

I am very educated, yet at the same time, not too familiar with the prejudice that takes place in the novel *The Color Purple*, by Alice Walker.

First of all, this book mainly focuses on prejudice toward black women in the early 1900's. Although blacks were free and women had a little more power than before, the black woman of America were still looked down on as being servants to their black men.

Next, the prejudice in this book was mainly caused by history. In the past, blacks were slaves and the women were used for reproducing and taking care of the family and home and were often uneducated. The history of black woman hadn't changed much in the eyes of many people in the early 1900's so a lot of the prejudice activity was still taking part in the lives of many of these individuals.

In *The Color Purple*, a woman by the name of Celie was a victim of this horrible prejudice. She was an uneducated woman living in the rural American south. She had been raped by her father, deprived of her children she bore him and was forced into marriage with a brutal man whom she calls "Mister." Since her sister was taken from her, Celie's only true companion was God whom she turns inward and shares her grief with.

The man Celie calls "Mister" gained a lot of power, strength, and almightiness by playing the part of husband to her. He was always in control of the situation and always had control over Celie.

Finally, the consequence of the prejudice in this novel were uplifting. The black women finally take control of their own lives, mainly Celie, and show the other black men that they can be just as strong and powerful and they are their own person.

In conclusion, the character in this novel, Celie, made me think about prejudice and how to overcome it. Celie was such a strong, intelligent and beautiful woman who was degraded and stepped on her whole life. She finally realized how to stand up and take her life back which really moved me. Her power inspired me to be a little more independent and to step back and take a familiar look at prejudice through her educated and experienced eyes.

