

**LIVING WITH SCHIZOPHRENIA IN RON HOWARD'S A
BEAUTIFUL MIND MOVIE: A PSYCHOANALYTIC APPROACH**



Research Paper

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Many people are stressed and felt frustration if they cannot solve their problem. It may occur in natural disaster, for example: when the victims still alive from disaster, they get heavy trauma. It can change behavior; maybe they become demure and difficult to communicate. It caused soul trouble. The soul problem occurs when people has depression, confusion and sorrow. It make crazy. The other soul problem is like hallucination and delusion. This is a kind of symptom of Schizophrenia.

Schizophrenia is a syndrome with abnormally in content and mind organization, stress or emotional, identity, and psychomotor behavior. Schizophrenia is soul trouble that is marked with many symptoms such as loss of contact with reality, loss of trust; deviation fills mind, eyesight and hearing perception, decreasing of motivation and blunt emotion (Kaplan, 1995:407).

Schizophrenia can also occur to everyone. This is mental illness. The patient cannot differentiate reality from hallucination on the mind. It can change behaviors. The patient assuming that he is feeling like a great person and he feel anxious. The patient has fluctuating emotion. The people can infected this disease from environment or genetic factor. Family environment can influence the

happening of this disease. The death of close family, the temperamental family, and difficult economic are factors cause of schizophrenia.

The problem of schizophrenia is a phenomenon of life that deals with the psychological science. It is not only interest psychiatric but also interest a man to study schizophrenia. Literary work is not only come from author's imaginary but also come from real life. From real life, it can be a good masterpiece. There is the movie that reflecting the phenomenon of schizophrenia, which entitled *A Beautiful Mind* movie.

A Beautiful Mind is a movie based on real life of John Forbes Nash, a mathematician who won the Nobel Prize in Economics in 1994 and he was infected Schizophrenia. Ron Howard directed the film. *A Beautiful Mind* movie was written by Akiva Goldsman, produced by Brian Grazer, Ron Howard and distributed by Dream Work Pictures. It was inspired by a bestselling book of the same name by Sylvia Nasar. The film stars Russell Crow, Jennifer Connelly, Ed Harris and Paul Bettany. The movie released in USA on December 21, 2001, it divided to be two disks. The running time is 135 minutes.

The story began when John arrive in Princeton University. He is student mathematic. He is a poor man; he can study on there because he gets prestigious Carnegie Prize for mathematics. He meets Charles, who is the roommate. John wants to find original idea to thesis paper. John makes a concept of governing dynamic, theory of a mathematical economic. After the conclusion as a student at Princeton, he accepts a prestigious appointment at the Massachusetts Institute of

Technology (MIT), along with his friends Sol and Bender. Five years later while teaching a class on Calculus at MIT, he places a particularly interesting problem on the chalkboard that he dares his students to solve. When his student Alicia Larde comes to his office to discuss the problem, John has falling in love and eventually marry.

John meets a mysterious Department of Defense Agent, William Parcher. John invited to a secret United States Department of Defense Facility in the Pentagon to crack a complex encryption of an enemy telecommunication. Parcher gives John a new assignment to look for pattern magazine and newspaper then write report and sending in a specified mailbox. John feels anxious when William tells him if the secret had known. It makes John to be paranoid.

After Alicia observing the behavior of John, she informs a psychiatric hospital. When John comes in Harvard University, he arrested a group of Psychiatric. John taken care in hospital. Dr.Rosen tells to Alicia if John infected Schizophrenia. John must get insulin shock therapy to be recovering from diseases. Nash is released on the condition that he agrees to take antipsychotic medication. However, this medicine has bad effect. John not drink drug again. Nevertheless, it makes the hallucination come again. The hallucination makes John like in the past. Alicia knows that John recurrence again. Dr.Rosen asked John to get medication but John does not want to. He wants to ignore the all of hallucinations. Finally, he did it.

He comes back in Princeton. He forgets of his hallucination and get over the disease. He is to be a lecturer in this University. In 1994, John gets Nobel Prize in Economic.

A Beautiful Mind movie has audiences. They had seen this movie because the story is unique. There are many messages that showed in conflicts, it is cause that people is interested to see it. Based on the story in the movie, there are many different comments from the audience. The public response has positive and negative opinion about this movie.

A Beautiful Mind movie has 78% rating from The Rotten Tomatoes. This is one of the very best films of the year (Traver, 2006). According to Lisa Alspector (2002), Ron Howard suggesting the experience of John's character, who diagnosed with schizophrenia, make inspirational to people, but the point is relationship to the fact of real person's life. She was assuming that this is awesome and good movie. The movie makes inspiration to other people.

The audiences have negative assuming about this movie because they think that it is impossible story. They did not believe that man has schizophrenia get Nobel Prize. They think that the story was boring. The length of time is so long. The audiences did not know about the message of this movie. They assuming that the schizophrenic cannot recover the disease are just ignoring the hallucination. This is unacceptable to some people. Some people assuming that it is represents fiction film.

During the five-day weekend of the limited release, *A Beautiful Mind* has box office. The budget is \$60,000,000 and get Gross revenue is \$313,542,341 million worldwide in three months (Dujcik, 2002). The movie released in many country, such as: USA (21 December 2001), Canada (25 December 2002), Germany (12 February 2002), France (13 February 2002), Brazil (15 February 2002), Australia (23 February 2002), Italy (22 February 2002), South Korea (28 February 2002) and Mexico (1 March 2002) (Release Info, 2001).

A Beautiful Mind movie is one of the best movies. It had a lot of appreciation in 2002. The film was awarded four Academy Awards for Adapted Screenplay to Akiva Goldsman, Best Picture to Brian Grazer and Ron Howard, Directing to Ron Howard, and Supporting Actress to Jennifer Connelly. It also received four other nominations for Best Actor in a Leading Role to Russell Crowe, Film Editing to Mike Hill and Daniel P. Hanley, Best Makeup to Greg Cannom and Colleen Callaghan, and Original Music Score to James Horner. The 2002 BAFTAs awarded the film Best Actor and Best Actress to Russell Crowe and Jennifer Connelly. At the 2002 AFI Awards, Jennifer Connelly won for Best Featured Female Actor. The film was also nominated for Movie of the Year, Actor of the Year to Russell Crowe, and Screenwriter of the Year (Award, 2001).

The main character from this movie is John Forbes Nash, mysterious and smart mathematician. He is mathematic student in Princeton University in 1953. He is genius and handsome man but he has infected Schizophrenia. This matter makes him to be antisocial. He do not know how to interaction to other people

and he loss contact with society.

The theme of *A Beautiful Mind* movie is about Schizophrenia disease. Ron Howard wants to give information about this disease from beginning symptom, marking people that infected it and healing. The messages are schizophrenia the kind of mental illness can recover with insulin shock therapy. Although this recover is not perfect. Supporting from family is so important to recovering process. As an audience, we can get moral from this story and experience for our life.

A Beautiful Mind movie is a best movie. Many people had seen this movie and they gave good comment to this movie because of the story or the character. There are six matters making this movie more interesting.

The first, the character of this movie is very different. The writer interested about the major character, John Forbes Nash (Russell Crow) and Alicia Larde (Jennifer Connelly). Russell Crow really is like schizophrenic. They can play the part of character that film is better and involving role. The audience can entering in the story and can feeling is like on the story.

The second, the writer is interested in the casting. The cast of the movie is great actress and actor. Especially, the major characters are beautiful and handsome. It can be the movie more interesting. The writer assuming that producer has a good choice when he choice cast because all of cast have good acting.

The third, this movie has beautiful story because the director make the movie from real life. It is gave learn about schizophrenia disease. Something that make the story good is a schizophrenic can get Nobel Prize in economic and struggle to recover his disease until he did it with spirit that give from his wife. The struggle of women is living with abnormal man that interesting story in this movie too.

The fourth, the interesting matter is setting of this movie. Almost 80 percent shooting was done in Princeton University. Other place is in Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). The time of this movie, start 1947 until 1994. The director make the time is same on the story. The writer feels in that year. This is so interesting.

The fifth, the property in the movie is interesting. The writer see that the cast use dress, car, telephone same in 1947. The actress use along dress and the actor use simple coat. When the actress drive the car, it is look like a old car. The make up of this movie can change the face cast. The make up change from young to old. This can change is like a reality.

The sixth, schizophrenia disease is making the writer interesting because she never knows about this disease. The movie explains about this disease, from the symptom and the way to recover this disease. The writer is so interested about this movie because she wants to depth understanding about schizophrenia disease.

Therefore, based on previous reasons the writer is interested in analyzing the movie using Psychoanalytic approach view from the framework into her research paper entitled: “Living with Schizophrenia in Ron Howard’s *A Beautiful Mind* Movie: a Psychoanalysis Approach”

B. Previous Study

Ron Howard is a popular director. Most of his movie is box office. There is previous study that analyzes Introvert Intuitive type of John Forbes Nash character’s in Ron Howard’s *A Beautiful Mind* the movie: Analytical Psychological Approach. This analyzed by Ika Apriliana (UMS, 2006). It has the same author but different in title and approach.

Apriliana finds that introvert of main character in the movie, namely, John Nash. She focused to analyze introvert personality. She was dealing with analytical psychology analysis on the main character of *A Beautiful Mind*. She states that introvert intuitive type of John Nash has been influence his life and environment.

Different from previous study, this research focused on Living with Schizophrenia in Ron Howard’s *A Beautiful Mind* movie: a Psychoanalytic Approach. The writer analyzes Schizophrenia disease of John Nash. She states that John Nash who living with schizophrenia can stay with his disease though this disease has been changes his life. The writer used Psychoanalytic to research *A Beautiful Mind* movie.

C. Problem Statement

Concerning the ideas, which have been explained in the previous background of the study, the problem statements of this paper, is how living with Schizophrenia reflected in Ron Howard's *A Beautiful Mind* movie?

D. Limitation of the Study

In this study, the writer focuses and analyze on the living with Schizophrenia in Ron Howard's *A Beautiful Mind* movie using Psychoanalytic approach.

E. Objective of the Study

To describe living with schizophrenia in Ron Howard's *A Beautiful Mind* movie based on Psychoanalytic approach.

F. Benefits of the Study.

In studying the research paper, the benefits expected from study are follows:

1. Theoretical Benefit

Theoretically, the result of the study contributes to the development of the knowledge, particularly literary study on *A Beautiful Mind* Movie.

2. Practical Benefit

The study is hoped to enrich knowledge and experience of the writer and another student of Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta or another

Universities who have interest with literary study on the movie from Psychoanalytic Approach.

G. Research Method

The research method are conducted by the writer is descriptive qualitative research.

1. Objective of the Study

The objective of the study is living with Schizophrenia in *A Beautiful Mind* movie published in December 21, 2001 by DreamWorks Picture.

2. Data Sources

The data source is divided into two parts, the data sources as follow:

a. Primary data sources

The primary data sources are the movie script and the VCD and DVD of *A Beautiful Mind* movie published by DreamWorks Picture in December 21, 2001.

b. Secondary data source

The secondary data sources are including reference and materials related to the study whether picking up from book or internet.

3. Technique of Data Collections

In collecting data, the writer used the observation method, while the technique of collecting data is documentation.

The techniques of collecting data are:

- 1). Watching and learning the movie and repeatedly.
 - 2). Determining the major character that will be analyzed.
 - 3). Reading some related book to find the theory, data and information required.
 - 4). Making notes of important in both primary and secondary data sources.
 - 5). Classifying the data into some categories.
 - 6). Analyzing the data about Schizophrenia disease.
4. Technique of Data Analysis

The technique of data analysis is descriptive analysis. The writer will use system of personality of psychoanalytic approach to discuss living with Schizophrenia of *a Beautiful Mind* movie.

I. Research Organization

The writer is going to organize this research in order to make an easy understanding. There will be six chapters in this research paper:

Chapter I is introduction. It covers the background of study, previous study, problem statement, limitation of the problem, objective study, benefit of the study, research method and paper organization. Chapter II is concerns with underlying theory. It relates to the Definition of psychoanalysis theory, system of personality, schizophrenia disease, correlation between schizophrenia and psychoanalytic, the symptom of schizophrenia, schizophrenia types, therapy and rehabilitees of Schizophrenia, psychosocial therapy for schizophrenics, living

with Schizophrenia and theoretical application. Chapter III is discusses structural element of the movie. Chapter IV is dealing with data analysis and discussion. It covers data analysis and discussion of finding. Chapter V is conclusion and suggestion. It includes conclusion and suggestion.