

STRUGGLE FOR EQUALITY IN JONATHAN DEMME'S

***PHILADELPHIA* MOVIE:**

AN INDIVIDUAL PSYCHOLOGICAL APPROACH



RESEARCH PAPER

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by

NUR ANIK BAHAGIAWATI
A 320 050 230

**SCHOOL OF TEACHER TRAINING AND EDUCATION
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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

In general, types of literature are fiction, poetry, and drama. Fiction and drama have almost similar characteristic in their elements sine both works are written prose and in certain time-sequence. In globalization and the development of technology, people prefer watching films on television or movies to reading literature or novel.

Film is a fascinating form of entertainment, because everything on the screen appears to be life like natural. The movie character walk and talk just as people actually do. Rooms, houses and street seem real. Music makes the story more exciting and other sounds make the film more real. Best of all, everything blends smoothly into an entertaining show.

Film is hastily classified as a dramatic genre. Film can present several kinds of meaning at once. A film as a literary work can be used as a source for studying literature. Moreover, the movie about a human right is exciting because it reflects the human life generally.

The writer chooses film because through learning literature, especially drama, students get description about life, attitude, behavior and struggle by giving life imitation and it will enable us to get something which is similar to our real life. By watching a film, we can understand it easily. We can watch directly the action and not only imagine them such as when we read shot story or novel.

Human rights belong to every human being. Every person is free to decide what to do now and in the future. Other people can not interfere with someone's right. They are free to express what they want. They are free to speak, to set a material wealth and to choose a religion.

One of the examples of human right manifestation can be seen in a movie. A movie often illustrates the situation of the social condition of the people in a certain time. A movie can encourage an empathy and tolerance, it can make the audience know through the figures or characters in the story, and human right already becomes good issue for years. Everyone talks about it in every place and every time. A movie is often made to be used as the manifestation of the human right issue.

All human beings are born free and equal dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood (Proclaim Universal Declaration of Human Rights in Article 1 at <http://www.un.org/overview/rights.html>). Human right is the basic right of human beings and in exercise a government may not interfere (including rights for life and liberty as well as freedom of thought and expression and equality in law).

Human rights are based on the recognition of the equal status and dignity of every human being regardless of any distinguishing characteristics such as race, color, sex, language, religion, politics, or other opinions, national or social origin, property, birth or other status. It gives rise to the twin fundamental principles of equality (<http://www.un.org/overview/rights.html>).

Based on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (December 10, 1948) everyone has the right for life, liberty and security of person. It means that everyone

has the right for working, free choice of employment. Everyone, without any discrimination, has the right to get equal pay for equal work.

One of the movies that talks about human right to get equality is *Philadelphia* movie. *Philadelphia* is a movie about AIDS. It was the first big-budget Hollywood films that tackle the medical, political, struggle and social issues of AIDS. This is the first major movie to deal with the subject of AIDS.

There are some of Jonathan Demme works, such as: *Angels Hard as They Come* (1971), *Black Mama* (1972), *Caged Heat* (1974, which he also wrote), *Crazy Mama* (1975), and *Fighting Mad* (1976, which he also wrote), *Citizens' Band* (1977), *Last Embrace* (1979), *Came Melvin and Howard* (1980), *Something Wild* (1986), *Married to the Mob* (1988), *The Silent of the Lamb* (1991) and *Cousin Baby* (1992).

Literature has a tight relationship to psychology since it is the exposition of man's mental life. It is because literature and psychology have the same object of research that is human being. Literature is a permanent writing that expresses and communicates thoughts, feelings and attitudes toward life and the world (George, 1965: 16). Meanwhile, psychology is the scientific study of behavior and the mind (Passer and Smith, 2004: 3)

The psychological aspect is very interesting for the authors to create the literary works. They depict the psychic condition of human being through the literary works. The major character in Jonathan Demme's movies entitled *Philadelphia*. The story tells about Andrew Beckett (Tom Hanks), a successful gay lawyer, who is fired from prestigious Philly law firm even though he has promoted to junior partner. The law firm where he works claims that they fired Andy because he is no longer a good

lawyer. However, Beckett was sure that the real reason he is fired because his bosses find that he has AIDS. Beckett fight to get equality, Beckett suit against his employers. He gets the counsel of Joe Miller (Denzel Washington), a lawyer who fears of AIDS and homosexuality. The writer is interested in analyzing the character of Andrew Beckett in *Philadelphia* movie directed by “Jonathan Demme” by using individual psychological approach entitled: THE STRUGGLE FOR EQUALITY IN JONATHAN DEMME’S *PHILADELPHIA* MOVIE: AN INDIVIDUAL PSYCHOLOGICAL APPROACH.

B. Literary Review

Another writer who has analyzed this film, the first is Muhayati (2007) (<http://blog.uad.ac.id/santos/2007/06/17/english-research-the-struggle-for-human-rights-as-reflected-by-the-main-character-in-philadelphia-movie-directed-by-jonathan-demme/>) her research title is The Struggle for Human Right as Reflected by the Main Character in *Philadelphia* Movie Directed by Jonathan Demme. It analyzes about the discrimination toward the people infected by HIV/ of AIDS that happens in this movie by using Sociological Approach.

Secondly is Sumantri (2008-UMS), his title is Struggle for Being an Actress in *Shakespeare in Love* Movie: An Individual Psychological Approach. It analyzes about struggle for being an actress to reinforce her psychological development by using an Individual Psychological Approach.

From previous writer above, the writer analyzes the struggle for equality of character Andrew Beckett by using An Individual Psychological Approach. It has

different approach to the first writer and use different source with the second writer, but similar source with the first writer.

C. Problem Statement

The problems in this discussion can be formulated as follows:

“How is struggle for equality reflected in Jonathan Demme’s *Philadelphia* movie?”

D. Objective of the Study

The objectives of the study are:

1. To analyze *Philadelphia* movie based on its structural elements.
2. To analyze *Philadelphia* movie based on an Individual Psychological Approach.

E. Limitation of the Study

In this research, the writer focuses on the struggle for equality of the major character, Andrew Beckett in *Philadelphia* movie based on the individual psychological approach.

F. Benefit of the Study

The benefits expected from this study are as follows:

1. Theoretical Benefit

This study is purposed to give a contribution to the many people of knowledge, especially in an individual psychological approach in literary work.

2. Practical Benefit

This study can develop the writer's ability in applying an individual psychological approach. This study is also expected to contribute to development of the many people of knowledge, especially literary studies on Jonathan Demme's *Philadelphia* movie.

G. Research Method

1. Object of the Study

The object of the study is Andrew Beckett played by Tom Hanks in *Philadelphia* movie.

2. Type of the Study

In this research paper the writer uses descriptive qualitative method which is focuses on the analysis of textual data.

3. Type of the Data and the Data Sources

There are two data sources in this study. The primary data and secondary data sources:

a. Primary Data Source

The primary data source of the study is the *Philadelphia* movie by Jonathan Demme.

b. Secondary Data Source

The secondary data sources consist of the data, which have relationship with the study, such as other relevant information.

4. Technique of the Data Collection

The writer uses library research in collecting data, which involves the following steps:

- a. Searching the script of the film from internet.
- b. Reading the script repeatedly.
- c. Marking the point in the script to make easy in analyzing it.
- d. Taking notes of important in both primary and secondary data.
- e. Classifying the data into groups according categories of elements of literary study.
- f. Selecting them by rejecting the irrelevant sources, this doesn't have important information to support the topic of the study.

5. Technique of the Data Analysis

The writer uses individual psychological approach and applies it by using the descriptive analysis. In addition, the writer also uses the structural analysis of the work. Firstly, the data are arranged in a list of data. Secondly, the writer is looking for a selecting the correlation of data by using the chosen approach. Thirdly, all data from the second step are arranged. Finally, a conclusion is drawn.

H. Research Paper Organization

This research paper is divided into five chapters. Chapter I is introduction, which consists of background of the study, literary review, problem statement, limitation of the study, objective of the study, benefit of the study, research method,

and research paper organization. Chapter II is underlying theory involving the theory of individual psychology that will be used analyze the data. Chapter III is a structural analysis. In this chapter, the writer explains the structural elements and technical elements of the film. Chapter IV is psychological analysis. Chapter V is conclusion and suggestion.