

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST IN PHILIPPA GREGORY'S THE  
WHITE QUEEN (2009): A MARXIST LITERARY CRITICISM**



**PUBLICATION ARTICLE**

Submitted as a Partial Fulfillment of Requirements  
for Bachelor Degree of Department of English Education

**By:**

**PUTRI IKA WAHYUNINGTYAS**

**A 320100270**

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

**2014**



UNIVERSITAS MUHAMMADIYAH SURAKARTA  
FAKULTAS KEGURUAN DAN ILMU PENDIDIKAN

Sekretariat JL. A Yani Tromol Pos 1 Pabelan, Kartasura, Surakarta 57102 Telp. (0271) 717417 Ext. 188

Surat Persetujuan Artikel Publikasi Ilmiah

Yang bertanda tangan di bawah ini pembimbing skripsi/tugas akhir:

Nama : Drs. M. Thoyibi. M. S.

NIK : 410

Nama : Mauly Halwat Hikmat, Ph. D.

NIK : 727

Telah membaca mencermati naskah artikel publikasi ilmiah, yang merupakan ringkasan skripsi (tugas akhir) dari mahasiswa:

Nama : Putri Ika Wahyuningtyas

NIM : A 320100270

Program Study : Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris

Judul Skripsi : **CONFLICT OF INTEREST IN PHILIPPA GREGORY'S *THE WHITE QUEEN* (2009): A MARXIST LITERARY CRITICISM**

Naskah artikel tersebut layak, dan dapat disetujui untuk dipublikasikan.

Demikian persetujuan ini dibuat, semoga dapat dipergunakan seperlunya.

Surakarta, 16 Juli 2014

Pembimbing I

Drs. M. Thoyibi. M. S.

NIK. 410

Pembimbing II

Mauly Halwat Hikmat, Ph. D.

NIK. 727



**UNIVERSITAS MUHAMMADIYAH SURAKARTA**  
**FAKULTAS KEGURUAN DAN ILMU PENDIDIKAN**

Sekretariat JL. A Yani Tromol Pos 1 Pabelan, Kartasura, Surakarta 57102 Telp. (0271) 717417 Ext. 188

**SURAT PERNYATAAN ARTIKEL PUBLIKASI ILMIAH**

*Bismillahirrahmanirrahiim*

Yang bertanda tangan dibawah ini, saya:

Nama : Putri Ika Wahyuningtyas  
NIM : A 320100270  
Fakultas/Progdi : FKIP/PENDIDIKAN BAHASA INGGRIS  
Jenis : JURNAL  
Judul : **CONFLICT OF INTEREST IN PHILIPPA GREGORY'S *THE WHITE QUEEN* (2009): A MARXIST LITERARY CRITICISM**

Dengan ini menyatakan bahwa saya menyetujui untuk:

1. Memberikan hak bebas royalty kepada perpustakaan UMS atas penulisan karya ilmiah saya, demi pengembangan ilmu pengetahuan.
2. Memberikan hak penyimpanan, mengalih mediakan/mengalih formatkan, mengelola dalam bentuk pangkal data (database), mendistribusikannya, serta menampilkan dalam bentuk softcopy untuk kepentingan akademis kepada perpustakaan UMS, tanpa perlu meminta ijin dari saya selama tetap mencatumkan nama saya sebagai penulis/pencipta.
3. Bersedia dalam menjamin untuk menanggung secara pribadi tanpa melibatkan pihak perpustakaan UMS, dari semua bentuk tuntutan hukum yang timbul atas pelanggaran hak cipta dalam karya ilmiah ini.

Demikian pernyataan ini saya buat dengan sesungguhnya dan semoga dapat digunakan sebagai semestinya.

Surakarta, 16 Juli 2014

Yang menyatakan,

Putri Ika Wahyuningtyas

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST IN PHILIPPA GREGORY'S THE WHITE  
QUEEN (2009): A MARXIST LITERARY CRITICISM**

**PUTRI IKA WAHYUNINGTYAS**

**A 320100270**

School of Teacher Training and Education

Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta

Putryika92@gmail.com

**Abstract**

*This study is focused on the conflict of interest to human life. The problem of this study is "how the conflict of interest is reflected on Philippa Gregory's The White Queen based on Marxist Literary Criticism". The object of the study is 'The White Queen' novel by Philippa Gregory. This study is qualitative research. In this method, there are two types of data source, namely primary and secondary data source. The primary data source is the novel and the secondary data source is other materials related to the study. Both data are collected through library research and analyzed by descriptive analysis. The result of the study confirms: 1) based on the analysis it is clear that there is a close relation between this novel and the social reality in England in early twenty first century, 2) Gegory wants to explain the conflict of interest which oriented from vested interest to human in the society of England in early of twenty first century through 'The White Queen' novel.*

*Keyword: conflict, interest, conflict of interest, vested interest, The White Queen, Marxist Literary Criticism*

## **A. Introduction**

The theme of *The White Queen* is most conflicts are resulted from vested interest. Brown (2010) states that conflict of interest laws are grounded on the notion that government officials owe paramount loyalty to the public, and that personal or private financial considerations on the part of government officials should not be allowed to enter the decision making process.

Conflict of interest in our life cannot be left because we always interrelated with others. Essentially, interest does not only make conflict but also influence attitude to each other. Although in our life, interest more often makes conflict than convergence. It can be seen from the government system in England. In the king election, there is one person who can be a king. They are king's family and generation of king. They will do anything to be the king. If they fail to be a king, they will try the other ways to make their rival fall.

Brown (2010: 6) states that the foundation of the conflict of interest provisions: "public officials, whether elected or appointed, should perform their duties in an impartial manner, free from bias caused by their own financial interests or the financial interests of persons who have supported them." The conflict of interest has orientation that is an economic or financial needed. The several kinds of economic interests: (1) investments in or positions with business entities, (2) interests in real property, (3) sources of income, (4) sources of gifts and their agents or intermediaries, and (5) the personal finances of the official and the official's immediate family (Brown,

2010: 12). Brown states that “The prohibition does not apply to an incompatibility between an office and a position of employment, including a civil service position. A public “office” includes “the right, authority, and duty, created and conferred by law –the tenure of which is not transient, occasional, or incidental – by which for a given period an individual is invested with power to perform a public function for public benefit. (Brown, 2010: 96)”.

The purpose for conflict of interest laws is to prohibit public employees from personally benefitting at the expense of the public interest (California State University, 2013: 1). Conflicts of interest are not defined in specific statutes, they have been condemned by the courts as violate of the public trust (California State University, 2013: 11).

The discussion about conflict of interest not only expressed by the politician or government but also historical fiction authors. One of them is Philippa Gregory. Gregory expressed her impression about conflict of interest in the England by wrote *The White Queen* novel. She criticized the vested interest which named public interest used power and position. There is correlation between conflict of interest and the novel. For that reason, the writer want to analyze the novel used a Marxist perspective.

## **B. Research Method**

This study belongs to qualitative method. There are two types of data source, namely primary and secondary data source. The primary data source is the novel *The White Queen*, meanwhile the secondary data sources are other materials related to the study. Both data are collected through library research. In collecting data, the writer takes some steps as follow: Reading the novel for several times to get deep understanding, determining the main issue of the novel, determining the characters that will be analyzed, reading some related books to find out the theory, data and information needed, taking note of important thing both primary and secondary data sources, classifying and determining the relevant data, classifying the material that has been selected to support in analyzing the novel.

In analyzing the novel, the writer analyzes the data based on Marxist perspective. Focus will be on how conflict of interest reflected in *The White Queen* novel and in England society in early of twenty first century.

## **C. Research Findings and Discussion**

The writer obtains some research finding in analyzing *The White Queen* novel. Each finding has some cases to be discussed. After they have examined, all of components will get back together in a schematic manner in the discussion.

## 1. Findings

In analyzing *The White Queen* novel, the writer obtains some findings.

The findings of the study as follow:

### a. Power Struggle

Class struggle focuses on the struggle of the oppressed class against the oppressor, in the other words, it may focus on the way to face the clash of the class and face the oppression itself. One basic reason of this part is in economic, because of the economic determinism make the level of the social class.

In this novel, Elizabeth described as an oppressor from a lower class. Her action to struggle for equal prosperity is reflected in the plot. Her struggle started from the meeting with Edward to get her fortune. Then, she married with Edward in private marriage.

I doubt him when I stand in my best blue gown in the cold morning air of the little chapel. I doubt him right up to the moment when I hear his quick stride up the short aisle, until I feel his arm around my waist and his kiss on my mouth, and I hear him say to priest, "Marry us, Father. I am in a hurry (G:38)."

Elizabeth lost her power and it can be seen from:

"That worst thing has now happened. Their brothers are now gone: What will you do with your girls, with yourself? There is no point in staying in sanctuary now- you are no longer the royal family with an heir who might



make a claim. You are the mother of nothing but girls (G:358).”

It is result that the struggled of Elizabeth just get embarrassment and lost her power and her position in the England kingdom. She also struggled to save her son and daughter from the death. It can be seen when Elizabeth sent her son in Greenwich. Her son lived with a poor family in Tournai to save his identity and his life. Elizabeth wanted to give her son about his position in England.

...My boy has to go out with no protection but two loyal servants, and blessing of his mother. One of Edward’s friends is waiting for him at Greenwich, Sir Edward Brampton, who love Edward. Or so I hope. I cannot know. I can be certain of nothing (G:297).

From the description, Philipa changed Elizabeth life from, She as a poor widow, then as a Queen of England who save her family’s life. Gregory explains there are two movements in the social class. The movements happened from the upper class to be lower class and the lower class to be upper class. The movement called social mobility.

#### **b. Causes of Social Mobility**

Social mobility happened because there is a needed of people to get prosperity. It can be seen in the government. People wanted as a government to change their social status. Their

interest will make a conflict. Conflict of interest in our life cannot be left because we always interrelated with others. Essentially, interest does not only make conflict but also influence attitude to each other. Although in our life, interest more often makes conflict than convergence.

Politic at that time shows that who have high position they will have many power. They can give position and money if they have that power. So, Elizabeth wants to order for fortune to Edward who is a King of England. She struggles to get fortune to continue her life. And the last, synthesis comes to formulate thesis and antithesis. The company feels anxiety about the industrial action because it will bring the negative effect for them. Before, the worker's wealth will change to the better condition. All of people did something to get their interest. Their interest is a vested interest. All of the orientation of the vested interest is a material or financial needed.

The purpose for conflict of interest laws is to prohibit public employees from personally benefitting at the expense of the public interest (California State University, 2013: 1). Conflicts of interest are not defined in specific statutes, they have been condemned by the courts as violate of the public trust (California State University, 2013: 11).

### **c. Effects of Social Mobility**

Social mobility delivers to the movement of individuals or groups in social position over time. Generally, social mobility delivers to the change in wealth and social status of individuals or families. Nevertheless, it may also deliver to changes in health status, literacy rate, education, or other variables among groups such as classes, ethnic groups, or countries.

Absolutely, all of social mobility can make consequences. The consequences made reactions. The reactions are bad effects and worthy effects. The worthy effects of social mobility are made a change in social status, people will hard work to get education, and the others. The bad effects of social mobility are made conflicts. One of the bad effects is conflict of interest. The orientation of the conflict of interest is economic or financial needed.

Related of the analysis of *The White Queen* novel, there is an effect of the social mobility. Conflict of interest oriented in financial needed. It can be seen when Gregory told Elizabeth as a queen in England. Elizabeth used her position to give prosperity to her families and her followers.

## **2. Discussion**

Story is the reflection of what happened in that time. The author describes the phenomena of the social mobility. One of the effects social mobility is conflict. The most conflicts are resulted from the vested interest. This conflict called conflict of interest by wrote the novel. There is close relation between the novel and the social reality in England society. The novel tells about the vested interest which oriented in the material or financial. The author delivers her impression through the novel in order to make the reader easily understand about the social reality in England. In *The White Queen* novel, Gregory wants to criticize about people who has vested interest which used power and position in the organization. People might be lost what they get in this modern era because conflict of interest. The rich people will be more rich, and the poor people will be more bad. It is described clearly by Philippa Gregory that conflict of interest can cause social class movement in society.

## **D. Conclusion**

After analyzing *The White Queen* novel, the writer draws some conclusions. The story of the novel reflects the conflict of interest happened from the vested interest. Conflict of interest is an effect of the social mobility.

Based on the Marxist analysis of *The White Queen* novel above, the researcher concludes that Philippa Gregory as the author of this novel

underlines the social condition in England at the time. She explains the social reality in middle fifteenth century. There are battles to get a position.

Philippa Gregory criticizes the social reality in England through the theme, plot and characterization in *The White Queen*. The theme of the story is “most conflicts are resulted from vested interest”. It is reflected in the plot of the novel. People are getting poverty, attacked and violence in society.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Brown Jr, Edmund G.,Attorney General. 2010.*Conflicts of Interest: Office of The Attorney General*. California: California Attorney General's Office.
- Davis, Horace B. 1978. *Toward A Marxist Theory of Nationalism*. New York: Monthly Reviews Press.
- Douglass, S.John and Harnden, P. Glenn. 1996. *The Art of Technique (An Aesthetic Approach to Film and Video Production)*. USA: Allyn and Bacon.
- Eltser, John. 2000. *Karl Mark: Analysis Kritis*. Jakarta: PT. PrestasiPustakaranya.
- Forgacs, David. 1987. *Marxist Literary Thesis in Jefferson, Ann, and David Robey (Eds). Modern Literary Theory: A Comparison Introduction*. London: B. T. Bats Ford.
- Gregory, Philippa. 2009. *The White Queen*. United Kingdom: Simon & Schuster Book.
- Hornby, A.S. 1995. *Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary of Current English*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Koesnosoebroto, SunaryaBasuki. 1996. *The Anatomy of Prose Film*. Jakarta: Depdikbud R2LPTK
- Office of General Counsel. 2013. *Conflict of interest handbook*. California: The California State University.