Sweetheart Essay

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***Introduction***

"The things they carried" puts spotlight on the Vietnam war and in this book, the readers got touched by the transformation of Mary Anne's gender as she is one of the most sensitive characters. Being a lady, she shows interest in knowing everything and treats the deeply enrooted conflict as a holiday. Being a prominent woman, she had the influence of her gender on other men of this novel.

***Discussion***

The role played by females in this novel is of great significance as the story and gender of Mary Anne portrayed how females were being in the war and coping with the effect. Another thing that appeals to the reader about the gender of Mary Anne is that O'Brien de-genders the war by masculinizing her. Transformation of Mary Anne confirms the powerful nature of war as one went to Vietnam, it was hard for her to leave the war1. As the war was something unusual Mary Anne has ever experienced. Anne's transformation gives a message that by nature war is power as she quickly develops a fascination for war. Her transformation and ability to adapt quickly drove her to absorb the surrounding environment as much as she could reflect how safe she was back at her home.

***Conclusion***

Taking a look at the above discussion, it could be seen that gender played an important role in the “The things they carried” as Mary Anne’s gender qualities were bit transformed in the Vietnam War. She was transformed and sucked into Vietnam because of which she could not leave. With time, she comes to realize that knowing a country is not enough as it is important to consume it.

End Notes

1. Vernon A. A Kinetoscope of War: The Cinematic Effects of Tim O'Brien's The Things They Carried. *Journal of Narrative Theory*. 2018;48(2):194-224. doi:10.1353/jnt.2018.0008