

# Abstract

After World War Two traumatisation in its survivors has been studied and its effects in the descendants of the survivors have been studied as well. The originality of the research then lays in the fact that subjects of traumatisation studied in this thesis are neither the survivors nor their descendants, rather they are present day modern Jews: born in times of peace and away from persecution. They have no relations with the survivors but they still exhibit the signs of being traumatised. This is also, where the problem lies that these should not be traumatised. But they in fact are traumatised and also that this traumatization has led to an identity crisis, which in turn makes hard for them to live normally as compared to an average English man. Furthermore, the thesis argues, based on exploratory research, that these victims of historical trauma suffering from identity crisis, use humour and satire to cope with it. Humour and satire allow their users to question certain attitudes prevalent in the society and also as tools against pathos (memories that haunt them). The thesis has discovered that the characters in Howard Jacobson's novels *The Finkler Question* and *Kalooki Nights* use humour and satire to live a life less traumatised. The findings, hence, pave a way for reaching other traumatised groups that might not seem as victims at first, but are nonetheless suffering from trauma and are using different tools to cope with it.