

**POLITICAL SPIRITS AGAINST REFLECTED IN FLOREN
QUENUE IN EMILE ZOLA *THE BELLY OF PARIS* NOVEL
(1888) : A SOCIOLOGICAL ANALYSIS**



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APPROVAL

POLITICAL SPIRITS AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT REFLECTED BY
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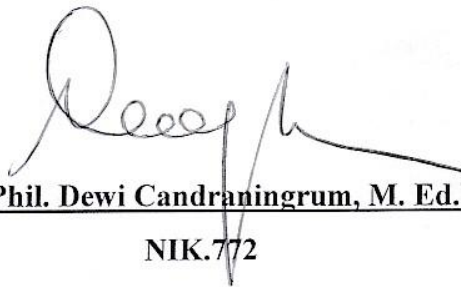
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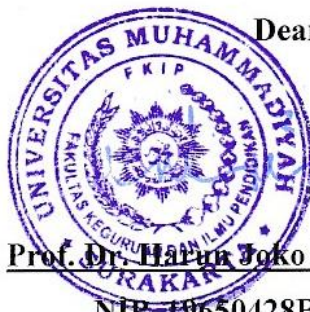
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Abstrak

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis tentang semangat politik dari tokoh utama Florent Quenu dalam novel *The Belly of Paris* karya Emile Zola, penelitian ini bertujuan untuk memahami dan mencari tahu tentang peristiwa politik dan bagaimana pengaruh politik terhadap masyarakat dalam novel *The Belly of Paris* karya Emile Zola. Penelitian ini menganalisis masalah sosial menggunakan Sosiologi analisis, hasil penelitian ini menunjukkan (1) latar belakang kehidupan sosial Florent Quenu yang menentang pemerintah dalam novel ini, (2) menggambarkan kondisi sosial masyarakat pada saat itu (3) solusi masalah untuk mengatasi kondisi social masyarakat dalam novel ini. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode deskriptif kualitatif. Penelitian ini menggunakan 2 sumber data yaitu primer dan sekunder. Sumber data primer dalam penelitian ini adalah novel *The Belly of Paris*. Sumber data sekunder dalam penelitian ini adalah artikel, buku, dan internet.

Kata kunci: novel the belly of paris, political spirits, sosiologi, dan sastra

Abstract

This study aims to analyse the political spirit of the main character Florent Quenu in the novel *The Belly of Paris* by Emile Zola, this study aims to understand and find out about political events and how political influence on society in the novel *The Belly of Paris* by Emile Zola. This study analyses social problems using Sociological analysis, the results of this study show (1) the social life background of Florent Quenu who oppose the government in this novel, (2) describe the social conditions of the community at that time (3) problem solutions to overcome the social conditions of the community in this novel. This research uses a descriptive qualitative method. This study uses 2 data sources, namely premier and secondary. The premiere data source in this study is the novel *The Belly of Paris*. Secondary data sources in this study are articles, books, and the internet.

Keywords: the belly of paris novel, political spirits, sociological, and literature

1. INTRODUCTION

Literary work is one of creation of human which have meaning in work itself. Literary work created based on personal experience or social circumstances. Literary works are also created based on trilogy and history. Literary work used by people to express imagination. There are many expressions of people, such as feeling, what physically can be seen. Human can describe what they feeling and

incident that are seen in real life in literary work. Literary work is very helpful to humans describe reality to imagination. Basically, literary work is useful as media for human life, when people cannot think clearly about the reality itself, a literary work can describe about it. Based on literary work humans can understand the reality and study it.

Swingewood and Laurensen (1972) state that "The main purpose of any viable sociology has functioned as an instrument to grasp the meaning of the authors and to improve understanding of the society based on the phenomena as social life".

Literary works are always trying to find the hidden dimensions that are not affordable by the quality of empirical evidence. The purpose of literature is to delineate the structure of behaviour configuration, structure of ideas, and the different social tendencies (Ratna, 2003:214). Literary often associated with the circumstances based on the true events that have ever experienced through research and observation.

Based on this understanding, it can be said that literary work is basically built from social reality, as a social reflection of society. This results in phenomena that are presented in literary works can't be separated from what happens in the reality of society that surrounds the author as the creator of the world in literary works. Literature and sociology are not wholly distinct disciplines but, on the contrary, complement each other in our understanding of society (Laurensen and Swingewood, 1972). It means literary and sociology have a close relationship.

Literary work related to human life, some literary work can take us from imagination to express that in a real life or from reality to imagination. There are many types of literary work, one of that is novel.

Novel is a combination part of prose in a long narrative. Most people in the world ever been reading novel. The story on novel usually related to human life. There are about love, crime, social life, and history or culture. A novel expresses some aspect of human life and human actions. Human life which is outlined in the novel relates with individuals and social conditions surrounds them.

Because Novel tells the story of human life and describes what happened in around, so novel is long story by written combination. The novel is generally thought of as containing about forty-fifty thousand words or more (Kenney, 1966; 103). So the novel is to longer on appeal another narrative such a novella and short story.

The novel was able to present the development of one character, a complex social situation, relationships involving many or few characters, and intricate events that occurred several years ago in more detail. The characteristic of the novel there is in its ability to create a complete universe at one complicated (Stanton, 2007:90). In the novel there are kinds of character. One unity of the story in the novel is connected and depending on.

One of great novel is *The Belly Of Paris* by France author Emile Zola, published in 1873 and the English version in 1888.

Emile Zola was one of the most prominent French novelists of the late 19th century. He was noted for his theories of naturalism as expressed in *Les Rougon-Macquart*. Emile Zola was born in Paris, France on April 2, 1840. After having moved the family to the Aix-en-Provence of southern France, Zola's engineer father died in 1847, with the youngster and his mother thus facing economic challenges. It was during his time in the south of France that Zola would befriend schoolmate and future renowned painter Paul Cezanne. In 1865 he published his controversial first novel, *La Confession de Claude*. In the following years he continued his journalism career in while publishing two novels. In 1868, he decided to write a large-scale series of novels, *Les Rougon-Macquart*. As the founder of the naturalist movement, Zola also published several treatises to explain his theories on art. He died on September 28, 1902(<https://www.biography.com/people/emile-zola-37621>)

The story of *The Belly of Paris* is about Florent Quenu who just got out of prison, and returned to town. But the cities had changed, he hardly recognized him anymore. The location of the workers has been replaced by a street filled with bourgeois. For the time being Florent lived in the house of a sister's family in the newly built market area, soon there was a problem in the food and political world.

In the middle intrigue between market traders and abundant food ingredients, there is a big problem between the rich and the poor, and finally the things that cause conflicts that cannot be avoided.

Florent Quenu is a fugitive who oppose the way of government works against the community, especially the lower classes of society. Florent returned to Les Halles to oppose government politics and fight for the oppressed lower class of society.

When Florent returned from Cayenne, Gavard felt he had a good chance to carry out a major action, and he began to imagine the best ways to taunt the Emperor, Government, and all authorities to all corners. Sergent De Ville (*The Belly of Paris*, p.111).

Gavard is a figure who has long been an opponent of the Government. He still shrugged with contempt when he thought of Charles X. All priests, nobles, and all related figures. Who has been eliminated through his help. Louis-Philippe, with his soldiers "Bourgeois" are fools, he likes to tell that "The King" saves money in his wool socks. If it's a Republic, it's just a play, the workers make his hopes disappear; but he no longer admitted that he supported the coup because he now considered Napoleon III his personal enemy. Bastards gathered together with De Morny and people like him to feast on their greed (*The belly of Paris*, p.110).

As if destined, Florent returned to politics. He had suffered too much in the institution of politics, so it was impossible to reject it as a big luxury in his life (*The belly of Paris*, p.229).

Florent draws up plans to reform the total administrative system of Les Halles, overhauling city dues for fresh food entering in Paris becomes a sales tax, new system for distributing staple goods to poorer regions. And finally the plan to build food warehouse that is brought to the market, with the aim of ensuring that every family in Paris will receive a minimum daily inventory (*The Belly of Paris*, p.228-229).

That is when Florent felt his anger. He is now ready to fight, and his anger when he remembers his exile from Paris (*The Belly of Paris*, p.230). This is a reason of research political in this Novel.

in particular he emphasized words such as tyranniquement, liberticide, inconstitutionnel, révolutionnaire; or else he told the child to copy the following sentences: "The day of justice will come ... The suffering of just people is a criticism of the oppressor ... when the bells are against, guilty people will fall. For this example, he innocently expressed his own obsession (*The Belly of Paris*, p.236)

One of issues in this novel had been discussed by the author is Politic. In general politic is a stage for forming or building positions of power within society that are useful as decision makers related to the condition of society. Or the actions of an individual group about a problem from the community or country.

According to Anton H Djawamaku (1995 : 144) human is a main core of politics, whatever the reason observations or political studies can't be avoided from human factors.

In the life on community the term "politics" first known at the time of Plato in his book entitled "Politeia" which also known as "Republic"(Deliar Noer, 1982: 11-12), and then developed through the work of Aristotle, known as "Politica".

This research explores the political issue using sociology approach. Approach to sociology of literature is the development of literary works that understand mimetik in relation to reality and the social aspect of the community (Wiyatmi, 2005:97). Literature considered a natural imitation or life. Literary often associated with reality.

According to Ratna (2003:1) sociology deals with society's origins, growth, science that studies the overall network of human relations in society, common, rational, and empirical. Sociology examine the relationship of the individual with the groups and artists as the elements that together make up a fact of life in society and social reality. That can be seen in *The Belly of Paris* Novel by Emile Zola.

Based on the statement above, the researcher is using a sociological approach as an appropriate theory to analyze this research. The literary work is always influenced by the social background or the history of social life at the time when the author creates his literary work, those elements above are inseparable. In this study, the researcher is interested and challenged in analyzing the movie using a sociological approach and encourages giving a title *the belly of Paris by Emile Zola (1888)*. There are, the researchers found a Political Spirit portrayed by the main character (Florent Quenu). Based on the background of the study, the title of the research is **POLITICAL SPIRIT AGAINTS THE GOVERMENT REFLECTED BY FLORENT QUENU IN THE BELLY OF PARIS NOVEL BY EMILE ZOLA (1888): A SOCIOLOGICAL APPROACH ANALYSIS**

2. METHOD

This research used descriptive qualitative research. It is a research which data gets from analysing data not using a statistic data. The object of the study is analysing Political spirit against government in Emile Zola The belly of Paris novel by using Sociological Approach. There are two type of data source. It is needed to conduct this research they are primary data source and secondary data source. The primary data source of the study is the belly of Paris novel by Emile Zola published 1888. And Secondary data source are taken from many resources such as websites, articles, some books related in this research.

In conducting the study, the writer uses the techniques collecting data as follows: Reading the novel "*The belly of Paris*" repeatedly, Taking note to some important things words or sentences which are related to the study. Selecting data which is support the topic of the study. Browsing to the internet or going library to get several book, information, journal and articles. Making conclusion and suggestion of the analysis.

3. DISSCUSION

The study takes from The Belly of Paris novel by Emile Zola. This study is showing the political issue in the society. It used sociological approach to analyse. This chapter will discuss about the answer of problem statement such as type of political in this novel. Politic depicted in this novel and author address political in this novel.

3.1 The type of Political

According to underlying theory in the chapter 2, the type of the political are includes democracy, monarchy, communism, dictatorship.

3.2 Democracy

We often hear the United States referred to as a democracy. Indeed, many refer to the U.S. as a representative democracy. A democracy in a more traditional sense is a political system that allows for each individual to participate. There are two rather popular types of democracy:

3.2.1 Direct Democracy

Many scholars point to Athens as an example of direct democracy. Technically, every citizen has an equal say in the workings of government. (The qualifications for being considered a citizen are completely different.) Citizens could show up at a meeting, and then directly participate in the governing process, and the process of making laws.

3.2.2 Representative Democracy

In a representative democracy set-up, citizens elect representatives who actually make the law. The United States operates similarly to this principle. Citizens elect legislators who, in turn, make laws. In the U.S., even the president isn't elected directly; representatives called electors make the decision (although designated electors usually vote according to the wishes of the citizens in their states).

Other types of democracy include versions known as deliberative democracy, in which citizens approach decision making by considering different viewpoints and options, as well as democratic socialism, in which citizens help make decisions or vote for policies that are socialistic in nature. There are other

types of democracy as well. The defining characteristic is some level of citizen participation in the political system. In the novel we can find some aspect about democracy, it's been seen in the dialogue below:

"Florent draws up plans to reform the total administrative system of Les Halles, overhauling city dues for fresh food entering in Paris becomes a sales tax, new system for distributing staple goods to poorer regions. And finally the plan to build food warehouse that is brought to the market, with the aim of ensuring that every family in Paris will receive a minimum daily inventory (The Belly of Paris, p.228-229)".

From the dialogue above we can see how Florent as an ordinary people, he fight to make a reformation Les Halles to ensure every family in Paris gets their rights.

"Florent wants to change the government system because he has suffered a lot by politics. His struggle did not go well, because he has considered a public threat. But he swore that one day he would avenge those who were oppressed (The Belly of Paris, p.229-230)".

So, from all about dialogue above shows that the public should dare to speak out against an unjust government, Florent shows the attitude of democracy to change the government systems. Overall Florent aims to refer to a fair government, so that the low class people are free from government restraints.

3.3 Monarchy

When most of us think of a monarchy, we think of the political systems of medieval European countries. In a monarchy, a ruler is not usually chosen by the voice of the people or their representatives. Often a monarch is the head of state until he or she abdicates or until death. In many cases a monarch is the final word in government. There may be functionaries to make decisions and run the political system, but the monarch has discretion with the laws, and how they are enforced.

In the Belly of Paris monarchy system can be seen on situation of story. At that time the government was in the form of an empire. Where all the provisions were held in full by government. The community does not have the hat to assume to the government. They are very afraid of the government, especially the low class people.

3.4 Communism

In most cases, a communist state is based on the ideology of communism as taught by Marx and Lenin. However, some argue that these political systems are not true to the ideals espoused by these revolutionary thinkers. Communist states are often dominated by a single party, or a group of people. A planned economy is often part of the governing class, and in many cases resources are taken and then redistributed to others, at the top of the system. Sometimes communists call themselves “workers’ states” or “socialist,” but there are very real differences in their operation. In a lot of cases, citizens are required to do certain jobs, or have some of their life decisions — especially concerning where they can live and what jobs they can do. Communism is often considered an authoritarian political system.

Marx takes capitalist society as a specific historical category. It is a society working on a machine technique of which the economic structure process peculiar distinguishing marks. It is a society producing for the market (commodity production); it is a society in which the means of production belong to a special class purchasing labour power (*the capitalist bourgeoisie*) and which is in opposition to its antipodes, deprived of the means of production and selling its labour power (*the proletariat*). The very statement of the problem is a complete revolution in science, for before Marx (and after Marx insofar as it is a question of bourgeois science) the categories of political economy were taken as the "eternal" and "natural" categories of any productive process. In this lies "all the wisdom of modern economists who are trying to prove the eternal nature and harmony of existing social conditions".

3.5 Dictatorship

Another authoritarian form of government is the dictatorship. Normally, a dictator is the main individual ruling the country. While there are lackeys and others who work for the dictator, he or she makes most of the decisions, and usually has enforcers. In some cases, the political system is run by a small group of people. Dictators are not restricted by constitutions or parliaments. The governed are

usually not consented in any way. Elections held are usually affairs in which the dictator is the only candidate.

A dictatorship is a government or a social situation where one person makes all the rules and decisions without input from anyone else. In this novel all rules take by government, anybody can't input opinion to the government. The society only can to follow the way of government. One of problem by dictator of government is society only have only minimum resource food everyday (*The Belly of Paris*). That problem make society oppressed under rules of government.

4. CONCLUSION

The researcher concludes the analysis of sociological approach into three political impact in society, *The Belly of Paris* (1888) novel by Emile Zola as follows:

First, social condition of Florent Quenu. In this novel Florent Quenu is a fugitive which is accused of someone who influence the community to oppose the government and is considered a threat. He had gone to the jail in the Netherlands but he can escape and returned to Paris by traveling a great distance. He is a socialist who rejects a government rules. In this novel Florent also a figure who is known to be able to change the political system that burdens the society. He has tried to make steps to obtain government justice. The aim is for the society, for abundant food source without limited by government and a better in economic aspect in society. With a strong social life, Florent try all steps he planned before.

Second, factor affecting politik Florent Quenu. In this novel factor of affecting Florent Quenu to changing political system is economic condition and for the workers. At the time economic condition and the results that workers get are very unfair. Community in low class and high class so different in the government view. Low class society only get a daily food resource in minimum every day. This is a reason why Florent want to destroying political system in government. From the reason Florent start to plan step by step how to get a justice in society. One of the plane is to build a big food resource factory in there. He

think with a food resource factory can give positive impact to recovery social condition at the time

And than solution to resolve social condition in society. I think the solution for this problem is the community in there. The society must be dare to speak out against burdensome governmental rules. The society must try to claim the rights and treatment they have under government. In Indonesia at 1998, there was a society phenomenon against the government. At the time students in Indonesia made speeches that aimed to replacing Soeharto presidential leadership with a large number of democrats. In the end the student action succeeded in bringing down Soeharto and then replaced by his deputy B.J. Habibie.

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