

**CHILD EXPLOITATION REFLECTED IN CHARLES DICKENS' OLIVER TWIST
NOVEL (1838): A SOCIOLOGICAL APPROACH**



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by:

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APPROVAL

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HALAMAN PENGESAHAN

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**Telah dipertahankan di depan Penguji
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Universitas Muhammadiyah Surakarta
Pada hari Kamis 4 Agustus 2016
dan dinyatakan telah memenuhi syarat**

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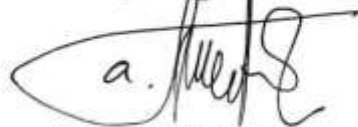
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Surakarta, 4 Agustus 2016



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Abstrak

Penelitian ini adalah untuk mengungkap eksploitasi anak pada novel Oliver Twist (1838) oleh Charles Dickens'. Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk menganalisis sebab dan akibat eksploitasi anak menurut Oliver Twist novel (1838) oleh Charles Dickens'. Peneliti menggunakan metode kualitatif. Peneliti menggunakan dua sumber data: primer dan sekunder. Sumber data primer adalah novel itu sendiri. Data sekunder diambil dari sumber lain yang berhubungan dengan data primer seperti buku-buku sastra, kamus, beberapa artikel yang berhubungan dengan novel dan website tentang Oliver Twist novel. Metode pengkoleksian data adalah deskriptif. Teknik menganalisis data menggunakan deskriptif kualitatif. Berdasarkan analisis sosiologi, penulis menemukan lima aspek seperti sosial aspek, ekonomi aspek, kultural aspek, religius aspek, dan ilmu dan teknologi pada novel Oliver Twist oleh Charles Dickens'. Sebab dan akibat tercermin dalam novel Oliver Twist (1838) oleh Charles Dickens'.

Kata kunci: sebab dan akibat, eksploitasi anak, pendekatan sosiologis

Abstracts

This study is proposed to analyze how child exploitation reflected in Oliver Twist (1838) by Charles Dickens. The objectives of this study are to analyze cause and effect of child exploitation according to the Oliver Twist (1838) novel by Charles Dickens'. The writer employs qualitative research. The writer uses two data sources: primary and secondary. The primary data source is about the novel itself. Then the secondary data are taken from other sources which are related to the primary data such as the literary books, dictionary, some articles related to the novel and website about Oliver Twist novel. The technique of data collection is library research. The technique of analyzing data is descriptive qualitative. Based on sociological analysis, the writer is find five aspects such as social aspect, economic aspect, cultural aspect, religious aspect, and science and technology aspect based on Oliver Twist novel by Charles Dickens'. The cause and effect reflects in Oliver Twist novel (1838)by Charles Dickens'.

Keywords: cause and effect, child exploitation, sociological approach

1. INTRODUCTION

Literature is the expression of human life; how people are feeling and thinking. Literary work is reflection of the author's imagination that shows the phenomenon in their life. When the authors make their literary work, there is an expression of problem from the author. Literature is writing valued as works of art, novels, plays and poems. Literature is pieces of writing on a particular subject (Oxford dictionary: 228). Literature is the creation of these elements how they are used in what context that determines whether a piece of writing. Although any definition is debatable, most would agree that an examination of a text's total artistic situation would help us decide what constitutes literature. This total picture of the work involves such elements as the work itself (Bressler 1986: 10). There are literature genre such as poetry, drama and novel.

According to Tarigan (1991: 164) word "novel" from Latin word "novellus" is decreased from word "novies" means "new". And according to "The American Collage Dictionary" (1960: 830) in Tarigan (1991: 164) novel is a fictitious prose story as soon as real life action representative in a plot or disorganized situation. Novel is an imagination of the writer such as child exploitation, child labor, child abuse and other. In novel *Oliver Twist* by Charles Dickens, it tells about child exploitation.

Child exploitation needs to study because child exploitation is still often found in any analization. Many children work in command other and they lost childhood that it takes their happiness as a child. Researcher shows that the exploitation is wrong action and presenting exploitation as a problem in this study.

In *Oliver Twist* novel the main character *Oliver Twist* has misreatment from Fagin and friends. He always gets a problem in his life, Oliver Twist's mother dies after the birth of her child in a workhouse. The infant's father is unknown, and the orphan is placed in a private juvenile home. After nine years of mistreatment, the boy is returned to the workhouse for even more abuse. After representing his fellow sufferers in an attempt to get more food, Oliver is punished and is apprenticed to Sowerberry, an undertaker. Noah Claypole, a charity boy working for Oliver's master, goads Oliver to rebellion, for which Oliver is savagely flogged. Consequently, Oliver runs away and heads for London.

Near London, Oliver joins a company with John Dawkins, The Artful Dodger, a questionable character who brings the boy to Fagin, the ringleader of a gang of criminals. Instructed in the "art" of picking pockets, Oliver goes out with Charles Bates and the Dodger. His companions pick an old gentleman's pocket and flee, and Oliver is arrested for their offense. At the police station, the terrified boy is cleared by the testimony of the bookseller who

witnessed the theft. Oliver collapses and is taken home by Mr. Brownlow, the victim of the crime.

The author of *Oliver Twist* Novel, Charles John Huffam Dickens was born in Landport, Portsmouth, England on February 07, 1812, to John and Elizabeth Dickens. He was the second of eight children. His mother had been in service to Lord Crew, and his father worked as a clerk for the Naval Pay office. John Dickens was imprisoned for debt when Charles was young. Charles Dickens went to work at a blacking warehouse, managed by a relative of his mother, when he was twelve, and his brush with hard times and poverty affected him deeply. He later recounted these experiences in the semi-autobiographical novel [David Copperfield](#). Similarly, the concern for social justice and reform which surfaced later in his writings grew out of the harsh conditions he experienced in the warehouse.

The works of Charles Dickens are *The Posthumous of the Pickwick Club* Novel (1836), *Oliver Twist* (1837-1839), *Nicholas Nickleby* (1838-1839), *The Old Curiosity Shop* (1840-1841), *Barnaby Rudge* (1841), *Dombey and Son* (1848), *David Copperfield* (1849-1850), *Bleak House* (1852-1853), *Hard Times* (1859), *Little Dorrit* (1854), *A Tale of Two Cities* (1859), and *The Great Expectations* (1861).

Oliver Twist is a novel written by Charles Dickens in 1838. *Oliver Twist* is one of the most famous novels Charles Dickens. *Oliver Twist* has been the subject of numerous film and television adaptations. This novel tells about orphan children who lived in unsanitary workhouses; children labor and slavery trade was made illegal. The theme of *Oliver Twist* novel is children are among other victims of Industrial Revolution. Dickens creates *Oliver Twist* as the major character in this novel. He is a young orphan and he lives in the workhouse, but in there he gets bad treatment and punishment. The story about this novel reflects Charles Dickens's life. It is the fact about his real life when he was young so, he writes a *Oliver Twist* Novel.

Oliver Twist is an interesting novel because of some aspects. The first aspect is the story of this novel based on Charles Dickens's experiences when he was child and his father died. The last reason is simple story and this novel is not difficult to be understood.

Based on the previous reasons, the writer will observe the *Oliver Twist* (1838) novel by using sociological theory as an approach to analyze this novel. Then the writer entitles her study CHILD EXPLOITATION REFLECTED IN CHARLES DICKENS' OLIVER TWIST NOVEL (1838): A SOCIOLOGICAL APPROACH.

2. RESEARCH METHOD

In this study the writer uses *Oliver Twist* novel by Charles Dickens 1838 as the object of the research. The data sources are divided into two, namely primary data and secondary data source. The source of primary data is *Oliver Twist* novel By Charles Dickens published in 1838. The secondary data are taken from other sources which are related to the primary data such as the literary books, dictionary, some articles related to the novel and website about *Oliver Twist* novel. The writer uses note taking technique of collection data. The technique of collecting data in this study is library research. The writer uses the technique in collecting data as follows: a) Reading the novel repeatedly and carefully. b) Identifying the topic of the novel. c) Understanding the novel. d) Determining the major character that will be analyzed. e) Reading some related books to find out the theory, data, and information required. f) Taking notes of important parts in both primary and secondary data sources.

In analyzing data, the writer employs descriptive qualitative analysis of content. The steps of technique of the data analysis are compiled as follows: a) Analyzing the issue of the novel. b) Trying to decide the sosiological analysis of the literary work. Focus will be paid on the meaning of child exploitation. c) Making discussion of the finding. d) Making conclusion.

3. FINDING AND DISCUSSION

After analyzing the novel, the researcher finds some findings as follows:

3.1 Social aspect

Social aspect is divided into four namely social structure, immigration, social status, and social relation. Then, social structure is divided into three classes; they are the upper class, the middle class, and the lower class. The upper class is in the modern societies in the social class composed of the wealthiest members of society who also wield the greatest political power. In the *Oliver Twist* novel, Mr. Brownlow and Rose Mylie include the upper class. Middle class is a class of people in the middle of social hierarchy. Fagin, Nancy, Charles Bates, Dodger and Mr. Bumble include the middle class. Lower class is the segment of population that occupies lowest possible in the class hierarchy. Oliver Twist and Mrs. Mann include the lower class. The lower class is reflected in the character of Oliver Twist who has no parents. The upper class is reflected in the character of Mr. Brownlow, he is rich man. Oliver Twist lives in workhouse in England. In England there are many classes of people such as upper class, middle class, and lower class. Oliver

Twists as the major character is included in the lower class in the workhouse. It can be seen in the following quotes:

Poor Oliver was alone in the world, without any friends. (Twist Oliver, 1838: 07)

“Oliver Twist can live in the workhouse now. He’s old enough. I’ve come to take him away,” Mr. Bumble said. (Twist Oliver, 1838: 09)

Poor Oliver had a very hard life. (Twist Oliver, 1838: 10)

In the workhouse he lives a hard life. The rooms are cold, there is no warm clothes, and there is very little food. The boys are always hungry.

One day one of the boys was ill from hunger. He finished his soup, and looked at the others. “If I don’t have some more, I’ll eat one of you!” he said. (Twist Oliver, 1838: 10)

Oliver cannot sleep in the night. He sits in the dark and he cries. It happens every day in Oliver’s life. Oliver feels uncomfortable to live in the workhouse and he decides to escape. He goes to get a job.

Oliver quietly opened the door and listened. No sounds! The keepers were asleep in their beds. The boy moved quietly through the dark building, like a cat. He found his way to the garden door. (Twist Oliver, 1838: 13)

Then he opened the door and went into the garden. Oliver climbed over the wall – and escaped from the workhouse. (Twist Oliver, 1838: 14)

The conditions of Oliver Twist changes when he moves to London. It is more difficult for Oliver Twist because the condition is worst there. He moves from workhouse to London. It reflects urbanization in Oliver Twist’s life. Oliver Twist is stranger, without friends in a big city. Nobody tries to help him. Then, he is helped by Artful Dodger. He gives a bed for Oliver. In old house in the poorest part of London, he meets Fagin as the old man. In London Oliver becomes a thief.

From the fact above, the social life of Oliver Twist changes worse. He moves to London and his condition is so bad. He gets bad treatment from others.

3.2 Economic aspect

As a one of the developing countries, London has the biggest population in England. London is the capital city and the economic aspect is growing fast here. Nonetheless, Oliver twist becomes a victim of child exploitation there. After 1840 London abandoned mercantilism and committed its economy to free trade, with view barriers or tariffs. This was most evident in the repeal in 1846 of the Corn laws, which had imposed stiff tariffs on

imported grain. the end of these laws opened the British market to unfettered competition, grain prices fell, and food became more plentiful. In the fact, London still has so many problems in the economic aspect. Oliver Twist lives with bad conditions. He does not have parents and friends. It can be seen in the following quotes:

“Boy!” said the man in the high chair. “You are going to work to pay for your home here! You will begin tomorrow morning at six o’clock. You will work in the vegetable garden – all day!” (Twist Oliver, 1838: 10)

Dodger and Charley Bates (another boy) took Oliver for a walk. suddenly Dodger stopped and looked across the street. “See that old man looking in the bookshop window?” he said. “He’s got money in his pockets! Come on, Charley!” (Twist Oliver, 1838: 17)

“I’ll teach him,” said Sikes. “I want a small boy for my next job. I’m going to a house where some very rich people live. Oliver can climb through a window and open the door. (Twist Oliver, 1838: 26)

Next night, Sikes and another thief took Oliver to the rich people’s house. Sikes gave him an oil light and showed him a window. “climb through that window and open the door!” he said. (Twist Oliver, 1838: 28)

“I can’t! I’m not a thief!” Oliver cried. “Let me go!” (Twist Oliver, 1838: 28)

From the facts above, Oliver Twist’s economic condition is low. Oliver Twist cannot get food easily like other people. Even, he does not eat everyday, because he only gets food from others. Moreover, Oliver Twist also does not have a house. It is influenced by the environment in England. So, the economic condition in England is very poor and it is reflected by the major character, Oliver Twist.

3.3 Cultural aspect

In nineteenth century, England faced many significant social challenges. The country was quickly shifting from an agrarian society to an industrialized nation. This new economy provoked a rise in urban population and contributed to an increase in social inequality. The culture of England is defined by the idiosyncratic cultural norms of England and the English people. Owing to England’s influential position within the United Kingdom. It can sometimes be difficult to differentiate English culture from the culture of the United Kingdom as a whole.

Oliver Twist runs away from workhouse to London. He runs about eight kilometers. It is a hundred kilometers to London and Oliver walks all the day. He becomes very tired and

hungry. He has no money and he goes to some houses and ask the food to him. Some people give Oliver food in London. It can be seen:

Some people gave the boy a piece of bread – but nothing else. (Twist Oliver, 1838: 14)

After Oliver walks along the day, he reaches London and he is afraid. He has no home, when he is tired and hungry there is no one helping Oliver.

People looked at him – and walked past. They did not try to help him. (Twist Oliver, 1838: 14)

Then a boy with round face and bright little eyes goes to Oliver. His name is Jack Dawkins, but his friend calls him ‘Artful Dodger’. Dodger takes Oliver to an old house in the poorest part of London. The old man named Fagin is very friendly and gives food to Oliver. He also gives bed to sleep.

Fagin was very friendly. He gave Oliver some supper – and the boy are like a hungry animal. Fagin then gave him some strong drink. “This will make you happy!” he said. Oliver drank it – and went to sleep. Fagin smiled. (Twist Oliver, 1838: 17)

When many people think that Oliver is a thief, the people shot Oliver with a stone and it cuts Oliver on the head.

A big fat man took a stone. “I’ll stop him!” he cried. The stone flew through the air. A good shot! It cut Oliver on the head – and he fell. (Twist Oliver, 1838: 18)

A man as a bookshop keeper saves Oliver. He sees the real thief through the window of his shop. He tells the police that Oliver did not steal the money. Then the police lets Oliver free from the prison. There are still people who care to Oliver.

Mr. Brownlow was very pleased. He gave Oliver a home and was very kind to him. (Twist Oliver, 1838: 18)

After Oliver was stolen in bookshop, he is saved by Mr. Brownlow. But in other side, Fagin dislikes about Oliver take by Mr. Brownlow. So Fagin asked Nancy to take Oliver. Sikes and his friends take Oliver to the rich people’s house. Sikes gives Oliver an oil light and shows him a window. Oliver must climb a window and open the door. Oliver disagrees with Sikes, but he must do it. Sikes sees him through the window. Oliver jumps and drops his oil light. It falls on the floor with a bang. Suddenly, two men come out of a room. They drop Oliver in some grass beside the road and escape. The next day when Oliver wakes up in the morning, he is wet and cold. His body hurts, he sees blood on his clothes. At last, he reaches a house. He bangs on the door, and the woman helps Oliver.

Rose looked at Oliver and saw the blood. “Oh, poor little boy!” she cried – and took him into the house. (Twist Oliver, 1838: 31)

Rose put Oliver to bed and sat beside him. “What happened?” she asked. (Twist Oliver, 1838: 31)

From the novel, there are some moral cultures in the London. They are reflected by some characters in the novel by Charles Dickens 1838. The major character Oliver Twist is helped by other characters because they have sympathy, empathy, and care to other like to Oliver Twist. Meanwhile, in other side there are characters that want to exploit a child.

3.4 Religious aspect

The established Cristian crunch in England whose Supreme Governor is the Monarch of England. Other Cristian traditions include Roman Catholicism, Methodism, and the Baptists. After Christianity, the religions with the most adherents are Islam, Hinduism, Neopagaism, Sikhism, Judaism, Buddhism, an the Baha’i faith. There are also organizations promoting irreligion, atheist humanism, secularism, and Satanism. Other religions have been notable in the past: Celtic paganism and During in Iron-age Britain; Roman and Gallo-Roman paganism and Mithraism under the Romans, and Anglo-Saxon and Norse paganism during the Middle Ages.

In the Oliver twist novel, it does not show a religion but the novel shows about how a people behavior that has relation with religion aspect in a religion. There are people who have a good heart in the society. They help and safe Oliver’s life. This is a form of a religious aspect. It can be seen in the following quotes:

Mr Brownlow was very peased. He gave Oliver a home and was very kind to him. (Twist oliver, 1838: 18)

Rose looked at Oliver and saw the blood. “Oh, put little boy!” she cried – and took him into the house. (Twist Oliver, 1838: 31)

Rose smiled and gave him a kiss. “I won’t send you back,” she said. “You can stay with me. I’ll give you a home.” Rose very kind to Oliver, and the boy was happy in his new home. (Twist Oliver, 1838: 33)

Mr Brownlow now told Oliver about his father. “Your father was a rich man and he left you a lot of money,” he said. “You’ll never be poor again.” (Twist Oliver, 1838: 43)

3.5 Science and Technology Aspect

Science and technology in the United Kingdom have long history, producing many important figures and developments in the field. Major theorists from the United Kingdom include Isaac Newton whose laws of motion and illumination of gravity have been seen as a keystone of modern science and Charles Darwin whose theory of evolution by natural selection was fundamental to the development of modern biology. Major scientific discoveries include hydrogen by Henry Cavendish, penicillin by Alexander Fleming, and the structure of DNA, by Francis Crick and others. Major engineering projects and applications pursued by people from the United Kingdom include the steam locomotive developed by Richard Trevithick and Andrew Vivian, the jet engine by Frank Whittle and the World Wide Web by Tim Berners-lee. The United Kingdom continues to play a major role in the development of science and technology and major technological sectors include the aerospace, motor and pharmaceutical industries.

In the *Oliver Twist* novel, science and technology have developed. There are many places for people to get knowledge, such as the bookshop. People can come to read a book. Book is an entertainment, from a book people know about something. The novel also shows the technology about weapon and they know how to use it. It can be seen:

Two men suddenly came out of a room. One of them had a gun. (*Twist Oliver*, 1838: 28)

He heard a shot – and fell like a dead person beside the window. (*Twist Oliver*, 1838: 30)

Child exploitation refers to the employment of children in any work. The children become a victim of a child exploitation. They do not know about the work that is done by them. The children know that they see the children of their age in the school work as the labor. *Oliver Twist* is one of them who is suffering from child labor. During the time Victorian age, industrial revolution became a vital role, for the problem of child labor. There are many factors of child exploitation that *Oliver Twist* had, such as he has no parents, no family, lack of food, clothes and home. Poor *Oliver* lives alone in the world, without friends. When his mother died *Oliver* lives with Mrs. Mann, he stays with her for nine years. Then one day Mr. Bumble, a fat keeper from the workhouse takes *Oliver* to live in the workhouse.

This novel will bring us to see the effects of industrialism on nineteenth century England and to criticize the harsh new poor laws and delivers a somewhat mixed message about social injustice. *Oliver* child is trapped in a world where his only options seem to be the

workhouse and he struggles to survive in the savage world of the underclass before finally being rescued by his family and returned to his proper place a commodious country house.

4. CONCLUSION

After analyzing the data related in *Oliver Twist* novel by Charles Dickens, there are some conclusions that can be formulated and presented as follows:

The researcher concludes that based on sociological approach analysis, there are five sociological aspect in *Oliver Twist* novel by Charles Dickens 1838 as follows:

First, social aspect social structure is divided into three classes; they are the upper class, the middle class, and the lower class. The upper class is in the modern societies in the social class composed of the wealthiest members of society who also wield the greatest political power. In the *Oliver Twist* novel, Mr. Brownlow and Rose Mylie include the upper class. Middle class is a class of people in the middle of social hierarchy. Fagin, Nancy, Charles Bates, Dodger and Mr. Bumble include the middle class. Lower class is the segment of population that occupies lowest possible in the class hierarchy. Oliver Twist and Mrs. Mann include the lower class.

Second, economic aspect Oliver Twist's economy condition is low. Oliver twist cannot eat easily like other people. Even, he does not eat every day, because he only gets foods from others. Moreover, Oliver Twist also has not house. It is influenced by the environment in England. So, the economic condition in England is very poor and it is reflected by the major character, Oliver Twist.

Third, cultural aspect there is moral culture in the London. It is reflected by some characters in the novel by Charles Dickens 1838. The major character Oliver Twist is helped by other characters because they have sympathy, empathy, and care to other like to Oliver Twist. But, in other side there are characters that want to exploit of a child.

Fifth, religious aspect In the Oliver twist novel, it does not show a religion but the novel shows about how a people behavior that has relation with religion aspect in a religion. There are people who have a good heart in the society. They help and safe Oliver's life. This is a form of a religious aspect.

Sixth, In the *Oliver Twist* novel, science and technology had developed. There is science in this novel, such as when the novel shows in the bookshop and people come to read a book. Book is an entertainment, from a book the people know about something. The technology from the novel shows when some people have a weapon and he know how to use it.

Based on the issues about causes and effect in *Oliver Twist* novel, the writer concluded. First, the causes of child exploitation reflected in this novel are having no parents, no family,

lack of food, clothes and home. Poor Oliver lives alone in the world, without friends. Second, this novel will bring us to see the effects of industrialism on nineteenth century England and to criticize the harsh new poor laws and delivers a somewhat mixed message about social injustice. Oliver is trapped in a world where his only options seem to be the workhouse and he struggles to survive in the savage world of the underclass before finally being rescued by his family and returned to his proper place a commodious country house.

The writer concludes that child exploitation in *Oliver Twist* novel is represented by Charles Dickens. Oliver Twist includes as a major character who has to face exploitation. Based on *Oliver Twist* novel by Charles Dickens, the author shows a story of little boy who has no parents, he lives alone. Poor Oliver had a very hard life. *Oliver Twist* is more than struggle, it is about child exploitation.

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