

## *Significance of the title "All My Sons"*

All My Sons is a play written by the American playwright Arthur Miller. It discusses some major themes which are the effect of war on society, generation gap, and moral and social responsibility. Miller chooses a very significant title which is All My Sons. It highlights a major theme which is moral and social responsibility. The society has become irresponsible because of materialism and superficialism.

On the one hand, Keller gives up his responsibility towards his society. He is self-centered and he cares about nothing except his family. He struggles to keep his business to the extent that he can kill others. In addition, he wants to fulfil the American dream which is having a family and a good business. Consequently, he chooses to be blind and not to be responsible for others. This is why he throws all the guilt on Steve who has covered the cracks of the broken cylinders. The result of this crime is the death of twenty one pilots. What is more, Keller tries to convince himself that he is not guilty. In other words, he does not have any sense of guilt or responsibility. He does not believe that he has committed such a terrible crime. He only believes that he has saved his business for the sake of his family.

On the other hand, Chris feels responsible for everyone in his society. He is so idealistic and selfless. He is ready to sacrifice his life for the sake of others. His idealism is an outcome of war. In war, he learns how to be responsible for others. Moreover, he believes that people must give up their selfishness in order to enable every member in the society to achieve peace. In contrast to Keller, Chris feels guilty for surviving a war. He feels that those pilots suffer the ugliness of war exactly like him. In addition, Chris has wished to be killed like them in order to have this great honour. Chris sees these pilots as human beings whose families suffer their death. At the beginning, Chris rejects the ugly truth which is that his father is the main killer of these pilots. However, he opens his eyes to see the real killer who has killed the twenty one pilots and his son Larry too. Then, when Chris feels guilty for leaving his home, he discovers that he has to pay his role as a son for the sake of his father and his mother as well.

Larry's letter makes the truth come to light. Larry, indirectly, accuses his father of killing the twenty one pilots. As a result, Larry commits suicide in order to make his father feel guilty for committing such a crime. At this moment, Keller decides not to be blind anymore. He realises that he has killed twenty one pilots who are like Larry. In other words, he feels that he has killed his own son by killing the twenty one pilots. Consequently, he fails to be responsible for his guilt. As a result, he decides to pay for his sin, and he commits suicide. He commits suicide because he finally feels that he is responsible for every member in his society. Moreover, he realises that he has killed his own son for the sake of money. This leads him to say that the twenty one pilots are all his sons.

To sum up, Arthur Miller has succeeded in choosing the title All My Sons in order to convey a main theme which is social responsibility. Miller proves that the twenty one pilots are victims of Keller's irresponsibility and blindness.