

## **Abstract**

This research aims at examining the life of poor Irish immigrants in the 19<sup>th</sup> century United States of America which is reflected in Stephen Crane's *Maggie: A Girl of the Street*. Using a sociological approach, this research looks at the relationship between the lives of the characters in the novel and the social background of the novel. Through the study of setting and characterization in the novel as well as the history of Irish immigrants in the United States of America, this research finds that, in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, a lot of poor Irish people moved to the United States because they suffered terrible potato famine. They moved to the United States in the hope of a better life. The stereotypical issues of the poor Irish immigrants' lives are reflected in the novel through the vulgar language called Irish-English, alcoholism, violence, and also prostitution.

Keywords: poverty, Irish immigrants, United States of America, industrial revolution