THE MYTH OF AMERICAN DREAM IN GABRIELE MUCCINO'S THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS: A SOCIOLOGICAL APPROACH

RESEARCH PAPER

Submitted as a Partial Fulfillment of the Requirement for Getting Bachelor Degree of Education in English Department

by

RINA HAYULILININGSIH
A 320 070 250

SCHOOL OF TEACHER TRAINING AND EDUCATION
MUHAMMADIYAH UNIVERSITY OF SURAKARTA
2011
APPROVAL

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by

RINA HAYULILININGSIH
A 320 070 250

Approved to be Examined
by Consultant Team

Consultant I
(Drs. M. Thoyibi, M.S.)

Consultant II
(Titis Setyabudi, S. S., M. Hum)
ACCEPTANCE

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by

RINA HAYULILININGSIH
A 320 070 250

Accepted and Approved by the Board of Examiners
School of Teacher Training and Education
Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta
on March 15, 2011

Team of Examiners:

1. Drs. M. Thoyibi, M.S. (Chair Person) (……………………..)

2. Titis Setyabudi, S. S., M. Hum (Member I) (……………………..)

3. Dr. Phil. Dewi Candraningrum, S. Pd., M. Ed. (Member II) (……………………..)

Dean,

Drs. H. Sofyan Anif, MSi.
NIK. 547
TESTIMONY

Herewith, I testify that there is no plagiarism of the previous researchers which have been made to get bachelor degree of a university and as long as the writer knows there is also no work or opinion that has ever been composed or published by others, except those which the writing are referred in this research paper and mentioned in literary review and bibliography. Therefore, if it is proved that there are some untrue statements in this testimony, I will be fully responsible.

Surakarta, March 2011

The Researcher

Rina Hayuliliningsih
MOTTO

“Success is not the key to happiness. Happiness is the key to success. If you love what you are doing, you will be successful.” (Albert Schweitzer)

“Do hard work, don’t harm anyone and try to keep others happy”
(Dr. Jamshed Chaudhry)
DEDICATION

A beautiful dedication for:

The Glorious, the Lord and the All Mighty Allah Subhana Wa Ta’ala

My beloved parents who give me support and always pray me for the best in every step in my life. Thank you for your endless love.

My dearest beautiful sister “Ida” and brother “Agung”. Thank you for all warmth and care with me.

Muh. Syaiful “Songger Ndudt”. Thank you for patience, motivation, love, support, and praying me for the best.

All people who cannot mentioned one by one. Thanks for the support in finishing this paper research.
Assalamu`alaikum wr. wb.

Alhamdulillahirabbil`alamin, thanks for the great one Allah SWT, because with great blessing and guidance of Allah SWT, the researcher can finish the paper entitled “THE MYTH OF AMERICAN DREAM IN GABRIELE MUCCINO'S THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS: A SOCIOLOGICAL APPROACH”. Shalawat and salam are addressed to Prophet Muhammad SAW, the great idol of the world as the inspiration of this his life.

The researcher realizes it is impossible to finish the research without any help, support, encouragement, and advices from others. This is because of her limitation. Therefore, the researcher would like to express her deepest appreciation on and gratitude to persons who have given contribution to her to finishing the paper, among others are:

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2. **Titis Setyabudi, SS., MHum.**, as the Head of English Department of Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta who has given the researcher permission to conduct the research.
3. **Drs. M. Thoyibi, M.S.**, as the first consultant as well as examiner who has given her permission and as the inspiring lecturer who makes the researcher interested in literature.

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5. All lecturers of English Department of Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta.

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   The researcher realizes that the research is far for perfection. Therefore, she would like to extend her gratitude to the readers who are willing to give input in the form of suggestion or constructive criticism to make the research paper better. The researcher expects this research paper would be useful to everyone.

   *Wassalamu`alaikum wr. wb.*

   The researcher

   *Rina Hayutiliningsih*
SUMMARY


The problem of this study is how the myth of American Dream is reflected in Gabriele Muccino’s The Pursuit of Happyness. The objective of this study is to analyze the movie based on the structural elements and to reveal the myth of American Dream in this movie based on the sociological approach.

This study belongs to qualitative method. The data of the research are text and image consists of words, phrases, and sentences in The Pursuit of Happyness movie which is directed by Gabriele Muccino. Whereas the data source, there are two types, namely primary and secondary data source. The primary data source is the form of the manuscript of the movie itself, meanwhile the secondary data sources are taken from the books, journals, articles and internet which have related to this study. The method of the data collection is documentation. The technique of the data analysis is descriptive analysis.

Based on the analysis the researcher draws several conclusions. The conclusion reveals the relationship between the movie and the social reality in America. First, the structural elements are related with social realities in historical background in order to find the resolution toward Gabriele Muccino’s The Pursuit of Happyness. Second, Gabriele Muccino describes his world view on how myth of American Dream reflects on American society in the late twentieth and early twenty-first centuries.

Consultant I
Drs. M. Thoyibi, M.S.
NIK. 410

Consultant II
Titis Setyabudi, S. S., M. Hum.
NIK. 948

Dean,

Drs. H. Sofyan Anif, M.Si
NIK. 547
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