Industrialisation and Human Social Development: Charles Dickens’ Hard Times as a Conscience to Sciences

Ibrahim YEKINI

Université d’Abomey-Calavi (Bénin)
Email: adelbiye20@gmail.com

Abstract— This critical research work aims at investigating on Dickens’s outstanding academy which is in charge of all boys’ and girls’ education in the Britain’s 19th century. By foregrounding what kind of education these girls and boys need and are submitted and which kind of educators they basically need so as to face the Industrial Revolution new challenges. This research work reveals that Dickens is a peace maker and outgoing father as his parents. Dickens’ conception is a panacea in terms of good education for sustainable development at all the spheres of our society. But before reaching those findings, we have used, psychological reader-response, historicism and marxism and literary criticism in order to well handle the different aspects of our study.

Keywords— Boys, Girls, Education, Academy, peace, outgoing.

I. INTRODUCTION

In the matter knowledge, there is no limit since nobody cannot hold it permently. It is the case of Pythagoras (570 to 495 BC), a Greek philosopher, mathematician, and founder of the Pythagorean brotherhood, in nature, formulated principles that influenced the thought of Plato and Aristotle and contributed to the development of mathematics and Western rational philosophy according to the Editors of Encyclopaedia Britannica. Referring to Pythagoras’s background, he has been philosopher. Etymologically, Philosophy comes from two Greek words philos meaning love and logia meaning ‘wisdom’ or ‘knowledge’. Then, from this definition, philosophy is love of knowledge. Philosophy is the mother of all disciplines because every single idea is built upon a quest for the truth. So, Dickens as a novelist like many other British writers seeks to find solutions to the UK’s social unrest in the nineteenth century through his philosophy, dealing with education.

Talking about this education ground, Dickens has indirectly unveil secrets that undermine the children’s education? As a good educator or father, he does not say or name the strategies used but has a board of teachers who provide to different cathatories of learners or children an appropriate knowledge on every field. He even builds his community as this should in real life of British country under the side effect of the Industrial Revolution. Dickens thinks in this vein that it should be better to dig the little boys and girls as a model as his character, a teacher so as to avoid making hereditary defects in Britain which stands for development on every level without taking the new generation education into account.

II. THEORITIFICAL FRAMEWORK AND SANCTIFICATION OF THE STUDY

During the nineteenth century, in Britain, there were tremendous reforms. In this vein, the UK’s citizens had used numerous ways to make concrete their dream regarding the rightness and the social change. Then, the novelists, throughout the nineteenth fictions used the same strategies to entertain the readers in order to display the designed educational system. So, the readers must behave as thinking human beings by making criticism, by sometime asiding the idea of writer. That is why we use in this research work psychological reader-response theory, one of reader-response criticism branch, so as to get also the motive of the readers too.

In fact, in Dickens’s Hard Times, there is a question of children’s education. In the matter of education, we must deal with psychoanalytic theory since there is relation between academic ground, boys’ and girls’ psychology that Dickens has dealt with. Hard Times was written in 1854(Dickens, Xi) whereas Freud experienced psychoanalytic child psychology in 18953. This means that Dickens was in advance on his method of teaching comparing with Freud. To complete this research work

1 https://www.britannica.com/biography/Pythagoras on 30/08/2018 at 9h 07
2 htpp://www.quora.com/Why-is-philosophy-called-the-mother-of-all-disciplines on 30/08/2018 at 9h 07
3 https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/07973081954.1182253?src=recsys.at 00h 08 AM on 28/08/2018

www.ijels.com
very close to didactics, we also use historicism theory since Dickens claimed: “Now, what I want is fact.”

So, historicism theory holds that there is an organic succession of developments, and the local condition and peculiarities influence the results in a decisive way. Historicism recognises the historical character of all human existence. Then the existence of boys’ and girls’ education is a fallaciousness statement, but views history not as an integrated system however, as a scene in which a diversity of human wills express themselves. It holds that all historical knowledge is relative to the standpoint of the historian.4 All in all, to achieve our purpose and to beset the bypass of our research work and throughout our standpoint, we also use historicism theory in addition to the first.

Through the Victorian era, Karl Marx contrasted the productive forces and the relations of production or economy, which together formed the ‘real foundation’ of social life5. Accordingly, the subject under study, the issue of human being development should properly be deepened if we design it with marxism and literary criticism. In this way, to be coherent with the novel under study and be intellectually cogent, we apply to our study marxism and literary criticism. For sure, all and the entire set of theories have been put together because of the relation between Karl Marx and Frederick Engel. Engels was forced in 19th to live in Manchester, corresponded constantly with Karl Marx in London and frequently wrote newspaper articles for him (1851–52).6 As a set of literary theories, they function as one as like there is a complementarity between Engel and Marx. Thus, Terry Eagleton claimed: “marxism criticism is not mere a sociology of literature, concerned with how novels get published and whether they mention the working class. Its aim is to explain the literary more full”(Terry p. 3)

Basing on those literary theories, we can freely talk about children’s education, see how they perform in society and bear to side effect of the 19th ‘economic reforms. Then, in the same vein, we are historically ready to appreciate the children performance. So, the theme understudy is made to be consecrated, integrated, and then we are secured to conduct safely this research to the end.

III. NOTION OF ACURACY OR MEASURE AND ACKNOWLEDGE

---


www.ijels.com British literature dealt with a multitude of grounds in nineteenth century. So, Dickens, in improving his novel puts his characters in the center of the matter of accuracy and makes them do what people and the world should. “Hard Times itself, by contrast, resist labels and categorisation not least because it sets itself up against a mid-nineteenth-century passion for mastering controlling and imparting knowledge”(Dickens p8). This quotation witnesses how important the issues of acquaintance is in Dickens’s fiction. In the under studied novel, the narrator talks about and stresses on perfect people focusing on the science ground. And this is presented and embodied in his fictional characters. Throughout his fictional work, Dickens founds a mechanised society. At the very beginning of the fiction novel Hard Times, Dickens claimed “The One Thing Needful”, so this statement is his first meaningful phrase of the very first chapter. We ask ourselves many questions to know since what is needful is something that is necessary or compulsory for people. By claiming so, the author of Hard Times pinpoints out the right or good attitude. It is in this light he said human could form the mind of reasoning animals upon facts (Dickens, P. 9). In his work, while referring to the mechanisation of human being, it is not strictly limited to the physical mechanisation. Therefore, it involves other fields. So, the first is related to mental attitude or behaviour. Here, he says before doing anything, people should think quickly and perfectly. That is to say, even if we think that something is true or will happen or we have the impression that it is true or will happen, although we are not certain of the facts. Secondly, he focuses on the human self-reliance. We think it should be incomplete to deal only with mechanisation without enlightening the different components of it. Human has invented engines and how human can behave like his or her own product. In the accordance of the context, Dickens is awkward to use enculturation and is making comparison between the engines and people work or function. He is talking about enculturation since the engine world is different from the human’s. In addition to that, the enculturation or self-reliance is appropriateto children’s field. That is certainly why he claimed “This is the principle on which I bring up my own children, and this is the principle on which I bring up these children”8, I think that Dickens is a global reformer because the education through self-reliance helps children come up with ideas that their country can be developed. In other words, it is also done carelessly without taking into consideration the results of the person’s behavior. Likewise, the process of
mechanisation of the society in *Hard Times* does not begin at the workplace only, but also in the British school system. In *English Social and Cultural History*, Bibhash Choudhury claimed:

A mechanical ordering of social and political life is usually seen as one of the characteristic thrusts of the Neo-Classical period, a condition that owed a lot to the climate of intellectual opinion following the developments in science. This was the Age of reason and it became both fashionable and logical to argue that the universe was a well-ordered machine. The ideas behind this new philosophy were drawn not only from the developments in the scientific world but also from those advocated by thinkers like Descartes and Francis Bacon (Choudhury pp. 150-151.)

This quotation is one of the tangible proofs that shows the British social sphere in the Victorian Era. Throughout this claiming, first, we agree with Dickens who does not want British people or his relatives and English policy markers owe him a grudge since there was a great economical and political shift in the nineteenth century. In his fiction, Dickens portrays *Hard Times*’ characters and institutions like the way the country betterment was ongoing. Bibhash’s historian has actually pinpointed out the social reality and talks about the way the educational system should function so that the British children reap profit from them and be useful for their country. Following the instance of Descartes, Francis Bacon, Dickens through his novel set a new school educational system, way of life and lead by clever person. Then, education does not mean only means merely learning and teaching. According to Plato:

> L’éducation […] est l’art de tourner […] l’œil de l’amé vers le bien et de trouver pour cela la méthode la plus […] efficace : elle ne consiste pas à mettre la vue dans l’organe, puisqu’il la possède déjà […] elle en ménage la conservation. (Russ, P.82)

On another word for Plato, education is to turn fate’s eye towards good thing and turn for this the best effective strategy: it does not the matter to introduce or change some parts of human body since it is already equipped and human can maintain it (My translation)

So, regarding this definition of education, Bibhash is claiming and Charles Dickens’s education, we fully conclude that Dickens’s education project is not a small and simple program. Dickens is about, through his philosophy, the human condition on every field where, the basic principle of Thomas Gradgrind’s educational system is only facts and nothing else that might encourage the development of the children’s imagination and creativity. Dickens chooses to explain Gradgrind’s, the central character, theoretical proceedings. He disapprovingly personifies the utilitarian philosophy through conveying the ideals and evils, good and bad of the utilitarianist teacher. In this sense, Kevin Manton, politician and historian from the University of London, indicated that socialists of late nineteenth century university of London, indicated that socialists of late nineteenth century “frequently condemned both working-class parents and teachers for exploitative brutal behavior in part to environmental influences.”

From the beginning of his second chapter of the novel understudy, Thomas Gradgrind as exemplary character is presented as “a man of facts and calculations” (Dickens, p. 2) In online dictionary calculation is:

> ...careful planning to control a situation for your own advantage in a way that is slightly unpleasant and causes people not to trust you or the process of using information you already have and adding, taking away, multiplying, or dividing numbers to judge the number or amount of something.

Having made the sum up of those two definitions and after thinking, Dickens portrays throughout his fiction the computer science power on his characters. It means Gradgrind is like a computer in arithmetic field and nobody can fight against on this ground and easily overcome him. So, on the basis of this quality of trustworthy and the power of global knowledge, Gradgrind represented in the nineteenth century, a character that was on the center of everything. Since:

> History of Mathematics is a multidisciplinary subject with a strong presence in Oxford, spread across a number of departments, most notably the Mathematical Institute and the History Faculty. The research interests of the

---

9 Joyce Senders Pederson is an Associate Professor in British History at the University of Southern Denmark, Odense. She has written a number of monographs on the history of education and women’s history in England and is currently working on a study of men and women’s friendship in 19th century England.

10[https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/calculation](https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/calculation), at 15h 15, on 10/318

11[https://www.google.fr/search?dcr=0&source=hp&ei=feqjWuGnAof7UqCl1dAG&q=date+%27invention%27+ordinateur&oq=date+%27invention%27+ordinateur&sa=q&ved=0CAcAQ10K&biw=1280&bih=820&psg=1](https://www.google.fr/search?dcr=0&source=hp&ei=feqjWuGnAof7UqCl1dAG&q=date+%27invention%27+ordinateur&oq=date+%27invention%27+ordinateur&sa=q&ved=0CAcAQ10K&biw=1280&bih=820&psg=1)
members of the group cover mathematics, its cultures and its impacts on culture from the Renaissance right up to the twentieth century.\textsuperscript{12} This assertion is one of the proofs that emphasises on the link between human culture’s and what mathematics stand for in the course of nineteenth century in United Kingdom. Then, Dickens as a writer was portraying the way English society was going with workers and the mill owner or the masters of the nineteenth century companies and his characters. By doing so, he is proving the way country citizens were taught was wrong. He is also showing that the men of exact science are these by whom everything should be implemented and portrayed the kind of people everyone should look like in the matter of human education design. Dickens characterises himself as “a man who proceeds upon the principle that two and two are four and nothing over, and who is not to be talked into for allowing anything over”\cite{dickens}\textsuperscript{13}Thereby, Mr. Gradgrind is a well-known person in Coketown which is a fictional town of red bricks but blackened by smoke and ashes, since there are a lot of machineries and all chimneys emitting smoke constantly\textsuperscript{13}. He considers himself as “an eminent practical” man and believes that nothing is important in life apart from facts and figures.

\section*{IV. S U T P L A N E T A N D C H A R L E S D I C K E N S’S F I C T I O N O R I G I N A L I T Y}

\textbf{DICKENS’S FICTION ORIGINALITY}

\textit{In Hard Times}, the author seems to use throughout his fiction the whole aspect of the word “fiction”. In fact, according to \textit{The Companion of the Oxford English Language}, “fiction”

\[\ldots\text{has three aspects, each with an appropriate adjective: (1) Both countable and uncountable. Not fact, but an invention of some kind, sometimes a fabrication or lie. The detective Sherlock Holmes\textsuperscript{14} was an invention of the writer Arthur Conan Doyle\textsuperscript{15}, and as such is fictitious; no such person ever lived (2) (Usually uncountable). Not fact, but still part of reality: imaginative narrative, often part of literature: works of fiction in contrast with non-fiction, especially in bookshops and libraries. Here the fictional Sherlock Holmes is a fact in the sense that a character with this name appears in certain in certain stories and films, and can be discussed in much the same way as a historical person. (3) (Usually countable. A special kind of 'fact': a social and cultural construct, such as a legal fiction that helps in the administration of the law, temporal fictions such as the days of the week \ldots\)](Mcarthur and Mcarthur, p. 401)

In the light of this quotation, when we are talking about fiction, we refer first to a fiction, a lie or some fabrications. In this case Charles Dickens does an extraordinary work since he thinks that human should function as machine. Regarding the second part of the fiction, the enliven up throughout his novel a part of reality and even in the first part of the definition the fiction somehow emphases on this. So, all facts may not be truthful but countable or uncountable is mathematics. In the Victorian Era, time was a hard, as the novel under study has indicated, he is highlighting how important science was. He makes his characters react as if it were in the real world in the United Kingdom. The world that Charles Dickens builds through his fiction is as ideal or a challenging one and it should be an exemplary country since this is made on the reason and fact. Thus, reason and fact refer to law or everything related to tangible proof. In science nobody can lie because the results come from experience on fact.

Talking about Charles Dickens’s perception and philosophy, the meaning of words such as mathematics, facts, figures, to list only a few, are meaningful. Charles Dickens is a man of betterment maker. For him, people must change thing in them and around them so as to be on the focus with the world progress.

The figure meaning is very broad, however, when we deal with mathematics, we refer to a particular amount expressed as a number, especially statistic. In short, Charles Dickens makes Thomas Gradgrind a suit human who should positively impact the others in his fiction. So, Charles Dickens’s ideology is not far from a good model since he thinks that what people need is not just few but good.

\begin{itemize}
  \item \textsuperscript{12}https://www.maths.ox.ac.uk/groups/history-mathematics, at 14h 20, on 10/3/18
  \item \textsuperscript{13}https://prezi.com/tuflyegjom/coketown-by-dickens/ at 16h 07, on 10/03/18
  \item \textsuperscript{14}Sherlock Holmes, fictional character created by the Scottish writer Arthur Conan Doyle. The prototype for the modern mastermind detective, Holmes first appeared in Conan Doyle’s ‘A Study in Scarlet’, published in \textit{Beeton’s Christmas Annual} of 1887. As the world’s first and only “consulting detective,” he pursued criminals throughout Victorian and Edwardian London, the south of England, and continental Europe. Although the fictional detective had been anticipated by Edgar Allan Poe’s C. Auguste Dupin and Émile Gaboriau’s ‘Monseur Le coq’, Holmes made a singular impact upon the popular imagination and has been the most enduring character of the detective story. (https://www.britannica.com/topic/Sherlock-Holmes )
  \item \textsuperscript{15}Arthur Conan Doyle, in \textit{Full Sir Arthur IgnatiusConan Doyle}, (born May 22, 1859, Edinburgh, Scotland—died July 7, 1930, Crowborough, Sussex, England), Scottish writer best known for his creation of the detective Sherlock Holmes—one of the most vivid and enduring characters in English fiction. (https://www.britannica.com/biography/Arthur-Conan-Doyle)
\end{itemize}
Thus, there are many ideas hidden behind principle of revelation in Dickens. According to Lexique d’Économie, Principe de Révélation it was said this:


In another word, the above statement means that if in case of inadequacy, imperfectability and information skewness, it is possible according to the principles formulated by the prize of Nobel of economy 2006. Léonard Hurwicz (1917 – 2008), Eric Maskin and Roger Myerson to reveal without cost a shared information by several agents. The opportunist behaviour is relational for information skewness, accordingly an agent doesn’t reveal her/his information when she / he doesn’t withdraw from it a benefit, an advantage. So this statement witnesses what Charles is throughout his philosophy the different satisfactions and prize he wins. As an activist, he says what thing should be in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and the Northern Ireland. Because at that time, people need more good information about science, technology and the Industrial Revolution so as to not be overpassed by events. The tangible proof is the Freedom of Information Act which was not voted in the Britain’s Constitution at that period and he thinks that through literature he could freely communicate to commons. However, British citizens need information in order to be on focus in the matter of information, rather new and everything related to knowledge. In British literature, Charles Dickens reveals the reality undergone by the British citizens and made his characters portray reality in his writing in the light of the different Acts of his country. An another way, not only Charles Dickens plays the role of the information constitutionality but also finds himself the usefulness of his own information and accordingly the role he is playing in his country. Charles Dickens considered himself as sharer of knowledge to every generation and his novel itself is considered as a current set of education and knowledge newspaper. In this line of thought, Dickens advocates for a perfect world which should be suit and be without any shortcomings. But it is still an ideal concept because as Ayikwei Armah said “the beautiful ones are not yet born”.

V. EDUCATION STATE AND ELITE BACKGROUND

In 19th century, human conditions in Britain were transformed by the Industrial Revolution under the Queen Victoria’s government socio-political reforms. In the early 19th century, Britain was ruled by an elite. Only a small minority of men were allowed to vote. The situation began to change in 1832 when the vote was given to more men, a club of Evangelical Christians called the Clapham Sect were active in politics. They campaigned for an end to slavery and cruel sports. England textile industry was the first to be transformed. It exploited little children 16. Regrettably when children worked in textile factories they often worked for more than 12 hours a day. In the early 19th century, Parliament passed laws to restrict child labour.

Rev Robert Walsh 17 (1772-1852), British Clergyman, Physician and Writer claimed:

Ever since the existence of man the teaching and learning process has been an integral part of human experience. The communication of knowledge and practical skills has always been essential to the development of individuals, groups and wider communities. If this is true of the most primitive of communities it is all the more so in today’s complex society where personal fulfilment depends to a large extent on one’s social role which is often a direct result of acquired knowledge and the ability to make the most of it. The ability to develop one’s critical sense, the ability to analyse, to see how things and persons relate are all skills that are the result of education 18.

For the account of this statement, the 19th century England need more elite from school so that to guide, orientate and suggest the sustainable development way to the politicians. In actual fact, the educational system sector has been one of the important sector that is not only the British governmental concern, but in the 19th century, even the devolved structures was taken care of as an egg. And as such, this sector became the department that was concerned by everyone even the novelist. So, building a good education throughout its populatio is to get back profit upon investment and need great part of effort. The narrator finds at very soon to set up good people called a model. As a matter of a model is a system that is being used and that people might want to copy in order to achieve similar results, According to the

16 http://www.localhistories.org/19thcent.html on October 19th, 2018 at 11:16
17 https://medium.com/@Limerick1914/robert-walsh-records-the-conditions-of-the-enslaved-people-on-board-the-feloz-1829-8b49427d5 at 7h 15 on 6 /09/18
18 http://www.know-britain.com/general/education_in_england_1.html at 7h 15 on 6 /09/18
Oxford Advanced Learners’ Dictionary, a model is a “copy of something, usually smaller than the original”. So in Dickens context, when we talk about a model, we refer to no mistake. Since one the pioneer of school, the character, Mr. Gradgrind is a school superintendent who promotes an education based on facts alone and later becomes a Member of Parliament. According to Charles Dickens, Mr. Gradgrind’s family is a model to follow, beside all day long after the class, the narrator said:

Mr. Gradgrind walked homeward from the school, in a state of considerable satisfaction. It was his school, and he intended it to be a model. He intended every child in it to be a model – just as the young Gradgrind were all models.

They were five young Gradgrinds and they were model every one. They have been lectured at, from their tenderest years; coursed, like little hares (Dicks, p. 16)

The above quotation is an example of what Dickens puts or defines in his education. Good education through teaching and make good learners in order to build a model. When we talk about the little hare, we refer to wild animal, a fast-running, long-eared mammal that resembles a large rabbit, having very long hind legs and typically found in grassland or open woodland. The narrator strategy isto educate his own children and others and as Gradgrinds and hare standard. This model may be followed the model that is an abstract system of which function is to represent the reality in a very simplify way, but formalised, or of studying setting of a real phenomenon (in this last case, the model does not necessarily seek to be realised)(Échaudemaison et al, 2001, P. 323.) In the novel under study, the teachers are considered. Their image portrays the eminent professors that are not little, the teachers are able to step Professor Owen so as to make reason the learners and in their turn make reason each of the members of the Britian country. In Britannica:

Sir Richard Owen, (born July 20, 1804, Lancaster, Lancashire, Eng.—died Dec. 18, 1892, London), British anatomist and paleontologist who is remembered for his contributions to the study of fossil animals, especially dinosaurs. He was the first to recognize them as different from today’s reptiles; in 1842 he classified them in a group he called Dinosauria. Owen was also noted for his strong opposition to the views of Charles Darwin.19

The remembrance made on Professor Owen in Britannica is, an example of what the teacher’s background is in Dickens’s education framework. In Dickens’s education context, it is a matter of challenge of knowledge. Getting knowledge and be like Professor Owen is not an easy task since the one had challenged Charles Darwin on his nature selection theory. So the boys and girls should be able to make discoveries throughout theories.

Thomas Gradgrind nodded his approbation. This is a new principle, a discovery, a great discovery, said the gentleman. Now, I’ll try you again. Suppose you were going to carpet a room, would you use a carpet having a representation of flowers upon it? (Dicks, P.13.)

Though the teacher’s (gentleman) questions, the learners find themselves how to research and make discovery by thinking and reacting about those questions since nothing has not been accepted and used without thinking, criticism about it. For that, the exit profile must be on Gradgrinds standard. The narrator says: “Everything? Well, I suppose so. The little Gradgrinds had cabinet in various departments of government too. They had a little conchological cabinet; and a little metallurgical cabinet, and a little mineralogical cabinet; …” From this statement, Dickens has dared in his academic sphere. Cabinet is an executive, policy-making body made up of senior ministers in charge of the various departments of government, who meet regularly for discussion with the Prime Minister. Whereas in the Oxford Advanced Learners’ Dictionary, cabinet can be defined as:

a group of the most important government minister, or advisers to the president, responsible for advising and deciding on government policy: a cabinet meeting (= the most important member of the opposition party). ………

It is also

A piece of furniture with doors, drawers and / or shelves that is used for storing or showing things: kitchen cabinets, medicine cabinet…20

This definition handles two aspects of grounds, the first one is about political affairs and the second one is related to professional issues. All in all both are dealing with what everybody cannot carry out. Anyway, despite the age of Gradgrinds they are already useful for the humanity since anybody cannot have a cabinet. Dickens’s fiction in the nineteenth century played many roles in the matter of social change, however, in Hard Times, it portrays new challenge approach in children.

19 https://www.britannica.com/biography/Richard-Owen at 10h 45on 5/08/18

20 Oxford Advanced Learners’ Dictionary
education. Accordingly Dickens’s fiction stands for new challenge for the new generation. Regarding this challenge, we thing that the narrator is right since in a new world, people need a new form of education so that get betterment in the matter of knowledge and be on the same level of background of their environment. For others like Alicein Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland and Through the Looking-Glass and what Alice Found There, her attitude is very different in the matter of knowledge.

In actual fact, for Dickens, what adult is today must be what he or she has been when he or she was child or too younger, in French, we say. “L’enfant est le père de homme”. The narrator Lewis Carroll claimed: “but the wise little Alice was not going to do that in a hurry”(Carroll, p.16.) By saying that first, all shows how many times he points out the 19th century’s children wisdom. However, he does not take care of children’s education and the tangle proof of this behaviour of child’s reaction. The attitude that consist of reading just and afterward taste because of what is written on the bottle, it is not written or labelled ‘poison’ is not sufficient to drink “taste”(Idem) So Alice should experience by giving the product to the Rabbit, then concludes his research.

VI TEACHER’S LEADERSHIP AND EDUCATIVE RELATION IN DICKENS’ VISION

Not to cast down the main idea of this title under development and Charles Dickens’s perception and his characters’ leadership, it should be compulsory to lay on some words meaning again before really handing or besetting what the author hides behind the nineteenth educational system. When we cast a glance at the word “leadership” it can bring into our mind a variety of idea such as a political leader, pursuing a passionate, personal cause, an explorer, cutting a path through the jungle for the rest of his group to follow, an executive, developing her company’s strategy to beat the competition. Then, through those above key words or expressions taken here and there, we confirm that the word “leadership” is a huge one. Leadership is also the ability of an individual or a group of individuals to influence and guide followers or other members of an organisation. From all these explanations related to leadership, we cannot conclude anything about its definition.

In actual fact, Charles Dickens develops through his work political leaders’ vision because for him, before developing a country, we need every one, so we don’t need only the men but we need men and women. He is also conscientious of the different conditions that could be achieved in order to complete the purposes of a good sustainable development. Here, we cannot speak about sustainable development without referring to human capital. In another word:

In addition to dealing with excessive population growth. Developing countries must also be concerned with the quality of their human resources. Economic planners’ in developing countries emphasize the following. Specific programs: (1) Control disease and improve Molt and nutrition. Raising the population’s health standard not only makes people happier but also makes them more productive workers. Health-care clinics and provision of safe drinking water are vitally useful social capital. (2) Improve education, reduce illiteracy, and train. Educated people are more productive workers because they can use capital more effectively, adopt new technologies, and learn from their mistakes. For advanced learning in science, engineering, medicine, and management, countries will benefit by sending their best minds abroad to bring back the newest advances. But countries must beware of the brain drain, in which the most able people get drawn off to high-wage countries. (3) Above all, do not underestimate the importance of human resources. Factors can be bought in the international marketplace. Most labour is home-grown, although labour can sometimes be augmented through immigration. The crucial role of skilled labour has been shown again and again when sophisticated mining, defense, or manufacturing machinery fell into disrepair and disuse because the labour force of developing countries had not acquired the necessary skills for its operation and maintenance.

The above statement is one of the elements called Human Capital contained into sustainable development key points. So in the light of the education purposes, Dickens claimed: “Now, what I want is, Fact. Teach these boys and girls ...” In the vein of leadership’s definition and while taking into account the human capital of the sustainable development in the 19th century’s economics context, Dickens’s Hard times plays an important role in the framework of the socio-economics betterment in Britain. In addition to all that the narrator is considered as

---

21 https://searchcio.techtarget.com/definition/leadership

22 https://economicskey.com/human-capital-5032
a good developer, he doesn’t make difference between men and women. Women (girls) and men (boys) are all citizens and they should humanly, politically, economically and environmentally build the British country all of them too. Dickens, throughout the British socio-political issues, finds a relevant opportunity through public management which is included into Teacher’s leadership to solve the gender education problem because: “Gender inequity constitutes a challenge for education. Historically, and in many countries, educational system has importantly always favoured more the emergence of the boys than the girls.” (Yessoufou et al)

Regarding educative relation Charles Dickens makes an effort to know his learner through the means of communication. According to Dictionnaire Robert:

The educational relationship is a relation of dependency and reciprocal influence that allow to ensure the training and the development of human being. In the domestic setting, the educational relationship between parents and children transmits the behavioural pattern, way of doing, of feeling, of reacting which marks the future of every human beings in their personal history. In the social framework, the educational relationship between a child and an educator of exemplary profession changes the development of the human beings according to the collective values and ideals of the community. (my own translation)

In fact, between the learners and the teacher there should be established a tight link in order to help the teacher to teach effectively and efficiently through teaching competency base approach. So, before beginning any course, the learners’ presentation is compulsory since the teacher cannot call the learner “you” because this way to call learners is inappropriate and is not acceptable on pedagogical approaches. Charles Dickens foregrounds educative relation through the role played by his characters and stated:

Girl number twenty, said Mr. Gradgrind, squarely pointing with his square forefinger, I don’t know that girl, who is that girl.

Sissy Jupe, sir, explained number twenty, blushing, standing up, and curtsey.

Sissy is not a name, said Mr. Gradgrind. Don’t call yourself Sissy. Call yourself Cecilia.

It’s father as calls me Sissy, sir, returned the young girl in a trembling voice, with another curtsey.

At first blush, this dialogue seemingly looks like a simple conversion. However, it shows the educative relation since the teacher has discovered the kind of students he has before him. The tangible proof is that the teacher must be able to charge, symbolise, and give meaning or sense, brief, metabolise the emotive material, by putting assailable, support the structure of a chaotic world or universe.24 The above quotation is one of the teacher’s attitude that is in charge of little learners. The teacher is a special model and must teach learners and make them as his or her standard. It is up to him or her to turn the forest into a dwelling place. That is why through Dickens’s Hard Times, there are all kinds of people who are well endowed.

VII. CONCLUSION

All in all, Charles Dickens continues to be one of the most widely read Victorian novelists despite the new British writers’ talent and their relevant fictional works. So, apart from the common name of Social reformer under which he is known all over the world and the positive impacts of his writings render his fiction relevant.

Moreover, Dickens is a great and an exclusive father as “Mr. and Mrs. John Dickens considered the talents and qualifications of all their children. They wanted to use the money earmarked for education where it would do the most good”25. Here we don’t see Dickens and his characters involve in money issue. Such a thing is what the educational ground should be. It is true around the world today money highly contributes to education. However, money is just for tuition fees, accommodation, food and document. We can never replace or buy the education actors background by money. It is undoubtedly recognised that education plays a prominent role in a country’s development. We highly urge those who think education costs a lot or is too expensive to experiment ignorance. We do all and commonly assume that knowledge is a real power.

In addition to that, Dickens himself is a man of reality and knows very soon and quickly that boys’ and girls’ education is not such a thing that the authorities can make double standard. He is aware of women weakness comparing them with men, but this doesn’t matter. He put girls and boys together so as to avoid discrimination and make them known each other. We conclude by claiming that Dickens can be viewed as new generation

24 https://yurididion.wordpress.com/2013/04/03/recherche-theorique-autour-de-la-question-de-la-relation-educative/

philosopher and a peace maker father since his education doesn’t take only his only children into account.

REFERENCES

BOOKS

WEB LINKS
[9] https://www.britannica.com/biography/Pythagoras on 30/08 / 2018 at 9h 07
[12] https://www.philosophybasics.com/branch_historicism.html at 00h 08 AM on 28/08/2018
[15] https://www.google.bj/search?dcr=0&source=hp&q=r=eqWuGnAot7UqClhdAG&g=dat+e+d%27inventi+on+de+l%27ordinateur&og=dat+e+d%27inventi+on+d+e+l%27ordinateur+gs_lespsy at 00h 08 AM on 28/08/2018
[16] https://www.maths.ox.ac.uk/groups/history-mathematics, at 14h 20, on 10/3/18
[18] https://prezi.com/tufflvgjeom/coketown-by-dickens/ at 16h 07, on 10/03/18
[19] https://www.charlesdickensinfo.com/life/childhood/ at 00h 08 AM on 28/08/2018
[20] (https://www.britannica.com/biography/Arthur-Conan-Doyle) at 00h 08 AM on 28/08/2018
[23] https://www.britannica.com/biography/Richard-Owen at 10h 45on 5/08/ 18
[24] https://searchcio.techtarget.com/definition/leadership at 00h 08 AM on 28/08/2018
[25] https://economicskey.com/human-capital-5032 at 00h 08 AM on 28/08/2018
[26] https://www.meirieu.com/COURS/texte15.pdf at 00h 08 AM on 28/08/2018
[27] https://yurididion.wordpress.com/2013/04/03/recherche-theorique-autour-de-la-question-de-la-relation-educative/ at 00h 08 AM on 28/08/2018
[29] https://www.cambridge.org/core/books/cambridge-history-of-literary-criticism/marxism-and-literary-criticism/3CFB8A8C2EFE804B08231CF4EE05B3D on Sunday 3rd, 2018 at 15h 16