MATERIALISTIC LIFESTYLE IN F. SCOTT FITZGERALD’S *THE GREAT GATSBY*: A SOCIOLOGICAL APPROACH

RESEARCH PAPER

Submitted as a Partial Fulfilment of the Requirements for Getting Bachelor Degree of Education in English Department

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SCHOOL OF TEACHER TRAINING AND EDUCATION
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APPROVAL

MATERIALISTIC LIFE-STYLE
IN F. SCOTT FITZGERALD’S
THE GREAT GATSBY:
A SOCIOLOGICAL APPROACH

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TESTIMONY

With this, I state that there is no plagiarism of the previous researches which has been made to get bachelor degree of a university and as long as the writer knows that there is also no work or opinion that ever been composed or published by other people, except referred written in this research paper mentioned in bibliography. Hence, if it is proved that there is mistake in the writer’s statements, I will be wholly responsible.

Surakarta, June 11 2007
The writer

Ismi Kusumaningrum
MOTTO

SO VERILY, ALLAH WILL NOT CHANGE PEOPLE’S CIRCUMSTANCES TILL THEY CHANGE THEIR OWN CIRCUMSTANCES

(AR-RAD: 11)

O believer, seek assistance in patience and prayer.

Truly Allah is with the people who are patient

(Al Baqarah: 153)
DEDICATION

I dedicate this research paper to:

My beloved Father and Mother
Suroso and Endang Sri Sidonongsih

My beloved sister and brother
Wiwit Endah Werdiningrum and Heri Kuswibowo

All of my relative
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Surakarta, Juni 2007

The researcher

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ABSTRACT


The object of this research is the novel entitled The Great Gatsby by F. Scott Fitzgerald. He is one of the greatest writers in America and socialist critics. The major problem of this study is how materialistic life-style is reflected in the novel The Great Gatsby by F. Scott Fitzgerald is based on a sociological approach. It happens because in America, in early twentieth century they have a dream called American dream. American dream makes people in America become materialistic life-style.

The researcher employs qualitative method. In this method, the researcher uses two data sources, namely primary and secondary data sources. The primary data source is the novel itself. The secondary data sources are the sociological book, some books about American civilization and the other sources related to the analysis. The method of data collection is library research and the technique of data collection is descriptive technique.

Based on the social historical background of American society at early twentieth century, materialistic life-style happened in American society; they have a dream to get wealthy, prosperity, money, glamour, and social status. They try to get wealthy by doing anything whether it is legal or illegal. The author wishes to say that materialistic does not guarantee people get happy life. Happiness occurs when people can live with someone whom they love, and live in peace, friendship, and love.

Key words: Materialistic life-style, Sociological Approach, American Dream and Great Depression.

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