

Kumari Raghubir

English 110

Professor: Dr. James Richie

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Rhetorical analysis for Stacy Schiff's Essay "The Witches of Salem: Diabolic Doings in a
Puritan Village"

Stacy Schiff presents different historical circumstances that were happening in Salem in the years of the 17th century. In her essay "The Witches of Salem: Diabolic Doings in a Puritan Village", she describes historical issues such as witchcraft, sorcery, idolatry, and biblical teachings that affected people in Salem. Witchcraft and sorcery seem to have been out of hand during that period with the people who were found guilty of the act being sentenced to death by hanging. She however does not give an explanation to the cause of the witchcraft and sorcery frenzy that was happening in Salem during that period of time. Stacy Schiff uses a powerful technique so that the readers can reflect on what the people in the past believed about supernatural powers.