

**HUMAN RELATION REFLECTED AT HENRIK IBSEN'S *PUBLIC ENEMY* (1882): A SOCIOLOGICAL APPROACH**



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for Getting Bachelor Degree of Education  
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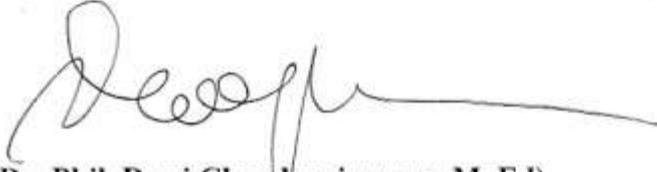
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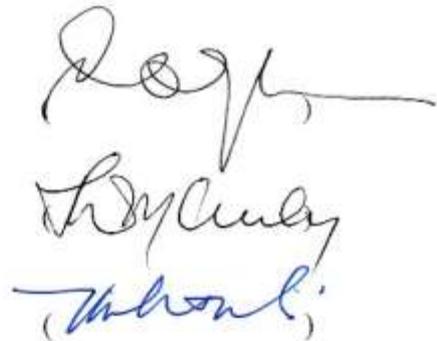
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## **HUMAN RELATION REFLECTED AT HENRIK IBSEN'S *A PUBLIC ENEMY* (1882): A SOCIOLOGICAL APPROACH.**

### **Abstrak**

*Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis hubungan antar manusia antara Dr. Stockman dengan Mr. Mayor di drama Public Enemy. Objek penelitiannya adalah drama Public Enemy yang di tulis oleh Henrik Ibsen. Metode kualitatif adalah metode yang digunakan untuk menganalisis hubungan antar manusia yang mana adalah bagian dari aspek sosiologi yang tercermin antara Dr. Stockman dan Mr. Mayor. Dan peneliti juga menambahkan beberapa kategori agar supaya hubungan antar manusia bisa berjalan dengan benar. Hubungan antar manusia dalam Public Enemy di ungkapkan dalam delapan prinsip oleh Marie Dalton, Dawn Hoyle, dan Marie Watts.*

Kata kunci: Hubungan Manusia, Musuh Masyarakat, Pendekatan Sosiologi

### **Abstract**

The research is proposed to analyze the human relation between Dr. Stockman with Mr. Mayor in A Public Enemy Drama. The major problem is to explain how the human relation was reflected in A Public Enemy. The object of the study is A Public Enemy drama written by Henrik Ibsen. Qualitative study is a method which is used to analyze the human relation that is a part sociological aspects reflected in the drama. The result of this study shows how human relation was reflected between Dr. Stockman and Mr. Mayor. And The researcher also inserted some category how human relation is truly happen correctly. The human relation in a Public Enemy reveals in the eighth tenets of Marie Dalton, Dawn Hoyle, and Marie Watts.

**Key word: Human Relation, A Public Enemy, Sociological approach.**

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

For nearly all of us, relationships are the most important part of our lives. Early development depends on an adequate relationship with a caregiver. Subsequently, relationships with other family members, with peers, with teachers, shape the developing personality. In preadolescence, close relationships with peers, and especially with opposite-sex peers, become important, and remain so throughout life. An adequate network of personal relationships forms

an important protection against psychological and physical ill health. Not surprisingly, perhaps, we all think we know about relationships. Indeed, we have been learning about relationships since we were born, and there are reasons for thinking that we are adapted to learning about relationships quickly and to using our knowledge with skill. Furthermore, every culture has its own folk psychology about which relationships are desirable and how relationships should be managed. Such folk psychology is all very well, but its beliefs can be based on wishful thinking by those who want to rationalize their own behavior or manipulate others to their own advantage. Or it can provide contradictory conclusions - for instance that similarity and difference each provides a basis for interpersonal attraction. (Ann Elisabeth Auhagen, 1996 : 7)

Human relation is the study of relationships among people and how they interact. It looks at how this knowledge can be used to improve personal, job, and career effectiveness. Broadly, it includes all types of interactions, including conflicts, collaborations, and groups. Effective human relation is a combination of knowledge, experience, skills, and attributes. Collectively these traits enable you to perform effectively. It involves cognitive skills, relationship skills, and personal capabilities. (Marie Dalton, Dawn Hoyle, and Marie Watts: 2009:3 )

*Public Enemy* tells about the town in which the play is set has built a huge bathing complex that is crucial to the town's economy. Dr. Stockmann has just discovered that the baths' drainage system is seriously contaminated. He alerts several members of the community, including Hovstad and Aslaksen, and receives generous support and thanks for making his discovery in time to save the town. The next morning, however, his brother, who is also the town's mayor, tells him that he must retract his statements, for the necessary repairs would be too expensive; additionally, the mayor is not convinced by Dr. Stockmann's findings. The brothers have a fierce argument, but Dr. Stockmann hopes that at least Hovstad's newspaper will support him. However, the mayor convinces Hovstad and Aslaksen to oppose Dr. Stockmann (Ibsen, 1995).

The problem statement of the study will focus on how Henrik Ibsen's play, *Public Enemy* (1882) viewed from Sociological Approach.

The objective of study is to analyze the Human Relation in Henrik Ibsen's play, *Public Enemy* (1882) based on Sociological Approach. The researcher will limit the study on the major characters, focuses on the society life on Sociological theory of Laurensen and Swingewood.

From the background above, the researcher is interested in analyzing the play because there are some reasons why the writer is interested in analyzing this drama script. Firstly, the writer was very fascinated with Dr. Stockman because he loves his family so much. Secondly, *Public Enemy* drama script has moral story. It tells to people that pollution can happen in everything, not only in the air but also in the water. Water pollution happened from little thing, a bath. People must be careful if using the bath or it can be big problem in several years later. Thirdly, this drama script has inspiration story. It shows how Dr. Stockman was very confident with his discovery. He never scares when people with highest position (The Mayor Peter) threatens him and rejects his discovery. His spirit must be applauded. So, the researcher tries to make an analysis related with humanistic and the play in one literature research entitled "HUMAN RELATION REFLECTED AT HENRIK IBSEN'S *PUBLIC ENEMY* (1882): A SOCIOLOGICAL APPROACH".

## **2. RESEARCH METHOD**

Type of the study used by the writer to make this research is descriptive qualitative study. The purpose of descriptive qualitative study is to analyzes Henrik Ibsen's *Public Enemy* (1882) viewed by Sociological approach. The first step of conducting the study is determining the type of the study. The second is determining the object of the study. Then the third is determining the data sources. The fourth is determining the technique of data collection, and the fifth is determining the technique for data analysis.

## **3. RESEARCH FINDINGS AND DISSCUSSION**

After analyzing those aspects the writer find those aspects. First the writer discusses the social aspect In this drama, in Norway most people live in the town

like other town in Europe they have a Mayor who leads the town, they also have newspaper the printing media, and other public service like public baths even the education building like university. In the town there are many people who have different works, like scientist, teacher and even sailorman. It shows that Norway in that time is modern society, who people around it have particular jobs according their skills. Women position in Norway is important because they also support their husband what they'll do and have right to give opinion, in Norway women are free to talk between men, they also have a job as important like a man. According to (Fauberg and Hogan 2004:54) Emigration from Norway to the United States dates back to the early 1800s, when a group of Norwegian Quakers (a religious group) left Stavanger and found religious refuge in an area of New York close to Lake Ontario. Many friends and family members from the southwestern area of Norway followed, especially after the Norwegians in America began to migrate to the Midwest, where economic opportunities were more abundant at the time. Emigration from Norway escalated rapidly during the 1860s, with most migrants coming from the rural areas of Norway. So united states is the country that aim most Norwegian society like in this drama when Dr. Stokmann decides want to go there.

Second is the political aspect, in Norway there is an election and the society are part of that thing. They have right to join the election. In local politics in Norway as the writer knows in this drama the majority has powerful than the minority. The majority like government or a mayor or people who have power in community they can "rule" the town from the minority. We can find that when Peter Stockmann as a Mayor against his own brother because his discovery disturbs him from his seat as Mayor, the most political matter in Norway are between the majority and the minority, it explains how the minority struggle his rights and the minority rule the society with tyranny. Third, the economy of Norway, Norway uses pound for the currency. As other European country the people in Norway especially in this drama have many different jobs to make a living, such as a householder, a scientist, work on newspaper and a sailor because Norway also has shore for shipping industry and a bedger, which is why it becomes the main

income in Norway. For that time Norway is progress country the income gets from many factors like shipping industry, timber and many else.

Fourth is the cultural aspect, people in Norway like other European country which has cold weather. The people love to drinking, especially alcohol to make their bodies keep warm. They also usually dance to celebrate something important with his colleagues or their own family. All of those cultural are in this drama that we can find when many people gather around in Dr. Stockmann house to hear about the Doctor discovery. Next is religious aspect, Norway has many churches, in this drama they are Cristian, they also celebrate chrismast like other country in Europe. Acoording to (Fauberg and Hogan 2004 : 58) the Norway cristian groups also join the parade that held once a year. The parades are joyful events that celebrate the people of Norway and the society they have created. They occur throughout the country, from tiny villages to sprawling Oslo. In each community, the parades are open to everyone, but they are planned by committees representing local associations and political parties. Of the various community organizations responsible for planning the parades, two of the most common are sports clubs and Christian religious groups. The last aspect is science and technology, in that time in 19th century not much technology we can see, but some of them are already invented like printer for newspaper. In Norway especially in this drama there are many people are educated, like Dr. Stockmann he is a scientist and he discovers the baths that are polluted by dangerous materials. In Norway the people are educated because they have different works and they have a university. So, Norway is progressive country in that time their science and technology so progress it shown all stuff that they use for transportation, getting information such as ship and newspaper, their science are fantastic, they have university for educated people and also a scientist like Dr. Stockmann who discovery something important for the town.

The writer knows that in Norway all of aspects in sociological are complete, and from the discussion, Norway is progress country in that time. Through this drama, Ibsen wants to tell us the circumstances of society in Norway in 19th century, and the writer analyze the drama by using sociological approach to know

the social aspect, economy aspect, cultural aspect, religious aspect, political aspect and science and technology aspect. The environmentalism in an enemy of the people reveals in the way of Dr. Thomas Stockmann and his family decision, they decide to stay though the public wants them to be exiled. It begins when The Play opens in Dr. Stockmann's household. Mrs. Stockmann is entertaining the dinner guests. As the evening progresses the Mayor (also Dr. Stockmann's brother) and Hovstad (the editor of the newspaper) have come to the house. Dr. Stockmann and his two sons Ejlif and Morten have come home from a walk. As they all gather in the house, the Mayor needs to confront his brother culpable about an article regarding the town health baths and the rumors that have been raised about them being contaminated. The Brothers get into an argument about their positions on hiding the truth and shaping the truth to get the results that are convenient. Petra (the Doctor's daughter) brings in the letter that her father has been waiting for. After Dr. Stockmann reads the letter, he discover his suspicions were right and the water from the baths is in fact contaminated. Hovstad now agrees to print the article and unfold the story. This will bring a great deal of attention to the baths and possibly will be the end of them (which will have repercussions on the town's economy). But Dr. Stockmann is overwhelmed with all that has happened and quickly believes he is the savior of the town.

The next morning in Dr. Stockmann house, Mrs. Stockmann gives the news to her husband that his brother Peter will stop by to talk about the baths. Meantime Morten Kiil (Dr. Stockmann's father in law) stops by the house to congratulate him on his discovery and what this will mean to the town. Hovstad and Aslaksen (the printer) stop by the house as well to reinforce their commitment to the doctor and extend their gratitude. The new alliance between the paper and Dr. Stockmann has a deeper interest than just the baths. The paper wants to confront the government of the town and expose the corruption that happens behind closed doors, and this opportunity is a way to start.

Peter (the mayor) enters the house, and everything becomes tense. Peter tells Dr. Stockmann that if he proceeds with this article and exposes this information to the town, he will be partially culpable for the ruin of the town. Peter accuses Dr.

Stockmann of being selfish and not thinking of the bigger picture. He is encouraging Dr. Stockmann to retract himself from this article and to solve this problem in a more quiet way. The Doctor refuses his brother's propositions and the mayor reiterates that there will be terrible consequences for him and his family.

In the newspaper office Hovstad and Billing discuss the pros and cons of running Dr. Stockmann's article bashing the reputation of the government of the town. They are ready to proceed and help bring the privileged classes down. Dr. Stockmann comes into the office and tells them to print the article, but at this moment the whole office has a change of heart and are questioning how valuable is it really to expose the government and the town's baths in this way. They are realizing that printing this article will do more damage than help with the situation. Instead the paper is now on the side of the mayor, and has decided to print a statement of him talking about the baths and how good they are. Out of desperation, Dr. Stockmann decides that he doesn't need the paper to print anything and that he can fight this battle on his own. Dr. Stockmann decides to call a town meeting and spread the information that way. Mrs. Stockmann is present during all of this, and although she knows that her husband is making an extreme decision and is risking his reputation, she stands by his side.

At the town meeting in Captain Horster's house, Dr. Stockmann is about to read his water report to the townspeople. Billing, the family, the mayor, Aslaksen, and Hovstad are there. Aslaksen is elected the chair of the meeting to serve as a mediator. What ends up happening is that Aslaksen is trying to sabotage the doctor and stop him from communicating the report. When Stockmann finally gets a chance to speak, he talks about the contamination of the water but also gets into the town leaders and how they are the ones who know what is going on. He talks to the town about education and corruption too. The town feels insulted by these accusations and anger starts growing in the room. By the end of the meeting the town has rebelled as a mob against Dr. Stockmann and have marked him as an enemy of the people. Dr. Stockmann is exiled from the town. It is the morning after at Dr. Stockmann's study. The windows of the house have been smashed.

The town has turned against the family, and no one they know will help them. The landlord is evicting them from the house, and Petra got fired from school for having progressive opinions. Peter comes to the house to present Dr. Stockmann with a letter from the board of directors of the baths terminating his contract and a resolution from the householders association stating that no one should hire Dr. Stockmann in this town again.

On the other hand, Morten Kiil just bought an interest in the bath business. He expects that because his tannery is causing all the contamination, his son in law Dr. Stockmann will back off and let the issue go because now his family's money is also at jeopardy if he continues this battle. Dr. Stockmann refuses Morten Kiil's suggestions, and also ignores Peter's advice of leaving town for a few months. Dr. Stockmann has alienated everyone but stays true to his principles, even though he is standing alone. Dr. Stockmann knows that his family will always be by his side, and decides to accept his fate and become "the enemy of the people" if that is what it takes to do what is right.

#### **4. CONCLUSION**

After analyzing the structural elements of the drama, Henrik Ibsen through *An Enemy of the people* drama tries to reveal the human relation of the people in 19<sup>th</sup> century, the researcher focuses in DR. Thomas Stockmann, Medical Officer of the Municipal Baths and Peter Stockmann (the Doctor's elder brother), Mayor of the Town and Chief Constable, Chairman of the Baths' Committee, etc. Each story in the scripts give an overview about human relation between them. The researcher, finally observes it, under the description of human relation according to the theory of Human Relation by Marie Dalton (San Jacinto College), Dawn G. Hoyle (San Jacinto College) and Marie W. Watts & Associates, The human relation in an *Enemy Of The People* reveals in the eighth tenets of Marie Dalton, Dawn Hoyle, and Marie Watts, Knowing what human relations is not as important to your success as knowing what it is. If someone is practicing human relations effectively (Marie Dalton, Dawn Hoyle, and Marie Watts: 2009:4), someone is: (1) strong and self-confident—but not overbearing, (2) modest—but

not timid or self-effacing, (3) considerate of others—while keeping in mind both your own and your organization’s needs, (4) Show an interest in other people and talk about topics that interest them—without prying into their personal life, (5) Listen—while still contributing your comments, (6) thoughtful—but not lazy or slow to action, (7) confident—but not unwilling to change or learn from errors, and the last is (8) able to relax—but remain focused.

The human relation does not work effectively because they do not get along in the same balance. Actually, The Doctor takes all of the eighth basic tenets but in the other hand, the Mayor does not require almost all the eighth tenets. So, their human relation does not work in a proper way.

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