always offends him, shows clearly that these kinds of marriages cannot be considered appropriate. Elton’s feelings towards Emma and her refusal lead Elton to a big mistake by marrying Augusta. The fact that Augusta’s main point was to show off her wealth and fit in a high social rank, make her use Elton in many different ways. Through the whole novel, we do not realize a close relationship between Elton and Augusta, and we do not see any respect or love expression between them. The marriage of Elton and Augusta seems to be very formal and their relationship does not show any sign for being happily ever after. Austen shows that this marriage is based on money and marriages based on different social ranks will never make a couple come

to an equal understanding because the ideas of these two people are completely different and would never come to an equal agreement. In such cases, for the marriage to function, one of the partners must tolerate. In the case of Augusta and Elton, the one who is more tolerant is Elton.

Through this marriage, Austen gives the message that a person should not seek a partner focusing only on his/her economical conditions because that would never make the marriage function properly and create a happy home.

3.2. Married Couples in *Emma*

Even though, *Emma* was mainly based on the complex relationships of unmarried couples that ended up in marriages, there were two couples involved in the novel that were already married from the beginning of the novel or married in the very first beginning of the novel. These two couples were Mr. Weston and Mrs. Weston and Isabella and John Knightley.

3.2.1. *Mr. Weston and Mrs. Weston*

We encounter Miss Taylor from the beginning of the novel as the governess of Emma Woodhouse. After the death of Emma's mother, Miss Taylor was the one who looked after Emma and her sister, Isabella. "Sixteen years had Miss Taylor been in Mr. Woodhouse's family, less as a governess than a friend, very fond of both daughters, but particularly of Emma. Between them it was more the intimacy of sisters. Even before Miss Taylor had ceased to hold the nominal office of governess, the mildness of her temper had hardly allowed her to impose any restraint; and the shadow of authority being now long passed away, they had been living

together as friend and friend very mutually attached, and Emma doing just what she liked; highly esteeming Miss Taylor's judgment, but directed chiefly by her own" (Austen, 2000).

The very close relationship that Emma had with Miss Taylor, made Emma want nothing but to see Miss Taylor happy. Since Emma was grown enough to take care of herself, she wanted to see Miss Taylor happily arranged with someone of a great character. Knowing the people of Highbury, she thought of Mr. Weston as the perfect match for Miss Taylor. "Mr. Weston was a man of unexceptionable character, easy fortune, suitable age, and pleasant manners; and there was some satisfaction in considering with what self-denying, generous friendship she had always wished and promoted the match" (Austen, 2000). Emma liked Mr. Weston very much and had a great opinion for him. Even when Emma's father did not agree with the match for the fact that he did not like to be left alone, Emma said to her father:

I cannot agree with you papa; you know I cannot. Mr. Weston is such a good-humored, pleasant, excellent man, that he thoroughly deserves a good wife;- and you would not have had Miss Taylor live with us forever, and bear all my odd humors, when she might have a house of her own (Austen, 2000).

Even though Mr. Weston had a son, Frank, again he lived alone. Frank was raised by his aunt, after Frank's mother died. When Miss Taylor got married to Mr. Weston and went to live with him, she was so excited to meet Frank. She had heard about Frank so much, and could not wait to see and talk to him. She "had, of course, formed a very favorable idea of the young man; and such a pleasing attention was an irresistible proof of his great good sense, and a most welcome addition to every source and every expression of congratulation which her marriage had already secured. She felt herself a most fortunate woman; and she had lived long enough to know how

fortunate she might well be thought, where the only regret was for a partial separation from friends whose friendship for her had never cooled, and who could ill bear to part with her” (Austen, 2000). Not only Emma, but also many other people around Highbury praised Mr. Weston and liked his attitude. Amongst the people who respected Mr. Weston was also Philip Elton. He praised Mr. Weston by saying that “there is an openness, a quickness, almost a bluntness in Mr. Weston, which everybody likes in him, because there is so much good- humor with it- but that would not do to be copied” (Austen, 2000).

In the novel Austen describes Mr. and Mrs. Weston as being happily married and having a great respect towards each other. When Emma went home after her visit at the Weston’s, she said to her father:

Oh! Papa, we have missed seeing them but one entire day since they married. Either in the morning or evening of every day, excepting one, have we seen either Mr. Weston or Mrs. Weston, and generally both...They are very, very kind in their visits. Mr. Weston is really as kind as herself...I should never have thought of Miss Taylor but as the most fortunate woman in the world; and as to slighting Mr. Weston, that excellent Mr. Weston, I think there is nothing he does not deserve. I believe he is one of the very best- tempered men that ever existed...Mr. Weston is rather an easy, cheerful- tempered man, than a man of strong feelings; he takes things as he finds them, and makes enjoyment of them somehow or other, depending, I suspect, much more upon what is called society... (Austen, 2000).

Austen describes the Weston’s marriage as a marriage where the partners are equal in their relationship, and they adjust very well with one another. They show a great respect towards each

other, discuss about different things and openly support each other's opinions. "They love each other affectionately; Mrs. Weston feels the pain of her husband even more than he does when Frank cannot arrive to see them. Emma often speaks about domestic happiness at Randalls where the Westons live together" (Austen, 2000). Being aware of the fact that Mrs. Weston respected Frank so much as the son of her husband, Frank respected his father's choice of marrying Mrs. Weston. He said that " his father's marriage had been the wisest measure, every friend must rejoice it; and the family from whom he had received such a blessing must be ever considered as having conferred the highest obligation on him" (Austen, 2000). Mrs. Weston had a great appearance and she was a very loving, "kind- hearted and musical" (Austen, 2000) person for everyone. "Frank liked her from the very first time he saw her: "Elegant, agreeable manners...tolerably well- looking woman of a certain age; I did not know that I was to find a pretty young woman in Mrs. Weston" (Austen, 2000).

Mr. Weston's first marriage with Miss Churchill "had ostensibly been a good move for him, because she came from a wealthy and well- connected family, but the inequality of the relationship caused adversity to both" (NANOPDF). Mr. Weston's second marriage seemed to be happier because their social status was the same. Whatever they did or organized, they seemed to agree with each other and feel happy for their actions. When they organized a party, and when they invited Emma to help them, Emma found them "delighted to see her and receive her approbation, very busy and very happy in their different way; she, in some little distress; and he, finding everything perfect" (Austen, 2000). Mrs. Weston's good behavior was seen by everyone, and her respect towards Frank Churchill was something that everyone appreciated. Even Augusta Elton had a great opinion for Mrs. Weston. In a conversation with Emma, she valued Mrs. Weston by saying:

Mrs. Weston seems an excellent creature- quite a first- rate favorite with me already, I assure you. And she appears so truly good-there is something so motherly and kind- hearted about her, that it wins upon one directly...Mrs. Weston's manners...were always particularly good. Their propriety, simplicity, and elegance, would make them the safest model for any young woman" (Austen, 2000).

The way how Mrs. Weston behaved towards Frank, described her as being really a careful person, kind – hearted and generous. She saw in Frank her child that she did not have. When Frank came one night, and he was wet from the rain, Mrs. Weston immediately ran after him and tried to take care of him by saying: "You are not quite so miserable, though, as when you first came. Go and eat and drink a little more, and you will do very well. Another slice of cold meat, another draught of Madeira and water, will make you nearly on a par with the rest of us" (Austen, 2000). In the novel, Mrs. Weston "acts as a surrogate mother to her former charge and, occasionally, as a voice of moderation and reason, although she is the one to yield in arguments more often than not" (Austen, 2013).

Austen's description of the relationship of Mr. and Mrs. Weston shows clearly that the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Weston is a marriage based on respect, appreciation and tolerance. Austen describes them to be happy with their marriage, regardless their economical position. Compared to the first marriage of Mr. Weston, the second marriage seems to be more comfortable, understandable and happier. Austen shows that money does not make one's life beautiful, as it did not make Mr. Weston's life in his first marriage. As long as there exists respect and love, things can be arranged perfectly without thinking about who should be more superior in a marriage. Equality makes things easier to be achieved and ideas to be combined. The Westons'

marriage represents the harmony that couples can achieve through their respect and tolerance. It is a great example for younger generations and conveys the message that money cannot bring happiness as long as there does not exist respect, love and tolerance. In the novel Mrs. Weston is a great example of a tolerant person, who knows how to keep a great relationship by balancing things. She has given an obligation to herself to keep her marriage strong and healthy, by acting in a way which makes them both happy. She portrays a great example of how relationships have to function and how people have to act in order to make their marriage happier and their life more beautiful.

3.2.2. John Knightley and Isabella Knightley

The marriage of John and Isabella represents a typical marriage of the eighteenth century. Austen describes this marriage as a male- dominated marriage, very common for that period. Austen describes this marriage by stating:

Mrs. John Knightley was pretty, elegant little woman, of gentle, quiet manners, and a disposition remarkably amiable and affectionate; wrapped up in her family; a devoted wife, a doating mother, and so tenderly attached to her father and sister that, but for these higher ties, a warmer love might have seemed impossible. She could never see a fault in any of them. She was not a woman of strong understanding or any quickness; and with this resemblance of her father, she inherited also much of his constitution; was delicate in her own health, over-careful of that of her children, had many fears and many nerves... (Austen, 2000).

On the other hand, John was a very careful parent and looked after his five children, but his behavior towards his wife sometimes passed all the limits. Isabella “represents an ideal of a

woman of her time, weak, delicate and submissive, having a child every year, prepared to do anything to please her husband” (Dobosiova, 2006). Based on the fact that during the period of the eighteenth century “socially, women were demanded to have children and to take care of their husbands”, Isabella shows an exact example of this type of woman.

In the relationship of John and Isabella, Isabella is seen as a weaker person, obeying her husband’s rules. As Bailey states about the women of the eighteenth century “...women and men became one single person from legal and civil point of view, and in biblical perspective they became ‘one flesh’. This was one of the reasons why women could not manage any properties or lead any legal transaction, as “A married woman had no legal status” (2002). The fact that most of the times Isabella is called under the name of her husband, Mrs. John Knightley, clearly shows that Isabella was under her husband’s rules and represented a dependence on her husband.

John “indulges his family’s desires for visits and vacations, although he would prefer to stay at home, especially if the weather is less than perfect. He can be quite forthright, which sometimes borders on rude” (Austen, 2000).

The person who felt most sorry for Isabella was Mr. Woodhouse, Isabella’s father. Based on her situation, he always referred her as “poor Isabella” (Austen, 2000). When Isabella and her family went to Highbury to visit Emma and Mr. Woodhouse, John obliged them to return home very soon giving reasons about the bad weather. Being weak and dependent on her husband, Isabella could not oppose her husband. “Mr. and Mrs. John Knightley were not detained long at Hartfield. The weather soon improved enough for those to move who must move; and Mr. Woodhouse having, as usual, tried to persuade his daughter to stay behind with all her children, was obliged to see the whole party set off, and return to his lamentations over the destiny of poor

Isabella;- which poor Isabella, passing her life with those she doated on, full of their merits, blind to their faults, and always innocently busy, might have been a model of right feminine happiness” (Austen, 2000).

“Emma’s sister, Isabella Knightley, is a doting mother, and she is also the sort of person who is incapable of denying a request; John Knightley is on the other hand a very positive man, equally devoted to his family life, but intolerant of interference and interruptions in it” (Gillie, 2014). The marriage of John and Isabella represents a typical marriage of the eighteenth century when women obeyed men’s rules. Being a quiet person, Isabella was used to her husband’s rules and had accepted that kind of life. They represented a family where John took most of the decisions. Even though, things were organized in this way, again Austen does not describe Isabella to be unhappy. Isabella was happy to live this kind of life, taking care of her children and her husband. She seemed to be satisfied with what she had. With the marriage of John and Isabella, Austen depicts another type of marriage showing that even in patriarchal family things can function correctly, depending on what people like and on how people prefer to live. John and Isabella loved each other, John showed great respect towards Isabella’s family, but he wanted to follow a typical tradition of the eighteenth century, where men were the leaders of the family. As long as Isabella was happy with this marriage, agreeing with her husband and respecting him was the only thing she thought to make her marriage function properly. Isabella would not sacrifice her marriage and her family in order to show superiority. She was satisfied with what she had and lived her life according to what she was used to during all these years.

Based on all these issues, Austen shows that during the period of the eighteenth century marriage was paradox for women of that time. Marriage was the most important thing which could guarantee a prosperous future; yet it was socially mandated, had to be undertaken, was often based upon the financial resources of the man, and ultimately resulted in the woman being mistress of her house, and little else.

4. CONCLUSION

To conclude, the main aim of the women during the period of the seventeenth and eighteenth century was to find a rich husband, and the marriages were considered as the most important tasks. The inferiority of women and the dominance of men during this period were found to favor men in different tasks in which women were considered inadequate and unskilled. The period of the seventeenth- eighteenth century involved marriages based on family agreement, where parents decided for their children's future. The unmarried women had the right only to approve or refuse the proposal if they did not like it, but they could not propose a partner by their choice. Based on these conditions, since unmarried women had the right to meet and see the partner and decide whether they wanted to marry or not, the number of unmarried women rose because they chose not to marry rather than marry someone that their parents chose. On the other hand, men began to postpone their age of marriage because most of them got focused in education. The period of the eighteenth century involved many educated men but not many educated women. Most of the women were educated to stay at home, focus on housework and art. As they were unable to work, their only choice was to marry and secure their future. Males of the family inherited all the wealth and property, so unmarried women remained a burden for

their brothers. As a result, these unmarried women were obliged to marry as soon as possible. Lacking education, girls were taught to behave like real women from a very early age. They were taught to pay a lot of attention to their physical appearance and were never asked for their opinion. These girls were never given the chance to show what they knew and were always underestimated. The patriarchal system existing during that period gave power to the head of the family, so fathers took control over their daughters. Married women were considered very weak and their only duty was to give birth and get involved in housework.

The period of the eighteenth century involved many writers who wrote about the unsatisfying situation. Jane Austen, not wishing to accept the fact that females lived in poor conditions, wrote about her revolt towards men and the system of that period. She expressed her revolt through her characters and the events based on authentic situations. Moreover, Austen achieved to explicit through her characters that feelings should be considered amongst all other things. To demonstrate her position of married and unmarried women during the period of the eighteenth century, Austen used different characters and marriages in her two novels *Pride and Prejudice* and *Emma*.

In her novel *Pride and Prejudice*, Austen represented the limited and unsatisfactory prospects of Charlotte, who was obliged to marry due to her lack of education and her inability to secure her own life. In the novel, Austen depicted different kinds of marriages to show that marriage based on love and respect is more beautiful. The case of Charlotte with Mr. Collins represents a typical relationship for the period of the eighteenth century. Charlotte's position forced her to marry not a very pleasant person, such as Mr. Collins. Even though, Austen describes Charlotte to be very intelligent, again she knew that she would never be evaluated by her intelligence as for the period of the eighteenth century women of the lower social rank were not considered smart

enough to give their opinion in public. Since education belonged only to those girls who belonged to high social and economical rank, Charlotte could not have that benefit. As a result, she could not ask for more but get married and secure her life.

Through Charlotte, Austen reflects the conditions of poor, unmarried girls at the time when she lived. Austen depicts Charlotte as a character in her novel to show that if girls could get a proper education, they would have better choices in their lives. Their future would not depend on marriage based on interest and survival for life. Through this marriage Austen represents love as an unimportant issue in a relationship. She shows that during the period that she lived it was not required to love someone, in order to marry him or her. The same case was with Charlotte and Mr. Collins. Charlotte's marriage represents society's view, which explained that love was not the most important element for a happy marriage but financial security.

Lack of education and the influence of parents to make their daughters look physically pretty in order to attract men, made girls to take wrong steps. This happened with Lydia, a very naïve girl whose main aims in life were her appearance and marriage. Her naivety leads to her elopement with Mr. Wickham without thinking about consequences. Mr. Wickham had no intentions to marry her, and as men of that period were free to flirt with different girls, Mr. Wickham was no exception. Lydia's elopement brought a lot of panic and shame to her family. As a result, their marriage was paid with money in order to be complete. Wickham received money to pay his debts and was forced to marry Lydia without any kind of feeling for her.

The marriage of Wickham and Lydia represents a marriage with many contradictory characteristics, and shows clearly that such marriages never function. Even though, Lydia

seemed to be happy, Austen shows that this marriage does not have the level of love that should really exist between couples.

A similar relationship as that of Charlotte and Collins in *Pride and Prejudice* is the marriage of Jane Fairfax in *Emma*. The fact that Jane was an orphan and was not rich, did not allow Jane to accomplish things in the way she wanted to. Even though Jane had an extraordinary intelligence, again she could not ask for a perfect marriage because she knew she could not achieve that. The fact that she was an orphan and did not come from a rich family, allowed her limited choices for marriage. Jane's only hopes were either to work as a governess or to get married. Having no other option, Jane got involved in a secret engagement with Frank Churchill. The fact that Frank inherited his aunt's wealth, did not allow him to announce his engagement with Jane. Jane was not rich, so he knew that his aunt would never accept her as his fiancée. As a result, Jane suffered her secret and was offended many times by Frank, who tried to show authority and self-esteem for what he possessed. The secret was revealed only after Frank's aunt death. Through their marriage Austen gave the message that people should not marry for money because money cannot buy the way people think, and it does not make people more intelligent.

The heroines of both novels Elizabeth and Emma represent completely a different type of women who are willing to marry only if there exists true love and mutual affection. Elizabeth and Emma represent two women who base their marriage on love. In *Pride and Prejudice*, Elizabeth shows a completely new type of female. She opposes her mother's judgments, her mother's proposals and raises her voice for marriage only if there exists real love. Her intentions were not to marry the first man who came to ask her hand. She refused Mr. Collins' proposal without any doubt, believing that she would never marry someone she does not love. Her main intentions were to make her own decisions and not be influenced by other people. Austen

describes Elizabeth as a strong person, willing to refuse or accept a proposal based on her own opinion. She refused Mr. Darcy's first proposal for her stubborn character and her misunderstanding. Darcy's superior manners and his bad opinion for Elizabeth's family made Elizabeth think for him negative and refuse his proposal. Elizabeth's opinion changed only after she understood the real person in Darcy and his efforts to marry Lydia with Frank and escape the shame Lydia brought to her family. Moreover, his continuous expressions of his feelings towards Elizabeth made her fall in love with him. Only after she was sure about her own feelings, she accepted Darcy's proposal. This kind of dynamism and way of accepting proposals was not common during the period of the eighteenth century, and this is where Austen puts her emphasis and views for a better marriage. Through Elizabeth, Austen shows a woman who made her own decisions and opposed other people when she thought they were wrong. Since during the period of the eighteenth century rich women were considered superior and very respectful, Elizabeth breaks the barriers by opposing Lady Catherine, a very rich woman in the novel. Austen represents her dissatisfaction by taking as an example Lady Catherine, showing that rich women were not always the cleverest.

Similar to Elizabeth, Emma is the other heroine known to be very independent. Since Emma possessed her father's wealth, she was economically independent. Emma could easily and openly express her idea for marriage, and for her, it was completely right to accept or refuse a proposal. Emma considered love as the main issue to accept a proposal and get married. Austen describes Emma to be very independent and willing to argue with people whose ideas are not agreeable with hers. She fought with Mr. Knightley and opposed his ideas whenever she thought he was wrong. In this situation, Emma and Elizabeth are both very similar as they both express their opinion without hesitation. As Kaye-Smith states: "Elizabeth...delights in the thrill and tingle

battle with the man she loves. Emma, too, conceived in the same spirit, can spar with Knightley and almost hold her own..." (179). Focusing on Elizabeth and Emma, we can see the real revolt of Austen towards women of the eighteenth century, who were forced to accomplish their house duties and follow their husbands' rules.

Elizabeth's and Emma's relationship with their partners represents a type of new and true love. Even though their relationship was based on many misunderstandings and disagreements, again their love grew despite the differences. Austen depicts Elizabeth's relationship with Darcy and Emma's relationship with Mr. Knightley to show the type of love where they conquer all things.

Based on the married couples, Austen depicts couples married for interest and couples married for love, emphasizing the bad consequences of being married just for economical interest. She depicts the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Bennet in *Pride and Prejudice* to show that these kinds of marriages are very formal and lacking the love will never bring happiness to the couple. The lack of desire to spend the time with each other and the lack of the desire to show love and appreciation towards the partner were the main characteristics which Mr. and Mrs. Bennet possessed. Being married for so long without any affection or love lead to the terrible consequences. Mr. and Mrs. Bennet's marriage was based mainly on giving birth to children and spending most of the time separated from each other. Similar to this marriage Austen takes the marriage of Emma's sister, Isabella with John Knightley. Marriages of Mr. and Mrs. Bennet's, and the marriage of John and Isabella represent marriages typical for the period of the eighteenth century. Isabella is described as a very weak human being, sensitive and respecting her husband's rules. For both couples, husbands took the decisions and wives were obliged to respect those decisions. This marriage was considered to be correct during the period of the eighteenth century, when people did not see equality as the main aspect to have a happy life.

On the other hand, Austen depicts the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Gardiner in *Pride and Prejudice* and the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Weston in *Emma* to show the harmony that people can achieve through mutual respect and love. Through these two couples Austen shows that having a common language, considering and respecting each others' ideas, sharing and solving problems together makes a relationship to function properly. Austen gives the message to the younger generation that money cannot bring happiness as long as there is not love or respect to share towards one another.

Through her characters and the different relationships, Austen gives a clear reflection of what should be done and what should not be done to have a better life. As Beer mentions: "the novel in particular, without benefit of anyone's argument, can show quite precisely how things are or were..." (ix). Austen shows that those married only for physical attraction or money cannot last in their marriage. The readers can clearly see these couples being unhappy and things falling apart. Focusing on the relations described by Austen, it is revealed what the life of women was during the period of the eighteenth century. Even though, Austen involves many limitations of women in her novels, again she gives rights to women who strive for emancipation and freedom, depicting characters that refuse to marry for financial interest but choose to marry for love and respect."...through the voice of the novel's narrator (Jane) explicitly states that marriage was first and foremost an institution through which women were able to find security and respect. It was enough for them to be able to stand the chosen man in order to give birth to his heirs, and perhaps, to learn to love him. This was their socially constructed vision of happiness" (Krstic, 2015).

From the time when Austen lived and wrote until today, her novels have been commented and criticized either positively and negatively. Based on this, Barefoot states that *Pride and Prejudice* demonstrates “and asserts through comedy the importance of choice for the free spirit, yet at the same time irreverently considers the compulsions and the biases, the prejudices and the pressures that affect or hinder the finding and the selecting of the proper marriage partner....it becomes more than a novel about the marriage market and the fluttering hearts and hopes of anxious young ladies, and vindicates the use of the traditional material of courtship and marriage as a means of dramatizing the issues of freedom and fate” (Barfoot, 1982).

Barefoot continues by stating that *Pride and Prejudice* “as a whole reminds us continually that civilization is not a gift, perfect and complete, inherited by right or by chance, but is a possession that needs to be earned and sustained by practice; and one of the things it means is learning to catch the tone of the conversation of others and trying at least to appear; interested in their concerns’...With supreme comic confidence *Pride and Prejudice* asserts that neither fate nor chance has power over men who have the right kind of pride and are determined to maintain their freedom to choose; nor is calculation or design able to exploit the prejudices of those who can be educated through love to learn to make the discriminations necessary for the responsible exercise of choice” (Barfoot, 1982).

Writing her novels, Austen makes use “of irony at different levels. She makes use of it in her narrative style to uncover the incongruity, even contradiction, existing under the surface of harmony, thereby adding a rich subtlety and complexity to her style. She uses it also in her characterization to expose her characters’ misunderstandings of others, as well as their own self – deception” (Bhattacharyya, 2005).

Lambdin & Lambdin explain why she likes Jane Austen's art by saying that Austen's novels "depict an accurate, daguerreotyped portrait of a commonplace face! A carefully- fenced, highly-cultivated garden, with neat borders and delicate flowers; but no glance of a bright, vivid physiognomy, no open country, no fresh air, no blue hill, no bonny beck..." (2000)

On the other hand Joseph Duffy comments, "her novels, it is clear, were not in harmony with Victorian desires for fiction: they did not provide solace to the distressed, emotional stimulus to the jaded, or information to the inquisitive. Yet they clearly possessed both the artistry and range that would enable their reputation to flourish" (1954).

Henry James says that "Jane Austen is thus a mistress of much deeper emotion than appears on the surface...Think away the surface animation, the likeness to life, and there remains to provide a deeper pleasure, an exquisite determination of human values" (1957)

Elizabeth Langland "takes *Pride and Prejudice* as an example of the represented world in which, despite the emergence of tensions, society is still able to accommodate individual needs and aspirations, in contrast to most other novels of the nineteenth century, which depict society limiting, more or less tragically, the protagonists' aspirations and achievements" (1984)

Rachel Brownstein gives "*Pride and Prejudice* a central place in representing a woman's complete fulfillment in her union with a man" (1984)

Julia Prewitt Brown in her book *Jane Austen's Novels* (1979) pulled together several strands of feminist criticism in a full- scale analysis of Austen's corpus, which makes a powerful argument for Austen's stature as a major novelist. Brown argues convincingly against a long- standing critical assumption that because Austen was ignorant of the 'great world', her novels basically deal with trivial subject matter but in a nontrivial way. Pointing to the antitheses that ground that

idea- between women and history, between domesticity and history- Brown defines Austen as the first novelist “to fully assert the cultural significance of marriage and family, their role in social and moral change. (The novels) demonstrate through (their) several marriages the necessary ties between the past and present, the moral ethos for the present justified by past behaviors “

Even though Austen’s talent was admired and recognized by many people, her novels were different from the romantic writings of that time. This is why many critics did not agree with her writing, such as Ian Watt who stated that “the Romantics and Victorians disliked the order and control of character and plot in Austen’s novels and found her concentration on ‘three or four families in a country village; sometimes admirable, but generally uninteresting and lacking in imagination (1963).

The same opinion has also B.C. Southam, who explains that “Jane Austen was never thought of as a popular novelist, nor did she get much attention from Victorian critics and literary historians” (1968).

Even though there were are still exist many positive or negative opinions about Jane Austen’s novels in general, working on Jane Austen’s novels made me understand the strong person Austen was and her willingness to find a way to convey her message. Living in difficult circumstances where females’ opinions were taken for granted, Austen’s strong personality made her convince different generations that love and marriage should be considered as two inseparable points to make a relationship function properly. “Jane Austen may have been incorrect about creating a heroine whom no one but herself might like, but she did create a body of work that while helping to usher in realism continues to create critical disagreement, even

today. Many critics incorporate these disparate opinions of Austen within their own criticism of her works. For Virginia Woolf, Austen portrayed only trivialities creating her 'nest' out of the 'twigs and straws' she found in her own backyard, but Woolf admits that although Austen's novels are concerned with a very limited sphere of society, 'never did any novelist make more use of an impeccable sense of human values...She knew exactly what her powers were, and what they were fitted to deal with as material should be dealt with by a writer whose standard of finality was 'high'" (Barfoot, 1982)

Jane Austen's novels still continue to remain popular for the fact that her novels are real. Even though, things have changed from the time Austen lived and wrote, again the dreams and worries of Austen's characters still continue to be considered very normal. All the issues mentioned in her novels, such as love, intrigue, romance, wrong decisions and mistakes are still a part of our lives. Jane Austen's voice has echoed for many years and still continues to be clear to us. Austen's novels are a source which have conveyed and will continue to convey the message that love conquers all and that by showing love and respect towards each other's things can be more beautiful. She depicts ideal relationships by considering feelings very important, but when combined with money to secure the future, the relationships comes to be the most perfect one.

NOTES: During the period of the eighteenth century people had to follow different laws and regulations for marriages. As a result, Austen describes these relationships by following certain rules which could not be avoided. In her article *The Marriage Law of Jane Austen's World*, Martha Bailey gives a more detailed explanation by showing general rules for marriages in Jane Austen's novels. Based on documented facts, she gives details about the "economics of marriage, pre-marital sex, marrying relatives, clandestine and underage marriage, and adulterine bastardy" (2015) and other issues. The detailed documented rules, laws and regulations about the marriages

of the eighteenth century, involving rules described in Jane Austen's novels and other authors of that period will remain my main aim for future research.

5. BIBLIOGRAPHY

1. Anolik, B.R. 2016. *Property and Power in English Gothic Literature*. McFarland. p.93
2. AQA, *Realizing Potential. Aspects of Comedy: Text overview- Emma*. Retrieved June 13, 2018 from <http://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/english/AQA-7717-P1BC-TO-EM.PDF>
3. Ashfaq, S. *Self- Deception vs. Self- realization*. Retrieved June 13, 2018 from http://www.qurtuba.edu.pk/thedialogue/The%20Dialogue/9_1/Dialogue_January_March_2014_87-96.pdf, p.88, p.89, p.91
4. Asker, R. 2012. *Money and Love in Jane Austen 's Pride and Prejudice*. Retrieved from <http://www.diva-portal.org/smash/get/diva2:517202/FULLTEXT01.pdf> on 17 June, 2018
5. Austen, J.1995. *Pride and Prejudice*. New York: Modern Library.
6. Austen, J.2000. *Emma*. Random House Publishing Group.
7. Austen, J.2013. *Emma (The Very Illustrated Edition)*. eBookIt.com
8. Bailey, J.1931. *Introductions to Jane Austen*. Oxford University Press.p.98
9. Bailey, J.2002. *Favored or oppressed? Married women, property and 'coverture' in England, 1660-1800*. Cambridge University Press.p.33
10. Bailey, M.2015. *The Marriage Law of Jane Austen 's World*. Volume 36, No.1 Retrieved June 20, 2018 from <http://www.jasna.org/publications/persuasions-online/vol36no1/bailey/>
11. Barfoot, C.C. 1982. *The Thread of Connection. Aspects of Fate in the Novels of Jane Austen and Others*. Amsterdam: Rodopi.p.90, p.34
12. Beer, P. 1974. *Reader, I Married Him*. Barnes& Noble Books, A Division of Harper &Row Publishers, New York, Hagerstown, San Francisco, London, p.46

13. Berry, K. 2014. *A Love that Lasts: Jane Austen's Argument for a Marriage Based on Love in Pride and Prejudice*. Liberty University. p.19, 20.
14. Bhattacharyya, J. 2005. *Jane Austen's Pride and Prejudice*. Atlantic Publishers & Dist. p.81
15. Blanchard, W. 2015. *Pride and Prejudice (MAXNotes Literature Guides)*, Research & Education Assoc. p.68
16. Brabcova, A. *Marriage in Seventeenth- Century England: The Woman's Story*. University of West Bohemia, Plzen. p.24
17. Brown, J.P. 1979. *Jane Austen's Novels: Social Change and Literary Form*. Harvard University Press. p.56
18. Brownstein, R. 1984. *Becoming a Heroine: Reading about Women in Novels*. Penguin. p.19
19. Butler, M. 1986. *History, Politics and Religion in Jane Austen Companion*. Macmillan. p.101
20. Campbell, E.E. 2012. *Finding Austen: The Covert Gender Politics in Emma's Marriage Plots*. Dickinson College. Retrieved from http://scholar.dickinson.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1032&context=student_honors
21. Cardell, M. 2013. *Love and Marriage in Jane Austen's Novels*. GUPEA. p.7
22. Chalupova, J. 2012. *Happily Ever After? Or the Condition of Marriage in Jane Austen's Novels*. Retrieved from https://is.muni.cz/th/333079/pedf_b/BACHELOR_THESIS.pdf on June 20, 2018
23. Danielova, K. 2009. *Victorian Women and their Representation in Selected Sherlock Holmes Stories*. Masaryk University. p.78
24. DiMauro, M. 2012. *An Analysis of the Marriages in Pride and Prejudice*. Retrieved from <http://www.brighthubeducation.com/homework-help-literature/57838-analysis-of-marriages-in-pride-and-prejudice/> on 17 June, 2018

25. Dobosiova, M. 2006. *Marriage and Human Relationships in the Eighteenth Century England*. Masaryk University, p.12-15
26. Dodiya, J. 2006. *Perspectives on Indian English Fiction*. Sarup & Sons. p. 227
27. Drabek, P; Chovanec, J. 2003. *Theory and Practice in English Studies: Proceedings from the Seventh Conference of English, American and Canadian Studies*. Masaryk University.p.143
28. Duffy, J.M.1954. *Structure and Idea in Jane Austen's 'Persuasion'*. Vol.8, No.4. pp.273
29. Fletcher, F.R. 1973. *The Family and Marriage in Britain*. Penguin Books.p.13
30. Gale, Cengage Learning. 2015. *A Study Guide for Jane Austen's Pride and Prejudice*. Gale, Cengage Learning.
31. Gard, R. 1992. *Jane Austen's Novels: The Art of Clarity*. Yale University Press.p.90
32. Gerebring, P.2012. *Social Rank and Individuality. Personal Virtues in the Context of Class in Jane Austen's Emma*. p.110
33. Gilbert, M.S; Gubar, S.2000. *The Madwoman in the Attic: The Woman Writer and the Nineteenth-Century Literary Imagination*. Yale University Press. p.157
34. Gillie, C. 2014. *A Preface to Jane Austen*. Routledge. p.136
35. Goncourt, E; Goncourt, J. 2013. *The Woman of the Eighteenth Century: Her Life from Birth to Death, Her Love and Her Philosophy in the Worlds of Salon, Shop and Street*. Routledge. p.164
36. Goodheart, E. 2008. *Emma: Jane Austen's Errant Heroine*. Sewanne. p.589, p.590.
37. Graham, W.P. 2016. *Jane Austen & Charles Darwin: Naturalists and Novelists*. Rotledge.p.119
38. Gregory, F. 2011. *Pride and Prejudice*. Insight Publications. P.60

39. Hall, A.L. 2017. *Women and 'Value' in Jane Austen's Novels; Setting, Speculating and Superfluity*. Springer, p.105
40. Halperin, J. Austen, J. 1975. *Jane Austen: Bicentenary Essays*. CUP Archive, p.135
41. Haque, S. 2013. *Charlotte Lucas's Practical Approach to Marriage and the Conditions of Women of Her Society in Jane Austen's Pride and Prejudice*. IOSR Journal of Humanities and Social Science, Volume 7, Issue 4. p.38,39,40
42. Harman, C. 2009. *Jane Austen: An influential Woman*. Retrieved from <https://www.stylist.co.uk/books/jane-austen-an-influential-woman/124242>
43. Hathaway, L. *Marriage in Pride and Prejudice: A literary Essay*. Literary Collections. p.23, p.27
44. Hazarika, K. 2015. *Seven Circles Round Fire: Arupa Patangiya Kaltia's Fiction in the Light of Jane Austen's Concept of Marriage*. European Academic Research. Vol. II, Issue 12/ March 2015.
45. Hill. B. 2013. *Eighteenth – century Women: An Anthology*. Routledge. p.80.
46. James, H. 1957. *Gustav Flaubert. In The House of Fiction: Essays on the Novel*. R. Hart-Davis.p.98
47. Johnes, V. 2006. *Women in the Eighteenth Century: Constructions of Femininity*. Routledge, p.32
48. Johnson, L.C; Tuite, C.2011. *A Companion to Jane Austen*. John Wiley& Sons.p.34
49. Jones, H, 2009. *Jane Austen and Marriage*. A&C Black. p.50
50. Kalil, M. 2011. *Cliff Notes on Austen's Pride and Prejudice*. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, p.65
51. Kaye- Smith, Sh. Stern, G.B. 1943. *Talking of Jane Austen*. London, Toronto, Melbourne and Sydney: Casell and Company,p.206
52. Kettle, A. 2016. *An Introduction to the English Novel*, Volume 1. Routledge. p.90

53. Kristic, A. 2015. *Marriage and Women in Jane Austen's Pride and Prejudice*. Retrieved June 13, 2018 from <https://repozitorij.ffos.hr/islandora/object/ffos:188/preview>
54. Lambdin, C; Lambdin, R.T, 2000. *A Companion to Jane Austen Studies*. GREENWOOD PRESS, Westport, Connecticut, London, p.43-45
55. Langland, E. 1984. *Society in the Novel*. University of North Carolina Press.p.28
56. Le Faye, D. 2002. *Jane Austen: The World of Her Novels*. Frances Lincoln. p.185
57. Mackay, A. 2013. *Forgiving Emma Woodhouse*. Retrieved June 13, 2018 from <https://www4.uwsp.edu/english/rsirabia/studentProjects/sites716/English%20716/English%20716%20Final%20Essay.pdf>
58. Marzec, B.C.J.2014. *Reading Relationships in Jane Austen's Mansfield Park and Pride and Prejudice*. University of Windsor.p.20
59. Moore, R. 1990. *Warrior, King, Magician, Lover*. San Francisco.p.14
60. Morrison, R. 2009. *Jane Austen's Pride and Prejudice: A Routledge Study Guide and Sourcebook*. Routledge. p.98
61. NANOPDF, *Jane Austen: Emma Pagani& Nastasia*. Retrieved June 13, 2018 from https://nanopdf.com/download/jane-austen-emma-pagani-nastasia-introduction-biography-life_pdf
62. Niemeyer. M. 1983. *Anglia*. p.80
63. Nordskog. E.J. 1956. *Analyzing Social Problems*. Dryden Press. p.115
64. Odeh, A. 2011. *Father Figures in the Novels of Jane Austen*. Al-Dawadmi Community College, Vol.4, No.2. Retrieved June 13, 2018 from <https://files.eric.ed.gov/fulltext/EJ1080760.pdf>
65. Odmark, J.1981. *Understanding of Jane Austen's Novels*. Barnes& Noble.p.27
66. Olsen. K. 1999. *Daily Life in 18-th Century England*. Greenwood Publishing Group. p.35

67. Paris, J.B.1978. *Character and Conflict in Jane Austen's Novels: A Psychological Approach*. Transaction Publishers. p.92
68. Pearson South Africa, 2009. *X-kit Lit Series Fet: Pride & Prejudice*.p.6
69. Ross, J. 2003. *Jane Austen: A Companion*. UP Print.p.16
70. Rousseau J.J. 2006. *Emile: On Education*. ReadHowYouWant.p.55
71. Ryle, G.1968. *Jane Austen and the Moralists. Critical Essays on Jane Austen*. Routledge& Kegan Paul.p.110
72. Scheuermann, M. 2015. *Her Bread to Earn: Women, Money, and Society from Defroe to Austen*. University Press of Kentucky, p.222
73. Seymour, N.D. 1993. *Jane Austen's Clergymen*. Retrieved June 13, 2018 from <http://www.starcourse.org/abbey/JACl.html>
74. Smith, T, 2014. *Jane Austen's Pride and Prejudice*. Lulu.com.p.91
75. Smith.L.H; Carroll. A.B. 2000. *Women's Political& Social Thought: An Anthology*. Indiana University Press.p.178
76. Southam, B. 1976. *Jane Austen: Pride and Prejudice. Notes on Literature, No. 158*. London: The British Council.p.23
77. Southam, B.C. *Criticism, 1970- 1940*. Grey.p.54
78. Spacks, M.P.2012. *The Best Books of Jane Austen*. Retrieved June 13, 2018 from <https://fivebooks.com/best-books/jane-austen-patricia-meyer-spacks/>
79. Spacks, P.M. 1975. *The Female Imagination*. New York: Avon Books.p.71
80. Stafford, J.F. 2007. *Jane Austen's Emma: A Casebook*. Oxford University Press. p.114
81. Stone, L. 1979. *The family, sex and marriage in England 1500-1800*. Penguin. p.51

82. Stovel, F.N. 2009. *Jane Austen Sings the Blues*. University of Alberta Press; Pap/Com Edition.p.163
83. Strohmeier, S.2012. *Jane Austen's Representation of Marriage in "Pride and Prejudice"*, GRIN, p.4
84. Taavo, A. 2008. *Eighteenth- Century Female Conduct in Jane Austen's Pride and Prejudice- An Analysis of Elizabeth Bennet*. Lund University. p.8
85. Tamm, M. 1979. *Performing Heroism in Austen's Sense and Sensibility and Emma. Papers on Language and Literature*. Carbondale: Southern Illinois University. p.402
86. Thaler, J.L. 2009. *Jane Austen Society of North America*. The University of Texas at Austin.p.11
87. *The Complete Guide to Teaching Jane Austen*, 2010. Retrieved June 19, 2018 from <http://d2buyft38glmwk.cloudfront.net/media/pdf/MatClassicAusten.pdf>
88. Waldron, M. 1999. *Jane Austen & the Fiction of her Time*. Cambridge University Press, New York, p.52
89. Waldron, M. 2001. *Jane Austen and the Fiction of her Time*. Cambridge University Press.p.16
90. Watt, I. 1963. *Jane Austen: A Collection of Critical Essays*. Prentice Hall.p.12,36,59
91. Wollstonecraft, M. 1996. *A Vindication of the Rights of Woman*. Dover Publications INC. Mineola, New York.
92. Wye, M.E.1992. *Jane Austen's 'Emma': Embodied metaphor as a cognitive construct*. University of Southern California. p.146
93. Zemankova, L. *Women's characters in Jane Austen's Novels*. Retrieved June 13, 2018 from <https://dk.upce.cz/handle/10195/40475?show=full>