

**Conclusion:  
Discussion and Implications**

***5.1--Review of Purpose and Supporting Studies:***

This study has discussed the rhetorical and literary significance of the primitive-as-savior tradition in Cooper's The Deerslayer, Melville's Moby Dick, and Hawthorne's The Scarlet Letter and The Blithedale Romance. Having recognized the tradition identified by critics such as Leslie Fiedler, R.W.B Lewis, and David Noble of American authors pairing a racial primitive with a white hero, this study has examined notable parallels between racial primitive characters and certain white female characters as identified by Michael Bell and Kristin Herzog. This study has examined not only ethnic characters as existing in the primitive mode but also select female characters of Hawthorne and Cooper who embody primitive qualities. This study has analyzed as racial primitives the characters of Chingachgook, and Queequeg, while proposing by means of comparison that the white female characters of Hetty, Pearl, and Priscilla also are cast in the primitive mode of existence.

***5.2--Review of Methods and Procedures:***

To better understand how the primitive-as-savior character enables irony in the earlier-Nineteenth Century American novel, this study examined how Cooper, Melville, and Hawthorne employ similar rhetorical techniques in their development of primitive-as-savior characters. While the ultimate purpose of Cooper, Melville, and Hawthorne's rhetoric regarding the primitive-as-savior character is to keep their readers reading, more specific rhetorical techniques (appeals of ethos, pathos, and logos) were discussed in an attempt to better understand the workings of the

primitive-as-savior characters. Chapter one analyzed how these authors used (ethos) appeals that developed readers' perceptions of how to perceive the morality, and personality of primitive-as-savior characters. Chapter one discussed how this is accomplished through moral qualities each author attributes to the myth of the American frontier and the myth of the Native American. Chapter two examined how Cooper, Melville, and Hawthorne developed the rhetoric of pathos through the use of primitive-as-savior characters. This chapter discussed how these primitive characters are used to gain reader empathy and for shock value to gain reader attention.

Chapter three examined how each author appeals to reason (logos) through the actions of the primitive-as-savior characters. In examining such arguments of logos, this section explored how authors present their readers with reasons why they should respect and value the primitive-as-savior character of each novel. Chapter three discussed how the primitive initiates the hero into the frontier, helping the hero to survive both physically and psychologically, and also examines valuable life lessons that the primitive teaches the hero and the hero's community.

Having analyzed three rhetorical patterns that Cooper, Melville, and Hawthorne developed through the use of the primitive-as-savior character, in chapter four I discuss how the combining of these different rhetorical techniques allows each novel to attain a heightened level of literary quality. Each of the four novels is examined through the lens of John Champlin Gardner's critical theory of moral fiction, demonstrating that the primitive-as-savior character enables each work to exhibit

life affirming and socially redeeming qualities.

***5.3--Results and Implications for Future Research:***

This study has examined the rhetorical and literary role of the primitive-as-savior character in Cooper's The Deerslayer, Melville's Moby Dick, and Hawthorne's The Scarlet Letter and The Blithedale Romance. An argument has been made that the primitive-as-savior character is an important rhetorical element within these texts, enabling rhetoric of ethos, pathos, and logos. In the process, the three female characters Hetty, Pearl, and Priscilla were examined as characters embodying the primitive consciousness, thus affirming the assertions of Michael Bell and Kristin Herzog that white females can embody qualities of primitivism similar to that of racial primitives.

Certainly there is room outside the limited scope of this study for the examination of other female characters who function similar to racial primitives within the cannon of the American novel. Also, there are other critical methods through which the significance of the primitive-as-savior character type can be examined. This study examined the primitive-as-savior character type emphasizing rhetorical process and humanistic criticism. Undoubtedly examinations through other critical schools such as that of feminist criticism, psychoanalytic criticism, or structuralist criticism would derive intriguing results.