

AN INDIVIDUAL PSYCHOLOGY ANALYSIS OF MAIN CHARACTER IN THE FREEDOM WRITERS MOVIE

Agista Putri Aulia^{1*}, Safira Nurul Ismayanti², Abdillah Nugroho³

Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta¹²³

A320190154@student.ums.ac.id^{1*}, a320190159@student.ums.ac.id², Abdillah_nugroho@ums.ac.id³

<p>Keywords: Literary Work; Movie; Individual Psychology; Creative Power; Problematic Students</p>	<p>Abstract: Literary work is a creation of human based on reality and given the imagination through the media of speaking and writing. One of the examples of a literary work that can be used as learning is a film. Freedom Writers is a film directed by LaGravenese and released in 2007. This film tells the struggle of a young teacher who is determined and inspires students in his class at risk to learn tolerance. The purpose of this study is to analyze the creative power of the main character of the Freedom Writers film, namely Erin Gruwell, in solving the problems of students in her class using individual psychology theory by Alfred Adler. The problems faced are individual problems of these students, environmental problems, and problems that occur in private teachers. Creative power is individual freedom to make a change for the better. The method used in this research is qualitative research. Researchers used documentation to collect data from films. The data of this research is all utterances or dialogues concerning creative power uttered by Erin Gruwell. In analyzing the data, the researcher identified each scene that describes the creative power of Erin Gruwell's character by using the individual psychology theory by Alfred Adler. The results showed that there were five data including creative power which was carried out by Erin Gruwell.</p>	
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INTRODUCTION

Literary work is a creation of human based on reality and given the imagination through the media of speaking and writing (Sumara, 2002). According to (Tindaon, 2012) literature on basically carrying out an effective mission, namely enriching the student experience and making it more responsive to events around him. One of the examples of a literary work that can be used as learning is a movie (Cahir, 2014). According to (Simanjuntak et al., 2021) Film is a narrative depiction of human life which is shown through the roles of the players in various action scenes supported by visual effects and musical accompaniment.

Freedom Writers is a film directed by Richard LaGravenese and released in 2007. Freedom writers is a film based on a 1999 non-fiction book written by the freedom writers. Freedom Writers movie is a movie with the theme of struggle. The struggle here is the struggle of a young teacher who perseveres and inspires her at-risk class to become better, Erin Gruwell. She is an anti-discrimination teacher at a violent school in the United States. Imagine being a teacher in a class whose students are labeled as badass at school. The students grew up in an environment



and family surrounded by delinquents, illegal substances, fighting, racial discrimination, and violence.

Erin Gruwell is a young teacher who taught at Woodrow Wilson High School in Long Beach, California, United States in 1994. It is not easy for Erin Gruwell to teach these kinds of students. But she has the kindness heart to see the lives of her students' change. She was looking for a way to solve the problems of her students and make her students love each other. Erin Gruwell then asked her students to write diaries about their daily lives.

Erin Gruwell attempts to bridge the hatred created between her students due to interracial discrimination. This is reflected in one of the most memorable scenes in his story, which was lifted in the film entitled Freedom Writers. In this film Erin Gruwell was played by Hilary Swank.

The researcher found a phenomenon from the movie: many students' psychological attitudes were angry and even brutal. Besides, they don't respect their teacher. Worse still, some students look down on their teachers. The movie shows many students who have bad behavior. So, we need teachers who can listen and understand students wisely and patiently. That way, teachers can find out why they can behave like that. Therefore, with Erin Gruwell's wisdom, she can find the reasons why they behave badly and with that, they can find a way out of the problem. In this study, the researcher wanted to know the actions taken by Erin Gruwell to change her students who behaved badly for the better. To analyze this research, the researcher will use individual psychology theory by Alfred Adler to analyze the effort of Mrs. Gruwell based on the unity of personality.

There are six basic concepts of individual psychology according to Alfred Adler including:

1. Inferiority feeling and compensation
According to Adler (in Hall and Lindzey, 1993:247) Inferiority feeling is a feeling that exists due to psychological and social weaknesses in individual subjective perceptions.
2. Fictional finalism
Fiction finalism is an individual's purpose in life which is fictional. A person's fictional purpose is formed because of the creative power of the person himself that will make him look unique.
3. Style of life
Lifestyle shows how a person forms an individual's perception of themselves through a unique way of life to fight for the life goals to be achieved. Adler (1985) proposed four general lifestyle attitudes, such as ruling type, getting type, avoiding type, and socially useful type.
4. Striving for superiority
It can be said that striving for superiority means that one has the desire to be better than others. According to Adler (in Hjelle and Ziegler, 1992: 144) everyone has a creative sense in them that can encourage perfection in their lives.
5. Creative power
Every individual has the freedom to do and to be what they want. Every individual has the creative power to realize creative things that can make his life better.
6. Social interest
Humans regard their social interests as more important than personal interests. Social interests influence people in building their self-confidence.



METHOD

The type of research is qualitative descriptive research. Research that describes phenomena, subjects, or features is known as descriptive research (Mason & Bramble, 1978). While qualitative research is research that aims to gain an in-depth understanding of human and social problems. The goal of qualitative research is to examine and comprehend the meanings of individuals or groups with reference to social or human concerns (Creswell, 2014).

The movie "Freedom Writers," which was directed by Richard LaGravenese and released in 2007, served as the data source. The characters' actions, dialogues, and narratives are used as data in this study, along with Erin Gruwell's attempt to use her creative abilities to change pupils who act out into better ones. Data for qualitative research is typically gathered through interviews, observations, documents, and audio-visual sources (Creswell, 2009).

To compile the data, the researcher used several steps in collecting data on the film. The first step is to watch a film titled "Freedom Writers". Second, after watching film, the researcher recorded data related to the creative power exercised by Erin Gruwell on the film. Third, the researcher re-watched the "Freedom Writers" film to double-check the data. Fourth, the researcher rechecked the data that had been collected previously. This study was analyzed using the theory of Individual Psychology in the category of creative power proposed by Alfred Adler.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Result

Becoming a creative teacher is not easy and requires a long process. Mrs. Gruwell faced many incidents when she taught in a class where there were complex problems such as racial discrimination and social problems. In addition, Mrs. Gruwell also has problems with her husband because she is too focused on returning to class life to be better. However, Mrs. Gruwell is not discouraged to create creativity that can restore the classroom atmosphere to be better.

Mrs. Gruwell made a lot of changes in her class. The class that initially often had conflicts between white and black students now made up with each other. To reduce conflict, Ms. Gruwell made several creative powers such as:

First, Mrs. Gruwell changed the seating position of students in the class to reduce social inequality among students. Even though their students' responses were not good.

The second creative power of Mrs. Gruwell is to make a game called the line game. This game is made because the poor interaction (communication-based on skin color, race, and ethnicity) between students that occurs in the school field. With this game, Mrs. Gruwell hopes that her students understand each other.

The third creative power of Mrs. Gruwell is asking her students to write down whatever they do, and whatever they feel in a journal.

The fourth creative power of Mrs. Gruwell is to buy books that are on the life problems faced by her students.



The fifth creative power of Mrs. Gruwell is to create a program called "toast for change". This program aims to make Mrs. Gruwell's students leave their bad habits and change into better people.

Discussion

Based on the results of the study, being a creative teacher and liked by students is not easy and requires a long process. Erin Gruwell faced various kinds of problems when teaching in class. Besides being too focused on school, she also has problems with her husband. Erin Gruwell can't balance home and school. The problem is quite complicated. However, Erin Gruwell is a great woman and has a great effort in turning her students into better people. Erin Gruwell is a creative and great teacher even though she is a law graduate.

While teaching at Room 203 Woodrow Wilson High School, Mrs. Erin Gruwell received unfavorable treatment from her students. Many students do not like him. They were rude to Erin Gruwell. Students in room 203 do not have good interactions with one another because of racial and ethnic differences. In that class there are approximately five races, namely white people, black people, Chinese people, small Tijuana people, and Cambodians. Therefore, they become more frequent quarrels, disrespect, and hate each other.

To restore a safe and comfortable classroom atmosphere, Erin Gruwell has some creative ideas. First, he arranged the seats of his students. Second, make a game called a line game. Third, ask students to write whatever they feel or do in a journal. Fourth, Gruwell buys books that match the problems faced by his students. Finally, Erin Gruwell created a program called "toast for change".

The students' responses to Erin's creative activities amazed her. The activities he made succeeded in making the classroom conditions better, the students respect each other and they can respect the teacher. They respect each other's differences. They are united and love each other.

However, Erin Gruwell and her husband's marriage could not be maintained. Although she has tried to make his marriage back intact. Erin Gruwell and her husband divorced because Erin paid too much attention to her students than her husband. She wanted to get back together, but her husband didn't want to.

CONCLUSION

To teach students with different cultures and social backgrounds is not easy. It requires passion to be a teacher. As teachers, they must be creative figures to educate, teach, and guide their students to be better in the right direction.

In the movie "Freedom Writer" the character of Mrs. Gruwell is one example of a teacher who has extraordinary creative power. She struggles to restore his class condition which was originally a complex problem to a better one without racial and social discrimination. She is a great teacher who can make his students get along and love each other. On the contrary, he has problems managing his married life.

Based on Mrs. Gruwell's experience, a message can be taken. As humans, we have to balance between work obligations and family obligations. Work and family are very important things



in a person's life. Besides that, the message that can be taken from Mrs. Gruwell's experience with teachers is that being a great teacher is not easy.

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