

**THE FAILURE OF CLYDE GRIFFITHS CHARACTER
TO REACH *THE AMERICAN DREAM* ENDED WITH TRAGEDY
IN *AN AMERICAN TRAGEDY*, A NOVEL
BY THEODORE DREISER**

**A Thesis Submitted to the Faculty of Letters
In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for Undergraduate Program**

By

SELLY RATNANINGTYAS MUKTI

Registration number: 03130002



**S-1 ENGLISH DEPARTMENT
FACULTY OF LETTERS
UNIVERSITY OF DARMA PERSADA
JAKARTA
2007**

The thesis entitled

THE FAILURE OF CLYDE GRIFFITHS CHARACTER TO REACH *THE AMERICAN DREAM* ENDED WITH TRAGEDY IN *AN AMERICAN TRAGEDY*,
A NOVEL BY THEODORE DREISER


By:

SELLY RATNANINGTYAS MUKTI

Reg. No. 03130002

Approved by:


Committee of Advisors


Dr. Hj. Albertine S. Minderop, MA

(Advisor I)


Swany Chiakrawati, SS, Spsi, MA

(Advisor II)


Head of S-1 English Department
(Swany Chiakrawati, SS, Spsi, MA)

The thesis entitled:

THE FAILURE OF CLYDE GRIFFITHS CHARACTER TO REACH *THE AMERICAN DREAM* ENDED WITH TRAGEDY IN *AN AMERICAN TRAGEDY*,
A NOVEL BY THEODORE DREISER

Has been examined and accepted by the Committee as Examination, Faculty of Letters,
on February 22nd, 2007

Advisor I / Examiner I

(Dr. Hj. Albertine S. Minderop, MA)

Head of Examining Committee

(Alexandra Sawitri, S.S.)

Reader / Examiner II

(Swany Chiakrawati, S.S., S.Psi., MA)

Secretary of Examining Committee

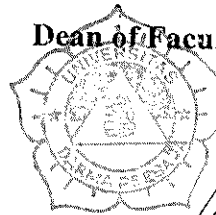
(Dra. Karina Adinda, MA)

Legalized by:

Head of S-1 English Department

(Swany Chiakrawati, S.S., S.Psi., MA)

Dean of Faculty of Letters

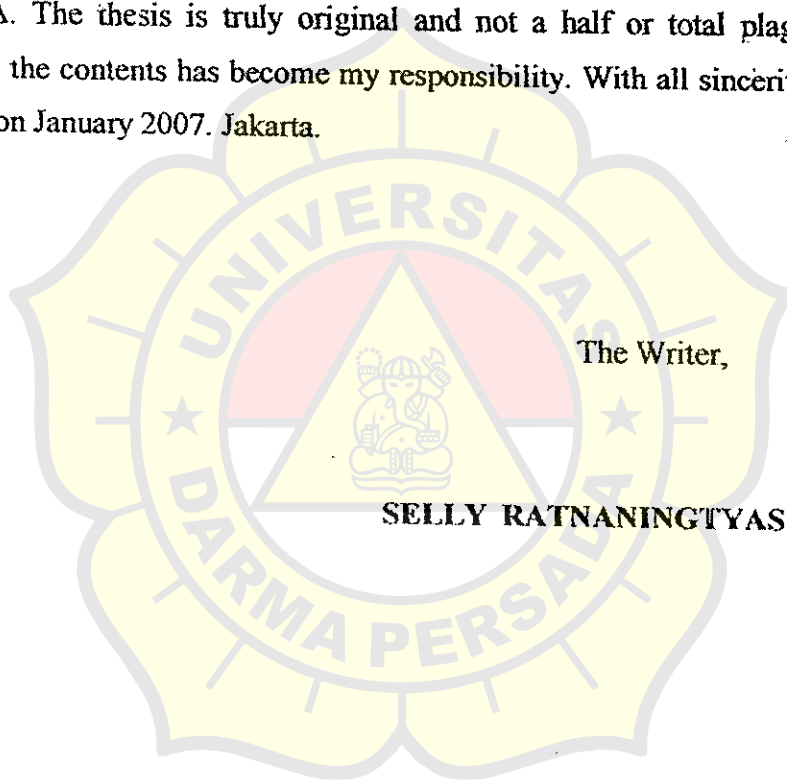


(Dr. Hj. Albertine S. Minderop, MA)

The thesis entitled

**THE FAILURE OF CLYDE GRIFFITHS CHARACTER TO REACH *THE*
AMERICAN DREAM ENDED WITH TRAGEDY
IN AN AMERICAN TRAGEDY,
A NOVEL BY THEODORE DREISER**

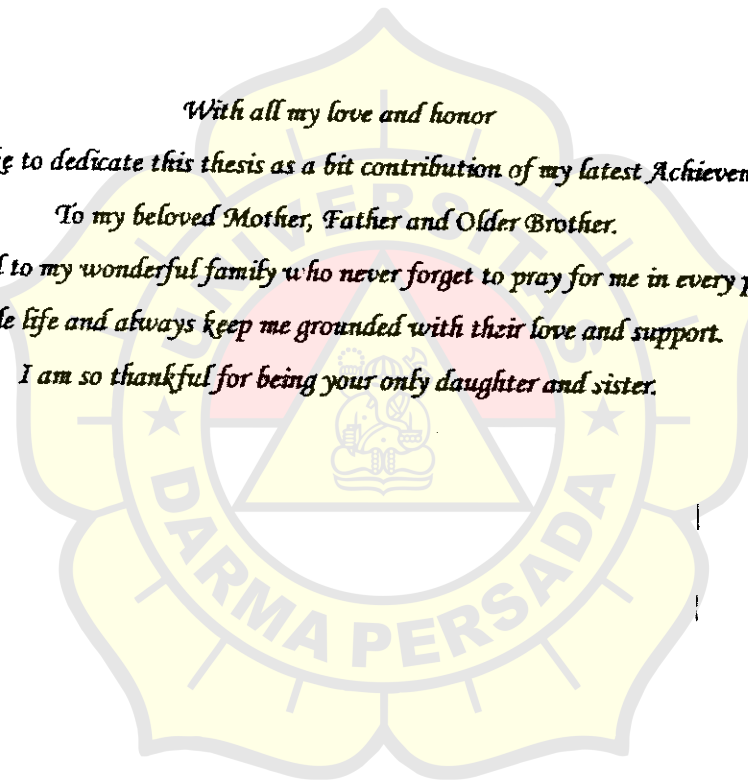
is a scientific research I conducted under the guidance of Dr. Hajj. Albertine S. Minderop, MA. The thesis is truly original and not a half or total plagiarism of another works, the contents has become my responsibility. With all sincerity, I made this statement on January 2007. Jakarta.



The Writer,

SELLY RATNANINGTYAS MUKTI

*With all my love and honor
I would like to dedicate this thesis as a bit contribution of my latest Achievement,
To my beloved Mother, Father and Older Brother.
I am so grateful to my wonderful family who never forget to pray for me in every part of my
whole life and always keep me grounded with their love and support.
I am so thankful for being your only daughter and sister.*



PREFACE

The thesis I have conducted entitled, THE FAILURE OF CLYDE GRIFFITHS CHARACTER TO REACH *THE AMERICAN DREAM* ENDED WITH TRAGEDY IN *AN AMERICAN TRAGEDY*, A NOVEL BY THEODORE DREISER, is a partial of requirements for obtaining *Sarjana Sastra* of Undergraduate program in English letters.

I do believe and realize that this thesis is still far from being expected, not only its contextual analysis but also the technical terms. For that reason, I would welcome for suggestions from examiners and readers for its future improvement.

Finally but importantly, I hope this thesis can give a bit contribution to the readers in understanding how to apply intrinsic and extrinsic elements to form the theme of a novel. Beside that, this thesis hopefully would be useful for all readers who have a great interest in literary works and some other useful things appearing in this novel especially about the American who wanted to reach their dreams in America in the early twentieth century.

Jakarta, January, 2007

SELLY RATNANINGTYAS MUKTI

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I am greatly indebted for the mercy and blessings of Allah SWT and the Prophet of Muhammad SAW, to whom belong glory and majesty, I am finally able to complete this research.

With all my respect, I would like to offer my profound gratitude to Dr. Hajj. Albertine S. Minderop, MA as the Advisor I and Swany Chiakrawati, SS, Spsi, MA as the Advisor II who have given me advice and extensive comments during conducting this thesis.

I am especially grateful to Fridolini, SS, Mhum as my academic advisor for always keeping my faith during the study and research.

Besides, I also would like to acknowledge my special gratitude to all my great and kind lectures in English Department who have taught me a lot about English and Literature.

I am so thankful for my lovely parents H. Mukiman WA and Hajj Siti Rukmini AS and also for my only older brother Haris Munandar Mukti, S.kom. for all your love, support and give me courage in facing this thesis situation. I also would like to say my special thanks for my grandmother, Hajj.Dalinah and my late grandfather H. Abdul Syukur for your praying, my grandparents from my father Wiro Dimedjo and Supinah, and also for my nephew, Tri. Thanks to my uncle, M. Ridwan SH, for your support and my lovely little cousin, Fachri Arya Ramadhan for your nicest smile that's inspiring me.

I would like to say my special gratitude for all of the members of my extended family from my parents' family, thanks for supporting me and giving me nice advice. Love you all.

I am grateful to all my friends in English Department, Astari, Ayu, Yustina, Briyan, Djulkifli and especially for my wonderful friends Irma (cinta), Arum (bunda), Ginung (mba gie), Rosihana (anteh), Tias (budeh), Dwi Anggia (licu) and Citra (buncit) for all their love and care who always on my side and never tired to support me. Thanks to my other close friend Dita and Sonia. Thanks in million gals. You are all my best pals I ever had. You've colored my life. My very big love to you all...!

I would like to say my very special thanks for my beloved boy Booy Malik. A who always give me lots of hands, advice, comments and prayers for my success and also never tired in facing me.

It would be impossible without their sincere assistance and contributions to complete this research.

The Writer

SELLY RATNANINGTYAS MUKTI

CONTENTS

CONTENTS	i
CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION	1
A. Background of the Problem	1
B. Identification of the Problem	2
C. Limitation of the Problem	3
D. Formulation of the Problem	3
E. Purpose of the Research	3
F. Theoretical Framework	4
G. Method of the Research	12
H. Benefit of the Research	12
I. System of Presentation	13
CHAPTER II THE ANALYSIS OF THE NOVEL BY USING LITERARY APPROACHES	15
A. Analysis of Characterization	15
1. Characterization through Telling Method – by the author	15
a) Clyde Griffiths	15
b) Roberta Alden	20
c) Sondra Finchley	21
2. Characterization through Showing Method – through dialogue	23
a) Clyde Griffiths	23
b) Roberta Alden	27
B. Analysis of setting	29
1. Setting as background for action	29
2. Setting as a means reinforcing theme	31
C. Analysis of Plot	32
1. Exposition	32
2. Complication	33

3. Crisis.....	34
4. Falling Action.....	34
5. Resolution.....	34
D. Summary.....	35

CHAPTER III THE ANALYSIS OF THE NOVEL BY USING SOCIOLOGICAL APPROACH THROUGH <i>THE AMERICAN DREAM</i>	37
A. Glimpse of <i>The American Dream</i>	37
B. The Analysis of <i>The American Dream</i> Concept.....	37
1. The Analysis of <i>Gold</i> in the novel titled <i>An American Tragedy</i> by Theodore Dreiser.....	37
2. The Analysis of <i>Glory</i> in the novel titled <i>An American Tragedy</i> by Theodore Dreiser.....	39
3. The analysis of <i>Gospel</i> in the novel titled <i>An American Tragedy</i> by Theodore Dreiser.....	41
C. Summary.....	44

CHAPTER VI THE FAILURE OF CLYDE GRIFFITHS CHARACTER TO REACH <i>THE AMERICAN DREAM</i> ENDED WITH TRAGEDY IN <i>AN AMERICAN TRAGEDY</i>, A NOVEL BY THEODORE DREISER	46
A. THE FAILURE OF CLYDE GRIFFITHS CHARACTER TO REACH <i>THE AMERICAN DREAM</i>	46
1. The failure of Clyde Griffiths character to reach <i>The American Dream</i> in correlation with the analysis of characterization.....	46
a. Taking the advantages in reaching Clyde's dream.....	46
b. The irresponsibility of Clyde's wrong doing.....	47
c. The escaping of Clyde's problem.....	48
2. The failure of Clyde Griffiths character to reach <i>The American Dream</i> in correlation with the analysis of setting.....	49
a. Breaking the factory's rule.....	49

b.	The arrangement of incident at Grass Lake Inn	50
3.	The failure of Clyde Griffiths character to reach <i>The American Dream</i> in correlation with the analysis of plot	50
a.	The unreadiness of his girl friend's pregnancy.....	50
b.	Being interested in another rich girl	50
c.	The arrangement of ending Roberta's pregnancy.....	51
4.	The failure of Clyde Griffiths character to reach <i>The American Dream</i> in correlation with the analysis of <i>gold, glory and gospel</i>	51
a.	Having a great ambition for wealth.....	52
b.	Having another romantic relationship.....	52
c.	Doing the manipulation to come into high-class community.....	52
B.	ENDED WITH TRAGEDY	53
1.	Ended with tragedy in correlation with the analysis of characterization.....	53
a.	Being trapped of Clyde's carelessness.....	53
b.	Being convicted of first degree murder	54
2.	Ended with tragedy in correlation with the analysis of setting...	
a.	Grass Lake Inn, New York at Big Bitterns as a place of Roberta's death.....	54
b.	An electric-chair as a place of Clyde Griffiths' death.....	55
3.	Ended with tragedy in correlation with the analysis of plot.	
a.	The death of Roberta	55
b.	The death of Clyde Griffiths.....	56
4.	Ended with tragedy in correlation with the analysis of <i>gold, glory and gospel</i>	
a.	The investigation of Roberta's death.....	56
b.	The captured and arrested of Clyde Griffiths.....	57
c.	The death sentence for Clyde Griffiths.....	57
d.	The execution of Clyde Griffiths.....	57
C.	SUMMARY.....	58

CHAPTER V CONCLUSION.....	60
A. Conclusion.....	60
B. Summary of the thesis.....	61

BIBLIOGRAPHY

ABSTRACT

SYNOPSIS

SCHEME OF THE THEORITICAL FRAMEWORK

AUTHOR'S BIOGRAPHY

WRITER'S PERSONAL IDENTITY



CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Problem

Theodore Dreiser was born in Terre Haute, Indiana, on August 27, 1871. Dreiser was the twelfth of thirteen children of John and Sarah Dreiser. The family was poor. Dreiser left home and moved to Chicago when he was fifteen and worked in restaurant. Then, he attended Indiana University in 1890. Over the next few years, Dreiser wrote for newspaper St. Louis, Pittsburgh and New York. Dreiser married Sarah Osborne White in 1898; the marriage ended in divorce in 1910. *Sister Carrie* is his first novel and published in 1900. Then Dreiser published *An American Tragedy* in 1925, which is the important works for him. In 1930, Dreiser was nominated for Nobel Prize in literature award. On June 13, 1944, Dreiser married Helen Patges Richardson. Dreiser died of a hearth attack on December 28 in the same year in Los Angeles.¹

I choose *An American Tragedy* by Theodore Dreiser as my writing research, because I am interested in the story of the novel itself that tells about a boy, Clyde Griffiths, where lived in Kansas, Missouri in the early of twentieth century. Clyde decided to go out from his poor family. He tried to find richness and tried to get high-class in society. Clyde did so many efforts to reach out his dreams. He started his effort as a bellboy in hotel. Three years later, Clyde moved to Lycurgus, Chicago and worked in his uncle shirt factory, Samuel Griffiths. Samuel Griffiths is a rich person. In the factory, Clyde has romantic relationship with a poor girl, Roberta Alden, who worked at the same factory. From that relationship, Roberta has pregnant before married. They made a forbidden love because in the factory has a rule that forbad their workers having special

¹ Theodore Dreiser. "An American Tragedy". [Google](#) 1.2 (1964) : 10 pag. Online. Internet. 19 September 2005

relationship each other. Roberta Alden asked Clyde to marry her. But Clyde didn't want to assume responsibility. Clyde didn't want to marry her, because he thought that if he married her, he would never reach his dream to be rich, well-being and came into high-class society. Then, Clyde made other relationship with other girl silently, Sondra Finchley, rich girl from high-class society. After that, Clyde has a plan to marry her because of her richness and social status. He would get everything that he wanted if he married with Sondra. So his dream could be realized sooner. In doing that plan, Clyde arranged the strategy to kill Roberta because he didn't want to fail to be rich person. Finally, Clyde did his plan, Roberta died because of drowning in the lake. The novel is ended with tragedy, a jury found Clyde guilty so he should undergo the death sentence on the electric-chair. So Clyde failed to reach *The American Dream*, he failed to be rich, honor, and success person.²

The main problem in this novel is that there is a dark side of *The American Dream* – the story of what can happen when an ordinary people has desire for wealth and status overwhelms his moral sense. Dreiser novel is around a real-life crime in which when Clyde murdered Roberta with whom they had been romantic involved but Clyde didn't want to assume responsibility because of an unwanted pregnancy. Clyde wanted to be rich, honor and success but in the last, he was fail. He died because of his own mistake.

B. Identification of the Problem

Based on the background of the problem above, I identify the problem that the author tries to tell is about the dark side of *The American Dream* that makes people do everything to reach out *The American Dream*. It is reflected by Clyde character and he failed in the last. He got nothing.

² Theodore Dreiser, *An American Tragedy* (United State of America: Signet Classic, 1964)

Because of that problem, I assume that the theme in novel titled *An American Tragedy* by Theodore Dreiser is The Failure of Clyde Griffiths Character to Reach *The American Dream* Ended with Tragedy.

C. Limitation of the Problem

Based on the identification of the problem above, I make the limitation of the problem in this research in theme analysis which is related to the failure in reaching *The American Dream* and has tragedy ending.

To analyze this novel, I will use the literary approaches through characterization, setting and plot, and is combined with the sociological approach through *The American Dream* concepts.

D. Formulation of the Problem

Based on the limitation of the problems above, I formulate the next problems as these followings:

1. Can the concept of literary approaches through characterization, setting and plot be used to analyze this novel?
2. Can the concept of sociological approach through the concept of *The American Dream* be used to analyze this novel?
3. Can the theme be formed through the result of the analysis of characterization, setting and plot, and is combined with the sociological approach through the concept of *The American Dream*?

E. Objective of the Research

Based on the formulation of the problem above, I intend to prove my assumption that the theme in this novel is *The Failure of Clyde Griffiths Character to Reach the American Dream Ended with Tragedy*. To reach this purpose, I will take some steps as follow:

1. Analyzing this novel through characterization, setting and plot.

2. Analyzing this novel through sociological approach (*The American Dream* concept).
3. Analyzing the theme of this novel through the result of the analysis of characterization, setting and plot combined with sociological approach through the reflection of *The American Dream*.

F. Theoretical Framework

Based on the purpose of the research above, I will use the theories and the concepts of literary and non-literary. I will analyze the novel titled *An American Tragedy* by Theodore Dreiser by using literary approaches (intrinsic) and also sociological approach (extrinsic). In the literary approaches I will use the theory of characterization, setting and plot. While in the sociological approach, I will use the concept of *The American Dream*. These are the theories that I will used:

1. Theory of Literary Approach (Intrinsic)

In the research of the novel titled *An American Tragedy* by Theodore Dreiser, I will use the literary concepts as followed:

a. Characterization

Methods of characterization.

An author has two basic method or techniques in presenting and establishing character :³

1) Telling Method

Telling method relies on exposition and direct commentary by the author.

This direct method of revealing character – characterization by telling – consist of:

³ James H Pickering. *Concise companion to Literature*. (New York: Macmillan), hlm 13.

- a) Characterization through appearance: in the world of fiction details of appearance (what character wears and how he looks) often provide essential clues to character.
- b) Characterization by the author: The author explains the characters through a series of editorial comments, the nature and personality of characters' minds. The author asserts and retains full control over characterization. The author not only directs our attention to a given character, but tells us exactly what our attitude towards that character ought to be.

2) Showing Method

Showing method is the indirect, dramatic method, which involves the author's stepping aside, as it were, to allow the characters to reveal themselves directly through their dialogue and actions. These are essentially two methods of indirect characterization by showing:

- a) Characterization through dialogue: it is a rare work of fiction, whose author doesn't employ the dialogue in some reveal, establish, and reinforce character. For this reason the reader must be prepared to analyze dialogue in a number of different ways, but I only use "What is being said," "The identity of the person or persons the speaker addressing," and "The speaker's tone of voice, stress, dialect and vocabulary."
- b) Characterization through action: What a given character is revealed by what that character does. In short, the single most important and definitive method of presenting and revealing character is through action.

b. Setting

Setting is a term that, in its broadest sense, encompasses both physical locale that frames the action and the time of day or year, the climactic conditions, and the historical period during which the action takes place.⁴

Setting in fiction is called on to perform a number of desired functions.⁵

Setting may serve:

- 1) Setting as background for action.
- 2) Setting as antagonist.
- 3) Setting as a means of creating appropriate atmosphere.
- 4) Setting as a means of revealing character.
- 5) Setting as a means of reinforcing theme.

But in this case, I only use two kinds of functions in my analysis, they are setting as background for action and setting as a means reinforcing theme.

c. Plot

A plot is narrative of events, the emphasis falling on causality. The term plot implies just such an overview. It implies the controlling intelligence of an author who has winnowed the raw facts and incidents at his disposal and then ordered and arranged them to suggest or expose their causal relationship.⁹

⁴ *Ibid*, page 37

⁵ *Ibid*, page 38

⁹ *Ibid*, page 13

The plot of the traditional short story is often conceived of as moving through five distinct sections or stages:¹⁰

1) Exposition

The exposition is the beginning section in which the author provides the necessary background information, sets the scene, establishes the situation, and dates the action. It may also introduce the characters and the conflict, or the potential for conflict.

2) Complication

The complication, which is sometimes referred to as the rising action, breaks the existing equilibrium and introduces the characters and the underlying or inciting conflict (if they have not already been introduced by the exposition). The conflict is then developed gradually and intensified.

3) Crisis

The crisis (also referred to as the climax) is that moment at which the plot reaches its point of greatest emotion intensity. It is turning point of the plot, directly precipitating its resolution.

4) Falling Action

Once the crisis, or tuning point, has been reached, the tension subsides and the plot moves towards its appointed conclusion.

5) Resolution

The final section of the plot is its resolution. It records the outcome or the conflict and establishes some new equilibrium or stability (however tentative and momentary). The resolution is also

¹⁰ *Ibid*, Page 16

referred to as the conclusion or the denouncement, the latter a French word meaning, “unknotting” or “untying.”

d. Theme

Theme is the general idea of a story. In other words, it is something that the author wants to tell about in his/her work, whether it is about problems in life or other commentaries toward this life.

*Tema adalah ide sebuah cerita atau dengan kata lain tema adalah sesuatu yang ingin disampaikan oleh pengarang dalam karyanya, baik itu berupa masalah kehidupan ini ataupun komentar terhadap kehidupan ini.*¹¹

2. Theory of Non Literary Approach (Extrinsic)

To analyze the extrinsic element of this novel, I use sociological approach through *The American Dream* Concept (consisting of *gold, glory and gospel*). The concept of this non-literary approach is taken from some sources which are explained as follows:

a) A glimpse of Sociology of Literature

Actually, the definition of sociology itself is an objective and scientific study that focuses on human in society, study of institutions and social process.

*“Sosiologi sebagai studi yang ilmiah dan objektif mengenai manusia dalam masyarakat, studi tentang lembaga-lembaga dan proses-proses sosial.”*¹²

¹¹ Jakob Sumardjo dan Saini K. M, *Apresiasi Kesusastraan*, (Jakarta: Gramedia, 1996), page 56

¹² DR.Faruk, *Pengantar Sosiologi Sastra dari Strukturalisme Genetik sampai Post-Modernisme*, (Yogyakarta: Pustaka Pelajar, 1994), page 1

Then, sociology of literature is a form of human's effort to adapt themselves in one's community as well as their own effort to change the community itself. So that, novel can be considered as the effort to create a social world; human's relationship with their family, surroundings, politics, country and others.

*"Sosiologi sastra merupakan usaha manusia untuk mengubah masyarakat itu. Dengan demikian, novel dapat dianggap sebagai usaha untuk menciptakan dunia sosial; hubungan manusia dengan keluarganya, lingkungannya, politik, negara dan lainnya."*¹³

b) Background of the American Dream Concept

The word of *The American Dream* comes from the opposite of mythology American Ednic goal that reflects a desire to settle the second heaven in America continent. Time after time, the existences of immigrants from Europe especially from England comes to America, they have been concealed of great expectation for better life in America Continent.¹⁴

America is admired place that can give the prosperity and happiness for people that have already lived under the pressure, in tortured and poor. For people that have lived in the society which is full of corruption and lived in suffering. So America is the last place that's able to release their suffering. In Bahasa Indonesia it is said like this quotation below:

Amerika diangankan sebagai suatu wilayah yang akan memberikan kesejahteraan dan kebahagiaan bagi orang-orang yang dulu pernah tertekan, tersiksa, miskin, lingkungan penuh korupsi dan hidup dalam penderitaan. Amerika adalah tempat

¹³ Supardi Djoko Damono, *Sosiologi Sastra Sebuah Pengantar Ringkas*, (Jakarta: Pusat Pembinaan dan Pengembangan Bahasa dan Departemen Pendidikan dan Kebudayaan, 1984), page 7

¹⁴ Wilfred L. Guerin, Eagle G. Labor, Lee Morgan and John R. Willingham, *Handbook of Critical Approaches to Literature*, (New York: Odyssey, 1972), page 185

terakhir yang mampu melepaskan mereka dari berbagai penderitaan tersebut.¹⁵

c) The American Dream Concepts (Gold, Glory and Gospel)

The American Dream concepts consist of *gold, glory* and *gospel*. In the beginning, these words concern with the effort to reach *gold, glory* and *gospel*, but as the time goes by, that dream has developed, not only dreaming to be rich but also dreaming to get success, honor and authority. In Bahasa Indonesia, it is said like this quotation below:

*Konsep the American Dream mencakup unsur-unsur gold, glory dan gospel. Pada awalnya istilah ini mengacu pada upaya meraih gold, glory, dan gospel, namun seiring dengan perjalanan waktu impian tersebut berkembang menjadi tidak hanya mengimpikan menjadi kaya tetapi mengimpikan akan keberhasilan, kehormatan dan kekuasaan.*¹⁶

1) Gold

The definition of *gold* is not only concern with the real gold, but also can be define as a wealth or richness and money. In Bahasa Indonesia, it is said like this quotation below:

*Pengertian gold tidak secara harfiah mengacu pada emas, tetapi bisa juga berarti kekayaan.*¹⁷

2) Glory

Glory is a dream of America to reach prosperity, to be honored and admired by other people. In Bahasa Indonesia, it is said like this quotation below:

¹⁵ Dr Albertine Minderop MA, *Teori Strukturalisme Genetik dan Konsep the American Dream dalam Telaah Sastra* (Jakarta, 2000) page 24

¹⁶ *Ibid*, page 32

¹⁷ *Ibid*, page 34

*Glory merupakan impian Amerika untuk meraih kejayaan, dihormati dan dikagumi oleh orang lain.*¹⁸

3) *Gospel*

In the beginning, *gospel* means spreading Christian religion with the theme that Christian people are diligent, and the lazy people is the people that lots of sins. Then, the definition about *gospel* developed with worldly-oriented that has assence for the success. In Bahasa Indonesia, it is said like this quotation below:

*Pada awalnya berarti penyebaran agama kristen dengan tema bahwa orang-orang kristen adalah orang-orang rajin, orang malas adalah orang berdosa. Selanjutnya pengertian gospel berkembang dengan orientasi keduniawian yang cseusnya keberhasilan.*¹⁹

d) *Tragedy*

There are many American novels show various causes as failures to achieve *The American Dream*. *Tragedy* is a story where the main character has a sad ending or died. In Bahasa Indonesia, it is said like this quotation below:

*Banyak kisah dalam novel-novel Amerika yang memperlihatkan berbagai akibat berupa kegagalan yang dialami para tokoh dalam upaya mereka mencapai the American Dream.*²⁰

*Tragedi adalah suatu kisah dimana tokoh utamanya mengalami akhir yang menyedihkan atau mengalami kematian.*²¹

¹⁸ *Ibid*, page 36

¹⁹ *Ibid*, page 39

²⁰ *Ibid*, page 43

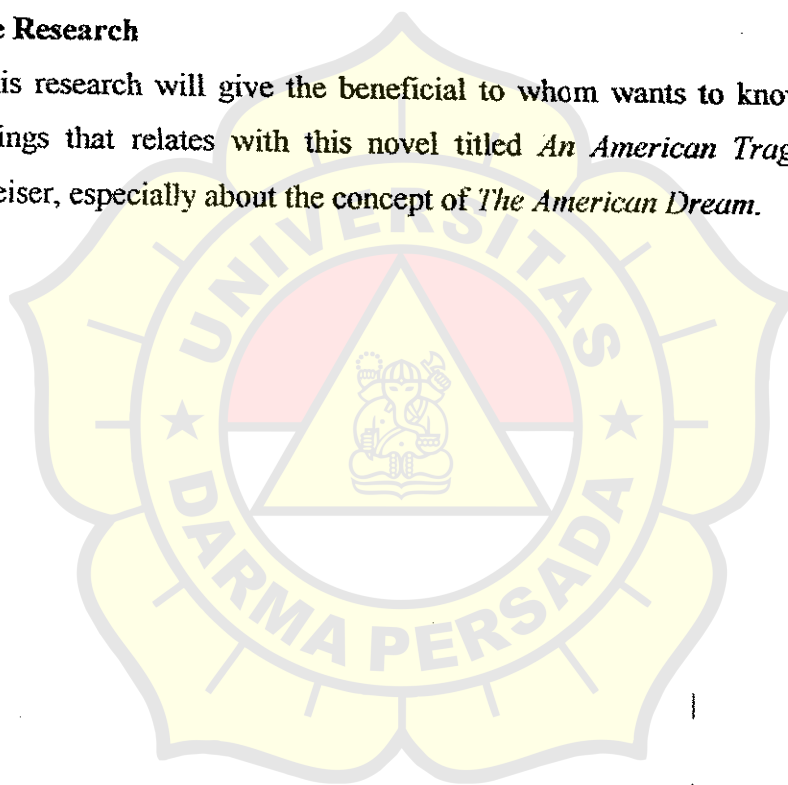
²¹ *Ibid*, page 47

G. Method of the Research

In this research, I use the method of the qualitative research, the written data resource (text) which is the novel titled *An American Tragedy* by Theodore Dreiser, and also is supported by the other written sources which are relevant.²² The kind of the research is bibliography. The characteristic of the research is interpretative, interpret the text. The method of the data collection is through the bibliography research, and the pattern of the theory research is inductive, from general to specific.

H. Benefit of the Research

I hope this research will give the beneficial to whom wants to know more about the things that relates with this novel titled *An American Tragedy* by Theodore Dreiser, especially about the concept of *The American Dream*.



²² Dr. Albertine Minderop, MA, *Metode Penelitian Telaah Sastra*, (Jakarta: Universitas Darma Persada, 2000), page 25.

I. System of Presentation

I arrange the thesis analysis of this novel, as follows:

CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

This chapter consists of the common problems including background of the problem, identification of the problem, limitation of the problem, formulation of the problem, objective of the research, theoretical framework, method of the research, benefit of the research, system of presentation.

CHAPTER II THE ANALYSIS OF THE NOVEL BY USING LITERARY APPROACHES

This chapter consists of the analysis of characterization, setting and plot in the novel titled *An American Tragedy* by Theodore Dreiser.

CHAPTER III THE ANALYSIS OF THE NOVEL BY USING SOCIOLOGICAL APPROACH THROUGH THE CONCEPT OF THE AMERICAN DREAM

This chapter consists of the analysis the sociological approach through the reflection of *The American Dream*.

CHAPTER IV THE FAILURE OF CLYDE GRIFFITHS CHARACTER TO REACH THE AMERICAN DREAM THAT ENDED WITH TRAGEDY IN AN AMERICAN TRAGEDY, A NOVEL BY THEODORE DREISER

This chapter consists of the theme analysis through literary approaches (characterization, setting and plot) combined with the

sociological approach with using the reflection of *The American Dream*.

CHAPTER V CONCLUSION

This chapter consists of the proof about my assumption of the theme.

