

The Psychological impact of Harry Potter on the Youth

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Abstract - The book and film series Harry Potter and its widespread appeal among readers of all ages is the subject of this study. There is a lot of mysticism and supernaturalism in this fantasy literature. In addition to analysing the psychological impact of reading or seeing this book, it explains the gender ratio of its audience. Compared to other fantasy films and literature of the same era, this article examines why Harry Potter became an international phenomenon. Additionally, it delves into the impact of Harry Potter on the modern era. In light of Harry Potter, it analyses the lessons that individuals took away from it. A survey format was used for the investigation. Questions regarding the influence of Harry Potter on viewers' or readers' mental health, as well as their favourite lines and language from the series, were included of the survey. Viewers' or readers' belief in the occult or supernatural is also examined in the study. Furthermore, it investigates the age bracket in which it is most widely read and seen, as well as the medium through which it has achieved this level of success. You may also get the ratio of views to reads in it. It delves deeper into the question of whether individuals were influenced to suggest it to others.

Keywords: Mysticism, supernaturalism, occult, primed

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INTRODUCTION

The debut of the Harry Potter novels had the "greatest impact on publishing since the invention of the paperback [book]," according to writer Jim Trelease. With the rather unexpected and extraordinary success of Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone, an orphan child enrolls at a school for aspiring witches and wizards, author J. K. Rowling's Harry Potter series exploded into the publishing scene in England in 1997. The basics of wizardry, including flying on a broom, casting spells, and being invisible, are taught to Harry Potter in that context. Another remarkable aspect is the boarding school environment. Clothing, for instance, seems to be impervious to wear and tear and washing. Huge, enormous, benevolent and evil creatures and humans are encountered by Harry. Together with Ron and Hermione, his two closest pals, he goes on several adventures. During his summers and vacations, Harry goes back to the "Muggles" realm to spend time with his mother's cold and heartless family. The original copy of Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone fetched \$16,000 from an unidentified buyer at an auction in London on June 3, 2003, a testament to the book's immense reputation.

What kind of impact has Harry Potter had on the publishing business since it started crushing its rivals? Do you think these novels have made kids give up on reading altogether since they think no book can compare to Harry Potter? While this may be true, Weinberg argues that "the Potter books have made children's literature more visible," which in turn has increased the market for new children's fiction in hardcover and made reviewers more open to reviewing juvenile publications. Because of personal circumstances and career shifts, the author took a three-year break from writing the fifth book in the Potter series. While this was happening, other publishers published similar series, capitalising on the slump. For instance, the 1999 Lemony Snicket novels and the 2001 Artemis Fowl volumes have both been riding the wave to great success. These series have become true bestsellers, surpassing even the Harry Potter volumes in terms of children's bestseller lists throughout the globe.

WHY AND HOW WAS HARRY POTTER WRITTEN?

Rowling attended the University of Exeter as a way to escape her life in a tiny town. She graduated with

a degree in Classics and French. Joe relocated to London after finishing school and found employment as a multilingual secretary. The inspiration for Harry Potter struck her when she was stuck on a four-hour train ride. Before deciding to write the book, she jotted down everything of her thoughts on the series, including its characters, narrative, themes, and language. She wrote the book with both the reader and herself in mind, including every detail. Also, she finished writing the last chapter of the book, which was her way of promising herself that she would write book seven. Two major life events that impacted Joe's work were the gradual death of her mother and the lack of a close connection with her father. For instance, this is made very evident in the chapter involving the mirror in *Erased*. After Rowling informed Bloomsbury Publishing the complete story, they published these volumes. Rowling based the whole Harry Potter series—all seven of them—on her own life. Consider Joe's experience: she was let down by her parents' tendency to treat her like a guy. Like Harry, she was a child living on a suburban street; in fact, her home shared a feature with Harry's: a closet under the stairs. A field and the Dean Forest, which makes frequent appearances and mentions in the show, encircled their residence. The inspiration for Hermione's persona comes from deep within. An eccentric young man called Ian Potter, whose collection of antiques bore striking resemblance to that of the hero Harry Potter, served as an inspiration for the character of Harry. Having her closest childhood buddy Shawn Harries by her side through thick and thin helped Rowling overcome her feelings of being an outcast. Because of this, she became inspired by Ron Weasley.

The poll found that most respondents were adults, and that women were more likely to participate than men.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Sari, Yessi (2022) The core of transitivity is that every sentence depicts a distinct collection of experiences and has a function. A transitivity system consists of three parts: actors, processes, and contexts. The transitivity system is used by J.K. Rowling in her brief story. Discovering the actual implementation of the transitivity system with associated functions in each process contained in each phrase is the purpose of this investigation. Therefore, the research is based on Halliday's Functional Grammar theory, which emphasises the function of the phrase. There are fourteen different kinds of participants (actors, targets, goals, range, carriers, sensors, attributes, tokens, value, phenomena, behavers, sayers, subjects, and existents), six different kinds of processes (material, mental, relational, behavioural, linguistic, and

existential), and five different kinds of contextual factors (time, place, manner, accommodation, and circ). The results suggest that the author is more of a material process kind, with an emphasis on the various participant acts. Additional processes support participant activities. Because of the boys' antics, the two police officers and the boys were put in a more precarious position. Another element that facilitates these processes is the presence of a circumstance.

Kerry Campana and Eliza Dresang (2014) It's obvious that Harry Potter continues to enjoy enormous popularity. From its 1997 UK publication, *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone*, the first book in the seven-volume Harry Potter series, has sold over 450 million copies ("Harry Potter Series"). *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows [Book7]* has been out for almost five years, but that hasn't stopped academics from all walks of life from analysing the books and drawing their own conclusions. Research from the Children's Literature Association Quarterly (Galway; Dendle) in the spring of 2012 and the winter of 2011 (as well as from Fitzsimmons, Wolosky, and Cantrell in the 2012 and 2011 volumes, and from Colin Manlove's most recent book, all point to this. Fan fiction and other kinds of social media have given rise to new reader communities by giving fans additional ways to interact with the original Potter novels. One such platform is J. K. Rowling's Pottermore website.

Auba Llompart (2021) This study examines the treatment of death in J. K. Rowling's Harry Potter series, in line with previous research on the need to overcome taboos surrounding death in children's and YA fiction. Although some reviewers have drawn attention to Rowling's violent death scenes, I'd rather draw attention to the subtler ways in which Rowling handles death in her novels. At the end of the series, death is presented and handled as a complex issue, in my opinion. One may say that Rowling embraces the pedagogy of death in her work, which is that death is inevitable and should be welcomed as a part of life. The study also delves into how the series deviates from the pedagogy of death, arguing that it doesn't have to ruin its capacity to help readers see death in a good light. Rowling presents a complex, compassionate, and understanding portrayal of death by teaching her readers lessons about it while also acknowledging that these lessons may at times conflict with readers' genuine feelings about death.

Dempster, Steven & Oliver, Alice & Sunderland, Jane & Thistlethwaite, Joanne (2016) This study presents the findings of a small-scale focus group research project that was supported by the British Academy. Using Herbert Marsh and Richard

Shavelson's "Academic Self-Concept" theory and David Barton and Mary Hamilton's "Contextual Literacy" theory, the authors examine the ways in which young British Harry Potter fans perceive the books' impact on their reading habits and academic development. And they really want to know whether the Harry Potter books have changed the kids' minds about reading and improved their reading skills. Gender and the movie's intended purpose are also discussed in the article. Interviews with Potter enthusiasts led the authors to the conclusion that the books greatly influenced their reading and writing skills. Regarding gender, however, intra-group variance—that is, variations among readers within a group of boys or girls—is much more significant than inter-group variance—that is, differences between groups of boys and girls of the same sex.

In 2019, Lec, Asst., Ali, Muntadher, and Al-Mayahy J. K. Rowling's use of Christ imagery in Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows is the subject of this research. Harry Potter, the fictional child protagonist, is intentionally compared to Jesus Christ in many ways, including his death and resurrection. Whatever else is said about children's literature, it continues to highlight a vital part of contemporary culture. Among the many important principles emphasised in Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows is the importance of loyalty and selflessness. Nobody disputes the fact that children are a society's most valuable resource for future development. Developmental systems should always have children as their primary emphasis. The development and progress of every society depends on the freedom to think and create. This is a common thread in many great works of literature. In order to explain how this object is created, many viewpoints are offered and then expanded upon.

DISCUSSION:

Mythology, folklore, and fairy tales—the ancestors of modern fantasy—were employed to teach moral lessons and explain natural occurrences. Before they were documented in writing, these tales were transmitted verbally from one generation to another.

An ancient Mesopotamian epic called "The Epic of Gilgamesh" describes the adventures of a demigod king who seeks immortality. It is considered one of the first pieces of fantasy literature. Gods, monsters, and enchanted things are all part of the poem's fanciful aspects. Mediaeval European epic poetry and chivalric romance were the first forms of fantasy literature; these genres often included magical beings, flying dragons, and knights. Sir Thomas Malory's "Le Morte d'Arthur," which recounts the exploits of King Arthur

and the Round Table knights, is a well-known work in this genre.

The publishing of works like "The Wonderful Wizard of Oz" by L. Frank Baum and "Alice's Adventures in Wonderland" by Lewis Carroll in the nineteenth century gave rise to a more contemporary style in the fantasy genre. These tales laid the groundwork for contemporary fantasy literature by fusing magical aspects with contemporary themes and locations. With the release of "The Lord of the Rings" trilogy by J.R.R. Tolkien in the twentieth century, readers were immersed in a detailed and completely realised fantasy world; thus, the fantasy genre saw a meteoric rise in popularity. Fantasy literature has progressed and grown since then, with writers like Brandon Sanderson, George R.R. Martin, and J.K. Rowling introducing fresh ideas and expanding the genre in fascinating ways. Fantasy in the context of Harry Potter: The release of Harry Potter did not mark the beginning of the long and illustrious history of the fantasy genre. Despite its immense popularity and impact, the fantasy genre did not originate with Harry Potter.

Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone, released in 1997 by J.K. Rowling, was a phenomenal success and contributed to the further popularisation of the fantasy genre. In the United States, it was titled Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone. Fantastical creatures, a secret magical realm, and a youthful hero's mission to save the world are all staples of the Harry Potter series. To claim, however, that Harry Potter served as inspiration for the fantasy genre would be unfair. Instead, the genre's sustained success and expansion may be attributed, in large part, to Harry Potter, a major and important work within it.

Effects on the Players: Each actor's career has been profoundly affected by the "Harry Potter" films. Some of the ways the show has impacted them are as follows: Celebrity Status: The "Harry Potter" film series has catapulted its performers into the public eye. They have achieved international renown and are now among the entertainment industry's most prominent figures. Profitability: The show has been a huge commercial success, and the stars have reaped handsome paychecks as a result. Because of their financial success, they have been able to take on more initiatives that would have been impossible before.

Opportunities in the Work Field: The "Harry Potter" actors have benefited greatly from the fame and fortune that have accrued to them as a result of the series. Many of them have been given prominent parts in other films and TV series, which has allowed

them to broaden their acting repertoire. Although many of the actors involved have found success because to the "Harry Potter" series, others have unfortunately been stuck in repetitive parts because of it. It took a lot of effort, for Daniel Radcliffe to move on from playing Harry Potter and take on parts that were more varied and demanding. Massive Fan following: The actors have been positively and negatively affected by the series' enormous fan following. A loss of privacy and severe scrutiny have emerged from the fans' support of the performers throughout their careers, despite the positive aspects.

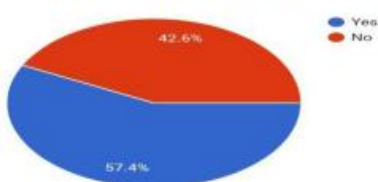
In sum, the "Harry Potter" films have been very formative for the actors involved, presenting them with a plethora of chances as well as obstacles. English to Chinese: Joanne Rowling's Harry Potter series, which consists of seven fantasy novels, is among the most translated works in literary history. There are 79 different versions of Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone available in translation. Because this demonstrated the book's development to its final stage, it gained widespread popularity. Following the novel's popularity, a number of films based on Harry Potter were released, sharing many of the same themes and narrative points.

It was translated into several Indian languages in India, including Bengali, Gujarati, Hindi, Marathi, Tamil, and Telugu. The primary motivation for the translation was to cater to the growing demand for fantasy novels, like Harry Potter, among the younger generation. Each book could only be translated after its English publication in order to circumvent copyright. Because of its immense popularity and the number of languages it has been translated into, Harry Potter will undoubtedly be relevant for generations to come.

In order to examine the popularity of Harry Potter among young people, a survey questionnaire was administered.

The following observations were made:

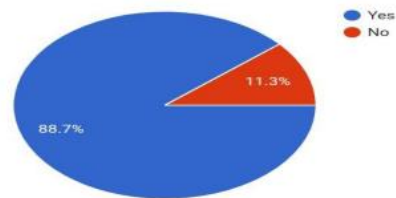
Q1. Would you prefer to read Harry Potter as a novel?



The data shown in the pie chart above indicates that, out of 115 total replies, 57.4% were in support of reading novels and 42.6% were against it.

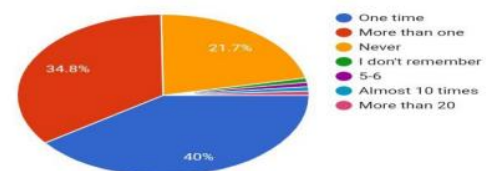
The inclusion of this question was motivated by the fact that Harry Potter was published in two formats: a book and a film series. This is to determine if the film or the books were more popular with the target demographic. The majority of respondents thought the books would help them because they improve their reading and visual perception.

Q2. Would you prefer Harry Potter as a movie?



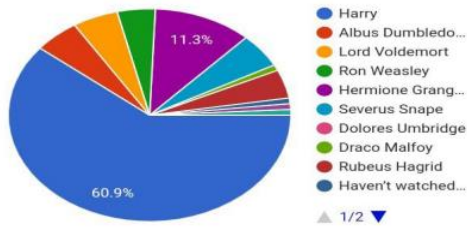
Based on the data shown in the pie chart, it seems that 88.7 percent of the 115 respondents were in favour of viewing the movie, while 11.3 percent were against it. The inclusion of this question is justified since Harry Potter was published in two formats: a book and a film series. This is to determine if the film or the books were more popular with the target demographic. Here are some reasons why people love to see Harry Potter films: To begin with, the films are fantastic entertainment that can transport audiences to the fantastical world of Harry Potter for an enjoyable few hours. We get to know these characters so well that, in a sense, they resemble actual people—only they have abilities.

Q3. How many times have you watched or read Harry Potter?



Based on the data shown in the pie chart, it seems that out of 115 replies, 40% have seen Harry Potter only once, 34.8 have watched it several times, and 21.7 have never watched it. To gauge the level of interest in and exposure to Harry Potter among young people, we added this question. Our research led us to believe that the show was well-received by viewers, who had returned for more than one viewing.

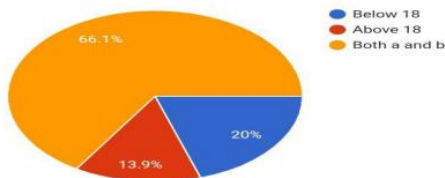
Q4. Who is your favourite character?



Ans. Based on the data shown in the pie chart, it seems that sixty-nine percent of the respondents preferred Harry Potter, while eleven percent preferred Hermione Granger.

This question helps us determine which character had the most impact on the viewers. Harry Potter and Hermione Granger were the most popular choices among viewers because they were powerful and hopeful personalities.

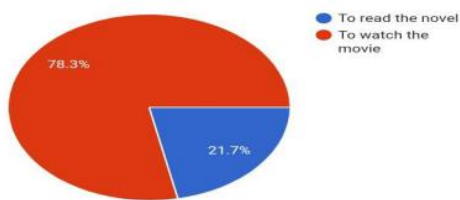
Q5. In which age group is Harry Potter popular?



Out of 115 responses, 66.1% think it's popular with people of all ages (those under and above 18), 20% think it's popular with people under 18, and 13.9% think it should be popular with people above 18. This information is derived from the pie chart.

We added this question to find out what age range of viewers enjoyed the Harry Potter series the most. The resultant conclusion was that the story's mystical and supernatural undertones, characters, friendships, and narrative appealed to readers of all ages.

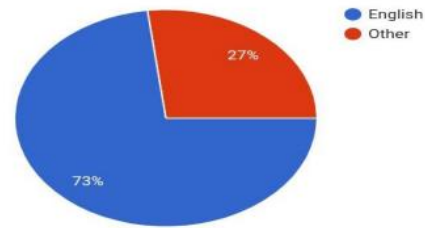
Q6. What would you recommend others Harry Potter as a movie or novel?



Out of 115 replies, 78.3% would suggest making a movie out of Harry Potter, while 21.7% would suggest reading the books. This information is derived from the pie chart. The objective of include this question was to gauge the genre that viewers would suggest to others, whether it a movie or a novel.

Rather to reading a book, most people prefer to watch a movie because they believe they can better relate to the characters and storyline.

Q7. Which language was suitable to you while watching the movie?



We may infer from the pie chart that, out of 115 replies, 73% thought the English language was better and 27% said the Hindi language was better. We included this question primarily to find out which language the respondents felt most connected to while watching the film. Irony, idioms, puns, and literary techniques were left out of the Hindi translation. Consequently, most viewers choose to see the film in English.

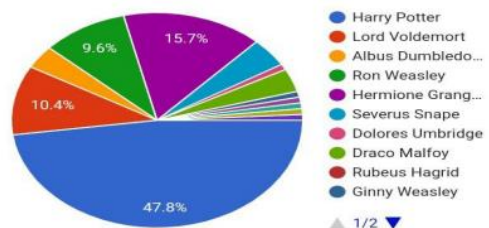
.Q8. One quality of Harry Potter you would like to inculcate in your life?

Ans. His courage, loyalty, strength, intellect, and resolve were among the traits that people want to nurture in him, according to the poll.

The purpose of this question is to find out which aspect of Harry Potter's character they found most inspiring.

His character's brilliance, devotion, strength, and courage were a great inspiration to the audience.

Q9. If you get a chance to play any character from 'Harry Potter', what would you select?

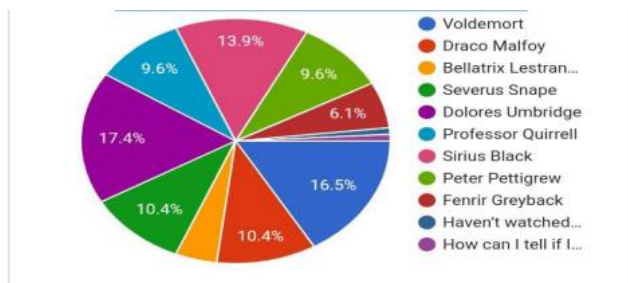


Based on the data presented in the pie chart, it appears that out of 115 responses, 47.8% were interested in portraying Harry Potter, 15.7% in Hermione Granger, 10.4% in Lord Voldemort, and 9.6% in Ron Weasley.

The question was chosen in order to find out which Harry Potter character had the greatest impact on the audience.

The audience was captivated by Harry, Ron, and Hermione Granger's powerful camaraderie and self-assured performances.

Q10. Which is your most hated or disliked character?



The data from the pie chart shows that out of 115 responses, 17.4% found Dolores Umbridge to be the most unliked character. Voldemort came in at 16.5%, Sirius Black at 13.9%, Draco Malfoy and Severus Snape at 10.4%, Peter Pettigrew and Professor Quirrell at 9.6%, and Fenrir Greyback at 6.1%.

This question allows us to portray the audience's most loathed character. Due to his cunning in acquiring control of the wizarding world and in killing Harry, Lord Voldemort was deemed by the public as the most antagonistic figure.

Psychological impact:

Here are some of the psychological elements explored in the film: A social Trible effect may be amplified by Hogwarts' house system: Few people have strong opinions against any of the Hogwarts houses in Harry Potter, however Slytherin may be an exception. That way, even if it has a negative psychological effect on them, they may still be devoted to their organisations. Society as a whole, including individuals of many nationalities, might feel this impact. \ The house elf Dobby from the Malfoy family serves as an inspiration for the Dobby effect in psychology: When Dobby felt guilty about failing in his responsibilities to his master, he would hurt himself. Those who experience this impact often find themselves consumed by feelings of shame if they fail to meet expectations or do something wrong.

There are hints of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) in the show as well: It happens when something terrible happens to a person. This quality is on full display in Harry, and it is easy to understand why given his troubled upbringing and the way his aunt and uncle treated him. When gossip writer Rita

Skeeter makes up stories that don't add up, she represents anxiety via her inflated reporting.

These are only a few of the psychological elements that the Harry Potter books and films touch on. Additionally, a whole generation was positively impacted by reading Harry Potter while they were growing up. Because of the fantastical aspects, including mysticism and supernaturalism, it captivated them and made them want to read more, and it did the same for other children and teenagers. On the other hand, literature may have a harmful effect on young people; for example, some readers may get enamoured with fiction to the point that they believe in occult practices that aren't real. Spectral beings, magical powers, and fantastical worlds are commonplace in works of fiction, whether they are novels, movies, or other media. In actual life, there is a difference between believing in the occult or supernatural and literary imagination, even if the former is fascinating and inventive. Keep in mind that watching fantasy shows does not automatically make individuals believe in sham occult rituals or paranormal occurrences. Cultural, religious, and personal beliefs all have a role in shaping occult or supernatural belief systems, along with an individual's receptivity to magical thinking. Most individuals know that the fantastical components in fantasy literature are only for fun, yet that doesn't stop them from being curious or interested in the mystical.

To sum up, fantasy literature does not necessarily promote the belief in pseudo-occult rituals or paranormal occurrences, despite the genre's potential for gripping and innovative storytelling. Many things might lead someone to believe in the occult, therefore it's important to have an open mind and be able to tell the difference between science fiction and actual beliefs. Properly navigating the fantasy genre requires education, critical thinking, and media literacy.

Joy is an emotional condition. According to Dumbledore, "Happiness can be found, even in the darkest times if one only remembers to turn on the light" (Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban). Each of us has a guiding light, a source of joy, and this statement serves as a potent reminder of that. One option is to turn a blind eye and let our surroundings dictate our actions, while another is to tap into that inner light. In other words, become an optimist, see the positive side of things, and keep going even when things become tough. "Throughout the course of the series, Harry faces a lot of troubling challenges and despite all the evil and darkness he

fighters, he never loses that light of hope," according to Dr Scarlet. "Even though there is a lot of injustice out there, the series reminds us that there is always hope and that even one person can make a difference," according to her.

The fact that many devout individuals reject as unholy any depiction of witchcraft or occultism is not news. So it should come as no surprise that many of those individuals see the widespread appeal of Harry Potter and the impact it has on young minds in a bad light.

According to the movie *Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix*, the youngsters will have dreams about magic spells, riding broomsticks, and defying their parents, rather than dreaming of the delights that God provides us through Jesus Christ. That year while it's possible that kids fantasise about this show because of its popularity, I can't think of anything that would drive fans to defy their parents. The Harry Potter series has contributed to the rise of "us = good, them = evil" mentality via its protagonist-centered morality. Although it is not the only factor, it has contributed to the polarisation that is prevalent in our society today. When a beloved youth program—a narrative that profoundly influenced their sense of right and wrong—permits the "good guys" to escape punishment for their heinous deeds, it inevitably inculcates in the young reader the concept that the goal justifies the means.

The subsequent volumes in the series make this element much more unsettling. In the fourth book, it is made very clear that Unforgivable Curses are so wicked that the Ministry granted a special permit to Aurors (and no one else!) to employ them when Voldemort seemed to be winning War I. If you used them, you'd probably end yourself in Azkaban.

In book five, however, Harry has the decision to unleash an unforgivable curse—one of three—the Imperious, Cruciatius, or Killing curse. Even though he struggles at first, he manages to perform the magic. There is no repercussion for him. "Do you realise what horrible evil you're slipping into, kid?" is never even said. Supposedly supportive of his usage of the Unforgivable, one of his professors by book seven is really rooting for him to succeed. If you identify as a "good guy," the spell seems to be completely benign.

CONCLUSION

The "Harry Potter" books and films are, all things considered, contemporary literary classics that belong in the company of the best novels of all time. Anyone who appreciates great writing must read it because of the enchanting world it creates, the compelling people it portrays, and the profound topics it explores. Much of the backlash against the Harry Potter books and films

has focused on issues of diversity and inclusion. Addressing these issues and promoting a more inclusive and equitable reading experience for everyone requires open debate and consideration of diverse viewpoints. However, the lasting impact of the Harry Potter books and films on young people's mental health and personal growth is evident from their cultural relevance and immense appeal. The series has inspired many readers to face life's challenges head-on, with compassion, faith, and a vivid imagination, thanks to its captivating storyline and likeable characters.

Characters with deep psychological profiles abound in the Harry Potter novel. From Ron, Hermione, and Harry to Voldemort and Bellatrix Lestrange, the story has a wide cast of complicated individuals. Studies might look at the characters' relationships, interactions, and motives from a psychological perspective. Literature, critical thinking, and other abilities have been taught via the Harry Potter series in schools all across the globe. There is room for research on the efficacy of incorporating Harry Potter into the classroom and other possible educational uses of the series.

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