

**THE CRIMINALITY REFLECTED IN *THE GREAT GATSBY* NOVEL:
A SOCIOLOGICAL APPROACH**



**Submitted as a Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for Getting the Bachelor Degree
of Education in Department of English Education School Teacher Training Education**

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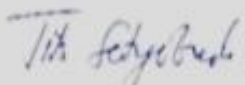
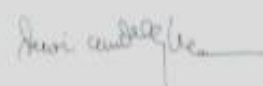

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Abstrak

Penelitian ini membahas karya Fitzgerald yang berjudul *The Great Gatsby* sebagai sebuah novel. Karya ini bercerita tentang seorang pria yang lahir dari status sosial rendah namun berusaha mengejar mimpinya menjadi kelas atas dengan tujuan mendapatkan wanita yang dicintainya. Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk menganalisis aspek kriminalitas, mendeskripsikan alasan mengapa kriminalitas muncul sebagai isu, dan mendeskripsikan bagaimana gambaran kriminalitas pada novel *The Great Gatsby*. Penelitian ini menggunakan pendekatan sosiologi. Penelitian ini merupakan penelitian deskriptif kualitatif. Adapun sumber data yang digunakan adalah sumber data primer yang berasal dari novel *The Great Gatsby* karya Fitzgerald dan sekunder dari artikel, buku, dan jurnal dari internet yang berkaitan dengan penelitian ini. Pertama, penelitian ini menemukan aspek kriminalitas seperti: bisnis illegal, pemalsuan identitas, dan pembunuhan. Kedua, penulis novel ini menceritakan secara jelas isu kriminalitas pada novel *The Great Gatsby*. Tokoh pada novel ini melakukan tindak kejahatan didasari oleh ambisi menaikkan kelas sosial, cinta, dan dendam. Ketiga, peneliti juga menemukan elemen-elemen pendukung penggambaran kriminalitas pada novel ini melalui penokohan dan plot.

Kata Kunci: Kriminalitas, Pendekatan Sosiologi, *The Great Gatsby*

Abstract

This study discusses Fitzgerald's work *The Great Gatsby* as a novel. This work told the story of a man who was born from a low social status and tries to pursue his dream of becoming the upper class with the aim of getting the woman he loves. The purposes of this study is to analyze aspects of crime, reveal the reasons why crime appears as an issue, and describe how crime is portrayed in *The Great Gatsby* novel. This study analyzed by using a Sociological Approach. Descriptive-qualitative study is used in this research. The data sources used in this research are primary data sources from the novel *The Great Gatsby* by Fitzgerald and secondary data from articles, books, and journals from the internet related to this research. As a result, the author finds three aspects of criminality such as: illegal business, concealment of identity, and murder. Secondly, the author of this novel explained clearly the issue of crime in the novel *The Great Gatsby*. The characters in this novel involved crimes based on the ambition to increase social class, love, and revenge. Thirdly, the researcher also finds supporting elements in the depiction of crime in this novel through characterizations and plots.

Keywords: Criminality, Sociological Approach, *The Great Gatsby*

1. INTRODUCTION

Crime is often defined with behavior that violates the rule of law as a result of which can be subject to punishment. Crime occurs when a person breaks the law either directly or indirectly, or a form

of negligence that can result in punishment. Crime also accompanied by a high ambition to get something. A person will be motivated to justify any means to reach the desired point. Until now, crime is still a social problem that disturbs the surrounding environment.

Crime is the main subject of public debate and intense attention. Criminal thoughts are crimes in the form of thoughts or ideas and do not use physical violence. An idea is important in a problem due to there is not one idea, one thing cannot happen or cannot be executed. Therefore, nothing happens in this life did not create an idea before. Usually, the ideas obtained come from existing problems.

Criminal behavior can be attributed to the unconscious processing of information according to cognitive theory (Beck, 1995), spontaneously happens on the basis of cognitive models. It is a habit of thinking, with or without critical thinking. Positive and negative thinking are the cognitive patterns of person concerning the errors of thinking (Beck, 1995). According to (Ellis & Walsh, 1999), there are eight factors causing crime, they are societal and economic factors, neighborhood and local, family, mass media, individual differences, biological factors, drugs/ drug use, and criminal justice system.

The Great Gatsby novel is the work of F. Scott Fitzgerald which is best known to the public, this novel became famous only after Fitzgerald died. *The Great Gatsby* earned Fitzgerald as the one of the best American novelists ever. This novel is told by Nick Carraway who is the narrator. The main conflict in this novel are the ways of Gatsby for getting his wealth, pursuing love, and revenge.

The researcher chooses *The Great Gatsby* as the objects of analysis for this study because the story represents the life's struggle and ambition to reach the desired point. The researcher has also tried to relate these literary works to Sociological Approach since these they consult with criminality. Because of those issues the researcher interested to conduct a study entitled: "The Criminality Reflected on *The Great Gatsby* Novel: A Sociology Approach"

2. METHOD

Descriptive qualitative type of study is used by the author to create this research paper. Qualitative research is research aimed at understanding the phenomena practiced by the study object, such as behavior, the words form description and language, with a contextual nature through the use of various natural methods (Moleong, 2007). This study using Sociological Approach. There are two

types of data sources in this research, specifically primary and secondary data resources. The main data source for this study include data collection from *The Great Gatsby* novel by Fitzgerald. The second data sources come from note-taking activities and bolstering data from some references, such as article publications, books and reading journals, as references related to this research. In analyzing the data, according to (Miles & Huberman, 1994: 10) the researcher pointed out that qualitative data analysis includes three concurrent activity streams: data simplification, data display, and conclusion drawing/verification.

3. FINDING AND DISCUSSION

3.1 Criminality aspects of The Great Gatsby Characters

There are several aspects of criminality reflected in Gatsby's as the main character in this novel and the other characters.

3.1.1 Gatsby's Illegal Business

Working with Dan Cody did start with economic factors, namely making money. Gradually he is not only got a job and money for his life. However, working with Dan Cody Gatsby gained mature experience in the business world. As known, Dan Cody is a very rich precious metal businessman. So basically Gatsby doesn't just desire to produce, but also obtaining the business world experience. The character of this great businessman will be reflected in how Gatsby achieves success in the liquor smuggling business tomorrow. Which would later assist him for reaching a upper social class after the achievement in Gatsby's career to become a rich man.

And it was from Cody that he inherited money a legacy of twenty-five thousand dollars. He didn't get it. He never understood the legal device that was used against him but what remained of the millions went intact to Ella Kaye. He was left with his singularly appropriate education; the vague contour of Jay Gatsby had filled out to the substantiality of a man (Fitzgerald, 2004: 100).

The upon quotation is about Gatsby's working experience with Dan Cody is priceless. Moreover, the quotation showed the expertise obtained from Dan Cody is worth more than the inheritance of Dan Cody falling into the hands of Ella Kaye which is worth twenty five thousand dollars. This proves the value of Dan Cody's work experience with the indirect education of Gatsby who became a tough guy. After working with Dan Cody for a

long time, he participated the army. In the world of military, he occupies a considerable position in his career. In his military career Gatsby gained the major rank.

“Then came the war, old sport. It was a great relief and I tried very hard to die but I seemed to bear an enchanted life. I accepted a commission as first lieutenant when I began. In the Argonne Forest I took two machine-gun detachments so far forward that there was a half mile gap on either side of us where the infantry couldn’t advance. We stayed there two days and two nights, a hundred and thirty men with sixteen Lewis guns, and when the infantry came up at last they found the insignia of three German divisions among the piles of dead. I was promoted to be a major and every Allied government gave me a decoration even Montenegro, little Montenegro down on the Adriatic Sea!”(Fitzgerald, 2004: 66).

A brilliant career in the military, apart from Gatsby's tenacious character, the class factor is also very influential. In the military world, the rank factor is quite influential on the class of social, the higher rank, the upper social class so that the rank factor is one of the directions in Gatsby's social mobility. Indirectly, the rank factor spurred Gatsby to excel in his military career. In this case Gatsby was very tenacious in his military world so that he could reach a fairly high rank. With a fairly high rank, Gatsby reached a higher social class than before. Because in the military automatically rank can lead the ranks below it.

After working in the army due to the end of the World War, Gatsby changed his career to become an alcohol smuggler (bootlegger). He suddenly become a new rich man because the illegal business was well selling at that time. The economic level of Gatsby has undergone tremendous changes than his previous work. This illegal trade is the result of heavy drinking. Due to the prohibition of legal alcohol products, this has brought huge profits to the illegal alcohol business. This allowed Gatsby's social class to rise to the upper class due to the increase of illegal businessmen economic level. Meyer Wolfsheim is the one who introduced Gatsby to the criminal world (bootlegging). It can be seen from the following quote how Meyer Wolfsheim helped Gatsby by turning himself into an illegal liquor smuggler.

“My memory goes back to when I first met him,” he said. “A young major just out of the army and covered over with medals he got in the war. He was so hard up he had to keep on wearing his uniform because he couldn’t buy some regular clothes.

First time I saw him was when he come into Winebrenner's poolroom at Forty-third Street and asked for a job. He hadn't eat anything for a couple days. 'Come on have some lunch with me,' I said. He ate more than four dollars' worth of food in half an hour."

"Did you start him in business?" I inquired.

"Start him! I made him."

"Oh."

"I raised him up out of nothing, right out of the gutter. I saw right away he was a fine appearing, gentlemanly young man, and when he told me he was an Oggsford I knew I could use him good. I got him to join up in the American Legion and he used to stand high there. (Fitzgerald, 2004: 170-171).

3.1.2 Gatsby's Concealment of Identity

Gatsby's act of transforming his identity into Jay Gatsby, the before was James Gatz, was one of his act of eliminating and breaking the chain of his lower family tree. The farmer's last name must be deleted from his life history. It is improbable for the higher class to be born in a peasant family. It is due to in the social class structure the surname was very prominent, since the name reflects the class one belongs to. It is due to the class is formed from generation to generation, so it greatly affects surnames. So before I knew it, Gatsby's intention to raise the class was very strong. He broke the farmer's genealogy and began to establish a new lineage for his future descendants. Of course, when he became a rich man, Gatsby did not let everyone to recognize his real identity and his origin.

James Gatz that was really, or at least legally, his name. He had changed it at the age of seventeen and at the specific moment that witnessed the beginning of his career when he saw Dan Cody's yacht drop anchor over the most insidious fat on Lake Superior. It was James Gatz who had been loafing along the beach that afternoon in a torn green jersey and a pair of canvas pants, but it was already Jay Gatsby who borrowed a row-boat, pulled out to the TUOLOMEE and informed Cody that a wind might catch him and break him up in half an hour. I suppose he'd had the name ready for a long time, even then. His parents were shiftless and unsuccessful farm people his imagination had never really accepted them as his parents at all (Fitzgerald, 2004: 98).

Name changing is an accomplishment of Gatsby's class awareness. If he came from the upper class, he would not change his name. If he becomes an upper class society, by this new name his future life will be helped. The name change this time is to obtain a higher level of basic capital. Even if a person is rich and does not have an upper-class name, he will not be considered an upper-class society.

In addition of changing his name, Gatsby also pretended to be someone who had attended a college, namely Oxford. As is well known, Oxford is one of the best universities in the world. This is one of Gatsby's excuses for adapting into upper-class social status. People in the upper class have at least a higher education background, and this high background is usually hereditary. Let the people around Gatsby actually contemplate about and trust that Gatsby really comes from or is an upper class person. However, it turns out that the figures around him such as Tom and Nick doubted Gatsby's educational background, which is said to be from Oxford.

“I’ll tell you God’s truth.” His right hand suddenly ordered divine retribution to stand by. “I am the son of some wealthy people in the middle-west—all dead now. I was brought up in America but educated at Oxford because all my ancestors have been educated there for many years. It is a family tradition.”(Fitzgerald, 2004: 65).

“An Oxford man!” He was incredulous. “Like hell he is! He wears a pink suit.” “Nevertheless he’s an Oxford man.” “Oxford, New Mexico,” snorted Tom contemptuously, “or something like that” (Fitzgerald, 2004: 122).

3.1.3 The Death of Myrtle

One of the other mysterious crimes is the death of Myrtle or Tom Buchanan's mistress.

...and it was because of that I first met Tom Buchanan’s mistress (Fitzgerald, 2004: 24).

This murder incident happened so fast and there were not many eyewitnesses. Wilson had previously told his neighbor Michaelis that he had locked his wife, Myrtle, in the garage. Knowing that, Michaelis attempted to inquire what occurred. As he was about to leave his house he heard the following conversation,

“Beat me!” he heard her cry. “throw me down and beat me, you dirty little coward!”

A moment later she rushed out into the dusk, waving her hands and shouting---before he could move from his door the business was over.

The “death car,” as the newspapers called it, didn’t stop; it came out of the gathering darkness, wavered tragically for a moment, and then disappeared around the next bend. Michaelis wasn’t even sure of its color -- he told the first policeman that it was light green...”(Fitzgerald, 2004: 137).

From the quote above, Myrtle's death is mysterious, because her death was so fast and Michaelis, who usually sit in front of the house looking at passing cars, couldn't know which car had hit Myrtle and who was the perpetrator who had hit and killed Myrtle. The person who killed Myrtle was actually Daisy, because she was annoyed to see her husband Tom having an affair with Myrtle. As described in the dialogue between Nick and Gatsby below,

"Was Daisy driving?"

"Yes," he said after a moment, "but of course I'll say I was. You see, when we left New York she was very nervous and she thought it would steady her to drive..."(Fitzgerald, 2004: 143).

Nick and Gatsby covered this up. Until finally Tom, depicted to Mr. Wilson that the yellow car was Gatsby's as described in the conversation below,

.... "Tom," I inquired, "what did you say to Wilson that afternoon?"

"I told him the truth," he said. "he came to the door while we were getting ready to leave, and when I sent down word that we weren't in he tried to force his way upstairs. He was crazy enough to kill me if I hadn't told him who owned the car. His hand was on a revolver in his pocket every minute he was in the house" He broke off defiantly. "What if I did tell him? That fellow had it coming to him. He threw dust into your eyes just like he did in Daisy's, but he was though one. He ran over Myrtle like you'd run over a dog and never even stopped his car."

There was nothing I could say, except the unutterable fact that it wasn't true (Fitzgerald, 2004: 178).

Knowing this, Wilson immediately looked for Gatsby's address and met him to avenge the death of his wife, Myrtle. Two shots were heard in the pool behind Gatsby's house. Gatsby was killed and Wilson's body was also found lying dead.

The chauffeur he was one of Wolfsheim's proteges, heard the shots afterward he could only say that he hadn't thought anything much about them. I drove from the station directly to Gatsby's house and rushing anxiously up the front steps was the first thing that alarmed any one. But they knew then, I firmly believe. With scarcely a word said, four of us the chauffeur, butler, gardener, and I, hurried down to the pool...it was after we started with Gatsby toward the house that the gardener saw Wilson's body a little way off in the grass, and the holocaust was complete (Fitzgerald, 2004: 162).

3.2 Criminality emerges as an issue in the novel *The Great Gatsby*

Criminality issue in *The Great Gatsby* novel is clearly explained by the author. Illegal business and murder cases explained clearly. This can be seen from the description of the story in the novel written by the author as follows:

3.2.1 Gatsby's Illegal Business as a Bootlegger

On Sunday morning while church bells rang in the villages alongshore, the world and its mistress returned to Gatsby's house and twinkled hilariously on his lawn. "He's a bootlegger," said the young ladies, moving somewhere between his cocktails and his flowers (Fitzgerald, 2004: 61).

From quotation above, it can be seen that Gatsby is a bootlegger. Cited from Merriam Webster, a bootlegger means a person who produces or bargains alcoholic liquor illegally.

"My memory goes back to when I first met him," he said. "A young major just out of the army and covered over with medals he got in the war. He was so hard up he had to keep on wearing his uniform because he couldn't buy some regular clothes. First time I saw him was when he come into Winebrenner's poolroom at Forty-third Street and asked for a job. He hadn't eat anything for a couple days. 'Come on have some lunch with me,' I said. He ate more than four dollars' worth of food in half an hour."

"Did you start him in business?" I inquired.

"Start him! I made him."

"Oh."

"I raised him up out of nothing, right out of the gutter. I saw right away he was a fine appearing, gentlemanly young man, and when he told me he was an Oggsford I knew I could use him good. I got him to join up in the American Legion and he used to stand high there (Fitzgerald, 2004: 170-171).

From the quotation above, Gatsby learned of this illegal business from Wolfsheim. The legal alcohol business is prohibited at that time. He suddenly became a new rich man, since the bootlegging was well selling. His level of economy has drastically changed from his past works. This illegal business is the result of the heavy drinking consumption. It makes a big return for illegal liquor businessmen since the legal alcohol commodity is restricted. This made Gatsby's social class rise to the top as the economic level of illegal businessmen increased.

3.2.2 The Murder of Myrtle

In addition, another crime described in this novel is the murder of Myrtle, Wilson's wife but also Tom's mistress. That day Wilson told his neighbor, Michaelis, that he had

locked Myrtle in his garage and was about to move house. He did that because he felt that he did not own his wife even though he was her husband. This incident can be seen from the following conversation below:

“I’ve got my wife locked in up there,” explained Wilson clamly. “She’s going to stay till the day after to-morrow, and then we’re going to move away”(Fitzgerald, 2004: 136).

As Michaelis wanted to try to inquire what had occurred to Myrtle and Wilson, he remembered the conversation between them. Before he could reach the exit, Myrtle was found dead in a crash, as described below,

“Beat me!” he heard her cry. “throw me down and beat me, you dirty little coward!”

A moment later she rushed out into the dusk, waving her hands and shouting---before he could move from his door the business was over.

The “death car,” as the newspapers called it, didn’t stop; it came out of the gathering darkness, wavered tragically for a moment, and then disappeared around the next bend. Michaelis wasn’t even sure of its color -- he told the first policeman that it was light green...”(Fitzgerald, 2004: 137).

This incident happened so fast that the police were having a hard time finding the culprit. In this novel, it is explained that the perpetrator of the hit-and-run was Daisy, who was driving a car with Gatsby at that time. This can be seen from the conversation between Nick and Gatsby below,

“Her name is Wilson. Her husband owns the garage, How the devil did it happen?” “Well, I tried to swing the wheel” he broke off, and suddenly I guessed at the truth.

“Was Daisy driving?”

“Yes,” he said after a moment, “but of course I’ll say I was. You see, when we left New York she was very nervous and she thought it would steady her to drive...”(Fitzgerald, 2004: 143).

3.3 Criminology Depicted in *The Great Gatsby* Novel

In this section, the author will explain the elements that reflect crime in *The Great Gatsby* novel. This novel has two elements: characterization and plot. Each element will be described in more specific in the subsequent explanation.

3.3.1 Crime through Characterization

The actions of the characters in this story are a series of events from one time to another. Every action taken by a character must have a cause. This characterization relates

to the attitudes, desires, interests, emotions, and moral principles of the characters in the story.

Some characters in these novel hold their own motives to bound in crime. The author of this novel described his role as a person, and everyone wants to live the life that Americans dream of: wealthy, charming, loved ones, and popular. They will nowise be contended with their own. Gatsby, for instance, he comes from the lower class and wants to change his social status to the upper class also to get Daisy's love, but he obtained huge wealth through improper means. This can be seen in the Tom's following statement,

"I found out what your 'drug stores' were." He turned to us and spoke rapidly. "He and this Wolfshiem bought up a lot of side-street drug stores here and in Chicago and sold grain alcohol over the counter. That's one of his little stunts. I picked him for a bootlegger the first time I saw him and I wasn't far wrong."(Fitzgerald, 2004: 133)

On the other hand, Tom Buchanan, cheated in Daisy by making a mistress with Myrtle because he couldn't preserve his marriage as conveyed by Catherine here:

Catherine leaned close to me and whispered in my ear: "Neither of them can stand the person they're married to." "Can't they?"

"Can't stand them." She looked at Myrtle and then at Tom. "What I say is, why go on living with them if they can't stand them? If I was them I'd get a divorce and get married to each other right away. (Fitzgerald, 2004: 33)

In regards to this, therefore, Myrtle implicated her affair with Daisy's husband, Tom, since he gave Myrtle things that George Wilson can't afford to her.

"The only crazy I was was when I married him. I knew right away I made a mistake. He borrowed somebody's best suit to get married in, and never even told me about it, and the man came after it one day when he was out. "Oh, is that your suit?" I said. "this is the first I ever heard about it." But I gave it to him and then I lay down and cried to beat the band all afternoon."(Fitzgerald, 2004: 35)

From that quotation above shows that she didn't suppose that Wilson was below her in fact.

As for Daisy, she accidentally hit Myrtle while driving Gatsby's car and then flees. Gatsby tells to Nick of the murder incident. Both of them cover up that Daisy was the perpetrator of the Myrtle crash. It can be seen in the following part,

"Was Daisy driving?"

"Yes," he said after a moment, "but of course I'll say I was. You see, when we left New York she was very nervous and she thought it would steady her to drive... (Fitzgerald, 2004: 143).

3.3.2 Through the Plot

Literary term that used to describe the events or main parts of the story that make up the story is called as a plot. In a pattern or sequence the events are related to each other. The structure of the novel depends on the organization of events in a storyline. The process of following the story is the same as following the development of the character through their actions.

1. Exposition

Nick Carraway as the narrator moved and worked as a bond trader in the East Coast.

... so I decided to go East and learn the bond business. (Fitzgerald, 2004: 3)

Nick rented a slight house on Long Island in the West Egg the upstart town. The next town, in East Egg, where that wealth old man lives, he reconnected with Daisy Buchanan, his cousin, and converge with Jordan Baker.

I lived at West Egg, the well, the less fashionable of the two, though this is a most superficial tag to express the bizarre and not a little sinister contrast between them. (Fitzgerald, 2004: 5)

Tom brings Nick to meet Myrtle, his mistress. Myrtle was already married with Wilson, who carry out a gas station in a dirty in Queens neighborhood. Then they head to Manhattan, the place she threw a slight party, and at the end Tom punched him.

... there is always a halt there of at least a minute, and it was because of this that I first met Tom Buchanan's mistress,

... I went up to New York with Tom on the train one afternoon and when we stopped by the assheaps he jumped to his feet and, taking hold my elbow, literally forced me from the car. "We're getting off," he insisted. "I want you to meet my girl." (Fitzgerald, 2004: 24)

2. Rising Action

Nick invited Daisy to his house but warned her to do not bring her husband, Tom. It can be seen in the following part,

... I called up Daisy from the office next morning, and invited her to come to tea. "Don't bring Tom," I warned her. "What?" "Don't bring Tom." (Fitzgerald, 2004: 83)

Nick arranged the meeting of Daisy to arrive to his house so that Gatsby could stop by "fortuitously". Daisy started possessing an affair with Gatsby.

3. Conflict

Tom and Daisy comply a Gatsby's party. Daisy was disgusted with showing off vulgar riches, and Tom directly realized that Gatsby's wealthy might come through criminal activities. It can be seen at the following part,

"Who is this Gatsby anyhow?" demanded Tom suddenly. "Some big bootlegger?" "Where'd you hear that?" I inquired. "I didn't hear it. I imagined it. A lot of these newly rich people are just big bootleggers, you know." (Fitzgerald, 2004: 107)

Always been ambitious to shaped the image of Jay Gatsby, although he was born in a low peasant family, in order to turn himself into a self-made successful man.

Nick, Jordan, Daisy, Tom and Gatsby having a lunch in a suite at the Plaza Hotel, there were many confidentials. Gatsby utters that Daisy is enamored with him. It can be seen in the following conversation,

“Your wife doesn’t love you,” said Gatsby. “She’s never loved you. She loves me.” “You must be crazy!” exclaimed Tom excitement. Gatsby sprang to his feet, vivid with excitement. “She never loved you, do you hear?” he cried. “She only married you because I was poor and she was tired of waiting for me. It was terrible mistake, but in her heart she never loved any expect me!” (Fitzgerald, 2004: 130)

Tom severally uttered that Gatsby was a smuggler and was possibly involved in another crime.

“I found out what your ‘drug stores’ were.” He turned to us and spoke rapidly. “He and this Wolfsheim bought up a lot of side-street drug stores here and in Chicago and sold grain alcohol over the counter. That’s one of his little stunts. I picked him for a bootlegger the first time I saw him and I wasn’t far wrong.”(Fitzgerald, 2004: 133)

Then, Gatsby asked her to leave Tom all over and said that she had nowise adored him. Daisy couldn't say this, because it was not right, and that was shattered Gatsby's dreams and obsession. Their affair was ended, Daisy chooses to stand with her husband.

4. Climax

In the evening, Daisy and Gatsby drove his car home, Daisy sat in the wake of the steering stick. When they drove past the garage of Wilson’s, thought it was Tom who drove the car, Myrtle ran to the car. Daisy, accidentally hit her but kept driving away. It can be seen in the following part,

“Beat me!” he heard her cry. “throw me down and beat me, you dirty little coward!”

A moment later she rushed out into the dusk, waving her hands and shouting---before he could move from his door the business was over.

The “death car,” as the newspapers called it, didn’t stop; it came out of the gathering darkness, wavered tragically for a moment, and then disappeared around the next bend. Michaelis wasn’t even sure of its color -- he told the first policeman that it was light green...”(Fitzgerald, 2004: 137).

Tom trace the accident. Purposely, Tom told to George Wilson that the yellow car was Gatsby's, and George assumes that he also being Myrtle's mistress. It can be seen in the following part,

...."Tom," I inquired, "What did you say to Wilson that afternoon?"

"I told him the truth," he said. "He came to the door while we were getting ready to leave, and when I sent down word that we weren't in he tried to force his way upstairs. He was crazy enough to kill me if I hadn't told him who owned the car. His hand was on a revolver in his pocket every minute he was in the house" He broke off defiantly. "What if I did tell him? That fellow had it coming to him. He threw dust into your eyes just like he did in Daisy's, but he was though one. He ran over Myrtle like you'd run over a dog and never even stopped his car."

There was nothing I could say, except the unutterable fact that it wasn't true (Fitzgerald, 2004: 178).

In the evening, Gatsby decided to take responsibility for the wreck. He hoping for Daisy to change her decision and return with him, while the next day she and her husband skipped the town. Nick and Jordan end their relationship since she didn't care about the death of Myrtle at all..

At a subsequent time, Wilson killed Gatsby by shot, and then himself. This can be seen in the following part,

The chauffeur he was one of Wolfsheim's proteges, heard the shots afterward he could only say that he hadn't thought anything much about them. I drove from the station directly to Gatsby's house and rushing anxiously up the front steps was the first thing that alarmed any one. But they knew then, I firmly believe. With scarcely a word said, four of us the chauffeur, butler, gardener, and I, hurried down to the pool...it was after we started with Gatsby toward the house that the gardener saw Wilson's body a little way off in the grass, and the holocaust was complete (Fitzgerald, 2004: 162).

5. Falling Action

Nick tried to have someone to be present at Gatsby's cemetery, however now all those Gatsby's friends that was attending his party

refused to attend. Even Wolfsheim, Gatsby's partner, didn't desire to go to the cemetery. It can be seen in the following conversation below,

“Now he’s dead,” I said after a moment. “You were his closest friend, so I know you’ll want to come to his funeral this afternoon.” “I’d like to come.” “Well come then.” The hair in his nostrils quivered slightly, and he shook his head his eyes filled with tears. “I can’t do it---I can’t mixed up in it,” he said. “There’s nothing to get mixed up in. It’s all over now.” (Fitzgerald, 2004: 171)

6. Resolution

As we started through the gate into the cemetery I heard a car stop and then the sound of someone splashing after us over the soggy ground. I looked around. It was the man with owl-eyed glasses whom I had found marveling over Gatsby’s book in the library one night three months before. (Fitzgerald, 2004: 174)

From the quotation above, it’s showed that Gatsby's father came from Minnesota to attend the funeral.

Nick was disappointed by his moment on the East Coast and decided to back home into Midwest. It can be seen in the following part,

After Gatsby’s death the East was haunted me more like that, distorted beyond my eyes’ power of correction. So when the blue smoke of brittle leaves was in the air and the wind blew the wet laundry stiff on the line I decided to come back home. (Fitzgerald, 2004: 176)

4. CLOSING

As the researcher discussed about the criminality aspect in *The Great Gatsby* novel with a sociological perspective, it can be draw in the following conclusions: Firstly, the researcher found several aspects of criminality reflected in Gatsby’s as the main character in this novel and the other characters, there are Gatsby’s illegal business, concealment of identity, and murder of Myrtle Wilson. Secondly, the issue of crime in *The Great Gatsby* novel is clearly explained by the author, Francis Scott Fitzgerald. Illegal business and murder cases explained clearly. There is a lot of discussion about crime that is viewed from a social perspective. People at that time became rich quickly and could raise their social class quickly. In addition, in this novel there are also other

crimes, that is murder based on jealousy of infidelity and revenge. Thirdly, the researcher found that there are two elements in *The Great Gatsby* novel that reflect the crime, through characterization and plot.

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