

# To Kill A Mockingbird

*Introduction*



# BIOGRAPHICAL CRITICISM



**Biographical criticism** is a form of literary criticism which analyzes a writer's **biography** to show the **relationship** between the author's life and his/her works of literature.

# About Nelle Harper Lee

- Born: April 28, 1926
- Birthplace:  
Monroeville, Alabama
- Youngest of four children
- Her father was a lawyer and newspaper editor
- Nelle Harper Lee was a tomboy as a child





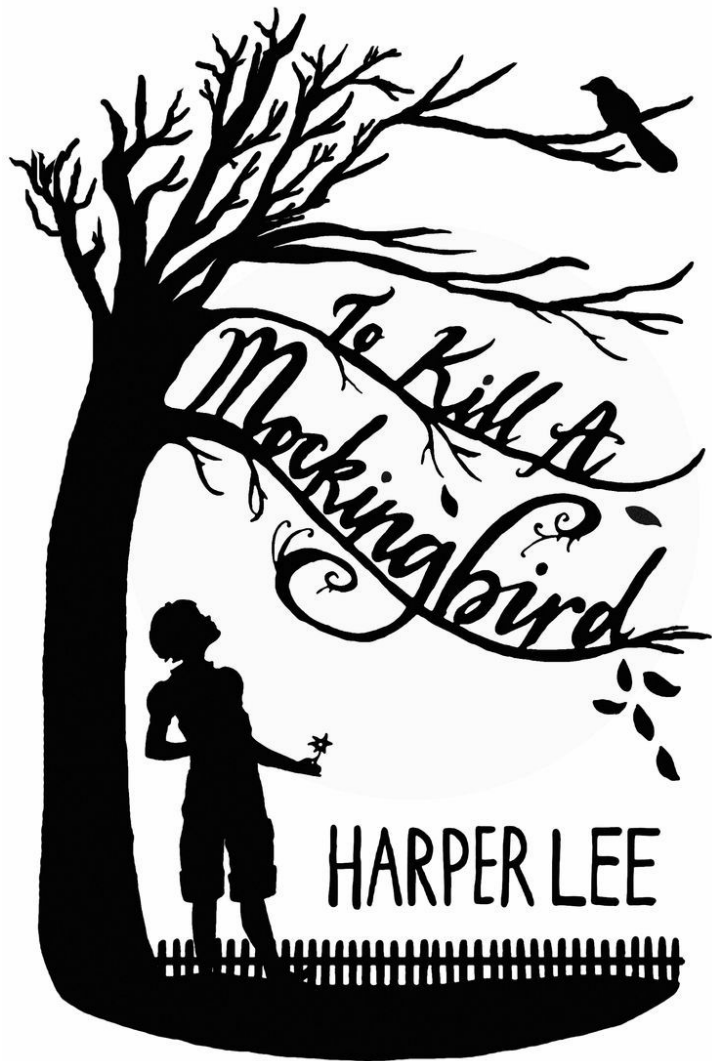


Jem Dill Scout



*Historical Event That  
May Have Influenced  
the Publication*





**Published:**  
1960

**(African American)  
Civil Rights  
Movement:**

1954-1968

# Human Rights

Human rights are generally thought of as the most fundamental rights. They include the right to life, education, protection from torture, free expression, and fair trial. Many of these rights bleed into civil rights, but they are considered to be **necessities of the human existence**.

As a concept, human rights were conceived shortly after World War II, particularly in regard to the treatment of Jews and other groups by the Nazis. In 1948, the United Nations General Assembly adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, cementing their foundation in international law and policy.

vs.

# Civil Rights

Civil rights, on the other hand, are those **rights that one enjoys by virtue of citizenship in a particular nation or state**. In America, civil rights have the protection of the U.S. Constitution and many state constitutions. Civil rights protect citizens from discrimination and grant certain freedoms, like free speech, due process, equal protection, the right against self-incrimination, and so forth. Civil rights can be thought of as the agreement between the nation, the state, and the individual citizens that they govern.

# The Radley Place



*Historical Events  
That May Have  
Influenced  
the Story*





**1919:** A.C. Lee, Harper Lee's father, tries a case

**1931:** Scottsboro Boys

**1933:** Naomi Lowery vs. Walter Lett



# Directions

Open this [Time](#) article and have it take up one half of your screen.

(Hit “Alt” & ]  
at the  
same time.)

Then, open  
[this assignment](#)  
and answer the  
questions as you read.

