

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Research

In real life, everything that people do always needs a struggle. It can be seen in a society. The struggle varies, such as struggle for justice, struggle to get a job, struggle to get a higher position on profession, struggle for freedom, struggle for love, struggle to get achievement, and also struggle for life. Many ways are used to make necessities come true. People can do everything to struggle something they need. Although struggle to get or reach something is hard, at least the better condition is able to reach.

Struggle for life may occur in the household, such as when a father as the head of family cannot avoid his inability to provide for his wife and his kids. He is ceaselessly motivated to work hard and struggle in order his family current needs such as psychological, physical, and spiritual comforts can be fulfilled. Other example is a teacher. A teacher is second parent when students at school, so she has responsibility to educate and guide her students. A teacher does not only teach her students, but also guide them. Both of them cannot be separated to realize her motives that are to help their students in solving problem at school and realize their dreams.

Motivation is one of the important ideas in humanistic psychology. Motivation means the encouragement to do something. In humanistic psychology, people's behavior is determined by motives to fulfill their needs.

Basically, people actions are motivated by deficiency. That is lack of something. That is lack of food and they look for it or lack of safety and they look for it.

One of the most well known humanistic psychologists is Abraham Harold Maslow. His theory is called Hierarchy of Needs. Maslow formulated a theory of human motivation in which human being's varying needs are seen as arising in a hierarchical fashion. That is, certain basic needs, such as hunger and thirst that must be satisfied before other needs.

Maslow (in Hjelle and Ziegler, 1992:448) proposed that all human needs are innate and that they are systematically arranged in an ascending hierarchy of priority. The needs are: (1) physiological needs; (2) safety and security needs; (3) love and belongingness needs; (4) self-esteem needs; and (5) self-actualization needs.

To fulfill those needs human being must be motivated to work hard and struggle in order they can get everything what they need. These realities often occur and can be found around people. People cannot imagine how people struggle when their nation entered the darkest years of the great depression or how people struggle to stay alive at the time of World War. It is more difficult to reach the hierarchy of needs in the present time. It may be easy to people to know the struggle at the time in a story or movie.

Movie has the same position, as the major genres in textual studies, like poetry and novel. It is true that movie becomes part of daily life, which always attracts the attention million people in this world.

The Miracle Worker is a movie that was made based on the true story. *The Miracle Worker* is a [recycle](#) of 20th century dramatic works that derived from [Helen Keller's biography](#), [the Story of My Life](#), that tells about Keller's [biography](#) detailing her early life, especially her experiences with [Annie Sullivan](#) which was first published in 1903. Each of the various dramas describes the relationship between Helen Keller, a [deaf blind](#) and initially almost [feral child](#) and [Annie Sullivan](#).

This [movie](#) first was made in 1962 by Arthur Penn. In 2000, that film was recycled in new era which was directed by Nadia Tass. She cooperated with lot of talented persons. They were [Adam Shankman](#) as the producer, [Monte Merrick](#) as the screen writer, [William Goldstein](#) as the music director, [David Parker](#) as cinematographer, [Maryann Brandon](#) and [Josh Young](#) as editor. *The Miracle Worker* was released on November 12, 2000 on [the Wonderful World of Disney](#) in USA. The budget in making this movie was \$2,500,000 (USA). The duration of this movie is 1 hour 30 minutes. This movie belongs to drama television that is repacked on DVD. This movie uses English as the language and USA as the country in the process and setting of place.

The director of *The Miracle Worker* movie is Nadia Tass. She was born in 1956. She is a [film director](#) and [producer](#), originally from [Macedonia](#), Northern [Greece](#), who moved to [Australia](#) in the 1960s. She directed 11 movies of her works. They are [Malcolm](#) (1986), [Rikky and Pete](#) (1988), [The Big Steal](#) (1990), [Pure Luck](#) (1991), [Mr. Reliable](#) (1996), [Amy](#) (1997), [The](#)

[Miracle Worker](#) (2000), [Samantha: An American Girl Holiday](#) (2004), [Felicity: An American Girl Adventure](#) (2005) , [Custody](#) (2007) and [Matching Jack](#) (2010).

The Miracle Worker movie was made that was based on the true story of Helen Keller and Annie Sullivan of book, *The Story of My Life* that is written by William Gibson. The screenplay for *The Miracle Worker* was written by Monte Merrick. *The Miracle Worker* was a gripping and inspiring story of the battle to solve impossible obstacles and the struggle to communicate.

The Miracle Worker movie tells about the life of family that was set in Keller's house in Tuscumbia, Alabama (Southern of USA). Captain Arthur Keller was the head of this family who was hearty gentlemen person. His wife was a young woman with a sweet girlish face named Kate Keller. In that family, there were two children, James Keller and Helen Keller. James Keller was a son of Captain from his first marriage and Helen Keller was a daughter of Captain with Kate Keller.

Helen was the center point in that family. When she was 18 months, she got fever. The illness made her blind and deaf. Helen could not communicate with anyone. Because of that, Helen was uncontrollable rages and tantrums that terrify her family.

Captain Arthur Keller was just thinking if there was only one last way to serve his daughter, putting her into an asylum, but in other side his wife told that there must be another way. Then, Helen's aunt, Evelyn, proposed Captain

Keller to send a letter to Dr. Chisholm from Perkins Institute for the blind. Finally, the best student was pointed to teach Helen, her name was Annie Sullivan.

For the first time Annie came in captain house, she knows that she was a smart girl. Helen can imitate that she taught quickly. There was that made her surprised, especially the manner of that family in educating Helen. She saw Mrs. Kate gave Helen a sweet candy when she was in trouble; other people in that house did so. When eating, Helen also did trouble; she always put the food from other plate. By seeing that condition, Annie wanted to teach Helen languages and did not to depend on other people. So, she can behave like other normal girl.

Annie was strong woman. She could be saved from the blind through nine times operation when she was child. Annie had confidence to teach Helen and never gave up and always struggling to make Helen knew about words and the meaning.

Captain Keller did not believe on Annie's ability to teach Helen. One time, Captain gave a statement to Annie that he was not satisfied with her work and planned to fire Annie. When she walked around the garden, she saw a small house. So, she ordered that house as the place to teach Helen, she needed to live with Helen in different place from her family. So, she ordered a small house near the Captain's garden as the place to teach Helen, she needed to live with Helen. Captain Keller agreed and gave her two weeks to teach Helen.

When Helen knew that she lived without her mother, she became angry and did not get in touch with Annie. This condition made Annie confused, but she never thought desperate to teach Helen. In that house, they lived with Percy. When Helen was uncontrolled, just the close people in captain house that Helen knew that made her suitable and calm. When Helen was calm, Annie invited her to walk around the garden. There, she taught Helen some words and things. Helen accustomed without her parents. She learned well. Annie was not only taught the words and meaning of things, but also she taught how to behave in eating.

After two weeks, captain came to fetch his daughter. Annie said that she needed more times, but captain refused it. As the result, in the first day Helen back home, she was in trouble and uncontrolled condition again. She did not want eat by using her own spoon. When she got water pot, she poured it to Annie. That time, Annie invited Helen to out of house to a pump near the house. In this case, the miracle was happened. When Helen touched water, she said her first word “wa wa”. Finally, Annie succeeded to make Helen speak a word and knew the meaning of things. All of Keller’s family was pride to the strength of Annie’s efforts that became a miracle for Helen.

There are pros and cons from the audiences who have watched *The Miracle Worker* movie. Among other negative responses are as follows, *first* is from a Customer (2001), he/she said that he/she was very disappointed of *The Miracle Worker* (2000). He/she is more like the acting of Paty Duke than Alison Elliott. *Second* response is from Reader (2007); he/she said that having

recently seen the 1962 version, he/she didn't like the new version of *The Miracle Worker*. That recycle was bad; especially the performance of Helen Keller.

The positive responses are as follow; *first* is from Shrek (2003), he/she said that that was a wonderful film and the best version of *The Miracle Worker*. Hallie Kate Eisenberg was a wonderful actress, actually seems to study and rehearse her lines and role. She was extremely convincing, though perhaps a little too tame at times, in her role as young Helen Keller". The *second* response is from [Sebchen](#) (2000), he/she said that he/she was very pleasantly surprised after watching that film. Hallie Kate Eisenberg created a Helen with subtlety. As well, Alison Elliot's portrayal of Annie Sullivan showed both intelligent and emotional control.

From those responses, the writer could take a note that actually *The Miracle Worker* movie has a good film production and education value. It is determined in the plot line, theme in the character of the actresses and actors. The actors and actresses are very talented.

This movie got much appreciation from any organizations. The result of awarding into *The Miracle Worker* got nominations: from Family Television Award in category Movies/Miniseries/Specials (won); Golden Reel Award in nominated category Best Sound Editing - Television Movies and Specials - Dialogue & ADR, [John Benson](#) (supervising sound editor/supervising editor) , [Sonya Henry](#) (supervising dialogue editor) , [John Green](#) (sound editor); young

artist award in category Best Performance in a TV movie (Comedy or Drama) - Young Actress Age Ten or Under, [Hallie Kate Eisenberg](#) (nominated).

There are four attractiveness of the movie that makes the writer choose this movie to be researched. *First* is this movie is made based on the true story. The story is taken from book *The Story of My Life*, first published in 1903, is [Helen Keller's biography](#) detailing her early life, especially her experiences with Annie.

Second reason is about the characterization between two major characters, Annie and Helen. Annie Sullivan who was by played Allison Elliott is a rough and discipline woman. In this movie, she has to face a temperamental girl, Helen Keller, who is played by Hallie Kate Eisenberg. She is a blind and deaf little girl. Her limitations make her be a temperamental girl. In this case, Annie can control her emotion in teaching Helen who is much uncontrolled. Both of them are very animating their role.

The *third* reasons is about the movie self. Although that movie was brought in 1886's nuance, it was made in 2000 in Tuscumbia, Alabama, Southern of USA. Other interesting was not only the setting of place and time, but also the customs. The actors and actresses used cloths in era 1886's. The women used long sleeved dresses low waists, long sleeves and high collar. Skirts are fuller in back than front. The men used suit and a tie. They also used a hat when they go out.

Four is the director of *The Miracle Worker* that the movie teaches the audience that what Helen has been experienced is not a curse. It can be

experienced by other people. The people that are blind and deaf, like Helen, can be taught so they can be independent and do not depend on others.

The *last* attractiveness is about the motives of the teacher, Annie Sullivan, to make her student, Helen, could learn language and how to behave. Although Helen gets disabilities, actually she is a smart girl. That is the reason why Annie is on fire to teach Helen. Although she faces many problem, but she is still spirit and confident to make Helen know about languages and meanings.

Based on the background of the research above, the writer will research *The Miracle Worker* movie to be observed by using a Humanistic Psychological Perspective theory by Abraham Harold Maslow entitled “*Annie Sullivan’s Motives of teaching Helen Keller in Nadia Tass’s The Miracle Worker Movie: a Humanistic Psychological Perspective*”.

B. Literature Review

The Miracle Worker movie which is directed by Nadia Tass represents in a classical movie. It was released in 2000. As long as the researcher’s search, there is a previous research who researched the same movie entitled “*Proving The Disable’s Independence in Arthur Penn’s The Miracle Worker Movie: An Individual Psychological Approach*” by Muhammad Anwari (UMS, 2009). In this research, he found that first is based on the structural analysis; Arthur Penn as director of the movie wants to convey a message that disable are not necessarily dependent upon others. Second is based on the psychological analysis, Annie Sullivan as the center point has to prove that the theme is true. Her fictional finalism is to be a

happy person by getting her mind satisfaction in order to help another disable to be free. The superiority is pulled by her own feeling of inferiorities that she has the same emotional qualities with Helen. She is full of anger and is not too patient to handle a problem. It makes Annie have a firm personality and a creative ways to teach Helen.

In this research, the researcher has the same movie to be researched, that is *The Miracle Worker* movie. The difference between this research and previous research is in the approach. The previous study used an Individual Psychological approach, present the researcher uses a Humanistic Psychological Perspective to analyze Annie Sullivan's motive in *The Miracle Worker* movie.

C. Problem Statement

Based on the title and background of the study, the researcher formulates the problem statement as follows: "What are motives of Annie Sullivan to teach Helen Keller in *The Miracle Worker* movie (a Humanistic Psychological Perspective)?"

D. Limitation of the Research

In this research, the researcher will focus on analyzing the motives of Annie Sullivan to teach Helen Keller by using a Humanistic Psychological Perspective. This study uses the theory of Abraham Harold Maslow.

E. Objective of the Research

According to the problem statement above, the researcher has some objectives of the study as follows:

1. To analyze the movie based on structural elements.
2. To analyze motives of Annie Sullivan of teaching Helen Keller based on a Humanistic Psychological Perspective.

F. Benefit of the Research

The benefits of this study are as follow:

1. Theoretical Benefit

The result of this study could provide the information to improve the understanding of *The Miracle Worker* movie especially by a Humanistic Psychological Perspective.

2. Practical Benefit

This study is to improve the researcher's understanding, especially on a Humanistic Psychological Perspective.

G. Research Method

The research methods consist of type of research, object of the research, data source, technique of data collection, and technique of data analysis.

1. Type of Research

This research uses the descriptive qualitative method which focuses on the analysis of textual data.

2. Object of the Research

The researcher takes Nadia Tass's *The Miracle Worker* movie that was released on November 12, 2000 as the object of the research.

3. Data Source

Data sources in this research are classified in two primary and secondary data source.

- a. Primary data source is the play of *The Miracle Worker* movie directed by Nadia Tass.
- b. The secondary data source consists of other data related to the research such as some books of a Humanistic Psychological Perspective theory, movie script, internet and other relevant information.

4. Technique of Data Collection

The technique of data collection in this research is library research. The techniques of data collecting procedure applied in this research are as follow:

- a. Watching *The Miracle Worker* movie.
- b. Searching the movie scripts from internet.
- c. Marking the point in the script and subtitled to make easy in analyzing.
- d. Taking notes of important in both primary and secondary data.
- e. Classifying and determining the relevant data.
- f. Arranging, researching and developing the selected materials into a good unity toward the topic of the study.

5. Technique of Data Analysis

The technique of data analysis in this research uses descriptive study. It describes the structural elements of the movie and also analyzes it by using a Humanistic Psychological Perspective.

H. Research Paper Organization

There are five chapters in this research. The writer organizes this research in order to make it easy to follow: **Chapter I** is Introduction. It consists of the Background of the Research, Literature Review, Problem Statement, Limitation of the Research, Objective of the Research, Benefit of the Research, Research Method and Research Paper Organization. **Chapter II** presents Underlying Theory. It deals with the Notion of Humanistic Psychological, Theory of Humanistic Psychology, Structural Elements of the Movie and Theoretical Application. **Chapter III** contains the Structural Analysis of the Movie. It deals with the Structural Elements of the Movie. **Chapter IV** is the Analysis of the Movie by using a Humanistic Psychological Perspective. **Chapter V** contains Conclusion and Suggestion.