

BEYOND INK AND PAPER: UNRAVELLING THE PSYCHOLOGICAL IMPACT OF HOLOCAUST ON SECOND GENERATION IDENTITIES IN MAUS

Swati

Assistant Professor, GGSDS College, Chandigarh, India

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ABSTRACT

Wars have always been a part of human existence since time immemorial. Beginning from the Trojan War in 12th century BC to World War I in 20th century this world has seen all but World War 2 sticks out because of the sheer scale of death and destructions. Jewish Holocaust was one such atrocious chapter in the history of human existence. It resulted in the detainment of thousands of men, women and children. The Holocaust was the systematic, state-sponsored murder of six million Jews by the Nazi and its allies and collaborators. This trauma of Holocaust is undoubtedly transmitted from the survivors to succeeding generations, yet the transmitted psychological effects are the most potent as they impact multiple realms of successors' lives. The second generation in particular, as they are the first group to come after survivors, intake it uniquely, as their parents are the ones who first experience the Holocaust. This paper applies the concept of intergenerational transmission of trauma and the concept of post-memory to Art Spiegelman's graphic novels Maus. The paper aims to study the psychological impact of Holocaust on the second-generation children and the trauma, alienation and identity crisis they have to face. A part of this paper is also devoted to analyzing the presentation of the Nazi genocide in the form of graphic novel.

KEYWORDS: *Intergenerational Trauma, Post-Memory, Holocaust, Graphic Novel.*