

**HUMANISTIC VALUES FOR CHILDREN IN BEN STASSEN'S
SAMMY'S ADVENTURES MOVIE (2010):
A SOCIOLOGICAL APPROACH**



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by
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**SCHOOL OF TEACHER TRAINING AND EDUCATION
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ACCEPTANCE

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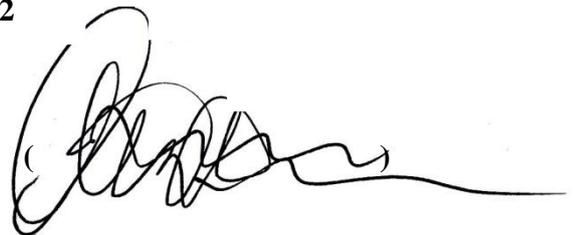
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**HUMANISTIC VALUES FOR CHILDREN IN BEN STASSEN'S
SAMMY'S ADVENTURES MOVIE:
A SOCIOLOGICAL APPROACH**

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This study is aimed to show Humanistic values for children in Ben Stassen's Sammy's Adventures movie by using sociological approach. It is done by establishing two objectives: the first is analyzing the movie based on structural elements of the movie and the second is analyzing the movie based on the sociological approach. This research is qualitative research. Type of data of the study is text and image taken from two data sources. The primary data source is Sammy's Adventures movie directed by Ben Stassen released in 2010. While the secondary data sources are other materials taken from books, encyclopedia, and internet related to the study. Both data are collected through library research and analyzed by descriptive analysis. The study comes to the following conclusions. Firstly, based on the structural analysis of each elements, it shows that the character and characterization, casting, plot, setting, point of view, theme, mise-en scene, cinematography, sound and editing are related to each other and form the unity into good quality movie, secondly, based on the sociological analysis, there is a close relationship between the movie story and the reality conditional of American society that have humanistic values for children. It is reflected by the characters in the movie. This movie directed the behavior of character that reflected in the scene. This story employs many techniques in order to persuade its audience into believing.

Key words: *humanistic values, children, sociological, descriptive, structural, behavior.*

A. Introduction

Background of the Study: Children, as a part of young generation, like to watch animation movie. Linda Eyre and Richard (1995:xiv), stated the values are the standards of behaviors and attitudes that determine who people are, how they live and how they treat others. They even emphasis that good values would create better people, better life, and better treatment for others. Animation movie become one of the ways by children to learn about the humanistic values in the word.

Sammy's Adventures is a Belgian animation movie that was produced in 2010 by Studio Canal, directed by Ben Stassen. In addition, it is produced by Gina Gallo, Mimi Maynard, Domonic Paris, Ben Stassen and Caroline Van Iseghem. After three weeks in French cinemas, this film has sold a respectable 943.500 tickets. In the first week on release, 577 copies of Sammy were distributed. The budget for *Sammy's Adventures* movie is about \$24 million US.

Ben Stassen is a Belgian film producer and director. He founded nWave Pictures in 1994, producing highly successful CGI ride films including the groundbreaking *Devils Mine*. Starting in 1997, Ben Stassen began focusing on large format films usually screened at IMAX theaters, he maked *Thrill Ride: The Science of Fun* and *Alien Adventure*.

Sammy's Adventures tells about Sammy, he is a sea turtle, hatches on a deserted beach and tries to climb out of the hole where he hatched. Being caught by a seagull, he struggles for his life and manages to escape, as the seagull clashes in the air with another seagull, also carrying its prey, who turns out to be a female hatchling sea turtle, Shelly. Sammy falls into an old raft and gets carried into the open ocean, losing Shelly. In the ocean he meets another hatchling, Ray. Sammy meets with others friends in his adventures, they resolves their problems like the wild shark, the wild seasons, and the fisherman. In the last, they live happily with their family at the Lapagos beach.

Sammy's Adventures movie is more interesting because some reasons. The first is no researcher used this movie as the researcher object. The second is a

great movie with amazing animation. The third, this movie was interesting for all ages. The last, this movie can be as an inspiration.

Problem Statement that will be analyzed in this research is based on the background. In order to research the goal, the problem is “How are humanistic values reflected in Ben Stassen’s *Sammy’s Adventures* movie?”

Objectives: the researcher focuses on analyzing humanistic values for children in *Sammy’s Adventures* movie based on a sociological approach.

Literature Review: No researcher founded who analyzes this movie. But the writer founded some articles which discuss the film. The argument is from James Luxford. This article tells the story of the titular turtle who embarks on a 50-year journey (spanning from 1959 to 2009) across the world, meeting all manner of crazy creatures, but none so unusual as a man. The film is let down by its forced environmental message. Instead of becoming part of the story, it is jammed awkwardly into the narrative. However, putting this aside there is a perfectly fine script, filled with some nice humour, playful exchanges with the various characters Sammy encounters, and talented voice actors (particularly Lowenthal’s spirited performance as Sammy).

B. Research Method

Data: Two types of data are Text and Image. Text data in this research is movie manuscript, which consists of words, phrases and sentences. Image data in this research are images capturing of some actions in the movie which is related to the topic of research.

Data Sources: There are two types of the data namely primary data; *Sammy’s Adventures* movie directed by Ben Stassen from Canal Studios and secondary data; the other materials taken from books, encyclopedia, and internet related to the study.

Data Collection: The techniques of data collection are capturing the picture and note taking, with the steps are: watching the movie, identifying the topic, taking notes of important parts both primary and secondary data, arranging, selecting and drawing conclusion and formulation suggestion.

Data Analysis: The technique of data analysis for this movie uses descriptive qualitative method that consists of three steps: classifying the data, verifying the data and interpreting the data using sociological approach.

C. Research Finding

1. Structural Analysis of *Sammy's Adventures* movie

The structural elements of the movie are divided into two main points, narrative elements of movie and technical elements of movie.

a. Narrative Elements

1) Character and Characterization

a) Major Characters

Sammy was born on the beach with the other little turtles. Sammy had green speckled skin, small soft shells, and long fins when he was child. After a long time, he grows to be a strong big turtle a wise turtle that always uses good manner to get his purposes. Sammy is a kind turtle. He always helps his friends when they need. He helps Ray, the kind of turtle with purple shell.

Ray is an alone turtle in the sea. He has a purple body, hard-headed, and has a shell with striped line. He has big eyes with the black strip around it. Ray is Sammy's best friend. Ray likes to talk very much, but he always has new topics. He makes Sammy live better.

Shelly is female turtle. She is a green turtle. Shelly has a small body with a hard shell which has carving on it. She has a shark bite on his shell. She has long fins and cute face. Shelly is Sammy's girl friend. Shelly is very kind and innocent.

b) Minor characters

Loggerhead Turtle are green turtles. Loggerhead Turtle consists of fat turtle and thin turtle. They have same kind with Sammy. They have big eyes and big mouth. They like to scare his friends with horror stories about the ocean as they scare Sammy.

Slim is a big old octopus that lives in the sea. He lives alone. He has black ink, long tentacles and big eyes. Slim likes to play with kids and to joke with them.

Old Turtle are oldest turtles. They live on the sea near harbor. They have wrinkle skins and sagging cheeks. Seaweed and mussels grow on their shells. They stay at the rock.

Snow crab is a human organization. They have a goal to save the nature from damages. They consist of seven persons. They are five males, a female and a child. All of them are very kind with animals like turtles, penguins and seals.

Fluffy is a black cat that lives with Snow Crab organization. He always moves from a place to another with Snow Crab. Fluffy has a fat body, coat well groomed, and black eyes. Fluffy is very jealous and selfish.

Policeman are the member of beach guard. They have work to save beach. Their duty is to evict the illegal visitors on the natural beach in the state.

Shark is a predator animal. The white shark lives in the front of beach. It is a beautiful place in the sea. He is one of antagonist characters. He always catches his prey just alone without help.

Vera is a green female turtle that lives alone without friends. She resolves her problems by herself. He is Sammy's friend. She has a fat body and cubby face. Her body is bigger than Sammy. He likes sleeping and eating.

Dolphin is a character in this movie. He has a slim body and supple. He has small eyes with one long nose. Dolphin is friendly.

Robbie is a green turtle. He has athletic body and handsome face. He lives in the magic place with Ray, Rita, Shelly, and other turtles. Robbie is Playboy.

Rita is a purple female turtle. She has shell with line craft. She is Ray's Girl friend. She lives in a place named Magical Place. Rita has a fat body like ray. She has a cubby face with big eyes and big mouth.

Albert is a white old shark. He lives with turtles and interacts with them. He has a fat body with black-white skin. He only has two teeth in his mouth. His eyes are small and black. His small fins are not comparable with the large body. Albert is friendly shark.

2) Casting

The actors and the actress are follows; **Melanie Griffith** as Snow, **Yuri Lowenthal** as Sammy, **Anthony Anderson** as Young Ray, **Gemma Arterton** as Shelly, **Robert Sheehan** as Ray, **Sydney Hope Banner** as Loggerhead Turtle, **Sohm Kapila** as Rita, **Ed Begley Jr** as Slim, **Darren Capozzi** as Robbie, **Chris Andrew Ciulla** as Snow Crab, **Tim Dadabo** as Policeman, **Kathy Griffin** as Vera, **Denis Kacenga** as Shark, **Stacy Keach** as Albert, **Gigi Perreau** as Dolphin, **Geoff Searle** as old turtle, **Heather Trzyna** as Young Sally.

3) Plot

Beginning: Sammy's adventure begins when Sammy and his brothers were born from egg shells. Sammy tries to walk into water. The bird catches him. Sammy escapes from this dangerous. Then Sammy meets Shelly at the beach but she must go on. After that, Sammy begins to survive in the sea by alone.

Middle: First Complication is Sammy meets a purple turtle in the sea, named Ray. Someday, they fight because their wood is not enough for two turtles. Then the fishing net catches them. Sammy escapes from fisherman but he does not know the destiny of Ray. Sammy loses his best friend and begins to continue his adventures alone. In second Complication, Sammy and Vera search

seaweed. They find Shelly run out from a white shark. They try to save Shelly. After that they continue their journey. Third Complication, Sammy arrives at a place called magic place. It is a big boat in the sea that full of gold. The turtle lives in this place. They found their mates in this place.

The Ending: Ray's girl friend gives information about Shelly place. Sammy meets with Shelly, but he does not know about the status of Shelly. Sammy thinks that Shelly is Robbie's mate. After knowing the truth, Sammy tries to ask Shelly. Albert, Rita, and Ray help him. Eventually Sammy has been Shelly's mate. This movie closes by Sammy who helps a child to walk from hole to the sea.

4) Setting

a) Setting of Time

In Ben Stassen's *Sammy's Adventures* Movie (2010), the time is set in the 2010 when the ocean changes in the world caused by global warming. It tells the story of sea turtles that navigates his 50 year life in the oceans to get his goal.

b) Setting of Place

The Lapagos Beach is a beach on archipelago of volcanic islands distributed around the equator in the Pacific Ocean. The island has a population of slightly over 25,000.

Panama Canal is an 82-kilometre ship canal in Panama that connects the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific Ocean. The canal cuts across the Isthmus of Panama and is a key conduit for international maritime trade.

Antarctic is a polar region, specifically the region around the Earth's South Pole, opposite the Arctic region around the North Pole.

Spanish Galleon is the type of ship under ocean. A lowering of the forecastle and elongation of the hull gave

galleons an unprecedented level of stability in the water, and reduced wind resistance at the front, leading to a faster, more maneuverable vessel.

5) Point of View

Point of view refers to the interests, attitudes, and a belief associated with a character's group's particular perspective (Douglas and Harnden, 1996:31). There are two kinds of point of view. The first is **the character's point of view**, it reflects on *Sammy's Adventures* Movie when Ray asks Sammy and the second view refers to **the perspective of the story teller**, there is only first person point of view in *Sammy's Adventures* movie. This point of view is reflected on *Sammy's Adventures* movie when Sammy and Ray talk about new turtles that out from their eggs.

6) Theme

Sammy's Adventures shows the adventures of a plain turtle that search experiences of the world and survive in the sea. This movie shows the friendship between Sammy with his friends. They help with another to resolve problems and to get their goals of live. The themes of *Sammy's Adventures* movie are "the struggle of live leads person to be success".

b. Technical Elements

1) *Mise-en-Scene*

a) Set Dressing and Props

Some props are used in *Sammy's Adventures* movie are sands, palm trees, leaves, raft, rocks, car, corals, land, shipwreck, container box, plastics, seaweed, ship, boat, trees, chains, harbor gate, glass of chemistry, cages, lamp, gold, ice cooler, wooden barrels, and timber.

b) Costumes and Make-Up

Costume can have specific functions in the total film performance. Costumes and make-up in this movie is Sammy: green, with a darker green in certain areas on shells and little black spots on head; Ray: purple, with black spots on his head, and a big shell with lines carves; Shelly: green body and a shell with a shark bite; Loggerhead turtles: green with a shell smaller than body; Slim: pink skin, white under tentacles and black line around eyes; Old turtle: light green, seaweed at the shells; Seahorse: green with a white mouth; Snow Crab (woman), red long shirt with small yellow flower pictures, a blue pant and brown cap; Snow Crab (child): rainbow shirt, brown shorts, and brown cap; Snow Crab (man 1): yellow shirt and brown shorts; Snow Crab (man 2): green shirt and brown shorts; Snow Crab (man 3): white shirt and white shorts; Snow Crab (man 4): red-blue shirt, blue pant and red head rope; Fluffy: black with brown lines, and white under body; Policeman: blue pant, blue shirt, blue cap, black shoes, sunglass and a stick weapon; Shark: blue-white, black tail; Vera: light green with a dark blue shell; Dolphin: black with white line on left and right; Robbie: green, dark blue with big spot on head; Rita: dark purple, light purple at the bottom; Albert: black, white at the bottom, and white tail.

c) Lighting

Digital light uses in cartoon movie especially in *Sammy's Adventures* movie. This movie used all kinds of **the quality of lighting; the direction** used top lighting, under lighting, back lighting and frontal lighting; **the source** of *Sammy's Adventures* movie used digital lamp; **the colors** in *Sammy's Adventures* movie used complex like red, yellow, green and blue; **the intensity** is hard intensity and soft intensity lighting.

2) Cinematography

Photographical Qualities of Shot in this movie is good enough for all types. **Framing Shot** divided into camera distance and camera angle. **Camera distance** in this movie used far shot, medium shot, and close-up of the players. **Camera Angle** in this movie used under, front, behind, above and beside of the players. **The Duration of Shot** in *Sammy's Adventures* movie is 1 hour 22 minutes 15 seconds.

Script in *Sammy's Adventures* describes the detail of scene. It is a short document of the summary of main idea of the movie Stassen completed the script before he produced the movie. **Acting** of the protagonist characters are friendly with another and the antagonist characters in the movie are wild, they consist of carnivore animals. **Sound** used suitable music, sound of waters, waves, bubbling, and bell.

Editing is used in *Sammy's Adventures* movie to make the movie looks good in the story. **Axis of Action** is described by Sammy swims alone in Galleon under sea to search Shelly and when Sammy has conversation with Ray about a mate that stays in their heart to be the friend of love. **Establishing Shot** is described by Ray calls Rita from back of her, then Rita hears Ray and casting eyes for Ray's call. **Reestablishing Shot** is described by scene when Sammy and Shelly are inserting into a cave, to save them from a shark. Next, they are entering cave. The last, they land in the cave. **A reverse Shot** is showed by Sammy looks at Shelly who has been examined by two Snow Crab people, then, the next picture about the session. **Cross Cutting** is not used in *Sammy's Adventures* movie. **Match on Action** is described by Sammy begins to open the glass cage, and Sammy opened the glass cage.

D. Sociological Analysis

Social Aspect in this movie is humans as **upper class**, shark as **upper middle class**, the society of turtles and the society of fish as **lower middle class**. The movie is not reflecting the fourth type and fifth type from the social structural. **The values** which are found in the movie is the friendship, kindness, braveness, respect value and introducing with every person.

Economic Aspects *Sammy's Adventures* movie reflects the work condition of fisherman in the harbor and on the ocean. This movie shows that there are some people who get income by becoming fisherman. The children can understand about the manner of work of fisherman and the problem of their work.

Political Aspects are reflected by Snow Crab organization. They consist of seven persons who save animals in the world. In here, one of members is a leader who gives instruction for other members. All of members must do the instruction for their leader. One of them is a driver of car. Four persons are the doctor who examines animals. Two persons are the worker that helps them to protect animals. They help one with another to get their goal to save and to protect animals from danger.

Science and Technology in the movie is the big ship. The fisherman uses it as the transportation to search fish. Humans use Iron to make this ship and they prefer Iron ship than raft to work. It is the new innovation in 21th century. The technology of healthy also describes in this movie. The Snow Crab use modern ship as their place to save animals. They use glass cages, elite lamp, examining table, examining dress, etc. it also describes the science of animals healthy is better.

In this movie, **Cultural Aspects** are art innovation, hip-hop music, immigrations, Military proudly. Children are able to learn the culture of American society in this movie. They learn the effect of immigration in the country and the manner to survive in the world by optimist.

Religious Aspects are reflected by this movie. The movie reflects the Christian Chatholicism as the majority of American people. Children are able

to learn that the celebration of the Moment day especially Christmas must not spend much money. They can celebrate the Christmas anywhere and use their own things to makes the celebration. They must do all of instruction from their own religious by perfectly.

E. Conclusion

Based on the analysis in the previous chapter about the primary data and the secondary data, the researcher has found these following conclusions in this research. Based on the structural analysis, *Sammy's Adventures* movie is an animation movie produced in 2010 by Studio Canal, and directed by Belgian producer named Ben Stassen in U. S. This movie takes a message for people about the humanistic values especially humanistic values for children. The major character named Sammy is a turtle that kind and friendly. In the story, Sammy was born without his parent. He begins his adventures from child to adult in friendship and struggle. When begin the adventures, he has purposes to take experiences and to find Shelly. In his way on the sea, he meets friends with different characters and characterizations. They have commitment to help one with another. The finally they get their purposes and live happily. In this movie, Stassen created plot based on conflict experienced by major characters and minor characters in the relative conservative society. The structural elements of this movie have good relation been the good unity.

Based on the sociological analysis, it was clear that in this movie reflected the social phenomena in U. S. *Sammy's Adventures* movie reflected the people who live in the world in the society. The social classes in America give contribution for character and building of their characterizations and theme. The economic aspect and science gave contribution about the characters and also represents the setting of place and setting of time in this movie, the setting shows the property and props as the economic values. This movie described the religious aspect by believes with god and hopes.

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TESTIMONY

Herewith, the writer testify that all of statements and analysis in this research paper is his original work. There are no plagiarisms in this research paper from the previous research which has been done by the other researcher. The writer only includes opinion and its sources in this research paper. If there are plagiarisms found in this research paper in the next, the writer will be very responsible in clarification.

Surakarta, 05 August 2012

The Writer



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