

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background of the Research

The world of cinema has now been able to grab the attention of the public. This is especially after the development of mass communication technology which can provide a constitution for the development of the world of film. Although there are many other forms of mass media, film has an exclusive effect on the audience. From tens to hundreds of studies, all of them are related to the effects of film mass media on human life, so that the media influences the thoughts, attitudes and actions of the audience ((Faridl, 2000).

Films are considered to have a stronger influence on audiences than other media ((Kurniawati, 2017)). According to Peransi (2005) film is something which is a medium of expression and communication. Film is also a relatively new medium in human culture, compared to mediums such as language and writing.(Peransi, 2005). Film has its own artistic value because film is created as a work of creative professionals who are professional in their fields. Films as art objects should be judged artistically not rational. film, together with other artistic media, has the basic characteristics of other media which are interwoven in various forms. According to (Paranjaya, 1993)) films have the ability to play space and time, develop and shorten them, move forward and rewind freely within the boundaries of a fairly wide area.

Although there are many mass media, films have had an exclusive effect on audiences. From tens to hundreds of studies, all are related to the effects of the mass media of film on human life, so it is necessary to know that there is so much media that greatly influences the thoughts, attitudes and actions of the audience ((Faridl, 2000)). Film is declared as the dominant form of visual mass communication in parts of the world, because more than hundreds of millions of people watch films in cinemas, television films or via Digital Video Disc ((Komala, 2007). In the midst of today's rapid development, films that are presented on the big screen have offered various colors in such a way, of course, adjusted to the phenomena that are happening in society (Fajriah, 2011).

Hollywood is an example of the American film industry that has been able to successfully make films that not only entertain the audience effectively but also influence the audience's cognition. One of them is by constructing psychological concepts and mental disorders. According to (Mardatila, 2020) categorizing films makes it easier for viewers to find what they like and want to see. Placing a film into a particular genre or category does not detract from the quality of the film by assuming that if it can be included in the genre, it is ordinary and lacks originality and creativity.

Currently, films that are popular and are attracting people's attention are the psychology genre films, especially about mental disorders. Mental disorders are diseases that affect the emotions, thought patterns, and behavior of the sufferer. As with physical illness, mental illness also has a cure (Willy, 2020).

In Indonesia, people with mental disorders are identified as "crazy people" or "mental illness", and often experience unpleasant treatment, even to the point of shackling. There are many factors that can trigger mental disorders, ranging from suffering from certain illnesses to experiencing stress due to a traumatic event, such as the death of a loved one, losing a job, or being isolated for a long time. The symptoms and signs of mental disorders depend on the type of mental disorder being experienced. Sufferers can experience disturbances in emotions, thought patterns, and behavior. Some examples of symptoms of mental disorders such as delusions or delusions, hallucinations, mood swings over certain periods. Feelings of sadness that last for weeks, even months. Excessive and continuous feelings of anxiety and fear, to the point of interfering with daily activities. Mental disorders can cause serious complications, both physical, emotional, and behavioral. In fact, one mental disorder that is not resolved can trigger other mental disorders. Some of the complications that can arise are feelings of being unhappy in life, conflicts with family members. difficulty in building relationships with other people, to alienation from social life (Willy, 2020).

Psychology films that can be used as references to study are of course many choices. It's just that maybe we don't really pay attention that the film that is being watched is a kind of psychological film. The story line that may be confusing and cause questions for those of you who watch it is a characteristic of films with the

psychological genre (Mustika, 2020). According to Mustika (2020) these films are made not only as entertainment. But it can also provide insight into what the world of psychology is really like. One of the psychology genre films is entitled A Beautiful Mind. A Beautiful Mind is a film adapted based on the true story of Nobel laureate in economics named John Forbes Nash Jr. He made fundamental contributions to game theory, differential geometry, and the study of partial differential equations. But unfortunately, at the age of 31 Nash suffered from paranoid schizophrenia and required treatment in a mental hospital.

Nash's struggles and life stories were the inspiration for making books and films. Initially, the author of the book A Beautiful Mind, Sylvia Nasar, first published a book entitled A Beautiful Mind in 1998. It was only in 2001 that director Ron Howard adapted this psychological film.

There are three characters in John's life who turn out to be the result of his hallucinations alone. Namely Charles Herman who was his roommate while at university, William Parcher whom John trusted as a government agent, and Marcee who was Charles Herman's nephew. This situation made him often overshadowed by fear and also made it difficult for him to think rationally.

In the process, John was given several antipsychotic drugs that could help him. Unfortunately, John thought that these drugs interfered with his thinking ability and in the end he chose not to use them. However, when he chose not to take the drugs, hallucinations and reality became mixed in his life, so he slowly learned to deal with the condition on his own and without the effects of drugs. Supported by his wife, he is finally able to distinguish between real humans and characters that exist only in his hallucinations.

This film is interesting to study because this film presents a psychological aspect where the main character in this film is suffering from a mental illness and requires special care and social support from the surrounding environment. In the context of this research, the film is a text that is full of meaning and multiple interpretations. Films are composed of many iconic signs, namely images that have similarities to objects and also indexes of images that are full of meaning and symbols that have many meanings that need to be interpreted.

Therefore, it becomes interesting for me to explore what signs are in the film, especially how the signs in the film *A Beautiful Mind* represent what mental disorders are like, especially in schizophrenic disorders. Films are generally built with a lot of marks. The signs are collaborated to achieve the desired effect.

With the many semiotic models available, I chose Charles S. Peirce's semiotic model. In general, semiotics is the study of signs in human life. Semiotics can be classified into two, namely structural semiotics and pragmatic semiotics (Hoed, 2011).

Peirce divides signs into three types namely icons, indexes and symbols. An icon has something in common with an object. This is often seen in visual signs such as photos, maps, signs on toilets that symbolize men and women are icons. An index is a sign with a direct, real relationship with the object it represents. Smoke is an index of fire, sneezing is an index of flu. A symbol is a sign whose relation to an object is a matter of convention, agreement or regulation. In general, words are symbols. The red cross is a symbol. Numbers are symbols (Fiske, 2012).

Based on the above background, I am interested in conducting research which will be outlined in the thesis with the title, "SEMIOTIC ANALYSIS OF MENTAL DISORDER IN THE FILM *A BEAUTIFUL MIND*".

1.2. Identification of the Problem

In this study, I focused on research that refers to the semiotic model used, namely Charles S. Peirce's semiotic which is known as the meaning of icons, indexes, symbols.

1.3. Limitation of the Problem

The limitation in this study is the series of pictures in the film *A beautiful mind* which is related to psychological concepts and mental disorders, especially the schizophrenia mental disorder. This is seen from the large context of this film which describes a lot about the disorders and symptoms of schizophrenia mental illness.

1.4. Formulation of the Problem

In accordance with the research formulation above, the research objective is “How is the description of mental disorder in the film *A Beautiful Mind* viewed based on the analysis theory of Charles S Pierce?”

1.5. Objective of the Research

Based on the objective of the problem above, the objective of the research in this research is to find out how the description of mental disorder in the film *A Beautiful Mind* is viewed based on the analysis of Charles S Pierce's theory.

1.6. Methods of the Research

In this study, I used a qualitative approach with descriptive methods. I describe the fact about mental disorders in the film *A Beautiful Mind*, namely schizophrenic mental disorders. I used Charles Pierce's theory which divides up icons, indexes, and symbols. I chose the visuals from the film *A Beautiful Mind* and then examined and explained everything from icons, indexes and symbols. In this study the data were collected through direct observation of the appropriate data. The research instrument is primary data in the form of an electronic document in the form of *A Beautiful Mind* film with Indonesian subtitles, then selected visuals or images from the film scenes required for the research. The research also takes secondary data in the form of written documents such as *A Beautiful Mind* film reference from the internet, reference books, and lecture notes. The research techniques I use are observation and documentation. I made observations by watching and observing dialogues, as well as scenes in the film *A Beautiful Mind*. Then I wrote down, selected and analyzed the film according to the research model semiotic of Charles S Pierce. The documentation that I did was looking for data about things related to the film *A Beautiful Mind*. After the primary data and secondary data are collected, they are clarified according to the research questions carried out. After the data were clarified, data analysis was carried out using Charles S Pierce's semiotic analysis technique. Pierce developed the triangle meaning theory consisting of signs, objects, and interpretants. According to Pierce, one form of sign is a word. Whereas object is something that is referred to by a sign. Then the interpretant is a sign that is in someone's mind about the object a sign refers to. Charles S Pierce divides signs into icons, indexes

and symbols. Icon is a relationship between sign and object or reference which is similar in nature. Index is a sign that shows a natural relationship between signs and signs that are casual in nature or a causal relationship, or signs that directly refer to reality. And the last is symbols. Symbol is a sign that shows the natural relationship between the sign and the sign.

1.7. Benefit of the Research

The research that I did out come will participated on linguistics study, especially study of the post-structuralism which then can be beneficial for people, because this research contains, not only linguistics aspect, but also psychology and social gap. Through semiotic analysis, all of the outcomes of this research will give a new point of view about mental condition. The research I did may hopefully be beneficial to people who love pragmatic that contains critical ideas from variety of point of view.

1.8. Systematic Organization of the Research

In accordance to the title of the research above, the order of the presentation is written as follows:

CHAPTER 1 : INTRODUCTION

In this chapter, I explain Background of the Study, Identification of the Problem, Limitation of the Problem, Objective of the Research, Method of the Research, About the semiotic analysis in A beautiful mind.

CHAPTER 2 : FRAMEWORK OF THEORIES

This chapter consist of theories of Charles s peirce

CHAPTER 3 : ICON, INDEX, AND SYMBOL

In this chapter, I explain about the meaning of the icon, index, and symbol shown by the main character in the film a beautiful mind.

CHAPTER 4 : CONCLUSION

This chapter consists of the conclusion on the analisis of the complete study