

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Effort in life is very important because it is manner to success in life. Without effort, someone cannot success, and success only to be a dream. In this world, many of people to do something for get their wants, such as success, happiness, rich, and prosperous. In effort, someone will found many of problems because this life full with survives.

The *Freedom Writer* contents effort a woman to be a good teacher in her school. She is Erin Gruwell, She gives them something they never had from a teacher before. She never gives up learning her students. She has done the best for her students although they were not interest. Her efforts to be a good teacher for her students and she never give up until her students to be better.

Effort is use of strength; her effort can give result which satisfied. In actually after later months, her students' stars interest her. Her students is very happy, to know identity themselves, and able to write daily life in the diary and write in computer.

The *Freedom Writer* based on The *Freedom Writers* Diary by Erin Gruwell and her class. **Starring by Hilary Swank, Imelda Staunton, Patrick Dempsey, Mario, and, John Benjamin Hickey.** Directed by Richard LaGravenese, produced by Danny DeVito, Michael Shamberg, Stacey Sher, Richard La Gravenese. Music by Mark Isham, will.i.am, RZA,

Cinematography is Jim Denault, Editing by David Moritz, Distributed by Paramount Pictures, Running time is 122 mins, Country is USA, Language is English, Budget is \$21 million, Gross revenue is \$43,090,741.

The genre is drama movie. The release date of movie is January 5, 2007. Release dates for *Freedom Writers* movie, USA on 5 January 2007, UK on 15 February 2007, Mexico on 2 March 2007, UK 2 on March 2007, Kuwait on 7 March 2007, Netherlands on 8 March 2007, Romania on 9 March 2007, Turkey on 9 March 2007, Belgium on 14 March 2007, France on 14 March 2007, Australia on 22 March 2007, Singapore on 29 March 2007, Germany on 5 April 2007, Austria on 13 April 2007, Spain on 11 May 2007, Malaysia on 17 May 2007, Denmark on 18 May 2007, Norway on 18 May 2007, Sweden on 18 May 2007, Argentina on 18 July 2007, Hungary on 18 July 2007, Iceland on 19 July 2007, Japan on 21 July 2007, Brazil on 27 August 2007, Greece on 10 September 2007.

Freedom Writers is inspired by a true story and the diaries of real Long Beach teenagers after the LA riots, during the worst outbreak of interracial gang warfare. Two-time Academy Award winner Hilary Swank stars as Erin Gruwell, whose passion to become a teacher is soon challenged by a group of Black, Latino, and Asian gangbangers who hate her even more than each other. When Erin begins to listen to them in a way no adult has ever done, she begins to understand that for these kids, getting through the day alive is enough -- they are not delinquents but teenagers fighting "a war of the streets" that began long before they were born. Erin gives them something they never

had from a teacher before -- respect. For the first time, these teens experience a hope that maybe; they might show the world that their lives matter and they have something to say.

In 2007, the Freedom Writer movie gets Humanitas Prize, Film Category Richard LaGravenese. In 2008, the Freedomwriter gets Image Awards, Outstanding Writing in a Motion Picture (Theatrical or Television) Richard LaGravenese. The idea for the film came from journalist Tracey Durning, who made a documentary about Erin Gruwell for the ABC News program Primetime Live. Durning served as co-executive producer of the film

This drama is happy ending because Erin Gruwell and her students is very happy, to know themselves, and able to write daily life in the diary and write in computer and finally printed. The Freedom Writer movie drama is interesting for watch because the contents of drama very great message.

This film directed by Richard LaGravenese. He written The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader (2010) (*filming*) (screenplay), P.S. I Love You (2007) (screenplay), Freedom Writers (2007) (screenplay), Paris, je t'aime (2006) (segment "Pigalle") aka Paris, I Love You (Hong Kong: English title) (International: English title) aka Paris, je t'aime (UK) (USA), Beloved (1998/I) (screenplay), Living Out Loud (1998) (written by) , The Horse Whisperer (1998) (screenplay), The Mirror Has Two Faces (1996) (screen story) (screenplay), Unstrung Heroes (1995) (screenplay), The Bridges of Madison County (1995) (screenplay), A Little Princess (1995) (screenplay), The Ref (1994) (screenplay) aka Hostile Hostages, The Fisher King (1991)

(written by), *Rude Awakening* (1989) (screenplay). He was director of *P.S. I Love You* (2007), *Freedom Writers* (2007), *Paris, je t'aime* (2006) (segment "Pigalle") aka *Paris, I Love You* (Hong Kong: English title) (International: English title) aka *Paris, je t'aime* (UK) (USA), *A Decade Under the Influence* (2003), *Living Out Loud* (1998). He as producer of *A Decade Under the Influence* (2003) (producer), (1994) (producer) aka *Hostile Hostages*. He as actor in *Blow* (2001) *Detective #2* , *The Fisher King* (1991) *Strait jacket yuppie*.

The storyline of the movie takes place between 1992-1995, beginning with scenes from the 1992 Los Angeles Riots. It then says that there were 120 murders in Long Beach since the riots. Hilary Swank plays the role of Erin Gruwell, a new, excited schoolteacher who leaves the safety of her hometown, Newport Beach, to teach at Woodrow Wilson High School in Long Beach, where a new integration program puts students of all backgrounds and races in classes together. Her efforts to be a good teacher for her students and she never give up until her students to be better. Her enthusiasm quickly dwindles away when she realizes that her class (all at-risk students, also known as "unteachables") is not the happy-go-lucky eager students she was expecting. They must be forced into class by security guards and segregate themselves into racial groups in the classroom. The tension is apparent every time students from one race look at those from another. Not only does she meet opposition from her students, she also has a hard time with her department

head, who believes she should focus less on teaching her students to learn and read, and more on teaching them discipline and obedience.

One night, two students, Eva, a Hispanic girl and narrator for the beginning and for some parts of the story, and a Cambodian refugee, Cindy (Jaclyn Ngan), find themselves in the same convenience store. Another student, Grant Rice (Armand Jones), is frustrated at losing an arcade game and demands a refund from the owner. When he storms out, Eva's boyfriend attempts a driveby shooting, accidentally killing Cindy's boyfriend. As Eva is a witness, she must testify at court; she intends to protect her own kind in her testimony

At school, Gruwell intercepts a racist drawing of one of her students and uses it to teach them about the Holocaust. She gradually begins to earn their trust and buys them composition books to record their diaries, in which they talk about their experiences of being abused, seeing their friends die, and being evicted. Determined to reform her students, she takes two part-time jobs to pay for more books and spends more time at school, to the disappointment of her husband (Patrick Dempsey). Her students start to behave with respect and learn more. A transformation is especially visible in one of her students, Marcus (Jason Finn). She invites several Holocaust survivors to talk with her class about their experiences and takes them on a field trip to the Museum of Tolerance. Meanwhile, her unorthodox teaching methods are scorned by her colleagues and department chair Margaret Campbell (Imelda Staunton). The next year comes, and Gruwell teaches her class again for sophomore year.

In class, when reading *The Diary of Anne Frank*, they invite Miep Gies (Pat Carroll), the woman who sheltered Anne Frank from the German soldiers to talk to them. After they raise the money to bring her over, she tells them her experiences hiding Anne Frank. When Marcus tells her that she is his hero, she denies it, claiming she was merely doing the right thing. Her denial causes Eva to rethink lying during her testimony.

When she testifies, she finally breaks down and tells the truth, much to some of her family members' dismay. Meanwhile, Gruwell asks her students to write their diaries book form. She compiles the entries and names it *The Freedom Writers Diary*.

Her husband divorces her and Margaret tells her she cannot teach her kids for their junior year. She fights this decision, eventually convincing the superintendent to allow her to teach her kids' junior and senior year. The film ends with a note that Gruwell successfully brought many of her students to graduation and college.

This drama because happy ending of story is where Erin Gruwell and her students is very happy, to know themselves, and able to write daily life in the diary and write in computer. The Freedom Writer movie drama is interesting movie. The research discover three reasons why choosing this movie.

First, it is great of creates by Erin Gruwell and the storyline of the movie takes place between 1992-1995, beginning with scenes from the 1992 Los Angeles Riots.

Second, The story of *Freedom Writer* gives information to reader about effort in life, love, struggle, ambition, and dreams.

Third, there was also an interesting major character, which is interested to study, Erin Gruwell. She is a kind with her student, full energy, creative, and innovative. And the writer tries to analyze her life about character, behavior and relations with other person, about internal and external problem. I am interest for analysis Erin Gruwell's effort and the analysis of her life in *Freedom Writer* by using Individual Approach. The title of the research paper is **ERIN GRUWELL'S EFFORT IN RICHARD LAGRAVENESE'S FREEDOM WRITER MOVIE (2007): INDIVIDUAL PSYCHOLOGICAL APPROACH.**

B. Literature Review

The writer realized that this research is not the first research analyzing effort by using Individual Psychological Approach. To prove the originality of the research, the writer will show the previous study that deals with this research.

The previous researcher is Astuti (UMS, 2005) in her paper *The Influence of Learning Model on Student's Personality Development in Freedom Writers Movie: Educational Psychology Approach*. In this research, the researcher employs qualitative method. She uses two data sources namely primary data sources and secondary data sources. The primary data source is the movie itself and the secondary data sources are books, internet, journal, etc. The

method of data collection is descriptive technique. Based on the analysis, the result of this study source that the students' personality in school can be formed by a teacher whom understand his or her roles as the teacher based on educational psychology and also he or she has to know the characteristic of the adult learners. A teacher is an agent of change. This research has the same object, *Freedom Writers* movie. The difference of this research is from the approach of the research.

Second, Dewi Erna Patmawati (UMS,2009) in her paper *Struggle for Existence in Erin Gruwell Freedom Writers directed by Richard Lagraneverse: An Individual Psychological Approach*. According to her the object of this research is the movie entitled Freedom Writer by Richard Lagraneverse. The major problem of this study is "How is the major character struggle for existence reflected in Erin Gruwell's a major character of *Freedom Writers*?" therefore the objective of the study is to analyze Freedom Writer based on structural element and to analyze main character based on individual psychological approach. This study belongs to qualitative study.

She uses two data sources; they are primary and secondary data. The primary data is film *Freedom Writers* directed by Richard Lagravenerse. The secondary data sources are the books about psychology and the other sources, which are related to the analysis. Based on the analysis, the study reveals there are some motives underlying the struggle of Erin Gruwell. The motives are, getting safety in the job, family, respected by other, and the last motive is to actualize the potential as professional teacher.

This research will be different from the previous ones, because the writer has different object in the research. The writers will analysis of Erin Gruwell's effort to be a good teacher in Richard Lagraveneses's in *Freedom Writer* by using Individual Psychological Approach.

C. Problem Statement

The major problem statement of this research is: "how the Erin Gruwell's effort to be a good teacher is reflected in this movie?"

D. Limitation of the Study

The writer will focus an analyzing the effort on the major character, Erin Gruwell in *Freedom Writer* movie based on Individual Psychological Approach.

E. Objectives of the Study

The objectives of the study are as follows:

1. To analyze the film based on its structural elements.
2. To analyze the effort based on Individual Psychological Approach.

F. Benefit of the Study

The benefits of the study are expected from this study are follow:

1. Theoretical Benefit

By doing the research, the writer wants to give additional contribution to literature researches dealing with Erin Gruwell struggle in *freedom Writer*.

2. Practical benefit

This research is expected to give deeper understanding about the content of the movie especially from the individual psychological aspect Erin Gruwell's in *Freedom Writer*.

G. Research Method

The research method of this research paper is broken down into five aspects:

1. Object of the Study

The object of the study is Erin Gruwell *Freedom Writers* movie.

2. Type of the Study

The type of this research is descriptive qualitative. Descriptive qualitative is a type of research which result the descriptive data in the form of written or oral words from the observed object.

3. Type of the Data and the Data Source

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

a. Primary Data Sources

The primary data source is the movie of *Freedom Writers*, written by Erin Gruwell.

b. Secondary Data Sources

The secondary data sources are the author's biography, essay, comment, homepage, and website about the movie and other relevant sources.

4. Technique of the Data Collection

The data collecting technique used in this study is the library research.

The necessary steps are as follows:

- a. Watching the movie repeatedly to get a deep understanding.
- b. Reading some related books to find out the theory, data and information required.
- c. Taking notes of information in both of primary and secondary data.
- d. Arranging the data into the several parts based on its classification.
- e. Drawing conclusion based on the data.

5. Technique of the Data Analysis

The technique used analyzing the data is descriptive qualitative analysis of content analysis. The writer gets the data from watching the movie in order to have the deep understanding. In secondary data, the writer uses an individual psychological theory proposed by Alfred Adler.

H. Research Organization

The researcher systematizes this research into five chapters. Chapter I is introduction, which consists of background, literary review, problem statement, limitation of the study, objective of the study, benefit of the study, theoretical approach, research method, and research organization. Chapter II comprises of the underlying theory, which presents Notion of Individual Psychology, Basic Concept of the Individual Psychology, Structural Elements of the movie and theoretical application. Chapter III is

Structural Analysis of the movie, which involves the structural elements of the character and characterization, setting, point of view, plot, style, theme, and discussion. Chapter IV is Individual Psychological Analysis. Chapter V is Conclusion and Suggestion.