THE IMPORTANCE OF HONESTY IN MARRIAGE IN EUGENE O’NEILL’S ANNA CHRISTIE (1921): A SOCIOLOGICAL APPROACH

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DECLARATION

I hereby declare that this research paper titled "THE IMPORTANCE OF NESTY IN MARRIAGE IN EUGENE O'NEILL'S ANNA CHRISTIE (1911): A SOCIOLOGICAL APPROACH" submitted to the Department of English Education, Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta is a record of original work done by me under the guidance of Mr. Dr. M. Thoyibi, M.S and Mrs. Maulyati Hikmat Ph. D.

The information and data shown in this research paper is authentic to the best of my knowledge. This research paper is not submitted to any other university or institution for the award of my degree, diploma or fellowship or has been used or published anywhere before. Hence, later, if it is proven that there are some untruths or omissions in this testimony, I will hold fully responsible.

Surakarta, 19 April 2016
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ABSTRACT


This research is aimed to describe the sociological approach and to describe American society and to analyze Anna Christie drama based on the structural elements of the drama. The data were taken from 89 pages of drama downloaded from http://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/4025 which were posted in 2009. This research is using descriptive qualitative research and using a sociological approach. The subject of the study is Anna Christie drama written by Eugene O’Neill and has been publicized by The Pennsylvania State University in 2010-2013. It is analyzed by using sociological approach. There are two kinds of data namely primary data and secondary data that are needed to do this research. The techniques of data collection in this research: Reading the script for the several times and repeat, taking note of the important part in primary and secondary data, identifying the topic of the play and analyzing the data based on sociological approach. The data is 89 conversations in English language. This research finds social aspects of Anna Christie drama that honesty is important for individual.

Keyword: Anna Christie, Sociological Aspect, Drama
1. Introduction

To be honest means to speak the truth, even if it's difficult or gets you into trouble. Honest people communicate in an open, upfront way; they do not lie, cheat, steal, or manipulate information to conceal it from others. In recent days we have seen how dishonesty harms other people, even causing financial and political ruin. Honesty isn't just the best policy; it's the only way society can function.

*Anna Christie* (1921) by Eugene O'Neill is an interesting play. As far as the writer concerns, the research on the play has been conducted by a student and from International Journals. The first study of Anna Christie (1921) is made by KumiOhno for her paper in 2013. The study was entitled *Expressionism and the Psychoanalysis of Freud and Jung in Anna Christie*. She analyzed three components in Anna using an analytical method in order to distinguish and clarify the underlying elements.

The second study is conducted by Victor ImanuelTalahatu for his Thesis at Petra Christian University at 2008 entitled *The Main character's search for happiness in Eugene O'Neill's Anna Christie*.

The third study is conducted by Wu Hai Xing-Zhou which is entitled *Anna Christie in the tragedy of Complex*. This paper analyzes the *Anna Christie*, the tragic features, combined with the formation of Eugene O'Neill's tragedy of thinking to explore the playwright how to play with the sea, land images, people's legitimate aspirations and destiny of the conflict, to reveal the modern life.

This thesis discusses Anna Christie searches for happiness in Eugene O'Neill’s *Anna Christie*, the research formulates some research questions as follows:

1. What are the importance of honesty in marriage is reflected in Anna Christie drama?
2. Why is honesty in marriage is important that reflected in Anna Christie drama?
2. Research method

_Anna Christie_ was published in 1921. In order to get better understanding of the work, this chapter deals with the social background of American society in the twentieth century. This study will be divided into six aspects, namely: social aspect, economic aspect, political aspect, cultural aspect, religious aspect and science and technology aspect.

3. Finding and Discussion

3.1 Finding

Through analysis of _Anna Christie_ drama, writer find several finding that in order to certain aspects, namely social aspect, economic aspect, political aspect, cultural aspect, religion aspect, science and technology aspect.

Due to the population explosion so competition to get a decent life is smaller chances so that Anna was plunged in a job as a prostitute for the sake of a better life, beside the work of Chris as janitor or a builder became captain of the barges that functions transporting industrial products to be sent to other countries, beside Mat Burke an immigrant from Ireland, and the Anna’s mother from Sweden moved to Minnesota. Then Anna looking for a better life, from living in the countryside or agriculture, she try new work namely became the nanny in the city. Then due to the demands of the economy and wants a lighter work but earning bigger then switched to work as prostitutes.

Life feels to squeeze for Anna that begins from Anna’s life in farm make Anna want to get a decent life. For Anna, her life in a farm is a life full of suffering because she felt enslaved by his cousin. To avoid such suffering lives then Anna started wandering to New York. Anna imagined that life in the big city will be able to carry her on a better job than live in the farm. In there initially Anna worked as a baby sitter, but since the job is quite tiring with earnings that are a bit then Anna started doing other work that is considered quite large and can fulfill herself life.
When invited to live together on the ship by her father, Anna met with Mat, and when introduced to Mat, Anna little lied about her job. Anna claimed to work as a teacher. In the time, Mat little sympathy with the Anna work who claim to work as teachers, which in the end makes Mat fell in love with Anna. The Anna lying describes the hypocrisy for the sake of to get recognition and a sense of love from a male. After love retrieved from Mat, Anna got a barrier from her father that did not approve if Anna was married to Mat, because Chris worried when his daughter was married to a sailor, her fate will be like Anna’s mother namely she always be leaved go to sea and rarely go home. Chris did not willingly when his daughter after marriage thus left go by her husband, and there is also possibility that the sailors will be looking for comfort women in each port.

Chris attitude also describes hypocrisy; because he treats Anna’s mother with less good, namely left her for long time, but on the other hand he isn't willing when his daughter was married to a sailor. Disapproval the Chris make Anna is not accepts the Mat proposal, besides Anna also feels inappropriate for biting with Mat, in addition there are also doubts if the Mat also have fun with many women in each port that approached at the time the ship have anchor.

After the Mat pushes Anna to accept his proposal then finally Anna honest with previous profession, namely she worked as sluts. Anna’s honesty about her as a prostitute shows that there is good from one partner for the sake of keeping the household eternity. The hypocrisy that was initially shown by Anna and depicted on figure Chris started can be subverted by Anna honesty.

Although initially felt very painful for Anna to be honest to the Mat, it's a thing that is relieving for Anna. She could see how the reactions of people who loved her when knowing her dark life that dark in the past. Then Anna can also see how the reaction of Chris as the father who had abandoned her since childhood. When Anna was honest about her past, Mat directly reacted shocked and devastated.
Honesty is something that is valuable even though sometimes the honesty feels unpleasant when the fact that happened is on the contrary with expectations. Mat hope to be able to possess wife that sacred must be lost. The unpleasant that felt by Mat too unpleasant for Chris, when Chris knows that the daughter fall in prostitution. As a father that it was much hit because he felt he should responsible for his daughter's life and feel guilty because he left Anna since Anna was five years.

But the honesty also finally delivering the couple's of Mat and Anna on openness and eventually each other can accept the shortcomings of each. Finally the Mat could accept the reality and the Anna past and Anna also can know the Mat honesty that Mat never has fun with a slut.

It is depicted in the scene when Chris wants to shoot the Mat because did not want Anna married Mat, moreover also on scene when Anna threatens Mat want to shoot for the sake of maintaining self esteem. Anna move to New York after feel enslaved by his cousin's farm. In the story, Chris sing a song popular in those days. Yosephine song became popular caused produced in a mass manner that in the form of cassette tapes and widely dispersed into the community. In addition, also have started many cigarette companies stand that ultimately affect the smoking behavior at both men and women. It's just that, the behavior of smoking on women while it is still very taboo, so that Anna who had the habit of smoking, she smoking in specific places in the bar at the back specially lady, where at the time Anna shared the smoke together with Marthy. In the Anna Christie's drama the diversity described occurred on the characters, that is, burke have religion is Catholic, and Anna and her father are Lutheran religion. Burke is Catholic because he came from Ireland.

The differences reflected from stories about Burke who asks Anna to swear by the cross as a symbol of the Catholic religion, and then Chris came up and surprised because he and Anna Lutheran religion.
The importance of honesty in marriage in the Anna Christie play is to give the message to us that marriage requires honesty so that married life can be lasting and avoid hypocrisy.

3.2 Discussion

After analyzing the literature elements of the drama, the researcher continues the study in the next step, which is discussion. Anna Christie drama contains several aspects, namely social aspect, technology aspect, science aspect, political aspect, economic aspect, cultural aspect, and religious aspect. It is a way to relate all elements one another and put them into unity. It is related to the author's origin and his environment. It shows how the society can give a contribution in creating a literary work. According to Swingewood and Laurenson(1972: 13) the most popular adopts the documentary aspect of literature, arguing that it provides a mirror of the age. The major sociological study of the subject is linkage between the text and its background.

According to Wellek and Warren (1962: 96) there is no problem of the social content, the implication and social purpose of the works of literature themselves. There must be something happened in a certain time and place which correlates to the social condition in society. In this novel, the author creates the major character namely Anna Christopherson, Mat Burke. People associated with the society social change of that time that tend to be dishonest on couples cause fear when her partner changes his attitude when to know the actual condition in the novel Anna Christie namely in character Anna worked as sluts. In order to agree then Anna frankly that her work in New york as a slut, so that her father will not prevent himself married with Mat and so that Mat Burke knows the condition her self that actually before Mat deciding to marry her. On the Anna Christie novel, it's want to convey and criticize American Society of that time so that be true to her partner and not covering up the actual state of affairs.
They are people associated with the port. Through this character the author wants to show that the vessel's crew is not always synonymous with another woman. Told that there was a crew loyal to one woman, namely love Mat to Anna.

4. **Conclusion**

Based on sociological analysis, it is clear that there is a strong relation between the drama and social reality of America in society the early twentieth century. The play deals with the social aspect. In the play of Anna Christie depicted that big changes start to happen on the livelihoods of the inhabitants of America, the former being mostly farmers switch into labor or other work related to the production of goods, for the sake of a more decent life regained, and also describe the urbanization of villages to the cities. Anna faced social problems in America through this drama by way of moving from villages to cities. The story of this drama is represented by the Anna who is a as a child describe a child who became a victim of his father's work that became a sailor, i.e. abandoned long ago and also has a sailor stereotype many women every stop in the harbor. Depicted that there was a crew loyal to one woman, namely love Mat to Anna, but Chris (major character) tries to make his daughter don't marry a crew, because Chris is worried that a crew will leave his wife sailed for long periods and had another woman at ports such as himself. In order to agree then Anna frankly that her work in New york as a slut, so that her father will not prevent himself married with Mat and so that Mat Burke knows the condition her self that actually before Mat deciding to marry her. On the *Anna Christie* novel, it's want to convey and criticize American Society of that time so that be true to her partner and not covering up the actual state of affairs. In this drama seems to criticize the life of a sailor who is always looking for female entertainers every stop in the port, and it also opens up the chance of the occurrence of prostitution around the Harbor and many emerging pimps, and also the women of the village looking for a job in the city by being comfort women, in order to get a more decent livelihood.
BIBLIOGRAPHY


