

THE DYNAMICS OF PERSONALITY IN THE CHARACTER OF ARTHUR FLECK IN THE *JOKER* 2019 FILM

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Abstract

The main objective of this study is to determine the character changes that occur in Arthur Fleck as the main character in the Joker film using a psychological approach. The researcher focuses on finding the conflicts (internal and external) that Arthur is currently experiencing and also the psychological factors that trigger the character changes that occur. This study uses qualitative content analysis as a research method. The data is taken from the script and scene of the film Joker 2019 by Todd Philips. Data is taken from data sources and entered into instruments that have been adapted to the needs of researchers. In researching the main character of the 2019 Joker film, researchers used conflict theory from Kenney's theory and psychological aspects from Berhardt's theory. The results of this study indicate that the changes in the personality of the main character in the Joker film are heavily influenced by self-emotions caused by external conflicts that he gets from society.

Keyword: *conflict, psychological factor, dynamics of personality*

Abstrak

Tujuan utama penelitian ini adalah untuk mengetahui perubahan karakter yang terjadi pada Arthur Fleck sebagai tokoh utama film joker dengan menggunakan pendekatan psikologis. Peneliti berfokus untuk menemukan konflik (internal dan eksternal) yang sedang dialami Arthur dan juga faktor psikologisnya dalam memicu perubahan karakter yang terjadi. Penelitian ini menggunakan analisis isi kualitatif sebagai metode penelitian. Data diambil dari naskah dan adegan film Joker 2019 by Todd Philips. Data diambil dari sumber data dan dimasukkan ke dalam instrumen yang telah disesuaikan dengan kebutuhan peneliti. Dalam meneliti tokoh utama dari film joker 2019, peneliti menggunakan teori konflik dari teori Kenney dan aspek psikologi dari Berhardt teori. Hasil penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa perubahan kepribadian tokoh utama dalam film Joker banyak dipengaruhi oleh emosi diri yang disebabkan oleh konflik eksternal yang ia dapatkan dari masyarakat

Kata Kunci: konflik, faktor psikologis, dinamika kepribadian

INTRODUCTION

Dyke stated that literature consists of those writing which interpret the meanings of nature and life, in words of charm and power, touched with the personality of the author, in artistic forms of permanent interest. In other words, literature is a work that tells an event, the author's feelings or a certain situation that is packaged as well as possible with aesthetic purposes. Literature is a medium through which a person can convey his or her ideas or protest against different norms of society. Literature in general can be defined as an individual human expression that comes from physical and psychological experiences.

The results of these literary works include poetry, short stories, novels and others. In the study of popular literature, another category in literary works can be in the form of dramas/films/movies. Compared to other literary works, many think that movies are the most enjoyable form of literature or entertainment. This is due to several factors, including movies can help make the audience's imagination more real, and besides those movies can also invite viewers to new adventures or see new things that they never imagined before.

Movies are also more effective in conveying ideology, point of view or moral messages in the story. Movies can be a medium for giving opinions or just criticizing political conditions and the surrounding environment. So that the actions, words or violence in the film are a reflection of real life. For an author, literary works are the world of their imagination. The imagination created comes from oneself and the environment around the author. Imagination created from oneself is related to the psychological conditions experienced by the author. The biggest influence of the author's psychological condition is on the character of the story. As the main character plays an important role in the story, because through this character an author creates events that describe different human lives because every human being has a different character from other humans. The difference is what causes the occurrence of events that occur in literary works. The incident or event is related to conflict, whether conflict with other people, conflict with the environment, conflict with oneself, or conflict with God. With this statement, literary works are always involved in all aspects of life, including psychological or psychological aspects. In analyzing a literary work can be done with various methods or approaches to literary criticism, one of which is a psychological approach.

The object of this research is a psychological thriller film entitled 'Joker' directed by Todd Phillips. The researcher wants to examine the psychological aspects of the main character from the Joker 2019 film. The researcher took this film to study because the depiction of conflict and psychological disorders is very clear. This study focused on accessing how a Joker character can be formed from the conflicts he faced. The Joker film will be analyzed is What external and internal conflict occur in Arthur Fleck and What are the psychological factors that influence the complex character of Arthur Fleck as the main character in Joker 2019 film. This research is expected that the reader to be able to see how a personality process is formed from the conflicts that make up a character.

METHOD

The researcher used qualitative research with a psychological approach. The source of the data in this research is the Joker film by Todd Phillips which was published on 2019. While the data used for analysis from this research were in the form of scripts and scenes which were in the Joker film that show the conflicts and factors that influence the main character's personality changes. The researcher was the main instrument of the research by documenting as the technique to collect the data. The researcher collected the data based on

Creswell (2013) there are identifying, indicating the data collected and observing the data. While for analyzed the data, the researcher used three steps, there are identification, classification and interpretation.

FINDINGS

In the data analysis, the researcher concluded that Arthur Fleck as the main character in the Joker film that used Kenney's theory (1966) of conflict and Bernhardt's theory (1953) of psychological factors applied to this study. The researcher found conflicts in Joker film, including: 7 internal conflicts and 10 external conflicts. The researcher also found psychological factors that influenced changes in Arthur's personality, including: 2 appetites, 2 wants, 6 emotions, and 3 social motives.

DISCUSSION

The first is the conflict that occurs in the main character of the Joker film, Arthur Fleck. The researcher used conflict theory from William Kenney (1966) and the data found were 7 internal conflicts and 10 external conflicts. Based on the data obtained, the researcher found many conflicts that occurred to Arthur both from society and from outside himself and from within himself. This is same with what Kenney said that conflict has two types, there are internal conflict is struggle or battle in the character's mind and external conflict is conflict that comes from society or outside one's self, and this conflict is shown through real actions such as fights, arguments, bullying, physical fights, etc.

The second problem statement is what are the psychological factors that influence Arthur's fleck personality as the main character of the Joker film. The theory used is the theory of Karl S. Bernhardt (1953) in accordance with the purpose of this study, which is to reveal the factors of personality change of the main character in the Joker movie. The researcher analyzed the joker film using Bernhardt's theory (1953) which stated that there are five psychological factors that motivate a person to do something. However, the researcher only found four of them, namely 2 appetite, 2 wants, 6 emotions, and 3 social motives. *Appetite* was meant here was Arthur's desire to find out the truth about his real father so he does everything he can to achieve it. However, this resulted in new facts which turned out to be Arthur an adopted child who was adopted by his mother from the hospital. *Wants* of Arthur was to become a famous comedian so that he got public attention so he would not be humiliated by the surrounding community and he hopes that if he becomes a famous comedian or a public figure he can improve the family's economy so that he does not live poor anymore.

Most of the findings from these data also show that the psychological factors that influence Arthur Fleck's personality were *emotions*. When Arthur felt pressed, he always did anarchy such as being rude, kicking, even killing people who made him angry and upset. Arthur easily did such disgraceful things, precisely by doing such things he felt happy and relieved. Arthur felt that after he committed acts of anarchy, he was noticed by others, and that is what Arthur wanted. It is clear that Arthur cannot control his emotions well when facing something and instead abuses his emotions to get the attention of many people.

And the last finding was *social motives*, in which Arthur does self-affirmation, self-denial and social rejection. Self-affirmation began when he was accused of removing his 'sign' at work, which was not his fault. This is the main root of Arthur experiencing a very striking change in personality. The self-denial began when he was interviewed by intelligence police about the murder of three Wall Street Boys at a subway station. He did it because Arthur wanted to admit it when he was on a live Murray Franklin TV show and after that he committed suicide. Meanwhile, the social rejection that Arthur was trying to convey started from the attitude of the people who humbled themselves to the government who didn't care about the suffering of the common people and also the pressure that he experienced by suffering from a mental illness. Arthur expressed this social rejection through writings or jokes that he made for jokes when he appears on stage in the hope of changing people's views about what he writes.

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

Based on the findings and discussion above this research conclude that The Researcher found two types of conflict experienced by the main character in the joker film, namely internal conflict and external conflict. The internal conflict experienced by Arthur Fleck comes from his own thoughts. Arthur often hallucinates and experiences mental pressure. Meanwhile, the external conflict experienced by Arthur comes from society which is mostly bullies and fights or disturbances because he is considered freak by others. The researcher also found four types of psychological factors from the main character, there are; 1) Arthur has an *appetite* to find out the truth about his parents, 2) Arthur has *wants* to be famous and noticed by the public so that he will not be humiliated by others anymore, 3) Arthur has high *emotions* which is shown by killing, kicking and being rude to others, 4) Arthur has a *social motive* which is self-affirmation, self-denial and social rejection. Of the four psychological factors found, emotion is the most dominant factor in this case. Personality changes in the main character of the Joker film are heavily influenced by self-emotions caused by external conflicts he gets from the society.

The researcher knows that this article cannot be said to be perfect, therefore the researcher expects criticism and suggestions so that this article can be better and more useful. The researcher hopes this study was able to enrich the information about literature definitely about the conflict and psychological factors that occur in the main character. This study presents a valuable message from the main character (Arthur Fleck) to the readers, especially us as humans who live in society so as not to humiliate others, mock or hurt them, especially to people who have mental illness. The attitude that we give to other people can have a bad impact and even change their personality slowly. And the researcher also hopes that this study awfully presented the contribution as the reference to the next researcher who will conduct research in the same aspect.

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