

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### **A. Background of the Study**

In the world, every human being needs to be respected, regarded, accepted and loved by the other, because with these aspects they can survive their life. They also want to live together with their social, environment, and exactly their family in peace and harmony. To make it real, every human being has to do the same things to the other too, because it will balance a person and his or her environment. So, by doing this, they will feel that life is beautiful and enjoy this life. But, sometimes every human being also has his or her problems in their life that make different situation with their environment.

The problem from one person may vary with other people. People in the world may have their own some attitudes and ways to solve the problems they have. Some people may solve their problems that they have, but may be some others escape from their problems. It can be like that, because they have no solution for it. The problems have to be faced and solved to get solution, although it is simple or complicated and not to be avoid. If someone tries to escape from his or her problems and avoid to solve the problem, it just makes the problem more complicated and difficult to solve or get the solution from the problem; it makes conflict and frustration for them. They have their point of view concerning the way to solve the problem, because they have different problems, it is based on

his or her ability. After human being has finished their problem, they will feel comfortable and happy.

Struggle to survive is the way how we can live in the world, it can be how we can eat, live, get happiness and are respected by the other. Struggle to survive cannot be done by people who just take help from the others, the kind of people like that will not get long time to survive in this world. It means struggle to survive is decided by human willingness, personalities, desire, and behaviors toward social conventions, norms, morals, and ethics. Those phenomena are the object of psychological studies that represents the reality of life.

Psychology has the same object of study as literature does. It is seen from the definition of literature as a permanent writing, which expresses and communicates thoughts, feelings and attitudes toward life and the world (William, 1965: 17). Shortly, both psychology and literary study human being's life with its problems in this life.

Stimulated by the case above, the writer intends to conduct a study on psychological aspect of the main character in the movie of *Cinderella Man*, directed by Ron Howard which was first released in June 3, 2005 (Theatrical) and December 6, 2005 (DVD / Video version); it has 144 minutes in running time. Ron Howard was born on March 1, 1954 in Duncan, Oklahoma. His parents were both actors. Ron first appeared on stage at 18 months and made his screen debut at age four.

He succeeds in directing comedies such as *Parenthood*, and *The Paper*, he moved successfully into dramas such as *Backdraft*, *Apollo 13* and *Ransom*, *Far and Away*, *The missing*, *A Beautiful Mind* and he just directed his new movie *Cinderella Man*, *The Da Vinci Code* and *East of Eden*.

His work on *Apollo 13* earned him the 1996 Best Director award of the Directors Guild of America. Since 1986, his films have been produced by Imagine Films Entertainment, Inc., a production company he founded with partner Brian Grazer. Howard is Co-Chairman of Imagine. *A Beautiful Mind* won four Oscars in 2002, including Best Picture and an Oscar for Ron Howard as Best Director.

*Cinderella Man* is a true story from the Great Depression. This movie tells about an underdog who becomes a hero and a symbol of hope. At the beginning of *Cinderella Man*, Jim Braddock (Russell Crowe) is a successful boxer enjoying a comfortable lifestyle with his wife, Mae (Renee Zellweger) and their three children. Five years later, Braddock is crushed by the Depression; a broken hand has lost him matches, his boxing license has been revoked and he and his family have moved from their house to a bad or dirty apartment. Unable to pay the bills, he takes work on the docks but the family slips into great debt.

A chance to get back into the ring comes with a last minute offer to fight from his former manager, Joe Gould (Paul Giamatti). It's been the first time since his last bout and no one expects him to win over his opponent. Jim wins, he does

and he continues to do so, showing a remarkable left hook that he has developed on the docks while favoring his left arm against his injured right. He's so impressive that boxing promoter, Jimmy Johnston (Bruce McGill) reinstates his license.

Always with the thought of keeping his family together, Braddock goes from strength to strength, but while he becomes the people's champion, Mae is fearful of seeing him hurt, it makes her unable to attend his fights. With victory following victory, Braddock is soon able to achieve what not so long ago would have seemed impossible, a chance for a title fight against the much favored heavyweight champion, Max Baer (Craig Bierko), a boxer so powerful he has already killed two opponents.

Based on the case above, the researcher is interested in analyzing the major character, Jim Braddock, because he has a very important role in the plot, and gives information about psychological phenomenon. It is seen from the way of the main character struggles, a person who wants to survive in his life from the great depression or economical condition. The researcher gives the title for his research "STRUGGLE TO SURVIVE IN RON HOWARD'S *CINDERELLA MAN*: AN INDIVIDUAL PSYCHOLOGICAL APPROACH". The researcher adopts the psychological theories by Alfred Adler.

**B. Literature Review**

*Cinderella Man* is a popular movie directed by Ron Howard. But the writer has not found another researcher who has examined this movie especially in Surakarta. Furthermore, the writer analyzes Ron Howard's *Cinderella Man* from the psychological approach by emphasizing the struggle of the major character, Jim Braddock to survive in his life.

**C. Problem Statement**

The major problem of the study is how the struggle of Jim Braddock to survive in his life influences his psychological development.

**D. Limitation of the Study**

This study is limited to the struggle of Jim Braddock to survive in his life and how the struggle influences his psychological development in Ron Howard's *Cinderella Man*. This study uses individual psychology perspective. It is as a means of analysis with consideration that Jim Braddock's psychological development is influenced by the struggle to survive in his life

**E. Objective of the Research**

The objectives of the study are as follows:

1. To analyze the movie based on its structural element.
2. To analyze the movie based on the individual psychological approach.

## **F. Benefit of the Study**

The result of the study is highly expected to give benefit as follows:

### **1. Theoretical Benefit**

This study is expected to give a high contribution to the body of knowledge, particularly to those who are interested in Ron Howard's *Cinderella Man*.

### **2. Practical Benefit**

This study is expected to give deeper understanding about the movie of Ron Howard's *Cinderella Man* from psychological perspective.

## **G. Research Method**

In this research, the writer analyzes the Ron Howard's *Cinderella Man*, using qualitative method. There are four points that should be taken into account in this research method:

### **1. Type of the Study**

This study belongs to qualitative research, which refers to research based on qualitative data taken from the movie *Cinderella Man* directed by Ron Howard.

## **2. Type of the Data and the Data Source**

There are two data sources namely primary data source and secondary data source.

### **a. Primary Data Source**

The primary data source of the study is the movie of *Cinderella Man* directed by Ron Howard.

### **b. Secondary Data Source**

The secondary data sources are articles, books, and references, which are relevant with this study. In addition there are also some important informations such as comments, interest, essay, criticism, and another relevant information.

## **3. Technique of the Data Collection**

The method of data collection is library research by collecting and selecting both of the primary data and the secondary data. The researcher will involve some required steps:

- a. Watching the movie repeatedly to get deep understanding.
- b. Determining the character that will be analyzed.
- c. Reading some related books to find out the theory, data, and information required.
- d. Taking notes of important parts in both primary data and secondary data sources.

- e. Classifying and determining the relevant data.
- f. Arranging, researching, and developing the selected material into a good unity toward the topic of the study.

#### **4. Technique of the Data Analysis**

Technique of data analysis used by the writer includes two techniques. First, descriptive technique, in which the researcher explores some information stated implicitly within both of primary data and secondary data. Second, hermeneutics technique, which helps the researcher interpret the conversation the script from the movie.

#### **H. Paper Organization**

The study consists of five chapters. The first chapter is introduction; it deals with background of the study, literature review, problem statement, the objective of the study, benefit of the study, theoretical approach, research method, and paper organization. Chapter II contains underlying theory explaining individual psychology used to analyze the movie. The researcher presents the underlying theory, which consists of the notion of individual psychology, the basic concepts of individual psychology and theoretical application. Chapter III presents structural element and discussion of the movie *Cinderella Man* directed by Ron Howard. Chapter IV deals with the analysis the individual psychology toward the major character of the movie. Chapter V is conclusion and suggestion of the research.