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THE INDUSTRIAL MILIEU AND EXPLOITATION OF POOR WOMEN
IN ELIZABETH GASKELL'S *Mary Barton*

 Taher Bdinjki¹

¹Professor of English Literature, Faculty of Arts, Al-Zaytoonah University,
Jordan.

Email: tbadinjki@hotmail.com



(+ Corresponding author)

ABSTRACT

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This paper sheds light on the deplorable conditions of the working class in the early years of the nineteenth century, the change in the social structure as a result of the industrial revolution and the factory system which fostered what came to be known as the great social evil. In *Mary Barton* she portrays a realistic tableau of the industrial milieu, and reflects the feeling of hostility between workers and employers and the stark wretched living conditions of the working class. She also takes a feminine interest in the appalling conditions of working women and the deception, seduction, and the