

**ANXIETY OF JOHN NASH IN RON HOWARD'S
A BEAUTIFUL MIND MOVIE:
A PSYCHOANALYTIC APPROACH**



RESEARCH PAPER

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by

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Every human being who lives in this world surely has day dream, dream and aspiration. Dream is a key to master world. All kinds of aspiration envisioned by every that human is different each other. There are many ways to reach for his or her aspiration. Some people reach their aspiration easily and some reach for their aspiration with great pains. Out for many people reach for aspiration strain after but have never got it. Someone who has never got his goals will become an anxiety.

Every individual has tendency to be anxious. Every anxiety can be arranged by *ego*. Anxiety can appears because environmental influence from outside or themselves. Human always have willingness to satisfy themselves, they will make it real by doing something. In fact, they should consider the rules dealing with society's norms and standard behaviors. Human will be scare when something threatens come to them or, they do not get their willingness or dream, each human has their own way to manage those, depending on their personality. Personality is an abstract concept that integrates many concept aspects characterizing. Sigmund Freud, Austrian scientist introduced theory of psychoanalysis. Psychoanalysis consist of three things: a theory of personality, a method of therapy, and a technique for research (Pervin, 1984: 70). Freud claims that Psychoanalysis aims at and

achieves nothing more than discovery of unconscious in mental life (Pervin, 1984: 71). Freud also introduced three basic structures in the anatomy of personality with his psychoanalysis theory. Those are consciousness – the conscious, the preconscious, and the unconscious. Anxiety is the most important concept of psychoanalysis theory. Freud (Hjelle and Ziegler, 1992: 102) states anxiety is *ego* function which alerts the person to sources of impending danger that must be counteracted or avoided.

The writer finds a film dealing with anxiety namely *A Beautiful Mind Movie*. *A Beautiful Mind* is a film written by Akiva Goldsman. It was directed by Ron Howard working together with Russell Crowe as the main actor. The story is about the life of John Nash (Russell Crowe). The first plot is the story from Princeton University in September 1947. It is the story of Math John Nash before becoming doctor studied in there. By then, John Nash is student who likes to make experiment and analysis about natural phenomenon using math method but he is individual person. He likes alone. This film tells about the life of John Nash. He is a genius person. He can create a new theory and influence in people's life in the world about Economy which is better than Adam Smith. But he has problems in himself. He cannot differ between real life and fantasy or imagination life. In addition, he has dream to be a spy soldier. But, in the real life he isn't able to apply his dream.

The writer's research title is Anxiety of John Nash in Ron Howard's *A Beautiful Mind Movie*: a psychoanalytic approach. It is because this film tells

about the life of main character, John Nash, and the writer tries to analyze the anxiety of John Nash.

Based on the explanation above, the writer is interested in making research entitled anxiety of John Nash in Ron Howard's *A Beautiful Mind* Movie: A Psychoanalytic Approach. The reason of choosing the title is because anxiety makes John Nash gets fantasy world and imagination unearthly in his mind.

B. Literary Review

The writer has seen two researches relate to *A beautiful Mind* movie that are conducted by students of Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta. Those two researches are entitled "Introvert Intuitive of John Nash's *A Beautiful Mind* Movie: Analytical Psychological Approach" and "Defense Mechanism in Sylvia Nasar's *A Beautiful Mind*: Psychoanalytic Approach". Both two researches are different from the writer since the writer will analyze the anxiety of John Nash.

The writer also finds a research that analyzes anxiety by using Psychoanalytic approach. The research entitled Anxiety of Jude Fawley in Michael Winterbottom's *Jude* Movie: A Psychoanalytic Approach is conducted by a student of Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta namely Joko Supriyanto in 2008. He analyzes how the anxiety of major character is reflected in Michael Winterbottom's *Jude* movie through Psychoanalytic

perspective. It is different from the writer in the matter of data source that the writer here takes *A Beautiful Mind* movie as data source.

C. Problem Statement

The problem of this study is how the anxiety of John Nash is reflected in Ron Howard's *A Beautiful Mind* Movie.

D. Limitation of the Study

The researcher limits the research on the anxiety of major character John Nash viewed from Psychoanalytic perspective.

E. Objectives of the Study

According to the problem statement above, the writer has some objectives on this study as follows:

1. To analyze the movie based on its structural elements
2. To analyze the movie based on Psychoanalytic perspective

F. Benefits of the Study

Two kinds of benefits which can be gained from the study are as follows:

1. Theoretical Benefit

The study is expected to give additional information and contribute to the larger body of knowledge, particularly to the further studies of Ron Howard's *A Beautiful Mind* movie.

2. Practical Benefit

The study is expected to enrich the knowledge of the researcher and the reader about Ron Howard's *A Beautiful Mind* movie based on Psychoanalytic approach.

G. Research Method

1. Type of the Study

The research belongs to qualitative research. It is called so because it does not need a statistic to explore the facts. Qualitative is a type of research that does not include calculation and enumeration.

2. Object of the Study

The writer's object of the study is *A Beautiful Mind* movie. It was directed by Ron Howard working together with Russell Crowe as the main actor.

3. Type of the Data and the Data Source

The type of the data employed in this research is textual data consisting of words, phrases, clauses and sentences. The data sources are classified into two categories called primary and secondary data. The primary data source is the play itself while the secondary data sources are books about personality and the other materials, related to the analysis.

4. Technique of the Data Collection

In collecting the data of this research, the writer uses the library research. The techniques of data collection procedure are as follows:

- a. Watching and learning the movie repeat
- b. Reading the subtitles to get more understanding
- c. Reading some related references to observe the theory, data and information.
- d. Making notes of important part both primary and secondary data sources.
- e. Classifying the data into some categories.

5. Technique of the Data Analysis

The technique of the data analysis of this research is using descriptive technique. The technique uses the elements of the movie and makes the readers understand toward the movie.

H. Paper Organization

In order to give guidance for both the writer and the reader in reading this research, the writer would like to set up the organization of this analysis as follows:

The first chapter is introduction. This chapter talks about background of study, literary review, problem statement, objectives of the study, limitation of the study, benefit of the study, research method, and research method

organization. The second chapter is underlying theory. This chapter deals with some theories the writer used to make this research such as: notion of psychoanalysis, system of personality, anxiety, and structural element of the movie. The structural analysis will be presented in the third chapter. The fourth chapter is the psychoanalytic analysis. Finally, conclusion and suggestion is presented in the fifth chapter.