

## Table of Contents

INTRODUCTION . . . . .	7
SURVEY OF RESEARCH . . . . .	14
CHAPTER I THE BACKGROUND OF MARTHA'S QUEST . . . . .	27
1 Introduction . . . . .	27
2 <i>Children of 'Violence'</i> . . . . .	28
3 Violence as Social Pressure . . . . .	28
3.1 The Family . . . . .	28
3.2 The Mother . . . . .	29
3.3 The Mother/Daughter Relationship . . . . .	33
4 Violence as War: The Father . . . . .	40
5 Martha . . . . .	44
5.1 The Ideal City and the Mystical Experience . . . . .	44
5.2 Conscious Reflection and Intuitive Insight . . . . .	50
CHAPTER II THE OUTWARD QUEST . . . . .	54
1 Introduction . . . . .	54
2 Martha and Married Life . . . . .	56
2.1 Love and Marriage - Dream and Reality	56
2.2 Social demands . . . . .	57
2.3 Biological Demands . . . . .	62
2.4 Cooperation between Social and Bio- logical Demands . . . . .	65
2.5 Sex Role Patterns in a Male-Dominated Society . . . . .	66
2.6 Martha, her Mother, her Men, and her Daughter . . . . .	70
2.7 Martha's Split Identity . . . . .	73
3 Martha and the Group . . . . .	82
3.1 Hopes and Frustrations . . . . .	82
3.2 The Personal and the Political: Martha, Politics and the Family . . . . .	84
CHAPTER III THE INWARD QUEST . . . . .	89
1 Introduction . . . . .	89

	2	The Way towards Inner Life . . . . .	91
	2.1	Thomas Stern . . . . .	91
	2.2	Jack and Lynda . . . . .	97
	3	Inner Life and Social Life . . . . .	105
	3.1	The Family . . . . .	105
	3.2	The Politics of Inner Life . . . . .	113
CHAPTER IV		EXPRESSIONS OF CONSCIOUSNESS IN <i>Children of Violence</i> AND OTHER WORKS BY DORIS LESSING . . . . .	119
	1	Introduction . . . . .	119
	2	Martha and the Collective. A Short Resumé. The Two Forms of Consciousness in <i>Children of Violence</i> . . . . .	120
	3	Female Consciousness in <i>Children of Violence</i> . . . . .	123
	4	Marxism, Depth Psychology, Sufism. An Intellectual Background of <i>Children of Violence</i> . . . . .	130
	5	Doris Lessing and Women . . . . .	136
	6	Doris Lessing and Society . . . . .	148
	7	Doris Lessing Today . . . . .	162
CONCLUSION		. . . . .	170
NOTES		. . . . .	183
BIBLIOGRAPHY		. . . . .	213

### Abbreviations Used

MQ	<i>Martha Quest</i>
PM	<i>A Proper Marriage</i>
RS	<i>A Ripple from the Storm</i>
LL	<i>Landlocked</i>
FGC	<i>The Four-Gated City</i>
GH	<i>Going Home</i>
GN	<i>The Golden Notebook</i>
Briefing	<i>Briefing for a Descent into Hell</i>
Summer	<i>The Summer Before the Dark</i>
Memoirs	<i>The Memoirs of a Survivor</i>