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### FEMINISM: A STUDY OF CHARLES DICKENS'S GREAT EXPECTATIONS



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#### ABSTRACT

*This research paper deals with Great Expectations (1860-61.) it is a story of the orphan Pip whose siblings are all dead, except for his sister Mrs. Joe Gargery who looks after him. The novel evokes the reader to pity Pip because of his circumstances as an orphan, who grows up under the abusive hand of his sister. Dickens skilfully exposes the slums in which the poor lived such as the forge where Pip grows up. The prison is also a recurrent feature in the novel, for example, Magwitch has just escaped*

*from prison when he meets Pip for the first time. He is later caught and sent by the Hulks, a prison ship that transported dangerous criminals to Australia. Magwitch's character is Dickens' revelation that from childhood, all that the poor are exposed to is crime. Therefore, members of the lower class are stereotyped as criminals from an early age, who take many trips in and out of courts and the prison.*

#### KEYWORDS

*Gender, Feminism, Poor life, Crime, Childhood, and Lower class.*