**Similarities Differences**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| They take care of children that are not actually their biological children: Aibileen takes care of Mae Mobely and Mariam helps take care of Laila’s children. | **Aibileen** | **Mariam** |
| They are looked down upon for things that they cannot control: Mariam is an illegitimate child and Aibileen is black. | Not abused by a man/husband | Abused by her husband Rasheed constantly |
| They are not among the higher social classes of citizens | Not married | married |
| They both care for children that are abused: Aibileen takes care of a child whose parents never have time for her and Mariam takes care of a child who is sometimes beat by her father. | Her plan works. The book gets published and she obtains money from it. | Her plan doesn’t work. She ends up killing Rasheed and stays behind, but Laila and the kids get away safely. |
| They teach good morals to the children they care for: Aibileen always tells Mae that “you is kind, you is smart, you is important” |  | She is killed in the novel |
| They participate in obscure acts to ensure they will have a better life: Aibileen helps write Skeeter’s book which in turn when the book is published she will gain money. Mariam plots with Laila to run away from Rasheed with the children to better their lives. | The racism and prejudice and struggles she goes through does not make her a bitter person. She still maintains to be kind and loving. | The abuse and pain she struggles through makes her a more bitter person throughout the novel. |
| They live in societies that don’t appreciate them. |  |  |