

Critical Essay

A novel which presents a theme that made me consider an aspect of human society was 'Of Mice and Men' by John Steinbeck. Throughout this essay, I will discuss how the theme of loneliness is conveyed through characterisation, the setting and a key incident in the novel. These three techniques will show how tough life is for ^{some} people.

A character which conveys the theme of loneliness is Crooks. Crooks is a black man who works on an American ranch throughout the 1930's. Due to his skin colour, he has been segregated from other workers and has to sleep out in a room next to the barn.

"Crooks was an aloof man. He kept his distance and demanded that other people keep theirs."

This quote shows that Crooks was used to being lonely and that being on his own made him quite a bitter character. This theme helps to show that people were very racist and that humans are typically like that.

Good - I would include a mention of loneliness here, too.

The setting also helps show the theme of loneliness. 'Of Mice and Men' is based on an American ranch in Soledad, California, throughout the 1930s.