

The Impact of Social Events on The Main Character in The Novel Violeta by Isabel Allende

Muhammad Ilham Ali
Universitas Negeri Manado Tondano, Indonesia
E-mail ; ilhamali@unima.ac.id

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Abstract

This research aims to analyze the influence of social events on the main character in the novel "Violeta" by Isabel Allende, published in 2022. Social events, such as parties, family gatherings, and demonstrations, significantly shape characters within a narrative. By examining the protagonist's experiences and reactions to these events, this research seeks to understand their impact on the character's development and transformation. Using a qualitative approach, this research employs literary analysis methods to explore the intricate relationship between social events and the main character's journey. By delving into the novel's narrative and employing literature study techniques, the research aims to uncover the nuanced effects of social events on the character's psyche, motivations, and relationships. This research shows that social events significantly influence the main character's life journey. The findings of this research contribute to the broader understanding of character development in literature and shed light on the role of social events as catalysts for change. By analyzing the main character's interactions and responses to various social events, this research offers insights into how external factors influence the character's growth and shape the overall narrative.

Keywords: *character development; social event; sociological approach.*

1. Introduction

Sociology and literature have been intertwined since the emergence of both disciplines. Literature has been used to explore social issues and critique social realities, while sociology has been used to study and understand human behavior and social phenomena. The intersection of these two fields has resulted in a sociological approach to literature, where literary works are analyzed through a sociological lens.

According to Nasution, literary works are a person's use of language to describe their thoughts. This portrayal may make reference to the author's actual reality, the author's understanding of life's realities, the author's pure imagination that is unrelated to real life, the author's intuitive desire, or a combination of these (Nasution, 2016).

Through this statement, it can be understood that a literary writer needs inspiration before starting to write a literary work. Observation or data collection is also needed to compose a literary work, especially one so that the novel is easily accepted and liked by the public readers.

There is a saying that humans are social creatures. Humans coexist with society and cannot be separated from it. Cangara Hafied claims in his book that because people are naturally social beings, they always want to connect with other people, be aware of their surroundings, and even know their own internal processes. As a result of their interest, people must interact (Cangara, 2009).

Therefore, in a literary work, a writer makes his work by making a series of observations or approaches with real social factors that occur in social life to later be included in a novel or literary work. This activity is referred to as a sociological approach. According to Wahyudi, sociology is often seen as an objective study of people and society, including the social processes that take place inside them. All social phenomena, including those related to culture, economy, language, literature, and others, are categorically included in this discipline's list of study materials that must undergo scientific analysis (Wahyudi, 2013).

According to Schaeffer's (1989) opinion in Wulansari, sociology is the methodical study of social behavior and human groups. It primarily focuses on how social relationships affect people's attitudes and behaviors as well as how societies are created and altered. Society and literature are intertwined. Literature speaks on social life and is a product of society (Wulansari, 2017). From the above opinion, it can be concluded that sociology is an important and complex matter.

In sociology, many elements such as religion, culture, background, education, and others greatly affect human life. Based on the previous statement, it can be seen that in a literary work in the form of a novel, there is a social element in it. In the novel "Violetta" there are various social events that affect the life of the main character and other characters in the novel.

This study aims to analyze the sociological approach in the novel "Violetta" by Isabel Allende. The novel depicts the story of a young woman named Violeta, who struggles to navigate through the social hierarchies and expectations of her time. Using a sociological approach, this study seeks to identify and analyze the social issues and conflicts presented in the novel. The study was employing a qualitative research methodology, specifically content analysis, to analyze the sociological approach in the novel. The data was collected through reading and analyzing the novel "Violetta" and identifying the sociological concepts presented in the story.

The significance of this study lies in the analysis of the influence of social events that affect the life of the main character in this novel. Through the analysis of "Violetta", this study aims to provide insight into the ways in which literature can be used to reflect and criticize social issues. Furthermore, this study highlights the relevance of sociological concepts in understanding social reality and human behavior.

2. Method

This research used a qualitative research methodology, specifically content analysis, to analyze the sociological approach in the novel "Violetta" by Isabel Allende. Content analysis is a research method used to analyze and interpret the content of a text or other forms of communication. This research used content analysis to identify and analyze the sociological concepts presented in the novel.

The data for this research was collected through reading and analyzing the novel "Violetta." The novel was read multiple times to identify and extract the sociological concepts presented in the story. The sociological concepts were identified through a close reading of the novel and through highlighting social factors based on sociological theories and concepts relevant to the study. The writer used literature study techniques in the data-collecting process in this research. This research is that it focused on only one novel, "Violetta," by Isabel Allende. This research involves the analysis of a literary work the novel "Violetta" by Isabel Allende. This research focused on analyzing the influence of social events on the life of the main character in the novel.

The data analysis was conducted through content analysis, where the identified sociological concepts were analyzed and interpreted. The analysis involved categorizing and coding the data into themes and patterns to identify the social issues and conflicts presented in the novel. The sociological concepts are linked to the social contexts and experiences of the characters to provide insights into the social realities depicted in the novel.

The following are the steps taken by the writer in compiling this research:

1. First, the writer looks for a novel to be analyzed and the writer reads the novel;
2. After reading the novel, the writer determines the problems to be analyzed from the novel;
3. The writer collects data in the form of quotations in the novel;
4. Categorizes social events into several groups such as pandemic, family, crime, feminism, and others;
5. The writer writes an analysis of each quote;
6. Writing conclusions collecting and analysing data.

3. Findings and Discussion

3.1 Pandemic

Under Grennan's definition, a pandemic is an epidemic that spreads internationally. The most well-known instance is the Spanish influenza of 1918, which affected more than one-third of the global population and claimed the lives of almost 50 million people. Since 1918, there have been various influenza pandemics, including the H1N1 virus in 2009 and those in 1957 and 1968.(Grennan, 2019)

THE PANDEMIC HAD NOT taken my family by surprise. As soon as word spread about the dying people in the streets near the port and the alarming number of blue corpses in the morgue, my father, Arsenio Del Valle, calculated that the plague would not take more than a few days to reach the capital, but he did not lose his calm. He had prepared for this eventuality with the efficiency he applied to his business. He was the only one of his brothers on track to recover the prestige and wealth that my grandfather had inherited but lost over the years because he'd had too many children and because he was an honest man. Of my grandfather's fifteen children, eleven survived, a considerable number that proved the heartiness of the Del Valle bloodline, as my father liked to brag. But such a large family took a lot of effort and money to maintain, and the fortune had dwindled.(Allende, I. 2022 ; p. 13)

The writer of this novel tells through the point of view of the main character in the novel, the writer describes in detail the general situation when the pandemic spread. The general situation when an illness attacks the community is

clearly illustrated here when Violeta's family's economic situation is declining and they also lose family members. Exactly the same as what happens in society in the real world.

In their articles, M. Martini and several of his colleagues explained flu or diseases that occurred in Spain. The article included details that Albert Gitchel, a chef at Camp Fuston in Kansas, experienced headaches, fever, and coughing on March 4, 1918. He was among the first confirmed cases of the so-called Spanish flu in recorded history. 1100 soldiers were hospitalized in three weeks, and thousands more were impacted. (M. Martini, 2019) It proves that the pandemic which is referred to as "the flu" or "Spanish flu" does not only exist in novels or is not merely the creation of writers but rather occurs in people's lives in reality.

A pandemic is when people face disease outbreaks that require them to stay indoors to prevent rapid spread. The same thing happened in the real world recently, where the world has not recovered long from the Covid-19 pandemic which began spreading in 2019 until now.

The Spanish influenza, "the flu" for short, reached us after almost two years' delay. According to the scientific community, we'd be spared infection entirely due to our geographic isolation, the natural barrier afforded by the mountains to one side and the ocean to the other, as well as our remoteness. Nevertheless, in 1920 the virus arrived in all its majestic glory with more force than anyone could have imagined, (Allende, I. 2022; p. 14)

Isabel Allende added that the explanation regarding the process of spreading the "flu" pandemic made the reader understand and imagine the state of society at that time was more or less the same as the recent Covid 19 pandemic where a disease spreads from one place to another over time.

Here are some extracts from Erkoreka's article that help explain the pandemic's events at the time. In his article, Erkoreka accurately explains the statistics on the propagation of the Spanish flu virus. In the article, figures and diagrams are displayed. 276 influenza-related deaths occurred in Madrid between May and June of 1918, resulting in a mortality rate of 0 per 1000 (i.e., 0 deaths per 1000 individuals in the general population). Another 852 people died during the same time frame after receiving a diagnosis of one of several respiratory diseases. The mortality rate of 131 per 1000 obtained when combining influenza deaths with those caused by all other respiratory system illnesses would be the highest mortality rate attributed to this epidemic outbreak (Erkoreka, 2010).

Isabel Allende also describes elements related to health so that it supports readers to understand how dangerous and scary the viral pandemic that attacked society at that time. Symptoms or obvious health problems from people who have contracted a disease or virus are generally in the form of a cold or cough. For example, the Covid-19 virus was spreading rapidly during the pandemic. People who experience flu or cough are immediately isolated even though they do not necessarily suffer from COVID-19 in order to prevent and stop the spread of the virus.

The onset of illness brought first a terrible chill from beyond the grave, which nothing could quell, followed by fevered shivering, a pounding headache, a blazing fire behind the eyes and in the throat, and deliriums, with terrifying hallucinations of death lurking steps away. The person's skin turned a purplish-blue color that soon darkened until the feet and hands were black; a cough impeded breathing as a bloody foam flooded the lungs, the victim moaned and writhed in agony, and the end arrived by asphyxiation. The most fortunate ones were dead in just a few hours. (Allende, I. 2022 ; p. 14)

The difference between the two viruses is that a Covid-19 sufferer experiences flu symptoms and a stuffy nose, while the Spanish flu sufferer experiences a headache and a dry cough. which were originally considered by humans as ordinary illnesses, are natural for every human being to experience when the body is tired or lacks food intake. But a disease that is considered trivial is actually an early symptom and sign of a dangerous disease.

According to several sources from health articles on the internet, the symptoms of Spanish flu begin with headaches and fatigue followed by dry coughs, loss of appetite, and stomach problems. The information is exactly the same as stated in the following novel excerpt.

To clarify the storyline the main character is told to live a life for approximately one century. The quote below explains that the main character was born during the "flu" pandemic and died during the "covid 19" pandemic when these two viruses happened at the exact time described in this novel. Sources state that the Spanish flu epidemic killed 40 to 50 million people in two years, between 1918 and 1920, while the COVID-19 virus occurred 100 years later and was first detected in China in late 2019.

I WAS BORN IN 1920, during the influenza pandemic, and I'm going to die in 2020, during the outbreak of coronavirus. What an elegant name for such a terrible scourge. (Allende, I. 2022 ; p. 290)

Online articles chronicled the timing of the occurrence of these two viruses. The span of 100 years makes it impossible for us to imagine that a similar virus actually occurred 100 years ago. In this novel by Isabel Allende, the main character is told to have a long life so that she sees two virus outbreaks attacking the earth. The difference is that

the Spanish flu happened when he was just born and continued and practiced as he grew into a teenager and Covid-19 spread when he was old and even reached the age of 100.

The atmosphere described in this section is very identical to the pandemic atmosphere which requires everyone to be quarantined. The main character's statement that he can die in peace and his words about animals, plants and the air gives a more sad effect when reading that part.

The world is paralyzed, and humanity is in quarantine. It is a strange symmetry that I was born in one pandemic and was die during another. I saw on television that the streets of the cities are empty, voices echo off the New York skyscrapers and butterflies congregate on the monuments in Paris. I can't have visitors, and that allows me to say goodbye slowly and peacefully. Activity has stopped everywhere and anxiety reigns, but here at Santa Clara, nothing has changed: The animals and plants don't know about the virus, the air is pure, and the calm is so profound that from my bed I can hear the crickets beside the lake in the distance. (Allende, I. 2022 ; p. 290)

This quote describes the far-reaching impact of the current pandemic, reflects the irony and unexpected feelings that arise in his experience of having experienced the impact of 2 different pandemics, shows the drastic changes in urban life due to quarantine, highlights how the current situation has a huge impact on social interaction and human relations, and draws a contrast between the chaotic state of affairs in the outside world and the serenity preserved in Santa Clara. This quote shows the dire state the world is in due to the pandemic, drawing a contrast between the halted urban life and the serenity found in nature. It also depicts reflections on life and death and the effect the main character feels personally in this extraordinary situation.

Lockdown is not only applied when a virus attacks but when certain circumstances require people to stay home. The writer managed to describe the situation of tension through a piece of dialogue below. The situation of the dialogue in this novel is when the military revolt against the government occurs. Most of these novels contain records of events in history.

"Follow the instructions they give you on television, Violeta. Stay home; don't go to the office until things calm down. If you need me, leave a message at the hotel." (Allende, I. 2022; p. 199)

This quote shows that tensions over military matters have reached a level where instructions and advice are being given via television. This reflects the importance of the information organizations or governments convey during crises. These instructions can be considered as a precautionary measure to protect yourself and the general public. This suggests that in-person or face-to-face communication may be limited or impossible during this period. Communication through messages can be an alternative to staying connected and coordinating in difficult situations. This quote reflects how lockdowns are changing the dynamics of everyday life, with instructions given via television becoming essential to directing individual actions. It also shows the need for isolation and alternative communications in crisis situations resulting from a military coup.

3.2 Racist

Suryanto and his colleagues quoted Fredricksen's statement (2002; 1 on Racism). Racism, in his opinion, is defined as: "The term "racism" is used in a loose and unreflective manner to describe the hostile or unfavorable sentiment of one ethnic group or "people" towards another and the acts that follow from such attitudes. However, there are instances when a group's animosity towards another is expressed and manifested with zeal and ferocity that go well beyond the group-centered prejudice and snobbishness that appear to be a nearly universal human fault.(Suryanto & Minawati, 2017)

Since independence, the government had set out to conquer, integrate, force the "barbarians" to submit, and convert them into civilized people, Catholic if possible, through military occupation and repression. (Allende, I. 2022 ; p.66)

In the 1900s there were many conflicts. There is still much coercion as well as colonization of the weak. The writer of this novel incorporates many elements of reality about problems that often occur at that time. Besides reading this novel as entertainment, readers also gain a lot of knowledge about the history that happened at that time in Europe and America.

This quote reflects the colonial history and colonization efforts that existed in many independent countries. This reveals the conflict between government power and groups of people who are considered "barbaric" or not in accordance with the standards set by the government. This analysis also underscores the importance of considering and respecting cultural and religious diversity in a democratic and inclusive society. Although the main character in the novel adheres to the Catholic religion, he believes that this is not a good thing.

Not only coercion but also persecution by the government, indigenous people, and local communities at that time were very sensitive to outsiders. The part before the quote below describes the situation when they really hate outsiders like Asian, African, and Indian people. That's why the quote below explains the racism of Europeans towards Indians.

*Ours is a very racist society; you've seen, Camilo, how we treated the indigenous peoples....
"You're not mestiza, Violeta. All of our ancestors are Spanish or Portuguese; there's not a drop of Indian blood in our family," Aunt Pilar said when the topic came up. (Allende, I. 2022 ; p.109)*

This quote confirms that the society in which this story takes place is a very racist society. This indicates discrimination against indigenous groups or indigenous tribes. Racism has become a visible characteristic of interpersonal relationships and social structures. This quote refers to the bad treatment of indigenous people or indigenous tribes. This shows the injustice and oppression of these groups. The words "how we treated the indigenous peoples" reveal that unfair and discriminatory treatment of indigenous peoples is a significant problem in these communities.

Concepts of Identity and Ancestry: The statement "You're not mestiza, Violeta. All of our ancestors are Spanish or Portuguese; there's not a drop of Indian blood in our family" uttered by Tante Pilar highlights the importance of the concept of identity and ancestry in this society. This statement confirms that there is a strong emphasis on European descent and the rejection of indigenous descent in their families. This reflects the existence of deep racial divisions and hierarchies in these societies.

This quote reveals the injustice and racial inequality that exists in the society where this story takes place. This analysis underlines the need for awareness of the problem of racism and the importance of fighting racial discrimination to create a more just and inclusive society.

Due to the racism of the local population, the Indians experienced various crimes by the Europeans so relations between the people were not well established, causing concern for the neutral population. What was meant was that the population who hated Indians also hated their government at that time.

All the pure-blooded Indians had been pushed out through the efficient system of buying their land at ridiculously low prices or getting them drunk and making them sign documents they couldn't read. The murder of Indians had been going on since the sixteenth century, first by the Spanish colonizers and then by anyone else, with impunity. (Allende, I. 2022 ; p.66)

In this case, Violeta felt concerned for the views of many people. Violeta thinks that their views and understanding will lead to conflicts which are feared will lead to crimes by migrants against local communities.

This novel by Isabel Allende provides a lot of additional knowledge for readers. Historical events and conflicts between tribes and violence against women are also told in this novel. According to excerpts from the novel at that time they did not get the rights of women. And the number of acts of violence to the murder of women at that time. The terrible atmosphere in this novel does not only exist because of the elements of viruses, wars, and conflicts. Also exists in the situation in this conversation.

*One day they just stop showing up. Many women are murdered by their husbands, lovers, sometimes their fathers."
"What about the police?"
"They wash their hands of it."
"In Susana's case, her aggressor is a police officer." "Nothing is going to happen to him, even if he kills her. He can just claim it was self-defense." The doctor sighed.*

Violence Against Women: This quote shows that many women experience violence from their husbands, lovers, and sometimes their fathers. This reflects the serious problem of violence in intimate relationships that exists in this society. This quote highlights that this violence causes the tragic death of women.

Weaknesses of the Legal System: The "What about the police?" and the answer "They wash their hands of it" shows the inability of the legal system to handle cases of violence against women. This illustrates the failure of the police to take adequate measures or provide protection to victims of violence.

Injustice and Fraud: The statement "In Susana's case, her aggressor is a police officer. Nothing is going to happen to him, even if he kills her. He can just claim it was self-defense" describes injustice in handling cases of violence against women. This situation means that even when the perpetrator of violence is a police officer, appropriate punishment or justice may not be served. This reflects the systemic injustice and fraud that exists in law enforcement.

This quote underscores the failure of the legal system to protect women from violence injustice and corruption that can occur in the process of law enforcement. This analysis highlights the need for legal solid reforms and more significant efforts to protect women from violence in relationships and ensure justice for victims. The main character also fights for the rights of fellow women, which are felt unfairly fought for together with feminist organizations.

3.3 Family

The situation of grief in this quote is described very clearly. An incident where a child witnesses his father's suicide evokes imagination and emotion, especially empathy for the main character who experiences such a tragic situation. The tragic situation exists as a prelude to the formation of the main character's characteristics.

My father shot himself through the temple with the English revolver he'd bought during the pandemic. The bullet lodged cleanly in his brain, the entry point a black hole the size of a coin, a thin trail of blood trickling from the wound down to the paisley design on his Indian smoking jacket and from there to the carpet, which absorbed the stain. I remained frozen at his side for an eternity, observing him, the coffee mug trembling in my hands, whispering to him, "Dad, Dad." I can still remember with perfect clarity the feeling of emptiness and terrible calm that came over me and would last until long after the funeral.(Allende, I. 2022 ; p.54)

This is a very traumatic and hopeless situation. This quote describes the emotional and physical effects of suicide. The main character remains frozen beside his father, shaken and shaking his coffee cup. The description of the feeling of emptiness and eerie calm reflects the emotional devastation experienced by the main character. This experience appears to have lasted a very long time and had long-lasting repercussions, which are still felt after the funeral ceremony.

The description of blood flowing from the wound and seeping into the father character's Indian smoking suit, then seeping into the carpet, creates a contrast between the beauty of the design and the resulting devastation. It can be a symbolic representation of a disturbed life, a loss of balance, and the contrast between the peace that seemed to exist before and the tragedy that occurred.

This quote describes the main character's traumatic and emotional experience as a result of his father's suicide. This analysis highlights the profound impact of suicide on individuals and families left behind and the importance of understanding and supporting severe mental health problems.

After the tragic incident that he experienced, the main character finds happiness by living with his uncle and aunt. The sad atmosphere of the previous quote changes with the atmosphere in this quote, where the writer also adds information about the atmosphere of Santa Clara, which can be interpreted well by the main character.

But according to my aunts, the country air improved my character and ironed out my rebelliousness. At Santa Clara I was always busy, the days flew by. I had a thousand chores to do and I loved them all. I was captivated by Uncle Bruno, as I called him from the start, and I am certain that the affection was mutual. To him I was the reincarnation of his daughter who had died at birth, and to me he was a substitute for the father I had lost. In my presence he transformed back into the happy and playful man some still remembered from his youth.(Allende, I. 2022 ; p.63)

The impact of the environment on the novel's main character, particularly after a sad and terrible event. The main character can grow up in a calmer and more enjoyable environment thanks to nature and country living. The intimate emotional bond between Uncle Bruno and the main character is discussed in this remark. The main character sees Uncle Bruno as a replacement for the father he lost, while Uncle Bruno sees the main character as the reincarnation of his daughter, who died in infancy. This demonstrates how deeply intimate and devoted their love is, filling the emotional hole in their lives.

This statement indicates that Uncle Bruno has become the joyful and carefree man he still recalls from his childhood in response to the main character's presence. This implies that Uncle Bruno, who may have previously endured profound pain or loss, found happiness and a fresh life due to their relationship. In the rural setting of Santa Clara, this remark illustrates the main character's metamorphosis and the development of a deep bond with Uncle Bruno. This study emphasizes the significance of emotional attachment, environmental factors, and family interactions in providing emotional warmth and support in molding one's personality.

The main character again experiences a sad situation, where amid his busy work, he returns home because his mother dies.

My mother's health had been declining for the past twenty years, and she'd been convinced she was dying so many times that we tended to pay little mind. This time, however, the situation was serious. Uncle Bruno asked us to come home quickly and to contact our other brothers, so that they could say goodbye. That's how the six Del Valle children were reunited for the first time since our father's funeral. Ten years had passed...(Allende, I. 2022 ; p.93,94)

This reunion reflects the importance of family ties and togetherness in difficult situations. This statement describes the tension and anxiety in the family due to the decline in the health of the main character's mother. This analysis

highlights the vulnerability and need to support one another in serious situations and the importance of family bonds in overcoming life's challenges.

The writer gives an accurate family picture regarding the reunion of the main character with his siblings, giving the effect of a sad situation lamenting the loss of family members.

The six Del Valle children took my mother's coffin by train to the capital, to place her beside her husband in the family crypt. For months, I was unable to mourn her loss.(Allende, I. 2022 ; p.96)

According to this quotation, the main character has struggled to cope with his mother's death for many months. This illustrates how every person's mourning process is unique, and in the case of the main character, he finds it extremely challenging to accept the loss of his mother.

The statement that the main character cannot grieve for several months shows that the process of adjustment and recovery from losing a loved one can take a long time. This also reflects how much influence and loss the main character feels due to his mother's departure. This analysis highlights the complexity of the individual grieving process and the importance of providing adequate time and support to deal with the loss of a loved one.

Situations like this often occur in families. A father who loves his daughter but doesn't care about his son. Situations like this are very common in the life of a family.

"I'm never going to get a boyfriend if you keep this up, Dad," Nieves would complain.

"At your age, the last thing you need is a boyfriend. That'll happen over my dead body," he responded. He was as jealous as a lover.

In the meantime, I lived here in our country with Juan Martin, who was studying philosophy and history. In his father's eyes this was a waste of time, completely pointless.(Allende, I. 2022 ; p.152)

This reflects the different views of the older and younger generations regarding romantic relationships. This shows the difference in views between Julian and Juan Martin regarding the value and importance of education being undertaken by Juan Martin. This challenging and defiant attitude shows how his father wanted to protect Nieves and rule her life according to his views.

This quote describes the conflict between Nieves and her father, Julian, regarding their love life and the father's view of his daughter's love relationship. This analysis highlights the generational differences, his father's influence as a protective figure, and the tensions in romantic relationships that emerge in the story. His challenging and defiant attitude shows how his father wanted to protect Nieves and organize his life according to his views. This is a severe problem for Violeta because the difference in Julian's treatment of their two children is very clear, whereas Violeta doesn't want something like that. She wants to share affection fairly.

The main character in this novel often faces sad situations. He not only lost his parents, he also lost his daughter. A very real situation in the family. The writer provides an element of understanding that you are not only happy in life. Various situations have been faced by the main character in this novel by Isabel Allende.

but Nieves's heart failed and she died minutes later. I am infinitely sorry, Camilo. I would've wanted you to rest for at least a moment on your mother's breast after being born, to breathe in her smell, absorb her warmth, feel her loving hands and hear her voice saying your name.

"Camilo, Camilo..." I whispered, crying.(Allende, I. 2022 ; p.191)

This quote describes a moment of profound loss for the main character, and how the main character thinks about the future of his grandson Camilo, who was just born and lost his mother and expresses his sadness over the death of Nieves. This analysis highlights a deep sense of loss, unfulfilled hopes, and solid emotional expressions in the face of tragic loss. Mixed emotions for the main character because she is sad to lose her daughter and also has to think about steps to plan for her grandson's future.

3.4 Crime

The writer manages to give a chilling effect to the reader through the situation in this quote. It conveyed the dangers of a woman alone in a situation that is already getting dark. The main character becomes the target of evil. Almost experienced abuse if his family did not help him.

It was getting dark when I bid Facunda good night and walked toward our house, wearing my nightdress and a thick vest, to have the cup of broth and bread with cheese that generally made up our dinner. Suddenly I again heard the clicking sound that the strange man had made hours earlier, and before I had time to react he appeared before me.

"Where are you going, pretty girl?" he snarled.

I could smell the drink on him from several steps away. I don't know what idea he had of me; maybe he thought I was one of the servants, someone insignificant who could be taken advantage of. I tried to run, but he cut me off and grabbed me by the neck with one hand, covering my mouth with the other.

"If you scream I'll kill you. I have a knife," he muttered, biting off his words, and he kned me in the belly, causing me to double over. He dragged me to my Birdcage, kicked the door open, and I found myself in the pitch-darkness of the cabin. (Allende, I. 2022 ; p.78)

This reflects condescension and disrespect for the main character's identity as an individual with the right to freedom and safety. This quote describes the threatening and violent moment experienced by the main character when a strange man attacks her. This analysis highlights the main character's dangers, the injustice and abandonment of his identity, and the uncertainty and fear he feels in the situation. This situation adds one more traumatic incident that Violeta experiences as the main character in the novel after losing her father.

It is a good thing for women to fight for the rights of their fellow people. However, the writer explains that the action taken by a woman in this quote to fight for her rights is wrong. Many other actions can be taken, not careless actions that are included in one crime. The writer succeeds in educating his readers.

These ideas were so radical that Teresa would regularly be thrown in jail for publishing her beliefs, creating public disturbances, inciting strikes, trespassing on Congress, and, on one occasion, assaulting the nation's president during a public appearance. The papers said that a deranged feminist had thrown a ripe tomato at the president at the ribbon-cutting ceremony for a powdered milk factory. Teresa alleged that it was a U.S. conspiracy to replace the miracle of breast milk with prepackaged garbage. She sat in jail for four months until José Antonio finally managed to get her out. (Allende, I. 2022 ; p.101)

Even though Teresa faces prison and risks punishment, José Antonio, another character in the novel, attempts to free her. This shows that there is support between the characters in the story. This quote reflects Teresa's view of the existing system and her alignment with feminist issues. He saw the actions involving the president as a United States conspiracy to replace mother's milk with powdered milk products. This reflects his critical views on policy and efforts to voice important societal issues.

This statement remains Teresa's struggle to voice her radical beliefs and the consequences she faced in confronting the system and authority. This analysis highlights Teresa's courage, determination, and commitment to fighting for truth and her controversial views. In the novel, Violeta thinks that fighting for women's rights is good, but she believes that Teresa's method is not right. It is even detrimental to Teresa.

The situation in this quote is when the main character helps a woman who wants to report the crimes of Violeta's ex-husband. It is one of the good moral values that can be taken from Violeta's actions to stand for what is right.

Zoraida would be protected by anonymity when the lawyer presented her evidence to the criminal investigator for the Internal Revenue Service, turning Julián in for fraud and tax evasion. Zoraida also provided information about Julián Bravo's involvement in drug trafficking, which was enough evidence to arrest him and keep him locked up so that he couldn't flee the United States. (Allende, I. 2022 ; p. 240)

This quote describes the brave step of Zoraida, one of the characters in the novel, in protecting herself and exposing Julián Bravo's crimes to the authorities. This analysis highlights Zoraida's role in exposing financial crimes and drug trafficking and her commitment to ensuring that criminals do not go unpunished. Violeta helps even though Julian is a relative or ex-husband in this case.

3.5 Religion

The writer places Catholicism as the religion of the main characters in this novel, namely Violeta and her family. Allende also shows how Catholic beliefs and practices can be adapted to other spiritual beliefs and practices,

Popular opinion, however, attributed our salvation to Father Juan Quiroga, in whose honor precautionary processions were held. Quiroga is the only saint worth worshipping, because no one can outdo him when it comes to domestic miracles, even if the Vatican has failed to canonize him. (Allende, I. 2022 ; p.13)

This statement sums up how people perceived Father Juan Quiroga's contribution to the rescue and his renowned miraculous skills. Even though these religious individuals have not received official recognition from church officials, this analysis demonstrates the power of public perception and belief in the miracles linked with them.

Not only about religion in general. In this novel, the writer places Violeta with her family as devout Catholics. Perseverance in prayer had been taught to her by Violeta's mother. Catholicism in the novel "Violeta" is depicted as an integral part of the characters' lives and social environment, but it also shows how beliefs and practices can be used to oppress and control women.

My mother made sure that I prayed in Spanish before I got into bed, because the English prayers could be blasphemous and who knew if they'd even be understood up in heaven. Miss Taylor belonged to the Church of England, and that made her exempt from coming to Catholic mass with the family and from praying the rosary with us. (Allende, I. 2022 ; p.29)

The main character's mother ensures that her child prays in Spanish before going to bed, as she thinks that prayers in English can be considered blasphemous and are not necessarily understood in heaven. This shows the importance of using the correct language and the religious traditions adopted in prayer. This quote reveals that Miss Taylor, another character in the story, is a member of the Church of England. Due to differences in religious beliefs, Miss Taylor does not need to attend Catholic mass with the main character's family or pray the rosary with them. This illustrates the difference in religious practice and received religious freedoms.

The main character's mother holds solid Catholic traditions and beliefs, where language and prayers are considered essential. This shows the important role religion and tradition play in their family life, as well as the efforts of mothers to ensure that their children's religious practices conform to their own beliefs and traditions. This quote describes the difference in religious practice between the main character, his mother, and Miss Taylor. This analysis highlights the importance of language and tradition in prayer practice and the religious differences that influence participation in religious activities. It also reflects the importance of religious belief in family life and the role of parents in guiding their children's religious practices.

3.6 Government problem

Politics is also included in government issues. One of the problems in this novel is the conflict that occurs in the government. This issue becomes a contentious argument between Julian and Juan.

OUR COUNTRY'S POLITICAL SITUATION in the early seventies was disastrous; there was a deep social and economic crisis and the government was paralyzed by constant disagreement among its parties and intransigent opposition from the right, waging to stop at nothing to end the Socialist experiment. The opposition had the support of the CIA, as Juan Martin reminded me regularly and Julián justified, saying that we had to destroy the guerrillas. "There are no guerrillas here, Dad, it's a coalition of centrist and leftist parties elected by the people. The Americans have no business getting involved," Juan Martin argued. (Allende, I. 2022 ; p.172)

In this excerpt, the character Juan Martin and his father, Julián, argue about the political situation and the role of the United States. Juan Martin stated that there were no insurgents in his country and that US interference was irrelevant. This illustrates the differences in political views and understanding between the younger generation (Juan Martin) and the older generation (Julián). This also reflects different perceptions of the political situation and foreign interference.

This quote gives an idea of the problematic political situation in the country in the early 1970s. This analysis highlights social and economic crises, government disagreements, foreign interference, and family debates about the political situation. This shows the complexity and tension in the country's politics at the period mentioned.

The main character's dislike for the president because of his character is conveyed through this dialogue. Various kinds of social conflicts are described by the writer in his novel.

If the president appeared on television to defend his agenda, I changed the channel. I didn't like that arrogant man, who was a traitor to his class, a rich kid in Italian suits claiming to be a Socialist. And what was the difference between Socialism and Communism? They were the same thing, José Antonio explained, and no one wanted to see the country become another branch of the Soviet Union. My brother was concerned over the economic crisis, which sooner or later was bound to affect us, (Allende, I. 2022 ; p.182)

The main character in this quote dislikes the president and disagrees with his political agenda. The main character portrays the president as arrogant, a traitor to his class, and a rich kid who claims to be a socialist. This suggests that the character has a negative view of the president's leadership and may not believe in his political goals. These quotes provide insight into the characters' views of presidents and their political views. This analysis highlights disapproval of the president, perceptions of socialism and communism, and concerns over the economic crisis. This illustrates the complexity of political opinion and the character's concern for their country's political and economic conditions.

This military coup made people go through a lockdown at that time. People are not allowed to move outside their homes during chaos. Through this conflict, the writer tells about the sincerity and persistence of the main character in taking care of his grandson.

ELEVEN MONTHS AFTER YOUR birth, a military coup overthrew the government; it was a bloodbath,... The coup was carried out like a meticulous military operation. The armed forces and the police rebelled at dawn one

Tuesday in spring, and by noon they'd bombarded the presidential palace, the president was dead, and the country was under military command.(Allende, I. 2022 ; p. 198)

This quote depicts that the country went through a military coup meticulously carried out by the armed forces and police. The coup took place on a Tuesday in spring and was marked by an attack on the presidential palace, resulting in the president's death and the military's takeover of power. This quote mentions that the military coup led to much violence and massacres. The expression "bloodbath" describes this event as very bloody and violent. This indicates that the coup involved the overthrow of the government and resulted in heavy casualties.

In this quote, it is argued that after the coup, the country came under military command. This indicates a significant political change in the country, where the military now takes over political power previously held by the civilian government. This analysis describes the consequences of a military coup in the context of the novel. This reveals the violent situation and drastic political changes in the country. These events provide an essential backdrop for the story's development and its impact on the lives of the characters and society in the novel. Apart from the description of events, this quote also focuses on the main character, who provides details about what they have been through since Camilo was a baby.

3.7 Human psychology

The statement in this quote gives the effect of a very deep sadness. As a result of the incident she witnessed, Violeta became traumatized.

This scene is etched in my memory with the precision of a photograph and has reappeared in my dreams many times. Around age fifty I spent several months in therapy with a psychiatrist who made me analyze the event ad nauseam, but I have never been able to muster the emotion that should correspond to seeing your father dead from a bullet wound. I don't feel horror or sadness, nothing. I can describe what I saw, the emptiness and calm I felt, but nothing more.(Allende, I. 2022 ; p.54)

The main character reveals that he underwent therapy with a psychiatrist to analyze the events, but he was never able to feel the emotion that should arise when seeing his father killed by a gunshot. He described that he felt no fear, sadness, or any emotion. He could only objectively describe what he saw and the feeling of emptiness and calm he felt.

This analysis highlights the main character's emotional response to the experience of seeing his father, who was shot dead. Although the character remembers the incident very clearly, he is unable to feel the emotions that should arise in such a situation. This indicates a profound psychological influence on the character's life, which may require further exploration in the story to understand the background and the effect this had on the character.

Violeta also needs time to heal from the grief of losing her mother. Sadness and regret are felt when reading this part of the novel.

*I thought about her often with a hard lump in my chest, going over the years she had been in my life and blaming her for the perpetual despondency, for not having loved me enough and for having done so little to connect with me. I was angry over the opportunities we missed to be mother and daughter.
"Mom, Mom, don't go," I silently begged, but an instant later she had disappeared.
I began to cry uncontrollably, the torrent of tears purging me from within until there was nothing left of the bitterness and blame and bad memories. Ever since then, the spirit of my mother has trod lightly around me.(Allende, I. 2022 ; p.97)*

After this moment, the main character feels that his mother's spirit surrounds him. This shows that an emotional bond remains between mother and child, even though the mother is gone. The presence of her mother's spirit provides the main character with a sense of presence and comfort.

This analysis describes the relationship dynamics between the main character and his mother. The main character feels disappointed and dissatisfied with their relationship but then goes through a process of emotional purification which frees him from these negative feelings. Even though his mother is dead, the main character feels the presence and influence of his mother's spirit in his life. This reflects the complexity and resilience of the relationship between a mother and child and the feelings that can persist despite different physical circumstances.

The writer describes the main character's condition after facing various situations and tells the reader about the importance of maintaining his mental condition and healing him if he has already experienced trauma.

My brother and Josephine Taylor, the only ones who knew about Julian's abusiveness, criticized me often for putting up with him. At their insistence, I went to see a psychiatrist to help resolve that destructive emotional dependence.(Allende, I. 2022 ; p.165)

Under pressure and encouragement from his brother and Josephine Taylor, the main character decides to visit a psychiatrist to help overcome his destructive addiction. This shows that the main character is aware of the problem in his relationship with Julian and is trying to overcome his addiction and recover. This analysis underscores the role of family and close friends in providing support, criticism, and encouragement to end unhealthy relationships. The steps taken by the main character to seek help through therapy also show efforts for recovery and self-development. This highlights the importance of awareness of violence in relationships and steps to overcome destructive addictions.

3.8 Environmental damage

In this novel, the earthquake occurred in 1960. According to the internet, Spain experienced an earthquake in 1960. The 9.5 Mw 1960 Valdivia earthquake, also known as the Gran Terremoto de Valdivia, was the most powerful earthquake ever recorded. This tsunami was produced by an earthquake that struck at noon (19:11 GMT, 14:11 local time) and lasted up to 11 minutes.

THE PEOPLE IN THE area divided their lives into before and after the quake. They lost almost all their belongings and it took years to replace them, but no one ever considered moving away from the volcano and the geological fault line we sat atop. The fishing boat stayed in the middle of the main square in Sacramento as a reminder of humanity's impermanence and the uncertainty of the world.(Allende, I. 2022 ; p.148)

These statements illustrate how the earthquake calamity affected residents' daily life. The local population categorizes their lives into two periods: before and after the earthquake. It took them years to replenish their possessions after losing practically everything. Nevertheless, despite this experience, no one ever considered leaving the region despite its proximity to hazardous geological fault lines and volcanoes.

A fishing boat in the center of a Sacramento square is a stark reminder of human transience and the unpredictability of the outside world. The ship is a metaphor for how frail human life is and how uncertain their surroundings are. This demonstrates how, despite the devastation and destruction caused by natural disasters, individuals continue to hold onto their ideals and contend with obstacles.

This quote highlights human strength and resilience in the face of disaster and the search for meaning in difficult circumstances. Despite the loss, the community remains attached to its place and maintains a zest for life. It also shows the importance of appreciating human vulnerability and the unpredictable nature of nature, prompting reflection on the human condition and its place in an unstable world.

3.9 Community organizations

One of the supporting characters in this novel is told as a fighter for rights and justice for children and women.

Teresa Rivas quit her job at the telephone company to devote herself full-time to the feminist cause. She worked with organizations that furthered the rights of women: the vote; custody of children, which before had been exclusive to the father; ability to earn their own wages and labor protection; defense against violence-basically she worked toward many fundamental changes to the law that we take for granted today. (Allende, I. 2022 ; p.101)

Teresa Rivas fought for fundamental changes in the law that we today regard as certain rights. Her actions and work aim to create gender equality and social justice for women. In that context, she focuses on legal and economic rights, violence against women, and the recognition of women's fundamental rights.

This quote underscores the role and contribution of Teresa Rivas in the feminist movement. She determinedly left her job and worked full-time to fight gender inequality. Through her work with various organizations, she aims to bring about changes in law and society that will ultimately provide equal protection and rights for women.

This quote also illustrates the importance of women's struggles in achieving equality and justice. Teresa Rivas represents the many women who fight for their rights and participate in meaningful social change. This shows that feminist struggle is an important part of the history of social movements and brings positive changes to society. This figure is one of the main figures in the struggle for feminism through their organization.

This novel contains various complex matters regarding government, family, love, and the feminist movement, which is told to bring many changes to women. The story about feminism described in Violeta's novel also happens in the real world.

WITH THE RETURN OF democracy, several women's organizations that collaborated with my foundation, free from the oppression of military machismo, blossomed into the groups that are still working to make a difference today. Thanks to them, divorce is now legal and abortion is allowed under certain circumstances.(Allende, I. 2022 ; p. 263)

In this quotation, the shifting political landscape that has followed the restoration of democracy is described. After a period of military dictatorship dominating the government, democracy was restored, creating an opportunity for women's organizations to collaborate with the narrator's foundations.

The significance of women's organizations in bringing about change when democracy was restored is highlighted in this quotation. These organizations flourished and are still active today in their efforts to improve society after being liberated from the macho demands of the military. They keep up the campaign to advance gender equality and women's rights.

One of the tangible results of the hard work of these organizations is the change in laws regarding divorce and abortion. In this context, the quote mentions that divorce is legal and abortion is permitted under certain circumstances. This shows the real impact of the struggle of women's organizations in bringing about changes in policies and laws that affect women's lives directly.

This quote underscores the importance of the women's movement in shaping a more inclusive and just society. Through their hard work and perseverance, women's organizations have succeeded in changing people's views and producing legal changes that protect women's rights. This reflects the power of the women's movement in influencing public policy and bringing positive social change. The story in the novel clearly describes how the main character participates in every meeting in the process of achieving feminism.

In the middle of the novel, it is told about government conflicts, violence, and injustice for women. Even male presidents are still disliked by the public. It is difficult for women to be in political or government affairs. However, over time the writer tells about the results of the struggle of women to pursue their rights so that it was possible to elect a female president at that time, as told in this quote.

We'd just elected the first female president of the republic, a woman who prioritized women's issues, and was especially focused on combatting the epidemic of domestic violence, which she called a national disgrace. I had several meetings with her when she assumed the presidency, because my experience was useful to her. The mission of the foundation coincided exactly with her aims. That meant that the Nieves Foundation began to receive government support, acquired greater visibility, and attracted donors that still today, so many years later, help fund it. (Allende, I. 2022 ; p. 283)

This excerpt introduces us to the political changes after the election of the republic's first female president. The female president prioritizes women's issues and focuses explicitly on eradicating domestic violence which she calls a national disgrace. The narrator in the novel has several meetings with the president after he takes office, as the president considers the narrator's experience valuable. The mission of the foundation set up by the narrator is precisely aligned with that of the president.

This quote illustrates the synergistic relationship between the Nieves Foundation and the government after the election of the woman president. The government support provided to the foundation resulted in increased visibility and attractiveness for the foundation. In this regard, the Nieves Foundation gained support from the government, increased its visibility, and attracted donors who today, all these years, still help finance it.

This quote highlights the important role played by this woman president in fighting for women's issues, especially in overcoming domestic violence. His government is prioritizing this issue and is working with the Nieves Foundation, which has a similar goal. This reflects the importance of cooperation between the government sector and civil society organizations to achieve positive social change.

In addition, this quote also underlines the positive influence of women's leadership in politics and the importance of encouraging women's participation in the political arena. The election of a female president is a critical moment that strengthens the role of women in policy-making and decision-making that impacts women's issues.

4. Conclusion

This article has identified and analyzed the impact of social events on the main character in the novel "Violeta" by Isabel Allende, published in 2022. The sociological approach has been used to analyze the power dynamics between different social classes, the oppression of women in a patriarchal society, and the struggles of marginalized individuals in society. The research involves literary analysis methods, using a qualitative approach to understand and interpret the data from the novel. The findings of this study can be used to inform discussions on social issues and conflicts in Latin American society, and the use of literature as a tool for understanding social realities. This article finds that every social event is very influential for the growth of the main character, whether it's the various bad events that have been experienced at the beginning of the quotation then come to events that require greater responsibility and up to the main character who rises from all adversity and is formed into a feminist warrior. Overall, this study has demonstrated the relevance and value of the sociological approach in analyzing works of literature, and the implications of this research may offer new insights to readers regarding how social events can serve as catalysts for change in the life of the main character in literary works. In the future, this article hopes there will be significant research on the new concept of disillusionment in the different forms from the literature.

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