

**THE ADOLESCENTS' SEARCH OF IDENTITY IN  
"LADY BIRD" MOVIE AS THE  
REPRESENTATION OF ERIKSON'S THEORY OF  
IDENTITY VERSUS IDENTITY CONFUSION**

**TERM PAPER**



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**2016130907**

**STRATA ONE (S-1) OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE DEPARTMENT  
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES  
UNIVERSITY OF DARMA PERSADA  
2018**

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**Submitted in part-fulfilling for obtaining  
Strata One (S-1) Degree**



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2018**

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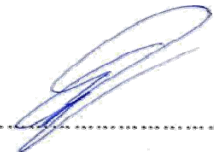
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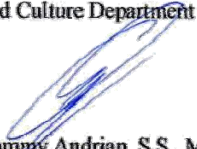
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Jakarta, 2018

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## ABSTRACT

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Title : The Adolescents' Search of Identity in "LadyBird" Movie  
as the Representation of Erikson's Theory of Identity  
versus Identity Confusion

This term paper discusses about a literary work, a movie. The analyzed problem is about the adolescents' phase of searching their identity. The analyses used in this paper are intrinsic and extrinsic approaches. The applied concepts through intrinsic approaches are: characterization – particular patterns of action, the way a character speaks, the way a character responds and what others say about a character, plot, setting and theme and for the extrinsic approach the concept is identity versus identity confusion by Erik Erikson. The intrinsic and extrinsic approaches are connected to prove the assumption of this paper. This paper consists of qualitative method that uses "Lady Bird" movie as the primary resource and supported by some of literatures that relate to the theory, concept and definition as the secondary sources.

Key words: *adolescents, identity versus identity confusion, Erik Erikson*

## **ABSTRAK**

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as the Representation of Erikson's Theory of Identity  
versus Identity Confusion

*Skripsi ini membahas tentang tema karya sastra film dengan menggunakan pendekatan intrinsic dan ekstrinsik. Masalah yang dikemukakan adalah tentang pencarian jati diri kalangan remaja. Konsep-konsep yang digunakan melalui pendekatan intrinsic dalam skripsi ini: perwatakan (tindakan berpola khusus, cara karakter berbicara, cara karakter memberi reaksi dan apa yang dikatakan karakter lain tentang karakter tersebut) alur, dan latar. Konsep yang digunakan melalui pendekatan ekstrinsik: identitas versus keseimbangan identitas. Pendekatan intrinsic dan ekstrinsik dikaitkan untuk membuktikan asumsi dari skripsi ini. Skripsi ini adalah penelitian kualitatif dengan menggunakan film "Lady Bird" sebagai sumber utama dan didukung oleh beberapa literatur yang terkait dengan teori, konsep dan definisi sebagai sumber sekunder.*

Kata kunci: masa remaja, identitas versus keseimbangan identitas, Erik Erikson

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## CHAPTER 1

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1. Background

All of us as human being definitely go through stages of life. Each of the life stage has its own biological, psychological, and social characteristics, through which individuals pass over the course of their lives. From all stages that individuals go through, adolescence is the most important phase as this phase is the critical period for every person to find his/her self identity.

There are some theories exist about the concept of identity. Waterman (1993; as cited in Guardia, 2009) stated that identity reflects a person's best potential which is self-realizing. Identity is expressed through self-realizing activities which person feels as self-defining or fitting, engaging, energizing, purposeful, and helpful in fulfilling his/her goals of life. According to Berzonsky's social-cognitive theory of identity styles (1988; as cited in Guardia, 2009), identity is the cognitive model of how persons process and examines identity relevant information. Erikson (1968) proposed the most general and broad concept of identity. He described identity as a fundamental organizing principal which develops constantly throughout the lifespan. Identity provides a sense of continuity within the self and in interaction with others (—self-sameness) as well as a frame to differentiate between self and others (—uniqueness) which allows the individual to function autonomously from others.

Searching for self identity has been subject of discussion and talk for so many times in our society because there will be always adolescents who go through this phase and they are around us. The things like smoking cigarette, talking with inappropriate ways to their parents, friends or teachers, skipping school, telling what they think is the right thing to do, even starting having intercourse with the person they crush on are the common actions and behavior that we see from the adolescents. This subject also has attracted people who work in movie industry. A lot of movies about it have been conducted with films such as *Black Swan*, *Spirited Away*, *Youth in Revolt*, *Taxi Driver* and *American Beauty* as the instruments.



Another movie that also shows how adolescents try to find their self identity is *Lady Bird*. The film written and directed by Greta Gerwick in general tells about adolescents that lived in the era of 2002-2003. In particular it shows the main character —*Lady Bird*” as the reflection of an adolescent who is searching for self identity in her coming of age phase. It is a story of a young girl named Christine who lives in Sacramento and starts her senior year at a Catholic girls’ high school. As an adolescent, Christine wants to explore new things and experience that she has never had before. She has a dream of a life beyond her family and her hometown. She is ashamed about her family condition and she wants to get out of her hometown and goes where the culture is. She also goes through the hard period and time when she argues with her mother and brother Miguel.

There are scenes show the adolescent’s actions and behavior during the searching of self identity such as when the main character —Christine picks her own name —Lady Bird instead of her given name by her parents. She uses this in daily lives and she asks everybody including her mother to call her —Lady Bird. Other actions are such as her decision to go to New York to continue her study (going to college) without her mother’s permission, and risky actions like getting out of the car while it is moving on the street, having sexual intercourse with the boy she likes and joining the popular peers at her school give more characteristic of those who are searching for identity.

Since a research about searching self identity using this movie has not been conducted yet, therefore, the research is made. This is also to support the research that has been done by Tija Ragelienė with her journal title —Links of Adolescents Identity Development and Relationship with Peers. (<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4879949>)

Seeing the main character’s action scenes in this movie, the writer finds out that there are some same aspects shown in the movie and in the adolescents’ period of searching of self identity. To analyze much deeper about the connection between Christine’s characters that shown in her actions and behaviors with self identity searching, the writer conducts this research by using Erikson’s theory of identity versus identity confusion. This theory is used to give basic understanding

about searching self identity concept. With the theory of identity versus identity confusion of Erikson, the writer will demonstrate evidence that the movie relate to it. The evidence is obtained through the dialogues, expression and action of the characters in this movie.

## **1.2. Identification of Problems**

The problem that can be identified from the background is how Christine as the main character finds her identity by going through a lot of things during the phase of her adolescence. I assume that the character of Christine is the representation of Erikson's theory of identity versus identity confusion. The theme assumption that I make for this research is —The adolescent's search of identity in —*Lady Bird* movie as the representation of Erikson's theory of identity versus identity confusion.

## **1.3. Limitation of the Problems**

From the problems identification above, there are three important things that the writer would like to put in detailed discussion. The first is about the intrinsic approaches (characterization of the characters, setting and plot). The theory of Pickering is going to be used to analyze the above items. The second is the extrinsic approach which is the psychology approach about identity versus identity confusion theory by Erikson. The third is how the elaboration between the actions and behaviors shown by the characters and Erikson's theory are related.

## **1.4. Formulation of Problems**

Based on the background mentioned above, the problems that are going to be discussed are as follows:

1. What are the characterizations of the characters, plot, and setting in *Lady Bird* movie?
2. What do actions and behavior that are shown in this movie relate to identity versus identity confusion theory of Erikson?
3. How do the intrinsic and extrinsic analyses support the theme of *Lady Bird* movie?

### **1.5. Objectives of the Research**

The objectives of this research are:

1. To analyze the characterizations of the characters, setting and the plot in *Lady Bird* movie.
2. To analyze the actions and behavior that are shown in this movie relate to identity versus identity confusion theory of Erikson.
3. To analyze how the intrinsic and extrinsic analyses support the theme of *Lady Bird* movie.

### **1.6. Methods of the Research**

As this research is about self identity searching which connects with human behavior and actions and why they act the way they do and it is not about numbers or numerical data that is why qualitative method is used in this paper. For the qualitative data, the writer uses sampling method which is —*Lady Bird* movie as the primary resource. The script of the movie as the literary text is also used as the collection of data to be analyzed. This research also uses instrument which is the writer herself. To support the research more, the writer also uses some data that relates to the theory, concept and definition from books, dictionary and articles from the internet.

### **1.7. Benefits of the Research**

In general this research is beneficial to give information to other people about how adolescents find their self identity and the process they go through it. It is also aimed for the adolescents to see that things that are shown in the movie some of them are reality that might happen to them; therefore, they will understand and comprehend how to deal with it. For science this research is hoped to give more knowledge about the concept of identity and identity confusion theory by Erik Erikson.

Meanwhile, for the academic purpose, this research is conducted to show that through one of the literature works (movie) that reveal human characters (adolescents) with their actions and behavior in finding their self identity, we can see that the literature work and psychology are related.

## **1.8. Systematic Organization of the Research**

### **Abstract**

CHAPTER 1 : INTRODUCTION, consists of : Background of the Problems, Identification of Problems, Limitation of the Problems, Formulation of the Problems, Objective of the Research, Methods of the Research, Benefits of the Research, Systematic Organization of the Research.

CHAPTER 2 : FRAMEWORK OF THE THEORIES, contains of intrinsic approach explanation such as characters, characterization, plot, and setting. For the extrinsic approach, Erikson's theory of identity versus identity confusion is used.

CHAPTER 3 : THE INTRINSIC APPROACHES OF —LADY BIRD— MOVIE, consists of the elements of intrinsic approach: characterization of the characters, plot and setting.

CHAPTER 4 : THE ADOLESCENTS' SEARCH OF IDENTITY IN —LADY BIRD— MOVIE AS THE REPRESENTATION OF ERIKSON'S THEORY OF IDENTITY VERSUS IDENTITY CONFUSION, consists of the evidence that shows the relation between the theory with the case found in the movie.

CHAPTER 5 : CONCLUSION, consists of the theme of the movie

Scheme of the Research

REFERENCES

## **CHAPTER 2**

### **FRAMEWORK OF THE THEORIES**

#### **2.1. Film as Literary Work**

According to Klarer (1999:54), a movie in the era of the beginning of twenty first century became one of the products that connected with written works and the practice of commenting on the qualities and character of literary works. Both film and literature have connection which each of them influences each other. Film gradually influenced by the methods of how literary works are analyzed. In short, both film and literary works may be examined for each detail of it with same techniques as known as approaches of textual studies.

Furthermore, Klarer adds the main improvement of literary theory has contributed in the film studies as the ideas influence the way to inspect what is in a movie. The similarity of film and literary work is that both literary work like novels and films like video tapes; theoretically, they can be repeatedly read, or viewed. Even though film and literary work have dissimilar shape and display, since both of them use players to show utterance, emotion, feelings to get deep into the story and make their audience or readers get the idea of the content either in the movie or in the drama, they are classified as the —performing arts’. Based on what Klarer states above, we can categorize that film is one of the literary works and we can analyze films like we analyze drama.

#### **2.2. Intrinsic Approaches**

It is a basic element that can be found in a literature work. It is the internal part of the story that can be seen. Some elements in intrinsic approach are plot, setting, theme, character, theme, symbol and allegory, style and tone and point of view. From the elements mentioned above, the writer would like to choose four of them. They are:

##### **2.2.1. Characters and Methods of Characterization**

Characters represent the movie or drama writers’ ideas or suggestion points. It is impossible to eliminate the characters that played by the actors in a movie or drama because they are the key of the movie. It is also impossible to

make movie or drama without actors who play the characters in it. If there are no characters, there would be no plot and, hence, no story. (Pickering and Hoeper, 1981:23)

If we talk about characters we also talk about people and their various aspects of persona. In film, like in drama the people who play the characters should act and present what the writers try to show to the audience. (Ibid, p.275)

Major and minor characters are two types of characters. Main character in a film or drama which is often called protagonist and a character who strongly opposes the main character which is often called antagonist are major characters. Meanwhile, a person or thing that contrasts with another character is often minor characters. (Ibid, p.276)

The center of interest for most of the scriptwriters is major character. The way to know how to differentiate the main characters and the minor characters is by identifying the lines spoken by each of them. Major characters have a lot of words to say than the minor ones as they only have a few of words to say. Nevertheless, the most significant way to find out is by seeing that those who are individualized and given both complex motives and a past are categorized as main characters, meanwhile, those who often have no past at all and sometimes represent no more than a common character type are categorized as minor characters.

The characters are individuals that have their own uniqueness. We as the spectators must look thoroughly at the various means of characterization in order to understand these individuals. There are some methods used to do the characterization. The first method is by seeing the character's *particular patterns of action*. We analyze how the characters act. With the action shown by the characters we can see how their personalities and motives displayed. The next method is by seeing *the way a character speaks*. This part shows how the characters talk or respond with the words they choose. There is also consideration of dialect and grammar they use when they make utterance. Those things can examine their personal background and their ability to acquire and apply knowledge and skills. Another method is *the way a character responds*. It is also crucial to analyze. Every scene in a movie that contains characters' lines will

cause response from other characters. From the way other characters respond the personality of them are possibly revealed. The last method that can be used in characterization is *what others say about a character*. As the characters meet one another and they make conversation, it means each of them have their judgment over others. They see other players, they identify their characters. They say what they feel and know about other characters. (Ibid., p.276-278)

### **2.2.2. Plot**

Another element that is also important to analyze is plot. The reason people watch movie can be varied. Some of them want to see how great the story is displayed, some of them are eager to know what moral lesson can be taken and some of them want to see what happens next. There will be a sequence of actions in every movie. This sequence will lead to understanding what happens next and the reason why the scene appears.

The plot of the traditional story is commonly arranged in moving forward form which consists of five structural elements. This form is going to be used in showing the plot in the Lady Bird the movie. The following elements are as follow:

#### **1. Exposition**

This is the part that consists of important information about the background of the story, the introduction of the players, and the beginning of character's action. Some of them are always shown in the first scene and other important background materials are shown by the end of the first act. (Ibid, p.269)

#### **2. Complication**

This is the start of realization of the characters that there is a thing that goes wrong and there will be problems in the following scenes or time. It is the segment when dispute begins to appear and it will be getting complicated soon. (Ibid., p.270)

#### **3. Crisis**

This is the section of turning point of the movie which shows the time of intensive emotion and crucial resolution for the conflict that the characters deal with. It happens between the protagonist and antagonist characters. This is the

scene that spectators or the viewers really look forward to because the scene displays a strong action full of high tense and emotion of the players. Most people call it *obligatory scene* as it is demanded by the audience. (Ibid., p. 271)

4. Falling action

A part after the crisis occurs and the next thing is there is a scene when a momentum of its own appears. It is the effect from the protagonist's loss of control.

5. Resolution

There is a conclusion made in this part. This is the last opportunity for the scriptwriter to express the point in the scenes. It will be shown by the appearance of a full revelation of the characters. (Ibid., p.273)

### 2.2.3. Setting

Setting covers physical location, time of day or year, the climate condition, historical time during which action takes place. The audience will get the whole image of the work when setting is clearly seen and understood. The setting is also like a real picture of life so the audience really gets into it.

Usually, setting is shown in the beginning of the work (beginning of scene) to direct the audience to next scene. There are five functions of setting. They are:

1. Setting as Background for Action

In a literary work, setting can be an elementary element or it is just a decorative element. A question like: could this work in question be set in another time and another place without doing it essential damage? And the answer is yes, then the setting can be said to exist as decorative background whose function is largely irrelevant to the purpose of the work as whole. (Ibid., p.38)

2. Setting as Antagonist

This is setting is useful to establish plot conflict and determine the outcome of events as this setting use the form of nature that can function as a kind of causal agent or antagonist. (Ibid., p.39)

3. Setting as a Means of Creating Appropriate Atmosphere

Another function of setting is to create appropriate atmosphere. Through



this kind of setting, the reader's expectations and an appropriate state of mind for events to come do arise as the authors' attention to manipulate it. (Ibid., p.40)

4. Setting as a Means of Revealing Character

Making setting as a metaphoric or symbolic extension of character deliberately is the aim of the using of this kind of setting. Authors use this setting to make clear and reveal the characterizations of the characters. (Ibid., p.41)

5. Setting as a Means of Reinforcing Theme

This setting is easy to know since it is told and shown in dialogue or in action. This setting is purposed as a means to reinforce and clarify the theme of a literature work. (Ibid., p.42)

**b. Extrinsic Approaches**

If in intrinsic element I have revealed what I want to analyze, in extrinsic element I use Self Identity theory in Psychology approach.

**2.3.1. Literature of Psychology**

Psychology is *the scientific study of the mind and how it influences behavior.*(Hornby, 2010:1183). Psychology connects with humans and things inside the humans. As well as psychology that talks about humans, literature also does the same thing since inside literature works human becomes one of the subjects that are discussed.

In the journal of —The Relation between Psychology and Literature, it is stated that literary work and psychology have a reciprocal relation. The psychology of the unconsciousness can be called literature, and is a dune mining approach to its foreign opinion, very familiar to literature and literary critics. In psychological review in depth stories, and techniques for induction made ploy it is. This function works the same dream in the literature. And function of the dream and its elements is in the form which is related to the literature. (FarzancshDastmard, TooranRazmjoo and ValiSalehi, 2012).

The idea of analyzing what inspires a literature work and a writer's psychic aspects are the basics of psychology of literature. To understand this means to comprehend the aspects inside the literary works. It is focused on the

psychology of the characters in the literary works. (Ratna, 2003:343).

As studying of the psychology of the characters in every literature work mostly relates to human beings, it is believed that psychology of literature reflects the things inside human's soul including its activity. When we want to know deeper about psychology of literature, the crucial thing that we need to find out is how far the writer's psychology involvement is and how good is the ability of the writer to show the fictional characters that involve in psychology problems is. The creation of psychological process emerges from the thought of the writer when he/she is in subconscious then it is made in a literature work when the writer is in his/her conscious condition. The readers or the audience that enjoy the work of literature are carried away with the characters and their psychological problems that are displayed in the story. They put themselves as if they are really inside the story. (Endraswara, 2003:96).

Psychology can be divided into two big areas called experimental psychology and social psychology.

1. Experimental psychology uses classic, laboratory-based, scientific methods to study human behavior: it uses similar techniques to physics, chemistry, or biology, often carried out in a lab, except that instead of studying light rays, chemical reactions, or beetles, the experiments involve ourselves and other people.
2. Social psychology tends to study how people behave in real-world situations—for example, how people react to advertisements, why they commit crimes, and how we can work more efficiently in offices and factories. Social psychology doesn't always involve experiments; it might be based on questionnaires or observations instead.

This research focuses on the experimental psychology in particular the human actions and behavior. Makeig and colleagues (2009) emphasized that the most pivotal challenge lies in the systematic observation and interpretation of how distributed brain processes support our natural, active, and flexibly changing behavior and cognition.

We all are active agents, continuously engaged in attempting to fulfill bodily needs and mental desires within complex and ever-changing surroundings,

while interacting with our environment. Brain structures have evolved that support cognitive processes targeted towards the optimization of outcomes for any of our body-based behaviors. In scientific research, human behavior is a complex interplay of three components: actions, cognitions and emotions. An action denotes everything that can be observed, either with bare eyes or measured by physiological sensors. Think of an action as an initiation or transition from one state to another – at a movie set, the director shouts —action! for the next scene to be filmed.

Behavioral actions can take place on various time scales, ranging from muscular activation to sweat gland activity, food consumption, or sleep. Cognitions describe thoughts and mental images you carry with you, and they can be both verbal and nonverbal. —I have to remember to buy groceries, or —I’d be curious to know what she thinks of me, can be considered verbal cognitions. In contrast, imagining how your house will look like after remodeling could be considered a nonverbal cognition.

Cognitions comprise skills and knowledge – knowing how to use tools in a meaningful manner (without hurting yourself), sing karaoke songs or being able to memorize the color of Marty McFly’s jacket in —Back to the Future (it’s red). Commonly, an emotion is any relatively brief conscious experience characterized by intense mental activity, and a feeling that is not characterized as resulting from either reasoning or knowledge. This usually exists on a scale, from positive (pleasurable) to negative (unpleasant).

Other aspects of physiology that are indicative of emotional processing – such as increased heart rate or respiration rate caused by increased arousal – are usually hidden to the eye. Similar to cognitions, emotions cannot be observed directly. They can only be inferred indirectly by tracking facial electromyographic activity (FEMG), analyzing facial expressions, monitoring arousal using ECG, galvanic skin response (GSR), respiration sensors, or self-reported measures, for example.

Actions, cognitions and emotions do not run independently of each other – their proper interaction enables you to perceive the world around you, listen to your inner wishes and respond appropriately to people in your surroundings.

### **2.3.2. Adolescence**

Adolescence is the transition development phase between school age and young adult period which covers the changing of biology, cognitive and social emotional. The adolescence starts at the age of 10 – 13 and ends at the age of 18-22. (Santrock, 1996:26)

The aspect of biology changing (physical changing) causes the adolescents put more attention on how they look and at the same time try to build their own image about their own body. They would often look at themselves in the mirror for many hours to check their physical appearance. There are times when they feel unsatisfied of their own bodies. (Hamburg, 1974; Wright, 1989). Sometimes they wish to have different body and start to compare with others.

The escalation of making their own decision about their future, the friends they want to make with, the person they are going to date with, the want to continue their studies with their own choice of universities, the readiness to have sexual intercourse, the need to learn how to drive cars and many more arise in this phase too. Adding what has been mentioned before, American Psychological Association (2002:11) states that the changes in how adolescents think, reason, and understand can be even more dramatic than their obvious physical changes. They are now able to analyze situations logically in term of cause and effect and to entertain hypothetical situations and use symbols, such as in metaphors, imaginatively (Piaget, 1950). This higher-level thinking allows them to think about the future, evaluate alternatives, and set personal goals (Keating, 1990). Despite their rapidly developing capacity for higher-level thinking, most adolescents still need guidance from adults to develop their potential for rational decision making. Stereotypes to the contrary, adolescents prefer to confer with their parents or other trusted adults in making important decisions about such things as attending college, finding a job, or handling finances (Eccles, Midgley, Wigfield et al., 1993).

### **2.3.3. Erik Erikson's Theory of Identity versus Identity Confusion**

Self identity is an image of adolescent about who she/he is. The rational basic of self identity means understand about who she/he is. The questions like:

—Who am I?!, —What is inside of me?!, —What am I going to do with my life?!, —How am I going to do it?! do appear in the life of adolescent. It is a must for adolescents to answer those questions in order for them to find their identity. Erikson (1950). Identity is something that must be searched for. It does not appear as a maturational phenomenon when the time comes nor a readily given to the individual by society. It is something that adolescents must obtain with sustained individual effort. If they do not want to be in alienation and a sense of isolations and confusions as the result from the danger of role diffusion they should be willing to work actively on their identity's formation.

The searching for identity cannot be separated from the involvement of the establishment of a meaningful self-concept in which past, present, and future as they are brought together to form a unified whole. Identity also is based on psychosocial reciprocity. Therefore, adolescents —are sometimes morbidly, often curiously, preoccupied with what they appear to be in the eyes of others as compared with what they feel they are and with the question of how to connect to earlier cultivated roles and skills with the ideal prototype of the day (Erikson, 1959:89).

According to Erikson, the process of searching for identity includes the following things:

3. Experimentation of personality and role

Dealing with many options or choices are the common things that happen to adolescents and at one point they will enter a period that is known as *psychological moratorium*. Before they achieve a stable self thought during the phase of psychological moratorium, they try different roles and different personalities as well. They can like their friends within a week, and hate them in the following week. They can be argumentative at some points and can be cooperative as well. (Santrock, 1996:342)

4. Need for peer group recognition

Identity can be found in the interaction with significant others. Erikson refers that this is a process of psychosocial reciprocity which means the adolescents often go through times of a great need for peer group recognition and almost compulsive peer group involvement. Being in a peer of group, the clique,

the gang, even lover means the adolescents will have a role model and personal social feedback as well which become the aid in the searching for a personal identity.

It is important as it will help them to know their certain roles that fit them, however, becoming member of a group also can make them become dependent since perhaps some of them accept the values of others too easily without really addressing the identity issue of how well they do fit him or her.

5. Go through the pubescence

According to Erikson, it is signed by the rapidity of body growth, genital maturity, and sexual awareness. At this period, adolescents must establish ego-identity and learn to accept body changes as well as new libidinal feelings.

Along with this period, genital maturation stimulates sexual fantasies and intimacy with the opposite sex appears.

6. Go through some social and behavioral problems

During this phase the adolescents will encounter some social problems such as substance abuse, acting out behavior, suicide or suicide attempts, eating disorders, teenage pregnancy, dropping out of school, etc.

Those who fail in dealing with it will face identity confusion. Strong doubt on one's sexual identity, doubt their occupational skills and are unable to resolve core psychological tasks, delinquent, outright psychotic incidents, and self-destructive one-sided preoccupation or activity are common things happen to the adolescents that face identity confusion.

For those who succeed in dealing with conflicting identities will gain new thoughts and can accept their identity. Erikson stated that adolescents that successfully find their identity will find the answer for the questions: —Who am I?, —Where am I going? and —Who am I to become? They also can assess strengths and weakness and determine how they want to deal with them. They can free themselves from dependency on peers or their parents in making decision. (Erikson, 1959:118). They are able to develop a commitment to a system of values, religious beliefs, vocational goals, a philosophy of life, personal relationship with other people and accept their sexuality.

## CHAPTER 3

### THE INTRINSIC APPROACHES OF “LADY BIRD” MOVIE

This chapter contains the analysis of the intrinsic elements in the —Lady Bird—movie. Characters, characterization, plot, and setting will be discussed further in this chapter.

#### 3.1. Analysis of Characterization

This section uses four methods of characterization: particular patterns of action, the way a character speaks, the way a character responds and what others say about a character.

##### 3.1.1 Christine

###### 1. Careless

*Careless of something means not at all worried about something.* (Hornby, 2010:1227). Christine is a careless girl. There are times she does not care about her surrounding or the consequences that may follow for the things she does.

- Particular pattern of action

Particular pattern of action in the scene when Christine and her mother are in the car on the way back home from their college trip is the proof that Christine is careless. When they have a serious conversation about Christine's life, Christine expresses what is inside her mind about the ideal life she dreams about. Christine wants to leave Sacramento and go to school in other cities like New York where the culture is or Connecticut or Hampshire where the writers live in the woods. Christine's mother becomes upset hearing what Christine's wish and dream. She thinks that Christine will not have that kind of life because her parents could not afford the tuition and Christine has bad ethic of work. Not to mention she is a selfish girl who does not think of other people except herself. This makes her not know her family financial condition. Her mother mocks her that she would not know that thing because Christine has been busy thinking only about herself.

Her mother is also being discouraged towards her by saying that Christine is not even worth state tuition because the way she works. She is also being cynical towards Christine by telling her to just go to City College and then to jail and then back to City College and maybe she will learn how to be an

independent girl. Without thinking about her safety and her mother's response, Christine just jumps out of the moving car.

Christine is a careless girl also shown in the time when Christine's mother refuses to buy her a magazine that she really wants to read at her bed. She insists that she should have the magazine. Then she finds out how to get it. She tucks the magazine underneath her sweater into the top of her skirt. She is being careless by doing it because she is not worried at all for there is possibility that she could get caught for doing it.

Another scene is when she sneaks out of her bedroom and goes to homecoming dance at her school. She is careless for possibility that her parents find out that she is not at home.

Christine is not good at Math, something that she does not understand because even her brother Miguel is really good at it. The last score she gets in this subject is so disappointing. She thinks of the way how to get good score in the subject. One day when she walks pass the math classroom she sees that it is empty and Mr. Bruno her math teacher is not there. She thinks that this is the right time for her to do something about it. She snatches Mr. Bruno's grade binder on the desk and dumps it into one of the big trash at school and hurries away.

## 2. Defensive

*Defensive: protecting somebody/something against attack or behaving in a way that shows that you feel that people are criticizing you.(Ibid., p.383).* Defensive is another characterization of Christine. Christine often feels being attacked by people around her through what they say about her or about her mother.

- The way a character speaks

There are many times that Christine is being defensive. The first scene shows that she is defensive is when she is with her mother inside the car on their way heading back home from college trip. They are in the middle of arguing situation. Christine defends herself by telling her mother the reason she cannot pass her driver's test. It is because her mother does not allow her to do it.

Marion : You couldn't get into those schools anyway.  
Christine : Mom!



Marion : You can't even pass your driver's test.  
Christine : Because you wouldn't let me practice enough!

The second one is when Christine and her family are having breakfast. Christine does not like her eggs that her mother makes for her because they are not done and there is white stuff. Then her mother asks her to make her own eggs. Christine defends herself by telling her mother that she does not allow her to do it.

Christine : Mom, the eggs are not done!  
Marion : Fine! Make your own fucking eggs.  
Christine : I wanted to. You won't let me!

Christine also defends her mom in front of Danny. Even though Christine often has quarrel with her mother, she does not let anyone say bad things about her mother. The first time is when Christine and Danny are lying on a blanket in the park looking at the stars. She pours her feeling about how her mother is always mad at her whether she gets home late or not. Danny says that Christine's mother is hard on her but Christine directly says that even though her mother is always mad at her but she knows that her mother loves her and she has a big heart and she is very warm too.

Danny : Your Mom is hard on you.  
Christine : Yeah, but she loves me a lot.  
Danny : Your mom is crazy. I'm scared.  
Christine : She's not crazy, she's just, you know, she has a big heart.  
She's very warm.

### 3. Dishonest

*Dishonest means not honest; intending to trick people. (Ibid.,p.419).*

There are times that Christine being dishonest with people she knows because she wants to get what she desires. She is being dishonest for several times.

- The way a character speaks.

From the way Christine speaks to Kyle in Helvetia Coffee shop while he is reading proves that Christine is dishonest. Aiming to get to know Kyle more because she likes his charming performance, she says that she is Jenna's friend and creates a story that Jenna likes to talk about him. The truth is Christine does not make friend with Jenna and never talks about how great Kyle's band is.

Christine :I'm friends with Jenna and she's always talking about how

great your band is so I wanted to check it out.

The second time is when she tells Jenna where she lives. She does not want Jenna know where she lives, so she lies about her address. She wants to be in Jenna's peer where the cool kids gather, so she mentions the address where Danny's grandma lives. She hopes by doing it Jenna will think that Christine comes from a rich family.

Jenna : Wait, where do you live?  
Christine : The 40s.  
Jenna : That's where our starter house was! Which street?  
Christine : Um, 44th it's, it's the three story blue one with the white shutters and the American flag in the front.

The third, she lies about her Math score. Being sure that she has thrown Mr. Bruno's grade book, she is lying about her score. Her real score is C+ but she tells Mr. Bruno that she gets B.

Christine : Hey, I think B.  
Mr. Bruno : I thought it was more like B-maybe even C+ territory.  
Christine : No, because I did really well on the last quiz...  
Mr. Bruno : I seem to remember you doing only slightly better.  
Christine : It brought my average up to a B.

- What others say about a character

Christine's being dishonest is not only shown in the way she speaks, but also from what others say about her. Jenna tells Christine that she is a liar for not telling the truth about where she lives. Jenna is disappointed after knowing that Christine has lied to her.

Jenna : I don't even sort of understand why somebody would lie about that.  
Christine: I didn't lie.  
Jenna : You lied, you're a liar. I hate dishonesty.  
Christine: I'm sorry.

#### 4. Rude

*Rude means having or showing a lack of respect for other people and their feelings; connected with sex or the body in a way that people find offensive or embarrassing. (Ibid., p.1293).*

- The way a character speaks

A scene that shows that she is rude in the way she speaks is when she attends a special assembly at her school and she gives rude comment to the speaker. Jenna is sitting beside her. She wants to make a good impression on Jenna. She wants to look cool in front of her.

Christine : I'm just saying that if you took up close pictures of my vagina while I was on my period it would be disturbing but it doesn't make it wrong.  
 Casey : Excuse me?  
 Christine : Listen, if your mother had had the abortion, we wouldn't have to sit through this stupid assembly.

## 5. Selfish

*Selfish means caring only about yourself rather than about other people.* (*Ibid.*, p.1340). Christine feels that she is important and not so with people around her.

- What others say about a character

Her mother says that Christine is a selfish person. All that she only thinks of is herself and not others. Her mother knows that Christine does not know that her father's office is laying people off and it could be her daddy.

Marion : Your father's company is laying people off right and left. Did you even know that? No of course you don't because... you don't think about anybody but yourself.

## 6. Confident

*Confident means feeling sure about your own ability to do things and be successful.* (*Ibid.*, p.303). Although Christine has many negative sides on her, there are still good things from her. One of them is her confidence.

- Particular patterns of action

During the audition of drama class in her school she performs more confidently other than the other girl contestants. She makes some moves while singing her song. She even wears a costume while others only wear their uniform. She does not feel reluctant at all to correct Father Leviatch when he does not mention —Lady Bird on her name. With pride in responding the question from

Father Leviatch why it is in quotes, she answers that the name is given to her and by herself.

Christine introduces herself first to the boys she likes Danny and Kyle and to the college boy she meets in New York, David. She shakes hands. Not most girls do this. The first dialogue is when she comes to Danny and introduces herself by giving her hand first.

Christine: Hey!  
Danny : Hi.  
Christine: Come here often?  
Danny : Excuse me?  
Christine: I'm Lady Bird, we're gonna be in the musical together.  
Danny : Oh, yes, I remember you! You were wearing that dress.  
Christine: I just wanted to say what's up and I'll see you in rehearsal.  
Danny : Thanks, I am super excited.

The second one is when she comes to Kyle first and introduces herself with the same way she does to Danny. Kyle finds it weird and mentions it to Christine. Christine does not seem shy or feels uncomfortable about it. She answers with —yeah! instead.

Christine : Hey! I like your band with Jonah.Ruiz, L'enfanceNue?  
Kyle : L'enfanceNue.  
Christine : Well, I saw your Thanksgiving show. My name's Lady Bird.  
Kyle : It's weird you shake hands.

The third one is when she comes to David (a college boy in New York) first and introduces herself the same way she does to Danny and Kyle.

David : What's your name?  
Christine : Christine. My name is Christine.  
David : I'm David. You shake.  
Christine : I shake.  
David : Okay.

## 7. Dreamy

*Dreamy means having a lot of imagination, but not very realistic. (Ibid., p.446).* Just like other adolescents in general, Christine likes to dream. Even she dreams so high that her mother finds it impossible for her to reach it.

- The way a character responds

When she walks with Julie through the fancy neighborhood and they stop

in front of a dream house, she reveals her dream about being at the house.

Julie : I am in love with this neighborhood.  
Christine : Yes, it is so beautiful.  
Julie : If I lived here I would definitely have my wedding in the backyard.  
Christine : I'd have friends over all the time to study and eat snacks. I'd be like mom we're taking the Snacks upstairs to the TV room.

Christine also dreams to get married with Danny and inherit the house.

Christine : If Danny and I get married and then his Grandma died, I'd inherit the Dream House.  
Julie : Wouldn't his parent's get it?  
Christine : Oh yeah, we'd have to kill them. And we'd have to kill his older brothers, too.

Christine has a dream to get out of her hometown and go somewhere else to continue her study.

Christine : I don't even want to go to school on this state anyway. I hate California. I want to go to the East Coast.  
Christine : I want to go where the culture is, like New York. Or at least Connecticut or New Hampshire. Where writers live in the woods.

#### 8. Persistent

*Persistent means determined to do something despite difficulties, especially when other people are against you and think that you are being annoying or unreasonable. (Ibid., p.1092).* Another positive side from Christine is that she is being persistent.

- The way a character responds

Christine shows her persistence when her mother and her friend, Julie seem doubtful that she could enter one of the colleges in New York. She thinks that there are ways to get what she wants and she is pretty sure that she is going to make it. Getting loans and scholarships for her college tuition are the ways to help her. So when people around her seem doubtful about it, she keeps being persistent and proves them wrong. The first dialogue shows that she is a persistent girl is when she tells her mother that there are loans and scholarship to cover the tuition.

Marion: Your Dad and I ill barely be able to afford in-state tuition.

Christine : There are loans, scholarships!

The second one is when Julie, her best friend is also doubtful of Christine's dream.

Julie : Your parents would pay for that?

Christine : Scholarships, financial aid. I'll figure it out.

- Particular of action

Her determination is proved when she applies for a summer job to cover her financial aid applications. She works in New Helvetia Coffee Shop. She does not only talk but she proves it that she has a big persistence to make her dream come true.

Larry : Do you need money for the applications? Because I can help with that, too, I just need...

Christine : No, no, I've got that, summer jobs covered it.

### 3.1.2. Julie

#### 1. Caring

*Caring means kind, helpful and showing that you care about other people.*(Ibid, p.213).Julie is a caring girl. The way Julie speaks is a proof that she is a caring girl.

It is shown in the classroom when Julie and some of other girls including Jenna and Christine are there. They are listening to Jenna's story about her first experience of having intercourse. Sarah Joan the Vice Principal of the school comes to the class and reminds Jenna for the short skirt she is wearing. Jenna feels upset. Christine sees it as a chance to make good impression in front of Jenna. She follows Jenna mocking Sarah Joan and she even tells Jenna that she has idea how to get revenge with Sarah Joan. Julie reminds Christine that Christine likes Sarah Joan and she is not supposed to say that. Julie also reminds Christine that they are going to have auditions when Christine mentions that she is going to do something with Sarah Joan in the afternoon.

- The way a character speaks

Jenna : Sarah-Joan is all up in my jock.

Christine : She's a cunt.

Julie : Birdy you like her.

Christine : Yeah, but, she's a cunt. I have an idea of how to get Sarah Joan back.  
 Jenna : How?  
 Christine : You will see. This afternoon?  
 Julie : No, we have auditions this afternoon.

- Particular pattern of action

When Christine is very sad when she finds out that Danny is a gay, Julie stays beside her, and accompanies her through Christine's difficult time. They both cry. Julie cares for her friend. She shows her empathy.

## 2. Jealous

*Jealous means feeling angry or unhappy because somebody you like or love is showing interest in somebody else.*(Ibid, p.802).Julie sees Christine is getting along well with Jenna. She feels that Christine is not who she is anymore because she makes friend with Jenna. They do not spend time together anymore. Since then Julie makes friend with Darlene the one who reminds them about the communion wafer when Christine and Julie share their sexual fantasy in Vestment room at school. Christine feels that she starts losing Julie as her friend. She finds out that Julie does not join the Algebra II class anymore. She misses Julie. Christine sees Julie one day and asks her the reason she is not in Algebra II class anymore. Julie does not respond nicely towards her. She expresses her jealousy with the words she says. Christine realizes that Julie is being jealous.

- What others say about a character

Christine says that Julie is jealous of her making friend with Jenna.

Lady Bird : Why aren't you in Algebra II?  
 Julie : I switched sections.  
 Lady Bird : Why?  
 Julie : Are not Jenna and Kyle enough?  
 Lady Bird : I'm sorry that you're jealous.  
 Julie : HA! Jenna is a moron, you know.

- Through a pattern of action

Julie looks at Jenna jealously and she looks at Christine too when they get blessing at church.

### 3.1.3. Danny

#### 1. Friendly

*Friendly means showing kindness; making you feel relaxed and as though you are among friends. Another meaning can be treating somebody as a friend. (Ibid., p.600).*

- Particular patterns of action

Danny is really a friendly boy. He shows his friendliness when Christine comes to him to introduce herself. His expression also shows that she is a friendly person. She smiles a lot.

Christine : Hey!  
Danny : Hi  
Christine : I'm Lady Bird, we're gonna be in the musical together.  
Danny : Oh, yes, I remember you! You were wearing that dress.

Another scene that shows Danny is friendly is when he picks up Christine for Thanksgiving at his grandma's house. He meets Christine's parents and makes warm conversation with them as well. He even says thank you to Marion for letting Christine go with him. He says —hi! back to Shelley when she mentions her name.

Marion : Hello, Danny! The famous Danny! Aren't you adorable!  
Larry, is not he adorable?  
Larry : He's adorable. And you're driving her and everything,  
Wow!  
Danny : Yeah, well. Thank you for letting Lady Bird come to...my  
Grandmother's Thanksgiving, Mrs. McPherson.

Shelly : Shelly  
Danny : What?  
Shelly : Is my name.  
Danny : Oh hi.  
Shelly : Hi.

#### 2. Confident

*Confident means feeling sure about your own ability to do things and be successful. (Ibid., p.303.)* Danny is also a confident boy. He shows it when he joins the audition for drama performance at the school.



- Particular patterns of action

When he does the audition, he sings so confidently. His expression, gesture, clear and loud voice and the way he sings are so obvious showing that he is very confident.

Denny :—There are giants in the sky! There are big, tall, terrible giants in the sky! When you're way up high and you look below at the world you've left and the things you know that more than a glance is enough to show you just how small you are!!

He also shows his confidence in every drama performance he has with his friends. When he picks up Christine at her house, he confidently meets Christine's parents and talk to them.

#### 3.1.4. Kyle

##### 1. Bookish

*Bookworm means interested in reading. (Ibid., p.157).* Kyle is seen several times reading books.

- Particular patterns of action

The first, he is seen reading book is when he is in Helvetia coffee shop. He is sitting outside the coffee shop reading a book titled —The People's History of the United States, then Christine comes and introduces herself.

The second one is when he is in —The Deuce parking lot. While his friends are talking to one another, Kyle sits on the top of his car reading another book. It is a theoretical math book. Kyle is just reading the book when Jenna and Christine come.

The third one is when he is in Jenna's mansion. He is spotted outside the mansion, sitting beside the swimming pool, reading a book and smoking.

The fourth one is when he is in his bed and he has just finished having intercourse with Christine.

##### 2. Dishonest

Kyle's being dishonest is proved in the scene when he and Christine kiss and touch in sexual way for the first time in Jenna's bed room. Christine really

wants to have intercourse with Kyle, but then Christine tries to hold it as she is not ready yet. She also mentions that she has never had intercourse with anyone before. Kyle says same thing. He says that he has never had intercourse with anyone too.

- The way a character speaks

Christine : I don't want to have sex yet. I haven't had sex yet. With another person.  
Kyle : No, me neither.  
Christine : Really?  
Kyle : Yes.

Kyle is caught being dishonest by Christine when they are in Kyle's room. They are in his bed when Christine says that she is ready to have intercourse. Then they do it but it is only in short time. Then Christine finds out that she is not the first girl who has intercourse with him. And she knows it from Kyle. He mentions that he does not lose his virginity to Christine, but to someone named Cassie. He is not even sure for how many girls he had slept with.

Christine : How we're not virgins now! We deflowered each other. We have each other's flowers. Sorry, I'm just happy.  
Kyle : I didn't lose my virginity to you.  
Christine : Wait. What?  
Kyle : I lost my virginity to Cassie Duval.  
Christine : Excuse me? You said you were a virgin.  
Kyle : No I didn't. Because I'm not. And I haven't lied in two years.

### 3.1.5. Jenna

#### 1. Pretty & luminous

*Pretty (especially of a woman, or a girl) attractive without being very beautiful. Luminous means shining in the dark. (Ibid., p.1160).* Jenna is being famous for her pretty face and her luminous skin. She is known as a girl that comes from rich family. Christine and Julie see Jenna drive her new car to school. They both admire her beauty and her skin. They even think of tanning so they can look like Jenna.

- Others say about a character

Christine : She is so pretty.  
Julie : Her skin is luminous.

## 2. Misbehaved

*Misbehaved means to behave badly. (Ibid., p.944).* There is time when Jenna shows that she misbehaves at school.

- Particular pattern of action

It is shown when she is sharing her first experience having intercourse with Christine, Julie, and other students in the classroom. Sarah Joan enters the class and sees Jenna's short skirt. Jenna stands with her hands akimbo while Sarah Joan saying —I'm going to write you a citation, Miss Walton.!

Marion is Christine's mother. She is a caring mother who loves her family. She works at a psych hospital in Sacramento. To support her family financial, she works a double shift. The characterization of Marion is as following detail.

### 1. Neat

*Neat means (of people) liking to keep things tidy and in order; looking tidy or doing things in a tidy way.(Ibid., p.985).* It is displayed by her action and also by the way she speaks

- Particular patterns of action

The first scene is when she is in the motel room with Christine. She makes the hospital corner on the bed. Christine thinks that it is unnecessary because somebody will do that, but Marion keeps doing it because for her it is nice to make everything neat and clean.

Christine : You don't have to do that.

Marion : Well it's nice to make things neat and clean.

She also wants Christine to do the same like the way she does, being neat and clean. She really dislikes mess and dirt around her. That is why she is so angry when she sees Christine's room is very messy with her clothes all over it. She reminds Christine that clothes represent the people who wear it, so she has to treat it well.

Marion : Don't lie to me! This uniform, this gonna look like trash on Monday! This isn't right. We can't treat our clothes like this. I don't know what your wealthy friends do...

## 2. Caring

She is such a caring mother and wife. She supports her family finances by taking double shift at work; something that she has to do because her husband faces the hard time at his work. His company is laying off people, so she prepares to deal with it. She takes double shift. It is shown in the time when she has finished her night shift and she says goodbye to her co-worker Luis.

- Particular patterns of action

Marion : I'll see you tomorrow...Or I mean, later?

She cares for her family. She wants to make them happy. Even though she and her husband in a tight financial but she thinks that it is okay to buy them small gift on Christmas. Everyone seems happy. Marion is happy to see them laugh. She apologizes for giving a little small gift.

Marion : They're really nice socks. They're expensive, actually. They wick moisture away from your feet.

Shelley : My feet always have moisture.

Christine : Mom, I love them.

Marion : I'm sorry it's Small Christmas. We wanted to, it's just a little small this year.

- The way a character speaks

Despite her explicit respond towards Christine, Marion does care about her. She does not want bad thing happen to Christine. She wants Christine to be careful with her sex life. It happens when Christine asks Marion about the right time to have intercourse. Marion encourages her to use protection if Christine has intercourse. This shows that Marion cares about her daughter.

Christine : When do you think is a normal time to have sex?

Marion : You're having sex?

Christine : No!

Marion : Uh, college is good, I think college. And use protection like we talked about.

Christine : Okay.

- What others say about a character.

Shelley, Miguel's girlfriend also sees that Marion is a caring woman. She mentions once that Marion is a big hearted and caring woman. When Christine

chooses to be with her boyfriend and friends on Thanksgiving, Shelley tells Christine about Marion's feeling.

Marion : Your Mom was really sad you weren't here tonight for Thanksgiving  
Christine : Yeah, well. She hates me.  
Shelly : She has a big heart, your Mom. She took me in after...my parents freaked out about, whatever... Premarital sex. I admire her.

### 3. Straight forward

*Straight forward means (of a person or their behavior) honest and open; not trying to trick somebody or hide something.(Ibid., p.1473).* It is so obvious that Marion is a kind of that person. She always says directly about everything.

- The way a character speaks

Marion always gets things straight. She lets Christine know the situation of her husband. She does not hide the truth from her daughter.

Marion : Your father's company is laying people off right and left. Did you even know that? No of course you don't because... you don't think about anybody but yourself.

There is also a scene when Marion reminds Christine that they are not reach people. She says it straight forward so Christine will stop thinking that she is a rich girl who can buy everything she wants.

Christine : I'm having a hard week  
Marion : If you want to read it, we can go down to the public library.  
Christine : I want to read it in bed.  
Marion: That's something that rich people do. We are not rich people.

Another scene is shown when they have a celebration for Christine's graduation. In the middle of conversation, Marion mentions something that she does not care whether it is going to make Christine offensive or not. She just says it because she wants to say what she truly sees that Christine is being weird when she walks across the stage when her name is being called.

Marion : I'm so proud of you, Lady Bird. You walked weird across the stage, but you did it.  
Christine : I didn't walk weird!  
Marion : It seemed a little weird, the way you walked.

#### 4. Anxious

*Anxious means feeling worried or nervous (Ibid., p.54).* Marion is an anxious woman. Her anxiety is getting high when she finds out that her husband could get fired from his office. She tries to limit the life expenses. She does not want to buy Christine the magazine she wants even though it costs only three dollars.

- The way a character responds

Christine : Mom...  
Marion : We don't need to buy that.  
Christine : It's only three dollars.  
Marion : I'm having a hard week.  
Christine : If you want to read it, we can go down to the public library.

She even uses Miguel's employee card to get some discount whenever she shops at that store. Once when she goes shopping, she is a bit shocked when the price she has to pay is higher than she thinks. Marion gives a worried response on her face when she sees the grocery bill at the supermarket.

Marion : This is with your employee discount?  
Miguel : Yeah, it's already included.  
Marion : Oh my God! Okay.

Marion's being anxious is also shown in the scene when she talks about the family financial condition to her husband, Larry. She mentions that Larry should know how long the financial problem last because she is worried if anyone gets sick and they do not have money to pay the bill.

Marion : Larry how long will this hold us?  
Larry : I don't know.  
Marion : Well, somebody's gotta know. Can the whole family go on Cobra, even Miguel? What happens if someone gets in an accident?  
Larry : Ah the severance package I think it expires all at once, not within the calendar year...

### 3.1. Analysis of Plot

Another important element in intrinsic approach is the analysis of plot.

By knowing the plot we know what the writer wants to tell inside the story. The following explanation is the analyses of the plot of —Lady Bird movie.

### 3.2.1. Exposition

The first thing shown in Lady Bird the movie is an epigraph by Joan Didion —Anybody who talks about California hedonism has never spent a Christmas in Sacramento. From the epigraph we notice that Sacramento and California are mentioned. The first dialogue between the players makes clear about the connection between the city that is mentioned in the epigraph and the story. It reveals where the story takes place. It is in Sacramento, California.

Christine : Do you think I look like I'm from Sacramento?  
Marion : You are from Sacramento.

The scene when two women sleep together in a bed is the introduction of the players. We do not know who they are yet until we see the car scene. The following dialogue in the car reveals who they are. Other characters are also introduced in the conversation.

Marion : Your brother, your very smart brother, he can't even find a job.  
Christine : He and Shelley work. They have jobs.  
Marion : They bag at the grocery store. That is not a career and they Went to Berkeley. Your father's company is laying people off right and left.  
.....  
Christine : Mom!  
Marion : The way that you work, or the way that you don't work, you're not even worth state tuition, Christine.

The characters that are introduced in the beginning scenes are: mother (Marion), father, Christine, Christine's brother (Miguel) and Shelley. The latter we will know that she is Miguel's girl friend. We will see this in the grocery scene.

Another important background about the movie is displayed in the scene when they are sitting in the bed

Marion : You ready to go home?  
Christine : Ready.

It shows that they are not at home. They are in the motel room somewhere in Sacramento. The following line (in the car scene) from Christine tells what they have just done. They just have had the college trip.

Christine : Our college trip took 21 hours and 5 minutes.

### 3.2.2. Complication

In the car scene the two players are listening to the last sentences of audiobook of *The Grapes of Wrath*. *“Her hand moved behind his head and supported it. Her fingers moved gently in his hair. She looked up and across the barn. And her lips came together. And smiled mysteriously. You have been listening to The Grapes of Wrath by John Steinbeck”.*

After hearing —*The Grapes of Wrath* audiobook they both have same emotion. They laugh and they wipe their tears. This moment does not stay long as the intense of the conversation arise. This is when the complication begins. In this scene there is part when Christine and her mother have argumentation about the school that Christine wants to go in, but her mother does not agree because she and her husband cannot afford the tuition. Christine also shows her dislike of the Catholic high school she is in now that her mother picks for her. The discouraging statements from Marion to Christine make her rolls out of the car when the car is moving on the road.

Christine finds her life is not exciting if she is still in California. She wants to have different life from others. She wants to go where culture is like to New York, or the city where writers live in the wood which is in New Hampshire or Connecticut. She wants to go to schools in East Cost. Her mother does not like what Christine says. It is such a high dream for Marion but Christine defends that she can find the ways to figure it out. Christine’s mother underestimates her for not being able to drive a car but she wants to reach a high dream. Christine defends herself and tells that it is because her mother does not let her practice. Christine feels that she has right to choose what is the best for her life. She is not happy by the way her mother chooses her current school. She even says bad word over this matter. Her mother thinks that she has given what is the best for her in her life and she wants Christine to consider it instead of being ungrateful. They



also argue about a name that given by Christine —Lady Bird. It is such a ridiculous thing for her mother when she insists her to call her \_Lady Bird.

Christine : I wish I could live through something  
Marion : Aren't you ?  
Christine : The only exciting thing about 2002 is that it's a  
palindrome.  
Marion : Okay fine, yours is the worst life of all, you win  
Christine : Oh so now you're mad? Because I wanted to listen to  
music  
Marion : It's just that you're being ridiculous, because you have a  
great life  
Christine : I'm sorry I'm not perfect  
Marion : No one is asking you to be perfect. Just considerate  
Would do  
Christine : I don't even want to go to school on this state anyway. I  
hate California. I want to go to the East Coast.  
Marion : Your Dad and I will barely be able to afford in-state  
tuition.  
.....  
Marion :..... An Immaculate Heart is already a luxury.  
Christine : Immaculate FART. You wanted that, not me!

Marion : How in the world did I raise such a snob?  
Christine : Or at least Connecticut or New Hampshire. Where writers live  
in the woods.  
Marion : You couldn't get into those schools anyway.  
Christine : Mom!  
Marion : You can't even pass your driver's test.  
Christine : Because you wouldn't let me practice enough!  
Marion : The way that you work, or the way that you don't work, you're not  
even worth state tuition, Christine.  
Christine : My name is "Lady Bird".  
Marion : Well actually, it's not, and it's ridiculous.  
Christine : Call me Lady Bird, like you said you would!  
Marion : You should just go to City College. You know, with your work  
ethic, just go to the city college, and then to jail and  
then back to City College, and then maybe you'd learn  
how to pull yourself up and not expect everybody to  
do everything for you.

That is not the only conflict that Christine and her mother have because there are more of them shown in the movie. The second argument happens between them is when they have breakfast. Marion does not want Christine to make her own eggs, but Christine does not like the eggs her mom makes for her.

They argue, even Marion as a mother says bad language to her daughter.

Christine : Why can't I just make the eggs?  
Marion : Because you take too long and make a big mess and  
then I have to clean the whole thing up.  
Christine: They aren't done, there's white stuff. Mom, the eggs  
are not done!  
Marion : Fine! Make your own fucking eggs.  
Christine : I wanted to. You won't let me!

It does not stop there, as the conflicts continue to happen. The family faces the financial trouble when Larry, Christine's father is laid off his job. When Marion and Larry have a discussion about it, Christine comes home. Marion is upset because Christine sneaks around her bedroom and finds out the room is messy with clothes are all over it.

Marion : Christine! You can't leave your room like this!  
Christine : I didn't.  
Marion : None of these things were put away right. They aren't  
nice, Christine! Now!  
Christine : My name is Lady Bird.  
Marion : Don't lie to me! This uniform, this gonna look like  
trash on Monday! This isn't right. We can't treat our  
clothes like this. I don't know what your wealthy  
friends do.  
Christine : Why do you care what I do to my clothes?  
Marion : Your father does not have a job. He lost his job. Do you  
need him to come in here and explain that to you? Of  
course he probably wouldn't anyway, he's Mr. Nice  
Guy. And I always have to be the Bad Guy.  
Christine : Can we please talk about this tomorrow?  
Marion : You can't look like a rag because that makes us look  
like rags. And you want to know the truth? Here is the  
truth: some of your friends' fathers could employ  
your father and they are not gonna do it if it looks like  
his family is trash. You understand?

Christine and her mother also argue when they are in Thrift Town. It is a store where they want to buy a dress for Christine. She is invited to Danny's grandma's house for Thanksgiving. While they are looking through the dress there is a tense situation between them. Marion assumes that Christine is tired because she sees Christine dragging her feet. Christine gives no answer twice to her mother but her mother keeps assuming that she is tired. Christine is upset of it. It

is shown from the face and the way she talks to her mother. Christine tells her mother that she is being passive aggressive and infuriating, but then her mother holds a pink dress that Christine likes. They agree on one thing.

The last complication that Christine has with her mother before the crisis is when Christine is suspended from school for insulting the speaker of the assembly by saying very rude lines to her. Her mother is very angry at her. She reveals that she and her husband know all things that Christine is ashamed of. She feels very upset because she and her husband have tried everything for Christine but it seems not enough for her. She also lets Christine know that she does not like to spend most of her time at the hospital while she is doing double shift. She wants Christine to know the reason why she chooses her current school so that she is safe from people that could harm her because her brother ever sees someone knifed in front of him at the public school. She is also very disappointed that Christine feels ashamed if her father drops her in front of her school. The scene ends when Christine's mother says something discouraging towards her when Christine tells that she is going to pay all cost that her mother has spent to raise her. The response that Christine's mother gives to her is very straight forward and makes her furious. What makes it more intense is when Christine's mother brings up the thing about the cost that Christine has thrown away then Christine asks the number so she can pay her back. Christine's mother highly doubts that Christine is going to be able to find a job to pay her back. The next thing happens is Christine shows her acting out behavior.

Marion : Suspended! How does this happen? Everything we do is for you. Everything. You think I like driving that car around. Do you?

Christine: No.

Marion : You think I like working double shifts at the psych hospital?

Christine: No.

Marion: You needed to go to the Catholic school because your brother saw somebody knifed in front of him at the public school, is that what you want? You think Dad and I don't know, how ashamed that you are of us? Your dad knows, your dad knows why you ask us to drop you off a block away from school every day.

Christine: Dad I didn't mean to.

Marion: You make him feel horrible. Horrible do you know that?

Christine: I am sorry.

Larry: Marion you didn't have to bring that up.

Marion: No, Larry, you can't just be the nice guy. She has to know, she has to know how you feel. Otherwise she's just gonna think that she can say anything at all... And nobody ever gets hurt. Wrong side of the tracks.

Christine: I didn't mean it that way, it was a joke.

Marion: Yeah, it's just a joke, Mom and Dad, they don't care. We didn't think we'd be in this house for twenty-five years, we thought we'd move somewhere better. Whatever we give you, it's never enough. It's never enough.

Christine: It is enough.

Marion: Do you have any idea what it cost to raise you?  
How much you're just throwing away every day?

Christine: Give me a number.

Marion : What?

Christine: Give me a number!

Marion: I don't understand.

Christine : You give me a number for how much it cost to raise me,  
and I'm going to get older and make a lot of money and  
write you a check for what I owe you so that I never have  
to speak to you again.

Marion : I highly doubt that you will be able to get a job good  
enough to do that.

\*\* Then Christine throws the paper that she is going to write the number in front of her mother.

Christine also has conflict with her two boyfriends. First is with Danny. When she finds out that he is a gay, she is not willing to talk and avoid holding his hand at the end of their drama performance. She is so sad and mournful.

The second relationship with Kyle does not go well either. She is so upset when she finds out that he is not virgin like he has said before.

Christine : How we're not virgins now! We deflowered each other.  
We have each other's flower. Sorry, I'm just happy.

Kyle : I didn't lose my virginity to you.

Christine : Wait. What?

Kyle : I lost my virginity to Cassie Duval.

Christine : Excuse me? You said you were a virgin.

Kyle : No I didn't, because I'm not and I haven't lied in two years.

Christine : Oh, Jesus!

Kyle : Yeah, I've probably slept with, like, six people?

Christine : You don't even know if it's six people?

Kyle : I don't keep a list.

Christine : Why wouldn't you keep a list. We're in high school?

Kyle : Why are you getting so moody?  
 Christine : You did say you were a virgin.  
 Kyle : I think you might have made an assumption.  
 Christine : I just had a whole experience that was wrong.  
 .....  
 Christine : I just wanted it to be special.  
 Kyle : Why? You're going to have so much special sex in your life.  
 Christine : I was on top! Who the fuck is on top their first time?  
 Kyle : Do you have any, like a awareness about how many civilians we've killed since invasion in Iraq started?  
 Christine : Shut up, shut up. Different things can be sad. It's not all war.

Another complication shown in the scene is when Christine and her best friend, Julie look at some magazines in a store where Christine's brother (Miguel) works. Miguel with her upset expression yells at them to stop wrinkling the magazines.

Miguel: I can't stop you dicks from hanging out here. But quit wrinkling all the magazines!  
 Christine : When I'm in this store, I'm not your sister. I am a customer Miguel and I am always right.  
 .....  
 Miguel : Put the magazine back. Shit!

Christine and Miguel have another dispute when Christine checks out for the UC system. Christine cannot accept the reality that she is accepted in Davis University meanwhile she wants to be accepted at least in Berkeley. Miguel tells her that Berkeley will accept her if she gets good score. Christine is offended hearing her brother mentions it. Then they argue.

Christine : It's a new system, you just enter your social security number and Davis?  
 .....  
 Christine : I thought Berkeley had to accept me. You and Miguel went there. I am a legacy.  
 Larry : Eh, not if we don't give money.  
 Miguel : And you get bad grades.  
 Christine : Oh what do you know about it?  
 Miguel : Meaning?  
 Christine : Nothing.  
 Miguel : No, What are you implying?

Christine : Nothing.  
Miguel : You fucking racist.  
Christine : I didn't say anything.  
Miguel : I didn't put down my race!  
Christine : Oh yeah, I'm sure they had no idea, Miguel!  
Miguel : You are actually fucking evil. What is wrong with you?  
Marion : Go... Go to your room.  
Christine : I'm not FIVE!  
Marion : I didn't raise you like this.  
Christine : I don't have to go anywhere! I'm not going to a fucking  
University that's famous for its fucking Agricultural  
School. And Miguel and Shelly, you will never get jobs!  
With all that shit in your face!

Christine is not only has complication with her mother, and brother, she has complication too with her best friend, Julie. Christine drops her best friend for Jenna so she can be popular. Christine ignores Julie. Then for a few days she realizes she misses Julie, but when they meet they argue.

Christine : Julie! Julie! Julie, hey!  
Darlene : What do you want from Julie?  
Christine : Darlene, can you excuse us?  
Julie : Darlene, stay.  
Christine : Why aren't you in Algebra II?  
Julie : I switched sections.  
Christine : Why?  
Julie : Are not Jenna and Kyle enough?  
Christine : I'm sorry that you're jealous.  
Julie : HA! Jenna is a moron, you know.  
Christine : She's not. She's in AP Calculus.  
Julie : She's a moron in a deeper sense.  
Christine : You don't even know her.

.....

Julie : You can't do anything unless you're the center of  
attention, can you?  
Christine : Yeah, well, you know your mom's tits? They're fake.  
Totally fake.  
Julie : She made one bad decision at 19!  
Christine : Two bad decisions.

### 3.2.3. Crisis

The obligatory scene in this movie happens when the family has a dinner together to celebrate Miguel's new job and Christine's graduation day. Then Danny shows up and accidentally asks Christine about her university waiting list in

New York. Marion does not say any word to her ever since. Marion never thinks that Christine would do such thing behind her back. She is also disappointed because she thinks that she is the only one that does not know what is going on. She feels like Christine does not count her as her mother for making such an important decision by herself without her knowing it. Even Danny as her friend knows about it and how come she does not know of it. Christine tells her mother that she is not in yet at the college so there is possibility that she will stay in Sacramento. Christine says sorry to her mother for doing such thing. She also feels sorry because she cannot be a good person but at the same she also wants her mother to be proud of her for being so close to getting in the college. She apologizes so many times and begs her mother to talk to her but her mother does not say anything to her. It makes her very sad and she cries.

Danny	: Did you find out about the wait list?
Larry	: Oh, fuck!
Marion	: What?
Christine	: I'm not even in yet, so this might not even be a problem. Mom? I'm sorry, I shouldn't have gone behind your back, I just... It's not like I'm definitely going to New York. Mom.Mom. Aren't you sort of proud that I'm so close to getting in? Just a little? I mean, yes, I know it was probably easier because 9/11 and less people applying with terrorism and all that, but still though. I'm sorry, I know I can lie and not be a good person but.Please, Mom, please I'm so sorry,I didn't mean to hurt you. I appreciate everything you've done for me,I'm ungrateful and I'm so sorry, I'm so sorry I wanted more. Just, please, talk to me.I know, I know I'm so bad,I know I am,but please just talk to me.Mom, please talk to me.

#### 3.2.4. Falling action

After the crisis happens, Christine continues her life. She turns 18. She gets her driving license and she continues her work in the grocery and the coffee shop. Still, her mother does not talk to her. She even does not wish her Happy Birthday.

Larry	: Happy Birthday to you!
Christine	: You remembered!
Larry	: You are my only daughter. Well, Shelly too, kind of.
Christine	: Thanks.

Larry : Make a wish.  
 Christine : Are you and Mom gonna get a divorce over this?  
 Larry : No, we can't afford to!  
 Christine : Dad...  
 Larry : I'm kidding, no. I love your Mom.  
 Christine : Does Mom hate me?  
 Larry : You both have such strong personalities. She doesn't know how to help you and that frustrates her.  
 Christine : I wish she'd talk to me.  
 Larry : She will, I know. Happy 18th.

She also gets in one of the universities in New York. Her mother and father drive her to the airport. Marion still feels hurt inside her heart so she does not say goodbye to Christine.

Christine : Thank you for driving.  
 Marion : You're welcome.  
 Christine : You are not coming?  
 Marion : You can't walk up to the gate anymore, anyway.  
 Christine : Yeah, but, I'm going to college.  
 Marion : Well, dad will walk you to security. Parking is too expensive here.

### 3.2.5. Resolution

Christine unpacks her things inside her dorm room and she finds a manila envelope full of crumpled letters that her mother writes to her. They all begin with:

*"I love you so much and I don't know how to tell you that, I can't communicate it to you in a way that ..."*

The scene when Christine has a conversation on the phone with her dad makes her realize that her mother loves her. Her dad lets her know that her mother loves her.

Larry : She was worried that there would be errors, or mistakes or something...that you'd judge her writing abilities.  
 Christine : I wouldn't do that.  
 Larry : I thought you should have them. But, I want you to know how much she loves you, but also don't tell her I salvaged them, okay?  
 Christine : Okay...

It is also the turning point when she finally admits her real identity which



her name is Christine and she comes from Sacramento. She does not deny her real name anymore and she mentions that she comes from Sacramento. It is shown when she starts to introduce herself by saying her given name by her parents —Christine. She reveals her real identity when she meets a guy named David.

David	: What's your name?
Christine	: Christine. My name is Christine.
David	: I'm David. You shake.
Christine	: I shake.
David	: Okay. Where are you from?
Christine	: Sacramento.

On the other day, she walks past a church. She enters it and sees the choir sing —Blessed Assurance. She listens and seems into the song. Then she calls her parents. The following scene makes clear that Christine has successfully finds her identity. She admits that her name is Christine to her parents instead of using Lady Bird and she also says that the name is a good one. She admits that she feels emotional when she drives around the bends she knows and whole thing. She finally tells that she loves her mother and thanks her too.

Larry's voice	:Hi. You have reached the McPherson family. Please leave a message. Thank you.
Christine	: Hi Mom and Dad, it's me. Christine. It's the name you gave me. It's a good one. Dad, this is more for mom. Hey Mom, did you feel emotional, the first time that you drove in Sacramento? I did and I wanted to tell you, but we weren't really talking when it happened. All those bends I've known my whole life, and stores, And the whole thing. But I wanted to tell you. I love you. Thank you. I'm... Thank you.

### 3.3. Analysis of Setting

The movie takes place in California in the year of 2002. It is shown in the second scene when Marion and Christine listen to —The Grapes of Wrath audio book inside the car while they are heading home from their college trip. In 2002 there was an event conducted by California Humanities to celebrate Steinbeck's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday. Steinbeck is the writer of a realist novel of —The Grapes of Wrath. This novel tells about the migration of an Oklahoma Dust Bowl family to California. Since Marion and Christine are California's citizens they listen to it

and it is a hint that they come from that city. That is why the setting of the place in this movie is in California. Christine also makes clear for the setting of place when she says, —I don't even want to go to school on this state anyway. I hate California. I want to go to the East Coast.¶

Christine as the main character of this movie is a high school student who is going to go to college soon. She decides to continue her study in New York where the culture is. She hates being in California and she has a dream to go to the East Coast.

### 3.3.1. Setting as Background of Action

There are many settings as background of action shown in this movie.

#### 1. Inside the car on the road of California

Christine and her mother are inside the car on their way home from college trip. Inside the car, after hearing John Steinbeck's audio novel —The Grapes of Wrath¶, both of them have a serious conversation about Christine's school. The intense of the conversation escalates when Christine pour out her feelings about her wish to live through something. She feels unsatisfied about her life. She wants to get out of Sacramento and goes to New York where the culture is or Connecticut or Hampshire where the writers live in the wood because she hates California. She also expresses her dislike of her mother's school choice for her. Christine also tells her mother to call her —Lady Bird¶ instead of her real name. She insists that her mother should call her with that name.

Christine's mother does not like what she hears. She thinks that Christine is such a snob because her wish is so high and it is impossible to grant her wish for she and her husband cannot afford to pay the tuition in the state university like Christine wants. She also thinks that Christine is being ridiculous when she mentions her name is —Lady Bird¶. Marion also says many discouraging words towards Christine that make her cannot stand for what she hears from her mother. Then she rolls out of the moving car.



## 2. Immaculate Heart of Mary

This is Christine's high school. This is the place where Christine spends her day with her friends and her best friend Julie. There are places in this school that become the setting as background of action.

- In the church

This is the place where Christine joins one of the routines in her school, the liturgy between Immaculate Heart of Mary (girls school) and Xavier (boys school) and also communion. This is the background where the words —Fuck you Mom! on her right arm plaster cast shown. This is also the setting when Christine looks at Kyle intensively to get his attention because she likes him so much and she also looks at Jenna hoping she becomes her friend.





- In the gym

Gym is the setting that shows Christine's actions and behavior amongst her friends. This is the setting where Christine tries her role in school environment gives her speech as she joins the election for the class president. She sits amongst other candidates that run for the class president. Christine is supported by her best friend Julie. The setting shows how Julie looks proudly at Christine.



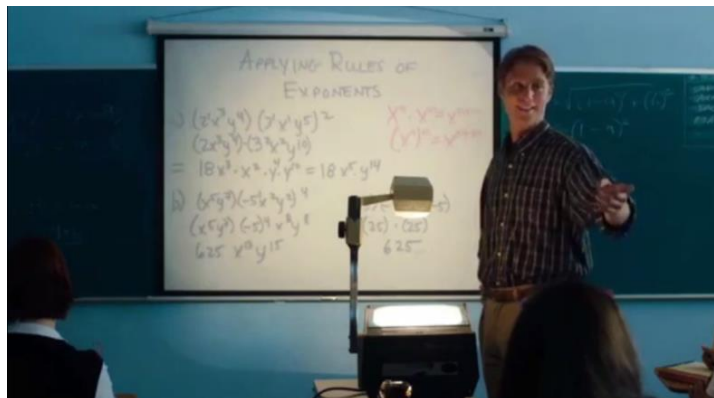
This is also the setting when Christine attends one assembly with abortion as the topic. In front of her friends and the Vice President of the school Sarah Joan, she shows her acting out behavior that makes her suspended. She gives inappropriate comment towards the speaker. She says rude and vulgar lines to the speaker. She does not think that what she is going to say will give bad effect to her.



- Math class

This is the place where Christine attends Math class. Christine is not really good at Math. Julie's Math score is better than Christine's. That is why Christine ever wonders why she is not good at Math. She finds it annoying when she knows that Julie and her brother, Miguel get good marks on Math. She even wonders why she is not like them.

The setting also shows Christine is being delinquent. She does not want her math score to be in the grade book so she takes Mr. Bruno's grade book and throws it to the big dust bin outside the class.



This is also the setting that shows Julie likes Mr. Bruno. She is so happy when Mr. Bruno gives her complimentary for being good at math. She also likes him for calling her —Jules!.

- Vice-Principal sister Sarah-Joan's office

This is the setting as background in which Christine is called by Vice Principal Sarah-Joan to talk about some students that are annoyed and disturbed

by her campaign poster. Christine thinks it is not a big deal. Sarah Joan finds her has per formative streak and she offers her to join the class drama at the school.



- Vestment room

This is the setting as background where Christine and Julie have a conversation about their sexual fantasies. While they are talking about it they are eating communion wafers out of a large plastic container.



- Xavier multi – purpose room/theatre

This is the setting as background where Christine and Julie have their audition for fall musical theatre art. During the audition Christine is amazed by the performance of Danny, the boy who is going to be her friend in the theatre class and her first boy friend. This is also the place where Christine meets her new friends Greg, and Diana. This is also the place where Christine tells Father Leviatch who runs the audition that her name is Lady Bird. She tells him that

—Lady Bird is her given name and why it is in quote because the name is given to herself and by herself.



3. Grocery store

This is the setting as background where Christine and Julie spend their time reading girls' magazine. This is also the place where her brother Miguel and his girlfriend Shelley work as baggers. Christine often goes to this store with her mother too. This setting shows Christine argues with her brother when Miguel reminds her to stop looking at the magazine. Christine defends herself that it is her right as a customer to do it and reminds her brother that he should treat her as a customer and not as her sister.

4. McPherson's house

This is the place where Christine spends her time with her family. There are places in his home that become the setting as background of action. There are mother, father, Miguel, Shelley and Christine with her dog that live in this house. It is a small house that Marion and Larry McPherson (Christine's parents) family has lived there for twenty five years. Christine calls the place she lives as —the wrong side of a track.





There are places at this house become the setting as background of action.

- Kitchen

This is the place where McPherson family eats together. There is a small round table with five chairs around it. Christine's mother is the one who cooks for the family. There is time when they have breakfast Christine and her mother argue over Christine's eggs that her mother cooks for her. Christine finds that the eggs are not done yet and there is white stuff. Being upset with what Christine complains, her mother asks her to cook by herself then Christine defends herself by saying that her mother does not let her do it. In this scene Christine also has argument with her brother and Shelley.



- Christine's room

Christine has messy room. Just like adolescents in general she hangs



many posters, signs, on her wall. There is also full decoration on her wall. There is her campaign poster. She writes —Lady Bird on her wall too. She also writes the boys she likes at school, Danny and Kyle. This room becomes the setting of another action from Christine. She argues with her mother over the clothes that are not neat. Her mother is mad when she sees Christine's room is messy with things that are not put right at their place. At this setting, Christine also reminds her mother to call her —Lady Bird which her mother thinks is ridiculous.

- Family's room

Family's room becomes the setting that shows Christine is being out of behavior. There are times she has argument with her mother and her brother about her school.



- Helvetia Coffee shop

The setting shows the place where Christine works. The setting also shows the scene when Christine comes and introduces herself to Kyle while he is reading and smoking outside the shop.



- Kyle's car

This is the time when Christine decides to leave the peer of cool kids. She does not feel that she fits in the group anymore. She wants to be with her best friend, Julie instead.



- Dorm Room (New York)

This is the setting when Christine introduces herself with her real name and mentions where she comes from.



- In front of a church in New York

This is the setting when Christine finally realizes that she loves her mother. She shares her experience driving in the street of Sacramento. She also pours out her feeling when she drives the car and she wonders whether her mother feels the same way as she does when she first time drives on the street. Christine also mentions her real name and she also tells her mother that she loves her and thanks her too.



### 3.3.2. Setting as Antagonist

This setting is the nature that establishes the conflict in this film. This setting takes place in the family's room at Christine's house. McPherson family gathers in this room. Christine has just known that she is accepted in Davis University. She cannot accept that. She thinks that at least she is accepted in Berkeley University. She is very upset because Miguel says that if she wants to go

to Berkeley she should have good grades. She quarrels with her brother and her mother reminds her to just go to her room. Christine becomes more furious because she thinks she is not a five-year old child that should be told what to do.

She yells at her mother and brother and it is seen clearly that she is so infuriated.



This setting becomes the setting as antagonist too when Marion is so mad at Christine for being suspended from school. Marion reveals her anger and says the things that Christine has been hiding. It is about her shame with her family condition. Marion also brings up the thing about how much she has spent to raise Christine and how she has just thrown it away every day. After hearing what her mother says, Christine feels annoyed and she takes some paper and asks her mother to give her the number and she will get a job to pay her back. Her mother says that she doubts it. Christine is so mad, and she slams the paper in front of her mother.



Another setting as antagonist is at the gym when Christine joins one of school assembly. The speaker talks about abortion. Christine is not interested with the topic and she thinks it is a stupid assembly. She says rude words towards the speaker.



The grocery store where Miguel works is also the setting as antagonist. Marion does not want to buy the magazine that Christine wants even though it is only three dollars. Then she takes the magazine and hides it behind her uniform and her skirt.



### 3.3.3. Setting as a Means of Creating Appropriate Atmosphere

There are some settings as a means of creating appropriate atmosphere in this movie. They are:

#### 1. Danny's grandma's house

Christine always wishes that she lives in the three story blue house and the flag in the front in 44<sup>th</sup> street. She dreams that she would have friends over all the time to study and eat snacks upstairs to the TV room. She is very happy when she finds out that the house she dreams about belongs to Danny's grandma. She

expresses her happiness to Danny's grandma and tells her that she really loves the house.



2. Julie's room

The setting shows how the atmosphere is very sad. Christine just finds out that Danny, her boyfriend apparently is a gay. He is caught kissing Greg in the men's rest room by Christine. Christine and Julie both cry. The song entitled —Crash Into Me by Dave Matthews adds the sad atmosphere. At that time, Julie holds Christine's hand to support her.



3. In Marion's car

After knowing that Danny is a gay, Christine tries to make a new relationship with another boy from Xavier school. The guy is Kyle. Christine sees her as a charming boy. She comes to him first to say hello. She is very attracted with Kyle. Soon Kyle becomes her second boyfriend. They are so passionate to each other. Christine has first sexual intercourse with Kyle. She is very happy, but her happiness does not stay long after she gets what she desires is obtained. She



finds out that Kyle has lied to her. At first he says that he has never had sexual intercourse with anyone before, but then he says that he loses his virginity to someone named Casey. Christine is very disappointed because she wants her first intercourse to be so special.

Christine's mother comes to pick her up. Inside the car she cries on her mother's shoulder. Christine does not tell her mother about what she has just had. Then Christine's mother asks her to do their favorite thing. They go to open houses around Sacramento. Christine is not sad anymore.



#### 4. In the kitchen

This setting is the setting when Christine feels so sad because her mother does not want to talk to her, not even a single word. Marion is shocked knowing that Christine applies in one of the colleges in New York. She never thinks of it. She thinks that Christine is accepted in Davis and she is going to continue her school in California. Christine tries to explain to her mother about it. She feels sorry but she also wants her mother to be proud of her for being so close entering the college she wants. Seeing her mother stays silent, Christine cries.



#### 3.3.4. Setting as a Means of Revealing a Character

There are some settings as a means of revealing a character in this movie. They are:

Setting as a means of revealing a character in Christine occurs when she has argument with her mother over things. One of them is in the car on their way back home from college trip. She insists that her mother should call her —Lady Bird—not Christine. She also tells her mother about her dream to leave Sacramento to get school in New York, or New Hampshire or Connecticut. Her mother does not agree with her idea because she thinks she cannot afford the school tuition, but Christine insists that she will figure out the way because there are financial aid and scholarship that can help her. This setting shows that Christine is being independent to take decision without help from her parents.

Another setting that reveals Christine's character is when she is in her house. The family room, the kitchen, and her room are the settings that show how she talks and behaves and how she likes to argue with her mother and her brother.

In revealing Christine's character school setting also accounts. It is the theater room, the setting which shows that she is a confident girl. She is not shy to perform wearing a special custom and being different from other students that also join the audition. The gym room is the setting which shows her bad behavior as she says something rude and offensive to the speaker of one of the assembly that she attends.

Grocery store, Helvetia coffee shop, and college dorm in New York City are the settings that can show Christine's character too. These are the settings that reveal Christine is not a common girl as she introduces herself by offering hand shaking.

Setting as a means of revealing a character in Julie occurs in the class where there are Christine, Jenna, and other students who are listening to Jenna's story. Julie shows that she cares for her best friend. She reminds Christine that she likes Sarah Joan when Christine wants to do something bad with Sarah Joan for she wants to get Jenna's attention.

Setting as a means of revealing a character in Danny occurs at the stage when Danny has his drama audition. It shows that he is a confident boy. The



setting in the grocery store where he meets Christine tells us that Danny is a friendly boy. Christine's living room is also the setting that reveals Danny is a friendly boy.

Setting as a means of revealing a character in Kyle occurs in some places. Kyle is a bookish. It is supported in the setting when Kyle reads a book titled —The People's History of the United States outside Helvetia Coffee Shop. He is also seen reading in —The Deuce parking lot. He reads his book on the top of his car. Another setting is in Jenna's mansion. He is seen reading beside the swimming pool.

The setting in the class room is the setting of a means of revealing a character in Jenna. Jenna tells her first experience having intercourse in front of Christine, Julie and other students becomes the setting that reveals Jenna's character. First she is wearing short skirt which shows she is being inappropriate. Her body language (she stands up with hands akimbo) when Sara Joan says that she is going to write citation shows that is not well behaved. The setting in teachers' parking lot where Jenna and Christine decorate Sarah Joan's minivan with tin cans and streamers and attach a sign to the back that reads: —Just married to Jesus shows that Jenna is delinquent.

Setting as a means of character in Marion occurs in the car when Marion and Christine are on their way home from college trip shows a character of Marion. She is a straight forward woman. She says the truth about their family condition to Christine when she hears her daughter's dream going to college in New York, or New Hampshire or Connecticut. It is also shown in many settings like Christine's room, family room and kitchen. Marion often has conflict with Christine in those settings. Being straight forward becomes thing that causes the conflict between them. Despite her straight forward thing, she is a caring mother who loves her family. The setting in the hospital when she has a conversation with her coworker, Luis shows that she is willing to work double shift to support her family financial.

#### 3.3.4. Setting as a Means of Reinforcing Theme

The following settings show the theme of this movie. Some of them are

shown with Christine as the main character in it and some are shown with the other characters.

Many scenes show Christine is still confused with her identity (name). She keeps thinking that she can give her own name by herself and she insists that —Lady Bird is her given name. She wants everyone to call her with that name even her own mother who gives her real name. It shows that Christine is in the phase of identity confusion.

The following settings are the settings as a means of reinforcing theme:

- In the car on their way back home from their college trip. In the middle of arguing about school between Marion and Christine, when Marion mentions Christine's name, Christine tells her to call her —Lady Bird, but her mom does not want to do it and she thinks it is ridiculous.
- Xavier multi – purpose room/theatre. Christine tells father Leviatch that her name is Lady Bird. It is given by herself and to herself. Christine writes her name with —Lady Bird in the audition list name. She also writes —Lady Bird on her name and cross her real name on the announcement.
- In the grocery store. In this setting, Christine introduces herself to Danny with —Lady Bird.
- In Helvetia coffee shop. In this setting, Christine introduces herself to Kyle with —Lady Bird. This setting is also the place where Christine works. She goes through the phase of experiencing different role.
- In Danny's grandma's house. In this setting, Christine introduces herself to Danny's grandma with —Lady Bird.
- School hall to math class

Christine walks the school hall and finds her math classroom empty. She takes his binder grade and throws it to the big dust bin in front of the class. It shows that Christine is having her identity confusion which is being delinquent.

- Xavier multi – purpose room/theatre

In this setting it is shown that there are student who join the audience for theatre class. They do not know each other before except Christine and Julie.

When they are accepted in drama class, they are in the new peer group. They are in that group because they fit to it. They gather with other students that have same

intention and likeness.

- —The Deuce parking lot

This setting shows that amongst adolescents (at high school) there could be many peers occur. The group that also appears in the school is —cool kids group where Jenna, her boyfriend, Kyle and some other boys gather. They like to hang out in this place. In this setting, Christine is seen with them. Christine is in her process of finding herself tries to find the group that really fits in her. Even though she knows that this group consists of rich students, she is willing to be in the group.

### **3.4. Summary of the Chapter**

This chapter contains of analyses of intrinsic approaches for —Lady Bird‘ movie. There are three elements of intrinsic approaches that the writer uses to analyze this movie. They are characterization, plot and setting. The characterization element consists of particular pattern of action, the way character speaks, the way a character responds and what others say about a character. In the analysis of plot, the writer uses exposition, complication, crisis, falling action and resolution. The setting that the writer uses consist of setting as background for action, setting as antagonist, setting as a means of creating appropriate atmosphere, setting as a means of revealing character and setting as means of reinforcing theme.

## **CHAPTER 4**

### **THE ADOLESCENTS' SEARCH OF IDENTITY IN "LADY BIRD"**

#### **MOVIE AS THE REPRESENTATION OF ERIKSON'S THEORY OF IDENTITY VERSUS IDENTITY CONFUSION**

Previously in chapter 3, I have analyzed —Lady Bird movie through the intrinsic approach. In this chapter, I will analyze it through extrinsic approach. I use psychology approach.

Psychology is the study of human behavior. Learning of what people do, why people do the way they do, how they respond to things that happen to them or how they cope their problems in life are parts of psychology.

#### **4.1. The elaboration of intrinsic and extrinsic approaches**

This movie consists of characters that represent adolescents. They are Christine, Julie, Danny, Jenna, and Kyle. They are high school students. As adolescents they are in the phase of searching of identity. Actions and behavior that occur in this movie are the reflection of what Erikson stated on his theory of identity versus identity confusion.

The following evidence will prove that the elaboration between intrinsic and extrinsic approach can support the theme of the movie.

##### **4.1.1. The Analysis of Characterization in Relevance to Identity versus Identity Confusion**

##### **1. Experimentation of personality and role**

The adolescents will go through this period. They can be argumentative at some points and can be cooperative as well. It is shown on character of Christine. Christine is a girl that often comes into conflicts with people around her such as her mother, her boyfriends and her friends. She becomes defensive and rude when she has argumentation with them.

With her confident and determined characterization, Christine deals with experimentation of different role she plays. She is so confident when she takes her role as the member of drama class at her school and also when she runs the campaign for the class president. Her determination in believing there is a way to get into her dreamy school plays important key on her experimentation of role.

## 2. Need for peer group recognition

Christine shows that she needs peer group recognition. She joins the drama class at her school. On the audition, she shows her strength which is her confidence. She performs very well.

Christine starts to make acquaintance with cool kids group where Jenna and Kyle inside when she is no longer in drama class after spotting her boyfriend Danny kissing with another boy. She is disappointed and gets out from the previous group to ignore meeting with Danny. She still needs other group recognition. Then she tries to get in cool kids group. The cool kids group comes from rich family. In order to be in this group, she comes to Kyle and introduces herself as Jenna's friend. She also admits to Jenna that she knows Kyle and hangs out with him. She is being dishonest. She is willing to do it because she needs group recognition.

## 3. Go through the pubescence

Christine is obviously going through this phase. She introduces herself first to the boys she falls for. She is very confident in doing this. She feels happy whenever she is around the boys she likes. She also wants to have more intimacy with them.

## 4. Go through some social and behavioral problems

Christine also obviously goes through this thing. She shows acting out behavior for several times. She says rude words to her mother over the debate or argumentation in the car when she talks about her school. She is being defensive too when she argues with her mother about the eggs and about driving test.

She yells at her brother and gives bad response to her mother when she knows that she is accepted at Davis. Saying rude and vulgar lines with inappropriate expression towards the speaker of one assembly she attends at school also another behavioral problem she deals with.

Rolling out of the car while it is running shows she does not care of her body. She is being reckless. He could get killed for doing it. It is a dangerous thing to do, but she does not think of it. She only does what she wants.

### 4.1.2. The analysis of Plot in Relevance to Identity versus Identity Confusion

#### 1. Experimentation of personality and role

From the exposition of the plot, it tells that Christine is an adolescent who just has a college trip with her mother. It shows that she experiences her role as a high school student who is going to be a college student soon.

In the complication, when Christine and her mother are in the car, they have a good moment when they listen to —The Grapes of Wrath audiobook. They even cry together, but that does not last long as the next conversation is so serious. It begins when Christine says that she wishes she could live through something. She finds nothing is interesting in her life except palindrome. She also tells her mother that she hates California and she wants to go to one of the colleges in New York or New Hampshire or Connecticut.

From what Christine wants, it shows that when she experiments her role as a high school student, she wants to get involved in it. She wants to make her own decision for her life by getting out of Sacramento and going to East Coast schools. Her mother thinks that Christine is being ridiculous.

Christine and her mother also argue when they are in Thrift Town. It is a store where they want to buy a dress for Christine. She is invited by Danny's grandma for Thanksgiving. While they are looking through the dress there is a tense situation between them. Marion assumes that Christine is tired because she sees Christine dragging her feet. Christine gives no answer twice to her mother, but her mother keeps assuming that she is tired. Christine is upset of it. It is shown from the face and the way she talks to her mother. Christine tells her mother that she is being passive aggressive and infuriating. Then when her mother holds a pink dress that Christine likes, her face seems happy. They both think that the dress is beautiful. They agree on one thing.

In experimentation of personality and role, there is also another characteristic that connects with personal relationship. Adolescents can have good personal relationship with others. They can like their friends for some time but then they can hate them on the other time. Christine and Julie are best friends. Nevertheless since Christine has a want to be in a cool kids group and Julie can see this coming, their friendship is not good as before. Julie skips Algebra II. Christine feels she misses Julie. She tries to ask why Julie is not in the class anymore. Julie's negative response towards Christine makes them argue and they

yell to each other telling bad things.

In the crisis, Christine's mother is shocked when she knows that Christine has a waiting list in one of the college in New York. She is so disappointed that Christine does it behind her back. Christine apologizes for what she has done to her mother for many times. She even cries when her mother does not say any word to her. Christine shows different personality. She shows regret and sadness. That is the thing rarely seen from Christine.

In falling action, Christine shows that she plays her role as a worker in Helvetia coffee shop. She continues her life after the crisis.

The resolution shows that Christine goes through the different personality phase. She becomes a different personality. She is nicer in particular when she speaks with her mother on phone. She says nice thing such as her name is good. She also thanks her mother and says that she loves her.

## 2. Need for peer group recognition

According to Erikson, being in a peer group is important as it will help adolescents to know their certain roles that fit them, however, becoming member of a group also can make them become dependent since perhaps some of them accept the values of others too easily without really addressing the identity issue of how well they do fit him or her.

Adolescents certainly need the group recognition. So does Christine. She joins two groups at her school. First she joins the drama class group, but then she has a conflict with Danny, one of the members of the group and also his boyfriend. When she feels she no longer fits the group then she tries to join cool kids group which Jenna as her role model.

In falling action, there is a time when Christine does not feel that she fits in the group anymore. She cannot accept the values of other members in this group anymore. It happens on prom night date. Christine wants to go to the prom night with Kyle, Jenna and Jonah. In Kyle's car on their way to the prom, Kyle suddenly decides to ditch prom and asks for agreement from others. Christine follows others' decision. —Crash Into Mel song is on the radio. It is Christine's song, but Kyle says that he hates the song. Christine shows her color. She states that she likes the song and suddenly she wants to go to the prom but Kyle does not

want to. Then Christine decides to go to Julie's house and asks Kyle to drop her.

Christine is no longer dependable on this group. She knows what she has to do and she does not need the group approval on this.

3. Go through the pubescence

This part is shown in complication section. Christine falls in love with Danny and Kyle. However, her love story does not go well according to what she dreams of. First, she has a conflict with Danny when she finds out that he is a gay. They break up.

The second one is with Kyle. She really likes Kyle. She even has her first intercourse with him, but then she is disappointed because she finds out that Kyle does not lose his virginity to Christine. She is upset because Kyle is being dishonest. She thinks that it will be so special because this is her first experience having intercourse with a boy.

4. Go through some social and behavioral problems

A lot of times Christine is in intense situation as she has a lot of quarrel with other people around her. During the quarrel she shows her behavioral problems. In complication, there are a lot of kinds of this situation. The first is when she is in the car with her mother. They argue about Christine's dream to get out of Sacramento and go to East Coast schools. She expresses her pique towards her mother for choosing her the high school she is in now. She says inappropriate words towards her mother.

Another behavioral problem that is shown is when she has dispute with her brother over the school she is accepted in. She is so furious. She yells at her brother and gives bad response to her mother.

The other one is when her mother finds out that Christine is suspended from her school. Her mother is so mad at her. She is so upset because of Christine's actions. She feels what she has done for Christine is never enough. Her mother cannot control her emotion anymore then she brings up about the cost that she has spent to raise Christine. Hearing her mother mention it, Christine takes a paper to write down the number and tells her mother that she is going to pay her mother back when she is older and gets a job. Her mother expresses her doubt that Christine will be able to do it. Then Christine acts out behavior. She throws the



paper in front of her mother with anger expression.

Those things that have been told are the characteristic of adolescents who are searching for their identity. Christine also shows that she goes through the period of identity confusion. She wants and sometimes insists that everybody should call her —Lady Birdl instead of Christine, her real name. Her delinquents also show that she faces the phase of identity confusion.

Christine goes through a lot of things in her coming of age phase. She goes through the characteristic of adolescents that are searching for identity. She deals with identity confusion too. She ever has a dependency to the peer she is in (cool kids), but then she can make good decision based on what she wants and she feels comfort with. Her decision to keep going on her plan to study in her chosen college in New York proves that she is independent in deciding for what is the best for her future. At the end of the movie, it is shown that Christine finds the answer for the question of —Who am I?! When she calls her parents, she mentions her real name that given by her parents. It is a good name too according to her. It is Christine. She also develops a commitment to personal relationship with other people (her mother). It is shown in her expression and words towards her mother. She pours out her feeling and asks her mother’s experience at the first time she drives her car in Sacramento. She also expresses her love feeling and her gratitude towards her mother.

#### 4.1.3. The analysis of Setting in Relevance to Identity versus Identity Confusion

There are many settings in this movie that are related to the identity versus identity confusion.

##### 1. Experimentation of personality and role

Christine tries her different role in school environment when she runs for class president. Gym is the setting where she has speech for her campaign. Sarah-

Joan’s office is also the setting for Christine’s experimentation of role. Sara Joan calls Christine to tell that some students are disturbed and annoyed with her poster. Christine runs for a class president at school. It shows that she wants to experience different role in social environment. She does not only want

to be an ordinary student, she wants to take a lead amongst her friends that is why she runs the campaign. With the poster she makes, she wants to show that she has different way to describe herself. (There are two posters, one is the poster of Christine's head on a bird body and another poster shows her Catholic-uniformed body with a bird head). In this setting too, Christine expresses her desire to join Math Olympiad. She has the willingness to try different role as a student. She wants to feel how to be in Math Olympiad.

Grocery store is the setting that shows Christine is in her searching of identity. It shows at the point that she experiences different role in society. At this place Christine tells her brother to treat her as a customer and not as his sister. She reminds her brother too that as customer she is always right. Miguel is upset seeing Christine and Julie reading the magazines and wrinkling them at the same time. In this setting too, Christine shows that she is experimenting different role when she becomes one of the workers at this store.

Christine also experiences different role as a worker where Helvetia coffee shop as the setting. It is also shows that Christine in her adolescence already tries how to work and not be dependent on her parents.

## 2. Need for peer group recognition

Christine just like other adolescents in general also has a need to be in a group. She needs her peer recognition towards what she does. The setting that shows this point is in the theatre class. She joins the audition for drama class.

Church is also the setting that shows that she needs group recognition. One day, in joint liturgy between Immaculate Heart of Mary and Xavier school, Christine looks at Jenna who is sitting behind her. At that time, Christine really wants to be Jenna's friend. She sees Jenna as the role model in cool kids group. She wants to join in different peer of group because she does not fit in anymore in the drama group since she sees her boyfriend Danny who is also in the group kissing with another boy.

Another setting that supports this point is the classroom where Jenna, Christine, Julie and some other students are listening to Jenna's first experience of having intercourse. Then Sara Joan comes and gives reminder to Jenna for wearing short skirt. Jenna is very upset at that time. Christine in order to get

Jenna's attention so she can be her friend mocks Sara Joan too by saying that she is a cunt. She even tells Jenna that she knows the way to get revenge for Sara Joan.

Deuce parking lot is another setting that shows the point of need of peer group recognition. Christine and Jenna just have finished decorating Sara Joan's minivan with the text —Just married to Jesus|. Then they go to Deuce parking lot where there are Jenna's friends from cool kids group. Christine is the one who asks Jenna to go to this place because she knows that the group will gather there. When they meet the group Jenna tells Kyle one of the members of this group and the boy whom Christine likes about what they have just done.

From the settings mentioned above, we can see that Christine has gone through the process of searching identity in the need of peer group recognition part. What is interesting from her experience is that there is time when she feels she does not belong to the group anymore. It is in Kyle's car as the setting. She cannot accept the values of other members in this group anymore. It happens on prom night date. Christine wants to go to the prom night with Kyle, Jenna and Jonah. In Kyle's car on their way, Kyle suddenly decides to ditch prom and asks for agreement from others. Christine follows others' decision. —Crash Into Mell song is on the radio. It is Christine's song, but Kyle says that he hates the song. Christine shows her color. She states that she likes the song and suddenly she wants to go to the prom but Kyle does not want to. Then Christine decides to go to Julie's house and asks Kyle to drop her.

Christine is no longer dependable on this group. She knows what she has to do and she does not need the group approval on this.

### 3. Go through the pubescence

Church at school is the setting when Christine starts to admire Kyle, the second boy from school she likes after she breaks up with Danny. It is the joint liturgy at second semester. Christine reads —The People's History of the United States| while the priest delivers the homily. She wants to attract Kyle's attention by reading the book as Kyle spotted read the same book when they first meet. She wants Kyle to be her boyfriend. It refers to the point that she is in the phase wanting intimacy with the opposite sex.

Vestment room is the setting where Christine and Julie share their sexual fantasies. This shows that they are going through their searching identity phase at the point of going through pubescence. Having sexual fantasies conversation and eating communion wafers at the same time is a sign that the two girls are delinquent. They make joke over the wafers and say that they are not consecrated when Darlene, one of students of the school tries to remind them not to eat it. This shows that they are being delinquent.

Helvetia Coffee shop becomes the setting when she introduces herself to Kyle with —Lady Birdll. She falls for this boy. It shows that she is in her pubescence.

4. Go through some social and behavioral problems

The car setting where Christine and Marion have an argument in the car over Christine's dream to get out of Sacramento and go somewhere else where the culture is. Christine becomes argumentative and defensive when her mother says bad things about her. Insisting her mother to call her with the name she gives by herself and to herself —Lady Birdll shows that she is in her confusion identity phase. She already has a name that her parents have given to her but she cannot accept that. She still does not have answer for the question of —Who am I?ll.

The way Christine responds by saying rude word and using the upset and ignorant expressions towards her mother also show that she has behavior problem. At the end of this scene, Christine rolls out from the car that is moving. She does not care anymore with what her mother says to her. She does not want to listen. It shows the characteristic of having a behavior problem.

Gym as the setting also shows Christine's acting out behavior. She attends one of assembly at the school. Christine gives bad comment about the speaker's story. The topic is about abortion. Christine gives bad response towards the speaker by saying very rude and inappropriate lines. This makes her being suspended from school.

Christine's room as the setting is also the proof that she has behavior problems. She has an argument with her mother about her messy room that her mother does not like to see. She also insists her mother to call her —Lady Birdll.

Christine's quarrels with other members of her family often happen with

family room as the setting. First is when she knows she is accepted in Davis. She cannot take it as she wants to be at least in Berkeley as Miguel graduates from there. Christine is being offensive with what Miguel says that Berkeley will not take her if she has bad grades. The argumentation between them is inevitable. Christine expresses her anger by being misbehaved. She screams at her brother and responds badly to her mother.

With this setting too, Christine is being arrogant and shows her acting out behavior when her mother is very upset finding out that Christine is suspended from school. She throws a paper that she wants to write the cost of her mother has spent to raise her. She expresses her anger.

From the settings mentioned above, we can see that Christine has gone through the process of searching identity in going through some behavior problems part.

She also has the identity confusion when she shows her delinquent actions. It happens when her mother does not want to buy her a magazine she wants to read at her bed, she thinks of a way. The setting takes place in grocery store where Miguel works. Christine does not consider that what she does can give bad effect. She tucks the magazine inside her uniform to her skirt. She can get caught for doing it but she does not care. She is being delinquent.

Math class as a setting also reveals that Christine is going through social behavior. She is being delinquent when she takes Mr. Bruno's grade book. She also lies about her score to her math teacher.

After going through some process that has been mentioned above with the setting analyses, at the end of the movie Christine finally shows that she can achieve her identity. It is proven with the Dorm Room (in New York) as the setting. This setting shows that Christine finds the answer for the question of who she is. She starts to introduce herself by mentioning her real name Christine and not —Lady Bird anymore. She is not ashamed anymore to mention that she is from Sacramento, California. She acknowledges her identity.

A church in New York as the setting shows the moment of Christine's turning point when she calls her parents, mentions her real name Christine and tells that the name is good. This is the setting where Christine has find her

identity. She accepts her given name by her parents. She pours out her feeling and wonders if her mother does have the same experience when she first time drives in the road and curves of Sacramento. She says thank you and tells her mother that she loves her. She manages to have a good personal relationship with other people (her mother). This is the characteristic of adolescents that successfully achieves her/his identity that Erikson has mentioned in his theory.

#### 4.2. **Summary of the Chapter**

The analyses of —Lady Bird‖ movie through intrinsic approaches that consists of characterization, plot and setting and extrinsic approaches that apply identity versus identity confusion have been done. From the evidence that I have shown above, it can be concluded that the two approaches are related to each other and can be elaborated.

The analysis of the theme is based on the analyses of the characterization, plot and setting of this movie. The result of the analyses is supportive to the theme that I assume. From the side of the extrinsic approach, I find out that the analysis of extrinsic approach is matched with the theme that I have assumed earlier. I have connected the theme with both approaches with the evidence shown above. Two approaches support each other.

## **CHAPTER 5**

### **CONCLUSION**

In this chapter, the writer would like to have conclusion about what she has analyzed from one of literary works namely a movie. The problems of the movies can be analyzed using identity versus identity confusion theory which the writer can find the solutions based on the theories. The movie presents about things that relate to the searching phase of identity in adolescence.

Moral messages can be taken as positive or negative in —Lady Bird movie. It is such an interesting part to know the characters which have different characterization in this movie. They are, Christine, Julie, Jenna, Kyle, and Danny. They play their role as adolescents. Another character is Marion as Christine's mother. She becomes the example of parent that is involved in searching of identity of the adolescents. There are many things that the adolescents go through in their phase of searching of identity. Experiencing different personality and roles, needing for peer group recognition, going through pubescence period and going through some social and behavior problems are some of them. This movie show what adolescents face and how they deal with them during this phase. With the scenes that show the personality of the characters, the actions and behaviors, more understanding to the viewers is given about how adolescents go through this period.

Argumentation, quarrel, different point of view between adolescent in particular in Christine's character with Marion as the parent also between the adolescent herself with her friends show that during the phase of searching for identity deal with society, they interact, they connect. The treat that Christine gets from her mother which sometimes in the form of words of anger or underestimate lines makes her acting out behavior, saying inappropriate words occur. They both have strong personalities. In fact Marion loves her daughter however she just does not know how to perform it well.

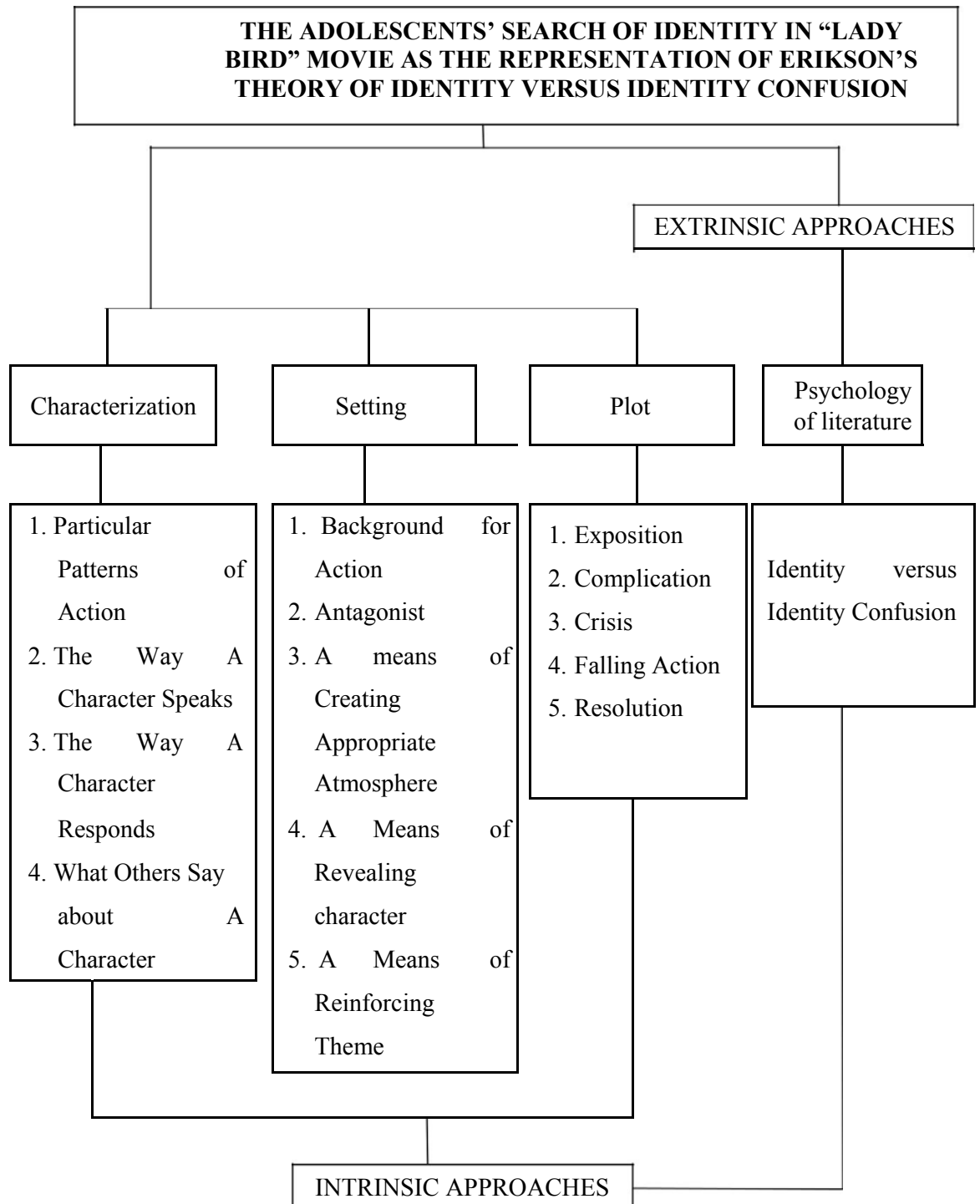
From the analyses of this movie, the writer reveals that this movie can open people's mind that people go through stages in their life. From all the stages that people have searching of identity is the critical period as it will be the foundation of their ongoing life.

The writer gets much chance to explore more about identity versus identity confusion. Many things that are shown in this movie give more knowledge. The readers can also take the benefits from reading this paper. They can consider what they should do if they are as parents or if they are as adolescents when these conditions occur in their environment. This paper can also be used as a medium that can help the reader to analyze the movie with a similar plot.

—Lady Bird is an interesting movie, because it can be analyzed using several theories other identity versus identity confusion. The author suggests for those who are interested in sociology can use Maslow's hierarchy of needs to analyze this movie. It is also very interesting to examine historical and biographical approach. The writer would be happy if this paper can be used very wisely and properly.



## SCHEME OF THE RESEARCH





**STRATA ONE OF ENGLISH**  
**DEPARTMENT FACULTY OF LETTERS**  
**DARMA PERSADA UNIVERSITY**

**THE ADOLESCENTS' SEARCH OF IDENTITY IN "LADY BIRD" MOVIE AS  
THE REPRESENTATION OF ERIKSON'S THEORY OF IDENTITY VERSUS  
IDENTITY CONFUSION**

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>BACKGROUND</b></p> <p>Going through stages of life is what people experience in life. Amongst the stages, searching identity in adolescence is the most important phase. Just like common adolescents who are searching for their identities, Christine deals with the characteristics in the period of searching identity. Christine's actions and behavior during her coming of age phase are things that I would like to analyze. The analyses displayed in this research will prove that the theme assumption relates to Erikson's theory of identity versus identity confusion.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>METHODS OF THE RESEARCH</b></p> <p>Qualitative method is used to analyze this research. Sampling method which is —Lady Bird movie as the primary resource is also used. The writer herself becomes the instrument of this research. Some data such as theory, concept and definition from books, dictionary and articles from the internet also support this research.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>RESULT OF THE ANALYSIS</b></p> <p>After analyzing the movie through the intrinsic and extrinsic approaches, the result that can be taken from this research is that the intrinsic and extrinsic approaches can be elaborated as they relate to one another. The analyses given are also proof to the assumption of the theme of the research —The Adolescents' search of identity in —Lady Bird movie as the representation of Erikson's theory of identity versus identity confusion.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>BENEFIT</b></p> <p>This research will be beneficial for people in general to know the characteristics of adolescents that are in their phase of searching identity and its process. So they will understand and comprehend how to deal with it. Giving more knowledge about the concept of identity versus identity confusion of Erik Erikson to the readers is another benefit of the research.</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>CONCLUSION</b></p> <p>This research can also be used as the medium that can help the reader to analyze the movie with similar plot. The writer suggests for those who are interested in sociology can use Maslow's hierarchy of needs and historical and biographical approach.</p>



# THE ADOLESCENTS' SEARCH OF IDENTITY IN "LADY BIRD" MOVIE AS THE REPRESENTATION OF ERIKSON'S THEORY OF IDENTITY VERSUS IDENTITY CONFUSION

DESSY CHRISTIN | 2016130907

## BACKGROUND

Going through stages of life is what people experience in life. Amongst the stages, searching identity in adolescence is the most important phase. Just like common adolescents who are searching for their identities, Christine deals with the characteristics in the period of searching identity. Christine's actions and behavior during her coming of age phase are things that I would like to analyze. The analyses displayed in this research will prove that the theme assumption relates to Erikson's theory of identity versus identity confusion.

## METHODS OF THE RESEARCH

Qualitative method is used to analyze this research. Sampling method which is "Lady Bird" movie as the primary resource is also used. The writer herself becomes the instrument of this research. Secondary data such as theory, concept and definition from books, dictionary and articles from the internet also support this research.

## BENEFIT

This research will be beneficial for people in general to know the characteristics of adolescents that are in their phase of searching identity and its process. So they will understand and comprehend how to deal with it. Giving more knowledge about the concept of identity versus identity confusion of Erik Erikson to the readers is another benefit of the research.

## THE ADOLESCENTS' SEARCH OF IDENTITY IN "LADY BIRD" MOVIE AS THE REPRESENTATION OF ERIKSON'S THEORY OF IDENTITY VERSUS IDENTITY CONFUSION

### INTRINSIC APPROACHES

#### Characterization

1. Particular Patterns of Action
2. The Way a Character Speaks
3. The Way a Character Responds
4. What Others Say about a Character

#### Setting

1. Background for Action
2. Antagonist
3. A Means of Creating Appropriate Atmosphere
4. A Means of Revealing Character
5. A Means of Reinforcing Theme

#### Plot

1. Exposition
2. Complication
3. Crisis
4. Falling Action
5. Resolution

### EXTRINSIC APPROACHES

#### Literature of psychology

#### Adolescence

#### Identity versus Identity Confusion

### INTRINSIC APPROACHES

## RESULT OF THE RESEARCH

After analyzing the movie through the intrinsic and extrinsic approaches, the result that can be taken from this research is that the intrinsic and extrinsic approaches can be elaborated as they relate to one another. The analyses given are also proof to the assumption of the theme of the research "The Adolescents' search of identity in "Lady Bird" movie as the representation of Erikson's theory of identity versus identity confusion.

## CONCLUSION

This research can also be used as the medium that can help the reader to analyze the movie with similar plot. The writer suggests for those who are interested in sociology can use Maslow's hierarchy of needs and historical and biographical approach.

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accessed on 15 July 2018
- Human actions and behavior  
<https://imotions.com/blog/human-behavior/> accessed on 15 July 2018

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2017 The Way Literature Work Tells Us History in A Novel of Stephen Crane  
Dark Brown Dog  
2017 Intrinsic Analysis of the Novel Sadika's Way By. HinaHaq  
2017 Sociology Analysis of Sadika's Way Novel By. HinaHaq  
2017 Analysis of Humanistic Personality Theory of Sadika's Way A Novel  
By. HinaHaq

- 2017 The Analysis of the Importance of Family Institution Role for the Drug Addict Member
- 2017 The Analysis of the American Values and American Characters On Jim Carrey's Success Story
- 2017 The Analysis of the Garden Party Short Story By. Katherine Mansfield Based on the Elements of Fiction
- 2017 Analysis of the Characterization of the Novel of Francine Prose —My New American Lifel
- 2017 The Analysis of Supreme Court Case About A High School Student Against the American Law in New Jersey in 1984
- 2017 The Effect of Racial Discrimination Act on Aboriginal People in South Australia

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Nama Mahasiswa : Dessy Christin  
Dosen Pembimbing I : Agustinus Hariyana, SS, MSI  
Dosen Pembimbing II : Tommy Andrian, SS, M. Hum  
Judul Skripsi : The Adolescents' Search of Identity  
in "Lady Bird" movie as the representation  
of Erikson's theory of Identity versus Identity Confusion  
Mulai Bimbingan : 12 Maret 2018  
Tahun Akademik : 2017 - 2018

No.	Hari & Tanggal	Catatan Pembimbing	Paraf
1.	12 Maret 2018	Revisi Judul Judul diubah dari Teenage girls' action and behavior at their coming of age phase in "Lady Bird" the movie - A psychological study menjadi The Adolescents' search of identity in "Lady Bird" movie as the representation of Erikson's theory of Identity versus Identity Confusion	/
2.	19 Maret 2018	Bab 1 - Background - Identification of Problems - Limitation of the problems	/
3.	26 Maret 2018	Revisi Bab 1 - Method of the Research - Theme Assumption	/



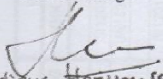
4.	2 April 2018	Bab II - Intrinsic Approach	ll
5.	30 April 2018	Bab II - Extrinsic Approach	ll
6.	7 Mei 2018	Revisi Bab II Intrinsic Approach in characterization	ll
7.	2 Mei 2018	- Parallel construction - fluctuation	
8.	5 Juli 2018	Bab III, IV & V - Intrinsic Approach on main characters Supporting characters. - Elaboration of the extrinsic approach and intrinsic approach - Conclusion	ll
9.	10 Juli 2018	Bab IV Elaboration of Intrinsic and Extrinsic approach (revision)	ll

10.	12 Juli 2018	Outline revisi	
4	15 Juli 2018	- Praktek. Contruction - Spelling	

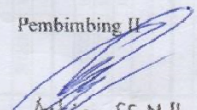
Jakarta, .....

Menyetujui :

Pembimbing I

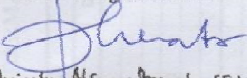
  
(Agustinus Hartono, SS, M.Si)

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(Tommy Andrian, SS, M. Hum)

Mengetahui :

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Name: Dessy Christin

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Date of Birth (yyyy/mm/dd)

Test Date: 2018/01/19

Test Date (yyyy/mm/dd)

Valid Until: 2020/01/19

Valid Until (yyyy/mm/dd)

LISTENING

Your score: 435

5 495

READING

Your score: 390

5 495

TOTAL SCORE

825

Client/Institution Name: PT. Putra Pratama Raya

PT International Test Center-TOEIC Center Indonesia, Plaza Sentral, 17th Floor, Jl. Jend. Sudirman, Kav. 47, Jakarta, Indonesia, 12930

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LISTENING

Your scaled score is between 400 and 485. Test takers who score around 400 typically have the following strengths:

- They can infer the central idea, purpose, and basic context of short spoken exchanges across a broad range of vocabulary, even when conversational responses are indirect or not easy to predict.
- They can infer the central idea, purpose, and basic context of extended spoken texts across a broad range of vocabulary. They can do this even when the information is not supported by repetition or paraphrase and when it is necessary to connect information across the text.
- They can understand details in short spoken exchanges, even when negative constructions are present, when the language is syntactically complex, or when difficult vocabulary is used.
- They can understand details in extended spoken texts, even when it is necessary to connect information across the text and when this information is not supported by repetition. They can understand details when the information is paraphrased or when negative constructions are present.

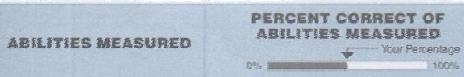
To see weaknesses typical of test takers who score around 400, see the "Proficiency Description Table."

READING

Your scaled score is between 350 and 450. Test takers who score around 350 typically have the following strengths:

- They can infer the central idea and purpose of a written text, and they can make inferences about details.
- They can read for meaning. They can understand factual information, even when it is paraphrased.
- They can connect information across a small area within a text, even when the vocabulary and grammar of the text are difficult.
- They can understand medium-level vocabulary. They can sometimes understand difficult vocabulary in context, unusual meanings of common words, and idiomatic usage.
- They can understand rule-based grammatical structures. They can also understand difficult, complex, and uncommon grammatical constructions.

To see weaknesses typical of test takers who score around 350, see the "Proficiency Description Table." If your performance is closer to 450, you should review the descriptors for test takers who score around 450.



Can infer gist, purpose and basic context based on information that is explicitly stated in short spoken texts	100
Can infer gist, purpose and basic context based on information that is explicitly stated in extended spoken texts	73
Can understand details in short spoken texts	90
Can understand details in extended spoken texts	85



Can make inferences based on information in written texts	73
Can locate and understand specific information in written texts	68
Can connect information across multiple sentences in a single written text and across texts	70
Can understand vocabulary in written texts	81
Can understand grammar in written texts	92

\* Proficiency Description Table can be found on our web site, [www.ets.org/toEIC](http://www.ets.org/toEIC)

HOW TO READ YOUR SCORE REPORT:

Percent Correct of Abilities Measured:

Percentage of items you answered correctly on this test form for each one of the Abilities Measured. Your performance on questions testing these abilities cannot be compared to the performance of test takers who take other forms or to your own performance on other test forms.

Note: TOEIC scores more than two years old cannot be reported or validated.



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dengan ini menyatakan bahwa skripsi saya yang berjudul:

*Teenage girls' actions and behavior at their coming of age phase in lady bird the movie.  
A psychological study*

yang diajukan pada semester genap tahun akademik 2018/2019 bersifat orisinal dan belum pernah ditulis oleh orang lain, dan akan diselesaikan penulisannya selambat-lambatnya 1 (satu) tahun akademik dan/atau setara dengan 2 (dua) semester.

Bila mana di kemudian hari ditemukan ketidaksesuaian dengan pernyataan ini, maka saya bersedia dituntut dan diproses sesuai dengan ketentuan yang berlaku.

Demikian pernyataan ini dibuat dengan sesungguhnya dan dengan sebenar-benarnya.

Jakarta, 14 Maret 2018

Mengatakan,

Ketua Jurusan Sastra Inggris S-1

Tommy Andrian, SS, M.Hum  
NIK. 85395 / NIDN. 0320097601

Yang menyatakan,

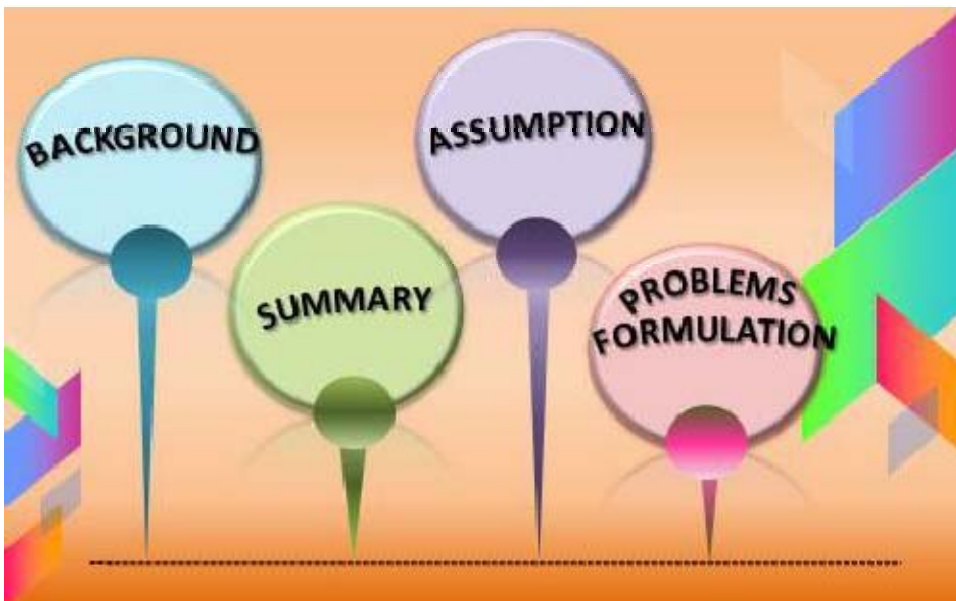
Mahasiswa



Dessy Christin  
NIM. 2016130997

# THE ADOLESCENTS' SEARCH OF IDENTITY IN "LADY BIRD" MOVIE AS THE REPRESENTATION OF ERIKSON'S THEORY OF IDENTITY VERSUS IDENTITY CONFUSION

DESSY CHRISTIN  
2016130907





## FRAMEWORK OF THE THEORIES

### Intrinsic Approaches

Characterization

Plot

Setting

### Extrinsic Approaches

Experimentation of personality and role

Need for peer group recognition

Go through the pubescence

Go through some social and behavioral problems

## RESEARCH FINDINGS

Experimentation of personality and role

Need for peer group recognition

Characterization

Plot

Setting

Go through The pubescence

Go through some social and behavioral problems

## CONCLUSION

1

Christine's actions and behavior are the representation of identity searching in adolescents.

2

Erikson's theory of identity versus identity confusion is reflected on Christine's character.

3

Other research can be done using Maslow's hierarchy of needs.

4

Historical and biographical approach can also be used to analyze the movie.

