ABSTRACT

The purpose of writing this thesis is to find critics on political and social life through the analysis of poetical elements in nursery rhymes, i.e. allusion and irony. Another aim is to find out whether nursery rhymes contain mature themes rather than children-like themes. The allusion and irony of nursery rhymes are discussed to support the analysis of the thesis. The result of the thesis is it was found that nursery rhymes contain mature themes like politics, materialism, and critic on social gap. The conclusion is nursery rhymes are worth to be analyzed as part of children literature as well as any advanced literature due to the timeless topics and heavy messages inserted in nursery rhymes. Research about the correlation of how children receive nursery rhymes with their heavy messages in reality can be done as further research.

Keywords: critics on politics and society, allusion, irony, nursery rhymes, children literature