

Review Form 3

Journal Name:	Asian Journal of Language, Literature and Culture Studies
Manuscript Number:	Ms_AJL2C_127961
Title of the Manuscript:	Reflection on the Impact of Children trafficking in Africa: A Case Study of a Selected Girl in Amma Darko's the Housemaid.
Type of the Article	

PART 1: Comments

	Reviewer's comment	Author's Feedback (Please correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)
Please write a few sentences regarding the importance of this manuscript for the scientific community. A minimum of 3-4 sentences may be required for this part.	This paper examines partially the economic consequences as well as the psychological effects of child trafficking depicted 'The Housemaid'. For instance, the discussion of Efia being used for household tasks experiencing exploitation and suffering from subsequent psychological distress (for example "Efia gives birth to a stillborn child and discards it in a wooded area near Braha village") showcases the deep-rooted problems associated with poverty and cultural norms. This multidisciplinary perspective is particularly important, in delving into how literature mirrors and challenges inequalities	
Is the title of the article suitable? (If not please suggest an alternative title)	The current title captures the essence of the manuscript; however, firstly capitalize the first letter of "trafficking" , secondly, I suggest use the actual mentioned name of the girl in the story instead of "a Selected Girl" , and lastly, instead of using "Children trafficking" , it's more common to say, "Child Trafficking."	
Is the abstract of the article comprehensive? Do you suggest the addition (or deletion) of some points in this section? Please write your suggestions here.	The abstract is informative but unfocused. For instance, the sentence, "Human trafficking is the fact of taking children or adults from a given country or town to another one for a remunerative goal," is overly simplistic and grammatically flawed. A clearer and more scholarly alternative could emphasize the study's findings, such as: "This article explores the representation of child trafficking in Amma Darko's <i>The Housemaid</i> , revealing its roots in poverty and cultural complicity and its devastating consequences, including psychological trauma and social marginalization." Additionally, the abstract should better explain the methodology , e.g., how literary analysis was conducted .	
Is the manuscript scientifically, correct? Please write here.	The manuscript provides a compelling narrative analysis but lacks a formal methodological framework . For example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The claim that Efia's family exploited her naivety to gain wealth (<i>"Efia's family plans several strategies in order to make Efia dominate Tika to have a child who in the future will inherit her wealth"</i>) is valid but needs clearer linkage to theoretical frameworks in literary studies or cultural sociology. The manuscript cites definitions of trafficking from sources like ILO and UNODC but does not integrate these into a coherent analytical framework. Explicitly stating how these definitions inform the interpretation of <i>The Housemaid</i> would strengthen the argument. 	
Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestions of additional references, please mention them in the review form.	The references cover key international reports on human trafficking, such as ILO (2015) and UNODC (2008). However, they are not consistently formatted and are outdated. For example, the citation: <i>"Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons (ICAT). 2018. Trafficking in Children, Issue Brief 06"</i> lacks page numbers or DOI links. The manuscript would benefit from integrating recent studies, such as articles on Amma Darko's literary contributions and updated reports on trafficking in Ghana. List all the references in APA7 format . There's so much inconsistency in this case, too.	

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<p>Is the language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications?</p>	<p>The language of the article is not very academic. The author could use more academic vocabulary in articulating different parts in the article. It is also worth mentioning that according to Grammarly, there are more than 250 grammatical as well as punctuational errors.</p>	
<p>Optional/General comments</p>	<p>The manuscript's structure is unclear and could be improved by organizing it into distinct sections. For instance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The analysis of Efia's trafficking could include a focused discussion of the societal factors that enabled her exploitation, such as her family's poverty and cultural attitudes (<i>"Efia's family considers her selection as a divine blessing, demonstrating how cultural beliefs can rationalize unethical actions"</i>). The conclusion should address how literature like <i>The Housemaid</i> can be used as a tool for advocacy against child trafficking. For example, it could analyze how Darko's portrayal of Efia's plight evokes empathy and critiques systemic failures. <p>Lack of Methodological Framework</p> <p>1. Absence of a Clear Analytical Approach The manuscript does not specify the literary or analytical framework used to examine <i>The Housemaid</i>. For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The manuscript describes the trafficking of Efia (e.g., <i>"Teacher and Tika proceed to recruit Efia under the complicity of her family"</i>), but it does not clarify whether this analysis is based on thematic, structural, feminist, or socio-political literary criticism. While the article references socio-economic issues like poverty, it fails to ground these observations in a recognized theoretical framework, such as postcolonial studies, feminist literary theory, or critical social theory. <p>Suggested Improvement State the framework explicitly. For instance, if employing feminist literary criticism, discuss how <i>The Housemaid</i> critiques gendered power dynamics and societal complicity in trafficking.</p> <p>2. Lack of Justification for Textual Selections The manuscript focuses solely on the character of Efia without explaining why she was chosen as a case study. There is no rationale provided for excluding other characters or themes that could enrich the analysis, such as the broader socio-cultural context or other trafficked girls in the narrative.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For example, the manuscript does not address the systemic patterns of exploitation beyond Efia's case or how these patterns reflect larger societal issues in Ghana. <p>Suggested Improvement Explain the selection criteria. For instance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>"Efia's narrative was chosen because her experiences encapsulate the intersection of poverty, gender-based exploitation, and cultural complicity, making her an illustrative case for examining the impact of trafficking in the novel."</i> <p>3. Missing Methodology for Textual Analysis The manuscript uses textual evidence, such as dialogue and narrative descriptions, but there is no explanation of how these excerpts are analyzed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For example, the dialogue between Efia's parents (<i>"Efia's father: 'What are we getting out of our daughter's going away to the city?'"</i>) is cited without explaining how it reflects broader cultural attitudes toward child exploitation. <p>Suggested Improvement Adopt and explain a methodology for textual analysis, such as close reading. For instance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>"Through close reading, the dialogue between Efia's parents reveals a tension between economic desperation and moral ambiguity, illustrating how poverty drives families to rationalize trafficking."</i> 	

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PART 2:

	Reviewer's comment	Author's comment <i>(if agreed with reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)</i>
Are there ethical issues in this manuscript?	<i>(If yes, Kindly please write down the ethical issues here in details)</i>	

Reviewer Details:

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