OPPRESSION AGAINST LABOR IN EDWARD ZWIKCS'S

***BLOOD DIAMOND*: MARXIST APPROACH**

RESEARCH PAPER

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by

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

A.   Background of the Study

Blood Diamond is the film directed by Edward Zwick, and the story written Charles Leavitt (screenplay and story) and C. Gaby Mitchell (story). The film was releases in December 8, 2006. It has 2 hours 11 minutes of duration. The genre is drama, romance, thriller and crime/gangster. The film was produced in USA with flaming location New York, USA, Mozambique, Sierra Leone, Cape Town, South Africa. The film was produced by virtual studios, spring Greek picture, Beaford Falls Company and initial entertainment group. Blood diamond is distributed by Warner Bross picture which spends budget $57.362.262 Million.(http//Blooddiamondmovie-warnerbross.com)

Blood Diamond film is set during the Sierra Leone civil war in 1999. The film opens with Solomon Vandy (Djimon Hounsou). He is a fisherman from Mende village, he catches the rebel Revolution United Front (RUF) after his village is destroyed and separated with his family. Solomon is forced to be a labor in diamond mining. In addition, the diamonds from the mining are sold to fund the rebel against government. When Solomon finds a pink diamond, he hides it. The commander of the rebel sees it, at the same time, the government army attacks the rebels and they arrest Solomon and the rebel.

While in jail, Danny Archer (Leonardo Dicaprio), a smuggler from Zimbabwe, Hears about the pink diamond, which is found by Solomon. Danny Archer is a former

soldier who works for Colonel Coetzee, the seller of smuggling diamond to diamond is company Van Der Kaap in New York. Danny realizes and proposes to help Solomon with the diamond as the price for his missing family. When Danny meets Maddy Bowen an idealistic American journalist, he asks her support to find Solomon's family, and he will give information about the ways of diamond smuggling to abroad.

There are some responses from the publics about *Blood Diamond* film. The first comment is from Global Witness and Amnesty International. They are supporting that *Blood Diamond* film can fuel the conflict, and they hope that the result of watching the movie, people ask more questions before buying a diamond. The diamond industry will take action to make sure companies can provide consumers with adequate assurances that the diamonds they sell are conflict free (http:// superkimbo.worpress.com/ 2007/ 01 /27 / blood-diamond /).

The second comment is from reviewer in an internet. He said, "This movie is an interesting and really good film, because this film tells us about real fact in Africa which has a lot of diamond and diamonds are the reason people to fight each other". (http//www.mylot.com/w/discussion/1035645.aspx)

Blood Diamond film gets four Academy Awards in USA, because of the act and performance of Leonardo Dicaprio as best actor and Djimon Hounsou as best supporting actor. This film gets Award and Nominations in 79th Academy Awards, 13th Annual Screen Actors Guild Award, and Top Ten Films of the year, 2007 Black Reel Awards and 12th Critics' choice Awards. (http//www.moviesyahoo.com)

After watching the *Blood Diamond* film, the researcher is interested to analyze it. There are four reasons the researcher analyzes the *Blood* Diamond film by Edward Zwick

The First reason is *Blood Diamond* film shows a country torn apart by the struggle between the government soldier and the rebel forces. The film shows the cruelty of war, including the rebels, amputation of people's hands to stop them from voting in upcoming elections. The diamond conflict that makes a civil war shows the greed and authority that make the country in chaos, and make a millions of people have to live in evacuation camp.

The second reason is about the character and characterization. There are three major characters in *Blood Diamond* film. The first major character is Leonardo Dicaprio as Danny Archer. He is 32 years old; he is a smuggler from Rhodesia (Zimbabwe). He has a short hair, white skin, blue eyes and handsome man. He is an intelligent and educated. Danny is an ex mercenary from Rhodesia (Zimbabwe). His business is trading diamonds under Colonel Coetzee (Arnold Vosloo). He works and helps smuggling the diamonds to diamonds' company Van Der Kaap in New York.

The second major character is Djimon Hounsou as Solomon Vandy. He is 30 years old. He is a fisherman and good father from Mende village. He has a black skin, black eyes, baldhead and tall. He is a honest and loyal man. Solomon Vandy is a father who struggles to find his son Dia Vandy (Kagiso Kuypers) who is kidnapped by the rebels. He tries to give a clue for Danny Archer where he hides the pink diamond.

The third major character is Jennifer Connelly as Maddy Bowen. She is 28 years old. She is an American journalist. She has a brown long hair, white skin, blue eyes, and beautiful woman. She is an intelligent and educated woman. Maddy Bowen is an American journalist in Sierra Leone trying to expose the truth behind the conflict of diamonds, hoping to prove an unholy alliance between diamond industry leaders and the rebels who are using diamonds to buy guns to war.

The third reason is the cinematography. *Blood Diamond* film has good cinematography from the setting picture, sound mixing, sound editing, special effects, visual effects, music illustration, and another aspect that support in the making of this film. *Blood Diamond* film has the best sound mixing, best sound editing, and best film editing, so, that it gets awards and nominations in 79th Academy Awards in USA.(http//www.movie-yahoo.com/movie1800272377/info).

The fourth reason is the theme. *Blood Diamond* film is interesting to analyze the theme in this film is the reality of the corruption and oppression of the labors diamond mining and redemption of some marginal people who have been devastated by the political government. It makes them be motivated to get a freedom and decide to protest against the government, that they have some human rights. The desire of marginalized people or the oppressed labor is to get a better life in economic and social life. The desire to get a better life in economic appears an ideology .It is used some people to achieve their purpose without recognizing human rights. The power of slave is used as a way to reach their purpose. The different motive in an ideology can create a conflict. The side who gets a large detriment is the marginalized people. They are loss everything like their human rights, family, and house.

The theme in *Blood Diamond* film is suitable with Marxist approach. Based on those explanations, Marxist approach can provide more needed complete information. Marxist approach is used in this thesis since it will be useful to understand the phenomenon and issues exposed in *Blood Diamond* movie by Edward Zwick. In this study, the writer intends to conduct a study entitled: Oppression against Labor in Edward Zwick's *Blood Diamond*: Marxist approach.

B. Literature Review

Blood Diamond is a film that interesting to be analyzed As long as the researcher knows; there is no researcher that has been conducted to the study of the movie "Blood Diamond", at least among the students in all around Surakarta and Yogyakarta. So, this research is the first study.

C. Limitation of the Study.

Based on the title and the background, the writer focuses on analyzing the Oppression against Labor on *Blood Diamond*, viewed from the Marxist approach.

D. Problem Statement

Based on the title and the background of study, the writer formulates the problems, which is "How is Oppression against Labor in Edward Zwick's *Blood Diamond* viewed from Marxist approach?"

E. Objective of the Study

The objectives of the study are as follows:

1. To analyze the movie in term of its structural elements.

2. To analyze the movie based on Marxist approach.

F.   Benefit of the Study

By presenting this research paper, the writer hopes that it will give some benefits as follows:

1. **Theoretical Benefit.**

   a. To give some information that can be used by other researchers who are interested in analyzing this literary work.

   b. To give contribution to other literary research especially in studying *Blood Diamond.*

2. **Practical Benefit.**

   a. For getting deeper understanding about Marxist issues in *Blood Diamond* film.

   b. For developing the writer's ability in applying the Marxist, approach in *Blood Diamond* film.

G.   Research Method.

1. Object of the Study.

Based on the problem statement and the discussion, this study can be classified as descriptive qualitative research-it is suitable with Surahmat's Opinion descriptive method. He states that one characteristic of descriptive method is that the data are collected, described and then analyzed (1995: 3).

In brief, descriptive qualitative research employs the method on collecting, describing, classifying, and analyzing the data and then drawing conclusion. The data can be sentence, discourse, picture, diary, and memorandum. By using the descriptive

method, this research aims to describe oppression against labor as reflected in the *Blood Diamond* movie through Marxist approach.

The object of the study is the original *Blood Diamond* film directed by Edward Zwick and written by Charless Leavitt and C. Gaby Michell. The film released on December 8, 2006, it has 2 hours 11 minutes of the duration and produced by Warner Bross.

2. Type of Data and the Data Source.

a. Type of Data.

The data in this study can be divided into two kinds of data, namely primary and secondary data source. Primary data is the main data that consist of the dialogue, and the action of the film. Secondary data is supporting data that consist of the data relevant to this research.

b. Data Source.

1) Primary Data Source.

The primary data source of this research is the original film of *Blood Diamond* and the scripts of the film written by Charles Leavitt and C. Gaby Mitchell. The main data consists of the character and characterization, dialogues, body language, visual image, behaviors, plot and all of the statement related to the problems.

2) Secondary Data Sources.

The secondary data source consists of the other data, which with the study, such as essay, comment, article, internet, historical information and thesis that are related the research.

3. **Technique of the Data Collection.**

The method used in this study is library research that collects and records both of the secondary data. Some of collecting data applied in this study are as follow:

a. Watching the movie repeatedly.

b. Identifying the main idea of the movie.

c. Determining the major character that will be analyzed.

d. Reading some related books to find out theory, data, and information required.

e. Taking notes of important information in both primary and secondary data source.

4. **Technique of Data Analysis.**

The technique of data analysis uses descriptive qualitative. The writer uses Marxist approach and adds her structure analysis on the data. Firstly, the data are collected by watching and observing the film as the main data carefully and repeatedly to get a deep comprehension of the issue. Secondly, the researcher will take a note from the main data of important fact that are statements, which are analyzed in this research. Thirdly, the researcher will analyze all of the data using selected approach. Finally, a conclusion is drawn.