

Social Responsibility and Class Conflict in An Inspector Calls

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Every individual who is a part of society must assume a certain role that acts as a bridge between the economy and ecosystem and all such can be termed as social responsibility. Social responsibility can also be considered in terms of the equilibrium individuals must keep between society and the environment. Individuals may engage in passive activities or alternatively in active acts, which depend on rules, regulations, and norms that prevail in a particular society. A sense of bonding and concern for traditional aspects, along with social institutions in this regard, play an important role in a diversified manner.

Question 1: Explore the ways in which Priestley presents social responsibility in “An Inspector Calls

As per Priestly, we are members of one body and thus are responsible to each other. Such aspect has been explained in the context of An Inspector Calls, and such aspect clearly defines the concept of social responsibility that is lying to all of us as members of society. In his play, Priestley explains the fact that being a member of society, all of us have certain responsibilities at individual and collective levels (Priestley, M. (2000). Revealing and connectivity of person to the death of Eva Smith has been presented as characters of the play in a diversified manner by Priestley. Apart from that, Priestley has inculcated the concept of socialism, which envisages the fact that every person has social responsibility and actions certainly affect others. In view of these aspects, Priestley also considers the fact that revelations not only detract from our basic lifestyles but also urge us to re-evaluate our consciences associated with society as part of it. As per Priestley, as a member of society, every individual must have close interaction with others and also join hands so as to achieve collective and individual goals in accordance with pre-defined aims and objectives.

Question 2: Explore what the characters represent in terms of social responsibility and views (socialism & capitalism)

Priestley has presented in a very well-defined and thought-provoking manner the concept of social responsibility associated with individuals and the impact of these upon others through defining characters in his play. Such an aspect can also be interlinked with other concepts of socialism and capitalism which possess varied significance at the global level. Under the concept of capitalism,

private individuals are in a position to enjoy means of production, and such an aspect prevails in most parts of the world. Priestley testified to this in his play. Many gigantic economies in the world are being operated under such a concept, and under such a concept, the concern of corporate and individual entities always moves towards profit-making instead of the welfare of other members of society, which is against the concept of social responsibility as has been explained by Priestley.

Contrary to that, the concept of socialism is closely related to the welfare of other humans who are living side by side with each other, and this is also depicted in the characters of the play propounded by Priestley. Under socialism, means of production are owned by the state, unlike capitalism, and such a system also ensures the fair and equitable distribution of resources and wealth among all members of society. Under such a system, everyone works for another, and thereafter, the state decides how much reward must be given to members of society. Most of the aspects and wheels on which the economy runs are controlled by the government, and people are forced to pay higher rates of taxes, and such aspect has been clearly explained in the play by Priestley. It is a unique feature of socialism that people are given equal distribution of wealth by state, and thus, they enjoy a sense of fair treatment and justice, which form the basis of equitable and true relations on a long-term basis.

Question 3: Explore the change in the dynamic characters Sheila and Eric, as well as the lack of change in Mr. & Mrs. Birling. (Use of characterization to present social responsibility)

At the start of the play, Mrs. Birling is very comfortable and contented with her life and all such was owing to her personality traits apart from that, she engaged during that time period but soon such happiness is annihilated when he heard about the death of Eve and the response of her family not only shattered her personality but also realized her that she only caused of death of Eve since she believed the fact that she did not commit any harm to her and it was only owing to her own behavior that she was forced to do suicide. Later aspects revealed the fact that she was considering himself in isolation and responsible for such a tragedy, and as per the inspector's call, she is very sorrowful at her behavior, and in the near future, she has agreed not to do that in the near future.

Question 4: Talk about Priestley's message to the audience.

Priestley has used his play to convey his message of socialistic society and also used Inspector Call as his voice in terms of social responsibility. As per the Inspector, we never live alone and must be interdependent with each other so that all can enjoy collective benefits in a comprehensive manner. In such a play, the writer has urged the whole of the society to move toward the socialistic aspect

since long-term success in the world and hereafter is inevitable and he has used characters in the play to convey these things. The writer has also conveyed another message in terms of rewards and social classes prevailing across the corners of the world and justified the fact that societies have benefitted from collective efforts and also owing to social responsibility disseminated to each other and not by living in isolation just for the protection of western interests as happen in capitalistic economies and classes.

Question 5 Analyze the structure of the play and its significance, as well as the type of ending. (Unresolved/ plot twist and what effect it had)

The play has been structured in a very well-defined manner. Through characters and other information, the writer has disseminated a meaningful approach to all regarding collective well-being so that all must think for more productive and realistic rewards. We as human beings must think for a collective level instead of an individual since, in that manner, at a limited level, we can gain benefits but not a happy and prosperous lifestyle and present a unified society to the world.

Conclusion

Social responsibility is a wide concept and plays a significant role in the development of society on a long-lasting basis today we are living in an era of challenges and uncertainty where one is interrelated to another and it is also inevitable from a religious and social point of view as per Priestley and same has been explained in a very descriptive manner in the play by the writer. In a nutshell, all of us must follow the concept of socialism, as depicted by the writer in the play, which gives more and more benefits to society as compared to capitalism.

References:

{1} Priestley, M. (2000). *Adults only: disability, social policy and the life course*. *Journal of Social Policy*, 29(3), 421-439.