

**A REVOLT AGAINST THE CHRISTIAN CONCEPT OF WOMAN IN  
NATHANIEL HAWTHORNE'S *THE SCARLET LETTER* :  
A FEMINIST APPROACH**



**THESIS**

Presented as a partial Fulfillment of Requirement  
For Getting the Sarjana Degree  
In English Department

by :

**Endang Nuning Sulistiyani**

**Nim: A 320 990 218**

**Nirm: 99.6.106.13031.5.0218**

**SCHOOL OF TEACHER TRAINING AND EDUCATION  
MUHAMMADIYAH UNIVERSITY OF SURAKARTA**

**2003**

**A REVOLT AGAINST THE CHRISTIAN CONCEPT OF WOMAN IN  
NATHANIEL HAWTHORNE'S *THE SCARLET LETTER* :  
A FEMINIST APPROACH**

Written by:

**Endang Nuning Sulistiyani**

Nim: A 320 990 218

Nirm: 99.6.106.13031.5.0218

Approved to be examined by:

Consultant I

( Drs. M. Thoyibi, MS )

Consultant II

( Maily Halwat Hikmat, S.Pd )

**A REVOLT AGAINST THE CHRISTIAN CONCEPT OF WOMAN IN  
NATHANIEL HAWTHORNE'S *THE SCARLET LETTER* :  
A FEMINIST APPROACH**

Written by  
Endang Nuning Sulistiyani

Accepted by the Board of Examiners  
School of Teacher Training and Education  
Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta

Team Examiners

1. .... ( Drs. M. Thoyibi, MS )
2. .... ( Mauliy Halwat Hikmat, S.Pd )
3. .... ( Dra. Endang Fauziati, M.Hum )

Surakarta, 18 – Oktober – 2003  
School of Teacher Training and Education  
Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta

Dean

Drs. Bambang Sumardjoko, M.Pd

### **MOTTO:**

“Jadikanlah sabar dan sholat sebagai penolongmu dan sesungguhnya yang demikian itu sungguh berat kecuali bagi orang yang khusyuk”.

( Qs. Al Baqoroh:45 )

“Jadilah orang yang di butuhkan jika ada dan di rindukan jika tidak ada, yang bisa memberi arti yang berbeda untuk suatu kondisi dengan keberadaan dan ketiadaannya,yang kehadirannya di sambut dengan senyum dan kepergiannya di antar dengan tangis”.

( From my beloved master )

“Human life implies adventure , and there is no adventure without struggles and dangers”.

( Endang cuantik )

“No Time For Love”

( Enddol )

“ People think that at the end of the day man is the only answer, actually a fulfilling job is better for me “

( writer )

## **DEDICATION**

This thesis is whole heartedly dedicated with love to :

Bapak Ibu, Moh.Dasuki & Sri Rahayu my beloved father and mother are the most unforgettable and the most extraordinary persons who have given me more valuable supports, advises, contribution and assistance.

Mas Hasanuddin who always care with my problems provide his shoulder for me to cry on, and help me to develop my self-confidence and positive thinking.

Dek Vera Naticawati, your naughtiness and aficionado are the most important things for me remember that your future depend on your own hand, achieve on something your dreams be a good architect engineer babe.

My best friend Vivi Rohmawati, I want to say thank you for everything that always you give to me. I hope our friendship never stop.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

*Bismillahirrohmanirrohim,*

By the name of Allah SWT, the merciful, all praise be to Allah who has given the writer blessing for finishing thesis entitled : “ A REVOLT AGAINST THE CHRISTIAN CONCEPT OF WOMAN IN NATHANIEL HAWTHORNE’S *THE SCARLET LETTER* : A FEMINIST APPROACH “ as a part of fulfillment of the requirement for obtain the sarjana degree.

The writer realizes that this thesis is not perfect because of the she limited knowledge and experience. The writer also realizes that it would never be completed without the help of other people. Thus, in this case, the writer would like to express appreciation to those who have contributed for the completing of this thesis

1. Drs. Bambang Sumardjoko,M.Pd, Dean of School Teacher Training and Education Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta.
2. Dra. Endang Fauziati ,M.Hum. The head of English Department Program.
3. Drs. M.Thoyibi,MS, her first consultant who gave motivation, suggestion and guidance.
4. Mauly Halwat Hikmat,S.Pd, her second consultant who gave suggestion and guidance in making this thesis better.
5. Drs.Sigit Haryanto,M.Hum , her academic consultant.

6. Bapak & Ibu thanks alot for your prays all the nights.
7. Mas Hasan thanks for supporting her finishing thesis as soon as possible.
8. Dek Vera who always give spirit.
9. Family in Gunungan mbah kakung & putri, pakde,budhe,lek Larsih,lek Narto,lek Padmo,lek Yadhi,lek Larto,lek Tarni.
10. Family in Selogiri mbah putri, lek Siti,lek Tukimin, lek Daman,lek wiji,lek Zaini,lek Parmi,lek mar,lek Sri.
11. Mas Doni, Mas Udin , Mas Moh.
12. Mbak Dini, Mbak Tarmi, Mbak Nartri.
13. Lusi, Heri, Mamid ,Fitri.
14. Phie-phie who always help her on such difficult conditions and accompany her through all beautiful days.
15. Pak Joko & bu Erma the owner of Pondok Putri IPN No. 1.29.31 Mendungan RT 02/03 Pabelan Ska.
16. Mas Joko her good neighbour who always bring her father's money for her and deliver spp receipt.
17. Kris Budiyanto her nice neighbour who has a role as ojek that always deliver her when homesick.
18. Mas Agung who give a job as freelance translator in EMTI Comp.
19. Mas Joko bengkel thanks for making her life easier.
20. Tatik thanks for your book.

21. Her campusmate on class D : Vivi, Novi, Retno, Fitri, Wahyu, Tutul, DA, Ninik, Era, Dwi, Ike, Een, Juni, Arzis, Sartono, Marsono, Raindri, Vica dll thanks for togetherness for about 4 years.
22. Her friends on waiting room: Rulik, Reni, Neti, Elin, Ningsih dll you erase her boring.
23. Dhaula thank you very much for your help and pentium.
24. Mas Lilik, mas Sus & mas Roni for computer, motor cycles and everything.
25. IPN crew : Dhaula, Dewi, Diana, Dina, Shinta, Hana, Puji, Nanik, Nu2ng, Inu, Tatik, mbak Ina, mbak Ika, mbak Ning, mbak Parti, Indri, Ayu thanks for brotherhood and ask her not to be thin girl any more.
26. Welcome new IPN mania: Hesti, Dinny, Rini, Upik, Vina, Bayu, Wulan, Neny don't be lazy to study.
27. These vehicles : K 5627 VC, G 5639 LG, S 3319 G that always deliver her to every where.
28. Her cassettes collection : ROCK NO ONE CAN'T STOP IT.
29. Her little dolls friend on her sleep.
30. Mas Anton thanks accompany her through the joys on Saturday make a date with you is a beautiful moment.
31. Mbak Indah & mas Heny thanks for supports and advices
32. To all her fans in the world.
33. Dear... alumnus STPDN I turn to you



34. The eks MW. Here I am more solid more and more.

35. Mbak Arin her friend on facing examination, the struggles is not over yet keep smiling baby.

36. Her special boy Indra Brugman, YOU'RE MY INSPIRATION.

37. And to all of the many people who made this thesis possible with thanks beyond adequate expression.

The writer invites criticism and suggestion that can complete the thesis from others and also hopes this thesis would be benefit for other people.

Surakarta, September 2003

**E.N.S**

## ABSTRACT

Endang Nuning Sulistiyani. A. 320 990 218. 99.6106.13031.5.0218. A REVOLT AGAINST THE CHRISTIAN CONCEPT OF WOMAN IN NATHANIEL HAWTHORNE'S *THE SCARLET LETTER* : A FEMINIST APPROACH. Thesis. Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta.2003.

This thesis is primarily intended to identify how the revolt of the major character against the Christian concept of woman is reflected in Nathaniel Hawthorne's *The Scarlet Letter*. It is a qualitative study. The data are collected by using two kinds of technique: documentation and library research. The technique of data analysis is descriptive analysis. The research significance is to give contribution to the body of knowledge, particularly the literary study on Nathaniel Hawthorne's *The Scarlet Letter*.

The result of analysis confirms that Hester Prynne tries to fight against the Christian concept of woman by rejecting the type of woman on position, role, rights and participation which are characterized by the concept of woman on Christian belief.

At last it is known that Hester Prynne's fight against the Christian concept of woman can be categorized as feminist attitude.

Consultant I

( Drs. M. Thoyibi, MS )

Consultant II

( Mauliy Halwat Hikmat, S.Pd )

School of Teacher Training and Education

Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta

Dean

( Drs. Bambang Sumardjoko, M.Pd )

**TABLE OF CONTENT**

TITLE .....	i
THE APPROVAL OF THE CONSULTANTS .....	ii
THE LEGITIMATION OF THE BOARD OF EXAMINERS .....	iii
MOTTO .....	iv
DEDICATION .....	v
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT .....	vi
ABSTRACT.....	vii
TABLE OF CONTENT .....	vii
CHAPTER I : INTRODUCTION.....	
1	
A. Background of the Study .....	1
B. Literature Review.....	3
C. Problem Statement.....	5
D. Research Limitation .....	5
E. Research Objective .....	5
F. Research Significance .....	5
G. Research Methodology .....	6
H. Thesis Organization .....	7
CHAPTER II : UNDERLYING THEORY .....	8
A. The Christian Concept of Woman .....	8
1. Position .....	9
2. Role.....	10
3. Rights.....	11

1. Participation .....	11
A. Feminist Perspective Position.....	12
2. Role .....	12
3. Rights .....	13
4. Participation .....	13
B. Theoretical Application .....	14
CHAPTER III : Social Background Of American Society in	
The Nineteenth Centur .....	16
A. Social Aspect.....	16
B. Economic Aspect .....	19
C. Political Aspect .....	20
D. Science and Technology.....	21
E. Cultural Aspect .....	22
F. Religious Aspect .....	24
G. Women Conditions .....	26
CHAPTER IV: STRUCTURAL ANALYSIS	
A. Structural Elements .....	29
1. Character ad Characterization .....	29
a. Major Character .....	29
(1) Hester Prynne .....	29
(2) Roger Chillingworth .....	31
(3) Reverend Arthur Dimmesdale .....	32
(4) Pearl.....	33

b. Minor Character .....	33
(1) Reverend John Wilson .....	33
(2) Governor Bellingham .....	34
(3) Mistress Hibbins .....	34
2. Setting .....	34
a. Setting of Place .....	34
b. Setting of time .....	35
3. Plot .....	35
a. Exposition .....	36
b. Denouement/Resolution .....	38
c. Causality and Plausability .....	38
4. Point of View .....	40
5. Style .....	41
a. Grammatical Structure .....	41
b. Sentence Construction .....	42
c. Diction .....	43
d. Figurative Language .....	45
e. Image .....	45
f. Allegory and Symbolism .....	46
6. Theme .....	48
B. Discussion .....	51
CHAPTER V : FEMINIST ANALYSIS .....	56
A. Feminist Perspective.....	56

1. Position .....	56
2. Role .....	59
3. Rights .....	62
4. Participation .....	64
A. Discussion .....	67
CHAPTER VI: CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION .....	72
A. Conclusion .....	72
B. Suggestion .....	73
BIBLIOGRAPHY	
APPENDIXES	