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Education



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Comfort Woman Comfort Woman is a book written by Maria Rosa Henson about her experience as a slave under the Japanese military. During that time, young women from countries that had fallen under the control of the Japanese government were abducted into slavery as 'comfort women.' Comfort women served the soldiers of the Japanese army as sex slaves. Slavery in the book is brought out in the form of sex slavery. Having been taken at the age of 16 against her will, Maria Rosa served as a sex slave for the soldiers for nine months. During this time, she was raped by hundreds of soldiers and there was no way she could resist unless she wanted to die. She says "I could not resist the soldiers because they might kill me. So what else could I do?" (Henson 36). She had to endure all the hardship together with other women who had been abducted.

The Japanese Imperial army had set up comfort garrisons which housed sex slaves or comfort women, a term commonly used to refer to these women. Slavery as commonly known, the victim is always taken against their will and forced to work or perform acts against their will. Comfort women did not have any control over their sexual activity as all they had to do was to follow orders. These women had to endure painful ordeals of being raped and hit by soldiers. The trauma Maria experienced as a comfort woman affected her for the rest of her life. She notes that one day while she was hanging some clothes to dry, she heard a woman on the radio talking about women who had been raped and her body shook all over (Henson 83). Sexual slavery is a very profound theme in this book and given that it is a woman's firsthand experience, one gets to see just how much it affects the victim.

Works Cited

Henson, Maria. *Comfort Woman: A Filipinas Story of Prostitution and Slavery*
<https://assignbuster.com/atallah/>

under the Japanese Military. Lanham: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, 1999.
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